Library
University of Pittsburgh
Darlington Memorial Library
Class Dar
F E 203
Book A51
4 Ba ser.
v 4

Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2009 with funding from
University of Pittsburgh Library System

http://www.archive.org/details/americanarchives04forc

American Archives:

CONSISTING OF

A COLLECTION OF AUTHENTICK RECORDS, STATE PAPERS, DEBATES, AND LETTERS AND OTHER NOTICES OF PUBLICK AFFAIRS,

THE WHOLE FORMING

A DOCUMENTARY HISTORY

OF

THE ORIGIN AND PROGRESS OF THE NORTH AMERICAN COLONIES;

OF THE

CAUSES AND ACCOMPLISHMENT OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION;

AND OF

THE CONSTITUTION OF GOVERNMENT FOR THE UNITED STATES,

TO

THE FINAL RATIFICATION THEREOF.

IN SIX SERIES.

FIRST SERIES.
From the Discovery and Settlement of the North American Colonies, to the Revolution in England, in 1688.

SECOND SERIES.
From the Revolution in England, in 1688, to the Cession of Canada to Great Britain, by the Treaty at Paris, in 1763.

THIRD SERIES.
From the Cession of Canada, in 1763, to the King's Message to Parliament, of March 7th, 1774, on the Proceedings in North America.

FOURTH SERIES.
From the King's Message of March 7th, 1774, to the Declaration of Independence, by the United States, in 1776.

FIFTH SERIES.
From the Declaration of Independence, in 1776, to the Definitive Treaty of Peace with Great Britain, in 1783.

SIXTH SERIES.
From the Treaty of Peace, in 1783, to the final ratification of the Constitution of Government for the United States, proposed by the Convention, held at Philadelphia, in 1787.

BY PETER FORCE.

PREPARED AND PUBLISHED UNDER AUTHORITY OF AN ACT OF CONGRESS.

229

Doc E 203 .A4 54th v.4 MW

ENTERED ACCORDING TO ACT OF CONGRESS, IN THE YEAR 1843,
BY PETER FORCE,
IN THE CLERK'S OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

E.K.B. 7-3-31

AMERICAN ARCHIVES:

Fourth Series.

WILLIAM & MARY DARLINGTON
MEMORIAL LIBRARY
UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH

CONTAINING

A DOCUMENTARY HISTORY

OF

THE ENGLISH COLONIES IN NORTH AMERICA,

FROM

THE KING'S MESSAGE TO PARLIAMENT, OF MARCH 7, 1774,

TO

THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE

BY

THE UNITED STATES.

BY PETER FORCE.

VOLUME IV.

PUBLISHED BY M. ST. CLAIR CLARKE AND PETER FORCE,

UNDER AUTHORITY OF AN ACT OF CONGRESS, PASSED ON THE SECOND OF MARCH, 1833.

WASHINGTON, APRIL, 1843.

ENTERED ACCORDING TO ACT OF CONGRESS, IN THE YEAR 1843,
BY PETER FORCE,
IN THE CLERK'S OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

CONTENTS

OF THE FOURTH VOLUME OF THE FOURTH SERIES.

NEW-HAMPSHIRE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

1775. —

Sep. 12, Committee of Supplies requested to supply Colonel Poor's Regiment with Provisions, - 1
William Whipple and General Folsom to wait on General Washington, - - - - - 1
16, General Washington requires the payment to the New-Hampshire Troops bound to Canada, - - - - - - - - - - 1
27, Orders to Captain Titus Salter to take command of the Batteries on Pierce's and Sevey's Islands, - - - - - - - - 1
28, Orders to Colonel Timothy Walker to pay the New-Hampshire Troops, - - - - - 2
28, Boom strong enough to prevent the passage of Vessels directed to be laid across the River from Pierce's to Sevey's Island, - - - 2
Oct. 10, Capture of the Ship Prince George, by a sub-Committee, at Portsmouth, - - - - 2
10, Field-Officers of New-Hampshire Troops at Winter-Hill request General Sullivan may fill vacancies in the Regiments there, - - 3
10, Orders to Captain Robert Parker to inlist Matrosses for the defence of Sevey's Island, - 3
12, Minute-Men to be inlisted for four months, - 3
18, Part of the Cargo of the Ship Prince George to be sold; and Captain Richard Emms, and the crew, paid from the proceeds, - - - - 4
18, Orders to the Captains and other Officers of the Militia of New-Hampshire, - - - - 4
18, Colonel Weare and General Folsom desired to attend, on behalf of New-Hampshire, a Conference of sundry Members of the Continental Congress, and Gentlemen of the other New-England Colonies, at Cambridge, - - 4
23, The Committee desired to repair to Portsmouth on the report that a Fleet was expected to attack that place, - - - - - - - 4
General Sullivan requests that Commissions may be filled for the vacancies in the New-Hampshire Regiments, - - - - - 4
27, Vessels directed to be placed in Piscataqua Harbour, - - - - - - - - - 4
Nov. 16, Committee continued until the sitting of the Provincial Congress, on the 21st of December next, - - - - - - - - - 5
17, Agreeable news of the surrender of Fort St. John's received, - - - - - - 5
18, Three hundred Pounds, in gold, sent to Canada to pay the New-Hampshire Troops under the command of Colonel Bedel, - - - 5
21, Number of the Inhabitants of New-Hampshire transmitted to the Continental Congress, - 5
23, Captain Philip Goldthwaite and Hon. Daniel Rogers, suspected of being unfriendly to the liberties of America, examined by the Committee, and discharged, - - - - - 5
29, Captains Salter and Daniels ordered to fill their Companies to serve till the last of December next, - - - - - - - - - 6
Dec. 2, Committee met at Portsmouth: Orders to Captains to inlist Companies to serve in the Continental Army under General Washington, until the 15th of January next, - - - 7
7, Adjourned to meet at Exeter on the 11th instant, 8
13, Colonel Thornton and Colonel Weare directed to confer with General Washington about recruiting the Continental Army, - - - 9
16, Orders to Colonel Hobart for paying the Regiments under Colonels Stark, Reed, and Poor, 10

NEW-HAMPSHIRE PROVINCIAL CONGRESS.

1775. —

Oct. 31, Congress met at Exeter, - - - - - 9
Committee to report a scheme for the emission of a sufficient amount of Money for the demands on the Colony, - - - - - 9
Nov. 1, Report of the Committee: An issue of twenty thousand Pounds ordered, - - - - - 9
2, Minute-Men to be inlisted for four months only, 10
2, Inhabitants of Hillsborough County requested not to disturb or molest John Quigley, Esquire, under pretence of his being an enemy to his country, - - - - - - - 11
George Jaffrey, late Treasurer, required to attend the Congress forthwith, with his Accounts, - - - - - - - - - 11
3, Committee to prepare a Petition to the Continental Congress, on the state of the Colony, - 11
4, Delegates to represent the Colony in future to be chosen by the votes of the Electors, and not by the value of their estates, - - - 11
Qualifications of Electors and Representatives, 12
7, Complaint of the training Soldiers in East-Kingston, against Lieutenant-Colonel Gale, - - 12
The Fortresses lately built for the defence of Piscataqua to be supported and maintained by New-Hampshire, - - - - - 12
Deserters from the Continental Army to be arrested by Committees, and sent to Head-Quarters, - - - - - - - 13
8, Colonel Wingate appointed to command the Fortresses on Piscataqua River, - - - 13
Other Officers appointed, - - - - - 13
Butchers in Portsmouth required to refund unreasonable fees paid them for killing Cattle for the Provincial Forces, - - - - - 13
Committee to examine the Accounts of George Jaffrey, late Treasurer, - - - - - 13
Field-Officers for Militia Regiments appointed, 14
9, Captain Ezekiel Worthen, Engineer at Piscataqua, required to pay all due obedience to the orders of this Congress, - - - - - 14
Thanks of the Congress to the Gentlemen who laboured on the Batteries at Portsmouth on the late alarming emergency, - - - 14
Votes of the 4th instant, respecting Representatives, reconsidered and made void, - - 14
Committee to frame a Plan for the future Representation of the People of the Colony, - 14
10, Eight hundred men to be inlisted for the defence and security of the Harbour of Piscataqua, and the Fortresses there, - - - 14
Form of the Inlistment, - - - - - 15
11, Members of the Congress to be paid for Sundays and Travel, - - - - - 15
13, Committee to prepare a plan for Representation of the people of the Colony, - - - 16
14, Committee to consider the behaviour of Samuel Dyer, complained of as an enemy to this country, - - - - - - - - 16
Plan of Representation reported and adopted, - 16
15, Meshech Weare appointed President pro tempore of the Congress, - - - - - 17
Samuel Dyer directed to confine himself to his present place of abode in Berwick, - - 18
15, Committee to carry into execution the Resolve of the Continental Congress of October 26, authorizing exports, to procure Arms, &c., - 18
General Sullivan informed that the Congress is ready to hear him, - - - - - - 18

1775.
Report of the Committee on the complaint against Lieutenant-Colonel Gale, - - 18
Thanks of the Congress to General Washington and General Sullivan, - - - - 18
Committees throughout the Colony requested to report the names of persons suspected to be inimical to the country, - - - - 18
Committee of Safety continued, with the same authority as heretofore, until the sitting of the next Congress, - - - - - - - 19
Nov. 16, Orders in regard to certain persons inimical to the country, - - - - - - - 19
Towns and Town-Officers to proceed as heretofore, unless specially directed otherwise by the Provincial or the General Congress, - 20
Resolution of the Continental Congress of November 3, on establishing Government in New-Hampshire, - - - - - - 20
The Congress dissolved, - - - - - 20

CORRESPONDENCE, PROCEEDINGS, ETC.

Sep. 21, Letter from Governour Tonyn to General Gage, 320
30, Letter from Governour Tonyn to General Gage, 316
30, Letter from Colonel Stuart to General Gage, - 316
Oct. 2, Letter from Colonel Stuart to Major Small, - 317
2, Letter from C. Shireff to General Robertson, - 334
2, Letter from Governour Tonyn to Major Dunkin, 334
3, Letter from Governour Tonyn to Admiral Graves, - - - - - - - - - 316
3, Letter from Colonel Stuart to General Gage, - 316
3, Letter from Colonel Stuart to General Gage, - 317
3, Letter from Lieutenant Graves to Admiral Graves, - - - - - - - - 327
3, Letter from Captain Mulcaster to General Grant, 329
3, Letter from Daniel Chamier, Jun., to Daniel Chamier, - - - - - - - - - 337
4, Letter from Spencer Mann to General Grant, - 335
4, Letter from Alexander Ross to Captain Staunton, - - - - - - - - - - 335
4, Letter from John Moultrie to General Grant, - 336
4, Letter from Colonel John Stuart to Samuel Kemble, - - - - - - - - - 340
5, Letter from Major Furlong to General Gage, - 319
5, Letter from Alexander Skinner to General Grant, - - - - - - - - 329
Nov. 1, Letter from General Schuyler to Captain Hulbert, - - - - - - - - 816
1, Letter from General Sullivan to the New-Hampshire Congress: He is ordered to Head-Quarters immediately; sends his Orderly Book and Returns of Stores, &c., to the Provincial Congress, - - - - - - 20
2, Letter from Colonel Wingate to the New-Hampshire Congress: He finds it absolutely necessary that a person acquainted with the Rivers and Tides in the Harbour be appointed to take charge of the Ship and Fire-rafts, - - 21
5, Lieutenant-Colonel Connolly's Commission from Lord Dunmore, - - - - - - 617
7, Proceedings of a Convention of Cumberland County, Massachusetts, - - - - - 1320
8, Petition of the several Towns of the County of Cumberland to the Council of Massachusetts, 1349
8, Letter from the Field-Officers at Portsmouth to the New-Hampshire Congress: Eight hundred men not enough to manage the Shipping and Fire-rafts in the event of an attack, - 21
8, Letter from Dr. Hall Jackson to the New-Hampshire Congress: He raised an Artillery Company for the defence of Portsmouth; their time will expire on the 15th; he desires directions as to the disposition of the Arms, &c., in their possession, - - - - - - 21
11, Proclamation by Governour Chester, - - 341
11, Letter from Allan Cameron to Duncan Cameron, - - - - - - - - - 342
11, Letter from Allan Cameron to Daniel Chamier, 342
13, Letter from the Portsmouth Committee to the New-Hampshire Congress, recommending to their notice the important services of Dr. Jackson, - - - - - - - - 22
13, Letter from Josiah Bartlett to the New-Hampshire Congress: Transmits sundry Resolves of the Continental Congress, and earnestly recommends them to attend to the making of Saltpetre, - - - - - - - - 22
1775.
Nov. 14, Letter from Captain Montague to Admiral Graves, - - - - - - - - 343
14, Letter from W. Griffin to the Secretary of Admiral Graves, - - - - - - - 343
16, Letter from Shubael Lovell to Captain Ayscough, 1338
18, Letter from Governour Chester to Governour Tryon, - - - - - - - - 340
18, Letter from the New-Hampshire Committee of Safety to General Schuyler: The Troops under Colonel Bedel were sent to his Army by the advice of General Washington; what is necessary for their subsistence and comfort should be advanced out of the Continental Chest, - - - - - - - - 23
18, Letter from the New-Hampshire Committee of Safety to Colonel Bedel: The Provincial Congress cannot send him money for his Troops, and they have requested General Schuyler to advance what may be necessary, 23
21, Letter from Walter Hatton to Nathaniel Coffin, 346
21, Letter from the New-Hampshire Committee of Safety to the Delegates of the Colony in Congress: The Colony has advanced for the Army twenty thousand Pounds, lawful money, and requests that a part of it may be repaid, 23
22, Proclamation by General Carleton, - - 487
23, Letter from Captain Thompson to the Portsmouth Committee: Persons should be appointed to take charge of the Fire-rafts; as they are thought things of some consequence, proper care should be taken of them, - - 24
24, Letter from Lord Dunmore to Admiral Graves, 347
24, Letter from Colonel Jacob Bayley to Colonel Little, - - - - - - - - - 454
24, Letter from Doctor Smith, - - - - - 615
26, Letter from John Jay to the New-York Congress, 410
26, Letter from James Sullivan to John Winthrop, - 1318
27, Letter from Edmund Pendleton, President of the Virginia Convention, to Richard Henry Lee, 201
27, Letter from Josiah Bartlett to the New-Hampshire Committee of Safety: Desires information on publick affairs; he expects to set out for New-Hampshire in two or three weeks, 24
28, Letter from Neil Jamieson to James Anderson, 347
28, Letter from Egbert Benson to the New-York Congress, - - - - - - - - 388
29, Letter from Dr. Gordon to the Massachusetts Council, - - - - - - - - 1221
29, Letter from General Sullivan to the New-Hampshire Committee of Safety: General Washington has sent to New-Hampshire for thirty-one Companies to defend the Lines, in room of the Connecticut Forces, who refuse to tarry to the 1st of January; entreats they may be sent, lest the enemy take advantage of their absence, - - - - - - - - - 25
30, Letter from the Committee of Congress to General Montgomery, - - - - - - 445
30, Letter from General Sullivan to the New-Hampshire Committee of Safety: George Jaffrey having assisted in the defence of Portsmouth, ought not to be treated as an enemy to his country, - - - - - - 25
30, Letter from General Sullivan to the New-Hampshire Committee of Safety: The Connecticut Forces will quit the Lines on the 6th of December; their place must be immediately supplied with Troops from New-Hampshire and Massachusetts, - - - - - 25

SOUTH-CAROLINA PROVINCIAL CONGRESS.

Nov. 1, The Congress meets at Charlestown, - - 27
List of the Members, - - - - - - 27
William Henry Drayton chosen President, and Peter Timothy Secretary, - - - - 28
Captain Robert Cunningham, charged with high crimes against the liberties of America, arrested by Captain Tutt, - - - - 28
Association Papers which had been signed, delivered to William Henry Drayton, - - 29
Captain Cunningham brought before Congress, examined, and committed to the common jail of Charlestown, - - - - - - 29
Committee appointed to report upon the state of the Colony, - - - - - - - 29
2, Members required to give diligent attendance, - 30

1775.
*Nov.*2, Letter from Captain Edward Thornborough, of His Majesty's Ship Tamar, to Henry Laurens: He is determined not to suffer any vessel to enter or depart from Charlestown, if His Majesty's Agents are not permitted to supply the Tamar and Cherokee with provisions, - - 30
3, The doors to be kept shut during the present sitting of the Congress, - - - - - 31
Committee on regulating future elections of Members of the Congress, - - - - 31
State of the Colony Treasury, - - - 32
Letter from the Congress to Captain Thornborough: They are not destitute of the means of taking vengeance for any violence he may perpetrate against the Shipping of the port, - 32
Committee on the state of the Colony authorized to send for Persons, Papers, and Records, - 33
4, Committee of Observation revived, and authorized to give Permits to vessels to pass Fort Johnson, - - - - - - - - - 34
Correspondence with Captain Thornborough to be published, - - - - - - - 34
Two Pilot-boats sent to cruize along the coast, to warn vessels against coming into the Harbour of Charlestown, - - - - - - 34
Letters giving directions for this service to Col. Moultrie, Captain Vesey, and Captain Smith, 34
Letter from Captain Thornborough to the President of the Congress: He can enter the lists even with Mr. William Henry Drayton, when his weapons are sophistry and falsehood; but does not think Mr. Laurens's Letter worthy a written answer. He is determined to procure provisions by every means in his power, - - - - - - - 35
Extract of a Letter from Lord William Campbell to Governour Tonyn, - - - - 35
6, Affidavit of Captain John Wanton, who, with his vessel, was taken by Captain Thornborough, - - - - - - - 36
Resolution of the Congress on Captain Thornborough's Letter of the 4th instant, which contains expressions as unmerited as unbecoming the pen of a gentleman; nothing from Lord William Campbell, unsupported by absolute proof, is to be credited, - - - 37
Report of Committee appointed to inquire into the conduct of John Dunn, of North-Carolina, since his enlargement, - - - 37
Information received of the seizure of the publick Gunpowder, by Patrick Cunningham, - 38
Committee to inquire into the conduct of Mr. Cunningham, - - - - - - - 38
7, Mr. John Dunn reprimanded from the Chair, and dismissed, - - - - - - - 38
Patrick Cunningham and others, charged with robbery and feloniously taking a quantity of Lead and Gunpowder, are ordered to be arrested and brought to Charlestown, - - 39
8, Instructions to Colonel Richardson for the arrest of Patrick Cunningham and his associates, and for the recovery of the Ammunition taken by them, - - - - - - - 40
Further measures for their arrest, - - - 41
9, Letter to Colonel Thompson, - - - - 42
Letter to Colonel Fletchall and others, - - 42
Letter to Captain Richard Pearis, - - - 42
Letter to Major Williamson, - - - - 43
Orders to Colonel Moultrie to send a reinforcement to Dorchester to protect the Cannon, Gunpowder, Stores, and Publick Records at that place, - - - - - - - - 43
Guard posted near Rugeley's Store to examine suspected Wagons and Persons coming into, or going out of, Charlestown, - - - 44
Letter to the Council of Safety of Georgia, requesting five hundred pounds of Gunpowder for Mr. Campbell, - - - - - 44
Orders to Captain Tufts, of the Colony Schooner Defence, - - - - - - - - 45
The Defence to be armed and manned with all possible despatch, - - - - - - 45
Colonel Moultrie ordered, by every military operation, to oppose any British Naval Armament that may attempt to pass Fort Johnson, 45
10, Letter to Captain Thornborough, informing him of the orders of the Congress to the officer commanding at Fort Johnson, - - - 45

1775.
*Nov.*10, Commission of Ezekiel Polk, appointed to the command of a Company of Rangers, - - 46
Mr. Nathan Legaré appeared, and declaring it was never his intention to supply the Men-of-War with any thing, was reprimanded and dismissed - - - - - - - - 46
Report from the Committee of Observation, that they had prohibited Fishing-boats from proceeding beyond Fort Johnson, and had given no permits for the passage of Coasters, - 47
Committee to examine and report what further defences are necessary for the security of Charlestown against hostile attacks of Ships of War, - - - - - - - - 47
Letter to Committee at Little River, - - 47
Commission to Edward Blake, Commissary of Stores for the Naval Department of the Colony, 47
11, Captain Blake authorized to purchase eight thousand pounds of Bread for the Naval Armament of the Colony, - - - - - 48
12, Report of Captain Tufts of his success in sinking Hulks on the bar of Hog Island Creek, - - - - - - - - 48
Thanks of the Congress to Captain Tufts, - 49
Committee to consider the expediency of fitting the Ship Prosper, for the purpose of taking or sinking the Men-of-War in Rebellion Road, 49
Works to be erected for the defence of Charlestown, - - - - - - - - 49
Deputation to Georgia to solicit aid, in Powder, Arms, and other Military Stores, - - 50
Ship Prosper to be fitted out as a Frigate of War with the utmost expedition, - - - 50
Committee of Safety appointed until the meeting of the Congress to-morrow, - - - 50
Letter to the Council of Safety of Georgia, - 51
Regiment of Artillery to be raised and embodied, to serve in Garrison or otherwise, - - 52
Commissioners for erecting Batteries for the more effectual defence of Charlestown, - - 53
14, Committee of Intelligence to correspond with the Inhabitants of the interior of the Colony, - - - - - - - - - 53
Motion, that the Infantry and Horse, in the pay of the Colony, be completed to the first establishment, rejected, - - - - - - 53
Committee of Safety authorized to complete the establishment of the Army, - - - - 53
Clement Lempriere appointed Captain of the Ship Prosper, - - - - - - - 54
Officers of the Regiment of Artillery chosen, - 54
15, One hundred and twenty thousand Pounds Currency to be issued for the Pay and Charges of the Regiment of Artillery, - - - - 55
Motion, that future meetings of the Congress be held at Camden, rejected, - - - - 55
Committee of Safety appointed to act until the meeting of the Congress to-morrow, - - 55
16, New Council of Safety appointed, - - - 56
17, Secretary to cause such parts of the Journal as may be put into his hands for that purpose, to be published, - - - - - - - 56
Committee to report the Powers to be vested in the Council of Safety, - - - - - 56
Allowance for the support of John Dunn and Benjamin Booth Boote, of North-Carolina, - 56
18, Report on the state of the Paper Currency in the Publick Treasury, - - - - - - 57
Alarming account of the state of affairs in the back country communicated by Mr. Caldwell, - - - - - - - - - 57
Every Company of Militia throughout the Colony to be trained once a fortnight, - - 58
19, Declaration published by the Congress to quiet the minds of the misguided people in the back country, - - - - - - - - 58
The President authorized to apply to Colonel Polk, of North-Carolina, for the Six Companies under his command, - - - - - 60
20, Militia of Charlestown embodied and ordered upon duty, day and night, - - - - 61
Colonel Roberts ordered to take post at the Batteries at Fort Johnson and Charlestown, - - - - - - - - - 61
Persons disabled in the publick service will be provided for by the Congress, - - - 61
Cannon, Powder, and Ball, allowed for the defence of Georgetown, - - - - - 61

1775.
Nov. 21, Settlement of the rank of the Officers of the Regular Troops and Militia of the Colony, - 62
Militia not to act with the Regular Troops but on the most urgent occasions, - - - 62
Militia subject to the Militia Law only, whether acting with the Regulars or otherwise, - 62
Motion, for a draft of Militia from the Country Regiments for the defence of Charlestown, rejected, - - - - - - - - 62
Orders to Captain Lempriere to take command of the Prosper, - - - - - - 63
John Joiner appointed Commander of Fort Lyttleton, near Beaufort, - - - - - 63
Nov. 22, Letter from Rowan County (North-Carolina) Committee, recommending a cessation of all intercourse with persons not known to be friends to the American cause, - - - 63
Clement Lempriere declines the command of the Ship Prosper, - - - - - - - 63
23, Simon Tufts appointed to the command of the Prosper, - - - - - - - - 64
Further Regulations for the government of the Militia adopted, - - - - - - 64
Leading marks over the Charlestown Bar to be cut down and demolished, - - - - 65
Petition and Remonstrance from John Dunn and Benjamin Booth Boote, presented, - - 65
24, Merchants who sell Goods at exorbitant prices, to be advertised as contemners of the Resolves of the Congress, - - - - - - 65
Committee to consider and report what Manufactures are proper to be established in the Colony, - - - - - - - - 65
25, Colonel Roberts directed to complete the works for the defence of Dorchester, - - - 66
The Colony declared to be in a state of actual alarm, - - - - - - - 66
Troops marched to Congarees, and to the Cherokee Ponds, - - - - - - - 67
Volunteers from Georgia to receive same pay as Militia of South-Carolina, - - - 67
26, Orders to Colonel Powell, Colonel Rothmahler, and Colonel Richardson, - - - - 67
Committee of Safety invested with the direction, regulation, and ordering of the Land and Sea Forces, the Militia, and all Military Arrangements within the Colony; they may appoint and suspend any Officer of the Army or Navy; and do all things in their opinion necessary for securing and defending the Colony, - 68
27, Application to the Continental Congress for aid in procuring Seamen from the Northern Colonies, - - - - - - - - - 69
Lord William Campbell to be notified of any intended attack on the Men-of-War in the Road, - - - - - - - - - 69
Powers of all Committees throughout the Colony revived and continued, - - - - - 70
28, Commissioners appointed to clear and deepen Wappoo Cut, - - - - - - - 70
Captain Allston's Indian Company of Rovers directed to scour the sea-coast, subject to the orders of the Council of Safety, - - - 70
Committees for the Sea Islands required to provide signals of alarm, such as are usual in time of war, - - - - - - - 71
Charlestown is to be defended to the last extremity; and all residents who are absent are required to return forthwith, - - - 71
Premiums for the encouragement of Manufactures in the Colony, - - - - - - 72
29, Committee of Intelligence required to keep, in proper books, minutes of their transactions, and copies of all letters written by and to them, - - - - - - - - 73
Delegates to the Continental Congress reappointed, with the same powers heretofore vested in them, - - - - - - - 74
Counterfeiting Paper Currency of the Colony declared a capital offence, - - - - 74
Council of Safety authorized to bestow honorary or other rewards upon such as they think entitled to either, - - - - - - 74
Petition and Remonstrance of Messrs. Dunn and Boote, to be transmitted to the Council of Safety of North-Carolina, - - - - 75
Congress adjourned to Thursday, February 1, 1776, - - - - - - - - 76

1775.
VIRGINIA CONVENTION.
Dec. 1, Convention met at Richmond, - - - 75
List of the Delegates, - - - - 75
Edmund Pendleton elected President, and John Tazewell appointed Clerk, - - - 76
Letter from Colonel Woodford, representing the situation of the Troops under his command, - 76
Colonel Woodford directed to risk as little as possible; and, if necessary, to accept assistance from North-Carolina, - - - - 76
4, Convention met at Williamsburgh, - - 77
5, Rev. Thomas Price appointed Chaplain, - 77
Committee of Safety directed to lay their proceedings before the Convention, - - - 77
Convention in Committee on the state of the Colony, report progress, - - - - 77
Committee of Safety revived, - - - - 77
Committee to examine Charles Robinson, apprehended as a suspected person, - - - 77
6, Intercepted Letters to be transmitted to the Committee of Safety unopened, - - - - 78
Further progress in Committee on the state of the Colony, - - - - - - - 78
7, Five hundred effective men to be employed for the protection and defence of Northampton and Accomack, - - - - - - 78
8, Committee to draw up a Declaration in answer to Lord Dunmore's Proclamation of November 7, - - - - - - - - 79
Venders of Salt permitted to fix their own prices, 79
Treasurer of the Colony required to purchase for the publick use all good Gunpowder imported into, or manufactured there, - - 79
Money advanced to the Rev. John Dixon, to assist him in his Salt-works, - - - 79
9, Money advanced to Charles Carter, and to the Dumfries Saltpetre Company, as an encouragement to promote the manufacture of Saltpetre, - - - - - - - - 80
11, Representations from the Committees of Accomack and Warwick, referred to the Committee on the state of the Colony, - - - 80
Committee to inquire into the conduct of John Goodrich, and others, - - - - - 80
12, Resolution approving the conduct of Colonel Woodford, in the late action at Great Bridge, 81
13, Declaration in answer to Lord Dunmore's Proclamation of November 7, - - - - 81
Colonel Woodford directed to effect an exchange of the Prisoners in his possession for our worthy countrymen now confined by Lord Dunmore, - - - - - - - - 82
Petition from surviving Captains of Companies in the late expedition against the Indians, - 83
Regular forces of the Colony to be increased to eight Battalions, of ten Companies each; one of the Battalions to be composed of Germans, with German Officers, - - - - - 83
Report of Committee on Charles Robinson's case: He is permitted to go at large on parole, - - - - - - - - - 83
14, Colonel Woodford directed to send to Williamsburgh all Tories who have borne Arms against the Colony; to extend indulgence to such as joined Lord Dunmore through necessity; and to permit the distressed Highlanders to pass to North-Carolina, - - - 84
Declaration offering pardon to the Slaves who have taken Arms under Lord Dunmore, upon returning to their duty, - - - - 84
Arms and Accoutrements taken at Great Bridge to be appropriated to publick use, and the value thereof divided among the Soldiers, - 85
Reprisals on the Property of Lord Dunmore, for Property seized by him, not permitted without the order of the Convention, - - 85
Captive Slaves to be employed at the Lead Mine in Fincastle County, - - - 85
15, Carter Braxton appointed a Delegate to the Continental Congress, in place of the late Peyton Randolph, - - - - - 85
16, Petition from Inhabitants of Lunenburgh County, praying the establishment of a Test, whereby the friends of America may be distinguished from those who are inimical to the glorious cause in which the country is engaged, - - - - - - - - 86

1775.
Petition from Dr. Archibald Campbell: Denies the charge against him, that he had taken an active part under Lord Dunmore, relative to the late transactions in Norfolk; and prays the protection of the Convention, in behalf of the Inhabitants of the Borough, - - - 86
Twelve Members of new Committee of Safety elected, - - - - - - - - - 87
Dec. 18, Committee of Nansemond County directed to prevent the sailing of a Vessel to Great Britain with Naval Stores, - - - - - 88
Petitions from Joseph Simpson, John Campbell, and Alexander Ross, for losses in the late expedition against the Indians; for repairs of Fort Pitt, building Fort Fincastle, and advances to Major Connolly, - - - - 88
19, Petition from Edward Hack Moseley, of Princess Anne, and Matthew Phripp, of Norfolk: They are represented as inimical to their country, and request a hearing before the Convention, - - - - - - - 89
Natives of Great Britain, Inhabitants of the Colony, having violated the Continental Association, and become active promoters of the cruel and arbitrary persecutions of the people, and propagators of falsehoods against them, the Resolution formerly passed in their favour is rescinded, - - - - - 89
20, Ordinance for establishing a General Test, presented, and read the first time, - - - 91
Petitions of Inhabitants of Augusta County, for remuneration for services and expenses in the late Indian War, - - - - - 91
Soldiers in the regular service to be allowed Hunting-Shirts, Leggins, and Bindings for their Hats, by the publick, - - - 92
Proceedings of the Commissioners to treat with the Indians laid before the Convention, - 92
County-Lieutenants required to keep double Patroles during the ensuing holydays, - 92
Troops raised by an Ordinance of the last Convention, in Fincastle County, to be disbanded, 92
21, Ordinances for raising an additional number of Forces for the defence and protection of the Colony, and for establishing a mode of making Tobacco payments during the discontinuance of the Tobacco Law, presented, and read the first time, - - - - - 92
Petition of John Willoughby, of the County of Norfolk, requesting to be heard on the reports against him, of being inimical to the interests of his country, - - - - - 93
Petition of Archibald Govan, praying that, as he has not infringed the Association, he may not be made to suffer for the unfriendly Letters found on board his Vessel, - - - - 93
Ordinance for raising an additional number of Forces, read a second time, and referred to a Committee of the Whole Convention, - - 93
Petition of the Inhabitants of Frederick, and others residing westward of the Blue Ridge, for payment for expenses and losses in late Indian War, - - - - - - - 94
22, Petition of Cary Mitchell, praying that, as he is suspected of being unfriendly to his country, there may be a full inquiry into his conduct, - - - - - - - - 94
Thanks to the Officers, Volunteers, and Soldiers of North-Carolina, for their prompt and generous aid in defence of our common rights against the enemies of America, - - - 95
Petition from sundry persons of Cumberland County, praying that the indulgence granted to Foreigners may be recalled, and a General Test established for all suspected persons, - 96
23, Petition of James Wood, of Frederick County, Captain of a Company in the late expedition against the Shawanese Towns, praying remuneration for losses sustained by him, - - 96
Thanks to Colonel Elliot, to James and Richard Barron, and to the Inhabitants of Hampton, for their successful exertions in defeating the designs of our enemies, - - - - 97
26, Charles Robinson ordered to be discharged from his Parole, - - - - - - - 97
Ordinance for raising an additional number of Forces, considered in Committee of the Whole, 98
27, Same Ordinance further considered, - - 98

1775.
Dec. 28, Committee to consider the services of Mr. James Wood, who was sent among the Indians on the Western Frontier prior to the late Treaty at Fort Pitt, - - - - 99
29, Colonel Howe directed to inform Captain Bellew, of His Majesty's Ship Liverpool, that, if he can satisfy the Convention that he comes to Virginia on a friendly errand, Provisions may be furnished for his crew; but, if not, the Inhabitants of Virginia will not contribute towards their own destruction, - - - 99
Apportionment of the Salt taken by the Cruisers at Hampton among the several Counties of the Colony, - - - - - - 100
Ordinance for raising an additional number of Forces, further considered, - - - 101
30, Same Ordinance further considered, - - 102
1776. Thanks to the Rev. Mr. Griffiths for his truly
Jan. 1, patriotick Sermon preached yesterday, - - 102
Ordinance for raising an additional number of Forces, further considered, - - - - 102
2, Terms offered by Colonel Howe to the Inhabitants of Norfolk who had joined Lord Dunmore, and desired to return, approved by the Convention, - - - - - - 103
3, Archibald Campbell, John Willoughby, and Cary Mitchell, of Norfolk, discharged on their parole not to give intelligence or assistance to the enemies of America, - - - 106
Memorial of Lieutenant-Colonel Christian, William Preston, and Arthur Campbell, asking remuneration for services in late Indian war, 106
Ordinance for raising additional Forces, further considered, - - - - - - - 107
Edward Hack Moseley and Edward Hack Moseley, Jun., discharged on their parole not to give intelligence or assistance to the enemies of America, - - - - - - 108
4, Matthew Phripp, of Norfolk, who, in his extremity, had taken Lord Dunmore's Oath, in the opinion of the Convention ought to be restored to the confidence of his countrymen, - 109
Ordinance for raising additional Forces, further considered, - - - - - - - 109
5, Report of the Committee appointed to inquire whether the Goods taken on board several Vessels at Hampton were imported agreeably to the Continental Association, and whether the same belonged to friends to America, or to enemies of this Colony, - - - - 109
Report of Committee on the Services of Mr. James Wood, - - - - - - - 110
Ordinance for raising additional Forces, further considered, - - - - - - - 111
Proceedings of the Court of Inquiry held on the Prisoners taken at Norfolk, and in the neighborhood thereof, laid before the Convention, 112
6, Report of Committee on Petition of Alexander Ross and William Thompson, of Pittsburgh, 113
Ordinance for raising additional Forces, further considered in Committee of the Whole—to be reported to the Convention on the 9th instant, 113
8, Treasurer ordered to advance one thousand Pounds for the relief of the Inhabitants of Norfolk who have suffered from the destruction of that Town, - - - - - - 114
The cases of two Vessels taken by Captain Barron, in Hampton Roads, and carried up York River, laid before the Convention by the President, - - - - - - - - 114
Report of the Committee on the Petition of Sampson and George Matthews, - - - 114
Resolution appointing Colonel John Bowyer Commissioner of Claims on account of the late expedition against the Indians, rescinded, and Joseph Cabell appointed in his stead, - 115
9, Report on Petition of Robert Carr, - - - 115
Petition of Richard Hopper, master of the Ship Rockingham, in behalf of the owners, Merchants in Hull, England, - - - - - 115
Ordinance for raising additional Forces, with several amendments, reported to the Convention from the Committee of the Whole, - 116
Amendments to be considered to-morrow, - 116
10, Letter from Council of Safety of North-Carolina: Colonel Howe has orders to remain in Virginia as long as the publick service may require, - - - - - - - - 116

1776.

Committee of Safety directed to inform the Virginia Delegates in Congress that the state of affairs requires an increase of the Regular Forces to nine Regiments necessary, and requesting they may be taken in Continental pay, 117
Cargo of the Brig Fanny, taken by Captain Barron, and carried to Cumberland, to be disposed of for the use of the Colony, - - 117
Jan. 11, Ordinance for raising additional Forces, read third time and passed, - - - - - 118
Hugh Mercer elected Colonel of the Third Regiment, - - - - - - - - - 118
12, Brig Fanny ordered to be delivered to her owner, Joseph Hewes, of North-Carolina, a member of the General Congress, a known friend to America, and wholly a stranger to the ill conduct of the Captain, - - - - - 118
Field-Officers of the seven additional Regiments appointed, - - - - - - - 119
13, Petition of sundry Inhabitants of Norfolk and Princess Anne Counties, setting forth their sufferings from the Troops under Lord Dunmore, and their apprehension of greater cruelties if our Troops are dislodged from Norfolk, - - - - - - - - 121
Report on Representation of Committee of Isle of Wight: John Goodrich declared a friend of the Colony, - - - - - - - 122
Report of the Committee on the conduct of John Goodrich, William Goodrich, and John Goodrich, Jun.: Bartlett Goodrich and John Goodrich, Jun., have manifestly violated the first article of the Continental Association, - 122
Colonel Howe appeared before the Convention, and examined concerning the present situation of Norfolk, and the neighborhood thereof, - 124
15, Inhabitants of Norfolk and Princess Anne Counties, exposed to the attacks of the enemy, advised to remove, with their effects; the poorer to be assisted by the publick, - - - - 124
Report of Committee to inquire into the cases of the Prisoners in the City of Williamsburgh: Alexander Gordon and others to be detained as Prisoners of War; Caleb Whitehurst and others to be discharged on parole not to aid Lord Dunmore in future, - - - - - 124
16, Report of Committee on Petition of John Goodrich, - - - - - - - - - 125
17, Prisoners sent by the Committee of Northampton County to be examined by the Committee of Safety, - - - - - - - - 127
Report of the Committee on Prisoners confined in the Publick Jail: Slaves who have borne Arms in the service of Lord Dunmore to be sent to the West India Islands, and sold, - 128
18, Colonel of the First Regiment allowed an Aid-de-camp, - - - - - - - - - 129
William Finnie elected Deputy Quartermster General; Thomas Bullitt, Adjutant-General; and John Sears, Deputy Adjutant-General, - 129
19, Committee to inquire into, and report upon, the conduct of the Officers and Militia of Princess Anne County, - - - - - - - - 129
The propriety of opening the American Ports to all willing to trade with us, Great Britain, Ireland, and the British West Indies, excepted, recommended to the consideration of the Continental Congress, - - - - - 130
All Publick Money, except his Majesty's Quit-rents, now in the hands of Collectors, and other Officers, to be paid into the hands of the Treasurer of the Colony, - - - - 131
Adjourned to April 2, to meet in Williamsburgh, 131
Ordinances passed by the Convention—
1. For raising an additional number of Forces for the defence and protection of the Colony, 131
2. For appointing Sheriffs, - - - - - 141
3. For amending the Ordinance for providing Arms and Ammunition for the use of the Colony, - - - - - - - - - 141
4. For reviving and amending an Ordinance appointing a Committee of Safety, - - - 142
5. For establishing Tobacco Payments during the discontinuance of the Inspection Law, - 142
6. Amending an Ordinance for regulating the election of Delegates and Committee-men, - 144
7. For establishing a mode of punishment for the enemies to America, in Virginia, - - 145

1775.

CORRESPONDENCE, PROCEEDINGS, ETC.

Dec. 1, Address of the Gentlemen, &c., of the City of Carlisle to the King: Nothing on their part will be wanting to counteract the frantick and nefarious machinations of Aristocratick or Republican Traitors, - - - - - 147
Address of the Gentlemen, Clergy, &c., of Dublin, to the King, - - - - - - - 148
1, Letter from Captain Leslie to General Gage, - 349
1, Letter from Captain Fordyce to Captain Urquhart, - - - - - - - - 349
1, Letter from Paul Micheau to the New-York Congress: Committee of Richmond County has not ordered an election of Deputy to the Provincial Congress, - - - - - - 149
1, Meeting of the New-York Assembly prorogued to first day of January next, - - - - 149
1, Letter from Cumberland County Committee to New-York Congress, - - - - - 426
1, Recantation of David Taylor, Jun., addressed to the Committee for the Town of Danbury, Connecticut, - - - - - - - - 150
1, Letter from General Lee to General Burgoyne, 150
1, Letter from Colonel Moylan to Colonel Wentworth: Instructions in regard to captured Vessels, - - - - - - - - - 152
1, Letter from Colonel Moylan to William Watson, giving him instructions as to fitting out the Armed Vessels, - - - - - - 152
1, Letter from General Putnam to General Washington, - - - - - - - - - 180
1, Letter from Dr. Jackson to New-Hampshire Provincial Congress: Recapitulates his services since he entered the Army, in consequence of an intimation that he had been absent a long time: He was engaged in laying out Fortifications, constructing Field Carriages, raising and exercising an Artillery Company, making Cartridges, &c., besides attending to his regular duties as Surgeon, - 153
2, Address of the Magistrates, &c., of Borough of Jedburgh to the King: They hear with alarm, that the Americans, lost to all sense of justice and gratitude, are proceeding in the desperate purpose of shaking off their dependance on the Mother country, - - - - - 153
2, Letter from Lord Dunmore to General Howe: A Winter campaign would reduce, without the smallest doubt, the whole of the Southern country to a proper state of obedience, - 357
2, Letter from Captain Squire to Admiral Graves, 351
2, Letter from the President of Congress to the Commanding Officer of the Pennsylvania Battalion, requesting him to station a Guard for the protection of the Vessels and Stores on the wharves of Willing & Morris, - - 154
2, Letter from the President of Congress to General Washington, - - - - - - 154
2, Letter from the President of Congress to Governour Trumbull: The Commissioners sent to consult with General Schuyler are instructed to induce the Men to reinlist for one year from the first of January next: No bounty will be allowed to the Soldiers on reinlistment, - 155
2, Letter from the President of Congress to the New-Hampshire Convention, transmitting certain Resolutions of Congress, - - - 155
2, Letter from Theodore Van Wyck to New-York Congress, informing them of the reason of his non-attendance, - - - - - - 156
2, Declaration of Thomas Colden, High Sheriff of Ulster County, acknowledging his opposition to the measures of the Congress, and pledging himself to support them in future, - - 156
2, Extract of a Letter from an Officer in the Northern Army: Colonel Ritzema has taken St. Luke La Corne and Major Campbell prisoners: The Garrison at Montreal is weak; but General Wooster is taking measures to put it in the best order of defence possible, - - 156
2, Letter from a Committee of the Assembly to Governour Trumbull, relating to the payment of the Connecticut Troops at Roxbury, 157
2, Letter from General Washington to Governour Trumbull: The time of the Connecticut Troops does not expire until the 10th instant, when others will be in to supply their place;

1775.
yet, yesterday morning, most of them resolved to leave the Camp; many went off, some with their Arms and Ammunition, - - 157
Dec. 2, Letter from Colonel Moylan to William Bartlett: It does not appear that Captain Broughton had good reason for seizing the Sloop Phœbe; and the General orders that she be delivered to Mr. Aborn, - - - - - - - 158
2, Letter from Colonel Moylan to William Bartlett: Captain Hunter and his crew to be treated with humanity, and may be permitted to live on board the Vessel, - - - - 158
2, Letter from Rev. Eleazer Wheelock to General Washington, giving him an account of an interview with the famous Major Rogers, and communicating the suspicions entertained that the Major was in the service of the enemy, - 158
2, Letter from General Sullivan to New-Hampshire Committee of Safety, urging them to despatch reinforcements as soon as possible, as the Connecticut Forces have determined to leave the lines, and the enemy in Boston are fully acquainted with our situation, - - 159
2, Letter from an Officer in Boston to his friend in Edinburgh: The Troops are harassed with constantly watching the Rebels; many are sick, and fresh Provisions very dear; but the Rebels are in a worse condition from want of Clothing and Shelter, - - - - 159
2, Letter from General Howe to the Earl of Dartmouth, enclosing copies of Returns and Estimates, with occasional Remarks, - - 160
3, Letter from Lord Stirling to the President of Congress: The Jersey Regiments are in want of Clothing, Arms, and Ammunition; hopes the six Companies ordered to the Fortress on Hudson's River will march next week, - 164
Letter from John McKesson to Lord Stirling: At present there is neither Provincial Congress nor Committee of Safety in session, - 165
Letter from Lord Stirling to Colonel Maxwell, urging him to hasten the march of his Troops to the North River, - - - - - 166
Return of the First New-Jersey Regiment in the Continental Service, under the command of Lord Stirling, - - - - - - 166
Captain Erskine to Officers of the First Jersey Battalion: He has raised and equipped an Independent Company at his own expense at the Ringwood Iron-Works, and complains that his men are inlisted in other Companies, - 166
3, Letter from Walter Livingston to the Congress, 167
3, Letter from Robert H. Harrison to the Council of Massachusetts: Information has been received that persons are to be sent out of Boston, lately inoculated for the Small-Pox, with the design, probably, of spreading the infection, - - - - - - - - 168
3, Letter from Colonel Glover to General Washington: Captain Manly has brought in another Prize, - - - - - - - 168
3, Letter from General Sullivan to New-Hampshire Committee of Safety: The Connecticut Forces begin to leave in Companies, six or seven days before their time is expired: The New-Hampshire Troops should be sent immediately, as much may depend upon their speedy arrival, - - - - - - 168
3, Letter from Joseph Wentworth to Stephen Moylan: Two prizes are at Winter Harbour; they should be removed to some safe Port, - 168
3, Letter from the New-Hampshire Committee of Safety to Colonel Hobart, urging him to raise a number of Companies in Hillsborough County, with all possible despatch, to guard our lines, left open by the Connecticut Forces, 169
3, Letter from the New-Hampshire Committee of Safety to Colonel Walker, - - - 169
3, Letter from General Howe to the Earl of Dartmouth: Fears a general defection of the Canadians, and that the whole Province will fall into the hands of the Rebels; Montreal has surrendered; a transport, with Arms, &c., has been taken by a Rebel Privateer; and fearing these advantages will encourage the Rebels to make further attempts, he recommends an increase of the Army in Canada to twelve thousand fighting men, - - 170

1775.
Dec. 4, Committee of Louisa County, Virginia, offer, in the name of the whole County, to make the best provision in their power for their distressed brethren in the lower Counties, - 171
4, Letter from Colonel Scott to a friend in Williamsburgh: Advantages have been gained in several skirmishes with the King's Troops; while writing, alarm gun fired, and a number of Houses at the Great Bridge on fire, - 171
4, Letter from Josiah Bartlett to the New-Hampshire Committee of Safety: Congress has voted for New-Hampshire the sum of forty thousand Dollars, - - - - - - 172
4, Letter from Samuel Tucker to Lord Stirling, - 172
4, Letter from Lord Stirling to Isaac Bonnell, giving directions about the Barracks, &c., - 172
4, Letter from Lord Stirling to the New-York Congress, applying for Fire-Arms for the Jersey Troops ordered to the new Fort in the Highlands, on Hudson River, - - - - 173
4, Letter from Governour Tryon to Whitehead Hicks, enclosing an Address to the Inhabitants of New-York, - - - - - - 173
Letter from a Citizen to Governour Tryon, on his Address to the Inhabitants of New-York, 174
4, Letter from Montreal to a Gentleman in Philadelphia: General Montgomery is on his way to Quebeck; Carleton has about twelve hundred fighting men with him, - - - - 175
4, Letter from Governour Trumbull to the Council of Massachusetts, enclosing Permits, &c., from the Committees of Falmouth, Massachusetts, and Suffolk County, New-York, to Captain Fanning, of Nantucket, to transport Provisions to that Island, - - - - - 175
4, Letter from Colonel Moylan to the Council of Massachusetts, with a list of Prisoners, - 176
4, Letter from Governour Cooke to General Washington, asking how he is to dispose of Captain Stanhope, of the British Navy, a near relation of Earl Stanhope, lately made prisoner at Newport, - - - - - 177
4, Court-Martial at Roxbury on Prisoners charged with desertion to the enemy, - - - 177
4, Letter from General Washington to Colonel McDougall: Cannon is much wanted, but a full supply of Shot and Shells has been obtained from the captured Store-Ship, - - 178
4, Letter from Robert H. Harrison to the Massachusetts Council, - - - - - - 1222
4, Letter from George Leonard, Jun., to the Massachusetts Council, - - - - - - 1232
4, Letter from General Gates to the Massachusetts Council, - - - - - - - 1253
4, Letter from Robert H. Harrison to William Bartlett: The General does not consider the Sloop sent in by Captain Broughton a prize, and will have nothing to do with her, - - 178
4, Letter from Robert H. Harrison to William Palfrey, - - - - - - - - 178
4, Letter from Stephen Moylan to Colonel Glover: The General has received the account of the capture of the Concord, but does not feel authorized to declare English Vessels in the merchant service lawful captures, and has referred the matter to Congress, - - - 179
4, Letter from William Watson to Colonel Moylan: He supplied the wants of the Crew, and the Brigantine has been repaired, and has sailed, - - - - - - - - - 179
4, Letter from General Washington to the President of Congress: He has called for five thousand men from Massachusetts and New-Hampshire, to make up the deficiency of the Connecticut men, who will all leave on the 10th instant; and fears the same defection in other troops, when their time expires. The trouble with the Crews of the Armed Vessels is inexpressible; Manly's success has lately quieted his people; the Crews of the Washington and Harrison have actually deserted them. The want of Powder is so great that nothing offensive can be attempted; there is barely enough to defend the lines in case of an attack, - - - - - - - 180
Letter from General Putnam to General Washington, requesting him to recommend Colonel Babcock for Brigadier-General, - - - 182

1775.
Dec. 1, Resolution of the House of Representatives of Massachusetts, calling the attention of General Washington to the importance of Cape Cod Harbour, - - - - - - - 182
General Orders, from December 1 to December 5, 182
5, Letter from Colonel Scott, at Great Bridge: There is hardly an hour in the day but they exchange shot with the British, - - - 183
5, Notice by William Whetcroft, Postmaster at Annapolis: The Constitutional Post-Office having been instituted by the Congress, it is hoped that all well-wishers to the opposition in America will promote the same, - - 184
5, Letter from Lord Stirling to the President of Congress: The Troops to be sent from New-Jersey to the Highlands cannot be quartered contiguous to the new Fortress on the Hudson River, for there are not five habitable houses within five miles of it, - - - 184
5, Letter from Colonel Woodhull to Lord Stirling: The Barracks at the new Fort in the Highlands are now crowded, and it is impossible to quarter the Jersey Troops there; in the course of the winter additional Barracks will be built to accommodate one thousand men, - 184
5, Letter from the Provincial Congress of New-York to the Commissioners at the Highlands, urging them to complete Barracks for one thousand men as soon as possible, - - 185
5, New-York Committee: Petition to the Provincial Congress, complaining of the seizing and carrying off Rivington's types at noon-day, by Captain Sears, and praying that some means may be devised to protect the liberty and property of the Inhabitants, - - - 185
Express despatched to give notice of the sailing of an Armed Vessel up the North River, - 186
William Leary appointed Town-Major, - 186
Colonels of Regiments authorized to appoint days for election of Company Officers to fill vacancies, - - - - - - - - 186
John Myford, charged with inlisting men for the Asia Man-of-War, reprimanded and discharged, - - - - - - - - - 186
5, Letter from Major Skene to Hugh Gaine, declaring that the assertion that he had violated his Parole is groundless, - - - - - 187
5, Letter from the Committee of Dutchess County to the New-York Congress: Three persons, material witnesses against prisoners charged with inlisting men for the Ministerial Army, have refused to be sworn, and contemned the authority of the Committee. As there are many officious Ministerial Agents in the County, the advice of the Congress how to act in the premises is solicited, - - - 187
5, Letter from Colonel Knox to General Washington, with a list of Stores to be conveyed from Ticonderoga to the Camp, - - - 188
5, Letter from General Montgomery to General Schuyler: Has arrived before Quebeck with about three hundred men; proposes to amuse Mr. Carleton with a formal attack; but means to assault the works towards the Lower Town, and thinks there is a fair prospect of success, - - - - - - - - - 188
5, Letter from Colonel Arnold to General Washington: General Montgomery, with three hundred men, joined him at Point-aux-Trembles on the 3d instant; his own Detachment amounts to six hundred and seventy-five men, 190
5, Letter from an Officer in Canada to Isaiah Thomas, giving an account of the difficulties and sufferings of Arnold's Detachment in their march to Canada, - - - - - - 190
5, Letter from Governour Trumbull to General Schuyler, - - - - - - - - 190
5, Letter from General Washington to James Otis: The Resolve of the General Court to pay the men by the lunar month aims a most fatal stab to the peace of the Army; Lord North himself could not have devised a more effectual blow to the Recruiting Service, - 205
5, Letter from General Washington to the Assembly of Massachusetts, giving a statement of his situation in consequence of the refusal of the Connecticut Troops to continue in service at this critical time, and expressing his fears

1775.
that their example will be followed by the Forces from the other New-England Colonies. He suggests that vigorous measures may be adopted, if the powers of the Government are adequate, to facilitate the completion of the Army, which cannot be recruited in any reasonable time by voluntary inlistments, 191
Dec. 7, Letter from the General Court of Massachusetts to General Washington: The Officers and Soldiers of the Militia now to be raised are put upon the same footing, in all respects, as the rest of the American Army under his command, - - - - - - - - 191
5, Letter from General Washington to General Schuyler: Knows his complaints are well-founded, but begs he will not think of resigning. The cause we are engaged in is so just and righteous, that we must try to rise superior to every obstacle in its support, - - 192
5, Letter from General Washington to Colonel Arnold, offering to him and his brave followers sincere thanks for their enterprising and persevering spirit during their long and fatiguing march, - - - - - - - - 192
5, Letter from General Washington to Governour Cooke: He is convinced of the impracticability of recruiting the Army by voluntary inlistments; but this is not a time for trifling; and the exigency of affairs calls aloud for vigorous exertions, - - - - - - - 193
5, Letter from Colonel Moylan to the Salem Committee, referring to them, by direction of the General, the case of the Kingston Packet, taken at Barrington, in Nova-Scotia, - - 193
5, Letter from Colonel Moylan to Captain Wadsworth, directing him to examine the Harbour of Cape-Cod, and report what Fortifications may be necessary for the defence of its entrance, - - - - - - - - - 193
5, Letter from Colonel Moylan to William Bartlett: The General orders that the Schooner Thomas, from Fayal, seized by Captain Coit, be immediately surrendered. It is not the intention of the Continent to interrupt good citizens in their trade, - - - - - - 194
5, Letter from the General Court of Massachusetts to their Delegates in Congress, representing the difficulty arising from the determination of the Congress to pay by the calendar month, after Massachusetts had agreed to pay by the lunar month, - - - - - - - - 194
5, Letter from the New-Hampshire Committee of Safety to General Sullivan: They are making every effort to furnish, by the 10th instant, the Troops required of them, - - - - - 195
5, Proclamation to the Governour of Nova-Scotia: A daring and traitorous Rebellion against his Majesty subsists in his Colonies on the Continent; and many of the Rebels having dared to insult and invade the Province, he declared martial law to be in full force therein, - - 195
6, Address of the Noblemen, &c., of the County of Caithness, to the King: Alarmed with the prospect of seeing the freest empire God ever framed rent by an unnatural war in America, and an unprovoked faction at home, they pledge their lives and fortunes to subdue a rebellion premeditated, unprovoked, and that every day is becoming more general, - - 196
6, Address of the Magistrates, &c., of the Royal Burgh of Cupar, in Fife, to the King, - - 197
6, General Meeting of the Planters of the Sugar Colonies, residing in Great Britain; and of the London Merchants trading to the said Colonies; their Proceedings, and Petition to the House of Commons, - - - - - - 197
6, Letter from a Gentleman in Henrico to his friend in Williamsburgh, explaining the condition of the People in the lower Counties, who are suffering for want of Salt, - - - - - 199
6, Committee for Chesterfield County, Virginia, declare that Edward Johnston, of Manchester, has wilfully violated the Proclamation of the Committee of Safety, - - - - - 200
6, Letter from Samuel Patterson to the Delaware Delegates in Congress: Offers the Congress one thousand Pounds in gold; and will take, in exchange, their bills now in circulation, - 200

1775.
Dec. 6, Letter from Richard Henry Lee to General Washington: Has reason to believe the improvements on the Kenhawa have not been destroyed by the Indians, - - - - 201
Letter from Edmund Pendleton to Richard Henry Lee: Movements of the Troops in Virginia; action at Kemp's Landing, - - 201
6, Memorial of John Bull, of Philadelphia, to the Congress, requesting authority may be given him to dispose of the Lands belonging to the Nanticokes, in Maryland, who are desirous of removing to live with the Six Nations, - 202
6, Letter from Lord Stirling to the President of Congress, - - - - - - - - 202
6, Punishment of Thomas Randolph, of Quibbletown, New-Jersey, for reviling and opposing the Continental and Provincial Congresses and Committees, - - - - - - - 203
6, Declaration of the Inhabitants of Queen's County, New-York: The report that they are inimical to the American cause is void of truth; they wish to remain peaceable and quiet; have the means of protecting themselves, and will not submit to be disarmed, - 203
6, Letter from Inhabitants of Putney, Cumberland County, New-York, to Colonel Williams and Paul Spooner, - - - - - - - 429
6, Letter from an Officer in the Camp before Quebeck: The men are in high spirits; if Quebeck does not surrender soon, it is the General's intention to carry the Town by storm, - 204
6, Connecticut Council of Safety: Officers and Sailors of the Armed Vessel taken near St. John's ordered to be sent to the County of Litchfield, - - - - - - 205
Captain Hunter and others, Prisoners sent to be quartered in Connecticut, allowed to reside in Wethersfield on their parole, - - - 205
Letter received from General Washington, informing that a number of the Connecticut Troops had deserted the service, - - - 205
Letter ordered to be sent in reply, expressing the resentment of the Council at the conduct of the Troops, - - - - - - - 205
6, Letter from General Washington to Governour Cooke, - - - - - - - - 205
6, Letter from Colonel Moylan to Timothy Pickering: It will give the General great pleasure to contribute to the particular safety of the Inhabitants of Salem, when he can do so consistent with his duty to defend the whole, - - - - - - - - 206
6, Letter from Stephen Moylan to Captain Bartlett, 206
6, Letter from James Sullivan to General Sullivan, communicating his Plan for raising men for the new Army, - - - - - - 206
6, Letter from General Folsom to the New-Hampshire Committee of Safety: Is exerting himself to raise Troops to march immediately to the Camp, - - - - - - - 207
7, Plan of Reconciliation with the Colonies offered in the House of Commons by Mr. Hartley, - 207
7, Letter from William De Hart to Lord Stirling, 210
7, Letter from the Commissioners for Fortifications to the New-York Congress, - - - 254
7, Letter from Albany Committee to Committee of the District of Kinderhook: Earnestly recommending to the District of Kinderhook that they will adopt measures to promote among them peace and harmony, - - 210
Reply of the Kinderhook Committee in defence of the measures they have heretofore pursued, 211
7, Letter from Colonel Holmes to Captain Wynkoop, - - - - - - - - 212
7, Letter from Inhabitants of Westminster, Cumberland County, to Colonel Williams and Paul Spooner, - - - - - - - 430
7, Recantation of Gideon Lownsbery, - - - 212
7, Letter from Governour Trumbull to General Washington: The reprehensible conduct of some of the Troops of the Colony has excited grief, surprise, and indignation. Care will be taken to make examples of some of the ringleaders. The zeal and ardour of Connecticut in the common cause may be relied on, - 213
7, Letter from the General Court of Massachusetts to General Washington, in reply to his Letter of the 5th instant to Mr. Otis: They are clearly of opinion that the words of the Resolve will not justify the construction suggested to his Excellency by General Heath, - 191
Dec. 7, Letter from General Washington to the President of Congress: Broughton and Selman are returned without affecting any good purpose; Mr. Callbeck and two others, brought in Prisoners, have been discharged, - - 214
7, Letter from General Washington to Governour Cooke, requesting him to send Captain Stanhope and the two Midshipmen to Northampton on parole, - - - - - - - 214
7, Letter from General Washington to the Committee for Portsmouth, New-Hampshire, - 214
7, Letter from Richard Derby to Stephen Moylan: The Committee at Salem have declined acting in the case of the Kingston Packet, but say there does not appear the least cause to detain the vessel, - - - - - - 214
7, Letter from John Pickering to Stephen Moylan: In such cases as that of the Kingston Packet, if Committees in different Towns give different judgments it will cause great difficulties; it should be determined by Judges whose jurisdiction is general, - - - - - - 215
7, Letter from Nathaniel Peaslee Sargeant to the Massachusetts Council, - - - - - 1236
7, Letter from John Waite to John Adams, with a statement of the losses he sustained when Falmouth was burnt by the Ministerial Troops and Navy, - - - - - - - - 215
8 Advices from the interior of South-Carolina: Action with Cunningham's party, - - 215
8, Letter from the President of Congress to Committee for Fredericktown, with the Thanks of Congress for their vigilance in seizing Cameron, Smith, and Connolly, - - - - - 216
8, Letter from the President of Congress to the Governments of the several New-England Colonies: The Congress is alarmed at the want of publick spirit, and backwardness in the Soldiers to reinlist, and the dreadful consequences that must ensue, should the lines be abandoned, and the General deserted, at a critical moment, - - - - - - 217
8, Letter from the President of Congress to General Washington: General Schuyler has orders to forward what Cannon and Lead he can spare; the Congress are sensibly affected with his situation, regret the backwardness of the Troops to reinlist, and have empowered him to call forth the New-England Militia in any emergency, - - - - - - 217
8, Letter from Thomas Lynch to General Washington, - - - - - - - - 218
8, Letter from the New-York Provincial Congress to President Hancock, - - - - - 391
8, Letter from the Provincial Congress to the New-York Delegates in Continental Congress, - 392
8, Petition of John Marks to the New-York Congress for assistance in establishing the business of making Nails, which is much needed, - 218
8, Letter from General Schuyler to the President of Congress: The men are in want of suitable Clothing for the winter: He has not been able to settle the accounts with the Soldiers, from which the cause will suffer extremely; numbers that have gone home, have sworn that they will never re-engage in the service, 219
8, Letter from Abram Davenport to Governour Trumbull, asking permission for a Vessel to go to the West Indies with Provisions, and to bring back Military Stores, - - - 220
8, Letter from General Washington to General Sullivan: The intention of yesterday's Order, respecting the Review of the Connecticut Troops, is only to afford a good opportunity of making choice of such of their Arms as may be found fit for the use of the new Army, 220
8, Letter from Robert H. Harrison to General Thomas, - - - - - - - 221
8, Letter from Colonel Moylan to the Salem Committee: The General cannot decide upon breaches of the Association; that comes under the cognizance of the Committees of Safety, - - - - - - - - 221
8, Letter from Stephen Moylan to Colonel Glover: The General desires he will put Captain Der-

1775.
by in possession of Kingston Packet, and so manage the matter that Head-Quarters may hear no more of it, - - - - - - 221
Dec. 8, Letter from General Sullivan to the New-Hampshire Committee of Safety: General Washington is extremely pleased with the vigorous exertions and noble spirit of the People of New-Hampshire, - - - - - - 221
8, Letter from Jonathan Titcomb, and others, to Benjamin Greenleaf, - - - - - 1229
8, Letter from Thomas Jones, and others, to Benjamin Greenleaf, - - - - - - 1229
8, Proclamation by the Governour of Nova-Scotia: Fearing the evil consequences that may ensue from permitting strangers, who may be in the interest of the Rebels, to resort to the Town of Halifax, all persons coming there are required to report themselves within two hours, or they will be treated as Spies, - 222
9, Letter from London: Measures of the Ministry to carry into effect their plans with regard to the Colonies, - - - - - - - 222
9, Letter from a Gentleman in London to his friend in Virginia: Government does not intend to make the Grand Armament at Boston; the whole Force, including those now in America, is to be twenty-six thousand men; they are to be divided in America, and sent to New-York, Virginia, and South-Carolina, - - 223
9, Letter from Colonel Woodford to Edmund Pendleton, informing him of the attack and defeat of the British at Great Bridge, - - 224
9, Letter from Major Spotswood to a friend in Williamsburgh, with sundry particulars of the battle at Great Bridge, - - - - 224
9, Committee of King and Queen County, Virginia, examine into the charge against William Lyne, of endeavouring to prejudice the Minute Service, and decide that he appears to be a friend to American liberty, - - - 224
9, Letter from the Committee for Trenton, New-Jersey, to the President of Congress, on the conduct of the Prisoners on parole at that place, - 225
9, Letter from New-York Congress to General Schuyler, - - - - - - - 396
9, Letter from Provincial Congress to New-York Delegates in Continental Congress, - - 397
9, Letter from New-York Congress to Committee for Tryon County, - - - - - - 397
9, Letter from Colonel David Mulford to the New-York Congress, - - - - - - 408
9, Letter from General Schuyler to General Washington: Colonel Knox will get the articles he wants, except Powder and Flints, at Fort George, and they will be sent to Cambridge the first snow, - - - - - - - - 225
9, Letter from General Schuyler to General Washington, with a Return of the Artillery at Ticonderoga, Crown-Point, &c., - - - 226
9, Letter from Governour Trumbull to General Washington, - - - - - - - 227
9, Letter from Elbridge Gerry to Massachusetts Council, - - - - - - - - 1227
9, Letter from General Gates to Massachusetts Council, - - - - - - - - 1227
9, Letter from Colonel Moylan to James Otis, with four Prisoners for examination, - - - 227
9, Letter from William Bartlett to General Washington: Captain Manly has brought in two more Prizes, - - - - - - - 227
Account of the capture of the two Vessels by Captain Manly, - - - - - - 227
10, Letter from Colonel Woodford to the Virginia Convention, - - - - - - 228
Full account of the battle at the Great Bridge, (*Note,*) - - - - - - - - 228
10, Letter from Samuel Tucker to Lord Stirling: Has endeavoured to do every thing that was required; the Assembly passed a law for repairing the several Barracks, but it was lost in the Council, - - - - - - 228
10, Letter from Colonel Lowrey to Lord Stirling: He has been with Mr. Hancock, and many Members of Congress, urging them to provide for the necessary articles; they have promised something should be done, - - 229
10, Letter from Gilbert Potter to New-York Congress, - - - - - - - - 404

1775.
Dec. 10, Account of the burning and plundering by the British at Conanicut, Rhode-Island, - - 230
10, Letter from Thomas Crafts, Jun., to William Cooper, - - - - - - - - - 1229
10, Letter from General Washington to James Otis, 1229
10, Letter from Thomas Crafts, Jun., to General Washington, - - - - - - - 1229
10, Letter from Stephen Moylan to William Bartlett, giving instructions in regard to the two Prizes last sent in, - - - - - - 230
10, Letter from Stephen Moylan to William Bartlett, directing the cargo of the two Prizes to be laid up in a secure place, and to assist Captain Adams in preparing for a cruise, - - 231
10, Letter from General Greene to Samuel Ward: The inlistments proceed slowly; the Rhode-Island Troops are home-sick; the Connecticut Troops are going off in shoals; New-Hampshire behaves nobly; their Troops engage cheerfully; in Massachusetts they are zealous to engage in the service, - - - 232
11, Address of the Provost, &c., of the Royal Burgh of Wick, to the King, - - - - - 232
11, Letter from Colonel Woodford to Edmund Pendleton: The enemy has abandoned the Fort at the Great Bridge, and he has taken possession of it, - - - - - - - - 233
11, Order of the Maryland Convention, that the Parliamentary Post be not permitted to travel in, or pass through the Province, with any Mail, Packages, or Letters, - - - 234
11, Letter from Captain Conway to Lord Stirling, - 234
11, Letter from Captain Morris to Lord Stirling: Has no Money to buy Arms, and half his Company have none, - - - - - - - 235
11, Committee for Barnard's Township, New-Jersey, declare Nathaniel Haten an enemy to the liberties of America, - - - - - 235
11, Letter from Colonel Nicoll to John McKesson, 235
11, Letter from Governour Cooke to General Washington: Mr. Penet has arrived with proposals for supplying the United Colonies with Arms and warlike Stores, - - - - 235
11, Letter from William Sever to General Washington, - - - - - - - - - 1229
11, Letter from General Washington to the Committee of Symsbury, requesting them to secure, in the Jail at that place, certain Prisoners sentenced by a Court-Martial to be imprisoned there, - - - - - - - - - 235
11, Letter from Robert H. Harrison to General Ward, - - - - - - - - - 236
11, Letter from Robert H. Harrison to Thomas Crafts, Jun., - - - - - - - - 236
11, Letter from William Bartlett to General Washington: The valuable Prizes at Beverly are much exposed, as there is nothing to defend them with; there are forts and breastworks, but no guns nor ammunition, - - - - 236
11, Petition from the Committee for Beverly, Massachusetts, to General Washington, requesting they may be supplied with some Guns and Powder, as they are much exposed, and entirely without the means of defence, - - 236
11, Letter from General Washington to the President of Congress: The inlistments go on at a slow rate; the Militia are coming in fast; Massachusetts and New-Hampshire have shown great alacrity on the occasion, - - 237
Letter from General Washington to Governour Trumbull, - - - - - - - - 238
Proceedings of a Court-Martial for the trial of Lieutenant-Colonel Enos, - - - - - 238
General Orders, from December 6 to December 11, - - - - - - - - - - 240
11, Letter from General Sullivan to Meshech Weare: The Congress having given New-Hampshire a power to assume Government, he submits his views of the form which will best answer the true end and design thereof, - 241
12, Address of the Magistrates and Council of the Burgh of Kirkwall to the King, - - 243
12, Address of the Noblemen and Gentlemen of the County of Roxburgh to the King, - - 244
12, Letter from Colonel Woodford to the Virginia Convention: He has taken some of the principal Tories of Norfolk, and sends their examinations to the Convention, - - - 244

1775.
Dec. 12, Letter from Colonel Scott to Captain Southall: Lord Dunmore has applied for an exchange of Prisoners, - - - - - - - - 245
12, Regulations adopted by the Committee for Hanover County, Virginia, respecting Salt, - 245
12, Letter from the Committee of Secret Correspondence to Arthur Lee: The Congress desires to know the disposition of foreign Powers towards us; in this, great circumspection and impenetrable secrecy are necessary: we continue firm in our resolutions to defend ourselves, notwithstanding the big threats of the Ministry, - - - - - - - - - 246
12, Price of Oil regulated by the Philadelphia Committee, - - - - - - - - - 246
12, Letter from Lord Stirling to the New-Jersey Committee of Safety: Has quietly got possession of the Barracks at Amboy, - - - 246
12, Letter from New-York Congress to Governour Trumbull, - - - - - - - - 401
12, Recantation of James Miller, of Bedford, New-York: Acknowledges he has acted against the liberties of his country, and promises to behave better for the future, - - - 247
12, Recantation of Lewis Macdonald, of Bedford, Westchester County, New-York, - - 247
12, Recantation of Stephen Baxter, of Bedford, - 248
12, Letter from General Schuyler to Governour Trumbull: The two Skenes, and some other Officers, have broke their parole of honour, - 248
12, Letter from Dr. Morgan to Gen. Washington, 263
12, General Lee to Richard Henry Lee: Congress should be more decisive; indecision will ruin us; indecision has thrown the affairs of Virginia into their present situation; Lord Dunmore should have been disarmed of his teeth and claws, and Tryon and all his Tories seized at New-York: recommends the adoption of some strong measures, - - - 248
12, Letter from General Gates to General Sullivan, 249
12, Letter from Robert H. Harrison to Dr. Stiles, - 249
12, Letter from Timothy Pickering to the Council of Massachusetts, - - - - - - 1231
12, Letter from Joseph Otis to General Washington, 1337
12, Letter from Colonel N. Freeman to General Washington, - - - - - - - 1337
13, Declaration by the Convention of Virginia, on Lord Dunmore's Proclamation of November 7, - - - - - - - - - 249
13, Letter from Colonel Howe to the Virginia Convention, - - - - - - - - 251
13, Letter from Charles Stewart to Governour Penn: His proceedings with the Intruders from New-England on Lands in Northampton County, Pennsylvania, - - - - 251
Agreement of the Intruders to submit to the laws of Pennsylvania, - - - - 252
13, Committee appointed by the General Committee of New-York, to ascertain the damages sustained by the City and County, from the Ministerial Army and Navy, - - - - 253
13, Letter from Edward Jones to the New-York Congress, - - - - - - - - 254
Letter from the Commissioners for Fortifications to New-York Congress: It is not possible to prepare Barracks for the Troops from New-Jersey, - - - - - - - 254
13, Letter from Inhabitants of Fulham, Cumberland County, New-York, to Paul Spooner, - - 430
13, Letter from William Sever to General Washington, - - - - - - - - 1232
13, Letter from Robert H. Harrison to Colonel Baldwin: None of the persons lately sent out of Boston can be permitted to approach the Camp; if they have the small-pox, it might be of fatal consequence to the Army, - - 255
13, Letter from Stephen Moylan to William Watson, 255
13, Letter from Elbridge Gerry to Samuel Adams: A Continental General ought not to have any command of the Militia; it would lead a servant of the Government to forget his station, and conceive himself its master, - - - 255
13, Letter from General Howe to the Earl of Dartmouth: The state of Provisions gives rise to alarming apprehensions; and the uncertainty of Vessels getting into Boston is rendered more precarious by the Rebel Privateers infesting the Bay, - - - - - - 256

1775.
Dec. 14, Address of the Freeholders, &c., of the County of Peebles, to the King, - - - - 257
14, Letter from St. Eustatia, signed "Yankoo," communicated to the House of Representatives of Massachusetts by the Speaker, - 258
14, Declaration by the Virginia Convention, on Lord Dunmore's Proclamation, offering freedom to such able-bodied Slaves as are willing to join him, - - - - - - - - 258
14, Letter from Lord Stirling to Captain Polhemus, 259
14, Letter from Lord Stirling to Captain Conway, - 259
14, Letter from Colonel Maxwell to Lord Stirling, 295
14, Letter from William Bedlow to Nathaniel Woodhull, President of the New-York Congress, - - - - - - - - - 427
14, Letter from Colonel Levi Pawling to New-York Congress, - - - - - - - 432
14, Letter from the Commissioners for Indian Affairs to the President of Congress, giving information about a Speech of an Indian in Council, relating to the Lands in dispute between Connecticut and Pennsylvania, - - 260
14, Letter from General Schuyler to the President of Congress: We have now full proof that the Ministerial Servants have attempted to engage the Savages against us, - - - 260
14, Report of Joseph Hopkins to the Assembly of Connecticut, on the Lead-Mine at New-Canaan, - - - - - - - - 261
14, Letter from General Washington to the President of Congress, informing him of the arrival of Messrs. Penet and Pliarne, who propose a plan of supplying the Continent with Arms and Ammunition, - - - - - 261
14, Letter from General Washington to the President of Congress, - - - - - 262
Letter from Doctor Morgan to General Washington, reporting the condition of the Hospitals, - - - - - - - - 263
General Orders for December 13 and December 14, - - - - - - - - 263
14, Letter from General Washington to Governour Cooke, - - - - - - - - 264
14, Letter from William Bartlett to General Washington, - - - - - - - - 264
14, Letter from Stephen Moylan to Colonel Wentworth: The two Vessels sent into Winter Harbour were unjustly taken, and must be delivered up, - - - - - - - 264
14, Letter from Major Rogers to General Washington, enclosing his parole and passports, and requesting permission to go unmolested where his private business may call him, - - 265
14, Condition of the British Army in Boston, - 266

CONNECTICUT ASSEMBLY.

Dec. 14, Meet at New-Haven, - - - - - - 267
List of the Members, - - - - - - 267
William Williams elected Speaker of the House of Representatives, and Richard Law, Clerk, 268
An Act for equipping a body of Minute-Men, to be in readiness for the better defence of this Colony, - - - - - - - - 268
An Act for encouraging the Manufactures of Saltpetre and Gunpowder, - - - - 269
An Act for restraining and punishing Persons who are inimical to the liberties of this and the rest of the United Colonies, and for directing proceedings therein, - - - - 270
An Act, in addition to a law of this Colony, entitled An Act for the punishment of Deserters, 272
An Act empowering the Commander-in-Chief of the Continental Army to administer an Oath, - - - - - - - - 273
An Act for altering and further ascertaining the Bounds and Limits of the Town of Westmoreland, in this Colony, - - - - - 273
Delegates to the General Congress to be chosen annually in October, - - - - - 273
Selectmen of each Town for the time being, appointed Inspectors of Nitre and Saltpetre, - 274
Committee to examine where any Mines or Mineral substances containing Sulphur may be found in the Colony, - - - - - 274
Committee to procure and fit out Armed Vessels for the Colony, - - - - - - 274

1775.
Troops now stationed on the Sea-Coast to be continued in service, and the several Batteries to be supplied with Cannon, - - - 274
Lieutenant Benjamin Kilborn cashiered for treasonable declarations against the United Colonies, - - - - - - - - - 276
Committee to make allotment of Lands to Indians for their support, - - - - - 278
Report of Committee to examine a Lead-Mine in New-Canaan, - - - - - - 591

CORRESPONDENCE, PROCEEDINGS, ETC.

Dec. 15, Letter from Colonel Howe to the President of the Virginia Convention, - - - 277
15, Letter from Colonel Woodford to Virginia Convention: All the principal Tories at Norfolk have gone on board the Ships-of-War in the Harbour, - - - - - - - - 278
15, Letter from Captain Squire, of the Otter, to the Officer commanding at Norfolk, informing him that several Musket Balls were last night fired at the King's Ship from some people in Norfolk, - - - - - - - - - 279
15, Letter from Colonels Howe and Woodford to Captain Squire: They have given no orders to fire on the Otter, - - - - - 279
15, Letter from Captain Covenhoven to Lord Stirling, - - - - - - - - - 279
15, Letter from Captain Polhemus to Lord Stirling, 279
15, New-York Committee—
Mr. Daubeny convicted of attempting, inadvertently, to send some necessaries on board the Asia, reprimanded and discharged, - - 280
Names of the Members as they voted on the question to discharge Mr. Daubeny, - - 280
Door-Keeper required to see every absent Member and obtain a Declaration, in writing, whether they mean to be considered Members of the Committee, - - - - - - - 280
Mr. Graham charged with supplying Provisions to the Asia Man-of-War, - - - - - 281
Regulations for the Military Night Watch, - 281
15, Letter from Richmond County Committee to the New-York Congress, - - - - 427
15, Letter from General Schuyler to General Washington: The Army in Canada is constantly decreasing; of the men now at Ticonderoga, Crown Point, and Fort George, there will probably not be one left by the first of next month, - - - - - - - - 282
15, Letter from General Washington to Joseph Reed, - - - - - - - - - 282
15, Letter from General Washington to Governour Trumbull, - - - - - - - - 283
15, Letter from Robert H. Harrison to James Warren, transmitting a Donation from Fairfax County, Virginia, for the Suffering Poor of Boston, - - - - - - - - - 284
15, Letter from Colonel Moylan to William Bartlett, - - - - - - - - - 284
15, Letter from Colonel Moylan to William Bartlett: The General is much surprised at the rapacity of the crews in stripping the Prizes of every thing they could lay their hands upon; all must be restored, or the value deducted from the shares of the pillagers, - 285
16, Speech of John Derk Van der Capellan, upon the request of the King of Great Britain for the loan of the Scotch Brigade, in the Assembly of the States of Overyssell, and inserted in the Records of that Province, - - 285
16, Extract of a Letter from London to a Gentleman in Virginia: Parliament has shut up all the Ports of America; at present the Nation is against us, and think we shall be an easy prey, 287
16, Letter from Colonel John Connolly to Alexander McKee, - - - - - - - - - 617
16, Letter from Colonel Connolly to Captain Lord, 617
16, Letter from Colonel Connolly to Captain Lernault, - - - - - - - - - 618
16, Letter from Colonel Connolly to Captain Lord, 618
16, Letter from Colonel Connolly to Mrs. Connolly, 618
16, Letter from Samuel Tucker to Lord Stirling, - 287
16, Letter from Lord Stirling to Captain Longstreet, - - - - - - - - - 288
16, Letter from Lord Stirling to Captain Conway, 288

1775.
Dec. 16, Letter from Lord Stirling to John Van Emberg, 288
16, Recantation of James Judd, of Danbury, Connecticut, - - - - - - - - - 288
16, Letter from General Montgomery to General Wooster: He proposes, the first strong northwester, to make two attacks on Quebeck, by night, one on the Lower Town, the other upon Cape Diamond Bastion; he has but about eight hundred men fit for duty, - - 289
16, Letter from General Montgomery to General Carleton: Charges him with cruelty to Prisoners, and firing upon a flag of truce; and demands a surrender of the Garrison, - - 289
16, Letter from an Officer in the Continental Army before Quebeck, - - - - - - 290
16, Extract of a Letter from Lieutenant Van Wagenen: Quebeck makes an obstinate defence; a Flag sent them to surrender was fired at by Carleton; above two hundred Shells have been thrown into the Town, - - - - 290
16, Letter from Samuel Norton to the Assembly of Massachusetts, - - - - - - - 290
16, Letter from General Washington to the President of Congress: Several Vessels sailed from Boston this day; Halifax is given out for their destination, but it is possible they may be bound elsewhere, - - - - - - 291
16, Letter from General Washington to the Assembly of Massachusetts, - - - - - - 291
16, Letter from Peleg Wadsworth to General Washington, - - - - - - - - - 454
16, Report of Committee appointed by the Committee of Safety of New-Hampshire, appointed to place Obstructions to prevent the passage of the enemy's Ships up the Piscataqua River, 291
17, Letter from Colonel Scott to Captain Southall: We have possession of Norfolk; almost all the inhabitants fled on board the British Ships; our duty is very hard, the Guards have not been relieved for forty-eight hours, 292
17, Letter from Colonel Woodford to Edmund Pendleton: His correspondence with Captain Squire; refuses to permit any communication with the Ships-of-War, and will not surrender the Brig demanded, - - - - - - 292
17, Return of the Forces under command of Colonel Howe, at Norfolk, - - - - - 294
17, Letter from a Member of the Continental Congress to his Friend in Williamsburgh, - - 294
17, Letter from Lord Stirling to the President of Congress: The Tories in every part of the Province have of late assumed fresh courage, and talk very daringly; it is said a combination is formed to oppose the measures of the Congress, and that their List of Association already amounts to four thousand men, - 294
Stations intended for the two Regiments in New-Jersey, - - - - - - - - - 295
Letter from Colonel Maxwell to Lord Stirling, 295
17, Letter from Colonel Maxwell to Lord Stirling: He has got no farther than Woodbridge; Mr. Patterson, who had him entirely in his power, would go no farther, - - - - - - 296
17, Letter from Colonel Knox to Colonel Mc Dougall, urging him to use his influence that there may be immediately sent to Cambridge a quantity of Shells, - - - - - - - - - 296
17, Letter from Colonel Knox to General Washington: He has made forty-two strong Sleds for the Cannon, and engaged Oxen to drag them as far as Springfield; if snow falls, will soon have them in Camp, - - - - 296
List of Cannon and Mortars brought from Ticonderoga to Fort George by Colonel Knox, 297
List of Cannon, Stores, &c., ordered from New-York, - - - - - - - - - 298
17, Letter from General Washington to New-York Congress, - - - - - - - - 437
17, Letter from General Washington to Governour Cooke, requesting him to have removed, without delay, the Cattle from Block Island, to prevent their falling into the hands of the Ministerial Army, now in great want of fresh Provisions, - - - - - - - - 298
17, Letter from General Washington to Governour Trumbull, - - - - - - - - 298
17, Letter from General Washington to General Ward, - - - - - - - - - 298

1775.
*Dec.*17, Reports of Captain Dodge to General Washington, - - - - - - - - - 298
17, Letter from General Sullivan to General Washington: Has examined Major Rogers, who has given an account of his movements since he left New-York on the 10th of October last, - - - - - - - - - 300

NORTH-CAROLINA PROVINCIAL COUNCIL.

*Dec.*18, Council met at the Court-House of Johnston County, - - - - - - - - - 299
19, Walter Lamb to be tried by the Committee of Safety for the District of Halifax, - - 299
19, Order George Massingbird to be discharged from custody, - - - - - - - - 300
20, Committees of Wilmington and Brunswick directed to prevent all communication between Governour Martin and the Inhabitants of the Province, - - - - - - - - 301
Application to the Council of Safety of South-Carolina for two thousand weight of Gunpowder, - - - - - - - - - 301
21, Commissioners appointed to purchase, arm, and man an Armed Vessel, at Brunswick, Beaufort, and Roanoke, - - - - - - 302
Vessels to be sent from Newbern, Wilmington, and Edenton, to procure Arms and Ammunition for the use and protection of the Province, 302
Committee appointed to purchase materials, and employ proper persons to make and repair Fire-Arms, - - - - - - - - 303
Two Battalions of Minute-Men to be immediately embodied in Salisbury District, - - 304
Field-Officers for the two Battalions, - - 304
22, James Kebble, of Onslow County, at present inimical to the cause of liberty, is disqualified from holding any Office in the Militia, - 305
Colonel Rhodes directed to receive into his custody all the Gunpowder in the County of Onslow, - - - - - - - - - 305
23, Samuel Johnston ordered to erect a Breastwork in Edenton, for the defence of the Town, - 306
Friends to American freedom requested to purchase all the Powder, Sulphur, and Saltpetre, in their power, for the use of the publick, - 306
24, Governour Martin having distributed a great number of Tory Pamphlets in the Western parts of the Province, where the People are not well informed, the Delegates in Congress are requested to procure the best Pamphlets that can be had for the true information of the People, - - - - - - - - - 306
No person entitled to relief against a Debtor, who shall not have subscribed the Continental Association and the Test, ten days previous to making application for such relief, - 308

CORRESPONDENCE, PROCEEDINGS, ETC.

*Dec.*18, Letter from the Provincial Congress to New-York Delegates in Continental Congress, - 422
18, Letter from Colonel Hasbrouck to the New-York Congress, - - - - - - 307
18, Letter from Governour Tryon to the Mayor of New-York, warning the Inhabitants against continuing measures that will involve the country in misery, and bring destruction on their families and themselves, - - - 307
18, Letter from Captain Parker to Governour Tryon: If any Troops are raised, or Military Works erected in New-York, otherwise than by order of his Majesty, it will be his duty to treat the Town as in open Rebellion against the King, - - - - - - - - 308
18, Letter from the Committee for Kinderhook District to the Committee for Albany County, - 211
18, Letter from Samuel Stevens to John McKesson, recommending to the New-York Congress Field-Officers for the two Regiments in Cumberland County, - - - - - - - 309
18, Letter from General Montgomery to General Schuyler: He has been near a fortnight before Quebeck, with eight hundred men, and hopes the Troops will be sent down as soon as possible, - - - - - - - - 309

1775.
*Dec.*18, Letter from General Wooster to General Schuyler: He discharged no men between Albany and Ticonderoga, but gave the Connecticut Troops a furlough to pass to New-England, as they might be serviceable there, - - 310
18, Letter from Governour Cooke to the President of Congress, - - - - - - - - 310
18, Letter from General Washington to General Howe: Colonel Allen has been treated without regard to decency, humanity, or the rules of war: whatever fate he undergoes, shall be the fate of Brigadier Prescott, - - - - - 310
18, Letter from General Washington to General Schuyler: Requests him to inquire into the manner of Colonel Allen's treatment, and the truth of the reports that Major Rogers had been acting under General Carleton, - - 311
18, Letter from General Greene to Samuel Ward: This is no time for disgusting the Soldiery, when their aid is so essential to the preservation of the rights of human nature, and the liberties of America: The People are brave and spirited, but exceedingly avaricious; they have extorted from the necessities of the Army enormous prices for Hay, Wood, and Teaming, 311
18, Certificate that Duncan McArthur, of the Royal Regiment of Highland Emigrants, raised to suppress the unnatural Rebellion in America, will be entitled to two hundred acres of forfeited Land at the conclusion of the war, - 312
18, Letter from General Washington to the President of Congress: Captain Manly has brought in another Prize, with Letters and Papers of the greatest importance, which are forwarded to Congress by a special Express, - - 314
Letter from James Lovell, in Provost Prison, Boston, November 19: The Military Government in Boston have been wantonly and cruelly exercised against him since the 29th of June, - - - - - - - - 315
Letter from James Lovell to General Washington, Boston Prison, December 6: He is charged with being a Spy, and giving intelligence to the Rebels, and has suffered the indignities of imprisonment since June last, without any sort of a trial: General Howe requires in exchange for him Governour Skene and his Son, - - - - - - - - - 315
Intercepted Letters transmitted to Congress by General Washington, with his Letter of December 18, - - - - - - - 316–352

*Sep.*30, Letter from Governour Tonyn to General Gage: Has just received his Circumstantial Account of the unhappy affair that happened on the 19th of April, - - - - - - 316
Oct. 3, Letter from Governour Tonyn to Admiral Graves, - - - - - - - - - 316
*Sep.*30, Letter from Colonel Stuart to General Gage: Has not yet received answers to his Letters and Messages to the Indian Nations: Colonel Kirkland, who has been obliged to fly, will state the situation of affairs in the back parts of the Southern Provinces, - - - - 316
Oct. 3, Letter from Colonel Stuart to General Gage: Has received a Talk from the Cherokees; it shows their disposition, which he will cultivate: It will no longer be good policy to foment the differences between the Choctaws and Creeks, as it will prevent the Creeks from engaging in his Majesty's service, - 316
3, Letter from Colonel Stuart to General Gage: A great majority of the back Inhabitants of Carolina are attached to Government; and an indiscriminate attack by Indians might do much harm: He will induce them to act with their well-disposed neighbours, - - - 317
2, Letter from Colonel Stuart to Major Small, - 317
*Sep.*18, Letter from Daniel Chamier, Jun., to Daniel Chamier, - - - - - - - - 319
Oct. 5, Letter from Major Furlong to General Gage: But about forty men for duty at St. Augustine, 319
*Sep.*21, Letter from Governour Tonyn to General Gage, 320
Returns of his Majesty's Forces in East Florida, in August, September, and October, - 321–326
Oct. 3, Letter from Lieutenant Graves to Admiral Graves, with a Report of the state of the Schooner St. Lawrence, - - - - - 327

1775.
Oct. 5, Letter from Alexander Skinner to General Grant: The St. Lawrence has arrived at St. Augustine; if she had been sooner on the station, one hundred barrels of the King's Powder, taken out of Lofthouse, by a Carolina Pirate, would have been saved, - - - 329
3, Letter from Captain Mulcaster to General Grant, giving a general view of the state of affairs at the South, - - - - - - 329
2, Letter from C. Shirreff to General Robertson, - 334
2, Letter from Governour Tonyn to Major Donkin, - - - - - - - - - 334
4, Letter from Spencer Man to General Grant: The political body in Florida is much diseased; the Governour has neither ability to point out, nor interest to procure, any good for the People, - - - - - - - 335
4, Letter from Alexander Ross to Captain Stanton: Captain Fordyce, with his Company and a Detachment, is on board a Vessel, to sail with the first fair wind for Virginia, - - 335
4, Letter from John Moultrie to General Grant: St. Augustine is already too weak; no more Troops should be taken from it; it is now the best and only communication between Great Britain and our Red Brothers, - - 336
3, Letter from Daniel Chamier, Jun., to Daniel Chamier, - - - - - - - 337
4, Letter from Colonel Stuart to Samuel Kemble, 340
Nov. 18, Letter from Governour Chester to Governour Tryon: Has received Instructions from the King to afford protection to such of his Loyal Subjects as are compelled to fly from the Colonies in Rebellion, and wish for an asylum in West-Florida, - - - - - - 340
11, Proclamation by the Governour of West-Florida, offering Lands to such as seek a retreat in that Province, - - - - - - 341
11, Letter from Allan Cameron to Duncan Cameron: He has accepted a Commission under Lord Dunmore, and is to set out to-morrow morning for Detroit with Major Connolly, - 342
14, Letter from Captain Montagu to Admiral Graves, - - - - - - - - 343
14, Letter from W. Griffin to George Giffarina: He is at Jamestown, surrounded by Rebels, and dare not move; a thousand Rebels are on their way for Norfolk, to punish the People there for declaring for Government; two Regiments would restore peace and good order to the Province, - - - - - - - - 343
17, Letter from Neil Jamieson to Glassford, Gordon & Co., - - - - - - - - 343
21, Letter from Walter Hatton to Nathaniel Coffin: Those in arms against the Government know that the halter is round their necks, and, if taken, they are liable to be trussed up without delay; many have sworn allegiance to their lawful Sovereign in Norfolk, Portsmouth, Nansemond, &c.: they amount to upwards of three thousand, - - - - - - 346
24, Letter from Lord Dunmore to Admiral Graves, 347
28, Letter from Neil Jamieson to James Anderson, 347
20, Letter from Neil Jamieson to Edward and René Payne, - - - - - - - - 348
Dec. 1, Letter from Captain Leslie to General Gage, - 349
Return of a Detachment of his Majesty's Fourteenth Regiment at Norfolk, Virginia, in October, November, and December, - - 349
1, Letter from Captain Fordyce to Captain Urquhart: Two thousand Men would settle everything in Virginia in the course of the Winter; we have had a little brush with the Rebels, who behaved in a most dastardly manner; a Corps of about seven hundred of them has been sent to take Norfolk, but they will not find it quite so easy as they expect, - - 350
2, Letter from Captain Squire to Admiral Graves, 351

Dec. 19, Letter from Dr. Franklin to M. Dumas: We have hitherto applied to no Foreign Power, but we wish to know if any one of them is disposed to step in for the relief of an oppressed People; or, if we break off all connection with Britain, and declare ourselves independent, is there any Power in Europe who will enter into an Alliance with us for the benefit of our commerce, - - - 352

1775.
Dec. 19, Letter from William Livingston to Lord Stirling, - - - - - - - - - 354
19, Letter from Lord Stirling to the President of Congress: The Order of Captain Parker, prohibiting Vessels from Foreign Countries entering New-York, in direct violation of the Act of Parliament, alarms the moderate, and vexes the Tories of New-York; if this circumstance be well managed, it will turn out very fortunate, - - - - - - - 354
19, New-York Committee—
Apply to the Provincial Congress for a Loan of one thousand Pounds, to defray necessary charges in defending our rights and privileges, - - - - - - - - 355
Mr. Mercer ordered to produce a Certificate from the Congress of New-Jersey, authorizing him to export Provisions, - - - - 356
Mr. Totten and others appointed a Committee to examine, and, if they see fit, to discharge, such persons as may be hereafter taken into custody, - - - - - - - - 356
Michael Albert, Edward White, and John Moore, charged with having inlisted Men for the Ministerial Army, examined and discharged, - - - - - - - - 356
The case of John Blackler, who was several weeks on board the Asia, referred to the Provincial Congress, - - - - - - 356
19, Letter from Governour Cooke to General Washington: Fears the Vessels sailed from Boston may be destined for Rhode-Island; asks a Detachment from the Continental Army for their defence, and that General Lee may be sent to take the command, - - - - 356
19, Letter from General Washington to the President of Congress, - - - - - - 357
19, Letter from General Howe to the Earl of Dartmouth: He has the authority of the Rebel Commander for believing Brigadier Prescott has fallen into their hands. Mr. Washington, commanding the Rebel Army, presuming upon the number and rank of his Prisoners, has threatened retaliation in point of treatment to any Prisoners of theirs in our power, and proposes an exchange, - - - - 357
20, Letter from a Clergyman in Maryland to the Earl of Dartmouth, - - - - - - 358
Letter from Cortlandt Skinner to Colonel William Skinner: We have actually begun a Revolution. The Congress are our King, Lords, and Commons. They have taken Canada; blocked up the Royal Army in Boston; secured the Indians; appointed an Admiral; are fitting out a Fleet; and are universally obeyed. Is not this Independency? They say it is not, - - - - - - 363
Proceedings of the Committee for Morris County, New-Jersey, on a complaint against Cortlandt Skinner, - - - - - - 364
20, Letter from Provincial Congress to New-York Delegates in Continental Congress, - - 429
20, Letter from Governour Trumbull to the President of Congress, requesting sixty thousand Pounds from the Continental Treasury may be forwarded immediately, - - - - 365
20, Letter from Thomas Greenough to Committee of Congress, with a Statement of his losses in June last, by the burning of his Property on Noddle-Island by the Provincials, - - 365
20, Letter from General Washington to Governour Cooke: Cannot send him assistance, and does not believe the Troops from Boston were destined for Rhode-Island, - - - - - 366
20, Letter from General Washington to Colonel Baldwin: Mr. Wiber stands in a suspicious and unfriendly light; but, if the Committee consider him a friend, he may return, - - 366
20, Letter from William Bartlett to General Washington, desiring his Instructions respecting the Prize Cargoes at Beverly, - - - - 367
20, Letter from General Greene to Jacob Greene: Is surprised that the Committee of Newport are desirous of nourishing such a serpent as Wallace in the bosom of the country. To grant him supplies for Indemnity to that Town only, is sacrificing the rest of the Province for the benefit of Newport, - - 367

1775.
Dec. 21, Extract of a Letter from London to a Gentleman in Virginia: Our connection with England ought to be dissolved. The Bill that has now passed Parliament, by treating the Colonies as enemies, settled the question. They cannot be enemies and Subjects at the same time. America has now nothing to do but to provide for herself, - - - - - - 368
21, Letter from Henry Wisner to B. Towne, with directions for making Gunpowder, - - 370
21, Letter from the Committee for Lancaster, Pennsylvania, to the President of Congress, - 371
21, Letter from Provincial Congress to New-York Delegates in Continental Congress, - - 435
21, Resolutions of the New-York Provincial Congress, respecting the disaffected Persons in Queen's County and Richmond County, - 372
List of the disaffected Persons in Queen's County, New-York, - - - - - - 372
21, Letter from General Schuyler to the President of Congress: The Conferences with the Six-Nations have had a happy issue. They have given up the War-Belt which was delivered to them, with much ceremony, by Colonel Johnson, at Montreal, - - - - - 375
21, Letter from General Washington to General Ward, - - - - - - - - - 376
21, Letter from an Officer of the Army at Boston to a Friend in England: The Admiral, instead of sending his Squadron to protect the Store-Ships, has ordered the Ships-of-War in the Harbour to be secured with booms all round, to prevent their being boarded and taken by the Rebel Whale-Boats. The General acts differently. He seems to think it his duty to annoy the enemy, - - - - - - 376
21, Letter from General Howe to General Washington, - - - - - - - - - 454
22, Proclamation by the King, appointing a distribution of the Prizes taken during the continuance of the Rebellion now subsisting in divers parts of the Continent of North-America, - 377
22, Letter from the President of Congress to General Washington: The Resolution authorizing the attack on Boston passed, after a most serious debate in a Committee of the Whole House. He heartily wishes the attempt may be successful, though, individually, he may be the greatest sufferer, - - - - - 379
22, Letter from Captain Henry B. Livingston to the President of Congress, returning thanks for the honour conferred upon him by the Resolution of Congress of the 12th instant, - 380
22, New-York Committee, - - - - - 381
22, Letter from the Committee of Mamacoting Precinct to New-York Congress, - - - 381
22, Letter to General Montgomery, from some friends in Montreal, - - - - - - 381
22, Connecticut Committee of Safety direct the Company raised for the defence of New-Haven to be discharged, - - - - - 382

NEW-YORK PROVINCIAL CONGRESS.

Dec. 6, Congress met at the Exchange in New-York: Members present, - - - - - - 383
Nathaniel Woodhull elected President, - - 383
John McKesson and Robert Benson elected Secretaries, - - - - - - - - - 383
Credentials of the Members, - - - - - 383
All Questions to be determined by a majority of the Counties then having Deputies in Congress, - - - - - - - - - 386
Rules adopted for the government of the House, 386
6, Commissions ordered for three Companies of Minute-Men in Ulster County, - - - 387
Barracks for quartering one thousand Men to be built at the Fortifications in the Highlands, - 387
Committee to repair to the Highlands, and endeavour to accommodate the difference between the Commissioners for erecting the Fortifications there and the Engineer, - - 388
7, Letter from Egbert Benson, dated November 28, 388
The Congress desiring to meet in the Assembly Chamber, the Speaker has ordered Mr. Bancker to take care of the Books and Papers of the Assembly, - - - - - - 389

1775.
Application of Lieutenants Borough and Richardson, for an extension of their parole, rejected, - - - - - - - - - 389
Jacobus Oostrum, Johannes Medlar, and Barnt Lewis, to be kept in close confinement in the Jail of Dutchess County, at their own expense, - - - - - - - - - 390
Committee appointed to purchase one hundred stand of Arms for the Jersey Forces, - - 390
Doorkeeper ordered to call upon the non-attending Members chosen for the City of New-York, and require them to take their seats in Congress, or assign their reasons for their non-attendance, - - - - - - - - 390
Dec. 8, Letter to the President of Congress: The utmost despatch will be used to complete every thing respecting the Fortifications in Hudson River, - - - - - - - - - 391
Letter to the Delegates of New-York in the Continental Congress, - - - - - 392
Captain John McNachten arrived last evening from London; examined before the Congress, - - - - - - - - - 392
Speight, a Druggist, arrested, having, in many instances, shown himself inimical to the interest and liberties of the American Colonies, - 393
Petition of the General Committee of the City and County of New-York, complaining of the destruction of Rivington's Printing Office by a body of Troops from Connecticut, commanded by Isaac Sears, - - - - - - 393
An estimate of Instruments and Medicines necessary for the Colony in its present alarming state ordered, - - - - - - - 394
Resolutions on Governour Tryon's Letter of the 4th instant to the Inhabitants of New-York, reported, debated, and postponed till Monday next, - - - - - - - - - 394
9, Letter to General Schuyler, with an account of the Moneys advanced to the Troops raised in the Colony, - - - - - - - - 396
Letter to the Delegates in Congress: Apprehensive that the emission of Paper by the several Colonies will cause a depreciation, they recommend that all Paper Money, to be issued for the defence of America, be made a Continental Currency, - - - - - 397
Letter to the Committee of Tryon County, advising them not to molest Sir John Johnson while he continues inactive, - - - - 397
Committee to plan a voyage to procure Ammunition, Arms, and other articles necessary for the general defence of the Colony, - - 398
11, The Congress prevented from proceeding to material business by the absence of Members, - 399
12, Members for Orange County and Tryon County attend, - - - - - - - 399
Their Credentials, - - - - - - 399
Letter to Governour Trumbull, on the destruction of Rivington's Printing Office, and request he will order all the Types returned to the Chairman of the New-York Committee: They do not justify Rivington, but object to any restraint upon the liberty of the Press, - 401
Inhabitants of Connecticut thanked for their aid in suppressing the Insurgents against the cause of liberty in Westchester County, - 402
County Committees authorized to apply for assistance to a neighbouring Colony, - - 402
Information from Major Brush, of Huntington, of the disaffection of sundry People in Queen's County, and that they are about inlisting Negroes, - - - - - - - - - 403
Letter from the Committee of Dutchess County, dated December 5: Their authority having been disputed, request the advice of Congress, 403
Persons refusing to give evidence before any Committee, to be imprisoned at their own private expense, - - - - - - - - 403
13, Letter from Gilbert Potter, of Huntington, of the 10th instant, calling the attention of Congress to the alarming state of affairs in the County, - - - - - - - - 404
Affidavit of Samuel Nostran: A large quantity of Powder, &c., is at Captain Hewlett's, at Rockaway, sent from the Asia Man-of-War, brought there by Hewlett and the Lieutenant of the Asia, - - - - - - - 404

1775.
Committee of the Inhabitants of Queen's County required to appear before Congress on the 19th instant, - - - - - - - - 406
*Dec.*13, No person permitted to inoculate for the Small-Pox within the Colony, without the further order of the Congress, - - - - - 406
Consideration of the Resolutions on Governour Tryon's Letter of the 4th instant resumed, and, after long argument, amended, and further postponed, - - - - - - 406
14, Letter from Colonel Mulford, of the 9th instant: His Regiment will be marched to the place of rendezvous on any alarm, - - - 408
Consideration of Resolutions on Governour Tryon's Letter resumed, further amended, and adopted, - - - - - - - - 408
Letter from John Jay, dated November 26: Does not approve the destroying of Rivington's Printing Office: Some people prophesy that the Provincial Congress has too much Christian meekness to take any notice of it, - 410
Additional Resolutions on Governour Tryon's Letter adopted, and the whole ordered to be engrossed, - - - - - - - - 411
15, Resolutions on Governour Tryon's Letter of the 4th instant, - - - - - - - 413
Memorial of John Norberg, - - - - 414
Captain Norberg permitted to go to Great Britain with all his effects, - - - - 414
Each of the Delegates from New-York in the Continental Congress allowed for his services, for each day he may be absent from his abode on the publick service, four Dollars, - - 414
William Sutton, of Westchester, permitted to return, having agreed to surrender himself to the Committee for the County, - - - 415
Contract with Cornelius Atherton, of Amenia Precinct, in Dutchess County, for making Muskets and Bayonets, approved by Congress, 416
Members of the Committee of Safety appointed, 417
16, Powers of the Committee of Safety, as read, amended, and adopted, - - - - - 418
Provisions for sinking one hundred and twelve thousand five hundred Dollars of Paper Currency, issued by the late Congress, - - 419
18, Report of the Committee who were sent to the Fortifications in the Highlands, - - - 420
Letter to the Delegates in Continental Congress, informing them of the Proceedings respecting the destruction of Rivington's Printing Office, 422
Committee to revise and amend the Militia Law, 423
19, Report of the Committee appointed to plan a voyage, read, considered, and recommitted, - 423
Five hundred copies of the Proceedings of the Continental Congress, in Low Dutch, and five hundred copies in German, ordered to be purchased for distribution gratis, - - - 424
Committee of Safety authorized to cause a collection of the oppressive Acts of Parliament, with useful Remarks thereon, to be published and distributed gratis, - - - - - 424
Report of the Committee appointed to employ two or more Vessels for a voyage to Europe, read and adopted, - - - - - - 424
Further Report from the Committee on the Fortifications in the Highlands, - - - - 425
Two additional Redoubts ordered to be erected, 425
George Clinton appointed Brigadier-General of the Militia of Ulster and Orange Counties, - 426
20, Dr. Paul Spooner, from Cumberland County, appeared and took his seat, - - - - 426
Letter from the Committee for Cumberland County: Nominated Colonel James Rogers to be Brigadier for Cumberland, Gloucester, and Charlotte Brigade; and Field and other Officers for three Regiments made according to the directions of the Provincial Congress, - 426
Letter from William Bedlow, at Fort Constitution, December 14, requesting to know what compensation the Commissioners are to receive, - - - - - - - - - 427
Commissioners employed in erecting the Fortifications in the Highlands to be allowed ten Shillings per day; and to prevent any expense that may be avoided, three Commissioners only are to be continued, - - - - - 427
Committee of New-York apply for a Loan of one thousand Pounds; five hundred granted, - 427

1775.
Letter from the Committee for Richmond County, December 15: The Freeholders of the County have refused to send Deputies to the Provincial Congress, - - - - - 428
Consideration of the state of affairs in Richmond County postponed until the state of Queen's County is considered, - - - - 429
Letter from Colonel James Rogers, of Cumberland County: For political reasons he declines the office of Brigadier-General of the Militia, - - - - - - - - 429
Letter to the Delegates of the Colony in Continental Congress, laying before them the state of the Fortifications in the Highlands, - 429
Remonstrance of certain Inhabitants of Putney, in Cumberland County, against the appointment of the persons named by the County Committee for Field-Officers, - - - 429
Remonstrance of a number of the Inhabitants of Westminster, - - - - - - - - 430
Remonstrance of the Inhabitants of Fulham, - 430
Dr. Paul Spooner added to the Committee of Safety, - - - - - - - - - 430
*Dec.*20, John Blackler ordered to be kept in close confinement until the further order of Congress, 431
Committee to purchase a small Armed Vessel for the East River, to prevent Supplies being furnished to the Ministerial Army and Navy, - - - - - - - - - 431
Additional Rules and Orders for regulating the Militia of the Colony of New-York, - - 431
Letter from Colonel Levi Pawling: Has given the necessary orders to his Regiment to muster in case of alarm, - - - - - - 432
21, Rank of the Militia Officers of the several Counties fixed and determined, - - - 433
State of Queen's County and Richmond County further considered, and the Delinquents in the two Counties put out of the protection of the Congress, - - - - - - - - 434
Letter to the Delegates in the Continental Congress, with the Proceedings respecting the Delinquents in Queen's and Richmond Counties, and asking advice what further should be done, - - - - - - - - - 435
Rules and Orders for arranging the Rank of the Officers of the Militia of the Colony of New-York, - - - - - - - - - 436
Delegates of the Colony in Continental Congress requested to make an arrangement among themselves, that five of them only continue at Congress at the same time, - 436
Ulster County Jail to be taken as the Jail of the Congress for the confinement of Prisoners ordered to be confined by the Congress or Committee of Safety, - - - - - - 437
22, Letter from General Washington to the President, informing him that some Troops had sailed from Boston, destination unknown, - 437
Inhabitants of the Colony requested to refrain from visiting the King's Ships-of-War, without leave of a Committee, - - - 438
Persons coming from other Colonies required to furnish evidence that they are friendly to the liberties of America, - - - - - 438
Committee of Safety authorized to exercise the same powers, in appointing Officers and granting and refusing Commissions, as the Provincial Congress, - - - - - - 438
Report of Committee appointed to plan a voyage to the Island of Martinico, Guadaloupe, or St. Eustatia, read and adopted, - - - 438
Instructions to the Committee for Ulster County, for the nomination of Field-Officers, - - 440
Committee of Safety authorized to apply any sum, not exceeding fifty thousand Pounds, to be laid out in such manner as they shall think proper, for the defence and security of the Colony, - - - - - - - - 440

CORRESPONDENCE, PROCEEDINGS, ETC.

*Dec.*23, Letter from Lord George Germaine to Governour Eden: The King is determined, in concurrence with his Parliament, to pursue the most vigorous measures for reducing his rebellious Subjects in North-America, - - 439

1775.
Dec.23, Letter from Lord George Germaine to Governour Eden: An armament of seven Regiments, with a Fleet, is ready to proceed to the Southern Colonies, in order to attempt the restoration of legal Government in that part of America, - - - - - - - - 440
23, Recantation of Ezekiel Beach, of Mendham, in Morris County, New-Jersey, - - - - 441
23, Report of the Committee directed to repair to Ticonderoga, and confer with General Schuyler, to take survey of, and report the state of, the Fortifications, and to use their endeavours to procure an accession of the Canadians to an union with the Colonies, - - - - - 442
Letter from the Committee to General Montgomery, expressing the desire of Congress that he will induce the Canadians to meet in their Parishes, and choose a Provincial Convention, - - - - - - - - - 445
23, Report of the Committee of Congress appointed to inquire what articles are necessary for the Army, - - - - - - - - - 446
23, Proclamation by Governour Tryon, proroguing the Assembly of New-York, from the first day of January to the first day of February next, - - - - - - - - - 447
23, Letter from Governour Trumbull to the President of Congress, - - - - - - 447
23, Letter from General Washington to the Assembly of Massachusetts: The Soldiers are in great distress for Blankets; if any can be procured from House-keepers it will be of infinite service to the Army, - - - - - 448
23, Letter from William Watson to General Washington, - - - - - - - - - 448
23, Letter from Colonel Hobart to the New-Hampshire Congress, - - - - - - 449
24, Letter from General Washington to General Schuyler: Conjures him and General Montgomery to lay aside all thoughts of quitting the Army, - - - - - - - - 449
24, Letter from General Gates to General Sullivan: Requests his opinion on a projected enterprise, - - - - - - - - - 450
24, Letter from General Sullivan to the New-Hampshire Committee of Safety, - - - - 450
24, Letter from Governour Callbeck to General Washington, - - - - - - - 450
The case of Philip Callbeck, late Commander-in-Chief of the Island of St. John's, and Thomas Wright, one of the Council, and Surveyor-General of said Island, addressed to General Washington, - - - - - - 451
25, Letter from Colonel Howe to the Virginia Convention: From motives of policy they have permitted some Supplies to be sent to Captain Bellew, - - - - - - - - - 452
25, Notice from the General Post-Office, New-York: Letters having been taken from his Majesty's Mail at Baltimore, Philadelphia, and other places, the Deputy Postmaster-General is obliged, for the present, to stop all the Posts, - - - - - - - - - 453
25, Letter from General Washington to the President of Congress, - - - - - - 453
Report of Peleg Wadsworth, of his examination of Cape-Cod Harbour, - - - - 454
Letter from General Howe to General Washington: Having received no accounts wherein the name of Allen is mentioned, he can give no information on the subject of his treatment, - - - - - - - - - 454
Letter from Colonel Bayley to Colonel Little: The importance of a road to Canada for the transportation of Troops and Munitions of War, and for the Fur Trade, - - - - 454
General Orders, from December 14 to December 25, - - - - - - - - - 456
25, Letter from General Washington to Joseph Reed: Our want of Powder is inconceivable; a daily waste and no supply presents a gloomy prospect. - - - - - - - - - 458
25, Letter from Robert H. Harrison to General Ward, - - - - - - - - - 458
25, Letter from Colonel Moylan to William Bartlett, 458
25, Instructions of the Town of Portsmouth to their Delegates in the Provincial Congress of New-Hampshire, - - - - - - - - 459

1775.
Dec.25, Memorial of the Inhabitants of Portsmouth to the Provincial Congress, - - - - - 460
25, Letter from James Lyon to General Washington, proposing a plan for the reduction of Nova-Scotia, - - - - - - - - - 460
26, Committee for Chester County, Pennsylvania, require Returns from the Militia and Associators of the County, - - - - - - 462
26, Committee for Buck's County, Pennsylvania, order strict enforcement of the Ninth Article of the Continental Association, - - - - 462
26, Letter from Colonel Maxwell to Lord Stirling, 463
26, Letter from General Schuyler to the President of Congress: A reinforcement should be sent to Canada, and no time should be lost in preparing for it, - - - - - - - - 463
26, Letter from General Montgomery to General Schuyler: Three Companies of Arnold's Detachment are averse to a *coup-de-main*, and he will be obliged to change his plan of attack. It is of the utmost importance to reduce Quebeck before succours can arrive; we are not to expect an union with Canada till we have a force in the country strong enough to defend it, - - - - - - - 464
26, Letter from General Washington to Richard Henry Lee: If Lord Dunmore is not crushed before the Spring, he will be the most formidable enemy America has; forcing him on ship-board is not sufficient; nothing less than depriving him of life or liberty will secure peace to Virginia, - - - - - - 465
26, Letter from Robert H. Harrison to General Thomas, - - - - - - - - - 466
26, Letter from General Howe to the Earl of Dartmouth: The Rebels get supplies of Arms and Gunpowder from Cape Nicholas, in the Island of Hispaniola, - - - - - 466
27, Address of Salus Populi to the People of North America, on the necessity of framing a general plan of connection between the Provinces, or what may be called the Constitution of the United English Colonies, - - - - - 467
27, Description of the device on the Drums belonging to the Marines now raising for the Fleet, 468
27, Letter from the Committee for Tryon County, New-York, to the Provincial Congress, - 469
27, Extract of a Letter from a Gentleman in Westmoreland to his Friend in Hartford, Connecticut, - - - - - - - - - 470
27, Letter from Matthew Thornton to General Washington, - - - - - - - - 470
28, Address of a British American to the Inhabitants of the United Colonies: Advises an immediate declaration of Independence, - - 470
28, Letter from Colonel Howe to the Virginia Convention: An exchange of Prisoners has not yet been effected, - - - - - - 474
25, Letter from Lord Dunmore to Colonel Howe, proposing an exchange for Mr. Batut, - - 474
25, Letter from Colonel Howe to Lord Dunmore: Will consent to no exchange but such as equity shall warrant, - - - - - - 474
26, Letter from Lord Dunmore to Colonel Howe: Does not understand the rule that is to govern them in exchange of Prisoners, - - - 474
26, Letter from Greenwich (Connecticut) Committee to Governour Trumbull, - - - - 590
27, Letter from Colonel Howe to Lord Dunmore: Explains the intention of the Convention, the difference in the rank of Officers, and proposes an equitable exchange, - - - 474
28, Expedition of Colonel Martin in quest of Tories in Sussex County, New-Jersey, - - 475
29, Extract of a Letter from North-Carolina to a Gentleman at Hull, in England: State of affairs in North and South-Carolina, - - 476
29, Letter from the Virginia Committee of Safety to Maryland Convention, - - - - - 576
29, New-York Committee, - - - - - 380
29, Letter from General Washington to the General Court of Massachusetts, - - - - - 478
29, Letter from General Gates to General Sullivan, requesting him not to attempt to execute the project to-night, but to wait a more favourable opportunity, - - - - - - - 478
29, Letter from Winthrop Sargeant to General Washington, - - - - - - - 478

1775.
*Dec.*30, Letter from Captain Bellew to Colonel Howe: Threatens to fire upon the Town of Norfolk if the Sentinels there are seen, - - - 477
30, Letter from Colonel Howe to Captain Bellew: He will consult his duty only, and requests the Inhabitants of the Town may have time to remove with their effects, - - - 477
30, Letter from Fredericktown (Maryland) Committee to the President of Congress: Connolly, Cameron, and Smith, have been sent to Philadelphia, - - - - - - - 479
30, Letter from Cumberland County, Pennsylvania, to Governour Penn, - - - - - - 1473
31, Letter from the South-Carolina Committee of Safety to George Clymer, requesting payment for Goods and Presents for the Indians who are to meet the Commissioners of Indian Affairs in the Southern Department at Salisbury, on the 13th of next month, - - - - 479
31, Letter from the Committee of Safety for South-Carolina to Massachusetts Council, - - 1307
31, Letter from General Schuyler to the President of Congress, - - - - - - - 480
31, Letter from Colonel Campbell to General Wooster, informing him of the failure of the attempt on Quebeck, and of the death of General Montgomery, - - - - - - 480
31, Letter from Colonel Arnold to General Wooster: Was wounded in the attack on Quebeck, and has given up the command to Colonel Campbell, - - - - - - - 481
31, Letter from General Greene to Samuel Ward, in Congress, - - - - - - - 482
31, Letter from General Washington to the President of Congress, - - - - - - 485
Report of Committee of Massachusetts Assembly, on their application to General Washington respecting certain Companies now on duty, 486
Proclamation by General Carleton, requiring all persons in Quebeck, who refuse to take up Arms, to quit the Town in four days, - - 487
Oath of Fidelity required of the Inhabitants of Newport by General Lee, - - - - - 488
General Orders, from December 26 to December 31, - - - - - - - - 489
Returns of the Army at Cambridge, December 30, - - - - - - - - 491
Inventory of Ordnance and Stores necessary for the Army, supposing it to consist of twenty thousand Men, - - - - - - - 493

PENNSYLVANIA COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Dec. 2, Officers not permitted to be absent from Liberty Island, without the express order of the Committee, - - - - - - - - 493
5, Agreement with Wigfal & Blackwood for making Gun-Locks, - - - - - - 495
Sea-Coal thrown into the River by order of the Committee of Inspection, to be taken up for the Furnace to be built for casting Cannon, 495
Permission for a Vessel to proceed to Foreign parts to procure Powder and Arms for the use of the Province, - - - - - - 495
Committee for procuring Sea-Coal, - - 495
6, Agreement with Willis & Town for making Fire-locks, - - - - - - - 496
Report of Committee on the Coal thrown into the River, - - - - - - - 496
Captain Proctor and Lieutenant Proctor dismissed from the service, - - - - - 496
Nathan Boyce appointed Captain of one of the Armed Boats, - - - - - - - 496
7, Committee to procure an account of all the Sea-Coal in possession of the Inhabitants of Philadelphia, - - - - - - - - 496
9, Captain Biddle, of the Armed Boats, permitted to resign, that he may enter the Continental service, - - - - - - - - 497
11, Willing, Morris & Co., authorized to send a Vessel to Foreign parts to procure Powder, Arms, &c., for the Province, - - - 488
Captain Boyce ordered to the command of the Armed Boat Franklin, Captain Biddle being promoted in the Continental service, - - 498
Captain James Josiah permitted to resign, that he may enter the Continental Service, - - 498

1775.
*Dec.*13, Three of the Armed Boats to be constantly at Liberty Island, - - - - - - 498
Captain Dougherty ordered up immediately from Liberty Island with his Boat, - - 498
14, David Owen, suspected of inlisting Negroes, committed to the Work-house, - - - 499
15, Samuel Howell requested to send to the Island of Jamaica for a load of Sea-Coal, on account of the Committee of Safety, - - - 499
Committee of Safety will pay half the sum expended in searching for a Coal-Mine said to be in Buck's County, - - - - - 499
18, Report of the number of Men, &c., on board the Armed Boats, - - - - - - - 500
19, Report of the quantity and sizes of the Shot now in the Commissary's Store, - - - 500
Persons who manufacture and deliver Saltpetre, to be paid one-fourth in Gunpowder and three-fourths in Money, - - - - - 501
No application from Congress, or any other body, for Men, Arms, or Ammunition, to be considered until a written notice, mentioning the application, is sent to every member of the Committee residing in the City, - - - 501
Committee to provide a quantity of Cannon Ball, 501
Committee to examine Fort Island, and report what further defences are required on that, or the Province Island, - - - - - - 501
20, Application from Congress for Powder, Arms, and Men, for the Armed Vessels, nearly ready for sailing, complied with, - - - - 502
All the Armed Boats, except the three at Liberty Island, ordered up to the City, that the Officers and Men may go into Barracks, - - - 502
24, Commanders of the Continental Ships-of-War permitted to search outward bound Vessels for Seamen, - - - - - - - - 503
27, Lieutenant Symmonds, with the Artillery Company, ordered to Liberty Island for the protection of the Battery, Artillery, and Stores at that place, - - - - - - - 504
28, Captain Hazlewood appointed to the command of ten Fire-rafts, - - - - - - 504
A Floating Battery ordered to be built for the further defence of the Province, - - - 504
Captain Proctor restored to his command, on giving the satisfaction required by the Committee, 504
1776.
Jan. 1, Captain Moore permitted to resign his command of the Armed Boat Effingham, - - - 506
2, Colonels for the four Battalions nominated, - 507
3, Committee for appointing proper persons to instruct the Inhabitants of the different Counties in the Manufacture of Saltpetre, - - - 507
Lieutenant-Colonels for the four Battalions nominated, - - - - - - - 508
John Connolly and Allan Cameron committed to Prison, - - - - - - - - 508
4, Parole of honour of Lord Drummond and Andrew Elliott taken, - - - - - - - 509
Majors for the four Battalions nominated, - - 509
5, Captains for the four Battalions chosen, - - 509
6, Lieutenants for the four Battalions chosen, - 510
8, Joshua Fisher & Sons refuse to furnish a List of the Goods imported by them, and stored by order of the Committee of Inspection, - - 510
Powder in Westmoreland County to remain there, and not to be used but in defence of the County, - - - - - - - - - 510
Second Lieutenants and Ensigns of the four Battalions chosen, - - - - - - - 511
List of the Officers of the four Battalions, - 511
Officers of the Fifth Battalion, - - - 512
9, Committee to examine all candidates who shall offer as Surgeons to the several Battalions, - 513
Committee for Philadelphia County requested to meet on the 17th instant, and the Committee for Buck's County on the 22d instant, on business of the utmost importance, - - - 513
10, Committee to inquire for proper places to erect Powder-Magazines in the Province, - - 513
11, Adjutants for the Second, Third, and Fourth Battalions chosen, - - - - - - 513
Articles to be furnished Colonel Bull's (the First) Battalion, by order of the Continental Congress, - - - - - - - - 514
12, Committee to procure copies of all Petitions to the King, or Parliament, from this Colony, since 1762, - - - - - - - - 514

1776.
Christopher Carter discharged from Prison, and Leonard Snowden enlarged, on giving his parole that, in future, his conduct shall not be inimical to the American cause, - - 515
Jan. 13, Captain Cadwallader appointed Commander-in-Chief of all the Armed Vessels in the service of the Province, - - - - - - 515
15, Second Lieutenants for the First, or Colonel Bull's Battalion, - - - - - - 516
16, Chaplain for Colonel Bull's Battalion appointed, 516
Powder Committee empowered to continue their endeavours to import Powder, - - - 517
17, Brig Dolphin sent to procure Powder in Foreign Ports, - - - - - - - 517
Publick Notice given that the Committee of Safety lend Money, and give other encouragements, to Persons willing to erect Powder-Mills, - - - - - - - - - 517
18, Dr. John Smith, charged with practices inimical to America, committed to Prison, - - 518
19, Report of Committee appointed to procure copies of Petitions to the King and Parliament, - 518
Petitions to the King: Of June 6, 1766; September 22, 1768; and March 5, 1771, - 519
Petition to the House of Lords, of September 22, 1768, - - - - - - - - 520
Petitions to the House of Commons, January 14, 1766, and September 22, 1768, - - - 520
Dr. Rittenhouse, Robert Smith, and John McNeal, to repair to Liberty Island, and lay out Works sufficient to defend it, - - - 520
Commodore Hazlewood directed to recruit four hundred Seamen and Landsmen for the Armed Boats and other Naval Equipments, - 521
David Rittenhouse, and others, appointed to carry into execution the Contract for casting Cannon, - - - - - - - - - 523
22, Committee to survey the Jersey Shore, and determine what Posts it may be necessary to fortify, - - - - - - - - - 524
23, Officers who have purchased Arms at their own expense, for the use of Associators unable to supply themselves, to be repaid, - - - 524
24, Parole of Captain Duncan Campbell, - - 525
Leonard Snowden discharged from his confinement, - - - - - - - - - 525
25, Committee to provide for the erection of Powder-Mills, - - - - - - - - 526
26, Robert Morris permitted to export Produce of the Colonies to the amount of a quantity of Powder imported by him, - - - - - 526
27, Dr. Smith examined, and remanded to Jail, - 526

CORRESPONDENCE, PROCEEDINGS, ETC.

Jan. 1, Johannes in Eremo to the Publick, on the questions—In what sense it must be taken, that the King can do no wrong? What is Rebellion in a State? And whether, all things considered, it is not the indispensable duty of the United Colonies of America immediately to form themselves into an Independent Constitution, or a Republick State? - - - - 527
1, Letter from an English American to the Earl of Dartmouth, - - - - - - - 530
1, Letter from Massachusetts Delegates in Congress to the Assembly, - - - - - 1391
1, Letter from Robert Treat Paine to Massachusetts Council, - - - - - - - 1262
1, Petition of Dr. Church to the Congress, to be released from Prison, - - - - - - 531
1, Letter from Governour Trumbull to General Schuyler, - - - - - - - - 532
1, Letter from Governour Trumbull to General Washington, - - - - - - - 532
Minutes of Ordnance taken from the Ministerial Troops at the several Northern Posts, from the 1st of May to the 13th of November, 1775, - - - - - - - - 534
1, Letter from Governour Cooke to General Washington, - - - - - - - - 535
1, Letter from John Smith to General Washington, 536
1, Address of Dr. Morgan to the Publick: Thanks to the Towns of Concord, &c., for Supplies furnished the Hospital, - - - - - 536
1, Instructions to Winthrop Sargent, Continental Prize-Agent at Cape-Ann, - - - - 537

1776.
Jan. 1, Letter from Colonels Howe and Woodford to the Virginia Convention: Norfolk set on fire by the British, - - - - - - - - 538
2, Letter from Colonel Howe to the Virginia Convention: Account of the burning of Norfolk, 538
An American; on the advantages to the cause, from the burning of Norfolk by the enemy, - 539
Letter from a Midshipman on board his Majesty's Ship Otter: Operations of the British in Virginia, from the battle at Great Bridge to the burning of Norfolk, - - - - - 540
Account of the burning of Norfolk; from Lord Dunmore's Virginia Gazette, printed on the Ship Dunmore, lying off Norfolk, - - 540
2, Letter from President of Congress to Massachusetts Assembly, - - - - - - - 1391
2, Letter from Samuel Adams to Elbridge Gerry: The Military power should always be under the direction and control of the Legislative. When riches shall be deemed a necessary qualification for publick office, ambition, as well as avarice, will prompt men most ardently to thirst for them, - - - - - 541
2, Proclamation by Governour Tryon, dissolving the General Assembly, - - - - - 542
2, Letter from Peter R. Livingston to the New-York Committee of Safety, - - - - 1054
2, Letter from Colonel Campbell to General Wooster, - - - - - - - - - 670
2, Letter from Colonel Arnold to General Wooster, - - - - - - - - - 670
2, Writs issued by Governour Tryon for a new election of Representatives, - - - 542
2, Letter from General Schuyler to Colonel Wynkoop, directing him to proceed with the Officers made prisoners in Canada, to Trenton, in New-Jersey, - - - - - - 542
2, Letter from General Washington to General Ward, - - - - - - - - 542
3, Proclamation by the King, for encouraging Seamen to enter themselves on board his Majesty's Ships-of-War, - - - - - - 543
3, Extract of a Letter from Bristol, in England: A Rifleman, taken in crossing the St. Lawrence, and brought here a prisoner, is confined in Bridewell; he is a Virginian; has the heavy Provincial pronunciation, but otherwise speaks good English, - - - - - - - 543
3, Letter from Colonel Williams to the Proprietors of Transylvania: Has established a Land-Office, appointed the necessary Officers, adopted regulations for entering Lands, and determined to lay off a Town at the Falls of the Ohio the ensuing Spring, - - - - 558
Proceedings of the House of Delegates of the Colony of Transylvania, at Boonsborough, May 23, 1775, - - - - - - 546
Proceedings of the Proprietors of Transylvania, at a meeting held in Oxford, Granville County, North-Carolina, September 25, 1775, 553
Memorial of the Proprietors of Transylvania to the Continental Congress, - - - - - 554
Letter from James Hogg, the Delegate appointed by the Proprietors of Transylvania, to represent the Colony in the Continental Congress: Account of his mission to Philadelphia; his interviews with Members of the Congress, and their opinions on the settlement and Government of the Colony, - - 543
Letter from Silas Deane to James Hogg, giving his views on the Government proper to be adopted for Transylvania, - - - - 556
3, Letter from the President of Congress to Lord Stirling, - - - - - - - - 561
3, Letter from the Committee for Lancaster, Pennsylvania, to the President of Congress, complaining of the disorderly conduct of the Prisoners on parole in that Borough, - 561
3, Letter from Joseph Hallet to John McKesson, - 561
3, Letter from the New-York Committee of Safety to the President of Congress, requesting the determination of Congress on the plan for the Fortifications in the Highlands, - - 562
3, Letter from the New-York Committee of Safety to Jonathan Hampton, - - - - - 1018
3, Letter from Colonel Nicoll to John McKesson, 1023
3, Letter from Colonel Ritzema to Peter V. B. Livingston, - - - - - - - - 1113

1776.
Jan. 3, Petition of George Coffin, of Nantucket, to the New-York Congress, - - - - - 562
3, Letter from Joseph Trumbull to Governour Trumbull, - - - - - - - 563
3, Letter from General Washington to Jonathan Glover, directing him to libel the Prizes brought in by the Continental Armed Vessels, 563
3, Letter from John Glover to General Washington: It is difficult to man the Armed Vessels; the men not having been paid for their past services, object to enter again, - - - 563
4, John Cowgill, who has refused to take Continental Money, declared an enemy to his country, by the Committee for Dover, in Delaware, - - - - - - - - - 564
4, New-York Committee, - - - - - 689
4, The Monitor, No. 9: Showing it has been, and still is, the intention of the Ministry to reduce the Colonies to a state of absolute subjection to the authority of Parliament, - - - 564
4, Letter from the New-York Committee of Safety to the Continental Congress, - - - 1021
4, Letter from the New-York Committee of Safety to the several Committees in the Colony, - 1020
4, Letter from Colonel Arnold to General Wooster, 854
4, Letter from General Washington to the President of Congress, - - - - - - 567
General Orders, from January 1 to January 4, - 568
4, Letter from General Washington to Joseph Reed, - - - - - - - - - 570
4, Letter from General Greene to Samuel Ward: The King is determined, at all hazards, to carry his plan of despotism into execution; in his late Speech to both Houses of Parliament, he breathes revenge, and threatens us with destruction. We have consulted our wishes, rather than our reason, in indulging the idea of accommodation, - - - 571
4, Inlisting Orders from the New-Hampshire Congress to Captain Salter, - - - - - 573
5, Letter from Lord Germaine to General Howe, in reply to his suggestions for the means of augmenting his Army for the next Campaign, and explaining the arrangements making for that purpose, - - - - - - - 573
5, Letter from Matthew Tilghman to the President of Congress, requesting that the Hornet and Wasp may be ordered to convey Vessels through the Capes, - - - - - - 575
Letter from the Virginia Committee of Safety to the Maryland Convention: Operations of the British in Virginia, and the strength of Lord Dunmore, his present situation and circumstances, - - - - - - - - - 576
List of the Naval Forces in the Harbour of Norfolk and in Hampton Roads, - - 577
Chesterfield County (Virginia) Committee acquit Richard Johnston of the charge against him, of being an enemy to his country, - 200
5, Letter from Samuel Purviance to the President of Congress, - - - - - - - 578
5, Orders and directions for the Commander-in-Chief of the Fleet of the United Colonies, - 578
5, Letter from New-York Delegates in Continental Congress to Committee of Safety, - - 1033
5, Letter from New-York Committee of Safety to Lord Stirling, - - - - - - - 914
5, Letter from New-York Committee of Safety to Suffolk County Committee, - - - 1024
5, Letter from New-York Committee of Safety to Thomas Wilkes, - - - - - - 1025
5, Letter from Robert Yates to Jonathan Hampton, 579
5, Protest of the Committee for the District of Kinderhook, delivered to the Committee for Albany County, - - - - - - - 579
Order by the Albany Committee for a new election of a Committee for the District of Kinderhook, - - - - - - - 580
5, Letter from General Schuyler to General Washington, - - - - - - - 580
5, Extract of a Letter from an Officer at Montreal, 582
5, Letter from James Price to General Schuyler, - 668
5, Letter from General Wooster to General Schuyler, - - - - - - - - 668
5, Letter from Colonel Arnold to General Wooster, 854
5, Connecticut Council of Safety, - - - 611
5, Letter from Colonel Ritzema to Peter V. B. Livingston, - - - - - - - 1115

1776.
Jan. 5, Letter from General Lee to General Washington: Shows the necessity for immediate operations in New-York, to suppress the banditti of Tories there, and requests he may be detached for that purpose, - - 582
5, Form of Government adopted by the Provincial Congress for New-Hampshire, - - - 583
5, Protest of Members against the form of Government adopted by New-Hampshire Congress, 998
6, Court-Martial on Captain Spencer, - - - 584
6, Letter from the President of Congress to General Washington, - - - - - - 585
6, Letter from John Jay to Robert R. Livingston, - 585
6, Further Report of the Committee on the Northern Army, - - - - - - - 586
6, Letters from Lord Stirling to the President of Congress, with intercepted Letters addressed to the Earl of Dartmouth, - - - - - 586
6, Extract of a Letter from New-York to a Gentleman in London: Military strength of the Colonies, - - - - - - - - - 587
6, Letter from General Schuyler to Governour Trumbull: Pay of the Troops, - - 588
6, Letter from General Wooster to Colonel Warner, informing him of the defeat before Quebeck, and urging him to come with a reinforcement of his Green-Mountain Corps, - 588
6, Extract of a Letter from Colonel Arnold, - 589
6, Letter from Governour Trumbull to the President of Congress, directing his attention to the conduct of some of the Inhabitants of Westchester County, in New-York, - - - 590
Letter from the Committee of Inspection in the Town of Greenwich, to Governour Trumbull: There is a large quantity of Provisions in the hands of the Tories in Westchester County, New-York, and much has already been put on board the Asia Man-of-War: New-York is not warm in the cause, - - 590
Report of Joseph Hopkins on a Lead-Mine at New-Canaan, in New-York, - - 591
6, Letter from General Washington to Governour Cooke: The Town of Newport should not be permitted to supply Captain Wallace's Ships with Provisions, - - - - 591
6, Commission and Instructions to William Morony, Provost Marshal of the Army of the United Colonies, - - - - - - 593
6, Letter from Colonel Long to the New-Hampshire Congress, - - - - - - 593
7, Letter from General Schuyler to Colonel Wynkoop, giving instructions about Prisoners, - 594
7, Letter from James Gray to Sir John Johnson, - 594
7, Letter from General Washington to Governour Trumbull: Having authentick information that a great part of the Inhabitants of Long-Island are inimical to the rights and liberties of America, he has ordered General Lee to New-York, - - - - - - - 595
7, Letter from General Washington to John Adams, on the propriety of the proposed expedition of General Lee to New-York, - - 595
7, Letter from General Washington to William Watson, with directions to send out an Armed Vessel, if possible, - - - - - - 596
8, Letter from Lord Stirling to the President of Congress: The Jersey Battalions are very deficient in Arms, Blankets, and almost every necessary: Cortlandt Skinner went off to the Asia yesterday: Governour Franklin has given his promise not to leave the Province, - - 596
8, New-York Committee, - - - - - 689
8, Letter from the New-York Committee of Safety to the absent Members of the Provincial Congress, - - - - - - - - - 1028
8, Letter from the Committee for Westchester County to the New-York Committee of Safety: The friends of liberty in Westchester County offer their services to reduce the enemies to their country in Queen's County, - 596
8, Letter from M. Pelissier to the President of Congress, on the state of affairs in Canada, - 596
8, Translation of M. Pelissier's Letter, - - 601
8, Letter from the Committee for Stonington to General Washington: They have carefully inquired into the characters of Denny and Buddington, and cannot find that either has pursued any measure inimical to America, - 603

1776.
Jan. 8, Letter from John Adams to General Washington, approving of General Lee's proceeding to New-York, - - - - - - - 604
8, General Washington's Instructions to General Lee, - - - - - - - - 604
8, Letter from General Washington to the New-York Committee of Safety, informing them that he has ordered General Lee to New-York, - - - - - - - - 605
9, Letter from R. Hooe to Daniel of St. Thomas Jenifer, - - - - - - - - 606
9, Address of the New-York Committee of Safety to the Inhabitants of the Colony, - - 606
9, Letter from the New-York Committee of Safety to the Committee of Cumberland County, 1031
9, Connecticut Council of Safety, - - - 611
9, Extract of a Letter from Cambridge: Capture of a Guard at Charlestown, - - - 613
10, Address of the Noblemen, &c., of the County of Aberdeen, to the King, - - - 613
10, Address of the Deacons of the Fourteen Incorporated Trades of Glasgow, to the King, - 614
10, Address of the Justices of the Peace, &c., for the County of Wigton, to the King, - - 614
10, Proclamation by Governour Martin, - - 980
10, Commission by Governour Martin to Allan McDonald, and others, - - - - - 981
10, Manifesto by General Donald McDonald, - 982
10, Letter from Captain Ewing to Colonel Smallwood, - - - - - - - - 615
10, Letter from the Fredericktown Committee to the President of Congress, with Dr. Smith, under guard, - - - - - - - 615
Letter from Dr. Smith, dated November 24, - 615
Plan and objects of Connolly's Secret Expedition, - - - - - - - - 616
Connolly's Commission from Lord Dunmore, - 617
Letter from Colonel Connolly to Alexander McKee, December 16, - - - - - 617
Letter from Colonel Connolly to Captain Lord: He is a prisoner, and the whole scheme at an end; December 16, - - - - - - 617
Letter from Colonel Connolly to Captain Lernoult, Commanding Officer at Detroit: Advises him to evacuate the Garrison, and, with Captain Lord, move down the Mississippi, and join Lord Dunmore at Norfolk, - - - - 618
Letter from Colonel Connolly to Captain Lord, or Officer commanding at Illinois: Orders him to remove down the Mississippi to New-Orleans, or wherever he can find a conveyance to Virginia, - - - - - - 618
Letter from John Connolly to Mrs. Connolly, at Pittsburgh, - - - - - - - - 618
10, Letter from the Lancaster (Pennsylvania) Committee to the President of Congress, requesting provision may be made for the Prisoners at that place, - - - - - - - 619
10, Letter from the President of Congress to General Schuyler, - - - - - - - 619
10, Letter from Christopher Gadsden to Admiral Hopkins, - - - - - - - - 620
10, Letter from Lord Stirling to the President of Congress, enclosing Letters of Governour Franklin and Colonel Winds, - - - 621
8, Letter from Colonel Winds to Governour Franklin, requiring of him a pledge that he will not leave the Province, - - - - - 621
8, Reply of Governour Franklin: He will not quit the Province unless compelled by violence, - 621
9, Letter from Governour Franklin to Colonel Winds, requiring him, as he will answer the contrary at his peril, to remove the Sentinels placed at his Gate, - - - - - - 622
9, Reply of Colonel Winds: He has done nothing but what was his duty as a faithful Officer of the Congress, - - - - - - - 622
10, Letter from the New-York Committee of Safety to Lord Stirling, - - - - - - 1031
10, Letter from Isaac Rysdick to Robert Benson: He has translated the Address of the Convention into Dutch, as directed, - - - 622
10, Letter from General Schuyler to the President of Congress: Fears the next Letter from General Montgomery will announce the disagreeable account of his having raised the siege, - - - - - - - - - 622
10, Letter from William Sever to Hugh Orr, - 1258

1776.
Jan. 10, Letter from General Washington to Lord Stirling, informing him that General Lee has been sent to protect New-York, and requesting his assistance, - - - - - - - 623
10, Letter from General Washington to the Massachusetts Council of Safety: The Army cannot be raised to the new establishment by voluntary inlistments: This and the neighboring Governments should, in time, adopt some other expedient for effecting it, - - - 624
10, Letter from General Washington to General Sullivan, - - - - - - - - 625
10, Letter from Robert H. Harrison to William Bartlett, respecting the Armed Vessels, - - 625
10, Letter from Lieutenant Knight, a prisoner, taken at Machias, representing his case, and requesting to be released, - - - - - 626
10, Letter from Committee of Safety to New-Hampshire Delegates in Continental Congress, - 996
10, Letter from Joshua Wentworth to General Washington, - - - - - - 626
11, Southampton (Virginia) Committee acquit William Urquhart of the imputation of having acted contrary to the Association, - - - 627
11, Letter from Lord Stirling to the President of Congress: Has given orders to permit Governour Franklin to remain at his house, unless Congress order to the contrary, - - 627
11, Letter from New-York Delegates in Continental Congress to Committee of Safety, - - 1045
11, Letter from New-York Committee of Safety to General Schuyler, - - - - - - 1036
11, Letter from New-York Committee of Safety to Robert R. Livingston, - - - - - 1037
11, Letter from New-York Committee of Safety to Peter R. Livingston, - - - - - - 1037
11, Letter from Committee of Safety to New-York Delegates in Continental Congress, - - 1038
11, Letter from Tryon County (New-York) Committee to General Schuyler, - - - - - 667
11, Affidavit of Jonathan French, of Tryon County, 668
11, Letter from Colonel Arnold to the Congress, on the state of affairs generally in Canada, - 627
11, Letter from Jedediah Foster to the Committee for Northampton, - - - - - - 1259
11, Letter from Jedediah Foster to the Committee for Marshfield, - - - - - - - 1259
11, Letter from Isaac Smith to John Adams, - - 1271
11, Letter from General Washington to President of Congress, - - - - - - - - 629
General Orders, from January 5 to January 11, 630
General Return of the Army, - - - - 631
Return of the Artillery Regiment, - - - 633
Return of the Militia who have consented to remain in Camp till the end of January, - - 634
Commissioned Officers of twenty-seven Regiments in the service of the United Colonies, January, 1776, - - - - - - 633–646
11, Address to the Soldiers of Massachusetts-Bay, who are now in Arms against the Laws of their Country: By continuing in Arms, they will trample upon the laws of the mildest Government upon earth, and throw off their allegiance to the most humane Sovereign that ever swayed a sceptre, and submit to a tyranny uncontrolled either by the laws of God or man, - - - - - - - - 647
11, Letter to Meshech Weare, informing him of the Proceedings of the Committee at Portsmouth, 653
11, Instructions to the Maryland Delegates in Congress: They are not, without the approbation of the Convention, to assent to a declaration of Independence, - - - - - 653
12, Letter from the President of Congress to New-York Committee of Safety, - - - 1073
12, Letter from the President of Congress to the New-Hampshire Committee of Safety: One of the Battalions for the defence of Canada is to be furnished by New-Hampshire, - - 654
12, Representation of the Field-Officers of the Pennsylvania Battalions to the Congress, - - 655
12, Letter from Lord Stirling to Colonel Maxwell, 915
12, Letter from Lord Stirling to the New-York Committee of Safety: The enemies to American liberty are very busy on Staten Island; he will disarm them, if requested, - - 655
12, Letter from Thomas Wickes to the New-York Committee of Safety, - - - - - - 655

1776.
Jan. 12, Letter from General Carleton to General Howe: Account of the attack on Quebeck, - - 656
12, Proclamation by Governour Trumbull, - - 931
12, Account of the proceedings of the British in Rhode-Island, - - - - - - - 656
12, Letter from General Washington to General Montgomery, - - - - - - 657
13, Common Sense, - - - - - - - - 1541
13, Letter from William Wall to Admiral Hopkins, 657
13, Letter from Josiah Bartlett to the New-Hampshire Committee of Safety, - - - - - 658
13, Instructions to Captain Meston, of the Snow Dickenson, - - - - - - - 658
Letter from Bayard & Co. to the French Merchants, respecting the purchase of Gunpowder, &c., - - - - - - - - - 659
Notices of the seizing of the Snow Dickenson by the Crew, - - - - - - - 659
Proceedings of the Committee of New-Jersey, 660–666
13, Letter from General Schuyler to General Washington, - - - - - - - - - 666
13, Letter from General Schuyler to the President of Congress: In the present critical state of affairs, nothing but the immediate march of a body of Troops into Canada can secure that Province, for the Canadians are not to be depended upon, - - - - - - - 666
Letter from the Tryon County Committee to General Schuyler, asking his assistance; they are without Powder, and hostile preparations are on foot, in Johnstown, against the friends of American liberty, - - - - - - 667
Plan of Sir John Johnson to cut off the Whigs in Tryon County, as given by Jonathan French, - - - - - - - - - 668
Letter from James Price to General Schuyler: Fears the Army in Canada will be in great want of Cash; his house has advanced them upwards of twenty thousand Pounds, and is nearly exhausted, - - - - - - - 668
Letter from General Wooster to General Schuyler, giving an account of the defeat at Quebeck, 668
Letter from Colonel Campbell to General Wooster: Has not yet received a return of killed and wounded, - - - - - - - - 670
Letter from Colonel Arnold to General Wooster: Will endeavour to continue the blockade at Quebeck, - - - - - - - - 670
13, Letter from General Washington to Colonel McDougall, - - - - - - - - 671
13, Letter from General Washington to the Massachusetts Assembly, asking their assistance in procuring Arms for the Troops, - - - 672
13, Letter from General Washington to Matthew Thornton, - - - - - - - - 672
13, Letter from Benjamin Fessenden to James Warren, enclosing the Proceedings of the Committee for the Town of Sandwich, on the sailing of a Vessel from that place for the West-Indies, contrary to the recommendations of the Continental Congress, - - - - - 673
14, Letter from General Schuyler to the President of Congress: He has sent Colonel Warner to throw into Canada whatever numbers of Men he can procure upon the New-Hampshire Grants, - - - - - - - - 671
14, Letter from General Wooster to General Schuyler, - - - - - - - - - 852
14, Letter from Colonel Arnold to General Washington, - - - - - - - - - 674
List of the Killed, Wounded, and Prisoners, in the attack on Quebeck, December 31, 1775, 675
14, Letter from Colonel Huntington to Governour Trumbull, - - - - - - - - 675
14, Letter from General Washington to the President of Congress: The deficiency in Arms is truly alarming; few men who have any will engage in the service; and we must take men without, or get none, while we have to contend with a formidable Army, well provided in every respect, - - - - - - 675
14, Letter from General Washington to Joseph Reed, 676
14, Letter from General Washington to Colonel Wentworth, - - - - - - - - 679
15, Rev. William Douglas, charged with speaking disrespectfully of the People of America, acquitted with honour by the Committee for Goochland County, Virginia, - - - - 679

1776.
Jan. 15, Samuel Burks, suspected of having acted as an enemy to America, declared innocent of the charge by the Committee for Prince Edward County, Virginia, - - - - - - 679
15, Custis Kellum, tried and convicted by the Committee for Accomack County, Virginia, for calling the Bostonians a pack of Rebels, asks forgiveness, and is pardoned, - - - 679
15, Letter from Daniel of St. Thomas Jenifer to Charles Carroll: Thinks the cloud, almost ready to burst upon us, may be dispersed, and a plan formed which may save millions of money and thousands of lives, - - - 680
15, Letter from Charles Carroll to Mr. Jenifer: Is willing, with others, to lend his assistance to form a plan for the very good purposes he mentions, - - - - - - - - 680
15, Letter from Christopher Gadsden to Commodore Hopkins, - - - - - - - 681
15, Letter from the New-York Delegates to the President of Congress, - - - - - 681
15, Letter from Colonel McDougall to Philip Livingston, with an account of all the Powder the Colony has possessed since the battle of Lexington, - - - - - - - 681
15, Extract of a Letter from a Gentleman in Albany: An Express has just arrived, with the news that Sir John Johnson, with five hundred men and a few Indians, were assembling in a hostile manner, - - - - - - 682
15, Message to the Mohawks, by Mr. Bleecker, Indian Interpreter, - - - - - - 682
Reply of the Mohawks, - - - - - 683
Answer sent from the Squaws, - - - 683
15, Letter from Governour Trumbull to General Washington: Will cheerfully co-operate in the measures for the security of New-York, and has appointed Field-Officers for two Regiments of Volunteers, to be placed under the command of General Lee, - - - - - 683
15, Letter from General Washington to James Warren, - - - - - - - - - 684
15, Letter from William Watson to General Washington, - - - - - - - - - 684
15, Letter from Meshech Weare to General Washington: It is not possible to furnish any Arms from New-Hampshire, - - - - - 685
15, Letter from Mark Hopkins to Colonel Barrett, 766
15, Letter from Thomas W. Waldron to the New-Hampshire Committee of Safety, - - - 685
16, Letter from Herbert Courtenay to Charles Carroll, - - - - - - - - - 686
16, Letter from the President of Congress to General Washington, - - - - - - 686
16, Letter from Thomas Lynch to General Washington: Lord Drummond is at Philadelphia, with terms of reconciliation; he will propose them to the consideration of Congress as soon as the most urgent affairs are over, - - 687
Proceedings of the New-York Committee, from the 4th to the 16th of January, - - - 689
16, Memorial of William Leary to the New-York Committee of Safety, - - - - - 693
16, Letter from General Lee to General Washington, - - - - - - - - - 694
16, Report of Samuel Mott to Governour Trumbull, on the Works erected and proposed for the defence of New-London, Groton, and Stonington, - - - - - - - - 695
16, Letter from General Washington to General Schuyler, - - - - - - - - 696
16, Letter from General Washington to Governour Trumbull, - - - - - - - 697
16, Letter from General Washington to Governour Cooke, - - - - - - - - 697
16, Letter from General Washington to the General Court of Massachusetts, - - - - 698
16, Letter from General Washington to Matthew Thornton, - - - - - - - 699
16, Letter from Newburyport Committee to Massachusetts Council, - - - - - - 792
16, Letter from General Howe to the Earl of Dartmouth: His advice is to leave the Southern Provinces, in the fullest persuasion of their security, until the Rebels are defeated at New-York. The Southern Rebels would have been unable to defend themselves, had they not been roused by the conduct of their Go-

1776.
vernours. The ill consequences from another defensive campaign are not to be described. For an offensive campaign, a proper Army, of twenty thousand men, is necessary, - - 699
Jan. 17, Letter from John Youste to the Maryland Council of Safety, - - - - - - 702
17, Extract of a Letter from New-York: General Lee is on his way there; the Jersey Troops are crossing to Long-Island, - - - 702
17, Letter from New-York Committee of Safety to General Schuyler, - - - - - - 1053
17, Letter from New-York Committee of Safety to Lord Stirling, - - - - - - - 1053
17, Petition, Address, and Remonstrance, of the Inhabitants of the New-Hampshire Grants to the Continental Congress, - - - - - 702
17, Further accounts of the unsuccessful attack on Quebeck, - - - - - - - 705–709
17, Letter from Robert H. Harrison to William Bartlett, - - - - - - - - 709
17, Letter from General Sullivan to General Gates, 709
17, Letter from General Sullivan to the General Court of New-Hampshire: A Court of Inquiry will be held to-morrow on Colonel Stark, 709
17, Letter from Meshech Weare to General Washington, - - - - - - - - 709
17, Extract of a Letter from a Captain of an English Transport at Boston to his Owners, - - 710

MARYLAND CONVENTION.

1775.
Dec. 7, Convention met at Annapolis, - - - - 711
List of the Delegates, - - - - - 711
Matthew Tilghman chosen President, and Gabriel Duvall Clerk, - - - - - 711
8, Connolly, Smith, and Cameron, in custody by order of the Frederick County Committee, - 711
9, Robert Alexander and John Rogers chosen Delegates to the Continental Congress, in place of John Hall and Robert Goldsborough, 712
11, Parliamentary Post not permitted to travel in, or pass through, the Province, - - - - 713
Every Member of the Convention required to keep all the Debates and Proceedings secret, 713
Francis Baker, of Talbot County, who had been guilty of a breach of the Continental Association, expelled the House, - - - - - 713
12, Committee for Talbot County requested to send Isaac Atkinson, under a guard, to the Convention, - - - - - - - - 714
Committee for Kent County requested to send the Rev. John Patterson, under a guard, to the Convention, - - - - - - - 714
No Boat, or other Vessel, belonging to the Province, permitted to go out of the Province without a license, in writing, from the Convention, or a Committee, - - - - - 715
Members ordered not to leave the House without permission, - - - - - - - 715
Committee on a Petition from the Frontier Inhabitants of Frederick County, - - - 715
13, Committee to devise the best ways and means to promote the manufacture of Saltpetre, - - 715
Conduct of Committee for Somerset County, in raising a Company, approved, - - - - 715
Committee to report who have subscribed, or refused or neglected to subscribe, the Association directed by the last Convention, - - 716
Committee to report who have not enrolled themselves either as Minute or Artillery-Men, or in the Militia, - - - - - - 716
Committee to examine and report the quantity and condition of the Arms and Ammunition of the Province, - - - - - - - - 716
Cannon and Shot at Fort Cumberland, Oldtown, and Fort Frederick, to be conveyed to Baltimore, - - - - - - - - 716
14, William Bartlett Townsend, of Worcester County, has left the Province with inimical designs against the same, and has carried sundry Inhabitants of the Province to join Lord Dunmore, - - - - - - - - 717
Robert Buchanan, a Member for Kent County, censured by the Convention, - - - - 717
15, Robert Davis reprimanded for resisting the Orders of the Committee for Anne Arundel County, - - - - - - - - 718

1775.
Dec. 16, Isaac Atkinson brought before the Convention, reprimanded, and required to give a bond of one thousand Pounds for his future good behaviour, - - - - - - - - 719
Thanks of the Convention to the Committee of Somerset County, for arresting and securing Atkinson, - - - - - - - - 719
18, Rev. Mr. Patterson brought before the Convention in custody of a Guard; heard in his defence, and acknowledged the impropriety of his conduct, in speaking disrespectfully of the Proceedings of the Conventions of the Province, - - - - - - - - 720
19, Committee of Worcester County directed to order Benjamin Shockley before them, and reprimand him, - - - - - - - - 721
21, Edward Davis, on suspicion of attempting to convey intelligence to Lord Dunmore, brought before the Convention, examined, and ordered to be confined, - - - - - - - 721
22, Committee to consider and report the most effectual method of establishing a Gun-Lock Manufactory, - - - - - - - 722
23, Committee to receive and report on all Proposals relating to the establishment of Manufactories of any kind within the Province, - 722
Instructions to the Delegates in Congress respecting the sale of India Teas, - - - 723
Committee to consider what alterations and amendments are necessary in the Regulations of the Militia, - - - - - - - 723
27, Resolutions for the encouragement of the manufacture of Saltpetre, - - - - - - 723
Form of a Commission for the Officers of the Militia of the Province, - - - - - 725
Commissioners for the establishment of a Gun-Lock Manufactory in Fredericktown, - - 726
28, Council of Safety authorized to lend Money, without interest, to encourage the erection of a Powder-Mill within fourteen miles of Baltimore, - - - - - - - - 726
29, Committee to prepare a draught of Instructions for the Deputies representing this Province in Congress, - - - - - - - - 727
1776.
Jan. 1, Report of the Committee of the Whole on the state of the Province, to put the Province immediately in a state of defence, and raise a sufficient Armed Force for its protection, read and adopted, - - - - - - - - 728
Committee to report Resolutions for raising and supporting the Forces to be raised, - - 728
Committee to report Rules and Regulations for the government of the Forces, - - - 728
2, Persons commissioned in the Regular Forces cannot serve in the Convention, or hold any civil office, - - - - - - - - 728
Field-Officers for the Battalion (Light-Infantry) chosen, - - - - - - - - 728
Captains of the seven Independent Companies, - 728
Captains of the Light-Infantry, - - - - 729
Vessel from Lincoln County, Massachusetts, permitted to take a quantity of Grain from Somerset County, - - - - - - - 729
Lieutenants for the Independent Companies and Light-Infantry, - - - - - - - - 729
3, Petition of Fielder Gaunt, for assistance in working a Lead-Mine in Frederick County, granted, 730
Petition of Alexander McFadon, for assistance in establishing a Linen, Woollen, and Cotton Manufactory, in Frederick County, rejected, 730
Petition of Edward Parker granted, - - 731
Report of Committee for establishing Linen and Woollen Manufactories throughout the Province, rejected, - - - - - - - - 731
4, Rule for making out Commissions for Officers of the Independent Companies, - - - - 732
Amendments to the Regulations of the Militia of the Province, - - - - - - 733
5, Committees of Observation required to purchase the whole of the Sulphur in their respective Counties, - - - - - - - 735
The several Counties in the Province divided into Districts, or Brigades, - - - - - 735
A Brigadier-General, a Quartermaster, and an Adjutant, allowed to each District, - - 735
6, Field-Officers of the Militia in the several Districts appointed, - - - - - - 735
8, Further appointments in the Militia, - - 737

1776.
Jan. 9, Committee to prepare and report a scheme for the emission of Bills of Credit, to defray the expenses of defending the Province, - - 738
10, Instructions for the Deputies representing the Province in Congress, considered, - - 738
11, Instructions for the Deputies further considered, and adopted, - - - - - - - 738
12, Money advanced to William Whetcroft, of Annapolis, to assist him in erecting a Rolling, Sheeting, and Slitting Mill, within twenty miles of Baltimore, - - - - - - 740
Rank of Counties and Colonels established, - 740
13, Bills of Credit, to the amount of five hundred and thirty-five thousand one hundred and eleven Dollars and one-ninth part of a Dollar, to be emitted, - - - - - - - - 741
Provision for redeeming the Bills of Credit, - 743
14, Regulations adopted for Raising, Clothing, and Victualling the Forces to be raised in the Province, - - - - - - - - - 744
Officers of the Forces to be raised, - - - 745
Instructions for inlisting Men in the service of Maryland, - - - - - - - - 746
Rules for regulating and governing the Forces to be raised and employed in the service of the Province of Maryland, - - - - - 748
15, Minute-Companies in Dorchester, Queen Anne, and Kent, ordered to march immediately to Accomack and Northampton Counties, in Virginia, to the assistance of the Inhabitants there, 753
Powers and authorities of the Deputies of the Province, in Congress, continued to the end of the next session of the Convention, - - 754
Rank of the Militia Officers established, - - 754
Regulations for filling vacancies in Committees of Observation, - - - - - - - 755
16, All persons who neglect or refuse to sign the Association before the eleventh day of April next, required to deliver up their Arms, - 756
Report on the Memorial from the Justices of Baltimore County Court, - - - - - 756
17, Conduct of many persons in neglecting to pay their Levies, highly disapproved by the Convention, - - - - - - - - - 758
Encouragement to John Archer and James Harris to undertake a Flax or Hemp Manufactory, 759
Manner of collecting Debts prescribed, - - 759
Council of Safety. Their powers and duties, - 759
18, Records to be removed from Annapolis to some place of greater security, - - - - - 761
Declaration of the Convention on the King's Speech to Parliament, on the 27th of October last, - - - - - - - - - - 762
Adjourned to second Tuesday in April, but may be convened sooner by Council of Safety, - 762

CORRESPONDENCE, PROCEEDINGS, ETC.

Jan. 18, Letter from Bayard, Jackson & Co., to Montandouin & Frere, - - - - - - 659
18, Letter from the President of Congress to the Committee for Lancaster, in Pennsylvania: The conduct of the Committee respecting the Prisoners is approved by Congress, - - 761
18, Letter from the President of Congress to General Washington, - - - - - - - 763
18, Letter from Committee of Congress to Commodore Hopkins, giving him information and instructions, - - - - - - - - 763
18, Letter from Lord Stirling to Colonel Maxwell, 916
18, Letter from Lord Stirling to the President of Congress: Preparations for Colonel Heard's expedition to Queen's County, New-York, - 764
18, Return of Field and Staff Officers of the First New-Jersey Regiment, - - - - - 765
18, Letter from New-York Committee of Safety to James Livingston, - - - - - - - 1055
18, Proclamation by Governour Trumbull, - - 931
18, Resolutions of County Convention at Fairfield, Connecticut, - - - - - - - - 765
18, Letter from Governour Trumbull to General Washington: Has given orders to raise a Regiment for Canada, - - - - - - - 765
Letter from General Wooster to Colonel Warner, urging him to collect as many Men as possible immediately, and send them to Canada, - - - - - - - - - - 766

1776.
Letter from Mark Hopkins to Colonel Barrett, urging him to forward on Recruits, to be sent to Montreal, - - - - - - - - 766
Jan. 18, Letter from General Washington to General Schuyler: A Council of General Officers has determined that Massachusetts, Connecticut, and New-Hampshire, should each immediately raise a Regiment for Canada, - - - 766
18, Letter from Colonel Enos to General Washington, requesting permission to resign, - - 768
18, Letter from General Sullivan to the New-Hampshire Assembly, - - - - - - - 768
18, Letter from Joseph Mayhew to the Massachusetts Council, informing them of the state of civil affairs in Dukes County, - - - 769
18, Letter from Hugh Orr to Moses Gill, - - 1285
18, Return of the number of Inhabitants on the Isle of Shoals, - - - - - - - - 770
19, Letter from the Maryland Council of Safety to Richard Harrison, - - - - - - 771
19, Instructions of the Maryland Council of Safety to Captain Forsythe, to dispose of his cargo at Martinico, and, with the proceeds, to purchase Arms and Ammunition for the Province, - 771
19, Letter from Lord Stirling to the President of Congress: The party destined for Queen's County are chiefly on Long-Island, - - 772
19, Letter from Samuel Tucker to the President of Congress: The British Officers, prisoners, have made choice of Bordentown for their place of residence, and request the Band of Musick and their Servants may go with them, 772
19, Letter from New-York Committee of Safety to Captain Samuel Raymond, - - - 1056
19, Letter from New-York Committee of Safety to Commissioners for Fortifications, - - - 1057
19, Letter from New-York Committee of Safety to Albany County Committee, - - - 1057
19, Letter from Richmond County Committee to New-York Committee of Safety, - - 1069
19, Declaration by the Inhabitants of Queen's County, New-York, - - - - - - 858
19, Oath subscribed by sundry Inhabitants of Queen's County, New-York, - - - - 860
19, Letter from Thomas Grenell to New-York Committee of Safety, - - - - - - 1064
19, Letter from General Wooster to Gen. Schuyler, 1004
19, Letter from Perez Morton to Massachusetts Delegates in Congress, - - - - - - 1266
19, Letter from General Washington to the President of Congress, - - - - - - 772
Minutes of a Council of War at Head-Quarters, Cambridge, held January 16, 1776, - - - 774
Minutes of another Council of War held on the 16th of January, - - - - - - 774
19, Letter from General Washington to the General Court of Massachusetts, requesting them to raise a Regiment to reinforce the Army in Canada, - - - - - - - - - 775
General Orders, from January 12 to January 19, 776
19, Orders by General Sullivan to Colonel Waldron, to raise a Regiment for Canada, - - 778
20, Address of an American, recommending the opening the Ports of the Colonies to all Nations except the British, - - - - - 779
20, Letter from the Maryland Council of Safety to the Deputies of Maryland in Congress, requesting them to procure Cannon for the Fortifications at Annapolis and Baltimore, - - 780
20, Letter from Stephen Steward to Charles Wallace, with a plan for the defence of Annapolis, 780
20, Letter from James Murray to the Maryland Council of Safety, - - - - - - 780
20, Letter from the President of Congress to General Washington: The Congress are anxious to repair our losses in Canada, and to gain possession of Quebeck before the enemy can be reinforced in the Spring, - - - - 781
20, Letter from the President of Congress to Governour Trumbull, - - - - - - - 782
20, Letter from the President of Congress to the Convention of New-Hampshire, - - - 782
20, Letter from the President of Congress to the New-York Committee of Safety, - - 783
20, Letter from the President of Congress to General Schuyler, - - - - - - - 783
20, Letter from the President of Congress to the New-Jersey Committee of Safety, - - 783

1776.
*Jan.*20, Letter from Josiah Bartlett to the New-Hampshire Committee of Safety: Every exertion will be made by the Congress to repair the loss sustained at Quebeck. No cost or pains will be spared to secure the important Province of Canada, - - - - - - - - 784
20, Application of Colonel Bull to the Congress, for permission to resign, - - - - - 785
20, Ancient Testimony and Principles of the People called Quakers renewed, with respect to the King and Government, and touching the commotions now prevailing in New-Jersey and Pennsylvania, and other parts of America; addressed to the People in general, - - 785
20, Letter from Lord Stirling to New-York Committee of Safety, - - - - - - 1065
20, Letter from New-York Committee of Safety to the Delegates in Congress, - - - - 787
20, Letter from John Brickell to the New-York Congress, - - - - - - - - 788
20, Letter from Colonel McDougall to General Washington: It is impossible to send him Powder from New-York. Until recently, their entire stock was less than three hundred pounds; and now many of the Counties have none, - - - - - - - - - 789
20, Letter from Governour Trumbull to the President of Congress: Orders have been given for raising the Regiments called for; but there is great distress for want of Arms, - - - 789
20, Letter from Governour Trumbull to General Schuyler, - - - - - - - 790
20, Proclamation by Governour Trumbull, - - 932
20, Letter from General Washington to Governour Trumbull, - - - - - - - 790
20, Instructions to Captain Charles Dyar, of the Schooner Harrison, - - - - - - 791
16, Letter from the Newburyport Committee to the Massachusetts Council, informing of the capture of two Vessels, and sending Prisoners, - 792
20, Letter from W. Sever to General Washington, placing at his disposal Lieutenant Hill, taken in one of the Prizes, - - - - - 792
20, Letter from W. Sever to the Newburyport Committee, - - - - - - - - 793
20, Letter from General Washington to the Newburyport Committee, - - - - - 793
20, Letter from General Washington to the Committee of Stonington, - - - - - 793
20, Letter from Robert H. Harrison to William Watson, to send Captain Dyar on a cruise, - 793
20, Letter from Robert H. Harrison to Stephen Moylan: The present situation of affairs will not justify the attempt on the Fowey, - - 793
20, Letter from General Sullivan to the New-Hampshire Assembly, - - - - - - 794
21, Letter from Colonel Woodford to the Virginia Convention, - - - - - - - 794
21, Letter from Captain Stricker to Maryland Council of Safety, - - - - - - - 794
21, Berk's County (Pennsylvania) Committee recommend a Provincial Convention, and appoint Delegates to attend in behalf of the County, - - - - - - - - 795
21, Buck's County Committee appoint persons to acquire a competent knowledge of making Saltpetre, - - - - - - - - 795
21, Letter from the New-York Committee of Safety to Lord Stirling, informing him that a Vessel is off the Hook, deeply laden with Stores for the Army at Boston, - - - 795
21, Letter from New-York Committee of Safety to Joseph Hallet, - - - - - - 796
21, Letter from New-York Committee of Safety to General Lee, - - - - - - - 1062
21, Speech from General Schuyler to the Six Nations, sent by Mr. Deane, - - - - - 855
21, Letter from Colonel Bayley to General Wooster, 1500
21, Letter from General Wooster to General Washington: The Clergy are exciting the Canadians against us; Quebeck will be defended to the last extremity; to do any thing effectual we must have Men, and Powder, and heavy Cannon, by the middle of March, - - 796
21, Letter from Governour Cooke to General Washington: Encloses the Vote of the Town of Newport authorizing the supply of Provisions to Captain Wallace, - - - - 797

1776.
*Jan.*21, Letter from General Washington to Governour Trumbull: Encouragements proposed for the Officers and Soldiers of the Regiment destined for Canada, - - - - - - 798
22, Information communicated by Governour Wright to Dr. Jones and Joseph Clay, - 799
22, Letter from Lord Dunmore to Colonel Corbin, 1208
22, Letter from Thomas Johnson, Jun., to Maryland Council of Safety, - - - - - 800
22, Letter from Maryland Council of Safety to Stephen Steward: The Council desire to consult with him on the means of defending Annapolis, - - - - - - - - - 800
22, Letter from Maryland Council of Safety to the Mayor of Annapolis, - - - - - 800
22, Letter from Lancaster Committee to the President of Congress, - - - - - - 801
Complaints and demands of the British Officers, prisoners at Lancaster, - - - - - 801
22, Letter from Captain Williams to the President of Congress, - - - - - - - 802
22, Letter from New-York Committee of Safety to Lord Stirling, - - - - - - - 1065
22, Letter from Committee of Safety to New-York Delegates in Congress, - - - - - 1066
22, Letter from New-York Committee of Safety to Colonel Graham, - - - - - - 1067
22, Letter from General Schuyler to the President of Congress, - - - - - - - 802
22, Letter from General Schuyler to General Washington: Has just returned from a visit to Tryon County to disarm the Malignants there, which has been effected, - - - - 805
22, Letter from General Lee to the President of Congress: Has collected about twelve hundred Men in Connecticut, and is marching directly to New-York; advises strong measures with the Tories, and by all means to secure New-York, - - - - - - 805
21, Letter from the New-York Committee of Safety to General Lee: Requests him not to march to New-York with Connecticut Troops before he makes such explanations to them on this important subject as his duty may permit him to make, - - - - - - - 807
22, Letter from Colonel Maxwell to Lord Stirling, 916
22, Letter from Colonel Warner to General Schuyler, - - - - - - - - - 852
22, Letter from Governour Trumbull to General Washington, - - - - - - - 808
22, Letter from James Wilkinson to General Sullivan, - - - - - - - - - 809
22, Letter from Colonel Huntington to Governour Trumbull, - - - - - - - 809
22, Letter from William Sever to Newburyport Committee, - - - - - - - 1275
22, Letter from Meshech Weare to General Washington, - - - - - - - - 809
21, Letter from the New-Hampshire Council of Safety to General Washington: Directions were promptly given to raise the Regiment for Canada, under the command of Colonel Timothy Bedel, - - - - - - 810
Instructions to the Committee of the New-Hampshire Assembly appointed to wait on General Washington, - - - - - 810
21, Orders to Colonels Morey and Bellows, to procure, immediately, Supplies for Colonel Bedel's Regiment, - - - - - - - - 811
21, Orders to Lieutenant-Colonel Waite, to raise men immediately for Colonel Bedel's Company of Rangers, - - - - - - 811
22, Letter from General Howe to the Earl of Dartmouth: General Clinton sailed on the 20th; he has blank Commissions, to be used if he embodies any Provincials; Commissions are sent to three gentlemen, who have been long in North-Carolina, to secure the attachment of the Highlanders settled in that Colony, - 812
23, Letter from Addison Murdock to Maryland Council of Safety, - - - - - - 812
23, Letter from Maryland Council of Safety to Prince George's County Committee, to provide a safe place in Upper Marlborough for the Publick Records, - - - - - - 813
23, Letter from Maryland Council of Safety to their Delegates in Congress, respecting Letters from Governour Eden, - - - - 813

1776.
*Jan.*23, Letter from Colonel Maxwell to President of Congress: His Regiment ordered to Canada immediately; is in want of a great part of every thing but men, - - - - - 813
23, Letter from New-Jersey Committee of Safety to the President of Congress: General Prescott will be sent forward to-morrow morning, under a guard, - - - - - - 814
23, Letter from Dr. Huddleston to the President of Congress, asking permission to return to Quebeck, - - - - - - - - - 814
23, Letter from New-Jersey Committee of Safety to the President of Congress, respecting the Prisoners in Trenton, - - - - - 815
24, Letter from Samuel Tucker to the President of Congress, - - - - - - - 815
General Schuyler's Orders to Captain Hurlbert, in charge of the Prisoners, Ticonderoga, November 1, 1775, - - - - - - 816
Return of Clothing, &c., that was lost, belonging to his Majesty's Seventh Regiment of Royal Fusileers at Trenton, - - - - - 817
23, Letter from Robert Ogden to New-York Committee of Safety: Lord Stirling has gone to take the Vessel, - - - - - - 817
23, Letter from John Imlay to New-York Committee of Safety, - - - - - - - 817
23, Letter from New-York Committee of Safety to Committee of Kingston, Ulster County, - 1070
23, Letter from New-York Committee of Safety to Thomas Grenell, - - - - - - 1071
23, Letter from James McClaughry to New-York Committee of Safety, - - - - - 1091
23, Letter from John Graham to Colonel McDougall: Was only a passenger on board the vessel wrecked on Squam Beach, which was laden by Governour Tryon with presents for General Howe, - - - - - - - - 818
23, Letter from John Blackler to New-York Committee of Safety, requesting to be released from Prison, - - - - - - - - 818
23, Letter from General Schuyler to the President of Congress: Narrative of his excursion to Tryon County, - - - - - - 818
23, Letter from General Schuyler to Governour Trumbull, - - - - - - - 829
23, Letter from General Lee to New-York Committee of Safety: It is not his intention to commence active hostilities against the Men-of-War in the Harbour; but if they make a pretext of his presence to fire on the Town, the first house they set in flames shall be the funeral pile of some of their best friends, - 830
23, Letter from Samuel Dexter to Perez Morton, - 778
23, Letter from General Washington to General Lee: Regrets that Congress countermanded the embarkation of the two Regiments against the Tories on Long-Island; the period is arrived when the most decisive and vigorous measures should be pursued, - - - 831
23, Letter from General Washington to Joseph Reed, urging his return to Head-Quarters, - 831
23, Letter from Colonel Harrison to General Sullivan, - - - - - - - - - 832
23, Proclamation by the General Court of Massachusetts, - - - - - - - - 833
23, Letter from General Howe to the Earl of Dartmouth, - - - - - - - - 835
24, Extract of a Letter from Ireland: Treatment of Colonel Ethan Allen; supplies presented to him by some Gentlemen of Cork; his Letter of Thanks, - - - - - - - 836
24, Officers of two Companies of Regulars chosen by the Committee of Spottsylvania County, Virginia, - - - - - - - 836
24, Letter from Josiah Bartlett to the New-Hampshire Committee of Safety, - - - 837
24, Letter from Richard Swoope to the Pennsylvania Committee of Safety, - - - - 837
24, Letter from Lord Stirling to the President of Congress: Has captured the Ship off the Hook; she proves to be the Blue-Mountain-Valley, laden with Coal, &c., - - - 837
24, Letter from New-York Committee of Safety to Committees and Militia Officers of the Colony, - - - - - - - - 1071
24, Letter from New-York Committee of Safety to Colonel Joseph Drake, - - - - - 1076

1776.
*Jan.*24, Letter from Suffolk County Committee to New-York Committee of Safety, - - - 1108
24, Letter from Colonel Arnold to the Continental Congress, - - - - - - - 838
24, Letter from General Lee to General Washington: Ten thousand Volunteers could have been raised in Connecticut, but he takes only four Companies with him: the stout Whigs of New-York desire a body of Troops stationed in that City; the timid ones are averse, from the spirit of procrastination; the Provincial Congress, in their letter, breathes the very essence of this spirit: it is wofully hysterical, 839
24, Letter from Governour Trumbull to General Washington: The Regiment for Canada, and the three Regiments for the Camp, will be forwarded without delay, - - - - - 839
24, Letter from General Washington to the President of Congress, - - - - - - 840
General Orders, from January 20 to January 25, 841
23, Memorial of Joseph Trumbull, Commissary-General, to the Congress, - - - - - 842
Report of Charles Miller to the Commissary-General, - - - - - - - - 842
List of Persons employed in the Commissary-General's Department, - - - - - 843
List of Clerks and Assistants in the Department of the Quartermaster-General, - - - 844
An account of the Barracks occupied by the Continental Troops near Boston, - - 844
24, Letter from Stephen Moylan to Major Hawley, 846
24, Appointment of Robert Bricket to muster the Regiment raising in Hampshire and Berkshire, for the Continental service, - - 846
24, Letter from General Washington to the Northampton (Massachusetts) Committee, - - 846
24, Letter from General Gates to Captain Stanhope: The General cannot, at present, comply with his request to be permitted to go to Boston, the Admiral having declined every negotiation for exchange of Prisoners, - - - 847
24, Letter from General Gates to Lieutenant Knight: The gentlemen on parole at Northampton and Hadley must keep themselves within the legal limits of the Town they live in, - - - 847
25, Bennet White convicted of violating the Association by the Hanover County (Virginia) Committee, - - - - - - - - 847
25, Prince Edward County Committee receive the concession of John Hamblin, and recommend him to the Publick, for their forgiveness, - 848
25, Philadelphia Committee recommend the election of a new Committee on the 16th of February next, - - - - - - - - - 848
25, Letter from the President of Congress to the New-Jersey Committee of Safety, - - 849
25, Letter from the President of Congress to Colonel Maxwell, directing him to send his Companies to Canada, one at a time, as fast as they can be provided, without waiting till the whole are equipped, - - - - - - - 850
25, Letter from the President of Congress to Thomas Lowrey, - - - - - - - - 850
25, Letter from Colonel Roberdeau to the President of Congress: Has placed a guard over General Prescott and Captain Chace, - - 850
25, Letter from Thomas Lowrey to the President of Congress: The Transport Ship Blue-Mountain-Valley is at Elizabethtown Point, - 851
25, Letter from Major De Hart to Samuel Tucker: He has returned from Long-Island, and left Colonel Heard at Hempstead; many Tories were coming in daily, with their Arms, - 851
25, Letter from New-York Committee of Safety to Lord Stirling, - - - - - - - 1079
25, Letter from New-York Committee of Safety to Robert Livingston, - - - - - - 1080
25, Letter from Thomas Palmer to New-York Committee of Safety, - - - - - - 1097
25, Letter from the Committee of White Plains to New-York Committee of Safety, - - 1116
25, Letter from General Schuyler to New-York Committee of Safety, - - - - - 1113
25, Letter from General Schuyler to the President of Congress, - - - - - - - 851
Letter from Seth Warner to General Schuyler: His prospect in raising men is very encouraging, - - - - - - - - - 852

1776.
Jan. 25, Letter from General Schuyler to Seth Warner, 852
Letter from General Wooster to Gen. Schuyler, 852
Letter from Colonel Arnold to General Wooster: Too much lenity has been shewn the Prisoners, - - - - - - - 854
Letter from Colonel Arnold to General Wooster: An agent sent out by Carleton, to raise the country against us, has been taken, - 854
Speech to the Six Nations, sent by Mr. Deane, 855
25, Letter from Governour Cooke to General Washington: The Colony is so destitute of Arms, that none can be furnished for the Camp, - 856
25, Letter from General Washington to Governour Trumbull, - - - - - - - 856
25, Letter from Robert H. Harrison to William Watson, - - - - - - - - - 857
26, Letter from Joseph Robson to the Maryland Council of Safety, - - - - - - 857
26, Letter from the President of Congress to General Lee: A Committee of three Members has been appointed to repair immediately to New-York, to confer with him and the Committee of Safety, - - - - - - 857
26, Letter from Lord Stirling to New-York Committee of Safety, - - - - - - 1085
26, Letter from New-York Committee of Safety to Committee of each County, - - - 1081
26, Letter from Colonel Drake to the New-York Committee of Safety, - - - - - 1082
26, Letter from Westchester County Committee to New-York Committee of Safety, - - 1084
26, Letter from John Graham to New-York Committee of Safety, - - - - - - 857
26, Extract of a Letter from an Officer in the expedition on Long-Island, - - - - - 858
Declaration signed by sundry Inhabitants of Queen's County, New-York, - - - 858
Signers of the Declaration, - - - - 858
Oath subscribed by sundry Inhabitants of Queen's County, New-York, - - - - - 860
Subscribers to the Oath, - - - - - 860
26, Letter from General Schuyler to General Wooster, - - - - - - - - - 1003
26, Connecticut Council of Safety, - - - 924
26, Letter from Colonel Moylan to the General Court of Massachusetts, - - - - - 861
26, Letter from William Sever to Newburyport Committee, - - - - - - - 1281
26, Letter from William Sever to Gloucester Committee, - - - - - - - - - 1282
26, Recommendation of John Lambert to the Massachusetts Council, for the command of an Armed Vessel, - - - - - - 862
26, Letter from General Sullivan to the New-Hampshire Assembly, - - - - - 862
26, Letter from William Watson to General Washington: Two more Prizes taken by Captain Manly, - - - - - - - - - 863
26, Cosmopolitan to the Inhabitants of the American Colonies; No. 6, - - - - - 863
27, Letter from D. Santerre, first Captain of the Regiment of Martinique, to General Washington: Wants to enter the American service, 866
27, Letter from the Virginia Committee of Safety to the Maryland Council of Safety: They have resolved to build two Row-Galleys for the protection of the Potomack River, and ask Maryland to participate in its protection, - - 866
27, Letter from Colonel Smallwood to Maryland Council of Safety, - - - - - - 867
27, Letter from Colonel St. Clair to the President of Congress, - - - - - - 867
27, Letter from Lord Stirling to the President of Congress, - - - - - - - 867
Manifest of the Cargo of the Blue-Mountain-Valley, - - - - - - - - 868
27, Letter from New-York Delegates in Congress to Committee of Safety, - - - - - 1091
27, Letter from Lord Stirling to Captain William Rogers, - - - - - - - - 915
27, Letter from Westchester County Committee to New-York Committee of Safety, - - 1085
27, Letter from Kingston (Ulster County) Committee to New-York Committee of Safety, - - 1098
27, Letter from John R. Livingston to New-York Congress, - - - - - - - 1115
27, Extract of a Letter from an Officer at Montreal to a Gentleman at New-York, - - - 868

1776.
Jan. 27, Letter from Colonel Fellows to General Schuyler, - - - - - - - - - - 881
27, Letter from General Wooster to the President of Congress: Colonel Arnold still keeps up the blockade of Quebeck; for taking of that place, every thing is wanted—Men, Money, heavy Cannon, Mortars, Shot, Shells, and Powder, of which we have not four tons in the Province, - - - - - - - 869
27, Letter from General Wooster to General Schuyler: The blockade of Quebeck will be continued, until they are prepared to prosecute, vigorously, different measures, - - - 870
27, Proclamation by Governour Trumbull, - 933
27, Letter from Levi Allen to General Washington: Proposes to go to England to procure the liberty of his brother, Ethan Allen, - - 871
Affidavit of Peter Rammon, that Colonel Allen was put in irons on board the Gaspee, and so kept for more than thirty days, though very sick during the whole time, - - - 871
Certificate of Johannis Snyder, that a British Soldier, taken prisoner at Montreal, stated he knew Colonel Allen was put in irons, but dare not make an affidavit; for, if he did so, the Officers would punish him with death, - 872
27, Letter from General Washington to General Schuyler: The time has arrived when the Canadians, and, consequently, their Indians, must take sides. Should any indecision of ours give the bias against us, it is easier to foresee, than to rectify, the serious consequences which must inevitably follow; Quebeck should be taken, and Canada reduced this Winter, - - - - - - - 872
27, Letter from General Washington to General Wooster: Canada is of the utmost importance in the scale of our affairs. To whomsoever it belongs, in their favour, probably, will the balance turn; if it is ours, success will crown our virtuous struggles; if it is our enemy's, the contest, at best, will be doubtful, hazardous, and bloody, - - - - - - 873
27, Letter from General Washington to Colonel Arnold, - - - - - - - - 874
27, Letter from General Washington to William Whipple, - - - - - - - - 875
28, Letter from Lord Stirling to New-York Committee of Safety, - - - - - - 914
28, Letter from Thomas Palmer to Philip Livingston, respecting the Fortifications on Hudson River, - - - - - - - - 875
28, Letter from General Schuyler to Colonel Fellows, - - - - - - - - - 882
28, Letter from Edward Mott to Governour Trumbull, - - - - - - - - - 876
28, Letter from John Fowler to the New-York Committee of Safety, - - - - - 876
28, Letter from General Washington to Captain Manly, - - - - - - - - - 877
28, Letter from Colonel Moylan to Newburyport Committee, for Arms, - - - - - 877
28, Letter from Robert H. Harrison to William Watson, - - - - - - - - 878
29, Sussex County (Virginia) Committee will make provision for the support of the Poor of Norfolk, 878
29, Officers for the Company of Regulars chosen by the Hanover County Committee, - - 878
29, Letter from the President of Congress to General Washington, - - - - - - 878
29, Letter from the President of Congress to the Assembly of Massachusetts: Important as the service in Canada is, it cannot be carried on without Specie; it is therefore earnestly recommended to the several Colonies to collect whatever of Silver and Gold they can, and Congress will give Continental Bills in exchange for it, - - - - - - - - 879
29, Letter from New-York Committee of Safety to Colonel Drake, - - - - - - - - 1089
29, Letter from New-York Committee of Safety to Officer of the Guard at King's Bridge, - 1089
29, Letter from Peter T. Curtenius to the New-York Committee of Safety, - - - - 879
29, Letter from Egbert Benson to New-York Committee of Safety, - - - - - - 1117
29, Letter from William Palfrey to General Washington, - - - - - - - - - 880

1776.
Jan. 29, Letter from General Schuyler to the President of Congress, - - - - - - - 880
Letter from Colonel Fellows to General Schuyler, - - - - - - - - - 881
Letter from General Schuyler to Colonel Fellows, - - - - - - - - - 882
29, Letter from William Watson to General Washington: Account of Manly's capture of the Prizes, - - - - - - - - - 883
29, Extract of a Letter from a Gentleman in Boston: They are close shut up there; fresh Provisions very scarce, and have been in want of Fuel, which was attended with no other inconvenience than pulling down some of the Rebels' Houses to burn, which has thinned them a little, - - - - - - - - - 883
30, Rodham Kenner published as an enemy to American liberty, by the Committee for Caroline County, Virginia, - - - - - - 884
30, Concession of the Rev. Thomas Johnston, published by order of the Charlotte County (Virginia) Committee, - - - - - - 884
30, Letter from Stephen West to Daniel of St. Thomas Jenifer, - - - - - - 885
30, Letter from Stephen West to the Maryland Council of Safety, - - - - - - 886
30, Letter from Robert Alexander to the Maryland Council of Safety: The Congress, in Committee of the Whole, seven Colonies to five, have refused to alter the Association so as to permit the selling of Tea, - - - - - 887
30, Berk's County Committee accept, as satisfactory, the concessions of Gaius Dickenson and William Gilliland, who had attempted to depreciate the Continental Currency, - - 887
30, Letter from Samuel Tucker to the President of Congress: Colonel Maxwell's Battalion, under marching orders for Canada, are almost destitute of Arms, - - - - - - 888
30, Letter from New-York Delegates in Congress to Committee of Safety, - - - - - 1097
30, Letter from New-York Committee of Safety to Delegates in Congress, - - - - - 1094
30, Letter from New-York Committee of Safety to Colonel Heard, - - - - - - 1089
30, Letter from Jonathan Blake to New-York Committee of Safety, - - - - - - 1090
30, Letter from New-York Committee of Safety to General Schuyler, - - - - - - 1094
30, Petition of sundry of the Militia of Marbletown, in Ulster County, to the New-York Congress, 889
30, Letter from William Bedlow to the New-York Committee of Safety, - - - - - - 889
30, Memorial of the Non-Commissioned Officers of the First Battalion New-York Minute-Men to the Provincial Congress, - - - - - 889
30, Letter from General Washington to the President of Congress, - - - - - - 890
Talk of sundry Sachems of the Caughnawaga Nation to General Washington, - - - - 893
Talk of one of the St. John's Tribe, attended by two of the Passamaquoddy Indians, to General Washington, - - - - - - 894
Plan proposed by Colonel Thompson and Captain O'Brien for an expedition against Nova-Scotia, - - - - - - - - - 894
General Orders, from January 26 to January 31, 895
30, Letter from General Washington to General Howe, - - - - - - - - - 975
30, Letter from General Washington to General Lee: The Tories in Queen's County should be disarmed immediately, and the persons of the principals seized, - - - - - - 895
31, Letter from George Mason to Maryland Council of Safety: Has been directed by the Committee of Safety of Virginia to build two Row-Galleys, and provide three Armed Cutters, for the protection of the Potomack, and requests Maryland to adopt the same plan, - - 896
31, Declaration by William Jarrett, that he believes the Continental Currency is both legal and of equal value with any other Currency, - 896
31, Letter from Colonel Maxwell to the President of Congress, - - - - - - - 897
Colonel Maxwell's Memorial relating to necessaries wanted for his Battalion, - - - - 897
31, Letter from Colonel Drake to New-York Committee of Safety, - - - - - - 1101

1776.
Jan. 31, Petition of Frederick Hartell to the New-York Congress: Was many years in the King of Hungary's service, and is now willing to serve in his former calling, for the good of American liberty, - - - - - - 898
31, Application of John Wylley to New-York Congress, for a Captain's Commission, - - 898
31, Letter from General Schuyler to the President of Congress: A meeting of the Six Nations, and those of Canada, is to be held at Onondaga; Mr. Deane is ordered to attend it, that we may know what passes, - - - 898
31, Letter from Governour Trumbull to General Schuyler, - - - - - - - - 898
31, Letter from General Washington to Joseph Reed, - - - - - - - - - 899
31, Letter from Robert H. Harrison to the General Court of Massachusetts, - - - - - 900
31, Letter from the New-Hampshire Committee of Safety to Major Bellows, - - - - - 901
31, Instructions to Colonel Morey and Major Bellows, - - - - - - - - - 901
Feb. 1, Address of the Gentry, &c., of the Borough of Sudbury, to the King, - - - - - 901
1, Letter from Lord George Germaine to General Howe: Instructions with regard to service, command, and promotions generally, - 902
1, Letter from Maryland Council of Safety to their Delegates in Congress, - - - - - 903
Memorandum enclosed in the foregoing Letter, 904
1, Letter from John D. Thompson to Benjamin Rumsey, - - - - - - - - - 904
1, Letter from the Dorchester County Committee to Maryland Council of Safety: They cannot supply Captain Robson's Company, - 904
1, Address of the Queen Anne (Maryland) Company of Militia to Colonel Robert Tyler, - 905
Colonel Tyler's Reply, - - - - - - 905
1, Letter from Committee of the Continental Congress to New-York Committee of Safety, - 1098
1, Letter from Colonel Waterbury to New-York Committee of Safety, - - - - - - 1098
1, Letter from General Schuyler to John McKesson: Desires that no Commissions may be sent to him from the Committee of Safety to be delivered to the Officers they may name, - 906
1, Letter from Thomas Young to the New-York Congress, with a Map of the east end of Long-Island, and the Islands adjacent, - - - 906
1, Letter from General Schuyler to the President of Congress, - - - - - - - - 906
State of the Military Chest January 28th, - 907
1, Letter from Colonel Arnold to the President of Congress, - - - - - - - - 907
1, Letter from General Washington to General Schuyler: The Caughnawaga Indians desire to join the Forces in Canada, when General Schuyler shall require it; the expediency of calling upon them is left to him; circumstances and policy will suggest the occasion, 908
1, Letter from General Washington to Colonel Bedel, - - - - - - - - - 908
1, Letter from General Washington to Timothy Pickering, Jun. Thanks him and the rest of the Volunteers at Salem, and requests them to continue at Salem, and hold themselves in readiness, - - - - - - - - - 909
1, Letter from Captain William Wood to Robert H. Harrison, - - - - - - - - 1133
1, Letter from Robert H. Harrison to William Watson, - - - - - - - - - 909
1, Appointment of William Burke to the command of the Schooner Warren, - - - - - 909
1, List of the Officers of the Armed Vessels fitted out by order of General Washington, with the dates of their Commissions, - - - - 910
1, Letter from James Otis to the Council of Massachusetts, enclosing the examination of William Heath, Master, bound from Nova-Scotia to Boston, a surly, inimical fellow to his country, - - - - - - - - - 910
1, Letter from Colonel Joseph Otis to the Council of Massachusetts, - - - - - - 911
2, Account of the success of Colonel Charles Carter, of Stafford, Virginia, with his manufactory of Saltpetre, - - - - - 911
2, Letter from Thomas Johnson, Jun., to Daniel of St. Thomas Jenifer, - - - - - - 911

1776.
Feb. 2, Application of the Field-Officers of the Elk-ridge (Maryland) Battalion, to the Council of Safety, for Arms: Many have none, what others have are unfit for use, - - - 912
2, Letter from Samuel Chase to Daniel of St. Thomas Jenifer, - - - - - - - 912
2, Letter from the Maryland Delegates in Congress to the Council of Safety, - - - 912
2, Letter from Lord Stirling to the President of Congress: Has received no orders from Congress relating to the Blue-Mountain-Valley, and does not know what rules have been established with regard to Prizes, - - - 913
Letter from the New-York Committee of Safety to Lord Stirling: They are totally at a loss how to supply the new levies with Arms, without taking them from the Militia, and therefore request to be released from their engagement to furnish one hundred stand for the Jersey Troops, - - - - - - 914
Letter from Lord Stirling to the New-York Committee of Safety, - - - - - 914
2, Letter from Lord Stirling to Samuel Tucker, requesting him to lay before the Congress of New-Jersey the difficulty about Arms, - 915
Orders to Captain Rogers to take charge of the Blue-Mountain-Valley, - - - - - 915
2, Letter from Lord Stirling to Samuel Tucker: Vessels are loading at, or near, New-Brunswick, with Provisions and Lumber, contrary to the rules established by the Continental Congress, - - - - - - - 915
Letter from Lord Stirling to Colonel Maxwell: Must hold his Regiment ready to march at twenty-four hours' notice, - - - 915
Letter from Lord Stirling to Colonel Maxwell, directing him to put his Regiment in a state of readiness to march for Albany: When ready, he must inform the President of Congress, who will give him particular orders how to proceed, - - - - - - 916
Letter from Colonel Maxwell to Lord Stirling: Has received orders from Congress to march to Canada, - - - - - - - - 916
2, Letter from Arendt Van Hook to the New-York Congress, - - - - - - - - 916
2, Letter from General Schuyler to General Wooster, - - - - - - - - - 1216
2, Letter from Governour Trumbull to General Washington: Making exertions to raise and despatch one Regiment to Canada, and three to Camp; but the Treasury is exhausted, and without money men cannot be persuaded to set forward to Canada, nor is it reasonable to expect it, - - - - - - - - 917
2, Letter from Governour Trumbull to General Schuyler, respecting some Provisions sent from Montreal. Monsieur Orillat has escaped, 917
2, Letter from Council of Massachusetts to Committee for the Town of Hatfield, - - 1287
2, Cosmopolitan to the Inhabitants of the American Colonies; No. 7, - - - - - 917
2, Letter from General Howe to General Washington, - - - - - - - - 975
3, Letter from Robert C. Nicholas to General Washington, - - - - - - - 920
3, Letter from the Maryland Council of Safety to Stephen West, - - - - - - - 920
3, Candidus to the People of Pennsylvania: Independence is the only step that can bring the contest to a speedy and happy issue, - - 920
3, Address of the Committee of the Privates of the Military Association of the City and Liberties of Philadelphia, - - - - - 922
3, Letter from William Livingston to the President of Congress: Colonel Heard has returned from his Queen's County expedition, and has among his Prisoners some of the most dangerous Tories in the County, - - - 923
3, Letter from Colonel Maxwell to the President of Congress, - - - - - - - 923
3, Letter from New-York Committee of Safety to Committee at Stamford, Connecticut, - - 1104
3, Letter from John Graham to New-York Committee of Safety, requesting to be heard, or set at liberty, - - - - - - - 923
3, Proceedings of the Connecticut Committee of Safety, from January 26 to February 3, - 924

1776.
Feb. 3, Letter from Governour Trumbull to the President of Congress, - - - - - - 930
Jan. 12, Proclamation by Governour Trumbull for raising one thousand five hundred Men for General Lee, - - - - - - - - 931
18, Proclamation by Governour Trumbull for raising a Regiment to join the Army in Canada, 931
20, Proclamation by Governour Trumbull for raising four Regiments, to be marched forthwith to the Camp near Boston, - - - - 932
27, Proclamation by Governour Trumbull, in addition to his Proclamation of January 18, for raising a Regiment for the Army in Canada, 933
Feb. 3, Letter from James Otis to Massachusetts Council, - - - - - - - - - 1296
3, Return of General Sullivan's Brigade, February 3 and 7, - - - - - - - 935
3, Letter from General Ward to John Hancock, - 936
4, Letter from Captain Van Alstyne, at St. Eustatia, to Matthew Van Alstyne, New-York: His Vessel was taken: The Sea is full of Cruisers: Two Privateers have been fitted out at Dominica, - - - - - - - 936
4, Letter from Cuthbert Bullett to Mr. Purdie, denying the charge that he had endeavoured to injure the credit of the Money issued by the Convention of Virginia, - - - - - 936
4, Letter from Samuel Purviance to the Maryland Council of Safety, - - - - - - 937
4, Letter from the Committee of Reading to the Pennsylvania Delegates in Congress, respecting Prisoners from Canada, sent there without any previous notice, and no person with them to supply them with necessaries, - - 937
4, Petition of Guert Spt. De Wint, of the Island of St. Thomas, now at Orange Town, in the County of Orange, to the New-York Congress, - - - - - - - - 938
4, Letter from General Schuyler to the President of Congress, - - - - - - - 938
4, Letter from Robert H. Harrison to Winthrop Sargent, - - - - - - - 939
5, Manifesto of General Donald McDonald, - 983
5, Movements of the British Fleet in James River, 940
5, Committee appointed for Surry County, Virginia, - - - - - - - - - 940
5, Letter from Captain Duncan Campbell to the President of Congress, asking permission to reside at his own house, in New-York, - 940
5, Petition of the Committee of Privates of the Associators of Philadelphia, to the Committee of Safety, - - - - - - - 941
5, Letter from William Floyd to New-York Committee of Safety, - - - - - - 1115
5, John Drinker and Thomas and Samuel Fisher, convicted of refusing to receive Continental Bills of Credit by the Philadelphia Committee, declared enemies to their country, and precluded from all trade and intercourse with the Inhabitants of the Colonies, - - - 941
5, Nathaniel Blinko, of Kingwood, Hunterdon County, New-Jersey, declared an enemy to the glorious struggles for American liberty, 942
5, Letter from New-Jersey Congress to Mr. Pettit, 1584
5, Letter from New-Jersey Congress to Lord Stirling, - - - - - - - - 966
5, Letter from Lord Stirling to New-York Committee of Safety, - - - - - - 1109
5, Letter from Committee of Safety to New-York Delegates in Congress, - - - - - 1107
5, Letter from New-York Committee of Safety to Lord Stirling, - - - - - - - 1109
5, Letter from Robert Livingston to New-York Committee of Safety, - - - - - - 1117
5, Extract of a Letter from New-York to a Gentleman in Philadelphia: Generals Lee and Clinton arrived yesterday; Governour Tryon and General Clinton have both assured the Mayor that not a man is to be landed. Clinton is going to the Southward, - - - 942
5, Letter from General Lee to General Washington: His hands are tied up by the Resolve of Congress placing detachments of the Continental Forces under the command of the Provincial Congress. General Clinton says he has no Troops; has come merely to visit his friend Tryon, and is on his way to North-Carolina, - - - - - - - - 942

1776.
Feb. 5, Letter from Thomas Lynch to General Washington: Is at New-York, as one of a Committee from Congress; the strong apathy that holds Congress in fetters, is still more forcible here. At Lord Drummond's request, he encloses a Letter intended for General Robertson, - 943
5, Letter from Lord Drummond to General Robertson: From all his conversations with the gentlemen at Philadelphia, he is convinced they are seriously disposed towards a reconciliation; he has therefore pressed the setting on foot a negotiation, and is not without hopes of success, - - - - - - - 943
5, Letter from Gen. Schuyler to Governour Trumbull: Our brave little Corps before Quebeck hold their ground, and continue the blockade, 944
5, Letter from Governour Trumbull to General Washington, - - - - - - - 945
5, Letter from the Committee at Marblehead to the General Court of Massachusetts: They cannot raise the Men required of them, - - 946
5, Letter from the Heads of the St. John's Indians to the General Court of Massachusetts: The Penobscots are all of one heart, and willing to assist, with their lives, to oppose the wicked People of Old England, - - - - - 946
6, Proposition of H. Hollingsworth, of Cecil County, Maryland, to furnish any number of Muskets, from two hundred to two thousand, - 947
6, Letter from Samuel Chase to Daniel of St. Thomas Jenifer, - - - - - - 947
6, Letter from the President of Congress to General Schuyler: Operations in Canada, - - 947
6, Letter from the Provincial Congress of New-Jersey to President Hancock, nominating Field-Officers for the Third Battalion raised in that Colony, - - - - - - - 948
6, Letter from the Provincial Congress of New-Jersey to President Hancock, requesting to know if Congress had passed any Resolution permitting the sale of East-India Teas, - 948
6, Letter from Abraham Lott to the New-York Committee of Safety, desiring to be informed if he may furnish his Majesty's Ship Mercury with Provisions, - - - - - - 949
6, Application of William A. Forbes for an appointment in one of the new Battalions to be raised in New-York, - - - - - 949
7, Letter from Lord George Germaine to General Howe: His measures approved by the King, 949
7, Extract of a Letter from Charlestown, South-Carolina, to a Gentleman in Philadelphia: The troubles in the back parts of the Province have entirely subsided; the ringleaders, with about one hundred and thirty others, are taken, - - - - - - - - - 949
7, Letter from William Spear to Daniel of St. Thomas Jenifer, - - - - - - 950
7, Letter from the Philadelphia Committee to Maryland Council of Safety, offering to instruct any persons they may send in making Saltpetre, - 951
7, Letter from Lieutenant Wilkinson to the President of Congress, informing him of the conduct of Mr. Richeson, one of the British prisoners, 951
7, Address of a Religious Politician to the People in general: We are reduced to the necessity of becoming independent and entering into a war with Great Britain to preserve our privileges, - - - - - - - - - 951
7, Letter from Henry Remsen to New-York Committee of Safety, - - - - - - 1110
7, Letter from New-York Committee of Safety to Henry Remsen, - - - - - - - 1111
7, Petition of John Pell to New-York Congress, 1111
7, Petition of Margaret Graham to New-York Committee of Safety, - - - - - - 1111
7, Letter from General Lee to Governour Trumbull: Contrary to his expectations, his Troops are not only admitted into New-York, but it is determined to take strong possession of the City and its most important environs, - - 954
7, Letter from General Schuyler to the President of Congress: The Troops in Canada are deficient in almost every article of Military Stores; they will be in great want of Shoes, and none can be had there, or in Albany: the Pennsylvania Companies are without Mittens and Moccasins, - - - - - - - - 955

1776.
Feb. 7, Letter from Edward Antill to General Schuyler, - - - - - - - - - - 1132
7, Letter from Stephen Moylan to Matthew Thornton: The General wishes the acknowledgment of Colonel Stark may prove satisfactory to the Congress of New-Hampshire; but if they insist on a trial, he will order a Court-Martial, - - - - - - - - - 956
Acknowledgment of Colonel Stark, transmitted to the New-Hampshire Congress, - - 956
8, Letter from the Council of Safety of Maryland to their Delegates in Congress, - - - - 956
8, Letter from the Maryland Council of Safety to the Virginia Committee of Safety: Will cheerfully co-operate in every measure for mutual defence against the invaders of our reciprocal rights, - - - - - - - - - 957
8, Address of the New-York Committee to the Inhabitants of the neighbouring Counties and Colonies, in favour of the Poor Inhabitants of the City, who are abandoning their habitations, fearing hostilities will be commenced by the Ships-of-War in the Harbour, - - - - 958
8, Letter from Colonel Wayne to John Morton, - 958
8, Letter from Colonel John Connolly to the President of Congress, asking to be enlarged on parole, - - - - - - - - - 958
8, Application of Colonel Connolly to the Pennsylvania Committee of Safety, requesting an enlargement on such honourable terms as they think proper, - - - - - - - 959
8, Letter from Dr. Rush to Mr. Wilson: There is no remedy for Connolly's disorder but fresh air and gentle exercise, - - - - - 959
8, Major Cameron's application to Congress to be enlarged on parole, - - - - - - 959
8, Letter from Samuel Avery to the New-York Congress, asking to be appointed Lieutenant-Colonel in one of the new Battalions, - 960
8, John Wiley, John Van Winkle, John Sanford, and James Barrett, recommended for appointments, - - - - - - - - - 960
8, Address to the Army of the United States, - 960
8, Letter from General Washington to Governour Trumbull: Has heard of the arrival of some Powder and Arms in Connecticut; requests that some may be sent to the Camp, for the exigency of the Army at this particular crisis calls for much more than they have, - - 962
8, Letter from General Washington to Governour Trumbull: Cannot repay the sum advanced by Connecticut; the claims are so large and so numerous that in a few days he will be drained of every shilling; there is an alarming scarcity of Powder, and the Militia coming without a supply gives rise to the most disagreeable apprehensions, - - 962
8, Letter from James Sullivan to Perez Morton: Has raised the Men required from Biddeford, Buxton, Arundel, and Pepperelborough, - 963
8, Letter from the New-Hampshire Committee of Safety to the President of Congress: Everything that was thought expedient has been done towards raising the Regiment for Canada, - - - - - - - - - 964
8, Application of New-Hampshire to the Continental Congress for Men for the defence of their Sea-Coast, - - - - - - 964
9, Account of the sailing of the first American Fleet, - - - - - - - - - 964
9, Letter from Lord Stirling to Robert Ogden, - 1199
9, Letter from Lord Stirling to William Livingston, - - - - - - - - - 1200
9, Letter from Lord Stirling to John Blanchard, - 1200
9, Letter from General Lee to the President of Congress: A Transport has arrived at New-York with Troops, and a reinforcement is necessary, - - - - - - - 965
9, Letter from Lord Stirling to the New-York Committee of Safety, - - - - - 965
Letter from the Provincial Congress of New-Jersey to Lord Stirling: No Vessel has been licensed to export produce, but where security has been given to return the amount in Military stores, - - - - - - 966
9, Letter from R. Yates to Colonel Swartwout, directing him to march with his Regiment to New-York with all convenient despatch, - 966

1776.
Feb. 9, Petition of Samuel Jones, and others, to the New-York Congress, for the appointment of some Field-Officers from the County of Orange, - 967
9, Letter from Thomas Palmer to the New-York Congress, - - - - - - - 967
9, Connecticut Council of Safety: Proceedings from February 9, to February 28, - - 967
9, Letter from Robert H. Harrison to the Committee for Springfield, Massachusetts: It is the earnest desire of the General that the Prisoners in their hands should be treated with humanity and kindness, - - - - 973
9, Letter from Robert H. Harrison to Levi Allen: The General cannot approve of his scheme of going to England for the rescue of his brother, Colonel Allen, - - - - 973
9, Letter from Robert H. Harrison to George Gregory, a prisoner, - - - - 974
9, Letter from General Washington to President of Congress, - - - - - - 974
Letter from General Washington to General Howe, proposing an exchange of Governour Skene for Mr. James Lovell and family, - 975
Letter from General Howe to General Washington: Refuses to exchange Mr. Lovell, - 975
9, Letter from General Washington to the President of Congress, - - - - - 976
General Return of the Army, - - - 977
Return of the Regiment of Artillery, - - 977
General Orders, from February 1 to February 8, 977
10, Address of the Magistrates, &c., of the Town and Burgh of Sanquhar to the King: They abhor the seditious principles of the authors of the Rebellion in America; detest their views and the execrable measures they are pursuing, and are shocked at the shameful prostitution of the sacred names of Religion and Liberty for purposes evidently subversive of both, 980
10, Affidavit of John Reynolds, - - - 982
Proclamation by Governour Martin, declaring all such as will not join the Royal Banner Rebels and Traitors, and their lives and property forfeited, January 10, - - - 980
Commission from Governour Martin to Allan McDonald, and others, empowering each of them to erect the King's Standard, and to raise, levy, muster, and array in arms, his Majesty's faithful Subjects in their respective Counties in North-Carolina, January 10, - 981
Manifesto of General Donald McDonald, inviting all faithful Subjects to repair to his Majesty's Standard, erected at Cross-Creek, where they will meet with every possible civility, - 982
Manifesto by General Donald McDonald, Commander of his Majesty's Forces for the time being, in North-Carolina, commanding all his Majesty's loyal people to repair to the Royal Banner, agreeably to the Governour's Proclamation of January 10, - - - - 983
10, Letter from Edmund Pendleton to the Maryland Council of Safety: A fifty-gun Ship, just arrived, is lying with the Kingfisher off Old-Fort Point, below Hampton, - - 984
10, Letter from the Maryland Council of Safety to Captain Nathaniel Ramsay, - - - 983
10, Letter from the Maryland Council of Safety to the Committee for St. Mary's County, - 984
10, Letter from Dr. Weisenthall to the Maryland Council of Safety, - - - - - 984
10, Letter from George Dashiell to Maryland Council of Safety, - - - - - - 985
10, Letter from Samuel Barrett to the Maryland Council of Safety: The persons he recommended for Officers not being appointed, he cannot accept his Commission, - - - 985
10, Letter from Samuel Chase to Daniel of St. Thomas Jenifer, - - - - - - 986
10, Letter from Samuel Tucker to the President of Congress: The Third New-Jersey Battalion cannot be provided with Arms, - - - 985
10, Letter from the Committee for Elizabethtown, New-Jersey, to the President of Congress, giving an account of the capture and state of the Ship Blue-Mountain-Valley, and desiring to know what disposition shall be made of the Ship and Cargo, - - - - 987
Account of the Wages due to the Officers and Seamen, of the Blue-Mountain-Valley, - 988

1776.
List of the Officers and Men, of Elizabethtown, who took the Blue-Mountain-Valley, - - 989
Feb. 10, Letter from New-York Committee of Safety to Committee for Westchester County, - - 1120
10, Letter from New-York Committee of Safety to New-Jersey Provincial Congress, - - 1120
10, Letter from General Schuyler to the President of Congress, - - - - - - 990
Paper delivered to General Schuyler by Mr. Fraser, a Judge of the Common Pleas, sent from Montreal, a prisoner, - - - 991
10, Letter from General Wooster to Colonel Bayley, 1501
10, Letter from General Washington to Joseph Reed, - - - - - - - - 993
10, Letter from General Washington to the New-York Committee of Safety, earnestly requesting them to procure and send him some Arms, 994
10, Letter from General Washington to the General Court of Massachusetts: The deficiency in Arms is so great that he begs some means may be adopted to procure a supply, - - 995
10, Orders to Colonel Porter to complete his Regiment, and to march by the shortest and best way to Canada, - - - - - 995
10, Letter from Robert H. Harrison to Major French, - - - - - - - 996
10, Letter from the New-Hampshire Committee of Safety to Colonel Morey, - - - - 996
Jan. 10, Letter from New-Hampshire Committee of Safety to their Delegates in Congress, enclosing a representation of the taking up Government, - - - - - - - 996
Letter from the Committee of Safety of New-Hampshire to the Congress, with an account of their proceedings respecting the assuming Government, - - - - - - - 997
Resolutions of the Provincial Congress for assuming Government, January 5, - - 998
Protest of the Representatives of several Towns against the present plan of taking up Government, - - - - - - - - - 999
Feb. 11, Letter from William Smith to General Howe: New-York is the only spot in America for carrying on the war with effect against the Rebels, and it is advisable to send an Army through the Sound, between Connecticut and Long-Island, - - - - - - - 1000
11, Letter from General Lee to the President of Congress: The Guns were removed from the Battery without show of opposition from the Ships. The salvation or perdition of America, in a great measure, depends upon the management or mismanagement of Canada. Colonel Richmere, if questioned particularly, will give information as to the state of the Army, the Artillery, and the reputed abilities and popularity of the principal Officers there, 1000
11, Letter from General Wooster to the President of Congress: Complains of the conduct of General Schuyler: Has requested Mr. Walker and Mr. Price to wait upon Congress, to give every necessary information as to the true state of affairs in Canada, - - - - 1001
Letter from General Wooster to General Schuyler: Condition of affairs in Canada, - - 1002
Letter from General Schuyler to General Wooster: Insists upon obedience to his orders, - 1003
Letter from General Wooster to General Schuyler: Conduct of the Prisoners, - - - 1004
Letter from General Wooster to General Schuyler: He is about establishing Committees of Safety and Correspondence at Montreal, - 1005
Letter from General Wooster to General Schuyler: Sends him General Montgomery's papers, 1006
Letter from General Wooster to General Schuyler: Will let Congress decide between them, 1007
11, Letter from Rufus Putnam to General Washington, with a Chart of some of the most important Posts in and near Boston, - - 1008
12, Memorial of West-India Planters and Merchants, presented to Lord George Germaine, 1008
12, Letter from Maryland Council of Safety to William Spear, - - - - - - - 1009
12, Letter from Maryland Council of Safety to their Delegates in Congress: Three Companies have been sent to the assistance of the Counties of Accomack and Northampton, in Virginia; two have reached their destination, - 1009

1776.
Feb. 12, Letter from Stephen West to Gabriel Duvall, respecting Powder and Gun-Locks, - - - 1009
12, Letter from the Committee appointed to collect Specie, to the Maryland Council of Safety: They must have Money in hand to exchange for Specie, - - - - - - - - 1010
12, Letter from Colonel Hollingsworth to the Maryland Council of Safety, - - - - - 1010
12, Letter from George Stricker to the Maryland Council of Safety, - - - - - - 1010
12, Letter from John Harrison, Jun., to the Maryland Council of Safety, - - - - - 1011
12, Letter from Thomas Ewing to the Maryland Council of Safety, - - - - - - 1011
12, Letter from William Neil to Charles Carroll, asking permission to send a Vessel to St. Croix, 1011
12, Chester County, Pennsylvania, Committee, appoint persons to learn the making of Saltpetre, 1012
12, Letter from President Hancock to the New-Jersey Congress, requesting them to send a Battalion of Minute-Men to New-York, to be under the command of General Lee, - - 1013
12, Letter from the President of Congress to General Lee, - - - - - - - - 1013
12, An earnest Appeal to the People: The whole scene appears rapidly advancing towards Independence, as hastily as Infinite Wisdom thinks proper to conduct it, - - - - 1013
12, Letter from the Field-Officers of the Third Jersey Battalion to the President of Congress, for Arms, 1015
12, Letter from Samuel Bayard to John McKesson: Finds himself a close prisoner, with the Records, and asks to be placed upon his parole, 1016
12, Application of Robert R. Randall for an appointment in one of New-York Regiments, - 1016
12, Letter from General Arnold to the President of Congress: The whole force of the Army before Quebeck is about eight hundred effective men, - - - - - - - 1017
12, Letter from Governour Trumbull to General Washington: He is greatly concerned for the scarcity of Powder, and, although the Colony has not half a sufficiency, will furnish what has lately arrived, - - - - - 1017
12, Letter from Robert H. Harrison to William Bartlett, - - - - - - - - 1018

NEW-YORK COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Jan. 3, Colonel Pierre Van Cortlandt chosen Chairman, 1017
Nicholas Low offers to furnish four hundred and sixty-five quarter-casks of Gunpowder, - 1017
Letter to the Committee of Elizabethtown, informing them that the Powder so kindly lent, on a former occasion, is now returned, - 1018
Colonel McDougall's arrangements to meet the Vessel from Hispaniola with Gunpowder approved, - - - - - - - - 1019
Letter to the Continental Congress, with Mr. Romans's plan for fortifying Hudson River, 1019
William Lowther permitted to supply one hogshead of Rum to his Majesty's Ship Phenix, - 1020
4, Letter to the Chairmen of the respective Committees of the several Counties, informing them that the General Assembly is dissolved, and that writs are made out for electing Representatives on the 14th of next month. This intelligence is sent, that the friends of liberty may not be taken by surprise, - - - 1020
Letter to the Continental Congress, submitting to that body the propriety of shipping two cargoes of Flaxseed to Ireland, to purchase Powder, 1021
Petition of Thomas Place, of Queen's County, requesting to be restored to the good opinion of those who are friends to the liberties of the Continent, - - - - - - - 1021
A like Petition of Gabriel Van Cott, - - 1022
Field-Officers for the Upper Regiment of the Militia of Cumberland County, - - - 1022
Field-Officers of the Minute-Men for Cumberland County, - - - - - - - 1022
Cumberland, Charlotte, and Gloucester Counties requested to join in the nomination of a Brigadier-General of Militia, - - - - 1022
Committee of Cumberland County requested to return a List of the Company and Staff-Officers of the Militia, - - - - - - 1022

1776.
Field-Officers for the Lower Regiment of Cumberland County to be nominated by the Committee at a full meeting, - - - - - 1022
Jan. 5, Field-Officers of Regiment of Minute-Men in Orange County, - - - - - - 1023
Letter from Samuel Stevens, dated Charlestown, Cumberland County, December 18, with nomination of Field-Officers for the Lower Regiment, - - - - - - 1024
Letter to William Smith, Chairman of Suffolk County Committee, with forty quarter-casks of Powder, for the use of the County, - - 1024
Letter to Thomas Wickes, Chairman of Committee at Huntington, relating to the same Powder, - - - - - - - - - 1025
Colonels of the different Regiments of Militia of the City of New-York requested to attend the Committee on Thursday next, - - - 1025
6, Congress having refused to make the Loan requested by this Colony, an emission of Paper Money to be prepared immediately, - - 1025
Committee directed to despatch three Vessels for Ammunition and Medicines, - - - 1026
Artillery Company ordered to be raised for the defence of the Colony, - - - - - 1026
Notes of information given by Captain John Hodge, who arrived last night from Lisbon, 1027
8, Letter to the absent Members of the Provincial Congress, urging their prompt attendance on the first of February, to counteract the measures of the Governour, who has called a new Assembly, - - - - - - - - 1028
9, Arrest and confinement of Lawrence Hartwick ordered, - - - - - - - - - 1030
Letter to the Committee of Cumberland County, on the difficulties in that County, - - 1031
10, Letter to Lord Stirling, requesting him not to use Mr. Governeur's Vessel to seize the despatches on board of Captain Cooper, - - 1031
Thomas Merritt, of Westchester County, examined and discharged, - - - - - 1032
Leave of absence granted to Dr. Paul Spooner to return to Cumberland County, - - - 1033
11, Letter from the Delegates in Congress, dated January 5, approving of their measures respecting the Connecticut inroad for seizing Rivington's Types, and informing them that Congress declines lending them forty-five thousand Pounds, - - - - - - 1033
Colonels Lasher, Heyer, and Lott, attended, to give information in regard to their Battalions: The first two are well armed and equipped, and have performed heavy duty, the least share of which is borne by the most wealthy, 1035
Letter to General Schuyler, complaining of the conduct of the Paymaster in his Department, 1036
Letter to Robert R Livingston, recommending to his attention the re-erection of the Powder-Mills of the late Justice Livingston, - - 1037
Letter to Peter R. Livingston, requesting his attendance, - - - - - - - - 1037
Letter to the Delegates in Congress, requesting immediate provision for the payment of the Troops employed on the Fortifications in the Highlands, - - - - - - - - 1038
12, Letter to the Delegates in Congress, suggesting a change in the manner of appointing Militia Officers, - - - - - - - - - 1039
Christian Jacobson, of Richmond County, informed the Committee that a majority of the Inhabitants of the County were not averse, but friendly, to the measures of Congress, - 1040
Interdiction of the Provincial Congress against Delinquents in Richmond County, delayed until Monday, the 22d instant, - - - 1040
Further Resolutions respecting Richmond County, - - - - - - - - 1040
Affidavits as to the ill conduct and threatenings of Samuel Devine, - - - - - - 1040
On application from the Committee of Huntington, they are instructed not to permit Captain Swaim to complete his Cargo, but to permit him to depart on his voyage, - - - 1042
13, Prisoners in the Guard-House brought before the Committee and heard, - - - - - 1043
William Weyman, of Westchester County, reprimanded, and charged to tarry at home and behave prudently, - - - - - - 1043

1776.
Thomas Service admonished for his bad conduct, and discharged, - - - - - - 1043
Examination of Witnesses against Lawrence Hartwick, - - - - - - - 1043
Azor Betts sent to Ulster County, to be there confined in close Jail, - - - - - - 1044
Robert Simmons to be sent in fetters to Ulster County Jail, and there kept in close confinement, - - - - - - - - - 1044
Jan. 15, Captain Austin Laurence sent to the Narrows to look out for the Fleet from Boston, - 1045
Captain Dobbs sent to the Light-House for the same purpose, - - - - - - 1045
Pilots prohibited from bringing in any Ministerial Armed Vessel, - - - - - - 1045
Letter from the Delegates in Congress, informing them that there is no probability that the Congress will agree to the exportation of Flaxseed to Ireland, - - - - - 1045
Resolutions of the Continental Congress, delivered to the Committee by Philip Livingston, - 1046
Draft of the Soundings of the most likely place to obstruct the navigation to the City, presented and examined, - - - - - - 1050
Alexander Leslie to be arrested and confined, - 1050
16, Captain Jacob Mott, Jackson Mott, and Seaman Weeks, of Queen's County, on their Petition, restored to the confidence of their countrymen, - - - - - - - - - 1050
Instructions to the Commissioners for the Fortifications on Hudson River, - - - 1051
17, Encouragement for the making of Saltpetre in the Colony, - - - - - - - 1052
Letter to General Schuyler, - - - - 1053
Letter to Lord Stirling, requesting him not to disturb the People of Staten-Island, - - 1054
Letter from Peter R. Livingston, - - 1054
18, Garret Roorback appointed Barrackmaster for the City and County of New-York, - - 1055
Letter to James Livingston, - - - - 1055
Alexander Leslie examined, and permitted to go at large on his parole, - - - - - 1056
19, Letter to Captain Raymond, at the Fortification in the Highlands, - - - - - 1056
Letter to the Commissioners in the Highlands, directing them to despatch half a ton of Gunpowder to General Schuyler, - - - 1057
Letter to the Committee of Albany, - - 1057
20, Colonel McDougall directed to take charge of the Cannon above King's Bridge, and have them prepared for use with all possible despatch, - - - - - - - - - 1058
Depositions and Examinations relating to the Sloop Polly and Ann, from New-York, bound for Boston, and stranded on Squam Beach, - 1058
Committee informed that General Lee is at New-Haven, raising Troops, on his way to New-York, - - - - - - - - 1060
Letter to the Continental Congress, - - 1060
21, Letter to General Lee, informing him that the Inhabitants of the City are much alarmed at the various confident advices of his destination with a body of Troops, for active service in New-York, - - - - - - - 1062
Joseph Woolcombe, Mate of the Blue-Mountain-Valley, and Captain William Dobbs, the Pilot at the Light-House, arrested by the City Guard, and brought before the Committee, - 1063
22, Letter from Thomas Grenell, of January 19th, with an account of the progress in the Fortifications at the Highlands, - - - - - 1064
Account of the expense of the intended Battery, 1065
Letter from Lord Stirling, of January 20th, requesting the Arms that are finished may be delivered to Major De Hart, - - - 1065
Letter to Lord Stirling, informing him that the Men-of-War had despatched a Pilot-Boat with a relief for the Ship at the Hook, - - 1065
Hart Jacobs, a Jew, exempted from military duty on the City Watch on Friday nights, - - 1065
Sloop purchased by Colonel McDougall, to be made an Armed Vessel, - - - - - 1065
Letter to the Continental Congress, recommending the immediate equipping of three other Vessels to protect their Coast, and prevent Supplies to the enemy, - - - - - 1066
Examination of Joseph Woolcombe, Mate of the Blue-Mountain-Valley, - - - - - 1067

1776.
Letter to Colonel Graham, requesting him to place a Guard over the Cannon near King's Bridge, - - - - - - - - - 1067
Jan. 23, John Hallet appointed Chairman *pro tempore* of the Committee, - - - - - - 1068
John Fowler, charged with spiking the Cannon near King's Bridge, examined, and ordered to the Upper Barracks, - - - - - 1068
Lieutenant Allen, of the Light-Horse, sent with a Guard to Mamaroneck, to apprehend William Lownsberry and his accomplices, charged with spiking the Guns, - - - - - 1068
Joseph Woolcombe further examined, and discharged; permit given him to go on board either of the Men-of-War in the Harbour unmolested, - - - - - - - - 1069
Letter from the Richmond County Committee, dated the 19th instant: Two Members to represent that County in the Provincial Congress were elected on that day, - - - - 1069
Godfrey Hains to be sent in fetters, under guard, to Ulster County Jail, to be there confined in safe and secure custody, - - - - - 1070
Letter to the Committee for Ulster County, with instructions respecting the safe keeping of John Blackler, Azor Betts, and Godfrey Hains, - 1070
Letter to Thomas Grenell, respecting the Fortifications in the Highlands, - - - - 1071
24, Letter to Committees and Militia Officers, requiring their assistance to Captain Van Wyck, sent with the Prisoners to Ulster County, - 1071
One thousand Pounds placed in the hands of John Ramsey and Isaac Stoutenburg, to employ the industrious Poor in spinning and making manufactures, - - - - - 1072
Lieutenant Allen, returned with William Lownsberry a prisoner, - - - - - - 1072
William Lownsberry, after examination, ordered to be shackled and manacled, hands and feet, and confined at the Upper Barracks, - 1072
John Fowler discharged, - - - - - 1072
Representation by the Committee for the City, that the Military Night-Watch is not to be trusted, and recommending the raising a Regiment to guard the City, - - - - - 1072
Letter from the President of Congress of the 12th instant, giving information of the measures of Congress for reinforcing the Army in Canada, - - - - - - - - - 1073
Letter from the President of Congress, dated January 20, enclosing sundry Resolutions of Congress, - - - - - - - - 1074
Letter from General Lee, dated January 23, in answer to the Letter of the Committee of the 21st, - - - - - - - - - 1075
Letter to Colonel Drake, directing him to examine all persons suspected of any connection with Lownsberry in spiking the Cannon, - 1076
Letter from Joseph French, of Jamaica, Queen's County, of this date, - - - - - 1077
Lawrence Hartwick released, upon security that he will be of good behaviour to all the friends of liberty in this City, - - - - - 1077
William Mercier appointed to inspect all Permits to Vessels to lade in this Port, - - - 1077
25, Permit given for the Schooner Success to sail, laden by Francis Lewis, on Continental account, - - - - - - - - - 1078
Resolutions of the Committee of Poundridge, in Westchester, prohibiting the transportation, by land or water, of any Cattle to New-York, disapproved, - - - - - - - 1078
Letter to Lord Stirling respecting Arms, - 1079
Samuel Isleton appointed in place of William Dobbs, stationed at the Hook, to keep a look-out for Ships-of-War, - - - - - 1079
Letter to Robert Livingston, requesting to know if he can cast Cannon and Shot, - - 1080
26, Letter to the Committee of each County, requesting to be informed what number of Men can be raised in each County, and who would be proper for Officers, - - - - - 1081
Instructions for the inlistment of four new Battalions in the Continental service, for the defence of the Colony of New-York, - - 1081
Letter from Colonel Drake: Has found none of the suspected persons, but is informed several are in New-York, - - - - - - 1082

1776.
Isaac Purdy, William Armstrong, William Sutton, and James Lownsberry, ordered to be arrested, - - - - - - - - - 1083
Jan. 27, Captain Leary, with his Company of Light-Horse, to hold themselves ready to escort General Lee to the City, - - - - - 1083
John Flood, Joseph Purdy, William Sutton, and William Armstrong, severally examined about spiking the Cannon, and discharged, - - 1083
28, Letter from the Committee for Westchester County, January 26, giving information about spiking the Cannon, - - - - - 1084
Letter from the Sub-Committee for Westchester County, January 27, giving further information, - - - - - - - - - 1085
Letter from Lord Stirling, January 26, with a list of the Stores in the Blue-Mountain-Valley, 1085
29, Joshua Gidney examined, and ordered into custody in irons, - - - - - - - 1086
Colonel Lasher and his Officers decline entering the Continental service on the terms offered, - 1086
William Lownsberry and Isaac Gidney re-examined and recommitted, - - - - - 1087
Letter to Colonel Drake, directing him to apprehend, and send, under guard, Josiah Burrell, William Hains, James Hains, Jun., Thomas Hains, Isaac Gidney, and Joseph Purdy, all of Westchester County, and concerned in spiking the Cannon, - - - - - - 1089
Letter to the Officer of the Guard at King's Bridge, directing him to arrest Isaac Valentine, - - - - - - - - - 1089
30, George Shannon, and one Ross, brought before the Committee, with a number of Proclamations, Papers, and Pamphlets, given them by Governour Tryon, examined and discharged, 1089
Letter to Colonel Heard, requesting him to release Jacob Mott, of Queen's County, and permit him to retain his Arms, - - - 1089
Letter from Jonathan Blake, commanding the Cannon-Guard beyond King's Bridge: He has sent Mr. Valentine, his Son, and Journeyman, under guard, - - - - - - 1090
Isaac Valentine, Isaac Valentine, Jun., and William Dickin, examined, - - - - - 1090
31, Letter from Colonel James McClaughry, Ulster County: His men cannot appear properly equipped, for want of Ammunition, - - 1091
Letter from the Delegates in Congress: A Committee will repair immediately to New-York, to inquire into the expediency of General Lee's expedition, - - - - - - 1091
Committee appointed to confer with the Committee from the Continental Congress, - - 1092
Agreement with Mr. Allen, to remove, clear, and unspike the Guns near King's Bridge, - 1093
Letter to the Delegates in Continental Congress. 1094
Letter to General Schuyler: The new Regiment for Canada, under Colonel Van Schaick, must, for the most evident reasons, be raised in the Northern quarter, - - - - - - 1094
Feb. 1, Joseph Purdy, sent down by an Officer of the Guard at King's Bridge, examined, and committed, - - - - - - - - - 1095
Letter from General Washington, dated January 8, - - - - - - - - - 1095
Report of the Committee appointed to confer with the Committee of the Continental Congress, - 1096
Notes of the Conference with the Committee from Congress, taken in the Committee Chamber, - 1096
Motion of Mr. Sands, that General Lee's Troops, now on their march from Connecticut, be stopped, rejected, - - - - - - 1096
Motion of Mr. Scott, that General Lee's Troops be admitted to come into the City, and lodged in the Barracks, carried in the affirmative, - 1096
Letter from Thomas Palmer, dated January 25th, 1097
Letter from the Delegates in Congress, dated January 30: The privilege asked for by Mr. Foster cannot be granted, - - - - - 1097
Letter from the Committee of Kingston, in Ulster County, dated January 27: The Prisoners sent by Captain Van Wyck have been received, - - - - - - - 1098
Letter from the Committee of the Congress: They cannot consent that the Troops commanded by General Lee shall be under the entire direction of the Committee of Safety, - 1098
1776.
Letter from Colonel Waterbury, on the same subject: He has no authority to give up the entire direction of the Troops to the Committee, without orders from the General, - - 1098
An immediate Conference with the Committee from the Congress requested, - - - 1098
Report by Mr. Sands, one of the Sub-Committee appointed by the Provincial Congress, to freight a Vessel to the West-Indies to procure Arms and Ammunition, - - - - - 1099
Conference of the Committee of the Continental Congress with the Committee of Safety, - 1100
Feb. 2, Letter from Colonel Drake: He has arrested and sent forward Joseph Burrell, Thomas Hains, and Isaac Gidney, - - - - - 1101
Joseph Burrell, Isaac Gidney, and Thomas Hains, brought in, examined, and committed prisoners to the Barracks, - - - - - 1101
3, Application from the City Committee for information as to the exportation of Flaxseed, - - 1102
Thomas Vernon and Guerney Ten Eyck brought prisoners to the door, by several of the Inhabitants, examined, and Vernon committed to the Guard-House at the Barracks, - 1103
Report of Samuel Isleton, the Pilot at the Hook: A large Ship came in yesterday, and another this morning, assisted by Pilots from Francis James's Pilot-Boat, - - - - - - 1104
Letter to the Committee of Stamford, Connecticut, requesting them to receive and forward two Brass Guns sent by this Committee to the Camp at Cambridge, - - - - - 1104
4, Hugh Wallace and the Mayor requested to attend the Committee, - - - - - - 1105
John Atherton, a Pilot, examined, and sent back to the Guard-House, - - - - - 1105
Mr. Wallace attended, and says he was on board the Governour's Ship, but has no information of Troops from Boston: is to go on board again this afternoon, and if he hears any thing of importance to the City, will inform of it, - 1105
Mr. Mayor says he knows nothing but what he heard on the Bridge; is to wait on the Governour to-morrow; if he hears of any thing necessary for the safety of the City, he will make the best use of it, - - - - - 1106
William Fundrau directed to proceed to the Narrows, and Samuel Isleton to the Hook, to keep a good look-out if any Fleet is approaching, 1106
Colonel Mc Dougall sent to wait on General Lee, 1106
Jacobus Van Zandt informed the Committee that General Clinton has arrived, - - 1106
Committees of the Continental Congress, the Provincial Congress, and the Committee of Safety, wait on General Lee, to confer with him on the present situation of affairs, - - 1106
Mr. Mayor attends, and states that he had waited on the Governour, and saw General Clinton there, and both declared no Troops were coming here, - - - - - - - 1106
Letter to the Delegates in Congress, informing them of the arrival of General Clinton, of the Ministerial Troops, and of General Lee, - 1107
The three City Regiments ordered to parade to-morrow, to ascertain the state and number of each, - - - - - - - - - 1107
Colonel Brasher enjoined not to attend duty with his Regiment to-night, - - - - 1107
5, Conference with General Lee, - - - 1108
Letter from William Smith, Chairman of the Committee of Suffolk County, requesting a Detachment of Continental Troops may be stationed there, - - - - - - - 1108
Officers of Minute-Men and Artillery for Suffolk County, - - - - - - - - 1109
6, Letter from Lord Stirling, requesting five thousand Cartridges, - - - - - - 1109
Letter to Lord Stirling, in reply: They will send the Cartridges, on being informed of the size wanted, - - - - - - - 1109
Minutes of a Conference at General Lee's, - 1109
7, Many Members of the Provincial Congress attended, but not sufficient to make a Congress, 1110
Committee of Safety adjourned to Simmons's, without separating, - - - - - - 1110
Samuel Bayard attended, and allowed till to-morrow afternoon to give his opinion as to the safety of the Publick Records, - - - 1110

1776.
Letter from Henry Remsen, Chairman of the City Committee, for instructions about complying with an application to send Spirits, Coffee, and Chocolate, on board the Asia, - - 1110
Letter to Mr. Remsen, in reply: It is necessary to know by whom the application was made, before they can give any directions, - - 1111
Petition of John Pell, - - - - - - 1111
Petition of Margaret Graham, - - - 1111
Feb. 8, Mr. Bayard informed the Committee that the Governour considers the Records safe where they are; but he is willing to charter any Ship in the Harbour, and deposite the Records therein, where they should be kept in safety for the Publick, - - - - - - 1112
Letter from General Schuyler, dated January 25, 1113
Letter from Colonel Ritzema, dated January 3: Account of the attack on Quebeck, and the destitute condition of the Army, - - - 1113
Letter from Colonel Ritzema, dated January 5, 1115
Letter from John R. Livingston, dated January 27: His Powder-Mill is finished, but is idle for want of Saltpetre, - - - - - 1115
Letter from William Floyd, dated February 5, 1115
Letter from Thomas Thomas, Chairman of the Committee at White-Plains: The Powder sent them should be a Provincial charge; they think it hard to be required to purchase Powder for the defence of the Province in general, - - - - - - - - 1116
9, General Lee is authorized, if he thinks more Troops necessary, to call in Minute-Men of this Colony, but not to send to Pennsylvania for a Regiment, - - - - - - 1116
10, Letter from Colonel Robert Livingston, dated the 5th instant: His Furnace will be in blast early in April; but does not know whether they can cast Cannon, - - - - - 1117
Letter from Egbert Benson, Chairman of Dutchess County Committee: Timothy Doughty having shown a disposition inimical to the cause of liberty, has been committed to Jail, 1118
John Carleton, the Pilot, examined and discharged, - - - - - - - 1118
Colonel Heard attended the Committee, and requests, as the Provincial Congress is not convened, they will take charge of the Prisoners he has brought from Queen's County, - 1119
Jacob Mott discharged; Benjamin Whitehead, Joseph French, John Polhemus, Nathaniel Moor, Samuel Hallet, William Weyman, John Shoals, John Willet, Charles Hicks, Samuel Martin, Thomas Smith, David Brooks, and John Townshend, to be confined under guard, at their own expense, - 1119
Letter to the Committee of Westchester, requesting them to prevent the sale of Beef or Pork to any person residing out of the Colony, - 1120
John Graham released on bonds to be of good behaviour towards all the friends of liberty in America, - - - - - - - - 1120
Letter to the Provincial Congress of New-Jersey, requesting them to send Colonel Heard with his Regiment for the protection of Staten-Island, - - - - - - - - 1120
Peter T. Curtenius directed to furnish what General Lee may require for the use of the Continental Army, - - - - - - - 1121
11, The removal of the Cannon on and near the Battery, both in its design and execution, being without the consent and knowledge of the Committee, and may bring on a firing from the Ships-of-War, the Publick Records, together with Samuel Bayard, are ordered to be removed under guard to a place of security, 1122
Committee to make a list of the empty Houses in the City, for the accommodation of the Troops expected by General Lee, - - - 1123
Letter to the Committee of Elizabethtown, New-Jersey, requesting them to send Militia for the protection of Staten-Island, - - - 1123
12, General Lee's order to permit persons to pass to the Governour's Ship, - - - - - 1123
Nicholas Lord permitted to load two Vessels with Flaxseed and Lumber, - - - 1123
Colonel Curtenius directed to supply General Lee with Provisions, - - - - - 1124
Applications for Military appointments, - - 1124

1776.
CORRESPONDENCE, PROCEEDINGS, ETC.
Feb. 13, Letter from Arthur Lee [to Benjamin Franklin:] A fund for necessary expenses should be placed in London, in faithful hands; the New-England men are fittest to be trusted in any dangerous or important enterprise, - 1125
13, Letter from Arthur Lee: The Ministry, if every thing favours them, may have about thirty thousand Men in America by the 1st of June; they have found it impossible to recruit in England, Ireland, or Scotland, and have been obliged to draft from other Regiments to complete those which are going, - 1125
14, Letter from Arthur Lee: Lord Cornwallis, with six Regiments, is to sail immediately for Virginia, where Clinton is to take command; they have certain assurances of being joined by the Scotch in Virginia, and those on the borders of North-Carolina, under the command of one McDonald. Howe, with a Fleet of seventy-two sail, is to get possession of New-York and Hudson's River, and cut off all North and South communication, - - 1127
13, Letter from Governour Wright to James Mackay: Arrived at Tybee yesterday morning, and, after a full conversation with the Officers, is able to affirm there will be no hostilities against the Province, - - - 1128
13, Extract of a Letter from Newbern, North-Carolina: Information has been received that the Tories and Regulators intend marching to Cross-Creek, and thence to Cape Fear, - 1129
13, Manifesto by Thomas Rutherford, Colonel of the Cumberland, North-Carolina, Militia, requiring his Majesty's faithful Subjects to repair to the Royal Standard at Cross-Creek before the 16th instant, or they will be treated as Rebels, - - - - - - - 1129
13, Field-Officers appointed by the District for the Counties of Caroline, Spottsylvania, King George, and Stafford, - - - - - 1129
13, Letter from William Lux to the Maryland Council of Safety, - - - - - 1130
13, Petition of William Dusenberry to New-York Congress, to be appointed Surgeon to one of the Battalions, - - - - - - 1130
13, Letter from Abraham Godwin to the New-York Congress, - - - - - - - 1130
13, Letter from Egbert Dumond to John McKesson: Will have no objection to the appointment of Lieutenant-Colonel, - - - - - - 1131
13, Letter from General Schuyler to the President of Congress: Near thirty Oneidas and Mohawks have delivered him a Speech, and asked leave to go to Niagara and bring Colonel Butler home, - - - - - - - 1131
Letter from Edward Antill to General Schuyler: Is alarmed and shocked to hear of the great confusion and irregularity at Montreal, as so much depends upon immediate relief in Canada, 1132
12, Letter from General Schuyler to Colonel Warner, desiring to know how many of his Men will remain in service during the campaign, - 1132
13, Letter from General Wooster to the President of Congress: The Ministry will send a great force to Canada in the Spring: Quebeck must be taken before May; we have neither proper Artillery nor Ammunition to make the attempt, - - - - - - - - 1132
13, Letter from Edward Mott to Governour Trumbull, - - - - - - - - 1133
13, Letter from Robert H. Harrison to James Warren, requesting that the parole of Captain William Wood may be enlarged, - - 1133
Letter from Captain Wood to Mr. Harrison, asking an enlargement of his parole, - - 1133
14, Letter from P. Begozzat to the New-Hampshire Committee of Safety, offering his services in procuring what may be required for the Colonies at Martinico, - - - 1143
14, Letter from the Council of Safety of Maryland to the Talbot County Committee, - - 1135
14, Letter from the Maryland Council of Safety to Captains Kent and Henry, - - - 1135
14, Letter from the Maryland Council of Safety to William Hindman, Treasurer of the Eastern Shore, - - - - - - - - 1135

1776.
Feb. 14, Letter from Colonel Smallwood to the Maryland Council of Safety, - - - - - - 1136
14, Thoughts on Government, by John Adams, - 1136
14, Letter from John Adams to James Warren: Scarcely a Paper is published in Philadelphia, without speculations in open vindication of opinions, that, five months ago, were said to be unpopular, - - - - - - 1140
14, Acknowledgment and Concession of Thomas Austin, of Philadelphia, - - - - - 1141
14, Salus Populi to the Freemen of the Province of Pennsylvania, in favor of Independence, - 1141
14, Letter from a Gentleman of publick character in New-Jersey to his Friend in Massachusetts: The conduct of General Washington has justified his expectations; the Army kept in excellent order; the country fully satisfied; human blood spared; and yet our enemies are in the most disgraceful situation, - - 1144
14, Letter from General Lee to General Washington, 1144
14, Letter from General Schuyler to General Washington, - - - - - - - 1146
14, Letter from Samuel Mott to Governour Trumbull, on the defences necessary for New-London, Stonington, &c., - - - - - 1146
14, Letter from Governour Trumbull to General Schuyler, - - - - - - - 1147
14, Letter from Robert H. Harrison to Christopher Leffingwell, - - - - - - - 1147
14, Letter from General Washington to the President of Congress: He has declined sending the Letter of Lord Drummond to General Howe, and sends it to Congress for their direction, - - - - - - - - 1148
Letter from Lord Drummond to General Robertson, dated February 5, - - - 1149
Report of Aaron Willard and Moses Child to General Washington, of the disposition of the Inhabitants, condition of the Fortifications, &c., of the Province of Nova-Scotia, - - 1149
General Orders, from February 9 to February 14, - - - - - - - - - 1150
14, Letter from John Langdon to Meshech Weare: Has just received information of the arrival of one of the Vessels in the Continental service with sixty tons of Saltpetre, thirteen tons of Powder, and thirteen hundred stand of good Arms, - - - - - - - - - 1152
15, Letter from the Maryland Council of Safety to Colonel Veazy, directing him to purchase the whole of the Powder imported by Nathaniel Rumsey, - - - - - - - - - 1152
15, Letter from the Maryland Council of Safety to the Baltimore Committee, desiring to know what Sulphur has been bought or obtained in Baltimore County, - - - - - 1152
15, Letter from Gustavus Scott to Daniel of St. Thomas Jenifer, - - - - - - 1152
15, Letter from the Continental Congress to the Provincial Congress of New-Jersey, - - 1592
15, Extract of a Letter from Philadelphia to a Gentleman in London: Many People here are heartily tired of our great men's knight-errantry; the Congress will not find so many friends as they imagine when the King's Troops appear, - - - - - - 1153
15, Provincial Congress of New-Jersey order a Battalion of Minute-Men to proceed to New-York, - - - - - - - - - 1153
15, Letter from John Blanchard to Lord Stirling, 1200
15, Notice of the Meeting of a few Members of the General Assembly at New-York, - - 1153
15, Letter from Colonel Waterbury to the President of Congress, requesting pay for the Regiment raised by him in January to go on an expedition against the Tories on Long-Island, - 1154
15, Letter from Colonel Curtenius to the New-York Congress, - - - - - - - 1154
15, Application of Joseph Blanchard to the New-York Congress for permission to go on the Governour's Ship, - - - - - - 1154
15, Letter from R. Thurman to the New-York Congress, requesting as high a rank in the Army as they think he can fill with propriety, - 1154
15, Letter from Samuel Thompson to the New-York Congress, with a draft and description of the East and West Harbours of Brookhaven, Suffolk County, - - - - - 1155

1776.
Feb. 15, Letter from William Bedlow to John Berrien, for information about a Fortress to be erected at the Highlands, - - - - - 1155
15, Letter from General Wooster to General Schuyler, - - - - - - - - - 1218
15, Letter from General Schuyler to the President of Congress: Niagara should be in our possession, in order to secure all the Indians. Two Regiments, under an active Officer, would be sufficient for the business, - - 1156
15, Letter from General Washington to Governour Trumbull, - - - - - - - 1157
15, Letter from Colonel Huntington to Governour Trumbull, - - - - - - - 1157
15, Letter from James Otis to the Massachusetts Council, - - - - - - - - 1158
15, Letter from Stephen Moylan to the Massachusetts Council, requesting that the Powder sent to Major Thompson may be lent or sold for the use of the United Colonies, - - - 1158
16, Extract of a Letter from Barbadoes to a Gentleman in London: The Men-of-War seize every American Vessel they meet with, - - 1158
16, Letter from Colonel McIntosh to General Washington, informing him of the state of affairs in Georgia, - - - - - - - - 1159
Test subscribed by the Officers of the Battalion raised for the protection and defence of Georgia before they received their Commissions, - 1160
Return of the Officers of the Battalion, - - 1160
16, Letter from the Maryland Council of Safety to the Pennsylvania Committee of Safety, - 1161
16, Letter from Andrew Beall to the Maryland Council of Safety, for Powder and Lead from the stock at Bladensburgh, - - - - 1161
16, Letter from C. Beatty to the Maryland Council of Safety, - - - - - - - 1161
16, Letter from Robert Alexander to the Maryland Council of Safety: Patriotism sinks before private interest; and there are many men in Philadelphia who rank themselves in that class, generally exacting the most from the necessity of the country; hence the publick is plundered, - - - - - - - 1161
16, List of the Committee for the City and Liberties of Philadelphia, elected to serve for six months ensuing, - - - - - - - - 1162
16, Letter from Colonel Heard to the New-York Congress: He is on Staten-Island, with seven hundred men, waiting their further instructions, - - - - - - - - 1163
16, Letter from Philip Brooks to the New-York Congress, asking a Commission, - - 1163
16, Letter from Governour Trumbull to General Washington: Sends two tons more of Powder, which is all that possibly can be spared from the Colony, - - - - - - - 1163
16, Letter from the Massachusetts Council to Northampton Committee, - - - - - - 1308
16, Cosmopolitan to the Inhabitants of the American Colonies; No. 8, - - - - - - 1164
17, Letter from Andrew Symmer to Governour Penn, with a Petition from the Inhabitants of Turk's Island, - - - - - - - 1166
17, Extract of a Letter from Norfolk, Virginia, to a Gentleman in Scotland: The Rebels are in the deepest distress, being divested of Clothes, Ammunition, and Lodgings; all the Highland Emigrants are most friendly to Government, 1166
17, Letter from the Maryland Council of Safety to Gustavus Scott, - - - - - - - 1167
17, Letter from Samuel Purviance to the Maryland Council of Safety: They are mounting the Guns at Baltimore, and erecting a Battery at Whetstone; Mr. Hughes is anxious some person should go to Antietam, to prove the Guns cast there, - - - - - - 1167
17, Letter from James Lloyd Chamberline to the Maryland Council of Safety, - - - - 1168
17, Questions and Answers on the Independence of the Colonies, - - - - - - - 1168
17, Letter from Colonel Wayne to the President of Congress: His Regiment is in want of almost every thing, - - - - - - - - 1172
Return of the Fourth Pennsylvania Battalion, - 1172
17, Memorial of John Frazer to the Congress, - 1172
17, Declaration, on oath, by Captain Belair, of the arrest of Mr. Walker, - - - - - 1175

1776.
Mr. Walker's Statement of his arrest and imprisonment, - - - - - - - - 1176
Remarks on the difference in the treatment of Colonel Allen, Mr. Walker, and General Prescott, - - - - - - - - - 1178
*Feb.*17, Orders given to the several Captains of the Fleet, on sailing from the Capes of Delaware, - 1179
Signals for the American Fleet, - - - 1179
17, Letter from General Lee to the President of Congress, apprizing him of the sailing of Men-of-War from New-York, and that probably their object is the American Fleet, - 1179
17, Letter from the Tryon County Committee to the New-York Congress: Will raise two Companies under Continental pay, and, if necessary, a third Company, for the defence of the Province, - - - - - - - - 1180
17, Letter from Joseph French to the New-York Congress, requesting to be released from confinement, - - - - - - - - 1181
17, Application of Adrian De Ronde for an appointment in one of the New-York Battalions, - 1181
Letter from Colonel Easton to General Washington, - - - - - - - - - 1182
17, Letter from Robert H. Harrison to Colonel Easton, - - - - - - - - - 1182
17, Letter from Robert H. Harrison to the Rev. James Lyon: The General is pleased with his zeal in the promotion of American liberty, by endeavoring to add Nova-Scotia to the Union, but does not think the plan will at present succeed, - - - - - - - - - 1182
18, Letter from Herbert Courtenay to Charles Carroll, - - - - - - - - - 1183
18, Letter from Joseph Sims to the Maryland Council of Safety, - - - - - - - - 1183
18, Letter from John Adams to a Friend: He can see no prospect, no probability, no possibility of a reconciliation with Great Britain: the Newspapers in Philadelphia are full of free speculations on the question of Independence, 1183
18, Proceedings of the Committee of the City and County of Albany, on the Affidavit and Letter of Benjamin Hilton, - - - - - - 1184
18, Letter from Moses Hazen to the President of Congress, with a Statement of his losses in Property, &c., - - - - - - - 1186
18, Letter from Major Hawley to Elbridge Gerry: Without an American Independent Supreme Government and Constitution, wisely devised and designed, well established and settled, we shall always be but a rope of sand; but, that well done, invincible, - - - - - - 1190
18, Letter from General Washington to the President of Congress, - - - - - - 1192
Council of General Officers, held at Head-Quarters, in Cambridge, February 16, decide that an assault on the Town of Boston is at present improper; that a cannonade and bombardment will be expedient when there is a sufficient supply of Powder; and that, in the mean time, possession should be taken of Dorchester Hill and Noddle's Island, - - - - - 1193
Return of Cannon Cartridges in possession of the Regiment of Artillery, - - - 1194
Return of Musket Cartridges, - - - 1194
Return of Ammunition delivered from January 23 to February 17, - - - - - - 1195
19, Surry County Committee prohibit the removal of any commodity from any landing in the County, without permit from the Committee, 1195
19, Letter from Charles Carroll to the Maryland Council of Safety, - - - - - - 1195
19, Letter from the Committee for Queen Anne's County to the Maryland Council of Safety, with a Letter from Captain Kent, dated Snow-Hill, February 9, - - - - - - 1196
19, Letter from the President of Congress to General Lee: Congress desires him to repair to Canada, and take command of the Army of the United Colonies in that Province, - 1197
Resolutions of Congress, enclosed by President Hancock, - - - - - - - - 1197
19, Oration in memory of General Montgomery, delivered, at the desire of the Continental Congress, by Dr. William Smith, - - - 1675
19, Letter from General Lee to General Washington, - - - - - - - - - 1198
1776.
*Feb.*19, Letter from Lord Stirling to the President of Congress, - - - - - - - - 1199
9, Letter from Lord Stirling to Robert Ogden, transmitting a Resolve of Congress complimentary to the gentlemen of Elizabethtown, - 1199
9, Letter from Lord Stirling to General Livingston, 1200
9, Letter from Lord Stirling to John Blanchard, requesting him to take the Blue-Mountain-Valley and Cargo, Stores, and Adventures, in charge, and carry the orders of Congress relative to them into execution, - - - - 1200
15, Letter from John Blanchard to Lord Stirling: He cannot undertake the charge of the whole matters of the Ship, as a number of the Militia think themselves concerned in the Prize, 1200
19, Letter from Lord Stirling to Colonel Lowrey, for Supplies for his Regiment, - - - 1200
19, Application of Major Rogers to the New-York Congress, for permission to go on board the Dutchess of Gordon, - - - - - 1201
19, Petition of William Cock and Thomas Cock, of Queen's County, to the New-York Congress, acknowledging their error, and praying forgiveness, - - - - - - - - - 1201
19, Whitehead Hicks appointed one of the Judges of the Supreme Court of New-York, and David Matthews appointed Mayor of the City, by Governour Tryon, - - - - - 1201
19, Letter from General Schuyler to Governour Trumbull, - - - - - - - - 1202
19, Letter from General Wooster to General Schuyler, - - - - - - - - - 1483
19, Letter from P. Moreau to General Washington, respecting the offer of M. de Santerre, - 1202
19, Letter from General Washington to General Sullivan: The House he now occupies is too far from his line of command, - - - 1202
19, Letter from General Washington to Governour Trumbull: His situation in respect to Powder is distressing; nothing can be undertaken for want of it, and the world, without knowing his condition, is censuring his inactivity, 1203
19, Letter from Josiah Quincy to General Washington, representing the exposed condition of Braintree, and requesting a guard may be stationed at Squantum for their protection, - 1204
19, Letter from Colonel Huntington to Governour Trumbull, - - - - - - - 1205
19, Letter from the Salem Committee to the Massachusetts Council, with a statement of the case of Captain Lemuel Perkins, - - - 1205
Permit from Admiral Shuldham to Captain Perkins, - - - - - - - - - 1206
Additional Papers relating to Captain Perkins, 1207
20, Letter from John Page to Richard Henry Lee, 1208
22, Letter from Lord Dunmore to Colonel Richard Corbin, offering his services to go to England to negotiate a reconciliation between Virginia and its Parent State, - - - - - - 1208
19, Letter from the Committee of Safety of Virginia to Lord Dunmore: They are not authorized or inclined to intermeddle in the mode of negotiating a reconciliation; any steps to be taken must proceed from the Representatives of the Continent, and not from them, - - 1209
20, Extract of a Letter from a Member of the Virginia Convention to a Friend in Philadelphia: Some seem alarmed at the name of Independence, while they support measures and propose plans that comprehend all the spirit of it: we are still called dependant, though we have done every thing but call ourselves independent, - - - - - - - - 1210
20, Letter from the Maryland Council of Safety to Colonel Joseph Sim, - - - - - - 1211
20, Letter to the Maryland Council of Safety from the Committee appointed to collect Gold and Silver in Calvert County, - - - - 1211
20, Philadelphia Committee declare Thomas Rogers and Joseph Sermon enemies to their country, and preclude them from all trade or intercourse with the Inhabitants of the Colonies, - - 1211
20, Letter from Lord Stirling to the Provincial Congress of New-Jersey, - - - - - 1597
20, Application of Colonel Wynkoop to the New-York Congress, in favour of Moses Youmans, 1212
20, Letter from Colonel Drake to John McKesson, - - - - - - - - - 1212

1776.
*Feb.*20, Petition of Azor Betts to the New-York Congress, to be released from Prison, - - 1212
20, President of Congress to General Schuyler: It has been determined to send General Lee to Canada, reserving to General Schuyler the command in the Colony of New-York, - 1213
20, Letter from the Pennsylvania Committee of Safety to the President of Congress, suggesting the propriety of making some other disposition of the Prisoners at Lancaster, where the kind treatment given them by the People meets with a very improper and indecent return, - 1213
20, Letter from John Broome to Silas Deane, forwarding authentick accounts of the damage done by the Ministerial Pirates at the East end of Long-Island, - - - - - 1214
20, Letter from General Schuyler to the President of Congress: Either General Wooster or himself must quit the Northern Department, 1214
Letter from General Schuyler to General Wooster, with arrangements for the two Regiments in Canada, - - - - - - - 1216
Letter from General Wooster to General Schuyler: Complains that he is treated with disrespect, - - - - - - - 1217
Letter from General Wooster to General Schuyler: The plan proposed for the arrangement of the two Regiments will not answer, - 1218
Return of a number of articles in the Stores at Montreal, - - - - - - - 1219
Estimate of the Pay due to the Troops of the United Colonies, raised in Connecticut, and employed in the Northern Department, - 1219
20, Letter from John Bigelow to Governour Trumbull: The People cannot be persuaded to enter the service: He has spared no pains to raise a Company, but has inlisted but four men, 1220
20, Letter from Major Hawley to Elbridge Gerry: Independence is the only way to union and harmony, to vigour and despatch in business; it will open to us a trade with all the world, 1220

MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL.

1775.
*Nov.*29, Report of Joint Committee on General Washington's Letter, dated November 29th, - 1219
Committee to wait on General Washington, to confer on supplying the deficiency in the Army, which may be caused by the Connecticut Forces leaving the service, - - 1221
29, Letter from the Rev. William Gordon, praying them to excuse his continuing Chaplain, - 1221
30, Committee to consider several Resolutions of the Continental Congress, - - - - 1221
Dec. 1, Committee for apportioning three thousand men among the Regiments, for reinforcing the Army, until the new Army is complete, - 1221
Committee to take into consideration the state and circumstances of the Sea-Coast, - - 1222
4, Letter received from Robert H. Harrison, informing that a number of persons infected with the Small-Pox were to be sent out of Boston, - - - - - - - - 1222
5, Letter sent to the Continental Congress, representing their reasons for paying their men by Lunar, and not by Calendar months, - - 1222
Committee to take into consideration the circumstances of the Sea-Ports, - - - - 1222
6, Committee to consider a Letter from Governour Trumbull, - - - - - - - 1223
Committee to confer with General Washington on the critical situation of the Army, - - 1223
Petition of the Selectmen of Boxford, - - 1223
Committee to wait on General Washington, and represent to him the circumstances of the four Companies now doing duty at Braintree, Weymouth, and Hingham, - - - - 1223
Petition of Thomas Livermore, Selectman of Ipswich, directed to furnish Clothing for the Prisoners confined there, - - - - 1224
7, Petition of Joseph Greenleaf, praying for an exclusive privilege to manufacture Copperas, Alum, &c., for the space of ten years, - 1224
Petition of Alexander Parrau, who was wounded in the battle of Bunker-Hill, - - 1225
Petitions of Nathaniel Farmer and George Reed, wounded on the 19th of April, - - 1225

1775.
Dec. 8, Attested copies to be lodged in the Secretary's Office of all such Vouchers for expenses incurred by this Colony, in defence of American liberty, as may be sent to the Continental Congress, - - - - - - - 1226
Petition of Joshua Davis, for pay as Lieutenant-Colonel, - - - - - - - - 1226
Petition of Joseph Cornell, wounded on the 19th of April last, - - - - - - - 1226
9, Petition of Francis Brown, wounded on the 19th of April, - - - - - - - - 1226
Report of Joint Committee on Governour Trumbull's Letter, - - - - - - - 1227
Letter from Elbridge Gerry, declining the office of Maritime Judge, - - - - - - 1227
Letter from General Washington, requesting the Militia Companies, as they arrive at Watertown, may be ordered to Roxbury, - - 1227
Order of the Council on the Letter, - - 1227
11, Petition of a number of Inhabitants of Pownalborough, respecting Abiel Wood, - - 1228
Report of Joint Committee on the Petition, presented, read and recommitted, - - - 1228
Committee on a Letter from John Hancock, President of the American Congress, - 1229
Committee on a Letter from Thomas Crafts, - 1229
Letter from Thomas Crafts to William Cooper, 1229
Letter from General Washington to James Otis, 1229
Letter from Thomas Crafts to General Washington: The Small-Pox has broken out in two families that came out of Boston, - - 1229
Letter from W. Sever to General Washington: The Court has taken precautions to prevent the spreading of the Small-Pox brought out of Boston, - - - - - - - 1229
Letter from Jonathan Titcomb, and others, to B. Greenleaf, in behalf of Captain Peter Roberts, 1229
Commission granted to Peter Roberts, of the Sloop Game-Cock, - - - - - - 1229
Letter from Thomas Jones, and others, to Benjamin Greenleaf, in behalf of Captain Offin Boardman, - - - - - - - 1229
Commission granted to Offin Boardman, of the Schooner Washington, - - - - - 1230
12, Report of the Joint Committee on the Letter of Thomas Crafts, - - - - - - 1230
Committee at Point Shirley directed to use their utmost endeavours to prevent the spreading of the Small-Pox, - - - - - - 1230
Memorial of the Committee of Gloucester, praying assistance for the protection of the Harbour, - - - - - - - - - 1230
Letter from Timothy Pickering, accepting the appointment of Judge of Admiralty, - - 1231
13, Committee to examine into the character and conduct of Edward Rand, - - - - 1231
Letter from W. Sever to General Washington, 1232
Letter from George Leonard, Jun., dated Norton, December 4, desiring to be excused from acting as one of the Justices of the Inferior Court of Bristol County, - - - - 1232
14, Report of Joint Committee appointed to prepare and bring in a Bill for raising and regulating a Militia in this Colony, - - - - 1233
Petition of the Inhabitants of the Westerly part of Newton, - - - - - - - 1234
Report of Joint Committee on the charges against Edward Rand, - - - - - 1235
Petition of Ebenezer Beal, wounded at Machias on the 12th of June last, - - - - 1235
15, John Hancock, John Adams, Samuel Adams, Robert Treat Paine, and Elbridge Gerry, elected by joint ballot, Delegates to the American Congress, - - - - - - - - 1235
Letter from Nathaniel Peaslee, Sergeant, declining the appointment of a Justice of the Superior Court, - - - - - - - - 1236
16, Committee on Resolve of Congress of October 26, recommend appointment of a Committee to engage and fit out, with all possible expedition, ten Vessels, with Produce, for the importation of Ammunition, &c., - - - 1236
Committee to fit out the Vessels, - - - 1236
18, Report of Joint Committee appointed to consider sundry Depositions relative to the conduct of the Inhabitants of the Island of Nantucket, 1237
Order for the arrest of Samuel Gelston, of Nantucket, - - - - - - - - - 1237

1775.
Dec. 19, Committee to draft a Proclamation, - - 1238
20, Petition of Charles Chauncey, in behalf of Neal McIntyre, of Portsmouth, - - - - 1238
Petition of Abiel Wood, of Pownalborough, - 1238
21, Memorial of Jacob Boardman, of Newburyport, 1240
Committee to wait on General Washington, and learn from him to what limits he will extend his Guards, - - - - - - - 1240
Petition of Samuel Brewer, - - - - 1240
22, Memorial of Hannah Sewall, of Brookline, - 1240
23, Abiel Wood ordered to be confined until he gives security in one thousand Pounds that he will not correspond with the enemies of his country, - - - - - - - - 1241
25, Committee to provide Wood for the Army, - 1242
26, Regulation for the payment of Post-Riders, - 1242
Statement of facts relating to the Companies at Braintree, Weymouth, and Hingham, to be laid before General Washington, - - 1243
27, Petition of Deborah Cushing, wife of Thomas Cushing, one of the Members of the Continental Congress, - - - - - - 1244
Petition of the Town of Harvard, expressing their dissatisfaction with the large stipends granted to Officers, and some others, (except Soldiers.) This has chilled the spirits of the commonalty, and has been a bar against the Army's filling up, - - - - 1245
28, Selectmen of the several Towns requested to encourage the making of Saltpetre in private families, - - - - - - - - 1245
Instruction to the Committee appointed to examine the Muster-Rolls, - - - - 1245
Draft of a Proclamation reported, read, and recommitted, - - - - - - 1246
29, Committee to consider and report a plan for fitting out Armed Vessels for the defence of American liberty, - - - - - 1246
30, A Field-Officer, with the rank of Colonel, and Officers for the First and Second Companies, to be stationed at Gloucester, elected by joint
1776. ballot, - - - - - - - - 1247
Jan. 1, Officers for the Third and Fourth Companies at Gloucester elected, - - - - - 1247
Petition of John Bragdon, - - - - 1248
Officers for the Companies at Marblehead, Elizabeth Island, and Martha's Vineyard, elected, 1248
Colonel and other Officers of the Forces to be stationed at Falmouth, and for one Company at Kittery-Point, elected, - - - - 1249
2, Petition of Selectmen of Dorchester, - - 1250
Petition of Daniel Pierce for payment for Medicines furnished the Continental Army, - - 1250
3, Report of Committee of what further is necessary to be done before the Minute-Militia and Sea-Coast Rolls are paid off, - - - 1251
4, Petition of William Brown, and others, - - 1251
Message to the House of Representatives, setting forth the facts respecting the Guard at the Town of Hull, and the necessity of suitable Guards at Braintree, Weymouth, and Hingham, - - - - - - - - 1252
Committee to examine into the conduct and character of Dr. Samuel Gelston, lately apprehended by an order of the General Court, 1252
Committee on the subject-matter of the Militia Bill, and the manner in which the Officers shall be appointed, - - - - - - 1252
Letter from General Gates, with Prisoners, - 1253
5, Petition of Silas Ball, Surgeon of Colonel Woodbridge's Regiment, - - - - - - 1253
6, Doorkeeper ordered to place Dr. Samuel Gelston under a proper Guard, - - - - 1254
8, Petition of Joseph Pearse Palmer, - - - 1254
9, Petition of the Selectmen of Topsfield, - - 1254
Petition of John Bunker, of Mount-Desert, - 1255
Report of Joint Committee on the conduct of the Officers at Falmouth, - - - - - 1255
10, Petition of a number of the Inhabitants of Majabigwaduce, complaining of the tyrannical conduct of John Bateman, - - - - - 1257
Letter to Hugh Orr, directing the confinement of James Seward within the limits of the Town of Bridgewater, - - - - - 1258
11, Memorial of John Tufft, of Belfast, in Penobscot, setting forth that some of the Inhabitants of Long-Island, in Penobscot Bay, have supplied the Ministerial Forces with Cord-Wood, - 1258

1776.
Two Ships ordered to be built at the expense of the Colony: one to carry thirty-six Guns, the other thirty-two Guns, - - - - - 1259
Committee on a Letter from General Washington, on the critical state of the Army, - - 1259
Committee on a Letter from William Williams, of Connecticut, communicating measures adopted by that Colony, and discoveries made of a Lead-Mine, - - - - - - - - 1259
Letter to the Committee of Northampton, directing them to send Joshua Young to Marshfield, - - - - - - - - - 1259
Letter to the Committee of Marshfield, directing them to take charge of Joshua Young, and be careful he does not pass the limits of the Town, 1259
Jan. 12, Committee on a Deposition of Ebenezer Goodell, relative to Joseph Bowditch, refusing a tender of Bills of Publick Credit, - - - - 1260
13, Report of Committee on General Washington's Letter of the 10th instant, - - - - 1260
Committee to wait on General Washington, - 1260
Petition of John Tidd, of Lexington, wounded on the 19th of April, - - - - - 1260
15, Committee on a Letter from General Washington, respecting the want of Fire-Arms for the new Recruits now coming in, - - - 1260
Officers to be stationed at Plymouth, Truro, and Tarpaulin Cove, elected, - - - - 1261
Petition of James Lemont, - - - - 1262
Letter from Robert Treat Paine, dated January 1, declining the appointment of one of the Justices of the Superior Court, - - - 1262
16, Report of Joint Committee on General Washington's Letter respecting the want of Fire-Arms, - - - - - - - - - 1263
Council authorized to lend General Washington, as Commander-in-Chief of the Continental Army, fifty thousand Pounds, on his obligation to return the same when demanded, - 1263
Committee on a Letter from the President of Congress, - - - - - - - 1263
Officers to be stationed at Salem and Sheepscut-River, and Mustermasters for Cumberland, Dukes, Plymouth, and Essex Counties, elected, - - - - - - - - 1264
17, Instructions to the Delegates in Congress, - 1265
Report of Joint Committee on the Petition of the Town of Dorchester, - - - - - 1266
18, Amended Instructions to the Delegates in Congress, - - - - - - - - - 1266
Letter to the Delegates, informing them of their appointment, and enclosing the Instructions, 1266
Petition of Elizabeth Sampson, and other Indian Inhabitants of Grafton, - - - - - 1267
19, Proclamation by the General Court, to be read at the opening of Courts, at the Town-Meetings, and in all Churches, - - - - 1268
Letter from Isaac Smith to John Adams, - 1271
20, Permission to Isaac Smith to export one hundred and fifty quintals of Fish, the proceeds to be laid out in the purchase of Powder, Saltpetre, or Sulphur, - - - - - - - 1271
21, Committees in the several Counties to aid in raising Men for a temporary reinforcement of the Army, - - - - - - - - 1272
Orders for raising a Regiment to serve in Canada, - - - - - - - - 1272
22, Petition of James Curtis, of Brunswick, - 1275
Letter to the Committee of Safety of Newburyport, directing them to take charge of William Miller, - - - - - - - 1275
23, Petition of Joseph Deane for permission to send a Vessel to Surinam, - - - - 1276
Petition of Thomas Russell for permission to send a small Schooner to the Foreign West-Indies, - - - - - - - - - 1277
24, The Delegates of the Colony in Congress to be paid one hundred and thirty Pounds each, in Continental Bills, to enable them to defray their expenses, and support the dignity of their office, - - - - - - - - 1278
25, Order of the General Court of 9th of December last, so far as it relates to Martha's Vineyard, annulled, - - - - - - 1279
Memorial of the Selectmen of the Town of Sherburne, in the Island of Nantucket, praying to be released from the order of the 9th of December, - - - - - - - - 1279

1776.
*Jan.*26, Edward Rawson, Stephen Maynard, and Deacon Hall, elected Guardians to the Hassanimisco Tribe of Indians, at Grafton, - - 1280
Arrangement of the Militia in Regiments, - 1280
Letter to the Committee of the Town of Newburyport, requesting them to take into their custody and safe-keeping William Erwin and others, prisoners, taken in the Ship Jenny, - - - - - - - - - 1281
Letter to the Committee of Gloucester, requesting them to take charge of William Wood, Master, and Robert Ayles, Mate, of the Ship Jenny, - - - - - - - - - 1282
Benjamin Lincoln directed to wait on General Washington and request him to cause one Haswell, an Officer of the British Navy, to be removed from Hull, - - - - - 1282
29, Committee on a Letter from John Dickinson, of Hatfield, relative to the conduct of Elisha Ellis, Jun., - - - - - - - - 1282
30, Committee to ascertain what number of sheets of Bills had been printed, - - - - 1282
Report of the Committee, read and recommitted, 1283
31, Committees of Inspection in all the Towns of the Colony to make strict inquiry, and if they find any persons endeavoring to prevent the credit of the Continental Bills, or of any other Bills, or to alter or counterfeit the same, to arrest and secure such person, that he may be proceeded with according to the just demerits of such high crimes and misdemeanours, - - - - - - - - - 1284
Petitions of the Committees, and others, Inhabitants of the Towns of Machias, Goldsborough, Number-Four, Narragaugus, Pleasant-River, and Chandler's River, in the County of Lincoln, - - - - - - 1284
Letter from Hugh Orr, requesting that James Seward may be permitted to be employed in Watertown, - - - - - - - - 1285
Feb. 1, Committee to bring in a Bill establishing a Test, by which all persons inimical to the rights and liberties of America shall be distinguished from their friends, - - - - - 1285
Committee to consider an anonymous Letter from Dartmouth, - - - - - - 1285
Petition from the Selectmen of Rehoboth, - 1286
2, Petition of John Bakeman, and others, against the appointment of some Field-Officers of the two Regiments East of Penobscot River, - 1286
Committee to prepare a general arrangement of Militia throughout the Colony, - - - 1286
Field-Officers for the First and Second Regiments in Worcester, - - - - - 1286
Field and Staff-Officers of the several Regiments to be raised, to join the Army before Boston, till the 1st of April next, to be notified of their appointments, - - - 1287
Report of Joint Committee on the Memorial of the Selectmen of Sherburne, in Nantucket, recommending a representation of the state of that Island be made to the American Congress, - - - - - - - - - 1287
Letter to the Committee for the Town of Hatfield, - - - - - - - - - 1287
3, Dr. Samuel Gelston and John Brown, who aided Gelston in making his escape, to be confined in Jail, - - - - - - - - - 1287
India Tea, found in custody of John Brown, to be publickly consumed by fire, this day, at one o'clock, P. M., - - - - - 1288
5, Report of Joint Committee on the complaints of, and charges against, certain Inhabitants of Majabigwaduce, - - - - - - 1288
6, Report of Joint Committee on the Petition of Philip Hodgkins, - - - - - - 1289
Field-Officers for Regiments in the Counties of Plymouth, Suffolk, Worcester, York, Bristol, Middlesex, Cumberland, and Berkshire, elected, - - - - - - - - - 1290
Petition of Anna Coshommon, an Indian woman, of Chilmark, in Dukes County, - 1292
Petition of Thomas Simonds and Mary Thomas, native Indians, of Middleborough, in the County of Plymouth, - - - 1293
Act for encouraging the fixing out of Armed Vessels passed, - - - - - - 1293
8, Petition of Jeremiah O'Brien, - - - 1294

1776.
Committee of Newburyport to prepare and fit out the Sloop Machias-Liberty and Schooner Diligent, - - - - - - - 1294
Further elections of Field-Officers, - - 1294
John Hancock, Azor Orne, and Benjamin Lincoln, elected Major-Generals, - - - 1295
Letter from James Otis, requesting the release, under bonds, of John Gray, - - - 1296
Feb. 9, Regulation for the settlement of Accounts for Provisions supplied the Men who marched on the alarm of the 19th of April last, - 1296
10, Order of the Court of the 21st of January, for raising a Regiment to serve in Canada, in part reconsidered, - - - - - - - 1298
12, Committee to prepare a Proclamation for a General Fast throughout the Colony, - - 1299
Officers and Soldiers, who sustained any loss of Clothing, Fire-Arms, &c., by their being engaged in battle with the Ministerial Troops on the 19th of April and 17th of June last, are required to exhibit a particular account of their losses, or they will be deprived of the benefit of compensation, - - - - 1300
Petition of a number of Inhabitants of the Eastern part of Lincoln County, requesting assistance for the St. John's and Passamaquoddy Indians, - - - - - - - - 1300
13, Joseph Henderson appointed to lay the disbursements of this Colony, in defence of American liberty, before the American Congress for approbation, - - - - - - 1302
Report of Joint Committee on the Petition of Philip Hodgkins, making a complaint against Colonel James Cargill, - - - - - 1302
Report of Joint Committee on the Letter received this morning from General Washington, relative to supplying the Army with Fire-Arms, 1303
Committees appointed to purchase Fire-Arms in the several Counties, on Money being advanced by General Washington to enable them to execute their commission, - - 1303
14, Bounty of fifty Pounds to the first person who shall, at his own cost, erect a Powder-Mill, and of thirty Pounds to whoever erects another, - - - - - - - - - 1304
Further elections of Field-Officers, - - 1304
15, Committee appointed in each County to obtain subscriptions of all persons who are willing to exchange Hard Money for Continental Bills, each stating what amount he is ready to exchange, to be reported on the second day of the next sitting of the Assembly, - - 1306
Petition of Hannah Goldthwait, - - - 1306
Memorial of James Cargill, of Newcastle, Lincoln County, - - - - - - - - 1307
16, Letter from the Committee of Safety of South-Carolina, dated December 31, - - - 1307
Letters to the Committees of Northampton and of Machias, respecting the Plans and Surveys taken by Lieutenant Knight, - - - 1308
17, Petition of Benjamin Crocker, of Falmouth, for permission to send a Vessel in ballast to the Islands of Tobago and Grenada, - - 1309
Message from the House, requesting the Council to suspend the granting of Commissions to General Officers and Brigadiers, - - 1309
Report of Joint Committee appointed to make inquiry after Virgin Lead, &c., - - - 1310
Committee to fit out, with all possible despatch, Vessels to import ten thousand barrels of Flour, two thousand casks of Rice, and one thousand tons of Pig-Iron, from any of the Southern Colonies, - - - - - - 1311
19, Committee to consider what is proper to be done respecting the regulating of proceedings in civil causes, - - - - - - 1311
Committee on a Letter from James Otis, respecting a French Vessel cast on shore on the Cape, - - - - - - - - - 1311
20, Committee to prepare a Proclamation for a General Fast, to be observed on the 7th of March next, - - - - - - - - - 1312
House desires to be prorogued to the 13th of March next, - - - - - - - - 1312
Message to the House, that the Council has consented to the following Bills: - - - 1312
For assessing a Tax of seventy-five thousand Pounds, to defray the charges of this Colony, 1312

1776.
For regulating the Militia, - - - - 1312
For altering the places of holding the Courts of Law in the County of Suffolk, - - - 1312
To enable the Inhabitants of Falmouth to support prosecutions against Persons who have in possession Goods taken from the Inhabitants during the late fire, - - - - - 1312
To revive Laws that are expired, or near expiring, - - - - - - - - 1312
To encourage the fixing out of Armed Vessels for the defence of America, - - - 1312
For carrying into execution a Resolve of the American Congress for ascertaining the number of Inhabitants in this Colony, - - 1312
General Court adjourned to Wednesday, the 13th day of March next, - - - - - 1312

MASSACHUSETTS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

1775.
Nov. 29, Committee to consider a Letter from General Washington, of this day, to the General Assembly, - - - - - - - 1313
Dr. Cooper elected Chaplain, in place of Rev. Mr. Gordon, resigned, - - - - 1313
30, Report of Committee on General Washington's Letter, read, amended, and adopted, - - 1313
Petition from Selectmen of Newbury, praying an allowance for their trouble and expense in collecting Blankets, &c., for the Army; read and referred, - - - - - - - 1313
Petition of the Town of Mendon, for pay for Provisions for four Companies who marched from that Town on the 19th of April, - 1314
Petition of Nathan Wheeler read and committed, 1314
Petition of the Town of Gloucester for Cannon, Ammunition, &c., for the defence of the Harbour, - - - - - - - - - 1314
Dec. 1, Petition of Thomas Livermore, in behalf of a number of Prisoners in the Jail at Ipswich, - 1314
Committee to inquire into the conduct of the People at Nantucket and Martha's Vineyard, 1315
Petition from John Tidell, Joseph Cornell, and Dennison Wallis, wounded on the 19th of April; and from Alexander Parren, wounded in the battle on Bunker-Hill, - - - 1315
Memorial from General Frye, setting forth the importance of Falmouth, and the necessity of further provision for its safety, - - - 1315
Committee to wait upon General Washington, and acquaint him with the importance of Cape-Cod Harbour, - - - - - - - 1315
Petition of Francis Brown and of Nathaniel Farmer, wounded on the 19th of April, - 1316
2, Report of Committee appointed at the last sitting of the Court, to procure Wood and Hay for the Army, - - - - - - - - 1316
Report of Committee on Petition from the Town of Gloucester, - - - - - - - - 1317
Two Companies to be stationed at Gloucester till the 1st of April, - - - - - - 1317
Mr. Nye sent to Barnstable to raise one hundred and twenty-eight Men for the Army at Cambridge, - - - - - - - - - 1317
Quantity of Wood to be supplied daily by a number of Towns to the Army, - - - 1318
Letter from James Sullivan, giving an account of the Works of Defence in the Town of Falmouth, and asking further provision for the safety of the Town, - - - - - - 1318
Proceedings of a Convention of the County of Cumberland, - - - - - - - - 1320
Troops stationed on the Sea-Coasts in the Towns of Newbury, Dartmouth, Rochester, and Wareham, to be dismissed on the 5th of December, 1319
4, Information that a number of Persons, who had been inoculated, were to be sent out of Boston by General Howe, with a design to spread the Small-Pox among the Troops, - - - 1321
Committee to procure intelligence in the matter, 1322
Rev. Mr. Thatcher appointed Chaplain to the House, - - - - - - - - - 1322
Commanding Officer of Lincoln County excused from inlisting any Men for the American Army, - - - - - - - - - 1322
Petition of the Committee for the Town of Worcester, respecting George Henry Fisher, a disaffected person, and John Holden, a prisoner, 1322

1775.
Committee of Ipswich to furnish Prisoners with Clothing, - - - - - - - - 1322
Town of Natick excused from supplying nine Men for the American Army, - - - 1322
Petition of Committee of Inspection for Pownalborough, that the Committee of Correspondence of the Town may be called to account for their conduct, and that Abiel Wood might be removed from the Town, - - - 1323
Dr. Calef, of Ipswich, required to give information relative to a new Ship built by his directions at New-Mills, - - - - - - 1324
Committee to bring in a Bill for the further emission of Bills of Publick Credit, - - - 1324
Dec. 6, Committee to consider Petitions of Men wounded on and after the 19th of April last, - - 1324
Committee to take into consideration the state of the Poor of Boston, - - - - - - 1324
Inhabitants of the United Colonies requested not to supply any person of this Colony with Provisions to be transported by water, who cannot produce a certificate from the Secretary of the Colony, - - - - - - - - 1324
Report of Committee from Point Shirley, of the precautions taken to prevent the spreading of the Small-Pox, - - - - - - - 1325
Town of Bedford excused from furnishing thirteen Men for the American Army, - - - 1326
7, Accounts of Nathaniel Goldthwait, and others, for Guns lost on the 19th of April, - - 1327
Committee to consider the expediency of providing Military Stores for the Colony, - - 1327
Post-Riders for the Colony dismissed, - - 1327
8, Committee to consider the state of the Poor of Boston and Charlestown, - - - - - 1328
Act for making and emitting Bills of Publick Credit passed, - - - - - - - - 1328
Mr. Speaker directed to wait on General Washington about the Ordnance Stores received from the Colony, - - - - - - - 1328
Committee to ascertain what Cannon belonging to the several Towns of the Colony are now in the Continental Army, under the care of General Washington, - - - - - - - 1328
9, Estimate of Military Stores necessary to be procured for the Colony, - - - - - - 1330
Commissary directed to procure the Stores mentioned in the estimate, - - - - - 1331
Committee on a Letter from Samuel Freeman, dated November 25, concerning Goods that were stolen at the burning of Falmouth, - 1331
11, Order of the 7th, dismissing certain Post-Riders, reconsidered, - - - - - - - - 1332
Committees or Selectmen of the Towns to return the number of Seamen, and of Vessels, &c., - - - - - - - - - - 1332
12, Petition of Committee of Dartmouth, setting forth the importance of that Harbour, and its defenceless state, - - - - - - - 1333
Powder-Mills to be erected at Sutton and Stoughton, - - - - - - - - 1334
Committee for procuring Sulphur required to give publick notice, requesting all who have any to make sale of it to them, - - - 1334
13, Mr. Devans informs the House that the supply of Hay and Wood to the Army is very inadequate, - - - - - - - - - 1335
Petition of Catharine Goldthwait, - - - 1335
14, Committee to apportion two hundred tons of Hay, to be provided for the Army, among a number of Towns, - - - - - - - 1336
Letter from General Washington, enclosing Letters from Colonel Otis and Colonel Freeman, relative to Shubael Lovell, a Tory, taken prisoner by Colonel Otis, - - - - - 1337
15, Petition of Thomas Russell for permission to send a Schooner to the Foreign West-Indies in ballast, - - - - - - - - 1338
Petition of Lemuel Williams for permission to export a certain Cargo for the purpose of procuring Arms, Ammunition, &c., - - - 1338
Elias Haskitt Derby, a Member of the House, charged with importing Coffee and other things from the English West-India Islands, 1339
Committee to repair to Salem to inquire into the facts of the charge against Mr. Derby, - 1339
Doorkeeper ordered to apprehend Abiel Wood, and keep him in safe custody, - - - 1339

1775.
The Council requested to bring Abiel Wood before them, and deal with him in such a manner as may be for the security of this Colony and all America, - - - - - 1340
All the Post-Offices and Post-Riders employed by the late Provincial Congress dismissed from any further service, - - - - 1340
Memorial of Committee of Newburyport, relative to the conduct of Benjamin Balch in exporting Fish contrary to a Resolve of Congress, - - - - - - - - - 1340
Petition of William Crawford, setting forth the circumstances of the People at Penobscot River, - - - - - - - - 1340
Dec. 16, Committee to consider a Letter from the Committee of Fairfax County, Virginia, - - 1341
Committee to consider and report some further and more effectual measures for supplying the Army with Wood, - - - - - - 1341
Memorial of Jacob Boardman, of Newburyport, relative to a voyage to Europe for Gunpowder and other Military Stores, - - - - 1342
Further Regulations for supplying the Army with Wood, - - - - - - - 1342
Petition of Joshua Fabyan, for payment for Supplies to the Militia assembled in consequence of the burning of Falmouth, by Captain Mowat, on the 18th of October last, - - 1342
Quantity of Hay to be furnished by certain Towns for the American Army, - - 1343
18, Petitions of William Tollman, of Dartmouth, and of Joseph Dean, for permission to send Vessels to the West-Indies, - - - 1343
Similar Petitions from the Convention for Cumberland County, and from the Committees of the Towns of Biddeford, Pepperelborough, and Arundel, - - - - - - - 1345
Committee to draft a Proclamation to be read at the opening of the several County Sessions, for the purpose of inculcating a general obedience of the People to the several Magistrates appointed under the present Government of the Colony, - - - - - - - - - 1345
19, Full compensation to be made to the Officers and Soldiers who sustained loss of Arms, Accoutrements, or Clothing, on the 19th of April and 17th of June last, - - - - - 1345
Committee to hear Mr. Derby in his own defence, - - - - - - - - - 1346
Report of Committee appointed to inquire into the number, &c., of Ordnance belonging to this Colony, now under the care of General Washington, - - - - - - - - - 1346
20, Committee on Garrisons for the Sea-Coast discharged of that part of their duty which directs them to confer with General Washington, 1347
Memorial of Hannah Sewall, of Brookline, - 1347
Jacob Boardman's Vessel permitted to proceed to any part of Europe, (the Dominions of Great Britain excepted,) - - - - - 1348
Committee to publish a Report on making Saltpetre, - - - - - - - - - 1348
Petition of Abiel Wood for the appointment of a Committee to hear his defence, - - - - 1349
21, Petition of the Delegates of the several Towns in the County of Cumberland, met in Convention, - - - - - - - - - 1349
22, Committee appointed to procure Hay for the Army directed to proceed immediately to execute their commission, - - - - - 1351
Number and Stations of Men to be raised for the defence of the Sea-Coast, - - - - 1351
23, Petition of Joshua Haynes, Jun., setting forth that he was wounded at the battle of Lexington, - - - - - - - - - 1352
Resolution for erecting Powder-Mills at Sutton and Stoughton reconsidered, - - - 1352
Further measures adopted for supplying the Army with Wood, - - - - - - 1353
25, Petition of James Perry for payment for a Horse killed on his return home from the battle of Lexington, - - - - - - - 1354
Resolve for stationing Men to defend the Sea-Coast, again read and recommitted, - - 1354
Petition of the Town of Harvard, praying the Court to use its influence with the Continental Congress, to reduce the stipends granted to Officers, and others, in the American service, 1354

1775.
Committee on a Letter from General Washington, requesting the Court to take some measures for supplying the Army with Blankets, 1354
Resolutions condemning the conduct of Abiel Wood, - - - - - - - - - 1355
Committee to sign the Bills of Credit of the last emission, - - - - - - - - 1355
Dec. 26, Committee to consider a meet grant to the President of Harvard College, - - - - 1355
Committees to repair immediately to the several Towns, to represent the great danger the country is exposed to from a dispersion of the Army, which must take place if it is not supplied with Wood, - - - - - - 1356
Report of the Joint Committee appointed to wait on and represent to General Washington the circumstances of the four Companies stationed at Braintree, Weymouth, and Hingham, - 1357
Petition of Duncan Campbell, for permission to send a Vessel to Tobago, in ballast, - - 1358
27, William Powell, of Salem, permitted to send a Schooner of sixty tons to Europe, or the West-Indies, for Gunpowder, - - - - - 1358
Committee on Saltpetre report that, in a month or two, one ton, at least, of Saltpetre, will be collected, - - - - - - - - 1359
28, Committee to consider of some method by which the Colony may be supplied with Wood, - 1360
Instructions to the Committee on Muster-Rolls, 1361
Establishment for the Forces to guard the Sea-Coast, - - - - - - - - - 1362
29, Form of Beating Orders and Inlistments for raising Men to defend the Sea-Coast, - - 1364
Committee to proportion four thousand Blankets to be procured for the Army, - - - - 1365
Committee on the Resolve of this House relating to the Estates of the Refugees, - - - 1365
Committee on the complaint against Haskitt Derby, relative to his having violated a Resolve of the Continental Congress, authorized to call certain Witnesses before them, or have their Depositions taken, - - - - - 1365
Committee to consider and report a plan for fitting out one or more Armed Vessels for the defence of American liberty, - - - 1365
30, Officers and Men of the four Companies stationed at Braintree, Weymouth, and Hingham, who are not inlisted in the Continental Army, directed to remain at their Posts, - - 1366
Letter received from General Washington, informing the House that he does not think himself at liberty to extend the Continental Guards beyond Squantum and Chelsea, - 1366
Election of Officers for the first and second
1776. Companies at Gloucester, - - - - 1367
Jan. 1, Petition of John Williams, representing that he received a wound at the battle on Bunker-Hill, 1367
Further election of Officers, - - - 1367
Committee on the Petition of Ebenezer Bradish, 1368
Memorial of John Lane, of Buxton, setting forth that he has been in commission upwards of twenty years, and prays rank according to his services, - - - - - - - - 1368
Further election of Officers, - - - - 1368
2, Petition of Ivory Hovey, in behalf of the Eastern Districts lying between Penobscot and Machias, praying an Admiralty Court may be established at Union River, - - - - 1370
Committee to inquire into the conduct of the Officers of the Companies stationed at Falmouth, at the time of the late fire there, - - 1370
Petition of Joseph Pearse Palmer, praying pay for his services as Quartermaster-General, - 1370
Committee to confer with Mr. Phillips, on his proposal to erect a Powder-Mill at Andover, 1370
Committee to wait on General Washington, relative to a Donation for the Poor of Boston, from Fairfax County, Virginia, - - - 1370
Committee to consider some proper Orders and Regulations for the Militia, when they shall be called out on alarms, - - - - - 1370
3, Committee to look into the Establishment of the Field-Officers of the Forces raised by the Colony in April and May last, - - - 1371
4, Message from the Council, - - - - 1372
Secretary directed to attend the House, that he may be inquired of concerning the Proceedings of the Council with respect to Dr. Gelston, - 1372

1776.
The Secretary attended, and informed the House that the Council had passed a Resolve to liberate Dr. Gelston, - - - - - 1372
Message to the Council, requesting they will not discharge Dr. Gelston till some further proceedings had passed both Houses respecting him, - - - - - - - - - 1372
Committee of both Houses appointed to examine into the character and conduct of Dr. Samuel Gelston, - - - - - - - - - 1373
Further provisions for the defence of the Sea-Coast adopted, - - - - - - - - 1373
Memorial and Petition of Hannah Sewall, of Brookline, - - - - - - - - - 1373
Jan. 5, Petition of John Bunker, of Mount-Desert, relating to a Vessel he took and carried into Goldsborough, in November last, - - 1374
Committee to confer with a Committee of the Council on the Militia Bill, - - - - 1374
Petition of the Town of Falmouth, setting forth their distressed circumstances in consequence of the burning of the Town by Captain Mowat, and requesting to be released from the Colony Tax for the present year, - - - - - 1374
Resolve for procuring Blankets for the Army, - 1374
Apportionment of Blankets among the several Counties and Towns, - - - - - 1375
Committees to repair to the several Counties for procuring the Blankets, - - - - - 1376
Committee to provide for the erection of a Powder-Mill at Sutton and at Stoughton, - - 1377
Appointment of a Committee to confer with a Committee of the Council on the Militia Bill, reconsidered, and a new Committee appointed, 1377
Petition of the Committee of Deer-Island, representing the distressed condition of the Inhabitants, for want of Men and Ammunition to protect them from the enemy, - - 1377
6, Petitions of Charles Miles and Joshua Felt, both wounded on the 19th of April last, - - 1378
Doorkeeper directed immediately to arrest Dr. Samuel Gelston, and put him under a proper guard, - - - - - - - - - 1378
Committee to wait on General Washington, to know of him whether he thinks there will be a necessity of retaining any, or all, of the Militia, after the 15th instant, - - - 1378
8, Order of the 6th for a Committee to wait on General Washington, reconsidered, and another adopted, - - - - - - - - - 1379
Resolve for erecting a Powder-Mill at Andover, 1379
Report of the Committee, that, in the opinion of General Washington, it will be necessary for the whole of the Militia of this Colony, now in Camp, to remain there until the last of this month, - - - - - - - - - 1380
Report of the Committee on Muster-Rolls, - 1380
Resolve for disposing of the Estates of Refugees, 1381
9, Petition of Captain Caleb Hyde, setting forth, that, on the 10th of May last, he marched part of a Company of Militia, at the alarm at Ticonderoga, one hundred and forty miles, at his own expense, - - - - - - - - 1381
Pay-Roll of Captain Brown's Company, marched from Stockbridge on the 10th of May last, for the reduction of Ticonderoga, at the request of Colonel Benedict Arnold, presented, - 1382
Report of Committee on the conduct of the Officers at Falmouth, that they were not guilty of breaking orders at the time, - - - 1382
Amendment to the Resolve passed yesterday, for erecting a Powder-Mill at Andover, - - 1383
Letter from Joshua Elderkin, of Windham, Connecticut, acquainting the Court he can produce fifty pounds of Saltpetre per week, and declaring his willingness to communicate his discoveries, - - - - - - 1383
Militia engaged to serve from the 1st of December to the 15th of this month, to be paid one Penny per mile travel, - - - - - 1383
Militia strongly recommended to reinlist to serve from the 15th to the last of this month, - 1384
10, Committee to settle the Accounts remaining unsettled on the books of the late Committee of Supplies, - - - - - - - - 1386
Committee to inform General Washington that it would encourage the Militia of the Colony, now in the American Army as a temporary reinforcement, to reinlist, if they could be assured by his Excellency that they would be paid when discharged, - - - - - 1386
Report of Committee appointed to prepare directions to the Committee on Muster-Rolls, with respect to Minors and Servants, read, and not accepted, - - - - - - - - 1387
11, Amendments to the Resolve of the 8th instant, relative to the Estates of Refugees, - 1387
Amendments of the Council to the Militia Bill rejected, - - - - - - - - - 1388
12, Committee to inquire into the state of the Treasury, - - - - - - - - - 1388
Petition of the Selectmen of Watertown, praying to be reimbursed the expense of mounting eight pieces of Cannon that were brought out of Boston in October last, - - - - 1388
Letter from Timothy Parsons, dated Pownalborough, January 2, praying something may be done by the Court for the peace of the Town, 1388
Report of the Committee on a plan for fitting out Armed Vessels, read, and recommitted, - 1388
13, Committee on a Deposition of Ebenezer and James Goodel, relative to the refusal of Joseph Bowditch, of Salem, to take Bills of Publick Credit in discharge of a bond, - - - 1389
Committee to revise the Militia Bill, - - 1390
15, Petition of the Selectmen of Rehoboth, relative to the defence of the Town, - - - 1390
Committee to consider what further is necessary to be done for supplying the Army with Hay, - - - - - - - - - 1390
Letter received from General Washington relative to a want of Fire-Arms for the Army, - 1390
Committee to consider and report at large the best method of supplying the Camp with Wood, - - - - - - - - - 1391
Committee to consider what further is necessary to be done for the defence of the Sea-Coast, - 1391
Letter from the President of Congress, dated January 2, - - - - - - - - 1391
Isaac Lothrop chosen to go to Philadelphia, with the Accounts of the Colony, for disbursements in the defence of American liberty, - 1392
Amendments of the Council to the Militia Bill agreed to, - - - - - - - - 1392
16, Petition of William Hensbaw, praying allowance for his services as Adjutant-General, - 1393
Further measures for procuring Hay for the Army adopted, - - - - - - - 1393
General Washington furnished with a copy of the Resolve for lending him the sum of fifty-thousand Pounds, - - - - - - - - 1393
Report of the Committee relative to the want of Fire-Arms for the Army, read and adopted, and ordered to be communicated to General Washington, - - - - - - - 1394
Officers for the Sea-Coast Forces elected, - 1394
17, Further amendment of the Council to the Militia Bill, - - - - - - - - - 1396
Seven Regiments to be immediately raised from the Militia of this Colony to join the Continental Army, to continue in service till the 1st of April, - - - - - - - - 1396
Letter from the Committee of St. Georges, relative to the conduct of Captain Francis Haskill in carrying a Sloop load of Wood to Boston, - - - - - - - - - 1396
Amendments of the Council to the Militia Bill considered, and the Bill recommitted; again reported with another amendment, which was read and adopted, - - - - - - - 1396
18, Resolve of the Council relating to Dr. Gelston rejected, and the Council requested to cause him to be forthwith confined in some Jail of the Colony, - - - - - - - - 1397
Colonel Thompson directed to make inquiry about an open Letter from England to some Gentlemen in Philadelphia, now in the possession of Colonel Arnold, - - - - 1398
Apportionment of six Regiments, to reinforce the Army, among the several Counties, - 1399
Petition of the Town of Templeton, expressing their uneasiness on account of the high wages of the Officers of the Army, - - - 1399
19, Resolutions for raising the six Regiments, and the proportions from each Town, - - 1400
Form of Inlistment, - - - - - - - - 1403

1776.
Powder-Mill ordered to be built at Stoughton without delay, - - - - - - - 1403
A Regiment to reinforce the Army in Canada, ordered to be raised forthwith in the Counties of Hampshire and Berkshire, - - - 1403
Field-Officers for the Regiment chosen, - 1404
Jan. 20, Committee to confer with General Washington, at large, on the subject of raising a Regiment for reinforcing the Army in Canada, - - 1404
Committee to see that the Men proportioned on certain Counties be immediately raised, - 1405
Information received that a Vessel belonging to Solomon Nye, of Falmouth, has sailed to the West-Indies, contrary to the Resolution of the Continental Congress, - - - - 1405
Committee to divide the Men to be raised for a temporary reinforcement of the American Army into Regiments, - - - - - 1405
21, One month's Pay to be advanced to the Regiment to be raised for Canada, over and above what will be paid by General Washington, - 1405
Resolve for raising the Regiment to go into Canada, - - - - - - - - 1405
Instructions to the Committees appointed to superintend the raising of the six Regiments, - 1407
Committee to see that the Men to be raised in Hampshire and Berkshire Counties be equipped with all possible expedition, - - - 1407
Form of Inlistment for the Regiment to be raised for Canada, - - - - - - - 1408
Resolve for removing the concern and uneasiness of some People in the Colony, on account of the high wages to be paid to the Officers of the American Army, - - - 1408
Resolve to facilitate the inlisting and marching of the Regiment for Canada with the utmost despatch, - - - - - - - - 1408
22, Bill for regulating the Militia passed, - - 1408
Treasurer authorized to lend the Commissary-General of the American Army two thousand Pounds, to enable him to make provision for the Troops marching to Canada, - - 1409
Committee to use their utmost endeavours to have Men apportioned to each Town in Berkshire and Hampshire Counties, for the Regiment for Canada, raised with the utmost despatch, - - - - - - - - - 1409
Committee to revise the several Resolves of the Court relative to Saltpetre, - - - 1409
Apportionment among the several Counties of the six Regiments to be raised from the Militia to serve in the American Army until the 1st of April next, - - - - - - - 1410
23, Field and Staff-Officers for the six Regiments chosen, - - - - - - - - 1413
Resolve of the Council relating to Dr. Samuel Gelston disagreed to, and the House adhere to their own vote, - - - - - - 1414
24, Committee to consider meet allowance for the gentlemen who served as General Officers previous to the Continental establishment of the Army, 1415
Accounts for Supplies to Soldiers after the battle of Lexington, - - - - - - - 1417
Resolve of the House relative to Dr. Gelston disagreed to by the Council, and recommitted, 1417
Receiver-General authorized to pay the fifty thousand Pounds to General Washington, either in Continental Bills or other Money, - 1417
Two hundred Pounds, and the rents of Massachusetts-Hall, allowed Dr. Langdon, President of Harvard College, for his services for one year, 1417
25, Petition of Timothy Munro, wounded on the 19th of April, - - - - - - - 1418
Memorial of the Selectmen of the Town of Sherburne, praying the repeal of a Resolve forbidding the importation of Fuel and Provisions into that Town, - - - - - 1418
Resolve for establishing Fees for the Court of Admiralty, - - - - - - - 1418
Inhabitants of the Island of Martha's Vineyard permitted to receive Provisions, - - - 1419
Allowance to the General Officers of the Massachusetts Army, - - - - - - 1419
Compensation to be made for the loss of Arms, Accoutrements, and Clothing, sustained by certain Persons who engaged the Ministerial Forces on the 19th of April and 17th of June last past, - - - - - - - - 1419

1776.
Petition of Nathan Putnam, wounded at the battle of Lexington, - - - - - - 1420
Petition of Dennison Wallis, made prisoner on the 19th of April last, - - - - - 1420
Jan. 26, Committee to take measures for the apprehension of Dr. Samuel Gelston, who has fled from the custody of the Messenger of this House, - 1421
Petition of Solomon Pierce, wounded at the battle of Lexington, - - - - - - 1421
Petition of the Committees of Machias, &c.: Their Lumber trade is stopped, and they have no means of supporting their families, - - 1421
Guardians for the Grafton Indians chosen, - 1422
Committee to consider at large the matter of building Powder-Mills, - - - - - 1422
27, Report of Committee of both Houses on the Resolve of Congress relative to Persons whose going at large may endanger the safety of the Colony, or the liberties of America, considered and recommitted, - - - - - 1423
29, Report of Joint Committee on sundry Resolves of the American Congress, - - - 1423
Petition of Benjamin Foster, in behalf of the Committee of Machias, praying the consideration of the Court with respect to the Estate of Ichabod Jones, - - - - - - - 1424
Committee on an intercepted Letter from Elisha Allis, Jun., of Hatfield, to Major Gray, of Stockbridge, - - - - - - - - 1425
Petition and Muster-Roll of Jeremiah O'Brien, representing that, on the 21st of August last, he was appointed Commander of two Armed Vessels, and asking a proper allowance, - 1425
Petition of the Indian Inhabitants of the Town of Stockbridge, praying they may not be sued for debts for two years, and that Tavern-keepers may be restrained from selling them Spirituous Liquors, - - - - - - - - - 1425
30, John Hancock chosen First, James Warren Second, and Azor Orne Third Major-General, 1425
Brigadier-Generals for the several Counties elected, - - - - - - - - 1426
Committee to wait upon General Washington on the subject of a Regiment raising in the County of Berkshire by Colonel Fellows, - - 1426
Further elections of Officers, - - - - - 1426
Two hundred Pounds to be paid to the Committee for receiving the Inhabitants of Boston at Chelsea, to prevent the spreading of the Small-Pox, - - - - - - - 1426
31, Petition of Benjamin Crocker, of Falmouth, for permission to send a Vessel to Tobago, - 1426
Report of Committee on Petition of the Committee and other Inhabitants of Machias, Goldsborough, and other Towns in Lincoln County, - - - - - - - - 1427
Committee on anonymous Letter, dated Dartmouth, January 12, hinting that English Goods are clandestinely imported from England, by way of the West-Indies and Nantucket, into the Town of Dartmouth, - - - - 1427
Resolve for punishing Persons who shall endeavour to prevent the credit of the Continental or other Bills of Credit, - - - 1427
Feb. 1, Committee to repair to Rehoboth to examine the Fortifications there, - - - - - 1428
Committee to bring in a Bill establishing a Test, 1428
Committee to see if there is sufficient provision made to make Continental and other Bills of Credit a tender in all payments, - - - 1428
Benjamin Crocker permitted to make a voyage to the West-Indies, - - - - - - 1428
Council reject John Cumming for Brigadier-General, and propose James Prescott, - - 1429
Amendment of the Council to the Resolve appointing a Committee to bring in a Bill establishing a Test, rejected by the House, - 1429
Joseph Henderson appointed to repair to Philadelphia with the Accounts of the Colony, - 1429
Committee to employ some Person to take charge of Dr. Gelston, and one Brown, who assisted him in making his escape, - - - - - 1429
2, Committee to repair to Falmouth, in the County of Cumberland, in the recess of the Court, to inquire into the circumstances of that Town, 1430
Committee to make a representation of the conduct of the Inhabitants of the Island of Nantucket to the American Congress, - - 1431

1776.
Feb. 3, Petition of William Eaton, of Deer-Island, representing the distressed condition of the Inhabitants of that District, - - - - - 1431
Petition of Thomas Winship, wounded in the battle of Lexington, - - - - - 1431
Resolves directing the confinement of Dr. Gelston, - - - - - - - - 1431
5, Committee to make inquiry relative to the sending of two Vessels to the West-Indies by Colonel Doane, of Barnstable County, and the loading of other Vessels by other persons, contrary to the Resolutions of the American Congress, - 1432
Petition of a number of the Inhabitants of the Easterly part of the County of Lincoln, representing the distressed condition of the St. John's Indians, - - - - - - - - 1432
Committee to take into consideration the present high price of Goods, - - - - - 1434
6, Petition, Remonstrance and Address of the Town of Pittsfield, relative to the present form of Government in this Colony, and praying that the Court would issue orders for the election of a Governour and Lieutenant-Governour, - - - - - - - - 1434
Accounts passed for losses at the battle of Lexington and the battle of Bunker's Hill, - 1435
Ten Sloops-of-War, to carry from fourteen to sixteen carriage-guns, ordered to be built, - 1435
7, Two Vessels under the command of Captain Jeremiah O'Brien to be fitted out for service immediately, - - - - - - - 1436
Committee to consider at large the matter of paying Officers and Soldiers for their losses in battle on the 19th of April and 17th of June last, - - - - - - - - 1437
Petition of Inhabitants of Eastern part of the County of Lincoln, praying that some Companies may be raised for the defence of the Sea-Coast there, - - - - - 1437
Committee report that Elias Haskitt Derby has not violated the Resolves of the Continental Congress, - - - - - - - 1437
Accounts allowed for losses sustained in the battle of Bunker-Hill, - - - - - - 1438
8, Bill for encouraging the fixing out of Armed Vessels to defend the Sea-Coast of America, and for erecting a Court to try and condemn all Vessels that shall be found infesting the same, read a first time, - - - - 1438
James Warren, elected Second Major-General by the House, rejected by the Council, - 1439
The fifty thousand Pounds lent to General Washington, to remain in the hands of the Paymaster-General till he receives a supply from the Continental Congress, - - - 1439
Azor Orne, appointed Third Major-General, requests to be excused from accepting the appointment, - - - - - - - 1439
Petition of Isaac Battle and Samuel Nichols, praying that a Schooner at Cape Elizabeth may be fitted out as a Privateer, - - 1440
John Cummings, for the County of Middlesex, and Arthur Noble, for the County of Lincoln, chosen Brigadier-Generals by the House, rejected by the Council, - - - - 1440
Bill for fixing out Armed Vessels read a third time, and passed to be engrossed, - - 1440
Form of an Inlistment to be signed by the Soldiers to be raised in the Counties of Hampshire and Berkshire, to join the Army in Canada, - - - - - - - - 1441
10, Order of the Court for raising a Regiment in Hampshire and Berkshire Counties to serve in Canada, reconsidered and amended, - 1442
Committee to wait on General Washington, to inform him the Court is about to rise, and to know if he has any application to make to the Court, - - - - - - - - 1443
Samuel Harnden, chosen Brigadier for the County of Lincoln, in place of Arthur Noble, and Oliver Prescott, Brigadier for the County of Middlesex, in place of John Cummings, rejected by the Council, - - - - - 1443
12, Letter from General Washington, representing that the Army is in want of Fire-Arms, - 1444
Resolutions appointing a Truckmaster, to reside at Machias, for trade with the St. John's and Passamaquoddy Indians, - - - - 1444

1776.
Committees to be appointed to purchase, in the recess of the Court, good and effective Fire-Arms on the best terms they can, and forward them, without delay, to General Washington, he advancing what Money may be necessary, 1445
Feb. 13, Resolves to encourage the building of Powder-Mills, - - - - - - - - 1447
Receiver-General directed to use the Continental Money now in the Treasury, as well as the Bills for this Colony, in the payment of Accounts, - - - - - - - - 1447
Committees for the purchase of Fire-Arms in the recess of the Court, - - - - - 1448
Petition of Abijah Moore, of Putney, in the Province of New-York, representing that he marched with a number of Men to Cambridge soon after the 19th of April last, - - 1448
Bounty for the erection of Powder-Mills, - 1448
14, Bill for encouraging the fixing out of Armed Vessels, passed to be enacted, - - - 1449
Stephen Smith chosen Truckmaster, to reside at Machias, - - - - - - - 1450
Colonel Orne directed to raise a Company of Matrosses, to be stationed at Marblehead, - 1450
Form of Inlistment for the Matrosses, - - 1450
Committees to collect Silver and Gold in exchange for Continental Bills, - - - 1450
Resolve respecting the real and personal Estates of Tories, - - - - - - - 1451
15, Resolves relating to Powder and Fire-Arms that may be furnished to General Washington in the recess of the Court, - - - 1453
16, Committee to build ten Armed Sloops authorized to build but five, if they cannot procure Rigging, Iron, or other materials, - - - 1454
Forms of Returns for the Committees appointed to take the number of the Inhabitants of the Colony, - - - - - - - - 1455
Bounty for the encouragement of the manufacture of Sulphur, - - - - - - 1456
Resolve, directing that no process of a civil nature be commenced within the Colony, until the further order of this Court, - - - 1456
17, Report of Sub-Committee on Lead-Mines in Northampton, Southampton, and Worcester, - 1457
Copy of the Report to be transmitted to the American Congress, - - - - - 1458
Message sent to the Council, requesting them to suspend granting Commissions to the Brigadiers till the next sitting of the Court, - 1458
Report of Committee to consider what further Supplies are necessary to be procured for the use of the Colony, - - - - - 1458
Commissary-General directed to lend General Washington fifty pounds of Saltpetre for the Continental Laboratory, - - - - - 1459
Committee to make further experiments of the Saltpetre manufactured in this Colony, - 1459
Resolve of the House, relative to civil actions, disagreed to by the Council, - - - 1459
19, House asks a Conference on the subject of regulating civil actions, - - - - - 1460
Conference of the two Houses, - - - 1460
Committee to consider what is proper to be done with respect to regulating proceedings in civil causes, - - - - - - - - - 1460
20, The Council desired to set apart Thursday, the 7th of March, to be observed as a day of Humiliation and Prayer, - - - - - 1461
Report of Joint Committee on regulating proceedings in civil causes, - - - - - 1461
Committee to provide a sufficient magazine of Provision for the use of the Colony, - - 1461
Message to the Council, requesting an Adjournment to the 13th of March, - - - 1462
Adjourned to Wednesday, March 13, - - - 1462
List of the Field-Officers of the Militia, chosen by the House at the present Session, - - 1463
Division of the Militia of each County into Regiments, and the rank of each Regiment, - 1465

CORRESPONDENCE, PROCEEDINGS, ETC.

Feb. 21, Order by the King in Council, prohibiting the exportation, or carrying coastwise, of any Gunpowder, Saltpetre, or any sort of Arms or Ammunition, - - - - - - 1467

1776.
Feb.21, Letter from Maryland Council of Safety to Captain Fulford, directing him to prove the Cannon made by Samuel and David Hughes, at Antietam, - - - - - - - 1468
21, Letter from Jacob Young to Maryland Council of Safety, - - - - - - - - 1468
21, Officers of the Third Battalion (Colonel Dayton's) now raising in New-Jersey, - - 1469
21, Letter from Joseph Robinson to the New-York Congress, relating to the conduct of the Tories in Queen's County, - - - - - 1469
21, Letter from General Schuyler to the President of Congress: He has directed the Commissary-General to send Deputies into Canada, - 1469
21, Letter from General Schuyler to New-York Congress, recommending Mr. Payne, - - 1470
21, Letter from General Wooster to General Schuyler: The Flour is nearly expended; he can purchase nothing without hard cash, and has none but Paper Money, - - - - - 1499
21, Letter from General Wooster to the President of Congress: Has sent his Secretary, Mr. Cole, to bring what hard Money can be instantly procured: he can get no supplies, without hard cash; and, if not immediately supplied with it, they must starve, or quit the country, or disgrace the Army and the American cause, by laying the country under contribution, - - - - - - - - 1470
21, Letter from General Greene to General Washington, - - - - - - - - - 1470
22, Acknowledgment and Declaration of Walter Hatton, of Virginia, - - - - - - 1470
22, Address of the Committee of Northampton County, Virginia, to Captains Henry and Kent, of Maryland, - - - - - - - - 1471
Answer of Captain Henry and Captain Kent to the Committee, - - - - - - 1471
22, Letter from the Maryland Council of Safety to the Baltimore Committee, - - - - - 1472
22, Letter from Charles Carroll to the Maryland Council of Safety, - - - - - - 1472
22, Letter from Governour Penn to the Assembly: Has given instructions to the Magistrates of Northumberland to put the Laws of Pennsylvania in force in that County, - - - 1473
Letter to Governour Penn from Northumberland County, dated December 30: The Sheriff, in attempting to serve Warrants and other legal process on a number of persons residing in Wyoming, was resisted and fired upon, and compelled to retire, - - - - - - 1473
22, Memorial of the Committee of Safety of Pennsylvania to the Assembly, requesting them to raise a body of two thousand Men for the defence of the Province, and calling their attention to the Military Association, - - 1474
22, Letter from Orange County Committee to the New-York Congress, - - - - - 1474
22, Letter from E. W. Kiers to Thomas Smith, relating to the difficulties on the South side of the Mountain, in Orange County, - - 1475
22, Letter from General Lee to the President of Congress: Was much disappointed in not being joined by a Battalion from Philadelphia. The Minute-Men render him no service, and are extremely expensive. The Congress should establish one great Continental Regular Army, adequate to all the purposes of defence; every consideration—that of economy, as well as security—dictates the measure, - 1475
22, Letter from General Heath to General Washington, - - - - - - - - - 1476
22, Letter from General Washington to General Lee, 1476
22, Letter from General Washington to Governour Trumbull, thanking him for an additional supply of Powder, - - - - - - 1476
22, Letter from John Langdon to New-Hampshire Committee of Safety: Has enrolled one hundred Men at Portsmouth, and asks instructions about supplying them with Powder, - - 1477
23, Remarks on two paragraphs from Lord Dunmore's Virginia Gazette, printed on board his own Ship, - - - - - - - - 1477
23, Letter from the Maryland Council of Safety to the several Committees of Observation, - 1477
23, Letter from Richard Barnes to the Maryland Council of Safety, - - - - - - 1479

1776.
Feb.23, Letter from Frederick Rhinelander to Peter Van Schaack: State of affairs in the City of New-York, - - - - - - - - 1479
23, Letter from Robert Boyd, Jun, to the New-York Congress: Has nearly completed the Gun-Barrels contracted for, but cannot proceed further under the old contract, - - 1480
23, Letter from General Schuyler to the President of Congress, - - - - - - - 1481
Letter from General Wooster to General Schuyler: They can buy no Provisons or Wood with Continental Money, - - - - - 1483
Proceedings of the New-Hampshire Committee of Safety, from January 20, to February 24, 1483
24, Extract of a Letter from a Member of the Provincial Congress of North-Carolina to Colonel Robert Howe: Seven of the Leaders of the Regulators are just lodged in Halifax Jail. The Insurrection of the Regulators is entirely suppressed, and it is probable the Highlanders are dispersed, - - - - - - - - 1488
24, Letter from the Maryland Council of Safety to their Delegates in Congress, requesting Continental Money may be sent to exchange for Gold and Silver, of which eight thousand Pounds may be raised, - - - - - 1488
24, Letter from the Maryland Council of Safety to Colonel Dashiell, - - - - - - 1489
24, Letter from the Maryland Council of Safety to the Committee for Queen Anne's County, - 1489
24, Letter from Captain Thomas to the Maryland Council of Safety, - - - - - - 1489
24, Letter from the Provincial Congress of New-Jersey to the Continental Congress, showing their exposure to invasion from the enemy, and the consequences of such invasion to the adjoining Colonies, and requesting two Battalions may be raised for defence, - - 1490
24, Memorial of Joseph Crane to the New-York Congress, - - - - - - - - 1491
24, Letter from James Deane to General Schuyler, 1499
24, Letter from Robert H. Harrison to William Watson, - - - - - - - - - 1491
25, Letter from the Maryland Council of Safety to Colonel Waters, - - - - - - 1491
25, Letter from the Maryland Delegates in Congress to the Council of Safety, requesting a Passport to Lord Dunmore may be given to Alexander Ross, - - - - - - 1491
25, Letter from Lord Stirling to William Livingston, with Affidavits relating to the capture of the Passage-Boat York, of Amboy, by the Phenix Ship-of-War, - - - - - 1492
25, Letter from General Wooster to General Washington: Troops are daily coming in, and he hopes soon to join General Arnold at Quebeck, who has, to his honour, kept up the blockade with such a handful of men, that the story, when told hereafter, will be scarcely credited, - - - - - - - - - 1493
25, Letter from General Washington to General Schuyler: At this important crisis, there is so great a deficiency of Arms, that there is now a considerable number of men in Camp with none in their hands. It is truly alarming and distressing, to be within musket-shot of a formidable Army, well provided with every necessary, without having the means of maintaining even a defensive war, - - - - - 1493
26, King William County (Virginia) Committee declare that the report propagated to the prejudice of Captain Benjamin Temple is without foundation, - - - - - - 1494
26, Letter from the Maryland Council of Safety to Captain Hindman, - - - - - - 1494
26, Letter from Dorchester County Committee to Maryland Council of Safety: Cambridge is the most convenient and proper place for the Independent Company to be stationed in, - 1494
26, Officers recommended for appointment by the Committee for Charles County, - - - 1494
26, Letter from Josiah Bartlett to Meshech Weare: Large quantities of Gunpowder and Saltpetre have arrived at Philadelphia; but as all supplies may be cut off in the Spring, we should endeavour to supply ourselves within ourselves, and leave as little to the uncertainty of winds, weather, and enemies, as possible, - 1495

1776.
*Feb.*26, Letter to the Author of Common Sense: Suggests that, in forming the new Government, besides the present thirteen United Colonies, Quebeck and Nova-Scotia should be included; and to preserve the equality of the Colonies, the boundaries of many should be altered, and at least three new Colonies formed, viz. Montreal, Albany, and Susquehannah, - - 1496
26, Letter from John Smyth, Treasurer of New-Jersey, to the Provincial Congress, - - 1601
26, Letter from the Committee for Richmond County to the New-York Congress, relating to the Prisoners taken by Colonel Heard and Colonel Thomas, - - - - - - - 1498
26, Letter from General Schuyler to the President of Congress: He hopes to send General Wooster some Money to-morrow, - - 1499
Letter from General Wooster to General Schuyler: The Flour on hand will not last the Army more than a week. Provisions or Wood cannot be purchased without hard cash. Our credit sinks daily, - - - - - 1499
24, Letter from James Deane to General Schuyler: Governour Penn has invited the Six-Nations to meet him in Philadelphia. The Indians are much at a loss to comprehend Onus's design in calling them down to Philadelphia, - 1499
26, Letter from Colonel Bayley to General Washington: A Post may go from Newbury to Montreal without difficulty or obstruction, - 1500
Letter from Colonel Bayley to General Wooster, - - - - - - - - 1500
Journal of the Men sent by Colonel Bayley from Newbury to Montreal, by the way of Missisque-Bay, - - - - - - - - 1500
Letter from General Wooster to Colonel Bayley, 1501
26, Letter from General Washington to General Lee: The enemy seem preparing for their departure from Boston. We are making the necessary dispositions to take possession of Dorchester-Hill, which will bring them out, if any thing will, - - - - - - 1501
26, Letter from General Washington to the Council of Massachusetts, informing them of his intention to take possession of Dorchester-Heights, and requesting them to order two Regiments of Militia to the lines, - - - - - 1502
26, Letter from General Washington to Joseph Reed, 1502
26, Letter from General Washington to the President of Congress, - - - - - - 1503
General Orders, from February 15 to February 26, - - - - - - - - - 1503
27, Extract of a Letter from Williamsburgh, Virginia, to a Gentleman in Philadelphia: General Clinton, with his Troops, the Mercury, Kingfisher, and two or three Tenders, went out of the Capes yesterday, - - - - 1506
27, Letter from Captain Scott to the Maryland Council of Safety, - - - - - - - 1507
27, Letter from Robert Alexander to the Maryland Council of Safety: Congress has ordered an advance of twenty-two thousand Dollars. Mr. Morris has purchased for Maryland four hundred stand of Arms and thirty-five hundred pounds of Cannon-Powder, - - - 1507
27, Letter from George Stricker to the Maryland Council of Safety, - - - - - - 1508
27, Petition of Buck's County Committee to the Assembly of Pennsylvania, praying an additional Tax may be laid on the Estates of the non-Associators, - - - - - - 1509
27, Letter from General Lee to the President of Congress, - - - - - - - - 1509
27, Letter from General Schuyler to the President of Congress, - - - - - - - - 1510
Orders issued by General Schuyler for regulating the issuing of Provisions, - - - 1511
27, Letter from General Arnold to General Washington, - - - - - - - - 1513
27, Letter from Edward Williams, a British prisoner, to Governour Trumbull, - - - - 1514
27, Letter from General Washington to General Schuyler, - - - - - - - 1514
27, Letter from Stephen Moylan to General Wooster: The Indians from Canada were greatly dissatisfied that La Corne is suffered to go at liberty. He is a dangerous person, and should be sent out of the Province, - - - 1515

1776.
*Feb.*28, Colonel Patrick Henry resigned his Commission, - - - - - - - - - 1515
Address of the Troops at Williamsburgh to Colonel Henry, - - - - - - 1516
Colonel Henry's Answer to the Address of the Troops, - - - - - - - - - 1516
Address to Patrick Henry, Jun., late Commander-in-Chief of the Virginia Forces, signed by upwards of ninety Officers at Kemp's Landing, Suffolk, and Williamsburgh, - - 1516
Colonel Henry's Commission from the Continental Congress, - - - - - - - 1517
A Friend to Truth on Colonel Henry's Resignation, - - - - - - - - - 1517
An Honest Farmer to Mr. Purdie, - - 1518
Detail of the Publick Proceedings, so far as they relate to Colonel Henry, from his first appointment to the command of the First Regiment to his refusal of the Continental Commission, appointing him to the same command, - 1519
28, Letter from Captain Kent and Captain Henry to the Maryland Council of Safety: We were sent to the assistance of the Inhabitants of Accomack and Northampton Counties; but in an engagement at this time, we should have but little assistance from them, - - - - 1521
28, Letter from the President of Congress to General Lee: Requests that he will not set out for Canada until he receives further orders from the Congress, - - - - - - - 1522
28, Plain Hints on the Condition of the Colonies, - 1522
28, Speech of an Honest Farmer to an assembly of his neighbours of Philadelphia County, on his entering in the Continental service, - - 1525
28, Address of Rationalis to the Inhabitants of Pennsylvania, in answer to Common Sense, and against Independence, - - - - - 1527
28, Letter from the Provincial Congress of New-York to President Hancock, - - - - 1530
Nominations of Field-Officers for the four New-York Battalions, - - - - - - 1531
List of New-York Officers now in Canada, - 1531
Officers and Non-Commissioned Officers of the First New-York Battalion who offer themselves as Volunteers, - - - - - 1531
28, Letter from John Hill to New-York Congress, complaining of Cadwallader Colden, son of the Lieutenant-Governour, - - - - - 1532
28, Letter from John Hammell, Jun., to the New-York Congress, - - - - - - 1532
29, Letter from David Stewart to the Maryland Council of Safety, - - - - - - 1533
29, Letter from Captains Kent and Henry to the Maryland Council of Safety, - - - 1533
Return of Captain Henry's Company, - - 1533
Return of Captain Kent's Company, - - 1533
List of the Minute Company that marched from Queen Anne's County, Maryland, February 3, 1776, under the command of Captain James Kent, - - - - - - - - - 1533
29, Letter from Captain Gunby to Daniel of St. Thomas Jenifer, - - - - - - 1534
29, Letter from Captain Andrew Beall to the Maryland Council of Safety, - - - - - 1534
29, An Apology for the Pennsylvania Assembly, for their imputed backwardness in the cause of liberty, - - - - - - - - - 1535
29, Letter from James Mease to the President of Congress: The Soldiers are without Blankets, - - - - - - - - - 1537
29, Letter from General Lee to General Washington, giving an account of his measures for the defence of New-York. The Congress have not, as yet, taken the least step for its security, - - - - - - - - - 1537
29, Letter from Henry Remsen, at Newark, New-Jersey, to Colonel Woodhull: Requests information where to send three tons of Powder, which has just been received, - - - 1539
29, Letter from Captain Patrick Sinclair to the New-York Congress, for permission to go to Europe, - - - - - - - - - 1539
29, Letter from Samuel Gale to John McKesson: Is in close confinement in the common Jail at Fairfield, and asks that he may be allowed a parole, or a writ of habeas corpus, - - 1539
29, Letter from General Washington to the President of Congress, - - - - - - 1540

1776.
Jan. 13, Common Sense—
I. Of the Origin and Design of Government in general, with concise Remarks on the English Constitution, - - - - 1541
II. Of Monarchy and Hereditary Succession, 1544
III. Thoughts on the present state of American Affairs, - - - - - - - 1548
IV. Of the present ability of America, with some Miscellaneous Reflections, - - 1556

PENNSYLVANIA COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Jan. 29, A Pilot permitted to cruise off the Delaware Capes for a Ship with Arms and Ammunition, bound to Philadelphia, - - - 1561
Lieutenant Cameron, taken with Mr. Connolly, examined by the Committee, and remanded to Jail, - - - - - - - - - 1561
30, Advertisements for Rags and Lint, and for Saltpetre, ordered to be inserted in the Pennsylvania Gazette and Pennsylvania Journal, - 1562
Dr. Connolly examined, and remanded to Jail, 1563
31, Thomas Austin, charged with having uttered many declarations inimical to the cause of American liberty, ordered to attend the Committee on Tuesday, February 6, - - 1563
Josiah Hart, Marshall Edwards, John Laughlin, and Caspar Fetters, required to attend at the same time as witnesses, - - - 1563
Feb. 1, Report of Daniel Joy, David Rittenhouse, and John McNeal, of a Survey of the Jersey shore, from Billingsport to Newtown Creek, to determine what parts it may be necessary to fortify, - - - - - - - 1564
3, Robert Colebrook and James O'Neil, taken with Captain Campbell, and confined by order of Congress, discharged, - - - - - 1565
John Brown, the servant of Doctor Connolly, ordered from Jail to the Work-House, - 1565
Commodore Caldwell directed to discharge John Hackett from the Fleet, - - - - 1565
Pay of Captains of the Armed Boats increased to ten Pounds per month, First Lieutenants to seventeen Dollars, and Second Lieutenants to fourteen Dollars, - - - - - - 1565
Distribution of Prize-Money to the Officers and Crews of the Armed Boats, - - - 1565
5, Officers and Soldiers of the Batteries included in the distribution of Prizes, - - - - 1565
John Eddy appointed First Lieutenant in place of Barnet Eichelberger, - - - - - 1565
Petition from the Committee of the Privates, read, and declared reasonable and proper, - 1566
6, Thomas Austin attended, and was examined, and allowed until Wednesday next to produce testimony in his defence, - - - - 1566
7, Doctor Hugh Hodge appointed Surgeon of the Third Battalion for the Continental Service, 1566
Letter to the Committee of Safety of Maryland, offering to instruct such persons as they desire in the method of making Saltpetre, - 1566
8, Bernard Romans appointed Captain of Matrosses, 1567
Thomas Hanson appointed Quartermaster of the Second Battalion, - - - - - - 1567
Vessels employed by Captain Van Horn, for importing Powder, Arms, &c., from foreign parts, insured by the Committee from seizure, - 1567
Memorial to Congress, with proposals from different Persons for erecting Powder-Mills, - 1567
9, John Harper appointed Quartermaster to the Fourth Battalion, Richard Collier to the Fifth, and Garret Steddiford to the Third, - 1567
Gibbs Jones appointed Captain-Lieutenant of Matrosses, - - - - - - - 1568
10, Proposals delivered to the Committee appointed to inquire for proper places to erect Powder-Mills, - - - - - - - - - 1569
12, Letter from the President of Congress, requesting the Battalions in this City would furnish one to be detached to New-York, - - 1569
Mr. Dickinson directed to apply to Congress to replace the whole number of Arms this Board has supplied them with, - - - - 1569
13, Resolution of Congress, directing fifty tons of Saltpetre to be delivered by the Secret Committee to this Committee to be manufactured into Gunpowder, - - - - - 1570
1776.
Feb. 14, Doctor Samuel Kennedy appointed Surgeon, and William Moulder Second Lieutenant, in the Fourth Battalion, - - - - 1570
Thomas Austin appeared, and having nothing to offer in defence of the charges against him as a person inimical to the liberties of America, he signed a declaration acknowledging his guilt, and promising not to offend in future, - - - - - - - - 1570
15, The Books and Papers of John Drinker and Joshua Fisher & Sons to be locked up and sealed, and all the doors and windows of their Stores and Warehouses to be locked and keyed, and fastened on the outside by a wooden bar being nailed across them, - - - 1571
16, Rev. William Linn appointed Chaplain to the Fifth and Sixth Battalions, - - - 1571
Appointments and Promotions of Officers of the Armed Boats, - - - - - - - 1572
Measures adopted for the immediate erection of Powder-Mills, - - - - - - 1572
Captains of the Armed Boats directed to inquire into the qualifications of Persons applying for appointments, - - - - - - 1572
20, Committee to fix proper Signals in the River and Bay of Delaware, to give the most speedy intelligence of any enemy's Ships arriving at the Capes, - - - - - - - 1573
Commodore Caldwell directed immediately to consult with all the Officers, and arrange them to the different Armed Boats, - - - 1573
John Myers appointed Armourer to the Armed Boats, - - - - - - - - - 1573
Letter to the President of Congress, requesting the Prisoners to be removed to Lancaster and other parts of the country, - - - 1573
Application to be made to the Assembly to raise two thousand Men for the defence of the Province, - - - - - - - 1573
22, Memorial to the Assembly, - - - - 1574
23, Committee to go to the Barracks and muster the Men belonging to the Armed Boats, - - 1575
Notice to be inserted in the publick Papers that a Mustermaster is wanted for the Armed Boats, 1575
24, Commodore Caldwell and Captain Proctor directed to fix upon proper Signals for the Fleet, Merchantmen, and Battery, - - - 1576
Captain Proctor to procure a Flag-staff for the Fort, with a Flag of the United Colonies, - 1576
Committee to see that all necessaries for the use of the Battery be supplied, - - - 1576
26, Benjamin Rittenhouse requested to remove to this City, to take charge of the Gun-Lock Factory, - - - - - - - - 1576
28, Fire-Arms not to be taken out of the Province without the consent of the Committee, - 1578
29, Committee to carry into execution every thing necessary towards completing the Fortifications on Fort Island, - - - - - 1578

PROVINCIAL CONGRESS OF NEW-JERSEY.

Jan. 31, List of the Deputies returned to serve in the Congress, - - - - - - - - 1579
Feb. 1, Petition from the Committee for the County of Somerset, praying that Persons not Freeholders, who pay Taxes, may be permitted to vote for Delegates, and that the elections be by ballot, - - - - - - - - - 1579
Similar Petitions from the Inhabitants of Essex County, - - - - - - - - - 1579
Two Petitions from Morris County, relating to the appointment of Military Officers, - - 1579
Letter from Jacob Ford, stating his reasons for refusing Continental and Connecticut Money, 1580
Committees of Somerset and Middlesex required to furnish Colonel Winds with Powder and Lead, - - - - - - - - - - 1580
2, William Patterson appointed Secretary to the Congress, - - - - - - - - 1580
Resolution to procure Arms for Colonel Maxwell's Battalion, now under orders for Canada, 1580
Letter to the several County Committees, requesting their assistance in procuring Arms for Colonel Maxwell's Battalion, - - 1580
Officers of the Third Battalion, now to be raised, to be chosen on Monday next, - - - 1581

1776.
Peter Vroom, of Piscataway, confessing the charge brought against him by the Committee of Hillsborough, was committed to the common Jail of Somerset County, - - - 1581
Blankets at the Barracks in New-Brunswick, Elizabethtown, Trenton, and Perth-Amboy, appropriated to the use of the Continental Forces, - - - - - - - - 1581
Feb. 3, Abraham Ogden appointed Lieutenant-Colonel, and William Burnet Major, of Light-Horse, 1582
Remonstrance of the Committee of the County of Bergen, respecting the seizure of the Arms of the County, - - - - - - - 1582
Field-Officers for the First Regiment of Militia in Somerset County, - - - - - - 1582
Committee to wait on the Eastern Treasurer, and request his removal to New-Brunswick, 1582
Records in the Secretary's Office at Perth Amboy to be removed immediately to New-Brunswick; if necessary, the Troops may be called on to assist in the removal, - - 1582
5, Measures to prevent the exportation of any Produce or Merchandise, whatever, contrary to the General Association, - - - - - 1583
Committee reported that the Books and Records were removed from Perth-Amboy to New-Brunswick, - - - - - - - - 1583
Committee reported that, notwithstanding the Protest of Mr. Smith, the Treasurer, the Money in the Treasury, &c., was removed as ordered, - - - - - - - - - 1583
Letter from Lord Stirling, with an attested copy of a Letter from Cortlandt Skinner, to his brother, Colonel William Skinner, in England, - - - - - - - - - 1583
Eastern Treasury removed to the house of Peter Schenck, in Somerset County, - - - 1583
Eastern Records and Books from Perth-Amboy to be further removed to Burlington, and lodged in the Secretary's Office at that place, 1583
Letter to Mr. Pettit, requiring him to attend at Burlington, where the Records are, - - 1584
Papers and Records in the Surveyor-General's Office to be removed immediately to the house of Peter Schenck, in Somerset County, 1584
6, Order respecting Christopher Harrison, convicted of the charge against him by the Committee for Bethlehem, in Hunterdon County, 1584
Letter to the Continental Congress, respecting the sale and consumption of Tea, - - 1584
Resolutions for raising the Third Battalion for the service of the United Colonies, - - 1585
Elias Dayton appointed Colonel, Anthony Walton White Lieutenant-Colonel, and Francis Barber Major, of the Third Battalion, - 1586
Order respecting William Steele, - - - 1586
Records to be delivered to Charles Pettit, at Burlington, on Thursday next, - - - 1586
7, Officers for the Third Battalion, - - - 1587
8, Representation of the Committee of Salem County, respecting the disturbances there, read, and Dr. Samuel Dick heard in his defence, - 1587
9, Representation from Salem County further considered, - - - - - - - - 1587
10, Commissioners to purchase Fire-Arms authorized to contract for them on the best terms they can, - - - - - - - - 1588
Salem County to be divided into two Districts, and a Battalion to be formed in each District, 1588
Letter to the Continental Congress: They have no resource of providing Arms for the Third Battalion other than making or importing them, - - - - - - - - - 1588
12, Detachment of Volunteers, under the command of Colonel Heard, sent to Staten-Island, - 1589
Representation from the Elizabethtown Committee, praying for some regulation to prevent the removal to this Province of Persons unfriendly to the cause of American freedom, - 1589
13, Order respecting Richard Bowlsby and Andrew McCleney, of Sussex County, convicted of opposing the present measures, - - - 1590
Two Companies of Artillery to be raised immediately, and a train of Artillery of twelve Field-pieces purchased, - - - - - 1591
Fifty thousand Pounds, in paper Bills of Credit, to be emitted in place of thirty thousand Pounds formerly ordered, - - - 1591

1776.
Feb. 14, William Livingston, John De Hart, Richard Smith, John Cooper, and Jonathan Dickinson Sargeant, chosen Delegates to the Continental Congress for one year, - - - 1592
15, Letter from the Continental Congress, requesting a Battalion of Minute-Men may be sent to General Lee, at New-York, - - - 1592
Detachment, equal to a Battalion in the Continental service, ordered to be sent immediately under the command of Col. Charles Stewart, 1593
Order respecting Charles Roberts, of Somerset County, - - - - - - - - 1593
Letter from the Committee of Somerset, recommending that measures should be taken to fortify Perth-Amboy, - - - - - 1594
16, The several Petitions relating to the qualifications of Electors of Members of Congress considered, - - - - - - - - 1594
Qualifications of Electors, - - - - 1594
17, Ordinances for striking fifty thousand Pounds; to fix the Qualifications of Electors; for exempting Persons who inlist in the service of the United Colonies from arrest; and for directing the manner of signing the General Association, were severally presented and read, - - - - - - - - - 1595
19, Ordinance for preventing Persons deserting places in danger of being attacked, and for restraining such as are dangerous to the common cause, from taking refuge in this Colony, presented and read, - - - - - 1595
Ordinance for numbering the Inhabitants of the Colony, pursuant to the directions of the Continental Congress, read, - - - - - 1596
20, Treasurers of the Colony required to receive the Bills of Credit issued by the Continental Congress, - - - - - - - - 1596
Letter to Mr. Smyth, Eastern Treasurer, requesting him to continue to act as Treasurer, - 1596
Ordered, that the present Congress be dissolved, and that there be a new election of Deputies to represent this Colony, in Provincial Congress, on the fourth Monday in May next, - 1597
Letter to Mr. Smyth, desiring an explicit answer to their request, - - - - - 1597
Letter from Lord Stirling, informing them that the British Vessels-of-War at New-York take every Provision Vessel coming from New-Jersey, - - - - - - - - 1597
Order prohibiting the transportation of Provisions, and all other kinds of Produce of the Colony, to New-York, - - - - - 1598
22, Letter from James Hughes, a prisoner at Elizabethtown, requesting permission to go to New-York, - - - - - - - - - 1598
23, Committee reported that they had removed the Papers, Books, and Records, in the Surveyor-General's Office, as ordered, - - - 1598
Letter to Lord Stirling, requesting copies of the orders respecting the seizing the Arms belonging to Bergen County, - - - 1599
Letter to the Continental Congress respecting the exposed condition of Perth-Amboy, - 1600
26, Resolution of the Continental Congress countermanding the order for the march of a Battalion for the defence of New-York, as Arms cannot be procured for them, - - - 1601
Petitions from several Committees, representing that the Deputies from Bergen County, and the persons who compose the County Committee of Bergen, were not duly elected, - 1601
Committee of Trenton made return of the persons who, in their bounds, signed the General Association, and of those who refused to do so, 1601
27, Letter from John Smyth: Agrees to continue Treasurer, provided the Chest is removed from Mr. Schenck's to Mr. Stevens's, - - 1601
Treasury-Chest ordered to be removed to the dwelling-house of Mr. John Stevens, - - 1602
28, Resolution of the 21st instant, prohibiting the export of Provisions and Produce from this Colony to the City of New-York, repealed, - 1603
Resolutions relating to the differences between the County Committee of Essex and the Township Committee of Trenton, - - - 1603
Sundry Officers elected, - - - - - 1603
Petitions from Township Committees of Woodbridge and Piscataway, - - - - - 1604

1776.
Ordinance for regulating the former Minute Department of Militia, reported, - - - 1604
Return of Persons who signed, and who refused to sign, the General Association, made by the Township Committee of Amwell, - - 1604
Feb. 29, Letter to the Committee of Elizabethtown, for information respecting the capture of the Ship Blue-Mountain-Valley, - - - - 1604
Mar. 1, Order respecting Peter Vroom, - - - 1605
Officers for the two Companies of Artillery elected, - - - - - - - - 1605
John Stevens's receipt for the Treasury-Chest, 1605
Ordinance for paying a Bounty on Saltpetre and common Salt, manufactured in New-Jersey, presented and read, - - - - - - 1605
Ordinance for raising two Companies of Artillery, presented and read, - - - - - 1605
Records of the Surveyor-General's Office sent to the house of Peter Schenck, at Millstone, - 1605
2, Resolutions respecting the capture of the Ship Blue-Mountain-Valley, - - - - - 1606
Letter to the Committee of Safety of Pennsylvania, in answer to their Letter respecting raising Artillery Companies, - - - 1607
Treasurers of the Colony requested to stop all payments of salary to Cortlandt Skinner, Attorney-General, he being no longer a friend of the Colony, - - - - - - 1607
Letter to the Delegates in Congress, instructing them in general, to join in the general voice of the United Colonies, and to pursue such measures as they may judge most beneficial for the publick good of all the Colonies, - 1608
John Anderson, of New-York, to print the Minutes and Ordinances of this sitting, - - 1608
Adjourned to fourth Monday in May next, unless sooner called by the President and Vice-President, - - - - - - - 1608

—

Ordinance directing the manner of signing the General Association by persons of tender consciences, and for enforcing the same, - 1608
Ordinance for appointing Barrack-Masters in this Province, - - - - - - - 1610
Ordinance for exempting persons who inlist in the service of the United Colonies from arrest, - - - - - - - - - 1610
Ordinance for striking the sum of fifty thousand Pounds in Bills of Credit, for the purposes therein mentioned, - - - - - - 1611
Ordinance to prevent persons deserting places in danger of being attacked, and for restraining such as are dangerous to the common cause from taking refuge in this Colony, - - 1618
Ordinance for directing the mode and fixing the time for an election of Deputies to serve in Provincial Congress, and also to ascertain the qualification of Electors, - - - - - 1619
Ordinance for numbering the Inhabitants of this Colony, - - - - - - - - - 1622
Ordinance for incorporating the Minute-Men lately raised in this Colony into the body of Militia, and for further regulating the Militia, 1622
Ordinance for raising two Artillery Companies in New-Jersey, - - - - - - 1623
Ordinance for paying a Bounty on Saltpetre and common Salt, and for purchasing Saltpetre, - 1624
Ordinance to provide for the payment of Incidental Charges, - - - - - - 1625

CONTINENTAL CONGRESS.

Jan. 1, Letter from Governour Trumbull, of December 23, read, - - - - - - - - - 1625
Report on Captain Sellick's Petition considered and agreed to, - - - - - - - - 1625
Report on Lord Stirling's Letters considered and recommitted, - - - - - - - - 1626
John Patterson elected Adjutant for the Pennsylvania Battalion, - - - - - - 1626
President directed to sign Commissions for the Field-Officers elected by the Provincial Congress of North-Carolina, for two Battalions raised in that Colony, - - - - - 1627
New Powers to the New-York Delegates, received from their Convention, laid by them before Congress, - - - - - - - 1627

1776.
Report on the Letters of General Washington, and the intercepted Letters transmitted by him, - - - - - - - - - 1627
Jan. 2, General Schuyler to have General Prescott safely and securely kept, - - - - - 1627
Report on Petition of Captains Paddock and Coffin considered; Petition rejected, - - 1628
Report on Lord Stirling's Letters considered and agreed to, - - - - - - - - 1628
Resolutions respecting the Tories, and the barbarities of the enemy, - - - - - 1629
3, Letter from General Washington, of December 25, read, - - - - - - - - 1630
Colonels for four Pennsylvania Battalions elected, - - - - - - - - - 1630
Goods and Stores to be purchased by the Secret Committee, - - - - - - - - 1630
Resolutions respecting the Inhabitants of Queen's County, New-York, - - - - - 1630
Colonel Heard, of New-Jersey, and Colonel Waterbury, of Connecticut, to march to Queen's County to disarm the Inhabitants, - 1631
Persons to be apprehended and secured by Colonel Heard, - - - - - - - - 1631
4, An additional Battalion to be raised in Cumberland County, Pennsylvania, - - - 1632
Officers of the same rank, elected on the same day, to take rank in the order of their election, - - - - - - - - - 1632
Lieutenant-Colonels and Majors of the Pennsylvania Battalions elected, - - - - 1632
5, All Committees, and others, who have had charge of Publick Moneys, required to account, - 1633
Report of Committee on General Washington's Letter of December 18th, - - - - 1633
General Washington instructed to offer Governour Skene in exchange for Mr. Lovell, - 1633
Directions respecting the Fortifications on Hudson's River, - - - - - - - - 1634
Memorial from the Inhabitants of the Town of Newport presented, - - - - - - 1634
6, One ton of the Powder just arrived to be delivered to the Committee for fitting out Armed Vessels, - - - - - - - - - 1634
Letter received from the Committee at Lancaster, January 3, - - - - - - - 1634
Letter from an Officer at Lisbon, October 23, 1775, - - - - - - - - 1634
Memorial of Inhabitants of Newport referred to Assembly of Rhode-Island, - - - 1634
Apportionment of Prize-Money to the Captors, 1634
Letter from General Schuyler, dated December 30, read, - - - - - - - - 1635
8, Letter from General Schuyler of December 26, and Letter from the Committee of Baltimore, read, - - - - - - - - - 1635
Report on General Schuyler's Letters considered, and sundry Resolutions for reinforcing the Northern Army, adopted, - - - - 1635
Secret Committee directed to purchase fifty-seven tons of Saltpetre arrived at Philadelphia, - 1636
New-York Delegates directed to purchase fifteen tons of Powder arrived at New-York, and forward it with all possible expedition to the Camp at Cambridge, - - - - 1636
Orders given for the march of three Companies of Colonel Bull's Battalion to Accomack and Northampton countermanded, - - - 1636
Council of Safety of Maryland desired to order three Companies of Minute-Men to march immediately to Accomack and Northampton, in Virginia, - - - - - - - 1636
Committee of Safety of Pennsylvania desired to send five hundred pounds of Powder to Virginia, for the Forces sent to Accomack and Northampton, - - - - - - - 1636
9, Letter from Mr. Tilghman, dated Annapolis, January 5, with Despatches from Governour Franklin, and a Letter from Cortlandt Skinner, intercepted, - - - - - - 1636
Letter to Mr. Tilghman: That the Hornet and Wasp, under orders for the Capes of Delaware, may take what Vessels are ready under convoy, - - - - - - - - 1637
Committee to inquire into the conduct of Officers who are prisoners, - - - - - - 1637
Lord Stirling ordered to apprehend Cortlandt Skinner immediately, - - - - 1637

1776.
Militia at the Forts on Hudson's River to be discharged when Troops arrive to supply their places, - - - - - - - - - 1637
Five hundred thousand Dollars ordered for the use of the Army in Massachusetts Bay, - 1637
Further Resolutions providing for reinforcement of the Northern Army, - - - - 1637
Committee of Safety of New-York to inquire into the propriety and practicability of obstructing or lessening the depth of water in the Narrows, - - - - - - - - 1638
Jan. 10, Further Resolutions for Reinforcements and Supplies to the Northern Army, - - - 1638
Joseph Frye and Benedict Arnold elected Brigadier-Generals, - - - - - - - 1639
Field-Officers for Pennsylvania Battalion elected, 1639
Another Battalion to be raised in New-Jersey, 1639
Colonel Heard to proceed on the expedition to Queen's County without Colonel Waterbury, 1639
Committee of five to take into consideration the state of the Colonies, - - - - - 1639
11, Committee to prepare Instructions for the Officers in the Recruiting Service, - - - 1640
All persons who depreciate the Continental Bills of Credit, or discourage the currency or circulation thereof, to be treated as enemies of the country, - - - - - - - - 1640
12, Regulations for the Subsistence of Officers who are prisoners, - - - - - - - 1641
Congress in Committee of the Whole on the Trade of the United Colonies, - - - 1641
13, Letter from General Washington, of January 3, and Letter from New-York of January 3, read, 1641
Committee of five Members on Letter from New-York, who are to confer with Mr. Romans, - - - - - - - - - 1641
Secret Committee directed to purchase Saltpetre on the best terms they can, - - - 1641
15, Committee to make an estimate of the number of Cannon wanted for the defence of the United Colonies, and to devise ways and means of procuring them, - - - - - - 1642
Servants not to be employed in the Fleet or Army without the consent of their Masters, - 1642
In Committee of the Whole on the Trade of the United Colonies, - - - - - - 1642
16, Credentials of the Delegates from Connecticut, 1643
Another Battalion to be raised in North-Carolina, - - - - - - - - - 1643
Report of Committee on General Washington's Letters, - - - - - - - - - 1644
17, Petition from Dr. Benjamin Church, presented and referred, - - - - - - - 1644
Report of Committee of the Whole on the propriety of opening the Ports after the 1st of March next, read and laid on the table, - 1645
Committee to consider under what Regulations and Restrictions the Trade of these Colonies ought to be carried on after 1st of March, - 1645
Instructions for Officers in the Recruiting Service, - - - - - - - - - 1645
Letter from General Schuyler of January 13, enclosing copies of Letters from General Wooster, Colonel Arnold, and others, containing an account of the unsuccessful attack on Quebeck, - - - - - - - - 1645
18, Governour Trumbull desired to have Dr. Church removed to some more comfortable place of confinement, - - - - - - - - 1646
Letter from Frederick County Committee, with intercepted Letters of Connolly, found on Dr. John Smith, - - - - - - - - 1646
Committee on General Schuyler's Letter of January 13, - - - - - - - - - 1646
19, Report on the application of South-Carolina respecting Seamen, - - - - - - 1646
Field-Officers for the Delaware Battalion, - 1647
Four Battalions to be raised in New-York for the defence of that Colony, - - - 1647
Report on General Schuyler's Letter of January 13, recommending measures for the immediate reinforcement of the Army in Canada, read and agreed to, - - - - - - - - 1647
20, Memorial of Colonel Bull, of the First Pennsylvania Battalion, requesting permission to resign, - - - - - - - - - 1648
Resolutions adopted on a further Report on General Schuyler's Letter of January 13, - 1648

1776.
Jan. 22, Committee on Letter from General Washington of January 11, and other Letters, this day read, - - - - - - - - - 1650
Committee of Trenton to send General Prescott and Captain Chace, under guard, to Philadelphia, - - - - - - - - - 1650
Committee to consider a proper method of paying a just tribute of gratitude to the memory of General Montgomery, - - - - - 1650
Field-Officers for the Second Canadian Regiment, - - - - - - - - - 1650
Colonel Bull's resignation accepted, and John Philip De Haas elected in his place, - - 1650
Captain Duncan Campbell to be released on parole, and permitted to reside in Lancaster, - 1650
23, Letter from General Schuyler of January 14, read, - - - - - - - - - 1651
Secretary to draw up an account of the repulse and loss our Troops met with in the unsuccessful attempt on Quebeck, - - - - 1651
Committee to prepare a Letter to the Canadians, 1651
Report of Committee on Indian Affairs considered and recommitted, - - - - - - 1651
24, Account of the repulse at Quebeck, drawn up by the Secretary, - - - - - - 1651
Committee to consider the propriety of establishing a War-Office, - - - - - - 1653
Letter to the Inhabitants of Canada, - - - 1653
Committee to prepare an Address to the Inhabitants of the United Colonies, - - - 1653
Committee to take the examination of General Prescott and Captain Chace, - - - 1654
Monument to General Montgomery to be procured from France, - - - - - - 1654
Dr. Smith desired to prepare a Funeral Oration in honour of General Montgomery, - - - 1654
Direction of the Fleet left to the Marine Committee, - - - - - - - - 1654
Committee to inquire particularly into the conduct and character of General Prescott, - 1655
Fortress at Ticonderoga to be repaired and made defensible, - - - - - - - - 1655
Committee to repair to New-York, to consult with the Committee of Safety and General Lee, 1655
27, Committee on Letter from General Washington of January 19, - - - - - - - 1656
Committee to consider the Report of the Commissioner for Indian Affairs, in the Middle Department, - - - - - - - - 1656
Cayushota to be commissioned, giving him the rank of Colonel, - - - - - - 1656
Committee to consider the matter of inlisting Apprentices and persons in debt, - - - 1656
Regulations for Trade with the Indians, - - 1656
29, Report on General Washington's Letter of January 19, and Lord Stirling's of January 24, 1657
General Prescott committed to close confinement in the Jail of Philadelphia, - - 1658
30, Report on the inlistment of Apprentices, - - 1659
Committee on an application from the Committee of Safety of New-York, - - - 1659
31, Prisoners, who have been inlisted in the Continental Army, ordered to be discharged, and no more inlisted, - - - - - - - - 1660
Report of Committee appointed to confer with Colonel Maxwell, - - - - - - 1660
Feb. 1, General Prescott allowed a Servant, and a Physician, if his health require it, - - - - 1660
Committee of Safety of Pennsylvania to take the parole of the Officers, prisoners in Philadelphia, - - - - - - - - - 1660
2, Committee on General Schuyler's Letters of 22d and 25th January, with an account of his expedition to Tryon County, - - - 1661
Committee to take an account of the Prisoners, the names of the Officers, and their places of residence, - - - - - - - - 1661
5, Report on General Schuyler's Letters, - - 1661
Report on the Memorial of the Rev. Mr. Sampson Occum, one of the Mohegan Indians in Connecticut, - - - - - - - - 1662
General Prescott permitted to be removed from Jail to lodgings provided by Dr. Cadwallader, 1662
6, Committee to confer with Colonel Heard, and receive his Report, - - - - - - 1663
Report on the Regulations of Trade to be considered in Committee of the Whole on the 8th instant, - - - - - - - - - 1663

1776.
General Schuyler to encourage Sutlers to attend the Army in Canada, - - - - 1663
Prisoners taken by Colonel Heard, in Queen's County, to be sent to New-York, and delivered to the Congress of that Colony, - - 1663
Committee to bring in a Resolution respecting the exportation of Naval Stores for the publick service, - - - - - - - 1664
Feb. 7, Committee on two Letters from Lord Stirling of the 2d and 5th February, - - - - 1664
Instructions to the Committee on the Prisoners in New-Jersey, - - - - - - 1664
Committee on Memorial of Murray, Sansom & Co., Jacob Walton, and Frederick Rhinelander, of New-York, - - - - - 1664
Committee to examine the Journals, and report the unfinished business, - - - - 1664
8, Form of Parole to be signed by Officers, - 1665
Doctor Connolly allowed, at suitable times, to walk in the Prison-yard, - - - - 1666
Resolution respecting the Inhabitants of Richmond County, in the Colony of New-York, 1666
Funeral Oration, in honour of General Montgomery, to be delivered by Doctor Smith on the 19th, - - - - - - - 1666
9, Credentials of the Delegates from Massachusetts, 1666
Committee to inquire and report to Congress a state of the Powder, Arms, and Saltpetre, now arrived, - - - - - - - 1667
12, Letter from General Lee of February 9, read, - 1668
Detachments from Pennsylvania and New-Jersey ordered to New-York, - - - 1668
Secret Committee directed to send one ton of Powder to General Lee, - - - - 1668
Fifty tons of Saltpetre ordered to be delivered to the Committee of Safety of Pennsylvania, ten tons sent to New-York, and ten tons to Massachusetts, to be made into Gunpowder, - 1668
13, Resolution authorizing the exportation of Naval Stores, - - - - - - - 1669
Field-Officers for the six Virginia Battalions, - 1669
Committee to consider into what Military Departments the Middle and Southern Colonies ought to be formed, - - - - - 1670
Philadelphia Committee requested not to censure the venders and users of Tea, till further orders from Congress, - - - - 1670
Address to the Inhabitants of the United Colonies reported, - - - - - - - 1670
14, Regulations and Restrictions of Trade considered in Committee of the Whole, - - - 1671
15, March of the Regiment under Colonel Dickinson to New-York suspended, - - 1672
Committee to proceed to Canada, - - - 1672
John Carroll requested to accompany the Committee to Canada, - - - - - 1672
Eight tons of Powder to be immediately sent to Canada, - - - - - - - - 1672
Directions respecting the Fortifications in the Highlands, - - - - - - - 1672
16, Regulations of Trade considered in Committee of the Whole, - - - - - - - 1673
Estimate of the Cannon wanted for the defence of the Colonies, reported, - - - - 1673
17, Standing Committee of Five appointed to superintend the Treasury, - - - - 1673
Duties of the Committee, - - - - 1673
Four millions of Dollars to be emitted, - - 1673
General Lee directed immediately to repair to Canada, - - - - - - - 1674
General Schuyler directed to repair to New-York, - - - - - - - - 1674
Measures adopted to facilitate the operations of the Army in Canada, - - - - 1674
Committee to prepare Instructions for the Committee appointed to go to Canada, - - 1674
Arrangements for subsisting the Troops in New-York, - - - - - - - 1675
19, Congress attended the Oration delivered in honour of General Montgomery, - - - 1675
Dr. William Smith's Oration, - - - 1675
20, Credentials of the New-Jersey Delegates, - 1676
Committee on Memorial from Northumberland, and a Petition from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, 1677
Instructions of Lieutenant Brasher and Quartermaster Shallus, read, - - - - - 1678
Colonel Wayne directed to march to New-York, - - - - - - - - 1681

1776.
Powder for the United Colonies arrived at New-Brunswick, to be forwarded to General Washington, - - - - - - - 1685
Feb. 21, Committee on two Letters from General Schuyler, dated the 10th and 13th of February, - 1685
Letter from the Committee of Safety for Pennsylvania, respecting the Prisoners at Lancaster, read and referred, - - - - - 1685
Numbers and Denominations of the Bills of the emission of four millions of Dollars, - - 1685
Inspectors of the Press appointed, - - - 1685
22, Two Letters from General Washington, dated February 9, considered in Committee of the Whole, - - - - - - - - - 1686
Order for the march of a Regiment from New-Jersey, for the defence of New-York, countermanded, - - - - - - - - 1686
Colonel Wayne's Regiment to march immediately to New-York, - - - - - 1686
New-York Convention to inform the Congress what progress they have made in raising the four Battalions, - - - - - - 1686
23, Credentials of Colonel Braxton, a Delegate from Virginia, - - - - - - - 1686
Committee to contract for making Muskets and Bayonets for the use of the United Colonies, 1687
Secret Committee authorized to export Produce of the Colonies, for the purpose of procuring Arms and Ammunition, - - - - - 1687
Recommendations to the Assemblies, Conventions, Councils, Committees of Safety, &c., respecting Saltpetre and Powder, - - 1687
Committee, consisting of one Member from each Colony, to consider of further ways and means of promoting the manufacture of Saltpetre, Sulphur, and Gunpowder, - - 1688
26, No Vessel loaded for Great Britain, Ireland, or the British West-Indies, permitted to sail until the further order of Congress, - - 1688
M. Mesplet, Printer, engaged to go to Canada, and there set up his press, and carry on the Printing business, - - - - - - 1689
27, New-York, New-Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, and Maryland, to form one Military Department, - - - - - - - 1689
Virginia, North-Carolina, South-Carolina, and Georgia, to form another Military Department, 1689
28, General Lee desired not to set out to Canada without further orders from Congress, - 1689
Powder borrowed from North-Carolina to be returned by the Secret Committee, - - 1689
Provision for supporting the Women and Children of the Prisoners at Lancaster, - - 1689
Officers, prisoners at Lancaster, to be distributed in such places as shall be selected by the Committee of Safety of Pennsylvania, - 1690
Report of Committee on General Schuyler's Letters of the 10th and 13th, - - - 1690
29, Credentials of the New-Hampshire Delegates, 1690
Letters of General Washington, and the Trade of the Colonies, further considered in Committee of the Whole, - - - - - 1691

PROCEEDINGS OF THE COMMITTEE FOR THE COUNTY OF BALTIMORE, IN MARYLAND.

1774.
Nov. 12, Committee elected by the Freeholders of the County, - - - - - - - - - 1691
List of the Committee for Baltimore Town and the several Hundreds, - - - - 1691
30, Meeting of the Committee, - - - - 1691
Seven empowered to act in matters within the Town of Baltimore, and five in matters in the County, without the Town, - - - 1691
Committee to attend the General Meeting at Annapolis on the 24th of this month, - - 1691
Committee of Correspondence appointed for the County and the Town, - - - - 1691
Dec. 5, Samuel Purviance chosen Chairman, William Smith Deputy Chairman, and Dr. John Boyd Clerk, - - - - - - - - 1692
Vessels arriving within the Capes of Chesapeake, on or before the 1st of December, declared to be within the Resolve of Congress, 1692
7, Proceedings relative to the Ship William, from Bristol, and the Ship Elizabeth, from Londonderry, - - - - - - - - - 1692

1774.
Dec. 12, Wines imported in the Schooner Polly to be sold as directed by the Continental Congress, in such cases, - - - - - - 1693
19, Committee appointed to carefully observe the arrival of all Vessels into the Port of Baltimore, - - - - - - - - - 1693
General Meeting of the County Committee to be held in Baltimore Town, on the 29th instant, - - - - - - - - 1693
21, Declarations on oath of the Goods imported in sundry Vessels, - - - - - - 1694
Regulations for the sale of British Salt, - - 1694
22, Quantity of Tea imported in the Snow Potomack, reported by Captain Graham, - - 1695
26, James Calhoun appointed Treasurer to the Committee, - - - - - - - - 1695
Profits of the sale of Linens, on Saturday last, to be applied to the relief of the Poor of Boston, - - - - - - - - - 1695
Proceedings on the application of James Christie, relative to Goods taken into the care of the Committee, - - - - - - - 1695
Committee of Correspondence to prepare a plan of proceedings for the General Meeting of County Committee, - - - - - - 1695
27, Goods imported in the Ship Sims sold, and the advance upon them ordered for the Poor of Boston, - - - - - - - - - 1696
29, Meeting of the General Committee: Proceedings of the late Provincial Convention approved, - - - - - - - - - 1697
Inhabitants of the several Hundreds requested to form themselves into Military Companies and choose their Officers, - - - - - 1697
General Meeting adjourned to Monday, Janua-
1775. ry 16, 1775, - - - - - - - - 1697
Jan. 16, Meeting of Inhabitants of Baltimore County: Captain Charles Ridgely, Chairman; Jeremiah Townley Chase, Clerk, - - - 1700
Proceedings of late Provincial Convention read, and unanimously approved of, - - - 1700
Every Member of the Committee, and every person in the County, to observe the Resolves of the Convention, - - - - - - 1700
Delegates for Baltimore County in the next Provincial Convention, - - - - - 1700
Members added to the Committee of Observation, - - - - - - - - - 1700
Subscriptions to be raised throughout the County for the purchase of Arms and Ammunition, - - - - - - - - - 1700
Subscriptions to be opened in each Hundred for contributions for the Poor of Boston, - 1701
Committee to purchase three thousand pounds of Powder and twelve thousand pounds of Lead, - - - - - - - - - 1701
17, Committee of Observation meets, - - - 1701
Charges against the Rev. William Edmiston, - 1701
Mr. Edmiston's answer, delivered in writing, considered and accepted, - - - - - 1701
Complaint against James Dalgleish, - - 1702
23, James Christie and Mr. Neil, to be informed that no receipt ought to be given for Money raised for the Poor of Boston, - - - 1702
Committee of each Hundred to collect Money for the purchase of Arms and Ammunition, - - - - - - - - - 1702
Andrew Buchanan appointed Treasurer for Baltimore Town for Moneys raised for Arms and Ammunition, - - - - - - - 1702
30, Letter to James Christie requiring him to pay the two per cent. advance on the Goods he purchased, without a receipt, - - - - 1703
Amount paid by Mr. Christie, and credited to the account of the Poor of Boston, - - - 1703
Association against the killing of Mutton, drawn up, to be signed by the Butchers, - - 1703
Feb. 2, Proceedings relating to Imported Goods, - 1703
Similar proceedings, to March 6, - 1703–1705
Mar. 13, Meeting of the Committee of Inspection, - 1705
Captain Charles Ridgely elected Chairman, - 1705
Form of an Oath to be taken by all Masters of Vessels, - - - - - - - - - 1705
Cargo of Salt from Liverpool not permitted to be landed, - - - - - - - - 1706
Dr. John Stevenson appeared before the Committee, and made explanations, which were received as satisfactory, for reshipping Salt, - 1706

1775.
Many misrepresentations having been made with a view to lessen the influence of the Continental Association, it is declared to be the duty of the Committee to carry it strictly into execution; and that any attempt to defeat such purpose, will, with its author, be exposed to the publick, - - - - - - - - - 1707
The disuse of East-India Tea earnestly recommended, - - - - - - - - - 1707
Resolution approving the conduct of the Magistrates of the County, whose abrupt dismission, with all the circumstances attending it, does them the greatest honour, - - - - - 1707
Apr. 10, Fairs in Baltimore Town to be discountenanced during the continuance of the present difficulties, - - - - - - - - - 1708
Treasurer directed to settle his account of Moneys arising from the sale of Goods, for the use of the Poor of Boston, - - - 1708
17, Dr. John Boyd, Robert Alexander, William Lux, and Jeremiah T. Chase, appointed to serve alternately, each a month, as Clerk of the Committee, - - - - - - 1708
26, Committee appointed to purchase all the Powder and Lead to be disposed of in Baltimore, - 1709
27, Committee to receive the Ammunition, and distribute it among such gentlemen of the Town as it may be most safely lodged with, - - 1709
Information of the seizure of the Powder at Williamsburgh by Lord Dunmore, forwarded to the Committee of Philadelphia, - - 1709
May 1, Captain Richard Button, charged with endeavouring to prevent the people from mustering, ordered to attend the Committee, - - 1709
2, Captain Button attended the Committee, and subscribed a pledge, as some atonement to the Publick for his misconduct, - - - 1710
James Dalgleish having declared his intention to join the English Troops as soon as they land, is ordered to be published as an enemy to the liberty of America, - - - - 1710
3, Application from the Committee for Harford County, for five hundred weight of Gunpowder, - - - - - - - - - 1710
5, Five hundred weight of Gunpowder supplied to the Committee of Monmouth County, New-Jersey, who are altogether destitute, and cannot procure any from New-York or Philadelphia, - - - - - - - - - 1711
8, Harford County Committee supplied with the Powder requested on the 3d instant, - - 1711
Francis Sanderson requested to withdraw himself from the Committee till the sense of the County should be known concerning him at a future election, - - - - - - - - - 1711
15, Letter from the Committee of Fredericktown: They will supply this Committee with five hundred pounds of Powder, and four thousand pounds of Lead, - - - - - 1712
Complaint against Usher & Roe inquired into, and dismissed, with a caution to them to be more careful in future, in giving cause for the like complaint, - - - - - - - 1713
18, General meeting of Baltimore County, - - 1713
Delegates to the Convention elected, - - 1713
Members added to the Committee of Observation for the County, - - - - - - 1713
Proceedings of the Committee on the 8th instant, respecting Francis Sanderson, read and approved, - - - - - - - - - 1713
Declaration and Acknowledgment of Mr. Sanderson, - - - - - - - - - 1714
Committees in their respective Hundreds required to give an account to the General Committee, on the first Monday in June, of the state of the Militia in their different Districts, 1714
Subscriptions ordered for paying the Delegates to the General Congress, - - - - - 1714
Samuel Purviance appointed Treasurer for Baltimore Town, to receive and forward the Donations of the County for the Poor of Boston, 1714
Complaint lodged against James Christie, that he had raised the price of Goods above the limitation of the Provincial Convention, - 1714
19, Information received from Philadelphia, that sundry Vessels were loading at Liverpool with Salt and Dry Goods, some of which were destined for this Province, - - - - - 1714

1775.
Apportionment of amount to be raised to defray the expenses of the Delegates, - - - 1715
Letter from the Committee to the different Hundreds, - - - - - - - - - 1715
May 22, Oaths to be taken by the Owners, Consignees, or Supercargoes, Masters and Officers, of all Vessels that shall load in Patapsco River, - 1715
Powder supplied to the Counties of Orange and Culpepper, in Virginia, - - - - 1716
29, Committee to prepare a statement of the Moneys subscribed and paid to this Committee, and an account of all Donations received for the Poor of Boston, - - - - - - - 1716
June 5, Information against John Welsh, Robert Gilchrist, and Samuel Oliver, - - - - 1716
12, Complaint lodged against John McKim, - - 1717
Accusations against Captain Richard Button, who attended on summons, and made his defence, - - - - - - - - - 1717
19, The defence of Mr. Button considered satisfactory, and he is by the Committee restored to publick favour, - - - - - - 1717
Further complaint against James Christie, - 1717
Charge against Rezin Hammond, - - - 1717
Copies of the Publications made by Mr. Button, 1718
26, Night-Watch for Baltimore Town established, - 1718
Permission granted to send a cargo of Flour to Marblehead, - - - - - - - - 1719
Consideration of the complaints against Rezin Hammond, John Welsh, and James Christie, postponed to the 17th July, - - - 1719
July 3, Letter from the Committee for Kent County, complaining of James Christie, for selling above the advance directed by the Convention, - - - - - - - - - 1719
Letter from Henry Lloyd, Agent for the Contractors for supplying the Troops at Boston, to Dr. John Stevenson, requesting him to send a cargo of Flour to Boston, - - - 1719
Henry Lloyd declared a violator of the Association, and all commercial intercourse with him prohibited, - - - - - - - - 1720
Persons who assist in the introduction of any Goods or Merchandise, contrary to the direction of Congress, to be treated as enemies to the liberties of America, - - - - 1720
Committee to secure the Gunpowder on board any Vessel that may arrive in Port, - - 1720
10, Captains of Vessels required to state on oath the quantity of Gunpowder on board their respective Vessels, - - - - - - - 1721
11, Proceedings respecting the Ship Totness, from Liverpool, with Salt, - - - - - 1721
July 13, Letter from James Christie, Jun., to Colonel Christie, at Antigua, intercepted, - - 1722
14, Proceedings in Mr. Christie's case, - - 1722
James Gildart declared an enemy to the liberties of America, - - - - - - - - 1723
17, Declaration of John Welsh, in answer to the charge against him, - - - - - - 1723
18, Application for a supply of Gunpowder for the Inhabitants of Yorktown, Virginia, - - 1724
July 21, Letter from the Maryland Delegates in Congress: Mr. Christie's case is referred to the Provincial Convention, - - - - - 1724
Permission granted to David Stewart to remove some Tea lodged with the Committee in December last, - - - - - - - - 1724
24, James Christie, on giving security not to leave the Province, permitted to go at large, - 1725
Aug. 21, Maryland Association read and signed by the Members according to their Hundreds, - 1726
1775.
Persons appointed to carry the Association to the People for signing, - - - - - - 1726
Aug. 28, Order for the election of a Committee of Observation and Delegates to the Provincial Convention on the 12th of September, - - 1726
Sep. 23, Committee of Observation, and five Delegates to the Provincial Convention, elected, - - 1728
Oct. 9, Samuel Purviance, Jun., elected Chairman; William Lux, Vice-Chairman; and George Lux, Secretary, - - - - - - 1728
Committees of Correspondence for Licensing Suits, and to take the Reports of all Vessels and Goods arriving, appointed, - - - 1728
Nov. 6, Letter from Charles Ridgely, giving his reasons for refusing to act on the Committee, - 1730
13, Retailers of British Salt directed not to sell at a higher price than four Shillings per bushel, 1730
List of the Candidates voted for at the election in September, with the number of Votes given for each, - - - - - - - - 1730
Committee to superintend the procuring of Arms and Ammunition, - - - - - - 1731
20, Persons holding large quantities of Salt, and refusing to retail it, to be published, and looked upon as enemies to the liberties of America, 1731
Committee to examine Warehouses where they suspect British Salt is stored, - - - 1732
Nov. 27, Application for permission to load a Vessel with Provisions for New-England, - - - 1732
Dec. 4, Permission granted to send eight quarters of Beef and twelve Sheep to Annapolis, for the use of the Inhabitants of that City, during the sitting of the Convention, - - - - - 1732
11, Letter from the Delegates of Massachusetts in Congress, - - - - - - - 1732
Permission given to send two Vessels with Provisions to Massachusetts, - - - - - 1733
Complaint against Samuel Carson, Sen., Merchant in Philadelphia, for speaking disrespectfully of this Committee, - - - - - 1733
18, Pilot-Boat stationed at Whetstone Point to examine all Vessels, and allow none to pass without a Permit, in writing, from this Committee, - - - - - - - - - 1734
19, Vessels not permitted to leave Baltimore, except on publick business, until the Vessels arming there are ready to sail, - - - - - 1735
Oath to be taken by all Masters of Vessels to and from Baltimore, - - - - - - 1735
26, Resolve of the 19th instant, for detaining Vessels, rescinded, - - - - - - 1735
Oath to be taken by Masters of Vessels, instead of the one ordered on the 19th instant, - 1735
Permission from the Continental Congress to Jonathan Hudson to sail with a Cargo, - 1735
Boat employed for preventing the departure of Vessels without permission of the Committee,
1776. discharged from further service, - - - 1736
Jan. 8, Permission to William Neil, Merchant, to send a Cargo to the Foreign West-Indies, - - 1736
29, Committee to prepare a plan for fortifying and defending Baltimore Town, - - - 1738
Feb. 3, Plan for defence of Baltimore adopted, - - 1739
12, Charges against James Moore, for refusing to take Bills of Credit emitted by the Provincial Convention, - - - - - - - 1740
19, Acknowledgment and Declaration of James Moore, - - - - - - - - - 1740
Mar. 4, Members of the Committee appointed in place of those who refused to attend, - - - 1742
Committees to take charge of the Enrolment and Association Papers, - - - - 1742

DOCUMENTARY HISTORY, &c.

CORRESPONDENCE, MISCELLANEOUS PAPERS, PROCEEDINGS OF COMMITTEES, &c.

NEW-HAMPSHIRE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Monday, September 11, 1775.

Upon request of *Moses Baker* and others, in behalf of the Town of *Newmarket*, agreed to suspend the making out of a Commission for Lieutenant-Colonel of the Fourth Regiment of Militia in this Colony till the next meeting of Congress, that they may have opportunity to prefer a petition against the person's being commissioned who was by Congress chosen to that office.

—

Tuesday, September 12, 1775.

To the Committee of Supplies:

You are desired to pay all reasonable accounts of any Town or Parish in this Colony, for supplying the several Companies in Colonel *Poor's* Regiment with provisions for their march from their respective homes, to join the Army.

By order of the Committee:

M. THORNTON, *Chairman.*

Ordered the Receiver-General to pay the Committee of Supplies two hundred Pounds, to be by them accounted for.

Agreed, That *William Whipple*, Esquire, and General *Folsom*, should wait on General *Washington*, to inquire of him concerning the Coats promised the Troops, &c.

—

Saturday, September 16, 1775.

Received a Message from General *Washington*, requiring the payment of certain wages to those *New-Hampshire* Troops bound to *Canada*, under Colonel *Arnold*.

Appointed Deacon *Brooks* to pay said Troops.

—

Wednesday, September 27, 1775.

Ordered Receiver-General to pay *William Whipple*, Esquire, one hundred and forty-two Pounds six Shillings, lawful money, to pay Captain *Salter's* Company one month's wages.

Ordered Receiver-General to pay *Daniel Fowle*, Esquire, thirty-six Pounds four Shillings, the balance of his Account, this day examined and adjusted.

George King, Esquire, appointed to pay *Salter's* Company their first month's wages.

Wrote Colonels *Reed*, *Poor*, and *Stark*, to order their several Captains to take and send Rolls of their respective Companies, from the time of their inlistment to the 4th of *August*.

In Committee of Safety, Exeter, September 27, 1775.

Captain TITUS SALTER:

You are hereby directed to take the command of the batteries on *Pierce's* and *Sevey's* Islands, and keep a constant guard at each, with your Company, taking care to exercise them in the handling and management of cannon, and such other exercises as you shall think necessary to make them capable of doing their duty at said fortifications. You are not to suffer any vessel to pass said fortifications, up the river, without a permit from the Committee of Safety of *Portsmouth*, except such vessels as you are satisfied are only on a fair trade. And if any armed vessel shall attempt to pass, without such permit, you are to prevent the same, by firing upon and destroying such vessel, if necessary; but in all such cases, where time will admit of taking the advice of the said Committee of *Portsmouth*, you are to do it, and not fire on any vessel that shall come into the harbour, without their advice and consent, if you have time to obtain the same.

Ordered Receiver-General to pay Committee of Supplies three hundred Pounds, to be by them accounted for.

Ordered Receiver-General to pay Committee of Supplies three thousand Pounds, to be by them accounted for.

—

Thursday, September 28, 1775.

Ordered Receiver-General to pay Deacon *Brooks* three hundred and forty-eight Pounds seven Shillings, the amount of the wages paid the *New-Hampshire* Troops in Colonel *Arnold's* detachment, and expenses of paying them.

In Committee of Safety, September 28, 1775.

SIR: We desire you to proceed to the Army, and there pay each non-commissioned officer and soldier, of the troops raised by this Colony, twenty-four Shillings each, to be in full for the coats promised them, excepting such as entered on duty since the 4th of *August*. Also, pay each man, as aforesaid, twelve shillings, who has never received a blanket, and if found by himself, provided the Selectmen of his respective Town did not take an account thereof, which you are strictly to examine into. And to each person his loss, in clothing and soldiers' accoutrements, sustained at *Charlestown* battle, deducting out, to such as have received a coat, the value thereof; each person producing an account of his loss, and the value thereof, under oath that they have not overrated the same, which oath you are desired to administer. And where any soldier is absent on furlough, or his place supplied by another, that the money be paid the Captain, taking his receipt therefor.

M. THORNTON, *Chairman.*

Colonel *Timothy Walker.*

In Committee of Safety, Exeter, September 28, 1775.

To the Committee appointed to build Batteries to command the passage in PISCATAQUA *River.*

GENTLEMEN: It is thought expedient to lay a boom across the river, from *Pierce's* to *Sevey's* Island, strong enough to hinder the passage of vessels, if possible. Therefore, you are desired to take such condemned masts as you can find, most proper for the occasion, and fit a boom for the aforesaid purpose, by securing them with iron, in such manner and place as you shall judge best to answer the purpose.

Received a long Letter from General *Sullivan*, and wrote him a long answer.

Deacon *Brooks* made a return of his paying off the detachment of *New-Hampshire* Troops under Colonel *Arnold*.

—

Tuesday, October 10, 1775.

Received a Letter from the Committee of *Portsmouth*, informing of the capture of the Ship *Prince George*, by a sub-Committee, with a copy of General *Washington's* Letter to said Committee, about the cargo of said Ship.

Ordered *George King*, Esquire, to take charge of the cargo of the Ship *Prince George*, and to deliver to *Samuel Cutts*, Esquire, one hundred barrels of Flour, at such times

and in such quantities as he may need it, to supply the Soldiers at the Batteries in *Piscataqua* Harbour.

Received a Letter from General *Sullivan*, enclosing a Petition of the Field-Officers of *New-Hampshire* Troops at *Winter-Hill*, requesting that the General may be intrusted with blank Commissions, to fill up vacancies in the Regiments there.

Wrote General *Sullivan* an answer to his Letter and the said Petition.

Gave Captain *Robert Parker* orders to inlist a Company of Matrosses, consisting of forty-four men, inclusive of himself, one Lieutenant, and two Sergeants, to guard and defend the Battery on *Sevey's* Island, for the term of one month, unless it should appear to the Congress, or this Committee, expedient to dismiss them sooner, and engaged them the same pay, for the time they shall be in the service, as Captain *Salter's* Company are to have; and that he inlist no man but is well accoutred.

Received a Letter from General *Sullivan*, in answer to ours of 28th ultimo.

—

Wednesday, October 11, 1775.

Wrote to General *Washington*, relative to the abovementioned Ship and Cargo.

—

Thursday, October 12, 1775.

Wrote to Messrs. *Bartlett* and *Langdon*, at the Continental Congress.

Appointed *Jonathan Perkins* special Express, to carry the above Letters to *Timothy Walker*, Esquire, at *Winter-Hill*.

Desired Deacon *Brooks*, one of the Committee of Supplies, to advance *Perkins* four Dollars, for his expenses.

This Committee, taking into consideration the necessity of the Regiments of Minute-Men being as speedily raised as possible, having reviewed the votes of Congress relative thereto, and found a vote for the soldiers that inlist in the Minute service to "continue till further orders of the Congress," which vote must have been a mistake of the scribe, or passed over by the Congress, through the hurry and multiplicity of the business they were engaged in when that passed, as it is very evident the design of Congress was to follow the directions of the Continental Congress: Therefore, it is now resolved by this Committee, that the said Minute-Men be inlisted for the term of four months; and that, at the end of said four months, the Officers proceed to inlist their Companies again, in the same manner as at first. And it is earnestly recommended to the persons who shall be appointed to inlist Minute-Men, to use their utmost endeavours to fill up the Companies as soon as possible; and to the Soldiers, at this important crisis, when our all is at stake, to engage in the service; and, as they will be relieved in four months, the duty will be nearly equal among all the Militia. And the following form is to be used for inlistment:

"We, the subscribers, do hereby severally inlist ourselves as Minute-Men, for the term of four months, in the Company under the command of . . . . . , in the . . . . . Regiment of Minute-Men, in the Colony of *New-Hampshire*. And we hereby promise to submit ourselves to the orders and regulations of said Minute-Men, and faithfully to observe and obey such orders as we shall receive, from time to time, from our officers."

—

Monday, October 16, 1775.

Received a Letter from General *Washington*, and another from Colonel *Timothy Walker*, in answer to ours of the 11th instant, by *Perkins*, the Express; and a Letter of the General to *Stephen Moylan*, Esquire, at *Portsmouth*, which was forwarded by Mr. *Morrison*.

Received a Letter from Colonel *Thornton*, and answered by the same messenger who brought his.

—

Tuesday, October 17, 1775.

Ordered Receiver-General to pay Committee of Supplies three hundred Pounds, to be by them accounted for.

Ordered Receiver-General to pay Captain *Josiah Moulton* thirty Pounds, to be by him accounted for.

Wrote to the Committee at *Portsmouth*, concerning a Vessel addressed to *Joshua Wentworth*, Esquire, from *Antigua*, and about the inhabitants of the *Isle of Shoals* being supplied with the necessaries of life.

—

Wednesday, October 18, 1775.

Wrote General *Washington*, in answer to his Letter of the 15th instant.

In Committee of Safety, Exeter, October 18, 1775.

Sir: You are desired to sell, at twenty shillings per hundred weight, a quantity of the flour lately put under your care, not exceeding three hundred barrels, to such persons as appear as purchasers, taking care that no person monopolize a large quantity, and, out of the money arising from the sale, pay the seamen of Ship *Prince George*, *Richard Emms*, master, the wages that shall appear due to them, agreeable to their original contract, and keep in your custody the remainder of the money, until called for by this Committee, or the Congress of this Colony.

By order of the Committee.

To *George King*, Esquire.

In Committee of Safety, Exeter, October 13, 1775.

To the several Captains and other Officers of the Militia, in the . . . . . Regiment in this Colony:

You are desired to notify and call together your several Companies, at such times and places as you, together with . . . . , may agree; and you are earnestly desired to use your utmost endeavours to forward the inlisting the complement of Minute-Men, out of your respective Companies. And the Selectmen and Committee of Safety in the several Towns are requested to forward the meeting of the several Companies, and inlisting and drafting the Minute-Men.

Colonel *Thornton* having represented to this Committee that he had been requested to attend a Conference of sundry members from the Continental Congress and sundry gentlemen from the other *New-England* Colonies, and that the circumstances of his family were such as he feared would prevent his attendance, and, therefore, desired some persons from this Committee should be appointed to attend the same: Therefore,

Agreed, That Colonel *Weare* and General *Folsom* be desired to repair immediately to *Cambridge*, to attend the said Conference in behalf of this Colony.

—

Monday, October 23, 1775.

On the report that a Fleet was expected to attack the Capital of the Colony, the Committee was desired to repair thither, in order to take into their consideration what was necessary immediately to be done.

Received a Letter from General *Sullivan*, enclosing a list of the vacancies in the several *New-Hampshire* Regiments, and requesting Commissions to be filled for the same.

—

Thursday, October 26, 1775.

Received a Letter from the Delegates at Continental Congress.

Ditto, enclosing a Resolve of Continental Congress.

Received a Letter from Colonel *Moulton*, accepting the office of Colonel.

Ditto from Colonel *Tappan*, declining ditto.

Ordered Receiver-General to pay *Samuel Brooks* one hundred Pounds, to be accounted for.

Ordered Receiver-General to pay Committee of Supplies six hundred Pounds, to be accounted for.

Received a Letter from General *Sullivan*, concerning the Troops, and concerning *Pierce's* and *Sevey's* Islands, &c.

—

Friday, October 27, 1775.

Wrote *William Knight*, Esquire, and others, desiring them to appear and place Vessels in *Piscataqua* Harbour.

Answered Gen. *Sullivan's* Letter, respecting Troops, &c.

—

Saturday, October 28, 1775.

Ordered Receiver-General to pay *Nathaniel Folsom* three Pounds fourteen Shillings and nine Pence, Committee's expenses at *Portsmouth*.

November, 1775.

Ordered Receiver-General to pay Committee of Supplies one hundred Pounds, to be accounted for.

Ordered Receiver-General to pay Committee of Supplies five hundred Pounds, to be accounted for.

Ordered Receiver-General to pay Committee of Supplies four hundred Pounds.

—

Thursday, November 16, 1775.

Ordered Receiver-General to pay Committee of Supplies five hundred Pounds, to be accounted for.

Ordered Receiver-General to pay Colonel *Thornton* fifteen Pounds, to be accounted for.

November 16, 1775, being the last day of the sitting of the Congress of this Colony, they voted, that the Committee of Safety be continued until the sitting of the Congress called to meet the 21st day of *December* next, with same power and authority as heretofore.

—

Friday, November 17, 1775.

Ordered the Receiver-General to pay *Samuel Cutts*, Esquire, Commissary, five hundred Pounds, lawful money, to be by him accounted for.

Ordered the Receiver-General to pay *Pierce Long*, Barrackmaster, sixty Pounds, lawful money, to be by him accounted for.

In the evening, received a Letter from Colonel *Bedel*, by Express, with the agreeable news of the surrender of the Fortress of *St. John's*.

—

Saturday, November 18, 1775.

Ordered the Receiver-General to pay *Benjamin Grant*, the above-mentioned Express, five Pounds, for his service and expense.

Ordered the Receiver-General to pay *Israel Morey*, Esquire, three hundred Pounds, lawful money, out of the Gold in the Treasury, to be by him sent to *Canada*, for the payment of the *New-Hampshire* Troops under the command of Colonel *Bedel*.

Wrote General *Schuyler* on the subject of paying and supplying our Troops in his Army.

Wrote General *Montgomery* on the same, being a copy of the same sent to General *Schuyler*.

Gave Colonel *Morey* orders about sending the Money to *Canada*.

Committee adjourned to meet at *Portsmouth*, at *Nathaniel Folsom's*, on *Monday* next, A. M.

—

Tuesday, November 21, 1775.

Committee met at *Portsmouth*.

Wrote the Delegates of the Continental Congress, and enclosed the number of the Inhabitants of this Colony.

—

Thursday, November 23, 1775.

Ordered Receiver-General to pay *George Gains*, Esquire, Quartermaster, one hundred Pounds, lawful money, to be by him accounted for.

Ordered Receiver-General to pay *Pierce Long*, Esquire, Barrackmaster, sixty Pounds, lawful money, to be by him accounted for.

Captain *Philip Goldthwait* was brought before the Committee, on suspicion of being unfriendly to the liberties of *America*. Upon examination, nothing appearing against him,

Ordered, That he be dismissed.

John Stavers and *Hugh Henderson*, persons suspected of being unfriendly to the *American* cause, now contending for, being notified, appeared before the Committee, and each declared, for himself, that he judged the aforesaid cause just, on the side of the *Americans;* and that he would do every thing in his power to promote the same, and for the defence of this country against its enemies.

Hon. *Daniel Rogers*, Esquire, being brought before the Committee as a person unfriendly to the liberties of *America;* upon examination, nothing appearing against him,

Ordered, That he be dismissed.

Friday, November 24, 1775.

Gave Colonel *Wingate* orders respecting the Companies commanded by Captains *Hodgdon*, *Coffin*, *Clark*, *Parsons*, *Baker*, *Elkins*, *Copp*, and *Webster*, and to muster Captain *Webster's* Company, and to take care of the Fire Raft.

Received a Petition of *Richard Emms* and *Matthew Morley*.

Ordered that it lie.

Received a Letter from Messrs. *Deane*, *Adams*, and *Wythe*, of the Continental Congress, dated the 19th *October*, 1775, with a Resolve of said Congress relative to the damage done the several Colonies by the enemy.

Ordered the Receiver-General to pay *Nathaniel Folsom*, of *Portsmouth*, three Pounds seven Shillings and eleven Pence half-penny, the expense of this Committee at his house.

Received Captain *Thompson's* Return about the Fire Rafts.

Received a Letter from Delegates at Continental Congress, enclosing a Resolve of Continental Congress concerning Government, and about Exportation.

Adjourned to *Tuesday* next.

—

Tuesday, November 28, 1775.

Received a Letter of Colonel *Bartlett*, enclosing Resolves of Congress about Saltpetre, and another about Government.

Ordered Receiver-General to pay *Samuel Cutts*, Commissary, seven hundred Pounds, to be by him accounted for.

Ordered Receiver-General to pay *Samuel Cutts*, Esquire, one of the Committee to procure Powder, eight hundred Pounds, lawful money, to be by him accounted for.

—

Wednesday, November 29, 1775.

Ordered Receiver-General to pay *John Rice*, Esquire, thirty-two Pounds ten Shillings and ten Pence, the amount of his account for boarding Committee from 18th *July* to 18th *November*, inclusive.

Ordered Receiver-General to pay *John Ward Gilman* twenty Shillings, for making a Seal.

Ordered Captain *Salter* to fill his Company to ninety men, inclusive of officers, and no more; to serve till the last of *December* next, unless discharged sooner.

Ordered Captain *Salter* to deliver Captain *Daniels* a large Cannon, equal in bore to the largest he had on *Sevey's* Island.

Ordered Captain *Daniels* to fill his Company to sixty-seven, and no more, including officers; to serve till last of *December* next, unless discharged sooner.

Ordered *James Hackett*, Esquire, to muster the Companies of Matrosses not already mustered, and to return lists of the Companies.

Ordered Receiver-General to pay *Robert Crafford* thirteen Pounds twelve Shillings, being his and eleven other men's pay, for fourteen days' service at the entrance of *Piscataqua* Harbour.

Ordered Receiver-General to pay *William Parker* sixteen Pounds, to be by him accounted for.

Appointed *William Parker* Paymaster of the Troops raised for the particular defence of this Colony.

Ordered Receiver-General to pay *William Parker* three hundred Pounds, for the purpose above-mentioned.

Examined and allowed *Smith Emerson's* Pay-Roll, and ordered it to be paid—eighty-five Pounds six Shillings and ten Pence.

Examined and allowed *Thomas Folsom's* Pay-Roll, and ordered it to be paid—twenty-nine Pounds four Shillings and six Pence.

Examined and allowed *David Quimby's* Pay-Roll, and ordered the same to be paid—thirty-seven Pounds eight Shillings and three Pence.

Examined and allowed *Timothy Emerson's* Pay-Roll, and ordered the same to be paid—eight Pounds one Shilling and five Pence.

Examined and allowed *George Terry Osborne's* Pay-

Roll, and ordered the same to be paid—forty Pounds thirteen Shillings and ten Pence half-penny.

Adjourned to *Monday* next, at *Exeter*.

—

Saturday, December 2, 1775.

In consequence of a Letter from General *Sullivan*, by express, informing of the withdrawing of the *Connecticut* Troops from the lines at *Cambridge*, and desiring a number of Troops to be sent from this Colony, to supply their place, the Committee met at *Portsmouth*, on the 2d day of *December*, and gave orders to the following gentlemen each to inlist a Company of sixty-one able-bodied men, including three Sergeants and three Corporals, well provided with Arms and Blankets, to serve in the Continental Army under the command of General *Washington*, until the 15th *January* next, unless sooner discharged, and, as soon as inlisted, to march them immediately to join General *Sullivan's* Brigade, viz: Captains *David Place*, *Henry Elkins*, *Daniel Runnels*, *John Waldron*, *Alpheus Chesley*, *David Copp*, *Moses Baker*, *Mark Wiggin*, *Joseph Parsons*, *Moses Yeaton*, *Elijah Denbo*, *Jacob Webster*, *Nathaniel Odiorne*, *Peter Coffin*, *Stephen Clark*, and *Greenleaf Clark*.

Form of the Orders:

COLONY OF NEW-HAMPSHIRE.

In Committee of Safety, December 2, 1775.

To Captain . . . . . , Greeting:

You are hereby authorized immediately to inlist a Company, to consist of sixty-one able-bodied, effective men, including three Sergeants and three Corporals, well accoutred with arms and provided with blankets, to serve in the Continental Army under the command of his Excellency General *Washington*, until the fifteenth day of *January* next, unless sooner dismissed; and you are hereby informed that you will have liberty to nominate two persons to serve as Subalterns in said Company under you, who will be commissioned accordingly, if approved by this Committee. And you are to march the said Company, when inlisted, seasonably, so as to join General *Sullivan's* Brigade, on *Winter-Hill*, at or before the 10th day of *December*, instant; and you may assure the said Company that their pay, which will be the same as the other Continental troops, will commence the day they march; and that those who supply themselves with provisions on their march shall receive the price of their rations in cash; and that they will be paid off the moment they are dismissed, and also be paid for their return home.

By order of the Committee:

WILLIAM WHIPPLE, *Chairman pro tem.*

—

Sunday, December 3, 1775.

Wrote to *Samuel Hobart*, Esquire; sent him a copy of General *Sullivan's* Letter, and six blank Inlisting Orders, desiring him to give them to suitable persons towards and in the County of *Hillsborough*.

Wrote to Colonel *Timothy Walker*; sent him blank Orders for three Captains.

Delivered Orders for one Captain to General *Folsom*, to be by him given to such person as he should judge proper.

Sent Inlisting Orders to Captain *James Hill*, of *Newmarket*, and to Major *Thomas Bartlett*, of *Nottingham*.

Delivered like Orders, for one Captain, to Col. *Evans*, to be by him disposed of.

Wrote Colonel *David Gilman*, and endorsed like Orders for three Captains, to be by him disposed of.

With each of the afore-mentioned Orders were likewise delivered and sent Forms of Inlistments.

Ordered Receiver-General to pay Captain *Moses Baker* thirty-five Pounds, to be by him accounted for.

Ordered Receiver-General to pay *George Gains*, Quartermaster, one hundred Pounds, to be by him accounted for.

Ordered Receiver-General to pay *William Parker* three hundred Pounds, for payment of Troops in this Colony's service.

Ordered Captain *Moses Baker* to dismiss his Company.

Examined and allowed Captain *David Copp's* Pay-Roll of his Company, and ordered it to be paid, being fifty-two Pounds three Shillings.

Do. Captain *Stephen Hodgdon's*—seventy-five Pounds fifteen Shillings eight Pence.

Do. Captain *David Place's*—seventy-two Pounds one Shilling ten Pence.

Do. Captain *Alpheus Chesley's*—thirty-four Pounds nine Shillings five Pence.

Do. Captain *Mark Wiggin's*—thirty-one Pounds four Shillings.

Do. Captain *Hall Jackson's* Field Artillery Company—thirty-nine Pounds thirteen Shillings three Pence.

Do. Captain *Stephen Hodgdon's* Company—fifty-one Pounds three Shillings three Pence.

Do. Captain *John Hill's*—fifty-nine Pounds seventeen Shillings seven Pence.

Do. Captain *John Taylor's*—thirty-eight Pounds thirteen Shillings three Pence.

Do. Captain *James Hill's*—sixty-four Pounds eighteen Shillings one Penny.

Do. Captain *Moses Yeaton's* five day Roll—fourteen Pounds eighteen Shillings eight Pence.

Do. his fifteen day Roll—forty-six Pounds twelve Shillings.

Do. Captain *Joseph Parsons's*—sixty-one Pounds five Shillings two Pence.

Do. Captain *Henry Elkins's*—sixty Pounds nineteen Shillings six Pence.

Do. Captain *Eliphalet Daniels's* overplus men.

—

Monday, December 4, 1775.

Received a Letter from General *Sullivan*.

Ordered Receiver-General to pay Capt. *Stephen Clark* sixty-five Pounds, to be by him accounted for.

Gave liberty for all the Soldiers in this Colony's service to inlist in the Continental service.

—

Tuesday, December 5, 1775.

Ordered *William Parker* to pay Captain *David Copp* three Pounds, out of the money in his hands.

Ordered *William Parker* to pay Lieutenant *Andrew Gilman* forty Shillings, out of the money in his hands, in part of wages due to him.

Ordered Receiver-General to pay Captain *Peter Coffin* sixty-five Pounds, for him to be accountable, out of his Company's wages.

Wrote to General *Sullivan*, per post.

Received a Letter from him.

Received a Petition from *William Hart*.

Ordered that it lie.

Ordered Receiver-General to pay *William Parker* two hundred Pounds, for payment of Troops in *New-Hampshire* service.

Examined and allowed Captain *John Waldron's* Pay-Roll of his Company, and ordered it to be paid, being thirty-nine Pounds eleven Shillings four Pence.

Do. Captain *Thomas Berry's*—twenty Pounds five Shillings six Pence.

Do. Captain *Nathaniel Hobb's*—forty-two Pounds eight Shillings eleven Pence.

Do. Captain *Nicholas Rollings's*—twenty-one Pounds ten Shillings two Pence.

—

Wednesday, December 6, 1775.

Gave Colonel *Wingate* orders respecting the Soldiers in this Colony's service.

—

Thursday, December 7, 1775.

Wrote to General *Folsom*, to deliver the Guns at Esquire *Rice's* to Captain *Alpheus Chesley*, taking his receipt for the same.

Ordered Receiver-General to pay *Nathaniel Folsom*, Jun., eight Pounds four Shillings and eleven Pence—this Committee's expense.

Ordered Receiver-General to pay *William Parker* two hundred Pounds, for payment of Troops in Colony service.

Adjourned to *Exeter*, to meet on the 11th current.

Monday, December 11, 1775.

Received a Letter from General *Washington*.

Received a Letter from Colonel *Bartlett*, enclosing a Letter from Messrs. *Penn* and *Lee* to Speaker of House of Representatives, and sundry Resolves of Continental Congress.

Examined and allowed Captain *Abraham French's* Pay-Roll of his Company, and ordered it to be paid, being fifty Pounds nine Shillings eight Pence.

—

Tuesday, December 12, 1775.

Ordered Receiver-General to pay Committee appointed to procure Powder abroad, six hundred Pounds, to be by them accounted for.

Ordered Receiver-General to pay *William Parker* two hundred Pounds, for payment of Troops in Colony service.

Examined and allowed Captain *Cutting Culley's* Pay-Roll of his Company, and ordered it to be paid, being forty-nine Pounds two Shillings ten Pence.

Do. Captain *Samuel Hayes's*—forty-seven Pounds ten Shillings.

—

Wednesday, December 13, 1775.

Ordered the Receiver-General to pay the Committee for procuring Powder abroad, the light Gold in the Treasury, according to an account thereof by him exhibited to this Committee.

Ordered the Receiver-General to pay Colonel *Thornton* six Pounds—the sum voted him by the late Congress, for his time and expense going to *Cambridge* and attending the Grand Council there.

Ordered the Receiver-General to pay Colonel *Weare* and Captain *Moulton* nine Pounds three Shillings and seven Pence, the amount of their Account for getting Twenty Thousand Pounds printed.

Ordered the Receiver-General to pay *George Gains*, Quartermaster, one hundred Pounds, to be by him accounted for.

Agreed and directed that Colonel *Thornton* and Colonel *Weare* wait on General *Washington*, to confer with him about recruiting the Continental Army.

Received a Letter from General *Sullivan*.

—

Thursday, December 14, 1775.

Received and considered the Petition of Captain *John Evans*, and answered it.

—

Friday, December 15, 1775.

Examined and allowed the Pay-Roll of Captain *Joseph Clifford*, and ordered it to be paid, being twenty-two Pounds twelve Shillings eight Pence.

Do. Captain *Richard Dows*—sixty-eight Pounds six Shillings four Pence.

Ordered Receiver-General to pay *William Parker* three hundred Pounds, for the payment of Troops in the Colony service.

—

Saturday, December 16, 1775.

Ordered Receiver-General to pay *Elisha Odlin* thirty Shillings, for going express to *Canterbury* and *Dover*.

Ordered Receiver-General to pay *John Rice*, Esquire, four Pounds, for Committee's board to this day.

Examined and allowed Captain *Benjamin Butler*, Esquire, his Pay-Roll, and ordered it to be paid, being fifty-five Pounds eleven Pence.

Ordered Receiver-General to pay Colonel *Hobart* seven thousand Pounds, for the payment of the *New-Hampshire* Troops in the Continental service to the 4th *August*.

Gave Colonel *Hobart* orders respecting the payment of the *New-Hampshire* Troops in the Continental service.

ORDERS TO COLONEL HOBART.

To Colonel SAMUEL HOBART, *and Colonel* TIMOTHY WALKER, *Jun., Esquires:*

In pursuance of your appointment, by the Congress, as Paymasters to our Troops in the several Regiments under the Colonels *Stark*, *Reed*, and *Poor*, we desire you to proceed to the Camp, and there pay all the officers and soldiers, or their legal representatives, in the aforesaid Regiments, the wages due to them, from the time of their entering into the service until the 4th of *August* last, taking their receipts therefor, at the rate the persons in their several capacities have been paid in this Colony and that of the *Massachusetts-Bay*, making deductions out of the wages for what he has received already from this Colony, in part; also deducting from every person's wages the price of a blanket, where it appears he has received from the Colony more than one, or money in lieu. And where it appears that any Captains have drawn more blankets, or cash therefor, than one for each non-commissioned officer and soldier in his Company, unless he make it appear who of his Company has received those overplus ones, that the same may be, respectively, stopped out of the soldiers' wages, then the same to be stopped out of the said Captain's wages. And as the several pay-rolls of the respective Companies in the aforesaid Regiments have not been brought to this Committee for allowance, you are desired to see that those rolls be properly made out, and sworn to by the respective Captains, or, in their absence, by one of the subalterns, that such rolls are just and true.

You are also desired to deliver the commissions put into your hands to the several Captains who lately led the recruits from this Colony to the Continental Army, and the subalterns under them, filling up the blanks with such names as you shall be informed by the Captains are appointed to the respective offices.

December 16, 1775.

NEW-HAMPSHIRE PROVINCIAL CONGRESS.

Tuesday, October 31, 1775.

The Congress met according to adjournment.

Voted, That Colonel *William Whipple*, Colonel *Timothy Walker*, the Rev. Mr. *Fletcher*, Mr. *James McGregor*, and *John Dudley*, Esquire, be a Committee to consider what sum of money will be sufficient to be emitted at this time, to answer the demands on this Colony, and a scheme for the emission thereof, and make a report thereof as soon as may be.

—

Wednesday, November 1, 1775.

The above Committee made report as follows, viz:

Pursuant to the vote yesterday, we have considered what money will be necessary for the present exigencies of the Colony, and are of opinion that the Receiver-General should issue notes for Twenty Thousand Pounds, lawful money; four thousand Pounds of which to be redeemed on the 20th of *December*, 1779, six thousand on the 20th of *December*, 1780, six thousand on the 20th of *December*, 1781, and four thousand on the 20th of *December*, 1782; and that eighteen thousand Pounds of the said sum be in notes of the following denominations, viz: forty Shillings, thirty Shillings, fifteen Shillings, ten Shillings, and five Shillings; and that two thousand Pounds, of the said sum of Twenty Thousand Pounds, be of the following denominations, viz: three Shillings, two Shillings and six Pence, one Shilling and nine Pence, one Shilling and six Pence, nine Pence, and six Pence.

Which Report was received, and voted to be a Resolve of this Congress.

Voted, That Colonel *Weare* and Captain *Josiah Moulton* be a Committee, under oath, to get the aforesaid sum of money (according to said scheme) printed, and to deliver the same to the Treasurer, and take his receipt therefor.

Voted, That *Samuel Hobart*, Esquire, be appointed to sign said Notes with the Treasurer.

Voted, That the said Notes, at the several periods fixed for payment of the same, be paid by a tax on the polls and estates in this Colony, and, when paid into the Treasury, to be burnt to ashes, in presence of the Representatives of the people of this Colony, or a Committee appointed by them.

—

Thursday, November 2, 1775.

Voted, That the men raised as Minute-Men in this Colony be inlisted for four months only, then to be dis-

missed, if they desire it, and the same Officers to proceed to inlist anew, as at first.

Upon the representation of *John Quigley*, Esquire, to this Congress, that he was afraid of being hurt in his person or estate by some people in the County of *Hillsborough*, under pretence of his being an enemy to his country, and, after some inquiry into the affair, it is resolved by this Congress, that it be recommended to the Committees of Safety in the said County to do their endeavour to protect said *Quigley* from damage, in any respect, for any past supposed bad disposition towards his country; and the good people in said County are desired not to disturb or molest him on said account, but suffer him in quiet to enjoy his estate and freedom, as other inhabitants of said County.

Upon reading the Petition of a number of the Soldiers in the East Parish of *Kingston*, relative to the appointment of their Officers in the Militia,

Voted, That Colonel *Gale* and the Petitioners be heard thereon on *Monday* next, P. M., if the Congress be then sitting, and, if not, on the first day of their sitting afterwards.

A Letter from the Hon. *George Jaffrey*, Esquire, late Treasurer of this Colony, in answer to a vote and order of this Congress, being read and considered,

Voted, That the said Letter is not satisfactory to this Congress, and that a message be immediately sent to the said *George Jaffrey*, Esquire, from this Congress, requiring him to attend this Congress forthwith, with his Accounts, in order for settlement, otherwise the Congress will take further notice of his contempt; and that the Rev. Mr. *Fletcher* be the messenger to wait on him for that purpose.

Voted, That *George Jaffrey*, Esquire, have time till *Tuesday* next, forenoon, to bring his Treasurer's Accounts to this Congress for settlement.

Voted, That Lieutenant-Colonel *John Hale* be Colonel of the Regiment lately commanded by Colonel *Lutwyche; Robert Reid*, Esquire, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Samuel Greely*, First Major; and *William McQuesten*, Second Major.

Voted, That *Enoch Hale*, Esquire, be Colonel of the Regiment lately commanded by Colonel *Kidder; Thomas Hale*, Lieutenant-Colonel; Captain *Robert Wilson*, First Major; and *Asa Brigham*, Second Major.

Voted, That the Sloop in Mr. *Joshua Wentworth's* care, which lately arrived at *Portsmouth*, be not permitted to depart out of the Port of *Piscataqua*, until further orders of the Congress.

—

Friday, November 3, 1775.

Voted, That the Hon. *Matthew Thornton*, Esquire, the Hon. *Meshech Weare*, Esquire, *Ebenezer Thompson*, Esquire, Mr. *Nathaniel Rogers*, *John Dudley*, *Wyseman Claggett*, and *Benjamin Giles*, Esquires, be a Committee to bring in a draft of a Petition from this Congress to the Continental Congress, setting forth the state of this Colony, and praying their direction for some speedy mode of Government and execution of justice in this Colony, and that the Committee lay the said draft before this Congress as soon as may be.

Voted, That the Regiment lately commanded by the Hon. *Matthew Thornton*, Esquire, be divided into two Regiments, and that the bounds between the two old Towns of *Londonderry* and *Chester* be the bounds between said Regiments.

Upon hearing the Petition of *Sarah Lutwyche*, concerning her Ferry being taken from her by the Committees of *Merrimack* and *Litchfield*, and hearing Mr. *Jonathan Blanchard*, in behalf of said Committees,

Resolved, That the said Ferry ought to be immediately given up to the said Petitioner, and that the person who has improved the same, under the direction of the aforesaid Committees, account to the Petitioner for the profits that have arose since he has held it by order of said Committees.

—

Saturday, November 4, 1775.

Voted, That the Delegates or Representatives to be chosen to represent this Colony in future shall be chosen by the voices, or votes, of the Electors, and not by the value of their estates.

That every Elector for Representatives in this Colony be possessed of a freehold, or real estate, of the value of twenty Pounds, lawful money, in such Town or place where the election shall be.

That every person, so elected, shall be worth three hundred Pounds, lawful money, in real estate in this Colony; the election to be adjudged of by the Selectmen and the Moderator of the meeting, saving an appeal to the Congress or House of Representatives.

That every Town, Parish, or Precinct, in this Colony, containing one hundred freeholders as aforesaid, may send one Delegate or Representative to the Congress or General Assembly, and that every such Town, Parish, or Precinct, having a greater number of freeholders, may send a Member for every hundred such freeholders.

That Precepts be sent to every Town, Parish, or Precinct, in this Colony, directing them to elect a Member, and send to the Congress to be holden at *Exeter*, in said Colony, on the —— day of ———— next, if such Town, Parish, or Precinct, contain an hundred such freeholders; and if not, then to couple with one or more other Towns or Parishes, until they make up that number of such freeholders.

—

Tuesday, November 7, 1775.

Upon the Petition of a number of the training Soldiers in *East-Kingston*, against Lieutenant-Colonel *Gale*, for unfair proceedings in the election of Officers in that Company,

Voted, That *Nathaniel Balch*, *David Laurence*, Esq., Deacon *Knowles*, *Samuel Dudley*, Esq., *Abel Webster*, Captain *Caleb Page*, Mr. *John Cragin*, Deacon *Benjamin Brown*, and *Samuel Chase*, Esq., be a Committee to examine into the subject-matter of said Petition, and to hear the said *Gale* and the Petitioners thereon, and make report to this Congress as soon as may be.

Voted, That the Port of *Piscataqua*, and Fortresses lately built for the defence of it, be supported and maintained by this Colony. That two hundred men be inlisted and employed as Matrosses or Artillery-Men, including those already inlisted and employed for the support and defence of the said Fortresses, for the term or space of two months, unless they, or any number of them, should be discharged sooner, by order of the Congress or Committee of Safety for this Colony.

Voted, That three hundred men, Officers included, be inlisted and employed as Soldiers for the support and defence of said Fortresses, and other posts and passes in and about *Piscataqua* Harbour, for the term or space of two months, unless they, or any number of them, should be discharged sooner, by order of the Congress or Committee of Safety of this Colony.

Voted, That the Committee of Safety be and hereby are empowered and directed to receive, allow, and pay such Accounts as shall be laid before them, for doctoring, nursing, and boarding sick and wounded Soldiers, in the service of this Colony, as they shall judge to be reasonable and well vouched.

Voted, That the Selectmen of the several Towns, Parishes, and Precincts, in this Colony, who have supplied any of the Soldiers, inlisted in the service of this Colony, with Guns, immediately render their Accounts to the Committee of Safety, particularly distinguishing those which the Soldiers are to allow the value of, from those which are to be returned, and six Shillings allowed for the use of them; also, the names of each person who received said Guns, and what Company each belonged to.

Voted, That the Soldiers in the service of this Colony, in the Continental Army, be allowed nine Pence per day for billeting, from the time of their marching until they arrived at Head-Quarters.

Voted, That each non-Commissioned Officer and Soldier, in the Corps commanded by Colonel *Bedel*, in the Continental Army commanded by General *Schuyler*, be paid twenty-four Shillings, in lieu of a Coat promised him.

Voted, That *Nicholas Gilman*, Esq., Captain *Nathaniel Rogers*, and *Benjamin Giles*, Esq., be a Committee to examine and audit the Accounts of the Committee of Supplies, and make report thereon as soon as may be; and also to audit and examine the Accounts of the Committee

appointed to procure Fire-Arms, and report thereon as soon as may be.

Voted, That it be recommended to the several Taverners and Retailers in this Colony, to render an account, on oath, if required, (which oath any Selectman is empowered to administer,) of all Liquors sold by them, respectively, for which excise has been usually paid, to the Selectmen of their respective Towns, Parishes, or Precincts, from the first *Tuesday* in *November*, 1774, to the first *Tuesday* in *November*, 1775, and pay said Selectmen said excise, at the same rate as for several years last past has been paid in this Colony; and the several Selectmen are desired to be careful in collecting and returning the same to the Receiver-General of this Colony, and the Receiver-General is directed to allow said Selectmen five per cent. out of said money, as a reward for their service. And all Selectmen are desired, if any person, or persons, whom they know to have sold Spirituous Liquors refuses to pay his, her, or their excise as aforesaid, to return his, her, or their name, or names, to the Receiver-General.

Voted, That one hundred and sixty Handbills, to contain the above Vote, be forthwith printed and dispersed to the several Towns, Parishes, and Precincts, in this Colony.

Voted, That every Deserter from any Corps, in the Forces raised by this Colony for the Continental Army, be apprehended by the Committees of the respective places where they may be found, and conveyed by them to Head-Quarters, at *Cambridge*, as soon as may be.

—

Wednesday, November 8, 1775.

Voted, That Colonel *Wingate*, Lieut. Colonel *Burnham*, and Major *Hackett*, have the command of the five hundred men raised for the preservation and defence of the Fortresses on *Piscataqua* River, and that they nominate four Captains to command four Companies to be raised, provided the men be inlisted immediately in consequence of their said nomination; and that Major *Weeks* be appointed to communicate the votes of this Congress to the said Officers, and make return to this Congress as soon as may be.

Voted, That Captain *Pierce Long* be appointed Barrackmaster to the Forces raised for the preservation and defence of the Harbour of *Piscataqua*, and the Fortresses thereon, and that Major *George Gains* be appointed Quartermaster to the said Forces.

Voted, That the Matrosses or Artillery-Men be divided into two Companies, to be commanded by Captain *Titus Salter* and Captain *Eliphalet Daniels*.

Voted, That *Jacob Worthen*, *Robert Parker*, and *William Hackett*, be allowed and paid four Shillings and six Pence per day, for their services as Master Carpenters, and that the other Carpenters be allowed and paid three Shillings per day, for their wages.

It being represented that the Butchers in *Portsmouth* having taken unreasonable fees for killing Cattle drove into *Portsmouth* for the use of the inhabitants, as well as the Provincial Forces now employed in and about *Piscataqua* Harbour, which measure is very oppressive; therefore,

Voted and Resolved, by this Congress, That the said Butchers refund all such unreasonable fees, and, for the future, take none such, or that such Butchers be not suffered to kill any more Beef in said Town, for the use of the said Forces.

Captain *Shadrach Hodgdon's* Account, for supplying Fascines for the Batteries, being read,

Voted, That it be allowed and paid by the Committee of Supplies.

Voted, That the Selectmen of *Newmarket* be sent for to attend the Congress forthwith, and answer for their neglect of numbering their Inhabitants, according to the order of this Congress.

Voted, That *Ebenezer Thompson*, Esq., *Samuel Sherburne*, Esq., the Hon. Colonel *Meshech Weare*, *Benjamin Giles*, Esq., and *Richard Downing*, Esq., be a Committee to audit and examine the Accounts of *George Jaffrey*, Esq., late Treasurer of this Colony, and make report to this Congress as soon as may be.

Voted, That the Hon. *Matthew Thornton*, Esquire, be Colonel of *Londonderry* Regiment of Militia, lately commanded by himself; that *William Gregg* be his Lieutenant-Colonel; that *John Pinkerton* be his First Major, and that *James McGregor*, Jun., be his Second Major.

Voted, That *John Webster*, Esq., be Colonel of *Chester* Regiment; *Nathaniel Emerson* be his Lieutenant-Colonel; that *Josiah Fogg* be his First Major, and that *William White* be his Second Major.

Voted, That *Samuel Shepherd* be First Major of Colonel *David Hobart's* Regiment, and that *Alexander Craige* be second Major of said Regiment.

—

Thursday, November 9, 1775.

Voted, That Captain *Ezekiel Worthen* be and hereby is ordered to pay all due obedience to the orders of this Congress, respecting the business as Engineer, at the Port of *Piscataqua*.

Voted, That *Abraham Drake* be Lieutenant-Colonel of the Third Regiment of Militia in this Colony, commanded by Colonel *Moulton*; that *Enoch Page* be First Major, and *William Prescott* be Second Major of said Regiment.

Upon a motion made by Captain *Pierce Long*, and seconded by Mr. *Samuel Sherburne*, respecting the legality of General *Folsom's* holding a seat in this House,

Voted, That the consideration of that matter be not now taken up, nor until there be a fuller House.

Upon reading a Petition of *Mark Duty*, representing that *Joseph Smith* and *Nehemiah Hadley*, both of *Wyndham*, had, in consequence of a warrant from the Committee of Safety of said *Wyndham*, unconstitutionally deprived him of his liberty, for some time, and had taken from him a Cow, and disposed thereof to their own use, and praying relief, &c.:

Voted, That the said *Smith* and *Hadley*, and also *Peter Merril* and *Samuel Morrison*, all of *Wyndham*, be notified to appear before this Congress on *Saturday*, the 11th instant, to answer for their conduct respecting the matters complained of, by reading the complaint and order of Congress to each of them.

Voted, That all those men who have served as Soldiers on the late alarm at *Portsmouth* (such men being properly inlisted at said *Portsmouth*) be paid as Soldiers in the Army, except Coats, &c., and also all others who went down, and can make it appear that they did duty there at said time, exclusive of those who are under pay in the Continental Army; and that no more Officers be paid as such, than one Captain, one Lieutenant, and one Ensign, to each forty Privates.

Voted, That the Thanks of this Congress be given to those gentlemen that generously laboured on the Batteries and other works at *Portsmouth*, on the late sudden alarming emergency.

Voted, That all the Votes of *Saturday* last, respecting electing Delegates or Representatives, and the qualifications of the Electors and elected, and the manner of choosing and sending them, be, and hereby are reconsidered, and made void.

Voted, That the Honourable *Meshech Weare*, Esq., *William Whipple*, *Richard Downing*, *John Dudley*, *Timothy Walker*, Esq., *Ebenezer Thompson*, *Ebenezer Smith*, Deacon *James Knowles*, *Wyseman Claggett*, Esq., *Jonathan Martin*, and Captain *Caleb Page*, *Samuel Ashley*, *Benjamin Giles*, Esq., *Israel Morey*, Esq., and *Abel Webster*, be a Committee to frame and bring in a plan for the future Representation of the people of this Colony.

Voted, That Captain *John Demeritt* be First Major of the Second Regiment of Militia in this Colony, and Captain *Moses Yeaton* Second Major.

—

Friday, November 10, 1775.

Voted, That there be forthwith inlisted in the service of this Colony, for the defence and security of the Harbour of *Piscataqua*, and the Fortresses there, eight hundred men, officers included, to be divided into eight Companies, and officered with one Captain, two Lieutenants, and one Ensign, to each Company, and to remain in the service two months, unless they or any number of them be

sooner discharged by the Congress or Committee of Safety, and they be under the command of the Field-Officers now there, viz: Colonel *Joshua Wingate*, Lieutenant-Colonel *John Burnam*, and Major *James Hackett*; and that Major *Stephen Clark*, of *Epping*, Captain *Caleb Hodgdon*, of *Dover*, Captain *Parsons*, of *Rye*, Captain *Henry Elkins*, of *Hampton*, Major *Peter Coffin*, of *Exeter*, Captain *Jacob Webster*, of ———, *Moses Baker*, of *Candia*, and Captain *David Copp*, of *Wakefield*, be the Captains of the said eight Companies, and that Captain *Baker's* two Lieutenants be in *Londonderry* Regiment, provided they raise half the Company, or forty-eight men.

That Orders be given to the Captains to inlist said Company in the following Form, viz:

"*In Congress at* EXETER, *November*, 1775.

"*To* . . . . . .

"SIR: You are hereby empowered immediately to inlist a Company, to consist of ninety-six able-bodied, effective men, well accoutred with arms and blankets, including Sergeants and Corporals, as soldiers in the *New-Hampshire* service, for the defence of *Picataqua* Harbour, for the term of two months, unless discharged sooner; and you are hereby informed you shall be entitled to the command, as Captain of said Company, when raised, and to nominate three persons to serve as subalterns under you, and that both officers and soldiers shall be paid the same wages as the Continental Troops are, exclusive of coats and blankets; and that the Soldiers sign the following Inlistment, viz:

"We, the subscribers, do severally inlist ourselves as Soldiers in the *New-Hampshire* service, for the defence of *Piscataqua* Harbour, for the term of two months, unless discharged sooner; and we hereby promise to submit ourselves to all the orders and regulations of the Army, and faithfully to observe and obey all such orders as we shall receive from time to time from our officers."

—

Saturday, November 11, 1775.

Voted, That it be and hereby is recommended to the President of this Congress, to write to the Continental Congress and to General *Washington*, in the name of this Congress, a recommendation of Dr. *Hall Jackson* to be Chief Surgeon of the Northern Division of the Continental Army, or to appoint him in any other way, according to his merit.

Voted, That a Committee of three persons be chosen to examine the several Committees' Accounts, and make report to this Congress as soon as may be; and that *John Dudley*, Esq., Capt. *Pierce Long*, and *Nathaniel Batchelder*, Esq., be the said Committee.

Voted, That Captain *Joseph Spencer* be Second Major of Colonel *Timothy Walker's* Regiment of Minute-Men, in the room and stead of Major *Benjamin Goold*, who hath resigned.

Voted, That the several sums advanced by the Members of this Congress, for the use of this Colony, be added to the Pay-Roll, and lodged with the Treasurer for payment.

Voted, That the Members of this Congress be paid for *Sundays* and travel, according to the method of the late General Assembly, and that the Members of the late General Assembly be paid in the same manner.

Adjourned to *Monday*, the 13th, two o'clock, P. M.

—

Monday, November 13, 1775.

The Congress met according to adjournment.

Upon a motion made, for considering the matter and form of Representation in this Colony in future,

Voted, That the consideration of that matter be put off till to-morrow.

Voted, That the Wages of the Committee of Supplies, employed by this Congress, be now established, and that it be four Shillings per day, each.

Voted, That the Committee of Safety be paid six Shillings per day, besides all their expenses, in the recess of the Congress.

Voted, That the Committee for procuring Fire-Arms lay their Accounts before this Congress, for allowance.

Voted, That Mr. President *Thornton*, Mr. Secretary *Thompson*, Colonel *Samuel Hobart*, *John Dudley*, Esq., Colonel *Whipple*, *Benjamin Giles*, Esq., General *Folsom*, Mr. *Cragin*, Colonel *Walker*, Mr. *Prentice*, Colonel *David Gilman*, Colonel *Morey*, Deacon *Knowles*, and *Ebenezer Smith*, Esq., be a Committee to prepare a plan for Representation of the people of this Colony in future, and lay it before the Congress.

—

Thursday, November 14, 1775.

Voted, That the Votes of yesterday, respecting the Wages and Pay of the Committee of Supplies and the Committee of Safety, be reconsidered, and made void.

Voted, That Dr. *Hall Jackson* be paid, out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, in full for his good services to this Colony, from the 19th day of *June* last to the 4th of *August* last, the sum of fifteen Pounds per month, and that he receive a Commission from this Congress as Chief Surgeon of the *New-Hampshire* Troops in the Continental Army.

Voted, That a Committee of this House, viz: *John Dudley*, Esq., *Benjamin Giles*, Esq., *Ichabod Rawlins*, Esq., Captain *Moulton*, and Mr. *Sparhawk*, be appointed to take under consideration the behaviour of *Samuel Dyer*, a person complained of as an enemy to this country, and make report thereon to this Congress to-morrow morning.

Voted, To appoint Officers for the Artillery Company at *Portsmouth*, and that Captain *George Turner* be Captain of said Company.

Voted, That Captain *Shadrach Hodgdon's* Account, for Stakes for the Batteries, &c., amounting to four Pounds, be allowed and paid by the Committee of Supplies.

Voted, That Captain *Ephraim Weston's* Account, for services done for this Colony, in the year 1773, amounting to thirty-three Shillings, be allowed and paid out of the publick Treasury.

The Committee appointed to report a method for Representation, beg leave to lay the following plan before the Congress, viz:

That every legal inhabitant, paying taxes, shall be a voter.

That every person elected shall have a real estate, in this Colony, of the value of two hundred Pounds, lawful money.

That no person be allowed a seat in Congress who shall, by themselves or any person at their desire, treat with liquors, &c., any electors, with an apparent view of gaining their votes, or by treating after an election on that account.

That the Towns, Parishes, and places in this Colony, be represented as follows, viz:

Portsmouth, 3; Hampton, 1; Northampton, 1; Exeter, 2; Londonderry, 2; Newcastle, 1; Rye, 1; *Kingston and East-Kingston, 1; *Sandown and Hawke, 1; Greenland, 1; Newington, 1; Stratham, 1; Newmarket, 1; *Southampton and Newtown, 1; Kensington, 1; *Plastow and Atkinson, 1; Hampstead, 1; Salem, 1; Pelham, 1; Chester, 2; Candia, 1; *Raymond and Poplin, 1; Brentwood, 1; *Hampton Falls and Seabrook, 1; Nottingham, 1; *Deerfield and Northwood, 1; *Canterbury and London, 1; *Chichester, Epsom and Allenstown, 1; Pembroke, 1; Wyndham, 1; *Bow and Dumbarton, 1; Concord, 1; Epping, 1—in *Rockingham*, 38.

Dover 2; Madbury, 1; Durham, 1; Lee, 1; Somersworth, 1; Barrington, 1; *Gilmanton and Barnstead, 1; *Sanbornton and Meredith, 1; Rochester, 1; *Leavittston, Wakefield and Middleton, 1; *New-Durham, The Gore and Wolfburgh, 1; *Moultonburgh, Sandwich and Tamworth, 1—in *Stafford*, 13.

Amherst, 2; *Litchfield and Nottingham West, 1; Dunstable, 1; Hollis, 1; *Merrimack and Bedford, 1; *Derryfield and Goffestown, 1; Weare, 1; Hopkinton, 1; *Henniker, Deering, Hillsborough and Society Land, 1; *Francetown and New-Boston, 1; New-Ipswich, 1; *Boscawen and Salisbury, 1; *Temple and Peterborough, 1; *Wilton, Lyndsborough, Mile-Strip and Daxbury Farm, 1; *Mason and Raby, 1; *New-Briton, Warner, Perrystown and Fishersfield, 1—in *Hillsborough*, 17.

*Rindge, Jaffrey and Peterborough-Slip, 1; *Dublin and Monadnock, No. 5, 1; *Packersfield, Stoddard, Washing-

ton and Gilsum, 1; *Marlow, Surry and Alstead, 1; *Hinsdale and Chesterfield, 1; Winchester, 1; Richmond, 1; *Swansey and Fitzwilliam, 1; Keene, 1; Westmoreland, 1; Walpole, 1; Charlestown, 1; *Cornish, Plainfield, Protectworth and Grantham, 1; Claremont, 1; *Unity, Acworth, Lempster, Savile, Croydon and Newport, 1—in *Cheshire*, 15.

*Newchester, Plymouth, Cockermouth and Alexandria, 1; *Romney, Holderness, Campton and Thornton, 1; *Lebanon, Hanover, Pelham, Canaan, Cardigan and Grafton, 1; *Lyme, Orford, Dorchester, Wentworth, Parmont and Warren, 1; *Haverhill, Bath, Lyman, Gunthwait, Landaff and Morriston, 1; *Apthorp, Lancaster, Northumberland, Stratford, Cockburn, Colburn, Conway, Shelburne and the Towns above, 1—in *Grafton*, 6.

Rockingham,	38
Strafford,	13
Hillsborough,	17
Cheshire,	15
Grafton,	6
Total,	89

That precepts, signed by the President of this Congress, be sent to the Selectmen of each Town named in this list, singly to be represented, to elect and choose a person to represent them in Congress, to meet at *Exeter* on the 21st day of *December* next; also, to the Town or Parish marked with this mark (*), where Towns or Parishes are classed together, to notify the several Towns or Parishes, in their respective classes, to meet at the most convenient place in their Town or Parish, to accommodate the whole electors, to choose some person qualified to represent them as aforesaid; and all Selectmen are directed to give the electors fifteen days' notice of the time and occasion of meeting; said members, when met, to sit in Congress as often and so long as they shall judge requisite for acting on the publick business of this Colony, and to be empowered by their constituents to prosecute such measures as they may deem necessary for the publick good, during the term of one year from their first meeting, unless they shall see fit to dissolve themselves sooner.

And in case there should be a recommendation from the Continental Congress for this Colony to assume Government in any way that will require a House of Representatives, that then said Congress for this Colony be empowered to resolve themselves into such a House as may be recommended, and remain such for the aforesaid term of one year.

And it is further recommended, that each Town or Parish, who sends a member to said Congress, pay him for his attendance; and where Towns or Parishes are classed together, in their choice, that they pay their member in the same proportion as they pay Province taxes; all the pay for their travel to be paid out of the Colony Treasury.

Which plan of future representation being read, understood, and considered in Congress,

Voted, That the same be accepted, and made a Resolve of this Congress, and entered accordingly.

—

Wednesday, November 15, 1775.

The President being absent,

Voted, That the Hon. *Meshech Weare*, Esq., be President *pro tempore* of this Congress.

Voted, That the Thanks of this Congress be presented to the Hon. *Matthew Thornton*, Esq., for his faithful and able conduct as President of this Congress.

Voted, That Colonel *David Gilman's* Account, amounting to twenty-seven Shillings, for services done by order of Congress, be allowed and paid out of the publick Treasury.

Voted, That the Rev. Mr. *Woodbridge Odlin* be paid out of the publick Treasury fifty Shillings, lawful money, for his good services in attending and praying with this Congress.

Voted, That the Carpenters employed by Captain *Worthen*, in conjunction with the Committee of *Portsmouth*, be paid wages according to their agreement.

Voted, That the Hon. *Matthew Thornton*, Esq., be paid out of the publick Treasury six Pounds, lawful money, for his time and trouble in going to *Cambridge*, and attending the Grand Council there.

Voted and *Resolved*, That it is the opinion of this Congress, that *Samuel Dyer* ought to confine himself to his present place of abode in *Berwick*, and that it will not be prudent for him to be allowed to pass and repass in this Colony at present.

Voted, To add two persons to the Committee for auditing the Accounts of the Committee for procuring Fire-Arms, and that *David Gilman* and *John McClary*, Esq's, be of that Committee, and that said Committee make a final settlement of said Accounts.

Voted, That a Committee of three persons be chosen, to carry into execution the Resolve of the honourable Continental Congress at *Philadelphia*, of *Thursday*, the 26th of *October* last, respecting exporting to the foreign *West-Indies*, Provisions, &c., for the purpose of importing Arms, Ammunition, Sulphur, and Saltpetre; and that Captain *Pierce Long*, *Samuel Cutts*, and *Samuel Sherburne*, Esquires, be the Committee for that purpose; and that a sum not exceeding two thousand Pounds be employed (for cargo) for the said purposes, at the proper risk of this Colony; and that the said Committee have leave to send, if they think expedient, to any foreign port for the said commodities.

Voted, That Colonel *Evans*, Mr. *Sherburne*, and Mr. *Cutts*, be a Committee to wait on General *Sullivan*, now in Town, and inform him that at his request this Congress is ready to hear him.

Voted, That a Vote of this Congress, of the 10th of *June* last, respecting Town Officers, be forthwith printed in handbills, and distributed to the several Towns and places in this Colony.

The subject matter of the Petition of *Mark Duty* being heard and considered by a Committee of this House, viz: *Benjamin Brown*, *Joseph Bartlett*, *Abraham Page*, *Zaccheus Clough*, and *David Lawrence*, the said Committee made report, that the Cow in question be restored to the Petitioner, and the Committee of Safety of *Wyndham* had no power to try the case, and therefore it ought to stand dismissed, and no cost be paid on either side.

Which Report being read and considered,

Voted, That the same be accepted, and passed into a Resolve of this House.

The Committee of this House, viz: *Nathaniel Balch*, *David Lawrence*, *Samuel Dudley*, Esq., *Abel Webster*, *James Knowles*, *Benjamin Brown*, *John Cragin*, *Samuel Chase*, Esq., and Captain *Caleb Page*, being appointed to examine into the subject matter of the complaint of a number of the training Soldiers in *East-Kingston*, against Lieutenant-Colonel *Gale*, for undue measures taken in the appointment of the Officers in the Militia there, having heard the said parties, report thereon: That the proceedings of Colonel *Gale*, with respect to the warning, and his proceedings in the choice of their Officers in that Company, were illegal, and not agreeable to the Resolves of the Congress in that respect, and that the said Company ought to have the benefit of a new choice of Officers.

Which Report being read and considered,

Voted, That the same be accepted, and pass into a Resolve of this House.

Voted, That the Thanks of this House be given to his Excellency General *Washington*, for his early care and notice taken of this Colony, in sending General *Sullivan* and other assistance to us, when we were in great fear and distress.

Voted, That the Thanks of this House be given to the Hon. General *Sullivan*, for his great care and pains in assisting us to defend our Harbour and Fortresses, when we were in great fear and distress.

Voted, That the Committee of Safety, or of Correspondence, in each Town or Parish in this Colony, be desired to transmit to the Congress, or to the Committee of Safety for this Colony, the names and places of abode of all such persons as they suspect to be in any ways inimical to this country, with the causes and evidence of such suspicions, and that this vote be printed in handbills, and dispersed through this Colony.

Voted, That the Committee of Safety, appointed by this

Congress, be and remain a Committee of Safety for this Colony; and that they, or the major part of them, act in the same manner and with the same authority as heretofore, until the sitting of the next Congress or General Assembly of this Colony.

Voted, That the Committee of Safety attend General *Sullivan* at *Portsmouth*, on *Tuesday* next, to take under their consideration such matters and things as he shall lay before them.

—

Thursday, November 16, 1775.

Voted, That the Officers and Soldiers in the service of this Colony, in the Continental Army, be paid off up to the 4th day of *August* last, and Colonel *Samuel Hobart* and Colonel *Timothy Walker* be Paymasters for that purpose.

Whereas sundry persons, hereafter named, have, at the motion of General *Sullivan*, by virtue of orders from his Excellency General *Washington*, in consequence of the Resolves of the honourable the Continental Congress, been called before a Committee of this Congress, on suspicion of their being inimical to this country and the cause of liberty now contending for; which Committee having made report thereon to this Congress, it is thereupon voted and resolved by this Congress—

1st. That *John Parker*, Esq., is a friend to this country, and is accordingly set at full liberty.

2d. That *Isaac Rindge*, Esq., remove himself to some place at least fifteen miles from *Portsmouth*, and from the sea, and not on any occasion leave the Town or Parish he shall remove to, without leave of the Congress or Committee of Safety.

3d. That Captain *William Torry* remain at *Newmarket*, and not on any occasion leave the said Town or Parish, without leave from the Congress or Committee of Safety.

4th. That Mr. *William Hart* remove himself fifteen miles from *Portsmouth*, and from the sea, and not on any occasion leave the Town or Parish he shall remove to, without leave of the Congress or Committee of Safety.

5th. That Captain *Nathaniel Rogers* confine himself to his own house and farm in *Newmarket*, or, if he shall choose it, to remove himself twenty miles from *Portsmouth*, and from the sea, and not on any occasion leave the Town or Parish he shall remove to, without leave of the Congress or Committee of Safety.

6th. That *George Jaffrey*, Esq., remove himself ten miles at least from *Portsmouth*, and not on any occasion leave the Town or Parish he shall remove to, without leave of the Congress or Committee of Safety.

7th. That *Peter Gilman*, Esq., confine himself to the Town of *Exeter*, and not on any occasion leave the said Town, without leave of the Congress or Committee of Safety.

8th. That Mr. *Jacob Sheafe*, Jun., be desired to withdraw his Memorial against *Edward Sherburne*, and that said *Sheafe* be dismissed.

9th. That those persons, above named, who are enjoined to remove from *Portsmouth*, have twenty days allowed them to remove.

Voted, That Colonel *Samuel Hobart* be paid out of the publick Treasury ten Pounds, for twenty-seven days' service in going to *Cambridge*, and mustering and paying off the Soldiers there, and returning the Muster-Rolls.

Voted, That Major *Joseph Welch* be paid out of the publick Treasury eight Pounds, for his service in attending Colonel *Hobart* on the abovesaid services; and also twenty Shillings for his services in going to *Portsmouth*.

Voted, That Mr. *Nathaniel Rogers* be paid out of the Treasury twenty Shillings, for his services in settling Accounts as a Committee-man.

Voted, That the Thanks of this House be given to Major *Welch*, for his care in raising Troops and forwarding them to *Portsmouth*.

Voted, That *Ebenezer Tibbetts* be Second Major of Colonel *Evans's* Regiment.

Voted, That the Commissions for the Majors of the First Regiment of Militia in this Colony be not given out until the next Congress or Convention.

Voted, That Colonel *Evans* be paid the balance of his Account, amounting to thirty-six Shillings, out of the publick Treasury.

Voted, That *Joshua Wiggin* be paid his Account as Doorkeeper and Messenger of this House, amounting to five Pounds and two Shillings, out of the publick Treasury.

Voted, That Colonel *Samuel Hobart's* Account, amounting to eleven Pounds, eighteen Shillings, be allowed and paid him out of the publick Treasury.

Voted, That Colonel *Evans* be allowed and paid out of the Treasury the balance of his Account for Fire-Arms, amounting to twenty-four Shillings and eight Pence half penny.

Voted, That Colonel *Jeremiah Folsom* be allowed and paid out of the Treasury the balance of his Account for Fire-Arms, amounting to three Pounds, seven Shillings, two Pence, and one Farthing.

Voted, That Mr. *Edward Parsons* be allowed and paid out of the publick Treasury his Account, amounting to thirty-seven Shillings and six Pence.

Whereas it has been represented to this Congress that doubts have arisen in the minds of some persons respecting those who have been, in the usual and very reasonable method pointed out by the law of this Province, chosen to conduct the affairs of Towns, and, also, connected with it, whether Taxes granted by Towns, or by their representatives in Congress, should be collected and paid as usual, or in what manner Selectmen, Constables, &c., should proceed: The Congress, having taken the above into consideration, do recommend to all Towns, that with regard to all those who have been in the usual reasonable manner chosen into any offices in Towns, they should, as formerly, be considered as the proper officers; also, that Towns, Selectmen, Constables, and other officers, proceed in the usual manner in granting moneys, assessing the inhabitants, and collecting any assessments, and discharging any other matters belonging to them, or any of them, unless where some particular direction of this or the General Congress shall interfere.

We trust the good people of this Colony will readily comply with this recommendation, and particularly that they will cheerfully pay the Constables and Collectors; but if any, inimical to their country, or inattentive to the ruin which must ensue upon a contrary conduct, should refuse, we trust that all the friends of their country will effectually strengthen the hands of the Selectmen, Constables, and Collectors.

[*Voted*, That the Resolution of the Continental Congress, of *November* 3, on establishing Government in this Province, be entered on the Minutes.]

"In Congress, Friday, November 3, 1775.

"The Congress taking into consideration the Report of the Committee on the *New-Hampshire* Instructions,

"*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the Provincial Convention of *New-Hampshire*, to call a full and free representation of the people, and that the Representatives, if they think it necessary, establish such a form of Government as, in their judgment, will best produce the happiness of the people, and most effectually secure peace and good order in the Province during the continuance of the present dispute between *Great Britain* and the Colonies.

"Extract from the Minutes:

"Charles Thomson, *Secretary*.

"By order of Congress:

"John Hancock, *President*.

"A copy. Attest:

"Noah Emery, *Deputy Secretary*."

Voted, That this Congress be, and hereby is dissolved.

GENERAL SULLIVAN TO NEW-HAMPSHIRE CONGRESS.

Portsmouth, November 1, 1775.

Much respected Gentlemen: I enclose you a letter from Head-Quarters, calling for my presence immediately. Mr. *Palfrey* tells me he doubts not I may return in two or three days, and, by what he has communicated, I am convinced that I must return in a very short time. I am well satisfied that my presence can by no means be dispensed with at Head-Quarters. I am sorry the call was so sudden as to prevent my seeing the works com-

pleted and the Army formed. That you may know how far I have proceeded, I have directed the orderly book to be transmitted to you, with a return of the men in the several departments. I also enclose you a return of the stores in each fort, with what is wanting to make a proper defence, that you may know the state of your forts. I shall leave the artillery officers and men here with the company of Riflemen till my return, which will be as sudden as possible.

Gentlemen, I am, with great esteem, your very humble servant,

JOHN SULLIVAN.

Honourable Provincial Congress.

P. S. I also enclose the Barrackmaster's return.

COLONEL WINGATE TO NEW-HAMPSHIRE CONGRESS.

Fort Sullivan, Sevey's Island, November 2, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: I find it absolutely necessary that a person well acquainted with rivers and tides in the harbour be appointed to take the charge of the ships and fire-rafts; also, that a Surgeon be appointed constantly to reside and take care of the troops on *Sevey's Island*, in case of accidents, which we are constantly exposed to, independent of what might be feared from the attacks of an enemy. To the first department I have appointed Captain *Robert Parke*, of *Portsmouth*, and to the latter Dr. *Samuel Wigglesworth*, of *Durham;* in which I beg the acquiescence of the honourable Congress, and that they would be pleased to ratify the same.

JOSHUA WINGATE.

To the Honourable the Congress at *Exeter*.

FIELD-OFFICERS AT PORTSMOUTH TO NEW-HAMPSHIRE CONGRESS.

Head-Quarters, Portsmouth, November 8, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: The works at the entrance of the *Piscataqua* harbour, which are thought absolutely necessary to defend the same, are so extensive and so exceedingly exposed, by being situated on islands so difficult to re-enforce, that eight hundred men, including the company of Artillery, the men necessary to take care and manage the shipping and fire-rafts, is fully short of what we dare undertake to defend the same with for the first month; after which time a much less number may be necessary, as the season of the year may be such as may render an attack less probable: any military gentlemen that will undertake to defend the post with a less number, to them we will resign our command with pleasure. In the mean time we will remain at our respective posts, with all the men we can persuade to tarry until superseded or re-enforced. We most heartily thank the honourable Congress for the very great honour they have done us in nominating us to the command, and, with a sufficient number of men to make ourselves worthy of the trust the Congress have proposed to honour us with, we should accept with gratitude.

JOSHUA WINGATE,
JONATHAN BURNAM,
JAMES HACKETT.

DOCTOR JACKSON TO NEW-HAMPSHIRE CONGRESS.

Portsmouth, November 8, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: By order of General *Sullivan*, I raised a company of Artillery, consisting of forty-two men, officers included. Their particular duty was to take care and exercise the brass field ordnance, and in case of attack to move with said artillery from place to place, as they should be ordered. The term of their enlistment was fifteen days, which will be expired by the 15th instant. The pieces and utensils are of great value, and I have in my possession the following valuable and important stores, viz: sixty rounds of flannel cartridges, with canisters of lead shot—each canister contains forty-eight musket balls; forty rounds of paper cartridges; twenty-four single canisters charged, each four hundred and eighty-two balls; six dozen turned wooden wads; one dozen port-fires; twenty-four vent-tubes, charged with quick match and composition. Many of the stores I received, by a special request, from the laboratory at *Cambridge*, and are of too much importance to be left without proper persons to take care of them. I beg to know whether some few of the Company may not be retained in the service for the said purpose, and whether I shall keep the stores in my hands until further orders.

I am, with great respect, your humble servant,

HALL JACKSON.

P. S. Further stores: One dozen tubes uncharged; three dozen two and three-quarters iron round-shot; three port-fire stocks; three small bundles slow-fire match.

PORTSMOUTH COMMITTEE TO NEW-HAMPSHIRE CONGRESS.

Committee-Hall, Portsmouth, November 13, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: On the representation of the Delegates for this town, representing the inhabitants in Congress, that a motion being made we should take under consideration a recompense for Dr. *Hall Jackson's* services as surgeon to the Army at Head-Quarters, do, in consequence thereof, beg leave to inform the Congress, that on the news arriving in this town of the battle at *Charlestown*, in *June* last, and being well informed that a gentleman of known abilities in surgery was much wanted, did immediately apply to Dr. *Jackson*, and entreated his setting off for the camp without delay, to assist any distressed officers or soldiers that might be unfortunately wounded. Whereupon, he expressed a readiness, and observed he would, at our request, proceed without delay, and trust to a future day for reward. We therefore take the liberty to represent, that Dr. *Jackson* set off the 19th *June* on the purpose aforesaid, and was continued in that service till the 17th *October*, excepting about three weeks. At different times he was in this town to visit his family, in which time he was constantly employed in constructing carriages and mounting sundry field-pieces. For which services this Committee, with deference to the honourable Congress, adjudge an allowance of fifteen pounds, lawful money, per month, for all services and expenses during the time aforesaid.

By order of the Committee:

H. WENTWORTH, *Chairman*.

To the Honourable Congress for the Colony of *New-Hampshire*.

JOSIAH BARTLETT TO THE NEW-HAMPSHIRE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Philadelphia, November 13, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: Enclosed I transmit to you the letter directed to the Speaker of our House of Assembly. I suppose it came from *England*, sent by the agents who presented the late petition of Congress. By it you will be able to guess what will be the fate of that petition.

I also send you a duplicate of the vote of Congress concerning our civil affairs. The first copy of the vote was sent *November* 6th. Yesterday Captain *Langdon* set off on his journey to *Canada*, so that I am left here alone to act in behalf of our Colony. I don't expect him here any more during this session of the Congress.

When the Congress will rise, can't say; but fear it can't till winter, if it can before spring. The affair of the ships taken at *Portsmouth* has not been considered by Congress, by reason of urgent business; but I expect soon that that and several other captures will be taken under consideration, and some general rules adopted. When any thing is determined on it, will inform you by the first opportunity.

I am directed by the Congress to send you the enclosed resolves for making saltpetre, and I would earnestly recommend the putting them in practice. It appears, from several experiments in this Colony, that the surface of the earth that has been for some years kept from the rain will produce saltpetre. The floor of a meeting-house being taken up, the earth under it produced one pound from every bushel; under barns, stables, &c., much more. There appears to be no more art in making it than in making potash. When the liquor is properly boiled, and put into pans to cool, it shoots and sticks to the bottom and sides very beautifully. The liquor may then be easily drained off, and either boiled over again or put on another mash. Though probably the Continent will be well supplied with powder in the spring, yet it is best by all means to put it out of the power of our enemies to defeat us of

*

that necessary article, by supplying ourselves, and if we have a double or treble quantity it will be no damage, and in future save our cash from being sent abroad after it.

I am, Gentlemen, your humble servant,

JOSIAH BARTLETT.

The Committee of Safety, *New-Hampshire*.

NEW-HAMPSHIRE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY TO GENERAL SCHUYLER.

In Committee of Safety, November 18, 1775.

SIR: The very interesting and pleasing account of the surrender of the fort at *St. John's* is just arrived by express from Colonel *Bedel;* an event which we esteem highly favourable to the cause of *American* liberty, as well as honourable to the officers who directed the measures for obtaining that important post.

The troops from this Colony, commanded by Colonel *Bedel*, were, by advice of General *Washington*, offered to be joined to your Army, as a part of the number voted by the Continental Congress for that service. This Colony only paid them one month's wages before their march. Colonel *Bedel* informs us they are very much distressed for the want of clothing in this severe season. We have sent him three hundred pounds, out of an inadequate sum reserved to send beyond the seas to purchase ammunition, which is all we can advance, unless in paper bills, which we understand have no currency in *Canada*. We therefore desire you will advance, if in your power, out of the Continental chest, what is absolutely necessary for their future subsistence and comfort while in the service; and this Colony will be always ready, with respect to that and all other matters, to acquiesce in and obey the resolutions of the Continental Congress.

In behalf of the Committee, I am, with great esteem, yours, &c.

NEW-HAMPSHIRE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY TO COL. BEDEL.

In Committee of Safety, November 18, 1775.

SIR: Last evening Mr. *Grant* arrived here with your letter of the 2d instant, containing the agreeable news of the surrender of *St. John's*, &c. We are very sensible that your men, without some assistance, must suffer from the cold, in so severe a climate, and are anxious to do every thing in our power for their relief. From the very circumstance of their being ordered to join General *Schuyler's* Army, we supposed they were to be considered as Continental troops, and therefore no provision has been made for them by the Congress of this Colony. You say paper money will not pass there; no other can be procured here on any terms. There is a small sum of silver and gold in our treasury, reserved for the purpose of procuring ammunition beyond sea, out of which we have put into the hands of *Israel Morey*, Esq., three hundred pounds, lawful money, to be by him transmitted for the benefit of the troops put under your command by the Congress of this Colony, as he shall judge most safe and convenient; which we hope they will lay out for such clothing as is most necessary for them, and that you will endeavour to prevent their expending it unnecessarily, more especially as it is all of the kind that they can possibly be supplied with from hence. We have wrote to Generals *Schuyler* and *Montgomery* on the subject of supplies and pay for your men, and desired them to assist you in every thing necessary to make your companies as comfortable as possible.

Hoping, ere this reaches you, comfortable habitations may be your lot, and that all your efforts for the good of the country may be crowned with happy success; that you may, in due time, safely return to your friends and families with the laurels of victory, and be well rewarded for your services and sufferings by your countrymen, is the desire of your most obedient servants.

COMMITTEE OF SAFETY TO NEW-HAMPSHIRE DELEGATES IN CONGRESS.

In Committee of Safety, November 21, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: The Committee of Supplies, and others concerned in supplying and paying our troops, have not, as yet, been able to close their accounts in such a manner as that we could make out the Colony accounts against the Continent, but have proceeded so far as to be sure that supplying and paying our troops to the 4th of *August*, with what we advanced to those gone in Colonel *Arnold's* detachment, and those now in *Canada* under the command of General *Schuyler*, will amount to upwards of twenty thousand pounds, lawful money. To avoid the necessity of emitting more paper money for our own internal charges, we desire you would request the honourable Congress to make a grant of such a part of the aforesaid sum as they shall see fit, and our accounts shall be transmitted as soon as a settlement can be made with the persons who have transacted the business. The number of the inhabitants in the several towns in this Colony, directed by our Congress to be taken by the several and respective Selectmen, and returned under oath, has cheerfully been complied with, and we send you enclosed the list as returned, except those where only the columns of the sum total are filled up, which not being returned, we have set down by the best information we could obtain, and are confident we have done it very near the true number; however, shall forward those wanting whenever they come to hand, (which we daily expect,) so that the whole may be completed by the Selectmen's returns.

The towns which did not return their numbers were filled up in the list sent the Continental Congress, as follows:

Newcastle,	530	*Goffestown*,	520
Kensington,	820	*Salisbury*,	220
Allenstown,	150	*Dunbarton*,	490
Dover,	1,614	*Hillsborough*,	180
Sanbornton,	350	*Lyndeborough*,	615
Moultonborough,	350	*Raby*,	320
Tamworth,	115	*Society Land*,	220
Hanover,	380	*Hindsdale*,	70
Lyman,	40	*Charlestown*,	710
Grafton,	50	*Acworth*,	110
Apthorp,	15	*Joffrey*,	175
Wentworth,	60	*Fitzwilliam*,	250
Warren,	60	*Lempster*,	155
Amherst,	1,410		

CAPTAIN THOMPSON TO PORTSMOUTH (NEW-HAMPSHIRE) COMMITTEE.

November 23, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: I made a return to you some time ago of the fire-rafts which were then finished, and thought some one would be appointed to take care of them. I find no one has been appointed. I therefore repeat it is necessary proper persons should be appointed, as some of them were much damaged in the late storm. I have attended and put them in order again, and now return, fit for immediate use, twelve rafts; likewise return, unfit for service, two from *Durham*, two from *Greenland*. The people I employed were caulkers, whose wages are very high. I have therefore thought fit to discharge them. Now, as those rafts are thought things of some consequence, it is necessary to give them in charge of the proper officers, in order to clear the Committee and myself of any hurt that may come to them hereafter. A sentry ought to be placed over them, as evil minded persons might easily destroy them. I put a roof over one, but have been obliged to take it off again, as it overset the raft, and twisted it to pieces. I should recommend, if they are not used before winter, to provide a warehouse to unload them all, and house the wood, &c., and lay the rafts in some safe place, as I think it would be much preferable to roofing them. But if you intend they should be covered, it is necessary that it be immediately set about; of that you and the proper officers will judge. I hope the proceedings hereto will meet with your approbation, and I beg from hence the rafts will be considered entirely out of my charge.

I am, Gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

T. THOMPSON.

To the Committee of Safety for the Town of *Portsmouth*.

JOSIAH BARTLETT TO THE NEW-HAMPSHIRE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Philadelphia, November 27, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: Being in great haste when I sealed my last letter to you, I inadvertently omitted the enclosed let-

ter from the agents, nor was I sensible of the omission till I found it among my papers last *Saturday*. The enclosed resolves I am directed by Congress to transmit to you.

I should be very glad to be informed of all the circumstances of our publick affairs. I think that a particular knowledge of them would often be of very great advantage. But as I now hope I shall set out for *New-Hampshire* in a fortnight or three weeks, I expect I shall not be able to hear from you after you receive this till my return, unless, contrary to my present hopes, I shall be detained here for the winter.

I am, Gentlemen, your friend and humble servant,

JOSIAH BARTLETT.

To the Committee of Safety for *New-Hampshire*.

GENERAL SULLIVAN TO THE NEW-HAMPSHIRE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Winter-Hill, November 29, 1775.

DEAR SIRS: General *Washington* has sent to *New-Hampshire* for thirty-one companies, to take possession of and defend our lines, in room of the *Connecticut* forces, who most scandalously refuse to tarry to the 1st of *January*. I must therefore entreat your utmost exertions to forward the raising these companies, lest the enemy should take advantage of their absence, and force our lines. As the *Connecticut* forces will, at all events, leave us on or before the 10th of next month, pray call upon every true friend to his country to assist with heart and hand in raising and sending forward those companies as soon as possible.

Gentlemen I am, in extreme haste, your most obedient servant,

JOHN SULLIVAN.

To the Committee of Safety in *Exeter*.

GENERAL SULLIVAN TO THE NEW-HAMPSHIRE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Winter-Hill, November 30, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: Since I saw you last, I find that *George Jaffrey*, Esq., has assisted much in fixing the works to defend our harbour. That being the case, I am clearly of opinion that he ought not in justice to be deemed an enemy to his country, or treated as such. I therefore consent that he remain at his owo house in *Portsmouth*, if agreeable to you; and am, gentlemen, with much respect, your most obedient servant,

JOHN SULLIVAN.

Honourable Committee of Safety.

GENERAL SULLIVAN TO THE NEW-HAMPSHIRE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Winter-Hill, November 30, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: I have, by command of his Excellency General *Washington*, to inform you, that the *Connecticut* forces (deaf to the entreaties of their own as well as all other officers, and regardless of the contempt with which their own Government threatens to treat them upon their return) have absolutely refused to tarry till the 1st day of *January*, but will quit the lines on the 6th of *December*. They have deceived us and their officers, by pretending there would be no difficulty with them, till they have got so near the close of their term, and now, to their eternal infamy, demand a bounty to induce them to tarry only the three weeks. This is such an insult to every *American*, that we are determined to release them, at the expiration of their term, at all hazards, and find ourselves obliged immediately to supply their place with troops from *New-Hampshire* and *Massachusetts-Bay*. The number required from you is thirty-one companies of sixty-four men in a company, including a captain, two subalterns, three sergeants, and three corporals, which makes fifty-five privates each. The whole number, officers and men, amounts to one thousand nine hundred and eighty-four. The terms of their enlistment are as follows: Each company to march as soon as full; they are to be provided with arms, ammunition, and each a good blanket. To prevent any difficulty in passing muster here, if they are mustered by such person or persons as you may appoint there will be no necessity of their being mustered here, nor will it be done. Their pay is to commence on the day they march, and from that time they are to receive the price of their rations in cash. They are therefore to take provisions to last them on the road. In case any or the whole of them could not do this, if the Province or the several towns will supply them, the accounts, together with what you may be at in raising them, will be instantly paid. They are to serve to the 15th of *January*, if required. Their pay to be as other Continental troops. No field-officers to be sent. The captains and subalterns to be appointed and commissioned by you for the Continental service, and the soldiers to engage in the Continental service, under the command of General *Washington*, for the term aforesaid, if required. None to be admitted, unless on the spot by the 10th of *December*, and will be joyfully received as much sooner as possible. They will also be paid for their return home.

The above are the terms, and I earnestly entreat you, for the honour of *New-Hampshire*, to show the world your attachment to the noble cause. Let the worthless sons of *Connecticut* know that the other Colonies will not suffer our lines to be given up, or our country destroyed, nor the sons of *New-Hampshire* (like those parsimonious wretches) want to be bribed into the preservation of their liberties. I hope the eager speed with which the *New-Hampshire* forces will march to take possession of and defend our lines, will evince to the world their love of liberty and regard to their country. As you find the business requires much infinite haste, I must entreat you not to give sleep to your eyes, nor slumber to your eyelids, till the troops are on their march. I have sent Mr. *Sherburn*, who will wait your commands, and forward such orders as you may think proper to give. In case ammunition cannot be had for all, we must contrive to supply those who are destitute here.

Gentlemen, I am your humble servant,

JOHN SULLIVAN.

Honourable Committee of Safety.

P. S. The troops you send are to be under my immediate command, and joined to my brigade. I mentioned to the General the encouragement you gave upon the questions I proposed to you by his order, and informed him that you offered to send those men already raised, in case they were needed, which gave him great pleasure. And as there is no preparation making to attack you, and the season is so far advanced, I can see no difficulty in dismissing them. I should have been much rejoiced to have had Colonels *Wingate*, *Burnham*, and *Hackett* at their head, as field-officers, but the Committee from the *Massachusetts* General Court and the Council of General Officers have determined the contrary. It would, however, give me the greatest pleasure to see those gentlemen preferring the interests of their country to the title or rank of office, and each of them lead a company on to the lines. This would so much add to the exalted opinion I already have of them, that I should, during their stay here, treat and respect them as officers of the highest rank.

I recommend that all the arms in the store at *Portsmouth* be delivered out, and if Captain *Turner* inclines to come, that his company be augmented to the number proposed, and they be furnished with them. As this is merely a Continental matter, you need not wait for a full committee; the voice of two or three will be sufficient, though the assistance of the whole may possibly be necessary. I promise, in behalf of General *Washington*, that the act of any number will be deemed valid, and the officers and soldiers received and paid accordingly.

N. B. The soldiers are to he paid off the moment they are discharged, before they quit the ground. J. S.

Copy of Enlistment recommended.

"We hereby enlist ourselves as soldiers to serve in the Continental Army, under the command of his Excellency General *Washington*, until the 15th day of *January* next, unless sooner discharged, with Captain . . . . being the captain appointed over us. We promise obedience to all our superior officers, and to be subject to the rules and regulations of the Continental Army, until the time abovementioned, and to be paid at the rate of forty shillings per month from the time of our march to the time of our return."

SOUTH-CAROLINA PROVINCIAL CONGRESS.

List of the Members of the second Provincial Congress of *South-Carolina*, begun and holden at *Charlestown*, on the 1st day of *November*, 1775.

For Charlestown: Colonel *Charles Pinckney, Roger Smith, John Edwards, Peter Leger*, Esqrs., Hon. *H. Middleton, Thomas Corbett, Daniel Cannon, George Abbot Hall, Thomas Heyward*, Jun., *Peter Bouquet, Paul Townsend*, Esqrs., Col. *Henry Laurens, Michael Kalteisen, Peter Bacot, Thomas Savage*, Esqrs., Col. *Christopher Gadsden, John Neufville, William Johnson, Arthur Middleton, Edward Rutledge*, Esqrs., *Peter Timothy, Joseph Verree, Edward Weyman, Cato Ash, James Brown, Anthony Toomer, John Berwick, Alexander Gillon, Robert W. Powell*, Esqrs.

For Christ Church Parish: *John Rutledge, Clement Lempriere, Arn. Vanderhorst, Gabriel Capers, Isaac Legaré, John Boone*, Esqrs.

For St. John's, Berkley County: *Job Marion, Elias Ball*, Jun., *Maurice Simons, James Cordes*, Jun., *John Cordes, James Ravenell*, Esqrs.

For St. Andrew's: Colonel *Thomas Fuller, William Scott, Thomas Bee, William Cattell, Benjamin Stone, Isaac Rivers*, Esqrs.

For St. George's, Dorchester: *David Oliphant, Benjamin Waring, John Mathewes, Richard Waring, Richard Walter*, Esqrs.

For St. James's, Goose-Creek: Colonel *Thomas Fuller, John Parker, Benjamin Smith, John Izard, John Wright, Thomas Middleton*, (son of *Henry*,) Esqrs.

For St. Thomas and St. Dennis: *James Akin, John Huger, William Parker, Isaac Harleston, Thomas Shubrick, Joseph Fogartie*, Esqrs.

For St. Paul's: *Thomas Ferguson, Benjamin Elliott, Charles Elliott, Robert Ladson, George Haig, John McQueen*, Esqrs.

For St. Bartholomew's: Hon. *R. Lowndes*, Esq., Col. *James Parsons, William Skirving, Philip Smith, James Skirving, Thomas Osborn*, Esqrs.

For St. Helena: *Thomas Rutledge, John Barnwell, Daniel Heyward, John Joiner*, Esqrs., Colonel *William Moultrie, Daniel de Saussure*, Esq.

For St. James's, Santee: Colonel *Daniel Horry, Paul Douxsaint, Thomas Horry, Thomas Lynch, Capers Boone, Jacob Motte*, Esqrs.

For Prince George's, Winyah: *Thomas Lynch, Elias Horry*, Jun., *Benjamin Huger, Joseph Allston, Paul Trapier*, Jun., *Benjamin Young*, Esqrs.

For Prince Frederick's: *Theo. Gaillard*, Jun., *Thomas Port, Anthony White, Benjamin Screven, Arch. McDonald, John James*, Sen., Esqrs.

For St. John's, Colleton County: *William Gibbes, Charles C. Pinckney, Thomas Evance, Thos. Tucker, Benjamin Jenkins, Ralph Izard*, Esqrs.

For St. Peter's: Colonel *Stephen Bull, W. Williamson, Gideon Dupont, Thomas Middleton*, (son of *William*,) *Philotheos Chiffelle, William Brisbane*, Esqrs.

For Prince William's: Col. *Benjamin Garden*, Col. *Isaac Motte, John Bull, William Bull, Isaac Macpherson, William Harden*, Esqrs.

For St. Stephen's: *John Gaillord, Philip Porcher, Peter Sinckler, Charles Cantey, Hezekiah Maham, Joseph Polmer*, Esqrs.

For the District Eastward of Wateree River: Col. *Richard Richardson, Joseph Kershow, Matthew Singleton, Thomas Sumpter, Aaron Loocock, W. Richardson, George Douglass*, Esqrs., Rev. *William Tennent, James Bradley, William Massey*, Esqrs.

For Ninety-Six District: Colonel *James Mayson, And. Williamson, Le Roy Hammond, Patrick Calhoun*, Esqrs., Colonel *John Lewis Gervais, Richard Rapley, Francis Salvador*, Esqrs., Colonel *Champness Terry*, Rev. *John Harris, William Moore*, Esq.

For Saxe-Gotha District: Hon. *W. H. Drayton, Benjamin Farrar, William Arthar, Henry Patrick, Ralph Humphries, Jacob Richmond*, Esqrs.

For the District between Broad and Saluda Rivers: Colonel *John Thomas*, Colonel *William Wofford, Michael Leitner*, Esq., Colonel *John Lisle, William Henderson, Jonas Beard, John Prince*, Esqrs.

For the District between Broad and Catawba Rivers: *John Winn, John Nixon, William Lang, William Barrow, William Howell, William Lee, Thomas Taylor, John Turner, William Strother, Henry Hunter*, Esqrs.

For the New Acquisition: *William Byers, James Carson, Robert McAfee, Joseph Howe, William McCulloch, John Howe, Francis Adams, Thomas Neel, Joseph Woods, Samuel Watson, Francis Ross, Thomas Janes, Alexander Love, Robert Dickey*, Esqrs.

For St. Matthew's: Colonel *Tacitus Gaillard*, Rev. *Paul Turquand, John Caldwell, Simon Berwick, Henry Felder, William Flood*, Esqrs.

For St. David's: Colonel *Geo. Gab. Powell, Claudius Pegues, H. W. Harrington, Alex. McIntosh, Samuel Wise*, Esqrs., Colonel *George Pawley*.

For the District between Savannah River and the North Fork of Edisto: *James Wilson, Andrew Cumming, George Robinson, John Sally, John Collins, James Jones*, Esqrs.

At the first session of the second Provincial Congress of *South-Carolina*, begun and holden at the State-House in *Charlestown*, on *Wednesday*, the 1st of *November*, 1775.

The Hon. *William Henry Drayton* was chosen President, and *Peter Timothy*, Secretary.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the thanks of this Congress be returned to Colonel *Henry Laurens*, President of the late Congress, for his unwearied diligence, application, and merit in the discharge of the duties of that office.

Thanks were accordingly returned from the chair.

The names of the Delegates were then called over.

The inhabitants of the Parish of *St. Thomas* and *St. Dennis* having chosen *Isaac Harleston*, Esq., one of their Representatives, subsequent to the general election, in the room of the Rev. *Robert Smith*, who had been chosen at the said general election, and had declined serving; and it appearing that the said election of Mr. *Harleston* was publickly and fairly conducted, the Congress approved thereof, and Mr. *Harleston* took his seat.

Resolved, That the Church-wardens for the Parish of *St. Paul* be desired forthwith to summon the inhabitants of the said Parish, to meet on *Monday* next, at the usual place of election, then and there to elect a Representative to serve in the present Congress, in the room of *William Skirving*, Esq., who, having been elected in the Parishes of *St. Bartholomew* and *St. Paul*, made his election for the former.

Resolved, That the Church-wardens of the Parish of *St. John, Berkeley* County, be desired forthwith to summon the inhabitants of the said Parish, to meet on *Monday* next, at the usual place of election, then and there to proceed to choose a Representative to serve in the present Congress, in the room of *Edward Harleston*, Esq., deceased.

Resolved, That the Church-wardens of the Parish of *St. John, Colleton* County, be desired forthwith to summon the inhabitants of the said Parish, to meet on *Monday* next, at the usual place of election, then and there to proceed to the choice of a Representative to serve in the present Congress, in the room of *Thomas Legaré*, Jun., Esq., who has declined serving.

Resolved, That the Church-wardens of the Parish of *St. James, Santee*, be desired forthwith to summon the inhabitants of the said Parish to meet at the usual place of election, on *Wednesday*, the 15th instant, (*November*,) then and there to elect a Representative to serve in the present Congress, in the room of *Edward Jerman* and *Jacob Motte*, Esqrs., who were returned as having equal votes.

Ordered, That the Secretary do deliver copies of the four preceding Resolves to the Deputies of the several Parishes therein respectively mentioned, that the elections thereby ordered may be proceeded in without delay.

Information being given to the Congress, that Captain *Robert Cunningham*, charged with high crimes and misdemeanors against the liberties of *America*, had been taken into custody and brought to town by Captain *Benjamin Tutt*,

Ordered, That Captain *Tutt* be desired to attend the Congress, at five o'clock, this evening.

Colonel *Laurens*, President of the late Congress, delivered all the Association Papers which had been signed and deposited in his hands, into those of the Hon. *William Henry Drayton*, his successor.

Adjourned to five o'clock, in the afternoon.

In Congress, Wednesday, November 1, 1775, P. M.

The Congress met according to adjournment.

Captain *Tutt* attended according to order, and related the cause and manner of his having taken and brought *Robert Cunningham* to *Charlestown*.

An Affidavit of Captain *John Caldwell*, taken before *Richard Rapley*, Esq., at *Ninety-Six*, *October* 23, 1775, which justified the measure, was produced and read.

Ordered, That the thanks of this Congress be returned to Captain *Tutt* for his service; and also to the several persons who accompanied him.

Resolved, That all the expenses of bringing the said *Robert Cunningham* to town be defrayed by the publick.

Ordered, That Captain *Charles Cotesworth Pinckney*, Captain *William Cattell*, and Mr. *Thomas Heyward*, Jun., be a Committee to collect the charges against Captain *Robert Cunningham;* and to draw up a state of his offences against the peace and liberties of *America*.

Ordered, That Captain *Robert Cunningham* be forthwith brought before this Congress.

And being brought before the Congress accordingly, and questioned by the President, he replied: "That he could not deny, that he had made use of expressions somewhat like those mentioned in Captain *Caldwell's* affidavit, which had just been read to him; that he believed Captain *Caldwell* had not perjured himself; and that, though he did not consider himself as bound by the late treaty at *Ninety-Six*, yet he since had constantly behaved himself as peaceably as any man, and although he had opinions, he had not expressed them but when asked."

Ordered, That Mr. President do immediately issue his Warrant, for committing the said *Cunningham* to safe custody, in the common Jail of *Charlestown*.

And the following Warrant was accordingly issued:

In Provincial Congress, South-Carolina.

To the Sheriff of *Charlestown* District, or his Deputy; or to the Keeper of the Common Jail in *Charlestown*.

You are hereby commanded and required to receive into your custody in the common jail, and there safely keep until further order, the body of *Robert Cunningham*, herewith sent to you, charged with high crimes and misdemeanors against the liberties of this Colony; and for so doing this is your warrant.

Given under my hand and seal, at *Charlestown*, this 1st day of *November*, 1775.

By order of the Congress:

William Henry Drayton, *President.*

Ordered, That *Thomas Grimball*, Esq., the Sheriff of *Charlestown* District, be summoned to attend this Congress immediately.

Mr. Sheriff *Grimball* attended accordingly.

Ordered, That the Sheriff be directed to afford the said *Robert Cunningham* every reasonable and necessary accommodation, at the publick charge; but that he do not suffer the said *Cunningham* to converse or correspond with any person whatever, or to have the use of pen, ink, or paper, unless by express leave from the Congress, or authority derived from them.

Read a Letter from the Committee at *Little River*, dated 23d *October*, 1775.

Ordered, That the said Letter be referred to a Committee of the following gentlemen, viz: Mr. *William Parker*, Mr. *Edwards*, Mr. *Elias Horry*, Mr. *Trapier*, Mr. *Allston*, and Mr. *Young*.

Ordered, That the Members of the late Council of Safety be a Committee to adjust and settle all outstanding accounts against the publick; and that they report thereon to this Congress.

Ordered, That Colonel *Pinckney*, Colonel *Laurens*, Colonel *Richardson*, Mr. *Arthur Middleton*, Mr. *Ferguson*, Colonel *Bull*, Captain *C. C. Pinckney*, Mr. *Harrington*, Mr. *Kershaw*, and Mr. *Cannon*, be a Committee to report upon the state of the Colony; and the proper measures which ought to be pursued for putting the same into the best posture of defence; and that the said Committee do sit without loss of time.

Ordered, That the Commissioners of the Treasury do report to this Congress a state of the Colony Treasury.

On motion, *Resolved*, That every Member who attends the service of the publick in the present Congress, be entitled to receive, during such attendance, forty Shillings currency, per diem, upon his application to the Treasurers, during the present sitting, or within three days thereafter.

Ordered, That the Colony Treasurers be served with a copy of the above Resolution, by the Secretary.

Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow morning.

—

In Congress, Thursday, November 2, 1775.

The Congress met according to adjournment.

And the Journals of yesterday were read.

Colonel *Laurens* delivered up to his successor in the chair all the Letters, Papers, &c., which had come into his hands, as President of the Council of Safety, and Chairman of the General Committee.

Colonel *Laurens* also delivered in a Letter from Captain *Edward Thornbrough*, Commander of His Majesty's Sloop *Tamer*, which he found at his house last night, addressed to himself, and therefore opened, but found to be of a publick nature.

Resolved, That the Members of Congress be required to give the most diligent attendance on the publick business during the present sitting; and that no Member do depart without leave from the Chair.

Resolved, That the Order of the late Congress, that no Member speak more than twice in any debate upon one point, without leave, be strictly observed.

Read the Letter from Capt. *Thornbrough*, dated "from on board His Majesty's Sloop *Tamer*, 1st *November*, 1775."

"From on board His Majesty's Sloop Tamer,
November 1, 1775.

"Sir: The many unprovoked insults the King's servants in this Province have received, from those *Assemblies* who have had the hardiness to assume the reins of Government, are too numerous and too well known to make it necessary for me to mention them. I will confine myself entirely to what relates to my own department and the trust reposed in me.

"I therefore address you, sir, as a principal actor in the measures now adopted, and desire you will acquaint your associates, and all others whom it may concern, that if His Majesty's agents in *Charlestown* are not permitted, regularly and without molestation, to supply the King's ships *Tamer* and *Cherokee*, under my command, with such provisions as I think necessary to demand, I am determined, from this day, not to suffer any vessel to enter into, or depart from *Charlestown*, that it is in my power to prevent. The bearer of this, is owner of a vessel, who has unloaded materials at the King's fort, which is now held in contempt and defiance of His Majesty's authority; and whatever pretexts this man may use to colour his disloyalty, I never will suffer his vessel to depart, till *Walker*, the gunner of the King's fort, now a prisoner at the barracks, and who I look upon as under my protection, is sent on board the *Tamer*. Savages ought to blush at the return the King's servants have received for their humanity to one of the most infamous and most ungrateful of *villains*, in whose service this poor man has served.

"I am, Sir, your obedient and most humble servant,

"Edward Thornbrough.

"To *Henry Laurens*, Esquire.

"N. B. I desire an immediate and explicit answer."

Ordered, That Captain *Wanton* be summoned to attend this Congress immediately.

He attended accordingly; and gave a very circumstancial account of his detention by the man-of-war, his being sent away for *St. Augustine*, the putting of *George Walker*, late Gunner of Fort *Johnson*, (a prisoner, and on his parole to Colonel *Moultrie*,) on board his vessel, and the landing of the said *Walker* in *Georgia*.

The Secretary delivered in a Return from *Thomas Grim-*

ball, Esq., Sheriff of *Charlestown* District; and also a Letter from *Edward Martin*, Esq., Sheriff of *Georgetown* District; which he had received, in consequence of the circular Letter by him written to all the Sheriffs, on the 25th ult., by order of the General Committee.

Mr. *Kershaw* from the Committee to state to this Congress a proper recompense to be given to Capt. *Tutt*, &c., reported. Whereupon, it was

Resolved, That the sum of eight hundred and twenty-five Pounds currency be paid to the said Captain *Tutt*, to be distributed, as follows, viz: three hundred Pounds to himself (out of which all expenses incurred to be defrayed,) one hundred and fifty Pounds to Lieutenant *Robert Bryant*; and seventy-five Pounds to each of the following Privates, viz: *James Coursey*, *Joseph Reed*, *Ezekiel Williams*, *Richard Tutt*, and *Richard Duggett*; and that a handsome scymitar be also purchased and presented to Captain *Tutt*.

An order was accordingly drawn upon the Treasury for the payment of the said sum of eight hundred and twenty-five Pounds to Captain *Tutt*; and he was at the same time presented with a scymitar.

Upon an application in behalf of Mr. *Cunningham*, that he might be permitted to write a Letter, and that he might obtain certain necessaries, the following Order was drawn, viz:

To the Sheriff of *Charlestown* District, or his Deputy, or to the Keeper of the Common Jail in *Charlestown*.

You are hereby commanded to admit Captain *Tutt* and Mr. *Gervais* to converse with the prisoner *Robert Cunningham*; in order that the said *Cunningham* may write a letter, to brought to me by Mr. *Tutt* and Mr. *Gervais*. You are also required to permit Mr. *Gervais* to furnish Mr. *Robert Cunningham* with such linen and cash as Mr. *Gervais* shall think proper.

By order of the Congress:

WILLIAM HENRY DRAYTON, *President*.

In Congress, South-Carolina,
Charlestown, November 2, 1775.

Ordered, That Mr. President be desired to prepare an answer to Captain *Thornbrough's* Letter, and lay the same before the Congress to-morrow morning.

Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow morning.

—

In Congress, Friday, November 3, 1775.

The Congress met according to adjournment.

And the Journals of yesterday were read.

Mr. *George Douglas*, who had been elected a Provisional Representative for the District eastward of *Wateree*, in case Captain *Robert Patton* should not serve for that District, attended the Congress; and Captain *Patton* being sick, Mr. *Douglas* was ordered to take his seat in the room of said *Patton*.

On motion, *Resolved*, That during the present sitting of this Congress the doors be kept shut.

A new Return of Delegates for the *New-Acquisition* was this day made, whereby Captain *William Byers*, Mr. *William Mc Culloch*, Lieutenant *Samuel Watson*, Mr. *James Carson*, Mr. *John Howe*, Captain *Francis Ross*, Captain *Robert McAfee*, *Francis Adams*, Esq., Mr. *Thomas Janes*, and Captain *Ezekiel Polk*, were declared duly elected; and it appearing, upon inquiry, that the gentlemen formerly returned for that District had been chosen by an inferior number of inhabitants, and not by a general ballot, the Congress, to prevent any complaints which might arise from a different determination, in the present instance,

Resolved, That all the Members named in both Returns for the *New-Acquisition*, may take their seats in the present Congress.

But, in order to prevent future irregularities of this sort, they, at the same time,

Ordered, That Mr. *Arthur Middleton*, the Reverend Mr. *Tennent*, Captain *William Cattell*, Mr. *Bee*, and Captain *Charles Cotesworth Pinckney*, be a Committee to prepare a Resolution to be laid before this Congress, for regulating all future elections of Members of Congress, and Parochial and District Committees.

Mr. *Neufville*, one of the Commissioners of the Colony Treasury, laid before the Congress the following account of Moneys which they had paid, viz:

"For the Regiments of Foot,			£123,041 11*s.* 7*d.*
"For the Regiment of Rangers,			32,677 0 10
"For Contingencies,			42,669 5 7
			£198,387 18*s.* 0*d.*
"2078 barrels Rice,	£32,012 19 0		
"330 barrels Flour,	3,754 2 4		36,747 17 8
"Indian affairs,	680 16 4		
"Mess. Dunn & Boote,	300 0 0		
			£235,135 15*s.* 8*d.*

"*Nov.* 3, 1775."

Ordered, That the Rev. *William Tennent*, Capt. *William Cattell*, and Mr. *Salvador*, be a Committee to inquire into the conduct of *John Dunn*, Esq., since his enlargement on his parole.

Mr. President reported the draught of an answer, which he had been desired to prepare, to Captain *Thornbrough's* Letter of the 1st instant.

And the said draught being taken into immediate consideration, was amended, and agreed to, as follows:

In Congress, Charlestown, South-Carolina,
November 3, 1775.

SIR: Colonel *Laurens*, the late President, yesterday laid before us your letter of the 1st instant. Before we make any answer to it, we must intimate to you, that as, by your verbal answer to a publick messenger, who carried you a letter, dated 28th ultimo, from Colonel *Laurens*, as President, you promised a written answer to that letter, relative to an information received, that a runaway negro, the property of *John Allen Walter*, Esq., was harboured on board the sloop-of-war under your command; so your unexpected silence on this head, at once is a breach of the rules of propriety, and a negative confession, that the negro, if not on board the *Tamer*, is actually harbored on board the *Cherokee*, the residence of Lord *William Campbell*, or some other vessel under your command.

The publick, sir, are too well acquainted with the arbitrary and irritating style peculiar to Lord *William Campbell's* secretary, for us to have the least room to imagine, that you are the framer of the letter you sent to Colonel *Laurens*, dated 1st instant. However, we cannot but declare, that we know of no "unprovoked insults" the King's servants have received from any assembly by authority of the people; and we wish we could say that the conduct of the King's *principal servant* hath not made him an object of the just resentment of the publick. Having declared these things, it may not be improper that we just hint to you, that we are not destitute of means enabling us to take vengeance for any violence you may think proper to perpetrate against the shipping bound to, or out from this port.

You ought, sir, for very obvious reasons, to have been well assured, that *Walker*, the late gunner, is a prisoner at the barracks, before you in absolute terms declared that he is "now a prisoner" there, and threatened to detain a coasting vessel until he should be thence discharged and sent on board the *Tamer*. We declare that *Walker* is not in confinement at the barracks, and has not been in confinement there since his discharge from thence on his parole several weeks ago. We do not know where he is; but from the strictest inquiry we have been able to make, we have no reason to think he is within this Colony. On the contrary, we learn that Lord *William Campbell* despatched him (and that you are privy to his departure) to *St. Augustine*, with a letter, as *Walker* himself has declared, to desire that a military force might be sent against the good people of this Colony. *Walker* was landed at *Savannah*, and we have not heard of him since.

By the last sentence in your letter we find you have been deceived into a belief that Lord *William Campbell* showed great humanity to Captain *Wanton*, of *Rhode-Island*, who unfortunately fell into his hands, and that it was *bona fide* Captain *Wanton's* interest to employ *Walker* on board his vessel. We have strictly inquired of Captain *Wanton* touching these points, and from this examination we are able to say, that if Lord *William Campbell's* declaration to Captain *Wanton*, that his vessel was seized under a late act of Parliament, and his sending the Cap-

tain, his crew and vessel to proceed to *St. Augustine*, under an armed force on board, in order there to be condemned, are acts of humanity; it was certainly "ungrateful" in the Captain and crew, on the passage, to overpower the armed force, and to rescue the vessel from an arbitrary seizure; but as *Walker* was, by Lord *William Campbell*, armed, and contrary to the interest of Captain *Wanton*, put on board his vessel *to command*, and to conduct her to *St. Augustine*, and for the purpose of condemnation too, we cannot understand, that in the execution of such a business, he was in the *service* of Captain *Wanton;* or that Captain *Wanton* was guilty of any impropriety in getting rid of him as soon as he could by landing him at *Savannah*.

These things, sir, having the greatest appearance of being facts, the most positive declarations to the contrary, short of absolute proof, from on board the *Cherokee*, will not alter our determination, or the opinion of the publick on those points.

By order of the Congress.

To *Edward Thornbrough*, Commander of the *Tamer* Sloop-of-War.

Ordered, That the said Letter be immediately engrossed; and that Mr. President do sign the same, and send it by the Messenger, to Captain *Thornbrough*.

And the said Letter was accordingly engrossed, signed, and sent.

Resolved, That the Committee on the state of the Colony have power to send for persons, papers and records; and that Colonel *Moultrie*, and *Thomas Heyward*, Jun., Esq., be added to the said Committee.

Resolved, That the Church-wardens of the Parishes of *St. Philip* and *St. Michael, Charlestown*, be desired forthwith to summon the inhabitants of the said town to meet in *St. Michael's* Church, on *Wednesday* next, the 8th inst., then and there to elect two Representatives, to serve in the present Congress, in the room of *George Gabriel Powell*, Esq., who has made his election for the Parish of *St. David*, and of Sir *Edmund Head*, Bart., who has declined serving.

Ordered, That the Secretary do serve the said Church-wardens with a copy of the above order.

Adjourned to nine o'clock, to-morrow morning.

—

In Congress, Saturday, November 4, 1775.

The Congress met according to adjournment.

And the Journal of yesterday was read.

Mr. President reported, that the Letter which was written yesterday evening to Captain *Thornbrough* had been delivered by the messenger between eleven and twelve o'clock last night; and that Captain *Thornbrough* said "it was too late to send an answer; but he would send one when he had a proper opportunity."

On motion, That the Congress be informed why they were called on so early a day:

Read a Letter to our Delegates at the Continental Congress, by the Council of Safety, dated *September* 18, 1775.

Mr. *Dart*, Paymaster to the First Regiment of Foot, and Mr. *Evance*, Paymaster to the Second Regiment, applying, the former for Three Thousand Five Hundred Pounds, and the latter for Three Thousand Pounds to pay the Troops;

Ordered, That Mr. President do issue his Warrants for the payment of the said sums.

And Warrants were issued accordingly.

Captain *Polk*, having informed the Congress that his Company of Militia Rangers had, according to order, repaired to *Dorchester*, likewise applied for Pay, and for further orders.

Ordered, That Mr. President do issue his Warrant for the payment of Five Hundred Pounds to Captain *Polk*, for the use of the said Company.

A Warrant was accordingly issued for that sum.

Ordered, That Mr. President be desired to write to the officer commanding at *Dorchester*, to take the command of Captain *Polk's* Company of Militia Rangers; and that they do duty there until the further order of the Congress therein.

Whereupon the following Letter was written:

In Congress, Charlestown, November 4, 1775.

Sir: You are hereby ordered to take under your command Captain *Polk's* Company of Militia Rangers, until further orders therein.

By order of the Congress:

William Henry Drayton, *President.*

To the Commanding Officer at *Dorchester.*

Resolved, That the late Committee of Observation be revived, and continued during the sitting of the Congress: And that the Chairman thereof be authorized to give permits, when applied to for that purpose, for Boats and Vessels to pass Fort *Johnson*, in all cases where it may be done without prejudice to the Colony.

Ordered, That the Commander at Fort *Johnson* be served with a copy of the above Resolve.

Ordered, That the following Letters, and verbal message be printed and made publick: a Letter from the Council of Safety of the 28th ult., to Captain *Thornbrough;* Captain *Thornbrough's* verbal answer, by Mr. John *Calvert;* Captain *Thornbrough's* Letter of the 3d instant, to *Henry Laurens*, Esq.; and a Letter from this Congress of the 3d instant, to Captain *Thornbrough.*

Resolved, That the two Pilot Boats lately taken into the publick service by the Council of Safety, be continued in the service, armed and manned as heretofore; and that they be employed in cruizing along the coast, to the northward of the Bar, to warn vessels against coming into the harbour of *Charlestown*, and to advise them to go into other ports or inlets in this Colony.

Ordered, That Mr. President be desired to write the necessary Letters upon this occasion, to Colonel *Moultrie*, and to the Commander of the said Boats.

The following Letters were accordingly written:

In Congress, Charlestown, November 4, 1775.

Sir: You are hereby ordered to send a detachment of nine privates and a sergeant on board the pilot boat commanded by Captain *Joseph Vesey*, and one other detachment of nine privates and a sergeant, on board the pilot boat commanded by Captain *Thomas Smith*, with their necessary arms and accoutrements. You will inform the troops employed in this service that during their continuance in it they will be entitled to receive double pay.

By order of the Congress:

William Henry Drayton, *President.*

To Colonel *Moultrie.*

In Congress, Charlestown, November 4, 1775.

Sir: You are hereby requested to proceed with the pilot boat under your command, having on board a detachment of the troops, and cruize for ten days on the coast, to the northward of *Charlestown* bar, in order to speak with and warn all vessels bound for *Charlestown*, not to come over that bar, as the man-of-war is resolved to detain all such vessels as shall come within her reach; but that they do proceed to some other port or inlet in this Colony.

By order of the Congress:

William Henry Drayton, *President.*

To Captain *Joseph Vesey.*

A like Letter was also written to Captain *Thomas Smith*, commander of the other pilot boat.

On motion, That the Journals of the Council of Safety and General Committee, since the adjournment of the late Congress, be now read,

A debate arose; and the question being put, it was

Resolved, in the affirmative.

The said Journals were accordingly read, beginning at the 16th of June last, and proceeded in so far as to the 23d, page 13.

Adjourned to six o'clock in the evening.

In Congress, Saturday evening, November 4, 1775.

The Congress met according to adjournment.

A Letter from Captain *Thornbrough*, of this date, was laid before the Congress, and read.

Ordered, That Captain *Thornbrough's* Letter of this date, together with the extract therein referred to, be printed and made publick, with the other correspondence already ordered.

"Tamer, Rebellion Road, November 4, 1775.

"Sir: Without the aid of any secretary, armed as I am with truth, I can enter the lists even with Mr. *William Henry Drayton*, when his weapons are sophistry, falsehood, and the grossest misrepresentation. On after consideration, I did not think Mr. *Laurens's* letter worthy a written answer, as I never directly or indirectly harbored the runaway slave of any person, and I will answer for the gentleman who commands the *Cherokee*, that his conduct has been exactly similar to mine in these matters. It is not my business to enter into any detail of the treatment the King's representative and the other servants of Government have met with from those assemblies which you have dignified with the name of the publick; but I have prevailed on His Excellency to favour me with an extract of his letter to Governor *Tonyn*, at *St. Augustine*, which I now enclose, as it will enable the people of this Province to form a judgment of Captain *Wanton's* worth and gratitude, as well as of your candor and veracity. As I have some reason to think the original is in your custody, or in that of some of your emissaries, you will hardly dispute its authenticity. But to the main purport of my letter. While I command the King's ships here, I will procure provisions by every means in my power. If the methods I am under a necessity of taking for that purpose should subject His Majesty's faithful and loyal people in this Province to any inconveniency, I shall be extremely sorry; but they are to impute it entirely to those who have plunged this late happy country into misery and distress, and not to me, who have always protected it to the utmost of my power.

"I am to acknowledge *Walker* was not your prisoner on the late occasion: he is returned; in that point I was misinformed. I shall only add, that I am here determined to drop this correspondence, which is a very disagreeable one to me, and I shall only expect a speedy and explicit answer. I am, Sir, your most obedient servant,

"Edward Thornbrough.

"To *William Henry Drayton*, Esq."

Extract of a Letter from His Excellency the Right Hon. Lord William Campbell, *to Governor* Tonyn, *of* St. Augustine.

"* * * The bearer of this is a man who says he was bound from *Newport*, in *Rhode-Island*, to *Nantucket*, in a small sloop which he had freighted, but in a hard gale of wind was drove to the southward, without either chart or quadrant, and with only two landsmen and a boy on board; by a kind of miracle he made this harbour yesterday, and pushed in at a venture. The poor man's dreadful situation fully proved the truth of his story, although he had no clearance from *Newport;* and the unfeigned joy he expressed when he found himself in safety, left no doubt of the reality of the distresses he had suffered. By the late acts of Parliament he might be considered as a legal prize, but Captain *Thornbrough*, of the *Tamer*, and Mr. *Furgusson*, (who commands the *Cherokee*,) had too much humanity to think of that, though we were all a good deal difficultied what to do with him. Return he could not, and it would have been highly improper, as well as impolitick, to have suffered him to go to *Charlestown*, in the present situation of affairs there, as he had been only nine days from *Newport*, and not above a month ago was in the Rebels' camp near *Boston*. I therefore proposed sending him to *St. Augustine*, which Captains *Thornbrough* and *Furgusson* readily agreed to, at the same time generously offering to supply his little wants, and the man most cheerfully and with great thankfulness acquiesced. This arrangement gave me the more satisfaction, as it enabled me to furnish your Excellency with many particulars you will be anxious to know of the state of affairs to the northward, by means of this skipper, who you will find sensible and intelligent. His cargo consists of cider, apples, and cheese, and I shall be happy if it proves a seasonable supply of those articles to your Province, at this juncture. Captain *Innes* has given him a few lines to a friend of his in the mercantile way, to assist him in making the most of it, and procuring some employment for his bark till the summer, before which time he cannot venture to return home. To assist in navigating this vessel, and at the same time to prevent any attempt to run her into any of the little harbours on this coast, I have directed the gunner of Fort *Johnson*, one *Walker*, (an old seaman, and a poor man who has been cruelly treated by the *Charlestown* people,) to go in her to *Augustine*, and your Excellency will be so obliging as to send him back by the first opportunity."

Ordered, That Mr. President be desired to take Captain *Wanton's* Affidavit upon the subject mentioned in the extract, and also to prepare a Resolution, on the present correspondence with Captain *Thornbrough*; and the Affidavit to be taken, to be laid before the Congress.

Read a Letter from Captain *Blake* of this date.

Resolved, That Captain *Joseph Vesey* and Captain *Thomas Smith* be allowed Pay, at the rate of fifty Pounds per (lunar) month, while they are employed in the publick service as commanders of the two armed Pilot Boats.

Read a Letter from the Committee of the *New-Acquisition*, dated *October* 4, 1775.

Ordered, That the Secretary do now proceed in reading to the Congress the Journals of the Council of Safety.

And they were read accordingly, from June 26, page 14, to July 12, page 33.

Adjourned to *Monday* morning, nine o'clock.

—

In Congress, Monday, November 6, 1775.

The Congress met according to adjournment.

And yesterday's Journal was read.

Ordered, That Mr. President be requested to direct Lieutenant-Colonel *Thompson*, of the Rangers, to send *Isaac Jordan*, a private in his Regiment, charged with horse stealing and breaking jail at *Cheraws*, and cause him to be delivered to the Sheriff of *Cheraws* District, or his Deputy, or to the keeper of the common jail.

Mr. President, agreeable to the request of the Congress, laid before them an Affidavit of Captain *John Wanton*, taken before *Peter Bounetheau*, J. P., *November* 6, 1775.

Which being read, is as follows:

"South-Carolina, *Charlestown District.*

"This day personally appeared before me, *John Wanton*, Captain of a sloop from *Rhode-Island*, who being duly sworn, sayeth: That on or about the twelfth of *October* last, he arrived in *Rebellion* Road, near *Charlestown*, in the Colony aforesaid, when Captain *Thornbrough*, of the *Tamer* sloop-of-war, caused his vessel to anchor under his stern, and caused him, the said deponent, to go on board the *Cherokee*, to speak with Lord *William Campbell*. That after the said Lord *William Campbell* had inquired into the deponent's case, he told him, that by the late acts of Parliament his sloop was liable to be seized, and that he should, in discharge of his duty, send him to *St. Augustine;* this deponent apprehending in order to be condemned: And afterwards his mate informed him, that an officer from on board the *Tamer* privately acquainted him, the said mate, that Lord *William Campbell* had determined to send the deponent's vessel to *St. Augustine*, in order to be condemned.

"That the said Lord *William Campbell*, against the consent of the said deponent, caused an armed force to be put on board his vessel, to conduct her to *St. Augustine*. That Lord *William Campbell* did not make him, the deponent, a bearer of any letter to Governor *Tonyn*. That he, the deponent, never did tell Lord *William Campbell* that he had two landsmen on board, having in reality two good seamen and a boy, who were fully sufficient to guard his vessel. That on the passage towards *St. Augustine*, one *Walker*, who, by Lord *William Campbell*, was put on his, the deponent's vessel, to command her, told him the deponent, that he had a letter from Lord *William Campbell*, to Governor *Tonyn*, with strict orders, that if he was in any danger of being taken by the *Americans*, he should be sure to sink the said letter in the sea, with two swivel bullets, which the said deponent saw, and which the said *Walker* told him had been delivered to him for that purpose. And the said *Walker* also told him, the deponent, that Lord *William Campbell's* secretary had told him, that the letter was to desire that soldiers should be sent to *Charlestown* from *St. Augustine*. And further this deponent sayeth not. John Wanton.

"Sworn before me, this 6th of *November*, 1775.

"Peter Bounetheau, *Justice of Peace.*"

Mr. President then laid before the Congress a Resolution, as proper to be entered into by this Congress, upon the present correspondence with Captain *Thornbrough*, and the Affidavit of Captain *Wanton*.

Which being read was amended and agreed to, as follows:

Resolved, That Captain *Thornbrough's* Letter of the 4th instant, directed "To *William Henry Drayton*, Esq.," in answer to a Letter of the 3d instant, wrote by him as President, contains expressions as unmerited as unbecoming the pen of a gentleman, and therefore unexpected from Capt. *Thornbrough*. That because Lord *William Campbell* has favoured Captain *Thornbrough* "with an extract of his Letter to Governor *Tonyn*," it does not thence follow, that the extract was faithfully made; and this Congress not having seen the original Letter, or any other extract from it, ought to remember we have just cause not to credit any thing from Lord *William Campbell*, which is not supported by absolute proof; neither does the extract prove that Lord *William Campbell* did not write another Letter to Governor *Tonyn*, to desire that Troops should be sent against the good people of this Colony, and that Captain *Wanton's* Sloop should be condemned at *St. Augustine*. On the contrary, in the Affidavit this day made by the said Captain *Wanton*, and laid before this Congress, there is reason to conclude, that Lord *William Campbell* did actually write to Governor *Tonyn*, as well to procure Troops, as to cause Captain *Wanton's* Sloop to be condemned. And as this important Letter has never appeared to the publick, it is not improbable, either that Governor *Tonyn* has received it, or that *Walker* has destroyed it; and that the extract in question, even if it is a faithful one, is from a Letter written only as a mask to the other, and with intention, if necessary, to be delivered up to the publick.

Ordered, That Captain *Wanton's* Affidavit, and Resolution thereupon, be printed and made publick, with the other papers already ordered and relative thereto.

The Rev. Mr. *Tennent*, from the Committee appointed to inquire into Mr. *Dunn's* conduct since his enlargement upon his parole, delivered in the following Report:

"Report of the Committee, &c.

"That there appeared before them Mr. *Lang*, a member of this Congress, and a Dr. *Redman Burke*, as evidences against Mr. *Dunn*.

"Mr. *Lang* declared, that on the 31st of *October*, being at Mr. *Hatfield's* Tavern, he heard a stranger to him, who he since finds is the Mr. *Dunn* in question, arguing warmly in favour of Ministerial measures. He cannot remember the whole of the conversation, but recollects particularly, that Mr. *Dunn* declared, 'we [meaning plainly from the run of his discourse, the *Americans*] had no right to prescribe to the Prince and Parliament.' And, by way of burlesque, 'that he, Mr. *Dunn*, was a tory, and had called his stray dog Tory,' and, that through the whole of his discourse, he so spoke as highly offended him, Mr. *Lang*, although he did not know the restrictions which at that time lay upon Mr. *Dunn*.

"Dr. *Burke* witnesses, that Mr. *Dunn* appeared to him to be much in liquor, and spoke somewhat in favour of the *American* cause, but at different times did so speak against it, as that nothing but drunkenness could excuse him.

"Upon the whole, your Committee are of opinion, that his imprudent conduct was, in a great degree, the result of intoxication, and recommend it to the Congress, that Mr. *Dunn* be admonished to be more cautious for the future."

Ordered, That Mr. *Dunn* be summoned to attend this Congress, at their meeting to-morrow.

The Congress being informed Mr. *Nathan Legaré* had written a Letter offering to supply the Man-of-War with Provisions and Wood, and that the Letter was in the possession of the Commander at Fort *Johnson;*

Ordered, That Mr. President be requested to procure the said Letter; and that Mr. *Nathan Legaré* be summoned to attend this Congress at ten o'clock on *Thursday* morning.

Read a Letter from Colonel *Thomas Neel*, dated *October* 24, 1775.

Ordered, That the Secretary do now proceed in reading the Journals of the late Council of Safety.

The said Journals were accordingly read to July 26, inclusive, page 84.

Adjourned to five o'clock, in the afternoon.

In Congress, Monday afternoon, November 6, 1775.

The Congress met according to adjournment.

Mr. President reported, that he had written to Colonel *Thomson*, to Mr. *Legaré*, and to the Commander of Fort *Johnson*, agreeable to the order of Congress this morning.

Ordered, That the Lists of the Members be called over at every meeting of the Congress, and that the absentees be fined, as heretofore ordered.

The Lists was called over accordingly.

Ordered, That the Secretary do proceed in reading the Journals of the late Council of Safety.

Ordered, That the reading of the Journals of the Council of Safety be postponed.

Information being laid before the Congress, that *Patrick Cunningham* had seized the publick Gunpowder sent by the late Council of Safety to be distributed among the *Cherokee Indians;* and that a person is now in *Charlestown* who saw the seizure aforesaid:

Ordered, That one of the Messengers do immediately endeavour to find out the said person, and cause him to appear before this Congress.

Ordered, That the Secretary do proceed in reading the Journals of the late Council of Safety.

And the Journals were read accordingly, to the 11th of *August*, inclusive, page 127.

Ordered, That Mr. President, Colonel *Laurens*, and Colonel *Parsons*, be a Committee to inquire into, and examine touching the conduct of *Patrick Cunningham*, in seizing the publick Gunpowder aforesaid, and to report to this Congress.

Adjourned to nine o'clock, to-morrow morning.

—

In Congress, Tuesday, November 7, 1775.

The Congress met according to adjournment.

And yesterday's Journals were read.

A return was made from the Parish of *St. John, Colleton* County, whereby it appears that *Ralph Izard*, Esq., had, on the 6th instant, been unanimously elected to serve in the present Congress, as a Representative for the said *Parish*, in the room of *Thomas Legaré*, Jun., Esq., who declined serving.

Read a Letter from *John Moore*, Esq., dated 6th inst., declining to serve in the present Congress for the Parish of *St. Thomas* and *St. Dennis*.

Resolved, That the Church-wardens of the Parish of *St. Thomas* and *St. Dennis*, be desired forthwith to summon the inhabitants of the said Parish to meet, on *Tuesday* next, the 15th instant, in order, by ballot, to choose a Representative of the said Parish, to serve in the present Congress, in the room of *John Moore*, Esq., who has declined serving.

Ordered, That the Secretary do cause a copy of the above Resolve to be forthwith transmitted to the Church-wardens of said Parish.

Mr. *John Dunn*, summoned to attend this day, was called in, and reprimanded from the Chair, in words to the following purport:

"Mr. Dunn: You was sent to this Colony as a person inimical to the liberties of *America;* and as so obnoxious a person, you have been for some time held in close confinement in *Charlestown*, by publick authority. Upon your pressing entreaties to the late General Committee, you was lately enlarged upon your parole, having first voluntarily taken an oath to observe a conduct of strict neutrality, and that you neither would directly or indirectly, in any shape, interfere in the present unhappy dispute between *Great Britain* and *America*. You have been charged before this Congress with having violated that oath; and the Committee appointed by this Congress to examine you on that subject and hear your defence, have thereon reported in such terms as induced the Congress to order your attendance to-day, and to direct me to reprehend your past conduct; to admonish you to a more strict observance of your

*

engagement; and to declare to you, that if you transgress again, you will be committed a close prisoner to the common jail."

After which Mr. *Dunn* was dismissed.

Mr. *Jonathan Scott* gave an information of a very serious nature, desiring to be authorized by this Congress to prosecute a further inquiry; whereupon it was signified to him that the Congress did authorize him accordingly.

Mr. President laid before the Congress an information upon oath, taken this day before *Thomas Bee*, Esq., touching a quantity of Ammunition being taken by force of arms, by *Patrick Cunningham*, from a detachment of Rangers.

Ordered, That Colonel *Thomson* be summoned to attend.

And he being introduced into the Congress, delivered in an Affidavit made on the 6th instant, by *John Joseph Witner*, before *John Purves*, Esq., relative to the taking the publick Ammunition, by *Patrick Cunningham*. And,

Colonel *Thomson* declaring that the Ammunition taken, was sent by the late Council of Safety, to be distributed amongst the *Cherokees;* and that Lieutenant *Charlton* commanded the detachment from whom *Patrick Cunningham* took the Ammunition stated in the information and Affidavits,

Ordered, That Mr. *Arthur Middleton*, the Rev. Mr. *Tennent*, Mr. *Ferguson*, Capt. *Charles Cotesworth Pinckney*, and Mr. *Salvador*, be a Committee immediately to take into their consideration the above information and Affidavits, and to report thereupon. And

Ordered, That Lieutenant *Charlton* be immediately put under arrest, and brought to *Charlestown;* and that Mr. President do issue orders accordingly.

Ordered, That Mr. President be desired to write to Captain *Pearis*, informing him that the Ammunition sent to be distributed among the *Indians* has been violently taken by *Patrick Cunningham*, in contempt of publick authority.

Ordered, That the Committee at *Dorchester* be directed to supply the Troops there with a proper quantity of Powder and Ball in their Cartouch Boxes; and that the President do issue orders accordingly.

Ordered, That the Secretary do now proceed in reading the Journals of the late Council of Safety.

And the said Journals were read accordingly to the 13th of *August*, inclusive, page 140.

Ordered, That the further reading of the said Journals be postponed.

Mr. *Arthur Middleton*, from the Committee to whom was referred the consideration of the two Affidavits relative to the seizure of the publick Ammunition by *Patrick Cunningham*, reported thereon.

And the said Report being taken into immediate consideration, was amended and agreed to, as follows:

Whereas information, on oath, hath been made and laid before this Congress, that on or about the 3d day of this instant, *November*, at or near a place called the *Ridge*, in *Ninety-Six* District, *Patrick Cunningham*, *Henry O'Neal*, *Hugh Brown*, *David Reese*, *Nathaniel Howard*, *Henry Green*, with sundry other persons, about sixty in number, did, by force of arms, rob a certain wagon in the service of the publick, feloniously taking therefrom a quantity of Lead, and sundry kegs of Gunpowder, containing about one thousand weight, intended as presents for the *Cherokee Indians;* and that the above persons, having first disarmed a party of Rangers, who escorted the said wagon, did violently carry off the said Powder and Lead, to the great loss and damage of the publick, in violation of the publick peace, and in open contempt of the publick authority; thereby exposing the frontier inhabitants of the Colony to the depredations and horrors of an *Indian* War. And whereas there is an absolute necessity of crushing such dangerous attempts to destroy the peace of the Colony, by bringing such atrocious offenders to condign punishment:

Resolved, That the bodies of the said *Patrick Cunningham*, *Henry O'Neal*, *Hugh Brown*, *David Reese*, *Nathaniel Howard*, *Henry Green*, and their aiders and abetters, ought forthwith to be apprehended, and under a strong guard conveyed to *Charlestown*, to be tried for their offences; and that every endeavour ought to be used to recover the Gunpowder and Lead, feloniously, in violation of the publick peace, and contemptuously, taken as aforesaid.

Ordered, That Colonel *Richard Richardson* do forthwith assemble and march six companies of the Rangers, Captain *Ezekiel Polk's* company of Volunteers, draughts of Militia from Col. *Richardson's*, Col. *William Thomson's*, Colonel *John Savage's*, Colonel *Thomas Neel's*, and Colonel *John Thomas's* regiments of Militia, and with such Troops pursue such instructions as shall from time to time, by order of the Congress, or the Council of Safety for the time being, be signified to him by the President.

Ordered, That Mr. President be desired to prepare proper instructions for Colonel *Richardson*, to be laid before the Congress to-morrow morning.

Adjourned to nine o'clock, to-morrow morning.

—

In Congress, Wednesday, November 8, 1775.

The Congress met according to adjournment.

And the Journal of yesterday was read.

Mr. President laid before the Congress the draught he had been desired to prepare of Instructions and Orders proper to be given to Colonel *Richardson*.

Which being immediately taken under consideration,

A motion was made, That the Pay of the Privates in the Militia, to be employed under Colonel *Richardson*, be augmented to ten Shillings currency per day,

A debate ensued; and the question being put, the Congress divided.

The yeas went forth; for the question 51, against the question 49.

So that it passed in the affirmative.

Tellers, { For the yeas, Hon. Mr. *Lowndes*,
{ For the nays, Mr. *A. Middleton*.

Resolved, That the Pay of the Militia Privates, to serve under Colonel *Richard Richardson*, be augmented to ten Shillings per day, during the time they shall be in actual service.

And the said draught of Instructions and Orders being gone through, and amended, was agreed to in the words following:

By order of Congress.

To Colonel Richard Richardson.

Sir: There being a necessity of assembling six companies of the regiment of Rangers, Captain *Polk's* company of Volunteers, and draughts of Militia, to act in the interior parts of this Colony; and you being the eldest field officer now ordered upon this service, of course the command of the detachments upon this service vests in you. And hereby you are ordered to draught from your regiment of Militia, including Militia volunteers, and to demand of Colonel *William Thomson*, Colonel *John Savage*, Colonel *Thomas Neel*, and Colonel *John Thomas*, or the commanding officer in each of those regiments (including Militia volunteers) present, respectively, and they, and each of them, are hereby ordered to supply you with such numbers of men, with their officers, to be draughted from those or any of those regiments, in order to act under your command, as you shall judge necessary.

On the 3d day of this instant, *November*, *Patrick Cunningham*, *Henry O'Neal*, *Hugh Brown*, *David Reese*, *Nathaniel Howard*, *Henry Green*, and sundry other armed persons unknown, did, in *Ninety-Six* District, cause and raise a dangerous insurrection and commotion, and did, near *Mine Creek*, in the said District, feloniously take a quantity of ammunition, the property of the publick, and in contempt of the publick authority: Therefore, you are hereby instructed and ordered, with the troops aforesaid, or any part of them, to march, and to act in such manner as you shall deem expedient, to seize and to apprehend, and with those troops or any part of them, you are hereby ordered to endeavour to seize and to apprehend the bodies of *Patrick Cunningham*, *Henry O'Neal*, *Hugh Brown*, *David Reese*, *Nathaniel Howard*, *Henry Green*, *Jacob Bochman*, alias *Jacob Bowman*, together with their aiders and abetters in the taking or carrying away, or detaining, or secreting, or using and expending the ammunition aforesaid, or any part of it: And having apprehended the bodies of the said offenders, or the body of any of them, such

bodies or body you are ordered, with all convenient expedition to the service, to cause to be under a strong guard conveyed to *Charlestown;* at all times using your best endeavour to recover the ammunition feloniously and contemptuously taken, as I have already mentioned. And in general, you are to do all such things as in your opinion shall be necessary effectually to suppress the present insurrection, and to intimidate all persons from attempting any insurrection in future.

You are not to allow any of the Militia companies or Militia volunteers, to take the field on horseback; Militia horses, being, by experience, found to be an encumbrance to the men on a military expedition.

The Militia engaged in this service will be entitled to receive, the privates a daily pay of ten shillings currency, and the rations equal to what is received by the regiments of regular Infantry in the publick service; and while the Rangers are encamped with the Militia, the Rangers are entitled to receive daily rations; of all which you are ordered to cause exact accounts to be kept, and also regular muster lists of the Militia.

In case of any disobedience in the Militia, you are to cause every such disobedience to be punished agreeable to the Militia law in time of alarm. You will from time to time send information to the President, of your motions and proceedings. These instructions and orders are to be publickly read to the troops, and you are to obey all such further instructions and orders as shall, under the authority of Congress, or Council of Safety for the time being, be signified to you by the President.

I have the honour to be, Sir, your most humble servant.

Ordered, That the above Letter of Instructions and Orders be engrossed, signed by the President, and by him delivered to Colonel *Richardson.*

Ordered, That Mr. President be desired forthwith to write to Colonel *Thomas Fletchall, John Ford, Thomas Green, Evan McLaurin,* and *Benjamin Wofford,* or either of them, in pursuance of the treaty signed at *Ninety-Six,* on the 16th of *September* last, making requisition for the surrender and delivery of the bodies of *Patrick Cunningham,* his associates, aiders, and abetters.

Ordered, That Mr. President do transmit to Major *Andrew Williamson* the thanks of this Congress for his conduct in causing the body of *Robert Cunningham* to be apprehended and sent to *Charlestown;* and also for his conduct in embodying the Militia for opposing the Insurrection caused by *Patrick Cunningham* and his accomplices.

Upon information, that a brother to *O'Neal* and a brother to *Bochman,* who were concerned in the late seizure of Powder by *Patrick Cunningham,* were in town:

Ordered, That Captain *Sumpter,* Captain *Flood,* and Mr. *Beard,* do make immediate inquiry after the said *O' Neal* and *Bochman,* and also *Thomas Yates,* and cause them to appear before this Congress.

Captain *Sumpter* being returned, reported, That he with Captain *Flood* and Mr. *Beard,* had made diligent inquiry after *O'Neal, Bochman,* and *Yates,* from place to place, but could not meet either of them. However, they had been well informed that such persons had actually been in town; that they had purchased some goods, and that although they were said to be gone, there was reason to believe they were still in town. And that it was their opinion Mr. *Rugeley* might give some further information.

Ordered, That Colonel *Laurens* and Captain *Cattell* do forthwith proceed to Mr. *Rugeley's,* and desire he will permit them to see the entries on his books of yesterday and this day.

Colonel *Laurens* being returned, reported, that Mr. *Rugeley* had permitted them to examine his books; that there was a parcel of goods which appeared to belong to one of the persons sought after, but that he declared he knew neither of them, or whether they were still in town.

Ordered, That Colonel *Parsons* and Mr. *Bee* be a Committee to prepare the daught of a Letter to the Council of Safety in *Georgia,* respecting their late distribution of Gunpowder among the *Indian* Traders, wherein Messrs. *Campbell & Son* were overlooked.

Adjourned to nine o'clock, to-morrow morning.

In Congress, Thursday, November 9, 1775.

The Congress met according to adjournment.

And yesterday's Journal was read.

Information being laid before the Congress that *Thomas Brown* passed yesterday through *Dorchester,* probably to increase the commotion raised in the back country by *Patrick Cunningham,*

Ordered, That Mr. President do immediately issue his Warrant for apprehending the said *Patrick Brown.*

And the following Warrant was accordingly issued:

In Provincial Congress, November 9, 1775.

Sir: You are ordered, without delay, to use the most effectual means for apprehending and bringing to *Charlestown* the body of *Thomas Brown,* charged before this Congress with having violated the treaty of *Ninety-Six.* And in the performance of this service you are authorized to impress horses from any person or persons, to whom reasonable allowances will be made for all horses so impressed: And for which this shall be your warrant.

By order of Congress:

William Henry Drayton, *President.*

To Lieutenant-Colonel *William Thomson.*

A Return was made, declaring *John Harleston,* Esq., to have been, on the 8th instant, duly elected a Representative of the Parish of *St. John, Berkely* County, in the room of the late *Edward Harleston,* Esq.

Read a Letter from the abovenamed *John Harleston,* Esq., declining to serve.

Resolved, That the Church-wardens of the Parish of *St. John, Berkely* County, be desired forthwith to summon the inhabitants of the said Parish, to meet at the usual place of election, on *Thursday,* the 16th inst., there and then by ballot to choose another Representative of the said Parish, to serve in the present Congress in the room of *John Harleston,* Esq., who has refused to serve.

Ordered, That a copy of the foregoing Resolve be forthwith sent to the Church-wardens of the said Parish.

Mr. President laid before the Congress draughts of several Letters, which he had prepared by their order; which being read, were amended, and approved, in the following words:

In Congress, Charlestown, November 9, 1775.

Whereas information, on oath, hath been made and laid before the Congress, that on the 3d day of this inst., *November, Patrick Cunningham, Henry O'Neal, Hugh Brown, David Reese, Nathaniel Howard,* and *Henry Green,* with sundry armed persons, did, from a detachment of Rangers, take a quantity of Gunpowder and Lead, the property of the publick, and which were then on the road proceeding under the orders of the late Council of Safety; wherefore, in pursuance of the treaty made at the camp, near *Ninety-Six,* on the 16th day of *September* last, by order of Congress, I now do hereby make requisition, that the said *Patrick Cunningham, Henry O'Neal, Hugh Brown, David Reese, Nathaniel Howard,* and *Henry Green,* together with their aiders and abetters, be, by you or one of you, surrendered and delivered up to the authority of Congress, in order that they may be tried for their offence against their authority.

Robert Cunningham having, ever since the late Congress, constantly declared that he was not included in it; and having under his hand, in a publick letter to me, declared the same, he has been, for his bad practices in endeavouring to raise commotions against the authority of Congress, apprehended, and he is now confined in jail, where he enjoys every convenience and accommodation his situation can admit. This tender treatment he receives from our humanity, and not from his merits.

By order of Congress:

William Henry Drayton, *President.*

To Col. *Thomas Fletchall,* and Messrs. *John Ford, Thomas Greer, Euan McLaurin,* and *Benjamin Wofford.*

Charlestown, November 8, 1775.

Sir: In consequence of my engagement with the *Good Warrior* and the *Cherokee Indians,* that a quantity of gunpowder and lead should be sent to them from *Charlestown,* the Council of Safety sent a considerable quantity of ammunition, which, when it had been carried on the road to

them almost as far as *Ninety-Six*, was taken by *Patrick Cunningham* and a considerable number of men, who would not allow the ammunition to proceed to the *Cherokees*. The Congress have just ordered Colonel *Richardson*, with the rangers and militia, immediately to proceed to apprehend the King's mad people concerned in this daring act, in order that they being brought to condign punishment, thereby all other men may be effectually deterred from imitating so criminal a conduct.

You will be so good as to cause these particulars to be generally published and made known to the *Indians*, that they may at once see that the headmen of *South-Carolina* are faithful to their engagements, and that they will not suffer their lawful authority to be trampled upon with impunity. By order of Congress:

I am, Sir, your most humble servant,

William Henry Drayton, *President*.

To Captain *Richard Pearis*.

P. S. You will assure the *Indians*, that, as soon as the powder and lead, or any part of it, is retaken, it will be forwarded to them without delay.

To Major Andrew Williamson.

Sir: I am directed to transmit to you the thanks of this Congress for your conduct in causing the body of *Robert Cunningham* to be apprehended and sent to *Charlestown;* and also for your conduct in embodying the militia, and opposing the insurrection caused by *Patrick Cunningham* and his accomplices.

It is with great pleasure that I transmit these acknowledgments of your services, knowing how justly you deserve them; and I have no doubt but that you will continue to merit the thanks of your country.

I enclose a copy of the instructions and orders to Colonel *Richardson*, and you will regulate your conduct thereupon. You are hereby ordered, with the militia under your command, to act against the insurgents with *the utmost vigour*, and that you will be attentive to the security of Fort *Charlotte*. By order of Congress:

I have the honour to be, Sir, your most humble servant,

William Henry Drayton, *President*.

P. S. The enclosed to Captain *Pearis*, informing him of the seizure of the ammunition by *Patrick Cunningham*, and recommending to him to make the *Indians* properly acquainted with that transaction, you are desired to forward immediately by express.

On motion, *Resolved*, That Colonel *Richardson* be immediately supplied with one thousand pounds weight of Gunpowder, Lead in proportion, two thousand Flints, and two Coborns, if he desires them.

The following order was thereupon issued:

In Congress, Charlestown, November 9, 1775.

Ordered, That Captain *Robert Cochran* do forthwith deliver to Colonel *Richard Richardson's* order, one thousand weight of Musket Powder, to be taken from the Magazine at *Dorchester;* Lead in proportion, and two thousand Flints; with two Coborns, and the proper stores thereto belonging, if he shall require the same.

By order of Congress:

William Henry Drayton, *President*.

To *Robert Cochran*, Esq., Colony Powder Receiver and Ordnance Storekeeper.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the sum of Four Thousand Pounds currency be advanced out of the Colony Treasury, and placed in the hands of Colonel *Richard Richardson;* to be accounted for, on the expedition under his command.

And the President issued his Warrant for that sum accordingly.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the present Guard at *Dorchester* be immediately augmented with two Companies from the Provincial Regiments of Infantry.

The following order was accordingly drawn, and sent to Colonel *Moultrie:*

In Congress, Charlestown, November 9, 1775.

Sir: You are to detach two companies from the Provincial regiments of foot, under such command as you shall judge most proper for the service, to march immediately for *Dorchester*, for re-enforcing the troops already there, and for effectually guarding the cannon, gunpowder, stores and publick records, at that place, till further orders from this Congress, or authority derived therefrom.

You are to give orders that a sufficient number of negroes now in the publick service be obtained from the Committee of *Dorchester*, to remove the cannon now lying near the water side, to a spot most safe and convenient near the fort or barracks, with special orders to the sentinels to prevent any person's handling or going near them, without proper authority.

By order of Congress:

William Henry Drayton, *President*.

Robert William Powell, and *Alexander Gillon*, Esqrs., were returned, as duly elected on the 8th instant, to serve as Representatives in the present Congress for the Parishes of *St. Philip* and *St. Michael*, *Charlestown*, in the room of *George Gabriel Powell*, Esq., and Sir *Edmund Head*, Bart., the former serving for *St. David's* Parish, and the latter having declined to serve.

On motion, *Resolved*, That Colonel *Moultrie* be ordered to detach and post a Guard at the most proper place beyond Mr. *Rugeley's* store, to examine strictly all suspected wagons coming into or going out of *Charlestown*, and also every person suspected of proceedings prejudicial to the welfare of the Colony, or of the common cause.

On motion, *Peter Bounetheau*, Esq., was appointed assistant to the Secretary of this Congress.

Colonel *Parsons* reported the draught of a Letter, which he and Mr. *Bee* had yesterday been desired to prepare, to the Council of Safety in *Georgia*, relative to Mr. *Campbell's* application to this Congress for Gunpowder.

The said Draught being read, was amended, and agreed to as follows:

Charlestown, November 9, 1775.

Gentlemen: Mr. *Campbell* has applied to the Provincial Congress now sitting here, acquainting them, "that though you have allowed certain quantities of powder to several other houses concerned in the *Indian* trade at *Augusta*, yet you had omitted to let his house have any, because all his powder, three thousand two hundred pounds weight, was brought into this Colony, and that by your making such a distinction, he is likely to be a great sufferer." The Congress, therefore, have desired me to signify to you, gentlemen, that it is their wish that you would spare Mr. *Campbell* five hundred pounds weight of the powder in your possession, and that they cannot entertain a doubt of your doing so, as it will be consistent with the promises made by you, particularly by Captain *Elbert* and Mr. *Habersham*, to Captains *Joiner* and *Barnwell*, that all the traders should be put upon a footing. Rather than all the traders should not be upon an equal footing, we would, if practicable, have supplied Mr. *Campbell* out of what is in this Colony, but we are now rendered less able, as we have just received intelligence that one thousand pounds weight of powder, which we were sending to the *Cherokees*, has been, near *Ninety-Six*, seized and taken away by one *Patrick Cunningham* (whose brother *Robert* we have here in custody) and some other malcontents there, against whom we are, at a considerable expense, sending an army that we hope will bring them to reason.

I have the honour to be, gentlemen, your most obedient servant.

By order of Congress.

William Henry Drayton, *President*.

Honourable Council of Safety, at *Savannah*.

On motion, *Resolved*, That no Member depart this Congress without leave.

Ordered, That all such absent Members as can be conveniently sent to, be summoned to give immediate attendance on the service of the Colony in Congress; and that such summonses be despatched by express.

Adjourned to six o'clock, in the evening.

In Congress, Thursday evening, November 9, 1775.

The Congress met according to adjournment.

And *Peter Bounetheau*, Esq., was sworn in Assistant Secretary to the Congress, and entered upon the duty of that office.

Read a Letter from Captain *Edward Blake*, dated this

day, relative to an armed Schooner having arrived at *St. Augustine* from *Boston*, in order to cruize upon this coast.

Ordered, That the following Letter be immediately sent to Captain *Tufts:*

Charlestown, November 9, 1775.

Sir: You are hereby ordered immediately to repair with the schooner *Defence*, under your command, to the mouth of *Wappoo Creek*, where you are expected to arrive by daylight, and to give your personal attendance on the President directly after your arrival.

By order of Congress:

William Henry Drayton, *President.*

Captain *Simon Tufts*, of the Colony Schooner *Defence*.

Ordered, That a Schooner be provided to enable the Colony Schooner *Defence* to pass through *Wappoo Cut;* and that the *Defence* be, with all possible despatch, properly victualled and supplied with all necessary stores.

Ordered, That Colonel *Moultrie* do forthwith detach a Captain with thirty-five able Privates on board the Schooner *Defence*, and that Mr. President do issue orders for that purpose.

The following order was accordingly drawn:

Charlestown, November 9, 1775.

Sir: You are hereby ordered to detach a Captain and thirty-five able men of the regiments under your command, who are to act as marines, and are to embark to-morrow, on board the Colony Schooner *Defence*, commanded by Captain *Simon Tufts*, until further orders.

I have the honour to be, Sir, your most humble servant.

By order of Congress:

William Henry Drayton, *President.*

To Colonel *Moultrie.*

On motion, That orders be issued to the Commanding Officer at Fort *Johnson*, by every military operation, to endeavour to oppose the passage of any *British* Naval Armament that may attempt to pass that post,

A debate arose, and the question being put, resolved in the affirmative.

Whereupon the following order was immediately issued, signed by the President:

Charlestown, November 9, 1775.

Sir: You are hereby commanded with the troops under your orders, by every military operation, to endeavour to oppose the passage of any *British* naval armament that may attempt to pass Fort *Johnson*, until further orders by Congress or Council of Safety.

I have the honour to be, Sir, your most humble servant.

By order of Congress:

William Henry Drayton, *President.*

To Colonel *William Moultrie*, or the Commanding Officer at Fort *Johnson.*

Ordered, That Mr. President be desired to write to Captain *Thornbrough*, signifying to him the Resolution the Congress have entered into this night, respecting ships of war passing Fort *Johnson.*

Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow morning.

—

In Congress, Friday, November 10, 1775.

The Congress met according to adjournment.

And yesterday's Journals were read.

Mr. President laid before the Congress the draught of a Letter which he had, by their order, prepared to be wrote to Captain *Thornbrough.*

And the same being read and amended, was agreed to, as follows:

Charlestown, November 9, 1775.

Sir: The late cruel cannonade of *Bristol* by the *British* ships of war, to enforce an arbitrary demand of sheep; the general depredations on the *American* coasts by ministerial authority; the late advices from *England* of large military armaments by land and sea, for the hostile invasion of the Colonies upon this Continent; and the proclamation of the 23d of *August* last, at the Court of *St. James's*, by which the good people of *America* are unjustly described as in avowed rebellion; superadded to the former *American* grievances, and to your late unjustly seizing the persons, vessels and property of the inhabitants of this country; together with Lord *William Campbell's* threats of hostilities against us, have sunk deep in the minds of a people who, seeing themselves by the royal act in effect put out of the regal protection, are at length driven to the disagreeable necessity of ordering a military opposition to the arms of the *British* Ministry. But the people of *South-Carolina*, remembering that those who point the *British* arms at their breasts, and against their invaluable liberties, are their dear countrymen, and once were their friends, unwilling, yet determined, vigorously to oppose any approach of threatening danger to their safety, have directed me to intimate to you, sir, as Commander-in-chief of the *British* armament on this station, that orders are issued to the commanding officer at Fort *Johnson*, by every military operation, to endeavour to prevent any ministerial armament from passing that post.

We thus think it proper to warn you from an approach that must be productive of the shedding of blood, which, in other circumstances, we would endeavour to preserve.

I have the honor to be, Sir, your most humble servant.

By order of Congress:

To *Edward Thornbrough*, Esq., Commander of the *Tamer* Sloop-of-War.

Ordered, That the said Letter be forthwith engrossed, signed by Mr. President, and sent to Captain *Thornbrough.*

The Committee to whom several unpaid Accounts for Debts contracted before the meeting of the Congress were referred, reported.

Ordered, That the President do issue his Warrants for the payment of the sums mentioned in the said Report.

Captain *Polk* delivered in an Account for the service of his Company from the 18th of *August* last, by which a balance of one thousand six hundred and eighty-seven Pounds appeared to be due to them.

Ordered, That Mr. President do issue his Warrant for the payment of said balance.

And a Warrant was issued accordingly.

Ordered, That Mr. President do sign and issue Commissions appointing *Ezekiel Polk*, Esq., to be Captain, and *Samuel Watson* and *William Polk*, to be Lieutenants, of a Company of Volunteer Rangers.

Commissions were accordingly made out for the said Officers, signed, and dated the 3d instant, in the form following:

South-Carolina.—*In Provincial Congress.*

To Edward Blake, *Esq.:*

You are hereby nominated and appointed Captain of a company of volunteer Rangers, in the service of this Colony, subject to the orders of Congress, and, in their recess, to the Council of Safety. This commission to continue during pleasure. Dated in Congress, November 3, 1775.

By order of Congress:

William Henry Drayton, *President.*

Ordered, That Captain *Polk* and Lieutenant *Watson* have leave of absence.

Mr. *Nathan Legaré*, attended, according to order of the 6th inst.; and his Letter, which had given offence, having been read to him, he declared, that it had been written merely as a cloke, to be shown occasionally, if the men of war should stop his lime-boats, that he being thereby supposed friendly to them, the said boats might be suffered to pass the more freely; and that it was never his intention to supply the men of war with any thing.

Upon this declaration, confirmed by some other circumstances, Mr. *Legaré's* conduct appearing less criminal than it was at first thought, he was, by order, reprimanded from the Chair, for the indiscreet manner in which he expressed himself in the letter, and charged to have no intercourse or communication whatever in future with the men of war.

The Secretary, as Chairman of the Committee of Observation, reported, that in consequence of the late correspondence between the Congress and Captain *Thornbrough*, of His Majesty's Sloop *Tamer*, and some information laid before the Congress by *Jonathan Scott*, Esq., he had thought it his duty, and did, last *Tuesday* evening, cause all the fishing boats to be stopped from proceeding beyond Fort *Johnson;* as he observed, that instead of avoiding, they mostly went in the way of the men of war, and were

frequently along side; and that he had also avoided, until the further order of the Congress, giving permits for the passage of coasters, and persons desirous of going into the Road, lest in one case, a seizure of the schooners should ensue, according to Captain *Thornbrough's* threat; and in the other, an improper correspondence might be carried on, prejudicial to the Colony, in the present critical situation of its affairs.

On motion, *Resolved*, That a Commissary of Stores be appointed, to provide and supply the Naval Armaments of this Colony with every requisite for that service, agreeable to order of Congress, or Council of Safety; and to give his necessary attendance upon the business of the said Congress or Council.

Ordered, That Colonel *Motte*, Dr. *Oliphant*, Mr. *Ferguson*, Mr. *Gibbes*, and Captain *Joiner*, be a Committee to take a view of *Charlestown;* and to report, as soon as may be, what further works of defence are immediately necessary for its most effectual security against hostile attacks by ships of war.

Ordered, That Captain *Stone* and Mr. *Rivers* be desired to hire a sufficient number of negroes, to give all possible despatch to the completing the Redoubt erecting upon *James Island*, to the westward of Fort *Johnson*.

Ordered, That the Commissioners of the Colony Treasury do pay to the Commissioners appointed by the late Council of Safety for cutting lines of intrenchment across *Charlestown Neck*, any sum or sums, not exceeding in the whole the sum of five thousand Pounds, current money, for carrying the works, for which they were appointed, into execution.

Adjourned to five o'clock, in the evening.

In Congress, Friday evening, November 10, 1775.

The Congress met according to adjournment.

The Committee to whom the Letter from the Committee at *Little River* was referred, reported.

Ordered, That the following answer be written to the said Committee:

In Congress, Charlestown, November 10, 1775.

Gentlemen: Your letter of the 15th of *September*, directed to the Committee of Intelligence, was produced to the General Committee the 23d of that month; and enclosed are the minutes from the journals thereon, by which you will perceive that *James Hamilton* became a subscriber to the Association previous to your complaints against *Daniel Robins* being laid before the General Committee; therefore that part of your allegation could no longer subsist, on the principle we would wish to observe, of making forgiveness the consequence of repentance: other part of your charge against *Robins* seems not to have been much attended to, the General Committee viewing the matter as we now do, to have been wholly cognizable by your Committee.

And in answer to your last, of the 23d ult., directed to the General Committee, we mention, that observing your readiness to serve your country in other respects, and as it calls on you to be a District Committee, your resignation cannot be admitted. And we would now hint to you, if *Robins* behaves contumaciously, he is still in your power, clothed with authority, as you are, equal to other District or Parochial Committees.

The necessary attention will be paid to your application for a supply of gunpowder, and what money you have advanced for the publick will be repaid on application of either of your members.

Ordered, That the said Letter be engrossed, signed by Mr. President, and sent to the *Little River* Committee.

Ordered, That the *Little River* Committee be supplied with fifty pounds weight of Gunpowder, and a proportionable quantity of Lead.

Ordered, That the following Commission be issued to Captain *Blake*.

South-Carolina.

To Edward Blake, *Esq.*

You are hereby nominated and appointed Commissary of Stores for the Naval Department in this Colony; and you are to execute all orders you may receive from time to time from the Congress, or Council of Safety for the time being. This commission to continue during pleasure. Dated the 10th of November, 1775.

By order of Congress:

William Henry Drayton, *President.*

On motion, *Resolved*, That all the Boats and Canoes employed in fishing, be obliged to pass Fort *Johnson*, and call at said Fort.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the Commander at Fort *Johnson* be, and he is hereby ordered, strictly to examine all Fishing and other Boats passing the said Fort, as well those who shall have permits as those of Fishermen, in order that no improper correspondence be carried on, which might prove injurious to the Colony in its present state.

On motion, *Resolved*, That *John Morris*, Esq., Comptroller of the Customs, on account of his present ill state of health, upon his parole not to go on board or have any intercourse with any of the King's Vessels, have leave to pass and repass to his Island, by permits, during the pleasure of this Congress, or authority derived from them.

Resolved, That the indulgence granted to Mr. *Morris*, shall not be drawn into precedent.

The Messenger who had in charge to deliver the Letter to Captain *Thornbrough*, reported the delivery thereof; and that Captain *Thornbrough* only said, "it is very well."

Resolved, That Mr. President be authorized and empowered to order such motions of the Troops as he shall think necessary to enable Captain *Blake* to sink certain Schooners in *Hog Island* channel.

Ordered, That the Secretary do proceed in reading the Journals of the late Council of Safety.

The said Journals were accordingly read to the 21st of *August*, inclusive, page 154.

Adjourned to nine o'clock, to-morrow morning.

—

In Congress, Saturday, November 11, 1775.

The Congress met according to adjournment.

And the Journal of yesterday was read.

Ordered, That the Ordnance Storekeeper and Powder Receiver, do forthwith deliver five hundred pounds weight of Gunpowder, and proper Cannon Ball in proportion, to the order of Captain *Joseph Darrel*, for the use of *Lyttelton's* bastion.

Ordered, That the same officer do likewise deliver to Captain *Ezekiel Polk*, thirteen pounds weight of Gunpowder, Lead in proportion, and three dozen Flints, for the use of his company of Volunteer Rangers.

On motion, *Resolved*, That Captain *Edward Blake*, Commissary of Stores for the Naval Department, be authorized and empowered, if he shall think it necessary, to purchase eight thousand pounds weight of Bread, for the use of the Naval Armament of this Colony. And that this Congress will make provision for the payment thereof.

Ordered, That the Secretary do proceed in reading the Journals of the late Council of Safety.

Upon receipt of a Letter from Captain *John Purves*, of the Rangers, dated *Dorchester, November* 10, 1775,

Ordered, That the reading of the Journals of the Council of Safety be postponed.

And Captain *Purves's* Letter being read,

Ordered, That the same be referred to a Committee of the following gentlemen, viz: Colonel *Laurens*, Colonel *Bull*, Col. *Gervais*, Dr. *Oliphant*, and Capt. *John Huger*.

Ordered, That the Committee on the state of the Colony do forthwith sit, and report their progress to-morrow.

Adjourned to nine o'clock, to-morrow morning.

—

In Congress, Sunday, November 12, 1775.

The Congress met according to adjournment.

And yesterday's Journal was read.

The Rev. Mr. *Turquand*, by desire of the Congress, performed divine service before them.

Captain *Tufts*, of the Colony Schooner *Defence*, who had been ordered to cover and protect the sinking of a number of Hulks, prepared for that purpose, on the bar of *Hog Island Creek*, so as to obstruct the passage of ships of war through the said creek, reported;

That having yesterday, about two o'clock in the afternoon, proceeded with four hulks, in order to sink them upon the bar of that Creek, being about gunshot from the King's Ships *Tamer* of sixteen, and *Cherokee* of six guns; as he approached the place of his destination, the *Tamer* fired six shots at him, which he, just coming to an anchor, returned with two; that the *Tamer* continuing the cannonade, he contented himself with returning only one shot more, and then proceeded to sink the hulks. That he accordingly sunk three of them, but the fourth not coming up early enough in the tide, he continued the night on his station, in order to sink her also, at a proper time of tide. That about a quarter after four this morning, the *Tamer* and *Cherokee*, having warped nearer to his vessel in the night, discharged their broadsides at him, and continued the cannonade until about seven o'clock; when having, notwithstanding so heavy a fire, carried her to her proper station, and having scuttled her in various places, left her sinking, and then, having no further duty to perform, he retreated. That however, as the hulk, being loaded with sand, was a considerable time in sinking, and as he was considerably retreated, the *Tamer* sent an armed boat, which fired the hulk, towing her into shallower water, where she shortly after sunk. That in his retreat he ineffectually fired a shot at this armed boat, but finding his shot would not be of any service, he refrained from such an expenditure of ammunition. That notwithstanding so long and severe a cannonade from the *Tamer* and *Cherokee*, he received no other damage but one shot under his counter, one in his broadside, and a third which cut his fore starboard shroud. That he had not one man wounded. That in general the shot passed between his rigging and struck the main land. And that amidst this imminent danger the officers and men on board, although in general new in the service, displayed the greatest cheerfulness, tranquillity and coolness.

Ordered, That the thanks of the Congress be returned to Captain *Tufts*, for his spirited and prudent conduct upon this occasion; and also to Captain *William Scott*, who acted as a volunteer in the command of the Marines on board the Schooner *Defence;* and that those gentlemen be requested to return the thanks of this Congress to all the officers and men who acted under their respective commands.

Colonel *Laurens*, from the Committee to whom was referred the complaint of the Officers of the Regiment of Rangers, respecting rank and precedence, delivered in their Report.

And the said Report being taken into immediate consideration, the Congress came to the following Resolution thereupon:

Resolved, That the Regiment of Rangers be considered as the Third Regiment in the service of the Colony; that the degrees of First and Second Lieutenants be considered as giving rank regimentally in the Regiments respectively, and not otherwise; and that upon detachments and courts martial, officers of horse and foot of equal degree shall take rank according to the date of commissions.

Ordered, That so many Stores in the Town of *Dorchester* as have been hired by the Committee of that Parish for the publick service, as will be sufficient to lodge the Troops that are or may be stationed at that post, be forthwith fitted up for that service.

Ordered, That Mr. *Edwards*, Captain *Joiner*, Captain *Shubrick*, Mr. *Neufville*, and Mr. *Verree*, be a Committee to consider the expediency and expense of immediately fitting, arming, and manning the Ship *Prosper* in the service of the Colony, for the purpose of taking or sinking the men of war now in *Rebellion* Road. And that the said Committee do immediately sit, and report thereon without loss of time.

Mr. *Gibbes*, from the Committee appointed to take a view of *Charlestown*, and report what further works are immediately necessary for its most effectual defence against hostile attacks by ships of war, delivered in their Report.

And the said Report being immediately taken under consideration, the Congress came to the following Resolution thereupon:

Resolved, That a Battery of six heavy pieces of Cannon be immediately erected on or near Colonel *Gadsden's* land. That some proper Cannon be mounted on the wharves, near the centre of the bay. That *Granville's* bastion be put into a better posture of defence. That the platform in the north face of *Lyttelton's* bastion be extended. That a battery of three or four guns be erected near *Cummins's Point;* and another battery of two or three guns in some proper spot at *Wappoo*, to prevent vessels of force lying in *Ashley* River.

Mr. *Edwards*, from the Committee to consider the expediency and expense of immediately fitting, arming, and manning the Ship *Prosper* in the service of the Colony, delivered in their Report.

Which being read,

Ordered, That the same be taken into consideration this afternoon.

Adjourned to five o'clock, this afternoon.

In Congress, Sunday evening, November 12, 1775.

The Congress met according to adjournment.

The Secretary delivered in two Returns, one from the Sheriff of *Beaufort*, and the other from the Sheriff of *Camden*, of Prisoners in their respective Jails, in consequence of the Letters which the late General Committee had directed him to write to them.

On motion, *Resolved*, That five thousand pounds weight of Gunpowder, of the present stock in the Colony, be reserved for the interior defence thereof.

On motion, *Resolved*, That Mr. President be desired forthwith to write to the Council of Safety in *Georgia*, stating the late hostilities, and soliciting their utmost immediate aid and assistance, by a supply of all the Gunpowder, Arms, and other Military Stores that can be spared.

Ordered, That Mr. *De Saussure* and Mr. *Robert William Powell*, as a deputation from this Congress, do proceed with Mr. President's Letter to *Georgia*.

The Report of the Committee to consider the expediency and expense of fitting, arming, and manning the Ship *Prosper* in the immediate service of this Colony, for the purpose of taking or sinking the men of war now in *Rebellion* Road, being taken into consideration,

Resolved, That the Ship *Prosper* be immediately impressed and taken into the service of the Colony, and fitted and armed as a frigate of war, with the utmost expedition.

Ordered, That Mr. *Edwards*, Captain *Shubrick*, Captain *Joiner*, Mr. *Neufville*, and Mr. *Verree*, be, and they are hereby appointed Commissioners, under whose direction Captain *Blake* and Captain *Cochran* are to proceed to fit, arm, and man the Ship *Prosper*, with all possible expedition.

Whereupon, Mr. President was requested to write to Colonel *Moultrie*, as follows:

Charlestown, November 12, 1775.

Sir: You are hereby ordered to post a detachment of fifty able men from the regiments under your command, with such officer as you shall judge proper for the service, at whatever wharf in *Charlestown* the ship *Prosper*, impressed into the service of the Colony, shall lie; and to guard and protect the said ship against any attempt that may be made to injure or remove her, until further orders.

By order of Congress:

William Henry Drayton, *President.*

To Colonel *Moultrie.*

Ordered, That Dr. *Oliphant*, Mr. *Gibbes*, and Colonel *Moultrie*, be Commissioners for carrying into execution the Resolution of this morning, respecting the erecting of additional batteries for the defence of *Charlestown*.

On motion, *Resolved*, That Mr. President, Colonel *Pinckney*, and Mr. *Thomas Heyward*, Jun., be authorized to order and do whatever they shall think necessary for the publick safety, until the meeting of the Congress to-morrow.

Adjourned to nine o'clock, to-morrow morning.

In Congress, Monday, November 13, 1775.

The Congress met according to adjournment.

And yesterday's Journal was read.

Ordered, That Mr. *Powell*, and Mr. *De Saussure*, the

gentlemen who were yesterday deputed from this Congress to go to *Georgia*, be authorized and desired to engage all and every able and effective seaman they may meet with there, who shall be willing to enter into the service of this Colony; and that they be also authorized to purchase all the Sulphur, Saltpetre and Lead that can be got there. That one thousand Pounds currency be immediately placed into the hands of the said Messrs. *Powell* and *De Saussure* for the purposes abovementioned; and that this Congress will cause their drafts for any further sums that may be wanted, to be paid.

John McQueen, Esq., was returned as duly elected a Representative of the Parish of *St. Paul*, to serve in the present Congress in the room of *William Skirving*, Esq., who serves for *St. Bartholomew's*.

And took his seat accordingly.

Ordered, That Colonel *Moultrie* be desired to order a Sergeant and twelve men to go on board the Schooner *Defence* every evening, at five o'clock, and to remain on board until seven in the morning, until the further order of the Congress therein.

Mr. President laid before the Congress the draft which he had been requested to prepare, of a Letter to the Council of Safety in *Georgia*, stating the late hostilities by the *British* arms.

And the same being read, was amended, and is as follows:

By order of Congress.

South-Carolina, Charlestown, November 12, 1775.

Gentlemen: The actual commencement of hostilities by the *British* arms in this Colony against the inhabitants, is an event of the highest moment to the southern part of the United Colonies on this Continent; therefore, lest so important an event should be misrepresented, I am directed to inform you of the particulars of it, and of a subsequent action.

As it was found necessary to obstruct the channel of *Hog Island* Creek, being one approach to this town from *Rebellion* Road, Captain *Tufts*, commander of the Colony schooner *Defence*, mounted with two nine-pounders, six six-pounders, and two four-pounders, having on board seventy seamen and marines, proceeded yesterday, about two in the afternoon, with four hulks, in order to sink them upon the bar of that creek, being about gunshot from the King's ships *Tamer* of sixteen, and the *Cherokee* of six guns. As Captain *Tufts* approached the place of his destination, the *Tamer* fired six shot at him, which Captain *Tufts*, just coming to an anchor, returned with two; and the *Tamer* continuing the cannonade, Captain *Tufts* contented himself with returning only one shot more, and then proceeded to sink the hulks. He accordingly sunk three large schooner hulks, but the fourth not coming up early enough on the tide, he continued the night on his station, in order to sink her also, at a proper time of tide. About a quarter after four in the morning, the *Tamer* and *Cherokee*, having warped nearer to Captain *Tufts* in the night, discharged their broadsides at him, and continued the cannonade until about seven o'clock, when Captain *Tufts* having, notwithstanding so heavy a fire, carried the hulk to her proper station, and having scuttled her in various places, left her sinking, and then, having no further duty to perform, he retreated. However, as the hulk, being loaded with sand, was a considerable time in sinking, and as Captain *Tufts* was considerably retreated, the *Tamer* sent an armed boat which fired the hulk, towing her into shallower water, where she shortly after sunk. Captain *Tufts* in his retreat, ineffectually fired a shot at this armed boat, but finding his firing would not be of any service, he very prudently refrained from such an expenditure of ammunition. Notwithstanding so long and severe a cannonade from the *Tamer* and *Cherokee*, on board of which last Lord *William Campbell* has for some time past fixed his residence, Captain *Tufts* received no other damage but one shot under his counter, one in his broadside, and a third which cut his fore starboard shroud; not a man was wounded. In general the shot passed between his rigging, and struck the main land; and amidst this imminent danger, the officers and men on board, although in general new in the service, displayed the greatest cheerfulness, tranquillity and coolness, during this heavy fire. Fort *Johnson* discharged some twenty-six pounders at the *Tamer* and *Cherokee*, but the cannon requiring an elevation of ten degrees to reach them, rather than continue to discharge such random shot the firing from that post was discontinued.

The inhabitants of this metropolis were in general spectators of the latter part of the cannonade. The drums beat to arms, and the militia in a body assembled under their officers with such alertness, and so properly armed, as gave the highest pleasure and confidence to the publick.

I have the honor to be, gentlemen, your most humble servant,

William Henry Drayton, *President.*

To the Honourable the Council of Safety, at *Savannah*, in *Georgia*.

Resolved, That the two Pilot Boats, lately taken into the service of the Colony, be ordered to continue cruizing till the further order of this Congress.

Ordered, That the Commissary of Stores, for the Naval Department, do continue to supply the said Boats with Provisions and other necessaries.

Colonel *Pinckney*, from the Committee on the state of the Colony, and the means for immediately putting the same into the most defensible state, reported in part, according to order.

And the said partial Report being taken under immediate consideration, the Congress came to the following Resolutions thereupon:

Resolved, That, as there is a great want of men to manage and fire the Artillery in Fort *Johnson*, and the other fortifications now erected, and such batteries as it may hereafter be thought necessary to erect, a Regiment of Artillery be forthwith raised and embodied, to serve either in garrisons or otherwise, by land or water, as the service of the Colony may require, to consist of three Companies of one hundred men each, including non-commissioned Officers and Gunners.

Resolved, That the said Regiment be officered, and allowed daily pay, as follows; and rations at three Shillings a day:

A Lieutenant-Colonel Commandant, five Pounds currency per day.

A Major, four Pounds and ten Shillings.

Three Captains, three Pounds each.

Three First Lieutenants, one Pound and fifteen Shillings each.

Three Second Lieutenants, one Pound and fifteen Shillings each.

Six Lieutenants Fire Workers, one Pound twelve Shillings and six Pence each.

A Quartermaster, one Pound and fifteen Shillings.

An Adjutant, two Pounds and five Shillings.

A Surgeon, two Pounds.

A Surgeon's Mate, one Pound and ten Shillings.

A Sergeant Workman, to attend the Laboratory, fifteen Shillings.

Twelve Sergeants, twelve Shillings each.

Twelve Corporals, eleven Shillings each.

Thirty Gunners, ten Shillings each.

Two hundred and fifty-eight Matrosses, seven Shillings and six Pence each.

Three Drums, eleven Shillings each.

Three Fifes, eleven Shillings each.

An Armourer, twenty Shillings.

An Assistant Armourer, ten Shillings.

A Paymaster, two Pounds.

Resolved, That twenty-five Pounds currency, bounty money, be allowed and paid to every able bodied and effective man who shall voluntarily enlist in the said Regiment; to be paid in such proportions, and at such periods, as in the opinion of the officer shall have the best tendency to promote the service.

Resolved, That the sum of twenty-five Pounds per man for the Privates, and thirty-five Pounds for the Sergeants and Corporals, be allowed for clothing the said Regiment of Artillery.

Resolved, That all the men to be raised for the said Regiment, and also all the men henceforward to be enlisted in the service of the Colony, be engaged for six months certain, and not exceeding the term of two years, if they shall then desire to be discharged.

That Mr. *Ralph Izard*, Mr. *Thomas Middleton*, (son of *Henry*,) and Mr. *John McQueen*, be a Committee, to receive the names of such gentlemen as may offer themselves to serve as officers in the Regiment of Artillery, to be forthwith raised; and that they do sit in the Assembly Room at the State House for that purpose, from seven to eight o'clock this evening, and from eight to nine to-morrow morning.

Ordered, That the Secretary do immediately cause publick notice hereof to be given, in printed handbills, and by beat of drum.

Adjourned to five o'clock, in the evening.

In Congress, Monday evening, November 13, 1775.

The Congress met according to adjournment.

Ordered, That the Secretary do proceed to read the Report of the Committee on the state of the Colony.

Ordered, That the consideration of the second paragraph thereof be postponed.

Ordered, That the Secretary do proceed to read the Journals of the late Council of Safety.

Ordered, That the reading of said Journal be postponed.

Ordered, That the third paragraph of the Report of the Committee on the state of the Colony, be now taken under consideration. And after some debate thereon,

Ordered, That the same be postponed.

On information that *Moses Kirkland* had been seen in town this evening,

Ordered, That Colonel *Laurens*, and any other two members, do make immediate inquiry of, and take such steps as they shall find necessary for apprehending the said *Moses Kirkland*, if returned to this Colony.

Ordered, That Colonel *Laurens* and Mr. *Jacob Motte* be added to the Commissioners for erecting several new batteries for the more effectual defence of *Charlestown*.

Resolved, That Mr. President, Colonel *Pinckney*, and Mr. *Thomas Heyward*, Jun., be authorized to order and do whatever may be found necessary for the publick safety, till the meeting of the Congress to-morrow.

Adjourned to nine o'clock, to-morrow morning.

—

In Congress, Tuesday, November 14, 1775.

The Congress met according to adjournment.

And the Journal of yesterday was read.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the Honourable *William Henry Drayton*, the Reverend Mr. *Tennent*, *Arthur Middleton*, Esq., Captain *Charles Cotesworth Pinckney*, Col. *Gervais*, Captain *Roger Smith*, Mr. *Thomas Heyward*, Jun., and Mr. *Ralph Izard*, be, and they are hereby appointed a Committee of Intelligence, to correspond with, and communicate to, the inhabitants of the interior parts of this Colony, every kind of necessary information; with power to hire horses and send expresses upon all occasions that they shall think proper; and, until a Council of Safety shall be appointed, to seize, or cause to be seized and secured, and take the examinations of all such persons, who, being at large, may endanger the publick safety, or prove injurious to the common cause of *America*.

Ordered, That the consideration of the Report of the Committee on the state of the Colony be now proceeded in.

On motion, That the Congress do agree with the Committee, "That the two Regiments of Infantry, and the Regiment of Horse, now in the pay of the Colony, be completed to their first establishment, viz: of seven hundred and fifty men to the foot, and four hundred and fifty to the horse,"

A debate arose; and the question being put,

It was carried in the negative.

A motion was then made, and seconded, "That the Council of Safety, for the time being, shall issue orders to complete the original establishment of the Army voted by the last Congress, in proportion as arms and clothing shall be procured; and that the said Council shall use the most effectual means for procuring arms and clothing, with all possible expedition."

A debate ensued; and the question being put,

The Congress divided.

The yeas went forth: Yeas 49; nays 48.

Teller for the yeas, Hon. Mr. *Lowndes*.

Teller for the nays, Colonel *Pinckney*.

And it was accordingly resolved in the affirmative.

On motion, *Resolved*, That *Clement Lempriere*, Esq., be appointed Captain and Commander of the Ship *Prosper*, now fitting and arming in the Colony service. That Captain *Thomas Sherman* be appointed First Lieutenant of the said Ship; and that the officering, manning, and the wages of the Officers and Seamen, be at the same rates as of the Schooner *Defence*.

Ordered, That Mr. President do issue commissions accordingly, for officering the said Ship.

Ordered, That Captain *Thomas Savage*, Mr. *George Abbot Hall*, Mr. *Kalteisen*, and Captain *Leger*, be added to the Commissioners for fitting out and arming the ship *Prosper*, taken into the service of the Colony.

Resolved, That the Lieutenant-Colonel Commandant, the Major, the three Captains, the Surgeon, and the Paymaster, to the Regiment of Artillery to be forthwith raised, be chosen by ballot, by the Members of Congress; and that the subordinate officers of the said corps be chosen by the Captains so elected, with the approbation of the Lieutenant-Colonel Commandant.

Adjourned to six o'clock, in the evening.

In Congress, Tuesday evening, November 14, 1775.

The Congress met according to adjournment.

The following Officers to the Regiment of Artillery to be formed, were then balloted for by the Members; and at the close of the poll, by Mr. President declared duly elected:

Lieutenant-Colonel Commandant, *Owen Roberts*, Esq.

Major, Hon. *Barnard Elliott*.

Captains, *Barnard Beekman*, *Charles Drayton*, *Sims White*, Esqs.

Paymaster, *Paul Townshend*, Esq.

Surgeon, *John Budd*, Esq.

Ordered, That Mr. President do issue Commissions accordingly.

Adjourned to nine o'clock, to-morrow morning.

—

In Congress, Wednesday, November 15, 1775.

The Congress met according to adjournment.

And yesterday's Journal was read.

Ordered, That Mr. President do issue Commissions for all the Officers of the Regiment of Artillery forthwith to be raised; and also for the promotion of Officers in the Regiments of Infantry.

Colonel *Laurens*, from the Committee for auditing the publick Accounts, reported the following as proper to be paid, viz:

To Major *Golsan*, - -	£	94	10 0
Capt. *Gasper Brown's*,	288	0	0
Capt. *Flood's*, - - -	163	2	6
Capt. *Gasper Ott's*, -	318	15	0
Capt. *Aaron Little's*, -	231	15	0
Capt. *H. Geiger's*, -	164	10	0
	£1260	12	9
To the Committee of *Prince Frederick's* Parish, - - - - -	24	10	0

Ordered, That Mr. President do issue his Warrants for the payment of said sums.

And Warrants were accordingly issued.

Information being laid before the Congress, that *Robert McKeown*, a waiter in the service of the customs, had yesterday proceeded on board the *Tamer* sloop-of-war,

Ordered, That the said *McKeown* be summoned to attend immediately.

And the said *Robert McKeown* attending accordingly, he was examined touching the information aforesaid; and declared, that being ignorant of his having been restrained from going out of the limits of *Charlestown*, he did go on board the *Tamer* only to carry down a son of the Collector of the Customs, who is a Midshipman in the Navy.

Ordered, That the said *Robert McKeown*, be enjoined and required, in future, strictly to confine himself in the limits of *Charlestown;* and to have no further communication with the men of war.

*

Resolved, That the Commissioners appointed to fit out the Ship *Prosper*, be, and they are hereby authorized and empowered to take such measures as to them shall appear most effectual, to prevent all indirect communication and correspondence with the ships of war in *Rebellion* Road.

Ordered, That the Secretary, as Chairman of the Committee of Observation, be empowered to employ a proper person or persons to see the delivery of Provisions permitted to be sent for the use of the men of war, in such manner as is most likely to prevent an improper correspondence being carried on, and the quantity of Provisions permitted being exceeded.

Ordered, That the consideration of the Report of the Committee on the state of the Colony be proceeded in.

And being accordingly taken under consideration, the Congress came to the following Resolutions thereupon:

Resolved, That a sum not exceeding one hundred and twenty thousand Pounds currency, be forthwith stamped and issued, for the pay of the Regiment of Artillery to be raised, and incidental charges attending the same, of the following denominations, viz:

10,000 bills of two Shillings and six Pence.
10,000 " five Shillings.
10,000 " seven Shillings and six Pence.
10,000 " ten Shillings.
10,000 " fifteen Shillings.
10,000 " one Pound.
10,000 " one Pound and ten Shillings.
10,000 " two Pounds.
10,000 " two Pounds and ten Shillings.
10,000 " three Pounds.

of such forms, and with such devices and mottoes, as the Commissioners hereafter to be named shall think proper.

Resolved, That *Thomas Middleton*, (son of *Henry*,) *Ralph Izard*, *John McQueen*, *Paul Douxsaint*, *George Abbot Hall*, *Peter Leger*, *Maurice Simons*, *Robert William Powell*, *John Berwick*, *Peter Bouquet*, *Philotheos Chiffelle*, *Roger Smith*, *Paul Townsend*, *Edward Weyman*, *Alexander Gillon*, *Anthony Toomer*, *Daniel Cannon*, and *Francis Salvador*, be, and they are hereby appointed Commissioners, with all possible despatch to stamp, and any three of them to sign, and when stamped, signed, and numbered, from time to time to deliver all the said bills into the hands of the Colony Treasurers.

Ordered, That *Henry Peronneau* and *Benjamin Dart*, Esquires, joint Publick Treasurers of this Colony, do forthwith lay before this Congress the present state of the Treasury, with an account of all the Moneys therein, that are issuable or not issuable, either in specie, certificates, orders, or bills of credit.

Ordered, That Captain *Hammond* be added to the Committee on the state of the Colony.

A motion was made, that the future meetings of the Provincial Congress be held at *Camden*, or some other more centrical and convenient place.

But the previous question being demanded, it was put, and carried in the negative.

On motion, *Resolved*, That this Congress will to-morrow morning, at eleven o'clock, proceed to the choice of thirteen members to form a Council of Safety, by ballot.

Ordered, That Mr. President, Colonel *Laurens*, Colonel *Pinckney*, Colonel *Moultrie*, and Mr. *Thomas Heyward*, Jun., be authorized, till the meeting of the Congress to-morrow morning, to order and do every thing they may think necessary for the publick safety.

Adjourned to eleven o'clock, to-morrow morning.

—

In Congress, Thursday, November 16, 1775.

The Congress met according to adjournment.

And yesterday's Journal was read.

Joseph Fogartie, Esq., being returned as duly elected a Representative for the Parish of *St. Thomas* and *St. Dennis*, to serve in the present Congress in the room of *John Moore*, Esq., who declined serving, that gentleman attended, and took his seat accordingly.

The Congress then proceeded to ballot for members to constitute a new Council of Safety.

And the following gentlemen were duly elected, viz:

1. Colonel *Charles Pinckney*.
2. Colonel *Henry Laurens*.
3. Hon. *Henry Middleton*.
4. *Thomas Ferguson*, Esq.
5. *Arthur Middleton*, Esq.
6. *Thomas Heyward*, Jun., Esq.
7. Hon. *William Henry Drayton*, Esq.
8. Hon. *Rawlins Lowndes*, Esq.
9. *Thomas Bee*, Esq.
10. *Benjamin Elliott*, Esq.
11. Colonel *James Parsons*.
12. *David Oliphant*, Esq.
13. *Thomas Savage*, Esq.

After which the Congress adjourned to nine o'clock, to-morrow morning.

—

In Congress, Friday, November 17, 1775.

The Congress met according to adjournment.

The list of Members was called over.

Jacob Motte, Esq., was returned duly elected a Representative for the Parish of *St. James, Santee*, where he and Mr. *Jerman* before had equal votes.

And he took his seat accordingly.

Ordered, That Colonel *Laurens*, Mr. *Thomas Heyward*, Jun., and Mr. *Bee*, be a Committee to examine and correct the journals of the present session of Congress, in order that such parts thereof as may be proper to be made publick, be printed with all possible despatch.

Ordered, That the Secretary do cause such parts of the said Journals as shall be put into his hands for that purpose, to be printed with all possible expedition.

Captain *William Cattell* desired leave, and read a Letter to him from Lieutenant-Colonel *Roberts*, requesting that his most grateful thanks might be returned to the Congress for the honour they had conferred upon him, by appointing him to the command of the Regiment of Artillery; and giving assurances that were proper on such an occasion.

Ordered, That Colonel *Laurens*, Colonel *Pinckney*, Major *Pinckney*, Captain *Harrington*, the Rev. Mr. *Tennent*, Mr. *Thomas Heyward*, Jun., and Mr. *Arthur Middleton*, be a Committee, to consider of, state, and bring into one view, the powers and authorities proper to be vested in and exercised by the Council of Safety.

Read a Letter from Messrs. *Dunn* and *Boote*, respecting their maintenance, dated yesterday.

Resolved, That *John Dunn*, and *Benjamin Booth Boote*, Esquires, be allowed the sum of forty Shillings currency each, for their daily support and maintenance.

Ordered, That Mr. President do issue his Warrant on the Treasury for the payment of the last month's lodging and board of the said Messrs. *Dunn* and *Boote*, amounting to one hundred and twelve Pounds currency.

And a Warrant was issued accordingly.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the Militia of *Charlestown* who do nightly duty be allowed and provided with Firewood and Candles at the publick expense.

Ordered, That Mr. *John Calvert* do furnish the Militia Guards with Firewood and Candles accordingly.

Ordered, That Captain *Sumpter* be added to the Committee on the state of the Colony.

On motion, *Resolved*, That all Officers, Gunners, Matrosses, or any other persons receiving pay or hire in the service of the Artillery of this Colony, shall be governed by the same rules and articles, and be subject to be tried by Courts Martial, in like manner with the Officers and Soldiers of the other Troops in the service of this Colony.

Resolved, That for differences arising among themselves, or in matters relating solely to their own corps, the Courts Martial may be composed of their own Officers; but where a sufficient number of such Officers cannot be assembled, or in matters wherein other corps are interested, the Officers of Artillery shall sit in Courts Martial with the Officers of the other corps in the service of the Colony, taking their rank according to the dates of their respective commissions, and no otherwise.

Resolved, That the Regiment of Artillery now to be

raised and embodied, be the fourth Regiment in the service of the Colony; and that Officers of equal rank in the four Regiments in the Colony service, shall take precedence according to the dates of their respective commissions.

Adjourned to nine o'clock, to-morrow morning.

—

In Congress, Saturday, November 18, 1775.

The Congress met according to adjournment.

And the Journal of yesterday was read.

Messrs. *Peronneau* and *Dart*, joint Publick Treasurers, attended, and delivered in the following:

State of the Paper Currency in the Publick Treasury of South-Carolina.

Of lawful Bills of Credit, so torn and obliterated as to become impassable, of various denominations, about - - - - -	£50,000 0 0
Of Tax Certificates and publick orders out of date, and kept to be destroyed, agreeable to laws of the Province, about - - -	19,000 0 0
Of Certificates issued by the House of Assembly, about - - - - -	19,200 0 0
Of Certificates issued by the Congress, -	1,320 0 0

N. B. Not a single piece of Gold or Silver in the Treasury.

There is owing, on bonds to the King, for Negro duties, about - - - - -	13,000 0 0
And on Notes to the joint Treasurers for other duties, - - - - - - -	24,000 0 0

Upon application from the Vestry of *St. Philip's* Parish, *Charlestown*,

Resolved, That a loan of Ten Thousand Pounds currency be furnished, from the Colony Treasury, to the Vestry of the Parish of *St. Philip*, on the credit of the Parishes of *St. Philip* and *St. Michael*, for the maintenance of the publick poor; for which sum the said Vestry are hereafter to account with the publick.

Ordered, That Mr. President do issue his Warrant accordingly.

Resolved, That the Inhabitants of the Parishes of *St. Philip* and *St. Michael*, *Charlestown*, ought forthwith to pay into the hands of the Vestry the Poor's Rates assessed and to be assessed on them respectively, according to law; and that processes ought to be issued by the Vestry and Church-wardens, against such persons as shall refuse or neglect to pay his or their Poor's Rates, so assessed.

Ordered, That Captain *Calhoun* and Captain *Winn* be added to the Committee on the state of the Colony.

Colonel *Pinckney*, from the Committee on the state of the Colony, delivered in a further Report respecting the regulation of the Militia.

Ordered, That the Report of the Committee on the state of the Colony, respecting the Mititia, be now taken under consideration.

Mr. *Caldwell*, Mr. *Green*, and Mr. *Newton*, from the back country, attended, and were severally admitted, who gave very alarming accounts of the state of affairs in those parts.

Ordered, That two thousand pounds weight of the publick Gunpowder, lately deposited in the Magazine at *Dorchester*, be removed from thence to *Charlestown*, with all possible expedition.

Colonel *Wofford* delivered in a Memorial from the Committee of the District between *Enoree* and *Broad Rivers*, dated the 8th instant, which was read.

Colonel *Laurens* delivered in the following appraisement or valuation of the Ship *Prosper:*

"Charlestown, November 18, 1775.

"In obedience to the order of the Provincial Congress, we, the subscribers, have valued the ship *Prosper*, of *Bristol*, lately taken into the service of the Colony; and it is our opinion, that two thousand pounds sterling, or the value thereof in current money, ought to be allowed to the owner or owners of the said ship; and we recommend that such sum of two thousand pounds sterling, or the value thereof, as aforesaid, be tendered to Captain —— *Smith*, late master of the said ship, on behalf of his owners; and that the register of the said ship, and a proper assignment, be at the same time demanded from the said Captain *Smith*.

"Henry Laurens,
"Roger Smith,
"Edward Blake."

On motion, *Resolved*, That the Recruiting Officers of the Regiment of Artillery to be raised for the service of this Colony, be allowed three Pounds and five Shillings per head, for every effective man they shall enlist for that corps, brought to head-quarters, attested, and approved of by the Lieutenant-Colonel Commandant; and that a suit of artillery and tenting be allowed and provided for the said Regiment.

Ordered, That the Bounty Money for raising the said Regiment be issued as it may be wanted; and that Money be also issued for the purchase of such Clothing, Tenting and Small Arms, as can be procured from *Georgia* or elsewhere; and that drafts on the Congress or Council of Safety for the time being, for the purchase of those articles, or any part of them, be duly paid.

Ordered, That Mr. President be desired to prepare the draft of a Declaration, calculated to remove the prejudices entertained in some parts of the Colony, against the measure of the late Council of Safety, in sending a small quantity of Ammunition to the *Cherokee Indians*.

The consideration of the Report of the Committee on the state of the Colony being proceeded in,

A debate arose on that part thereof requiring that every Company of Militia throughout the Colony should be assembled, mustered, trained and exercised once a fortnight.

And a question being put thereon,

The Congress divided; the yeas went forth:

For the question 43; against it 29.

So that it was resolved in the affirmative.

A debate also arose on that part of the said Report subjecting Privates, not appearing completely armed at the places and on the days appointed, to a fine of three Pounds, and Officers to a fine of twenty-five Pounds, for every default.

And the question being put,

It was resolved in the affirmative.

Adjourned to nine o'clock, to-morrow morning.

—

In Congress, Sunday, November 19, 1775.

The Congress met according to adjournment.

And yesterday's Journal was read.

The Rev. Mr. *Paul Turquand*, by desire of Congress, performed Divine Service before them.

Mr. President delivered in a draft of the Declaration which he had been directed to prepare, to quiet the minds of the misguided people in the back country.

And the said draft being taken into immediate consideration, was amended, and agreed to in the words following:

South-Carolina.

By authority of Congress.—A Declaration.

It has ever been the policy of *America* in general, and of this Colony in particular, to endeavour to cultivate a good correspondence with the neighbouring *Indians;* and especially so, since the commencement of the present unhappy disputes with the *British* Administration. This policy originated from a view of preserving, at the cheapest rate, our borders from savage inroads, pushed on by *French* or *Spanish* management, or *Indian* avidity or ferocity. Of late this policy has been persevered in; and our endeavours have been redoubled, in order to oppose and to frustrate the design of the *British* Administration, by the hands of *Indians*, to deluge our frontiers with the blood of our fellow-citizens. Experience has taught us, that occasional presents to the *Indians* has been the great means of acquiring their friendship. In this necessary service, Government every year has expended large sums of money; and the Continental Congress having divided the management of the *Indian* affairs into three departments, have allotted for the expenses of this Southern Department the sum of ten thousand dollars, in order to preserve the friendship of the *Indians* on the back of our settlements.

The late Council of Safety spared no pains to confirm them in their pacifick inclinations; but, from the repeated, constant and uniform accounts they received from the Council of Safety in *Georgia*, the *Indian* traders in that and in this Colony, and among the *Creeks* and *Cherokees*, and the persons there employed by the two Colonies to superintend the *Indian* affairs, it clearly and unfortunately appeared, that a general *Indian* war was inevitable, unless the *Indians* were furnished with some small supplies of ammunition, to enable them to procure deer skins for their support and maintenance.

Rather than draw on an *Indian* war, by an ill-timed frugality in withholding ammunition, our friends in *Georgia* resolved to supply the *Creeks* with such a quantity as might, in some degree, satisfy their urgent wants, but could not incite by enabling them to commit hostilities. They sent on that service two thousand weight of powder, and a proportionable weight of lead; they also strongly pressed the late Council of Safety to supply the *Cherokees*. About the end of *September*, the Hon. *William Henry Drayton*, a member of the late Council of Safety, met several of the *Cherokee* head men at the *Congarees*. Nothing could in the least degree satisfy them but a promise of some ammunition. At length the late Council, in *October* last, issued a supply of ammunition, consisting of only one thousand weight of powder, and two thousand pounds weight of lead, for the use of the *Cherokees*, as the only probable means of preserving the frontiers from the inroads of the *Indians*; and the Council the more readily agreed to this measure, because, as they almost daily expected that the *British* arms would attack the Colony in front on the sea coast, they thought they would be inexcusable, if they did not, as much as in them lay, remove every cause to apprehend an attack at the same time from the *Indians* upon the back settlements.

But this measure, entered into by the Council upon principles of the soundest policy, of christianity, breathing equal benevolence to the associators and non-associators in this Colony, and arising only from necessity, unfortunately has been, by some non-associators, made an instrument for the most diabolical purposes.

These wicked men, to the astonishment of common sense, have made many of their deluded followers believe that this ammunition was sent to the *Indians*, with orders for them to fall upon the frontiers and to massacre the non-associators; and taking advantage from the scarcity of ammunition among individuals, arising from the necessity of filling the publick magazines, they have invidiously represented that ammunition ought not to be sent to the *Indians*, while the inhabitants of the Colony, individually, are in a great degree destitute of that article; industriously endeavouring to inculcate this doctrine even in the minds of the associators.

Wherefore, in compassion to those who are deluded by such representations, the Congress have taken these things into their consideration, which otherwise would have been below their notice; and they desire their deceived fellow-colonists to reflect, that the story of the ammunition being sent to the *Indians* with orders for them to massacre the non-associators, is absurd in its very nature:

First, Because the whole tenor of the conduct of the Council of Safety demonstrates, that they were incapable of such inhumanity as a body; the character of each individual shields him against a charge of so cruel a nature; and Mr. *Drayton's* conduct at *Ninety-Six*, at the head of the army, fully showed, that the blood of the non-associators was not the object of his policy.

Secondly, Because, also, if men will but call reason to their aid, they must plainly see, that if the *Indians* were let loose upon the frontiers, they must indiscriminately massacre associators and non-associators, since there is no mark to distinguish either to the *Indians;* and therefore no associator, of but common sense, could think of promoting the interest of his party, by executing a measure which must equally ruin friend and foe.

However, in order to clear up all difficulties on this head, and for the ease of the minds of our deceived friends, the Congress in a body, and also individually, declare, in the most solemn manner, before almighty *God*, that they do not believe any order was ever issued, or any idea was ever entertained, by the late Council of Safety, or any member of it, or by any person under authority of Congress, to cause the *Indians* to commence hostilities upon the frontiers, or any part thereof. On the contrary, they do believe, that they, and each of them, have used every endeavour to inculcate in the *Indians* sentiments friendly to the inhabitants without any distinction.

It is greatly to be regretted, that our fellow-colonists, individually, are not so well supplied with ammunition as would be adequate to their private convenience. But is not the situation of publick affairs, which renders it absolutely necessary to guide the channels through which ammunition is brought to the Colony into the publick magazines, before any part of them can be permitted to reach the publick individually, also to be lamented? Ought not, nay, this unhappy situation of publick affairs does justify the filling the publick magazines; thereby securing the welfare, and forming the defence of the state, at the risk of the convenience or safety of individuals. And if out of the publick stock a quantity of ammunition is given to the *Indians*, which may be sufficient to keep them quiet, by in some degree supplying their urgent occasions, yet not sufficient to enable them to make war; ought our people, nay, they cannot have any reasonable ground, to arraign that policy by which they are and may be preserved from savage hostility; or to complain, that because the whole Colony, the publick and individuals, cannot be supplied with ammunition, therefore a small quantity ought not to be sent to the *Indians*. Men should reflect that this small quantity is given in order to render it unnecessary to supply the publick individually on the score of a defence against *Indians*, a service that would consume very large quantities of an article that experience teaches will be diminished when individually distributed. Men should also reflect, that while the publick magazines are well stored, supplies can be instantly, plentifully, and regularly poured upon those parts where the publick service may require them. And the publick are hereby informed, that although, when the present disturbances began, there were not in the Colony more than five hundred pounds weight of publick powder, yet by the vigilance of the late Council of Safety, the publick stock has been so much increased, as to induce the present Congress, to make an allotment of five thousand pounds weight for the defence of the interior parts of the Colony, besides several considerable quantities already disposed of on that service.

Men ought likewise to take into their consideration, that as the Council of Safety, by various, and a multitude of means, procure a constant, speedy, and authentick information of the state of all parts of the Colony, and of the *Indians;* so, by being much better informed upon those points than the publick individually, therefore the Council are the most competent judges where ammunition ought to be sent; whether a small quantity to the *Indians*, with a view and probability of keeping them quiet, or a large quantity to the inhabitants necessarily to arm them against the *Indians*.

Common sense and common honesty dictate that if there is a probability that by a present of a small quantity of ammunition the *Indians* can be kept in peace that present ought not to be withheld at the hazard of inducing an *Indian* war, thereby of expending not only a much larger quantity of ammunition, but of involving the Colony in an immense expense, breaking up whole settlements, and unnecessarily sacrificing a number of lives.

WILLIAM HENRY DRAYTON, *President.*

Charlestown, November 19, 1775.

Ordered, That the Secretary do cause a sufficient number of copies of the foregoing Declaration to be forthwith printed, in order to be distributed among the inhabitants of the back country.

Ordered, That the consideration of the Report of the Committee on the state of the Colony, respecting the Militia, be now proceeded in.

And some progress was made therein.

Ordered, That Mr. President be desired to instruct Colonel *Richardson* to apply to Colonel *Thomas Polk*, of *North-Carolina*, for the assistance of the six Companies under his command, to be in the pay of this Colony, if he shall judge such assistance necessary.

Adjourned to nine o'clock, to-morrow morning.

In Congress, Monday, November 20, 1775,

The Congress met according to adjournment.

And the Journal of yesterday was read.

Colonel *Laurens*, from the Committee for auditing the publick Accounts, reported an account for the late service of Captain *Richard Richardson's* Troop of Light Horse, amounting to four hundred and ninety-seven Pounds, as proper to be paid.

Ordered, That Mr. President do issue his Warrant on the Treasury for the payment thereof.

And a Warrant was issued accordingly.

Ordered, That Mr. *William Parker* have leave of absence, forthwith to proceed to his plantation, and order down all such timber and plank as has been prepared there for the publick service; and that he also forthwith do order all such hands to town as are at present employed at the lines upon *Charlestown Neck*, to the publick works erecting in and about *Charlestown*.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the whole Militia of *Charlestown* be forthwith embodied and ordered upon duty, as well by day as by night, in such divisions and at such posts as the Commanding Officer shall think proper; and that the officers and men, while in actual service, may demand, and shall be entitled to the same daily pay, as is allowed to the officers and men now employed in the Colony service, under the command of Colonel *Richard Richardson*.

Ordered, That Mr. President do issue the following orders to Lieutenant-Colonel *Roberts:*

By order of Congress.

Charlestown, November 20, 1775.

To Lieutenant-Colonel Owen Roberts:

Sir: You are hereby directed to issue recruiting orders to your several officers, in order to complete the regiment of artillery with all possible expedition; and that you and your officers do forthwith take post at the several batteries, at Fort *Johnson*, the new battery to the westward of it, and about *Charlestown* (except *Broughton's* battery.) Such sums of money as you may have occasion for, shall be issued, and you shall be furnished with the various orders of Congress relative to the regiment of artillery, as soon as they can be copied from the journal.

I am, Sir, your most obedient servant,

William Henry Drayton, *President.*

On motion, *Resolved*, That the Colonels of the several Regiments of Militia throughout the Colony have leave to enroll such a number of able male slaves, to be employed as pioneers and labourers, as publick exigencies may require; and that a daily pay of seven Shillings and six Pence be allowed for the service of each such slave, while actually employed.

On motion, *Resolved*, That this Congress will make provision for the support of all persons who may be maimed and disabled in the publick service of the Colony, by sea or land, and also of the families of such as may be killed in the said service.

Ordered, That Colonel *Gervais*, Captain *Hammond*, and Mr. *Raplay*, have leave to visit Captain *Robert Cunningham*, in his confinement in *Charlestown* Jail.

Ordered, That the Colonel of the *Charlestown* Militia do forthwith carry into execution the Resolution respecting the embodying the same.

On motion, *Resolved*, That five hundred pounds weight of Gunpowder, with six pieces of proper Cannon, and a proportionable quantity of Cannon Ball, be allotted for the use and defence of *Georgetown*, and that the same be delivered to the Committee of that town.

Ordered, That Colonel *Stephen Bull* do forthwith draft one hundred and fifty men of the *Granville* County Regiment of Militia, and order them upon duty at Fort *Lyttelton, Port Royal*, to be relieved from time to time, till further orders.

Adjourned to nine o'clock, to-morrow morning.

—

In Congress, Tuesday, November 21, 1775.

The Congress met according to adjournment.

And the Journal of yesterday was read.

Ordered, That the consideration of the Report of the Committee on the state of the Colony, respecting the Militia, be resumed and proceeded in.

And the same being gone through, the Congress came to the several Resolutions following:

Resolved, That the Commissioned Officers of the Colony Regular Troops take precedence of Officers of equal degree in the Militia, without regard to prior dates of commissions in the latter, *Provided, nevertheless*, That a Second Lieutenant in the Regulars shall be subordinate to a First Lieutenant in the Militia, and so on in gradation in the Regulars and Militia respectively. That the precedency in the regular forces be according to the number and denomination of the Regiments of Infantry and Rangers; and the Regiment of Artillery according to the custom of the *British* Army. That all corps of Regulars take precedence of all corps of Militia. And that the Regiments of Militia shall take precedence in the following manner: *Berkley* County, *Charlestown*, *Granville* County, *Colleton* County, *Craven* County, the lower part, *Orangeburgh*, *Craven* County, the upper part, *Camden*, *Ninety-Six* north of the *Fish-dam Ford* and between *Enoree*, *Broad* and *Saludy Rivers*, the *New Acquisition* south of the *Fish-dam Ford*, and between *Broad* and *Saludy Rivers* north of *Enoree*, and between *Broad* and *Saludy Rivers*.

Resolved, That the Militia be not drawn out to act with the Regulars in the pay of this Colony, but on the most urgent occasions; and whenever that happens, in case any officers should be wanting to fill up the Regiments or Companies of Militia, including the volunteer companies, the same shall be made up by their own officers according to seniority of commissions; subject nevertheless to the control of the Congress or Council of Safety for the time being, in case any officer or officers shall succeed to commissions by seniority, whom they or either of them shall deem improper to be commissioned.

Resolved, That in all cases of default, neglect of duty, or disobedience of orders, the Militia officers and privates shall be tried, adjudged and determined according to the Militia law only, whether they are acting in conjunction with the Regulars or otherwise.

Resolved, That every Captain or other commanding Officer of a Company, shall assemble, muster, train and exercise his Company once in every fortnight, under a penalty of twenty-five Pounds currency for every default.

Resolved, That every person liable to bear arms shall appear completely armed, once in every fortnight, on the day and at the place appointed by his Captain for the exercising his company; the privates under a penalty not exceeding three Pounds current money, and the officers under the penalty of twenty-five Pounds, for every default.

Resolved, That it be recommended to the Colonels of the different Regiments of the Militia, where the districts of any of the Companies in their respective Regiments are too large for the Company conveniently to assemble in one place, that they do order the Captains of such Companies to appoint two or three places in their respective districts for the Company to muster at in divisions.

Resolved, That there be no more Volunteer Troops of Horse formed.

Resolved, That in future no person be allowed to enter himself into a Volunteer Company out of the districts of the Regiment to which he belongs.

It was moved and seconded, That an immediate draft of five hundred Militia from the country Regiments be ordered to rendezvous at some place near and convenient to and for the defence of *Charlestown*, in case that place should be attacked.

A debate ensued; and the question being put,

It was passed in the negative.

Ordered, That Mr. President do write to the several Colonels of the Militia throughout the Colony, that they do forthwith proceed to draft one-third of their respective Regiments, including Volunteer Companies, and hold them in constant readiness to march at a minute's warning, according to the order of Congress or the Council of Safety for the time being; and that they do also, with all possible despatch, return to the said Congress or Council, the

names of the persons so drafted and ordered to be held in readiness.

Upon an application for a sum of Money to be employed in the recruiting service for the Regiment of Artillery,

Ordered, That Mr. President do issue his Warrant for three thousand Pounds for that service.

And two Warrants were issued accordingly.

On motion, *Ordered*, That Captain *Lempriere* be required forthwith to attend his duty on board the Ship *Prosper;* that the subordinate officers be immediately nominated and appointed; and that every effectual measure be pursued for the speedy fitting and manning the said ship-of-war.

The following Letter was accordingly written:

By order of Congress.

Charlestown, November 21, 1775.

To Clement Lempriere, *Esq.:*

Sir: Your presence being absolutely necessary on board the *Prosper*, in order to expedite her fitting out, you are therefore hereby ordered to repair on board the said ship *Prosper*, there to discharge the duties of a commander.

I am, Sir, your most humble servant,

William Henry Drayton, *President.*

Ordered, That the Contractor for victualling the Forces of this Colony already raised, be applied to, also to furnish rations for the Regiment of Artillery to be raised.

Ordered, That Mr. President do issue Commissions appointing *John Joiner*, Esquire, to be commander of Fort *Lyttelton*, near *Beaufort;* and also to appoint him to be Captain, and *Tunes Tebout* and *Thomas Hughes*, gentlemen, to be Lieutenants of a Company of Artillery.

Ordered, That Captain *Benjamin Wofford* have leave to trade here, upon his taking an oath to observe the strictest neutrality, agreeable to the late treaty of *Ninety-Six.*

Ordered, That Hon. Mr. *Drayton's* Letter to Captain *Robert Cunningham*, dated the 21st of *September* last, and Captain *Cunningham's* answer, dated the 6th of *October*, be forthwith printed in handbills, to be distributed amongst the inhabitants in the back country.

Ordered, That Mr. President do issue his Warrant for two thousand Pounds sterling, or fifteen thousand four hundred Pounds currency, to be paid out of the Treasury, to the Commissioners for fitting out the Ship *Prosper*, in order to be by them tendered to Captain —— *Smith*, the late master, as payment of the purchase money, or value by appraisement.

And a Warrant was accordingly issued.

Adjourned to eleven o'clock, to-morrow.

—

In Congress, Wednesday, November 22, 1775.

Mr. President adjourned the meeting of the Congress to six o'clock, in the evening.

In Congress, Wednesday evening, November 22, 1775.

The Congress met according to adjournment.

And yesterday's Journal was read.

Read a Letter from the Committee of *Rowan* County, *North-Carolina*, dated *October* 23, 1775, recommending that no trade or intercourse be carried on with persons who cannot produce certificates of their being friends to the *American* cause.

Read also, a Letter from Captain *Edward Blake*, of this day's date, enclosing a certificate of the value, by appraisement, of six Schooners, sunk on the bars of *Hog Island* Creek, and the *Marsh Channels*, to obstruct the passage of ships of war through those channels, amounting to four thousand five hundred Pounds.

Ordered, That Mr. President do issue his Warrant for payment of the said sum of four thousand five hundred Pounds, to Captain *Blake*, in order to pay for said Schooners.

And a Warrant was issued accordingly.

Read a Letter from *Clement Lempriere*, Esq., declining to take upon him the command of the ship to which he had been appointed by this Congress.

Adjourned to nine o'clock, to-morrow morning.

In Congress, Thursday, November 23, 1775.

The Congress met according to adjournment.

And the Journal of yesterday was read.

Captain *Lempriere's* Letter, laid before the Congress yesterday, being again read,

Ordered, That Mr. President do issue a commission, appointing Captain *Simon Tufts* to the command of the Ship *Prosper*, armed in the Colony service.

Ordered, That Capt. *Robert Cochran* have leave to take stone ballast, for the use of the Colony vessels, from such parts of the Fortifications, where such taking may be least injurious to the works.

Ordered, That the Ordnance Storekeeper do from time to time deliver to the commanding officer of the Regiment of Artillery, from the publick Arsenal, such Stores as the said officer shall require, taking receipts for the same, and making proper endorsements on the general account of publick stores in his custody, so that what remains may be seen at one view.

Colonel *Pinckney*, from the Committee on the state of the Colony, made a further report respecting the Militia.

Which being immediately taken into consideration, the Congress thereupon

Resolved, That all persons shall do patrol duty in the District wherein they respectively reside, under the command and direction of the Captain of the District, without regard to their having entered into a Volunteer Company.

Resolved, That it be recommended to the commanding officers of the Regiments of Militia, without delay, to oblige all the inhabitants to do duty in some Company or other, so that no one, who by law is obliged to do duty in times of an alarm, shall be excused.

Resolved, That where any person hath regularly entered into a Volunteer Company, he shall not be at liberty to leave the same, without giving his Captain three months notice in writing of his intention to do so, and without first producing to his said Captain a certificate from some other Captain of the Regiment, that he hath enrolled himself in another company; unless the commanding officer of the Regiment shall, on sufficient cause to him shown, make order to the contrary.

Resolved, That it be recommended to the Council of Safety, without delay, to divide the several Regiments in the Colony into different Regiments or Battalions, so as not to have less than seven hundred and fifty men in each Regiment or Battalion.

Captain *William Cattell* reported the situation of the Troops on duty at *Dorchester*, and some inconveniences which they laboured under.

Read a Letter from Captain *Peyer Imhoff*, on the same subject, dated *Dorchester*, *November* 21, 1775.

Ordered, That the Contractor for supplying the Colony Infantry with Provisions be desired also to supply the Rangers posted at *Dorchester*, until further orders.

Ordered, That the Secretary do forthwith advertise all persons willing to supply Rations to the Regiment of Artillery in the Colony service, to deliver in their proposals, sealed up, to him, by the 25th instant.

Ordered, That the Lieutenant-Colonel Commandant be desired to cause the said corps to be properly supplied, until a Contractor shall be appointed by this Congress, or the Council of Safety for the time being.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the Pay of the Commander of the Colony Schooner *Defence* be three Pounds currency per day.

Ordered, That Mr. President do issue his Warrant for the payment of the sum of one thousand Pounds currency, to Captain *Simon Tufts*, in part of account, for pay due to the Officers and Seamen employed on board the Colony Schooner *Defence.*

Doctor *Gould*, Surgeon to the First Regiment of Foot, attended, made a verbal report of the state of the Troops in the Barracks, and represented some grievances.

Ordered, That Doctor *Oliphant*, Captain *Shubrick*, and Capt. *John Huger*, be a Committee to inquire into the state of the Hospitals, with power to supply such articles as they shall appear to stand in immediate need of.

Ordered, That the Committee for the Parish of *St. George, Dorchester*, be desired to purchase a Flat, for the use of the Troops stationed there.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the leading marks over *Charlestown Bar* be forthwith cut down and demolished.

Ordered, That the Commissioners of the Pilotage be desired to carry the above into immediate execution.

Ordered, That so much of the blue Cloth as has been lately imported at the publick expense, as shall be necessary for clothing the First and Second Regiment of Foot, be forthwith issued for that purpose.

A Petition and Remonstrance, signed *John Dunn* and *Benjamin Booth Boote*, was presented, and laid on the table.

Adjourned to nine o'clock, to-morrow morning.

—

In Congress, Friday, November 24, 1775.

The Congress met according to adjournment.

And yesterday's Journal was read.

Colonel *Laurens*, from the Committee for auditing the publick Accounts, reported one as proper to be paid, due to Captain *Hammond*, and amounting to two hundred and twenty-six Pounds and twelve Shillings.

Ordered, That Mr. President do issue his Warrant for payment of said sum.

And a Warrant was issued accordingly.

Read a Letter from *David Monaghan*, a Lieutenant in the Regiment of Rangers, dated *Dorchester, November* 8, 1775, requesting leave to resign, on account of his ill state of health.

Ordered, That Mr. *Monaghan's* resignation be accepted; and that Mr. President do issue a commission appointing Mr. *John Lisle* to fill up the vacancy.

Read a Letter from the Provincial Council of *North-Carolina*, dated *Wilmington, November* 10, 1775.

James Ravenell, Esq., was returned duly elected a Representative of the Parish of *St. John, Berkley* County, in the room of *John Harleston*, Esq., who had declined serving.

Mr. *Ravenell* at the same time declining to serve,

Resolved, That the Church-wardens of the Parish of *St. John, Berkley* County, be desired forthwith to summon the inhabitants of the said Parish, to meet at the usual place of election, on *Monday*, the fourth day of *December* next, to choose a proper person to represent the said Parish in the present Congress, in the room of *James Ravenell*, Esq., who has declined to serve.

Ordered, That a copy of the above Resolve be forthwith transmitted to the said Church-wardens.

The Committee on the state of the Colony delivered in a further Report;

Which being taken into immediate consideration,

Resolved, That the Colonels of the Militia in the country do, at least once in three months, muster their Regiments in Battalions, not exceeding six Companies, nor less than three Companies.

Whereas complaint hath been made that divers Merchants and Storekeepers have sold their Goods at an exorbitant price since the non-exportation of Merchandise from *Great Britain:*

Resolved, That it be recommended to the several District and Parochial Committees, to make inquiry, whether the Merchants and Storekeepers in their several Parishes and Districts have sold their Goods at more than the usual advance; and if any of them should be found exorbitant in that respect, that they be advertised by the Committee as contemners of the Resolves of the Continental and Provincial Congress.

Ordered, That the Parochial Committee of *St. George, Dorchester*, have power, and they are hereby empowered to hire or impress a Schooner and hands, to carry bricks for the publick works erecting at *Dorchester*.

Ordered, That the Reverend Mr. *Tennent*, the Rev. Mr. *Harris*, Captain *Harrington*, Captain *Calhoun*, Captain *Hammond*, Captain *John Huger*, and Mr. *Ferguson*, be a Committee to consider and report what manufactures are proper to be encouraged and established in this Colony, and the best means for encouraging and establishing the same.

Ordered, That Captain *Henry Falder* be authorized to grain the damaged Gunpowder lying in Fort *Charlotte*.

Mr. *Edwards*, from the Committee for fitting out the Ship *Prosper*, reported, that they had tendered to Captain *Smith* the appraised value of the said ship, and required an assignment of the said ship and register: That Captain *Smith* had refused to receive the sum tendered to him, or to execute an assignment; but that he had delivered up the register, (now put into the hands of Mr. President,) and that they had thereupon returned the money into the Treasury.

The said Committee at the same time recommending that, in order to enable Captain *Smith* to procure necessaries and a passage, the sum of two hundred and forty-five Pounds currency be issued from the Treasury, and paid to him,

Ordered, That Mr. President do issue his Warrant for the payment of the said sum to Captain *Smith*.

And a Warrant was issued accordingly.

In explanation of the order of *Monday* last to the Colonel of the *Granville* County Regiment of Militia, to draft one hundred and fifty men from the said Regiment, to do garrison duty at or near *Fort Lyttelton, Port Royal:* be it

Resolved, That the said Colonel have power to engage Volunteers for that service, if they can be sooner got, in preference to a draft; and to post them according to his discretion.

Adjourned to nine o'clock, to-morrow morning.

—

In Congress, Saturday, November 25, 1775.

The Congress met according to adjournment.

And the Journal of yesterday was read.

Ordered, That the publick Ordnance Storekeeper do deliver to Mr. *Joseph Verree*, out of the publick Arsenal, such Spikes and other Iron work as he shall require for the use of the new Battery on *James' Island*.

William Moore, Esq., a Representative of the District of *Ninety-Six*, attended, and took his seat in Congress; and gave some information of a skirmish, said to have happened last *Monday*, between the enemies of this country, led by *Patrick Cunningham, Jacob Bowman*, and others, and a body of Militia, under the command of Major *Andrew Williamson*.

Ordered, That Mr. *Edward Weyman* be desired forthwith to collect together all the Public Gunpowder still outlying in private hands, and to cause the same to be deposited in the publick Magazine.

Ordered, That Lieutenant-Colonel *Roberts* be required forthwith to go to *Dorchester*, and give directions for putting the Magazine Fort in such posture as he shall think will best enable it to repel any sudden attack that may be made upon it, and to order the Cannon to such places and in such manner as he shall deem the most proper for its defence; and then to repair to his post at Fort *Johnson* with all despatch. And that while the Colonel shall be at *Dorchester*, he shall there reconnoitre the ground, and examine the plans projected for the defence thereof; and if he finds them deficient, that he do make such alterations in them as he shall think proper, or totally reject them, and delineate such a plan as he may think will most conduce to the rendering it a strong armed post.

Ordered, That the Committee of the Parish of *St. George, Dorchester*, be and they are hereby authorized and empowered to hire or impress Negroes, Horses, Wagons, Carts, and every thing else necessary for giving despatch to the completing of the works of defence proper to be erected at that post.

Ordered, That the said Committee be authorized and required forthwith to procure, and deposit in a proper magazine for that purpose, at that post, a sufficient quantity of Provisions for victualling a body of one thousand men for one month.

On motion, *Resolved*, That this Colony be now, and it is hereby declared to be, in a state of actual alarm, as fully and effectually as if the same had been proclaimed in the manner and form directed and appointed by the Militia law.

A motion was made, that it be referred to a Committee, to fix on a proper place of rendezvous, for the Militia which may be thought necessary to be drafted.

A debate ensued; and the question being put, it passed in the negative.

On motion, *Resolved*, That six hundred men from Col. *Powell's* Regiment, and also six hundred men from Col. *Rothmahler's*, the upper part, be forthwith detached and marched to rendezvous at *Congarees;* and that one hundred and fifty men of Colonel *Bull's* Regiment be likewise detached and marched to the *Cherokee Ponds;* and that these several detachments do act under the orders of Colonel *Richard Richardson*.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the same Pay and Provision be allowed to any Volunteers, Officers and Privates, from *Georgia*, who may enter into the publick service of this Colony, as is provided for the Militia Officers and Privates of this Colony.

Ordered, That Lieutenant Colonel *Roberts* be desired to despatch Lieutenant *James Mitchell* of the Regiment of Artillery under his command, to join the Army under Colonel *Richardson*.

Ordered, That the publick Ordnance Storekeeper do deliver to Lieutenant *James Mitchell*, two pieces of Cannon, four or six-pounders, with the necessary Stores thereto belonging, for the use of the Army under Col. *Richardson*.

Resolved, That the Committee of *St. David's* Parish be authorized to purchase what Lead they can get, on the publick account.

Adjourned to nine o'clock, to-morrow morning.

—

In Congress, Sunday, November 26, 1775.

The Congress met according to adjournment.

And the Journal of yesterday was read.

Mr. President reported the following copies of Letters, written by him, by their order:

By authority of Congress.

Charlestown, November 25, 1775.

To Colonel Powell:

Sir: You are hereby ordered, with all possible despatch, to detach six hundred men of your regiment, to rendezvous at the *Congarees*, to act under the orders of Colonel *Richardson*.

I am, Sir, your most humble servant,

William Henry Drayton, *President*.

A like Letter was written to Col. *Rothmahler*, to detach six hundred men from the upper part of his Regiment.

And also a like Letter to Colonel *Bull*, to detach one hundred and fifty men from his Regiment, to rendezvous at the *Cherokee Ponds*.

By authority of Congress.

Charlestown, November 25, 1775.

Sir: Colonel *Powell* and Colonel *Rothmahler* are each ordered to detach, with all possible expedition, six hundred men of their respective regiments, to rendezvous at the *Congarees*, to act under your orders; and Colonel *Bull* is likewise ordered to detach one hundred and fifty men, to rendezvous at the *Cherokee Ponds*, on the same service. You will, therefore, sir, send your orders for those forces accordingly.

Lieutenant *Mitchell*, of the regiment of Artillery, is under orders to repair to you, with two pieces of cannon; he will set out, I hope, in two or three days.

We have not yet heard the issue of the late affair at *Ninety-Six;* we think there is reason to apprehend, that the event is unfavourable to us. At any rate, your conduct ought to be as vigorous as possible, and no less cautious. Therefore, if the enemy are superior in number to your army, you must keep out of their reach, or you must so post yourself as to be able to maintain your station against their attacks, until your force shall put you in a condition to crush them. In short, you are not to venture a general engagement, unless you have such advantages as promise success.

I am, Sir, your most humble servant,

William Henry Drayton, *President*.

To Colonel *Richardson*.

Major *Pinckney*, from the Committee to consider of, state, and bring into one view, the powers and authorities proper to be vested in, and exercised by the Council of Safety, delivered in their Report.

Mr. President then reported the names of the Gentlemen who had, on the 16th instant, been duly elected Members of the Council of Safety.

And thereupon, it was *Resolved*, That Colonel *Charles Pinckney*, Col. *Henry Laurens*, the Hon. *Henry Middleton, Thomas Ferguson, Arthur Middleton, Thomas Heyward*, Jun., Esqrs., the Honourable *William Henry Drayton*, the Honourable *Rawlins Lowndes, Thomas Bee, Benjamin Elliott, James Parsons, David Oliphant*, and *Thomas Savage*, Esqrs., be, and they are hereby declared to be the Council of Safety for this Colony.

The Report of the Committee, on the powers and authorities proper to be vested in, and exercised by the Council of Safety, was then taken under consideration.

And the Congress thereupon resolved and ordained as follows:

First. Whereas it is necessary to vest the Council of Safety of this Colony, for the time being, with powers to enable them to act effectually for the publick safety and defence: *Be it Ordained*, by the Representatives of the people of *South-Carolina*, in Congress assembled, and it is hereby *Ordained*, by the authority of the same, That the Council of Safety, or a quorum consisting of seven members, or a majority of such quorum, shall have, and they are hereby invested with, the direction, regulation, and ordering of the land and sea forces, and of the militia, and all military establishments and arrangements within this Colony, subject always to the control of the Congress.

Second. And be it also Ordained, That the Council, or a majority of them, as aforesaid, shall have full power and authority, to appoint officers, and to fill up vacancies in the land and sea forces, in the militia, and in the treasury of this Colony, and that they be empowered to suspend any officer of the army or navy, when they shall judge it necessary; and shall within a convenient time, not exceeding forty days after such suspension, order a general court-martial to sit for the trial of such officer, whose sentence shall be final, unless it shall be otherwise determined by the Provincial Congress.

Third. And be it further Ordained, by the authority aforesaid, That if, upon any exigency, it shall appear necessary to the Council of Safety, to call forth the Militia, they shall have full power and authority to carry the acts of Assembly for regulating the Militia of this Colony, in all respects, into execution, as in time of alarm.

Fourth. And be it also Ordained, That if any complaint be made against any officer of the Militia, the Council of Safety, after having inquired into the truth of it, and heard the defence of the officer, if he hath any, may remove such officer, if they judge the complaint to be just, and forthwith appoint another in his stead.

Fifth. And be it further Ordained, That the Commissioners of the Treasury shall be under the direction of the said Council of Safety, or a majority of them as aforesaid, and shall be obliged to issue and pay all such orders as shall be drawn by them, for answering the demands of the publick service, and no otherwise.

Sixth. And be it further Ordained, That the Council of Safety, or a majority as aforesaid, be empowered and authorized to do all such matters and things relative to the strengthening, securing, and defending the Colony, as shall by them be judged and deemed expedient and necessary. *Provided, nevertheless*, That nothing herein contained shall extend, or be construed to extend, to empower and authorize the said Council, or majority as aforesaid, to dispense with, or annul any act, resolution, or order of the Continental or Provincial Congress.

A motion was made to strike out the above proviso, so far:

But upon a question, it passed in the negative.

A motion was then made to disagree to the following words, concluding the said proviso: "or to empower and authorize them to nominate and appoint a General or Generals over the military forces of this Colony."

And the question being put, it passed in the negative.

Seventh. And be it also ordained, That the Provincial Congress will indemnify the Council of Safety in all their acts and proceedings under the authority of the Congress.

Eighth. And be it further ordained, That thirteen members, elected in Congress, as members of a Council of Safety, together with the Delegates of this Colony to the Continental Congress, shall be, and they are hereby declared, the Council of Safety for this Colony. *Provided always*, That no person holding a military commission in the regular forces of this Colony, or in the Continental Army, shall be capable of possessing a seat, or of having a voice in the said Council.

Ninth. And be it further ordoined, That the said Council of Safety shall continue in office, and exercise the powers thereunto annexed, until the end of the next sessions, and under the control of Congress. And in case of any vacancy in the Council of Safety, during the recess of the Congress, by death or departure from the Colony, (except upon publick business,) the General Committee for the time being, after having given six weeks publick notice thereof in the Gazettes, shall, by ballot, fill up every such vacancy.

Read the Resolve of the Continental Congress, of the 6th of *October* last, recommending to arrest and secure persons dangerous to the safety of the Colony, or the liberties of *America*.

After some debate thereon, the further consideration thereof was postponed.

And the Congress adjourned to nine o'clock, to-morrow morning.

—

In Congress, Monday, November 27, 1775.

The Congress met according to adjournment.

And the Journal of yesterday was read.

Major *Elliott*, of the Regiment of Artillery, having made application for Bounty Money to raise recruits for that corps, and for directions where to place the said recruits as they shall be raised,

Ordered, That Mr. President do issue his warrant on the Treasury, for the payment of fourteen hundred Pounds currency, to Major *Barnard Elliott*, for the recruiting service in the Regiment of Artillery, to be accounted for. And that the recruits for the said Regiment be posted at the most convenient and near places to the several batteries in *Charlestown*, under the command of the Artillery; and that such places be fitted up accordingly.

An Account of Captain *Robert Cochran*, amounting to one hundred and thirty Pounds and five Shillings, being laid before the Congress,

Ordered, That Mr. President do issue his Warrant for the payment thereof.

And a Warrant was issued accordingly.

On motion, *Resolved*, That Colonel *Moultrie* be directed forthwith to order a detachment of forty Privates, who are best acquainted with maritime affairs, to do duty and serve on board the armed Ship *Prosper*, for one month, unless sooner discharged by proper authority.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the Delegates of this Colony in the Continental Congress be immediately applied to, to use their utmost endeavours to procure two hundred able Seamen, to be engaged in the northern Colonies, and sent hither with all possible despatch, for manning the armed Vessels in the Colony service. And that they be requested to cause the encouragement offered by this Colony to be made as publick as possible.

A motion was made, that previous to any attack upon the Men of War in the Road, the intended attack upon such ships shall be notified to Lord *William Campbell*, if he shall then be on board.

A debate ensued; and the question being put,

Resolved in the affirmative.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the Council of Safety do pay such Accounts as to them shall appear reasonable, for the subsistence in diet, for the ferriage, and for the carriage of the sick, of recruits for the Provincial Forces, from their enlistment to the time of their being brought to head-quarters.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the powers of the General Committee, the Committee of Observation, and all the Parochial and District Committees throughout the Colony, be, and they are hereby revived and continued.

A motion being made, that the Commissions issued by the late Council of Safety to Captain *Allston's* Volunteer Company of Foot Rangers or Rovers, in the *Craven* County Militia, be withdrawn,

A debate arose; and the question being put, it passed in the negative.

A motion was then made, that the late Council of Safety's appointment of the Company of Foot Rangers or Rovers being confirmed, the said Company is hereby declared subject to patrol duty, and liable to be called out upon emergencies, by the Field Officers of the District; also subject to the orders of the Commander-in-Chief of any embodied Troops, with which the said Company shall be called into service.

A debate ensued; and the question being put,

It was resolved in the affirmative.

Adjourned to nine o'clock, to-morrow.

—

In Congress, Tuesday, November 28, 1775.

The Congress met according to adjournment.

And yesterday's Journal was read.

On motion, *Resolved*, That *Wappoo Cut* be forthwith cleared and deepened, so as to render it navigable for Vessels of greater burden than hitherto have or at present can pass through it.

Ordered, That Messrs. *Isaac Rivers*, *Thomas Rose*, and *Richard Hutson*, be, and they are hereby appointed Commissioners to cause the above resolve to be carried into immediate execution.

On motion, *Resolved*, That a Battery of two or three pieces of Cannon be forthwith erected on the wharf of *William Gibbes*, Esq., by the Commissioners appointed to erect the additional Batteries lately ordered for the defence of the harbour of *Charlestown*.

Mr. *George Abbot Hall*, from the Commissioners of the Pilotage, reported, that agreeable to the order of Congress, they had yesterday caused the leading mark over *Charlestown Bar* to be cut down and destroyed.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the Returns sent by the several Sheriffs of this Colony to the Secretary, (in consequence of an order of the late General Committee,) of the persons confined in their respective Jails, be referred to a Committee.

Ordered, That the Hon. Mr. *Lowndes*, Mr. *John Rutledge*, and Mr. *Arthur Middleton*, be a Committee to whom the above Returns be referred; and that they do consider and report what measures are proper to be adopted thereon.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the Council of Safety devise and take such steps, as that the prisoners in the common Jails, whose offences are bailable, be discharged upon proper bail, and for the relief of poor debtors.

Doctor *Oliphant*, from the Committee appointed to examine into the state of the Hospitals, delivered in their Report.

Which being taken into immediate consideration,

Resolved, That a General Hospital for sick and wounded men of the Provincial Land Forces, for Seamen, and the Militia, be established; and that a Director-General thereof be appointed.

Ordered, That the foregoing Resolve be referred to the Council of Safety, to be by them carried into execution.

On motion, *Resolved*, That one-third of the *Berkley* County Regiment of Militia, one-third of the *Colleton* County Regiment, and two hundred men from the *Granville* County Regiment, (the sea islands excepted,) be forthwith drafted, and marched to the general rendezvous at *Dorchester*; that the two remaining thirds of the said Regiments be held in readiness, to relieve those drafts, according to orders; and that the *Indian* company of Rovers, commanded by Captain *John Allston*, be ordered to scour the sea coast from *Sewee Bay* to *Haddrel's Point*, subject to the orders of the Council of Safety.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the Committees for the sea islands be, and they are hereby authorized and required forthwith to erect look-outs at the same places, and cause

*

the same signals of alarm and notices to be given as have been usual in time of war; and that this Congress will cause the expense thereof to be paid.

Inasmuch as it is the sense of the Continental Congress that *Charlestown* ought to be defended to the last extremity against any attack; and this Congress think such defence absolutely necessary; and an attack is apprehended: therefore,

Resolved, That it be recommended, and it is hereby recommended, that all such persons who are by law considered as residents in *Charlestown*, and liable to bear arms, and have departed, do forthwith return to *Charlestown*; and that all persons, residents as aforesaid, and liable to bear arms, and who are in *Charlestown*, do not depart therefrom.

A motion being made for the addition of the words, "without permission first had and obtained," to the above resolve,

A debate ensued; and the question being put,

It passed in the negative.

Ordered, That all the Resolves entered into by this Congress, during their present session, respecting the Militia of this Colony, be forthwith printed and published, in handbills, and also in the Gazettes.

Adjourned to six o'clock, in the evening.

In Congress, Tuesday, November 28, 1775, P. M.

The Congress met according to adjournment.

On motion, *Resolved*, That Lieutenant-Colonel *Roberts*, or the commanding officer of the Regiment of Artillery in *Charlestown*, be, and he is hereby authorized and empowered to cause proper forges for heating cannon-balls to be forthwith erected and built, at or near such batteries as he shall think them necessary.

Ordered, That Captain *Gillon* be added to the Commissioners for fitting out, arming, and manning the Ship *Prosper*.

Ordered, That Commissions be made out to fill up the vacancies in Colonel *Powell's* Regiment of Militia.

Ordered, That three hundred pounds weight of Gunpowder be delivered, out of the publick stock reserved for the inland defence of this Colony, to the order of the Committee of *St. David's* Parish, to be distributed amongst such of the men in Colonel *Powell's* Regiment as are unprovided, to be by them reserved for publick uses only.

Whereas we have intelligence that a certain person has been sent by General *Gage*, to raise Recruits in this Colony, for an Army whose object is to kill and destroy the innocent inhabitants of these Colonies:

It is therefore declared, by authority of Congress, That this Colony will consider such an attempt, by any man, as the highest crime against the peace, liberty, and safety of its inhabitants; and that any person found so offending, will be treated with all that rigour which the nature of so enormous a crime deserves. The inhabitants of this Colony are therefore warned against the base and cruel attempts of any such emissaries; and all manner of persons are hereby requested to be watchful to detect and seize any and every such person; and all reasonable charges shall be borne by the publick, and a handsome reward allowed for apprehending and securing him or them.

Ordered, That eleven hundred pounds weight of Gunpowder, and a proportionable quantity of Cannon Balls, be delivered to the Hon. Major *Elliott*, for the use of the several batteries under the direction of the Artillery.

Ordered, That the Journals of the present Session of Congress be printed with all possible despatch; and when printed, delivered to the Committee of Intelligence, in order to be by them despatched three to each Delegate throughout the Colony, who shall properly distribute the same.

The Rev. Mr. *Tennent*, from the Committee on the state of Manufactories in this Colony, delivered in a further Report.

Which being read, and taken into immediate consideration:

And the whole Report being gone through, the Congress came to the following Resolutions thereupon, viz:

Resolved, That a premium of two hundred Pounds currency, be given to the person erecting a Saltpetre work in this Colony, that shall first produce fifty pounds weight of good and merchantable Saltpetre; also a premium of one hundred and fifty Pounds, to the person erecting the second work, that shall next produce a like quantity of like saltpetre; also a premium of one hundred Pounds currency, to the person erecting a third work, producing the next like quantity and quality of saltpetre; and a premium of fifty Pounds currency, to the person who shall next manufacture a like quantity and quality of saltpetre from a fourth work: *Provided*, That such parcels of saltpetre as aforesaid, shall have been produced before the Committees of the Parishes or Districts respectively, where the same shall have been manufactured, and shall have been by the parties so producing, declared upon oath, on or before the first day of *September* next, before the Committees aforesaid, to have been manufactured as aforesaid. And that, upon the said Committees granting certificates, that the saltpetre is good and merchantable, and when produced before them, the premiums to which the said parcels of saltpetre are respectively entitled, shall be paid accordingly. And that the publick will purchase, and allow half a dollar the pound, for all the good and merchantable saltpetre that shall be produced and manufactured in this Colony, before the said first day of *September* next, over and above the premiums aforesaid.

Resolved, That a premium of two hundred Pounds currency, be given to the person who shall erect a Sulphur work in this Colony, that shall first produce one hundred pounds weight of merchantable sulphur; a premium of one hundred Pounds to the person erecting a like work, producing the next like quantity and quality; and a premium of fifty Pounds for the like quantity and quality of sulphur manufactured at a third work. The proofs to be made, certificates obtained, and premiums to be paid, in like manner as for saltpetre. And that the publick will purchase, and give for all the merchantable sulphur that shall be made in the Colony, before the first day of *September* next, five Shillings currency the pound, over and above the premiums aforesaid.

Resolved, That a premium of one thousand Pounds currency be given to the person who shall erect a Bloomery in this Colony, that shall first produce, manufactured thereat, one ton of good Bar Iron; a premium of eight hundred Pounds to the person erecting another bloomery, whereat the next like quantity of bar iron shall have been manufactured; and a premium of seven hundred Pounds to the person erecting a third such work, whereat shall have been manufactured a like quantity of like iron. These premiums over and above the common prices of such iron.

Resolved, That a premium of five hundred Pounds currency, shall be given to the person who shall erect a proper work in this Colony, for manufacturing good Bar Steel, upon his producing five hundred pounds weight, made thereat; a like premium to the person who shall produce the next like quantity, made at another like work; and also a premium of five hundred Pounds currency to the person, who, from a third like work, shall produce the like quantity.

Resolved, That a premium of seven hundred Pounds currency be given to the person who shall produce the first one thousand pounds weight of Nail Rods, manufactured at a proper rolling and slitting mill, erected by him in this Colony, over and above the common price.

Resolved, That a premium of one hundred and fifty Pounds currency, over and above the common price, be given to the person who shall first make fifty large and substantial Gun Locks, such as are commonly called bridle locks, and sell at thirty-five to forty-five Shillings each; the manufacturer engaging to proceed in the business.

Resolved, That a premium of three hundred Pounds currency be given to the person who shall erect the first proper works for manufacturing of Salt in this Colony, upon one hundred bushels of good salt having been produced therefrom; and a premium of two hundred Pounds to the person producing from other like works, the next like quantity of good salt.

Resolved, That a premium of five hundred Pounds currency be given to the person who shall first erect and establish a proper Paper Mill in this Colony, upon producing three reams of good writing paper, manufactured thereat.

Resolved, That a premium of five hundred Pounds currency be given to the person who shall first erect a proper work for manufacturing Lead in this Colony, on producing one thousand pounds weight made at said work; a premium of two hundred Pounds to the person who shall next produce one thousand pounds of lead, manufactured at another work in this Colony; and a premium of one hundred Pounds to the person who shall erect a third such work, producing the like quantity of lead.

Resolved, That this Congress will give the same premiums and encouragement for the manufacturing of Linens, Cottons, and other articles, as are allowed and given by an act of the General Assembly of this Colony, passed in the year 1770; and for the manufacturing of Woollens in proportion.

And further, it is *Resolved*, That application, oath, and certificate, relative to the manufacturing every article, upon which premiums are to be given, shall be made and granted, by the manufacturers respectively, and the Committees, as stated and specified in relation to Saltpetre.

Adjourned to nine o'clock, to-morrow morning.

—

In Congress, Wednesday, November 29, 1775.

The Congress met according to adjournment.

And the Journal of yesterday was read.

On motion, *Resolved*, That all future vacancies, by the decease, refusal to act, or removal from the Colony, of any members of Congress, or of Parochial and District Committees, shall be filled up in the usual way of electing, by the inhabitants of the respective Parishes or Districts where such vacancies shall happen, after a time has been appointed, and sufficient notice thereof given by the respective Parochial or District Committees.

Daniel de Saussure and *Robert William Powell*, Esqrs., the Delegates sent from this Congress to the Provincial Congress of *Georgia*, upon the late commencement of hostilities against this place, returned, and reported some pernicious illicit practices which had come under their observation, relative to the disposal and exportation of Indigo from *Georgia*.

Whereupon the Congress came to the following Resolution:

Whereas the Continental Congress, on the first day of *November* last, resolved, "That no produce of the *United Colonies* be exported (except from Colony to Colony, under the direction of the Committees of Inspection and Observation, and except from one part to another of the same Colony) before the first day of *March* next, without the permission of this Congress; and that no Rice be exported under the exception contained in the fourth article of the Association, from any of the *United Colonies*, to *Great Britain*, *Ireland*, or the Islands of *Jersey*, *Guernsey*, *Sark*, *Alderney* or *Man*, or any other *European* Island or settlement within the *British* Dominions:" Wherefore, to give efficacy to so important an act, it is hereby published and declared, to the end that all persons govern themselves accordingly.

Ordered, That Mr. President be desired to write to *Georgia*, relative to the exportation of Indigo and Rice, inclosing a copy of the Continental Resolve relative to the latter.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the Thanks of this Congress be returned to the President and Members of the late Council of Safety, for their great diligence in their attendance on the publick affairs of this Colony.

And Mr. President returned the Thanks of the Congress accordingly, to those gentlemen.

On motion, *Resolved*, That Messrs. *Andrew Frederick*, *Peter Moorer*, and *Isham Clayton*, be, and they are hereby appointed Commissioners for repairing and keeping in repair, the publick road between the *Charlestown* District line, and the line of the Parish of *St. Andrew*. And that the said intermediate District do elect a District Committee, after having given proper notice of such intended election.

Ordered, That the Committee of Intelligence do, in future, enter into proper books, to be kept for that purpose, minutes of all their transactions; together with copies of all the letters that shall be written by and to them. And that they do produce the books, containing whatever shall be done or written, by order of the Council of Safety or General Committee, to either of those bodies respectively by whom the same has been ordered, whenever required so to do.

On motion, *Resolved*, That Colonel *Laurens*, Colonel *Pinckney*, the Hon. Mr. *Lowndes*, Mr. *Ferguson*, Mr. *Edwards*, Mr. *Joseph Kershaw*, and Col. *Daniel Horry*, be, and they are hereby appointed a Committee to make diligent inquiry, during the recess of Congress, and report early at the next meeting thereof, what communications between different Rivers in this Colony, the present or future circumstances of our affairs may render absolutely necessary to be opened, or prove beneficial, particularly between *Santee* and *Cooper Rivers*, and *Edisto* and *Ashley Rivers*; the manner in which the same may be most effectually and expeditiously carried into execution; and estimates of the expense that will attend the same.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the Hon. *Henry Middleton*, *Thomas Lynch*, Esq., Colonel *Christopher Gadsden*, *John Rutledge*, and *Edward Rutledge*, Esqrs., or any two of them, be, and they are hereby continued, and fully authorized, to represent this Colony in the *American* Congress now holding at *Philadelphia*; with the same powers as were vested in those gentlemen at their election by the late Congress of this Colony held in *June* last.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the counterfeiting or imitating any of the Certificates issued and passing current, as money, by authority of Congress, or uttering, knowing the same to be counterfeit, be, and is hereby declared a capital offence, and punishable, as such, by authority of Congress.

On motion, *Resolved*, That this Congress shall be adjourned to the first day of *February* next. And that those members who do not attend the service of their country at the said adjournment, shall then be sent for, at their own expense, unless good and satisfactory reasons shall then be given for their non-attendance.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the making a proper compensation to the Secretary for his services, and also to his Assistant during the present Session of Congress, be left to the discretion of the Council of Safety.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the Thanks of this Congress be returned to the several persons who have been volunteers in, or otherwise engaged in hazardous services, for the benefit of this Colony or the common cause. And that the Council of Safety be authorized and empowered to bestow honorary or other Rewards, upon such as they shall think entitled to either.

Captain *John Joiner* being present in Congress, Mr. President returned him their Thanks for his late services.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the Thanks of the Congress are due to the Rev. Mr. *Tennent*, and also to the Rev. Mr. *Oliver Hart*, for the important services by them respectively rendered to this Colony, in their late progress into the back country.

And the Rev. Mr. *Tennent* being present, received the Thanks of the Congress accordingly.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the Thanks of this Congress be returned to the Hon. *William Henry Drayton*, President thereof, for the diligence and propriety with which he has discharged the duties of that important station. And that the Hon. Mr. *Lowndes* do, on the part of the Congress, deliver to Mr. President their Thanks accordingly.

The Hon. Mr. *Lowndes* then addressed the Chair, in words to the following effect:

"Mr. President: The Congress, sensible of your integrity of heart, and ability of mind, placed you in the chair, for the most important purposes. Your unwearied attendance, during this long session, and your conduct, have given the most perfect satisfaction. You are therefore justly entitled to the Thanks of this Congress, who have made me the instrument by which their Thanks are presented to you, and which, in their name, I do present."

On motion, *Resolved*, That the Thanks of the Congress be also presented to *Peter Timothy*, their Secretary, for his great diligence, unwearied attention, and accuracy, in the execution of his office.

And Thanks were accordingly returned to him from the chair.

Ordered, That Mr. President be requested to transmit to the Council of Safety at *Salisbury* in *North-Carolina*, a copy of the Petition and Remonstrance of Messrs. *Dunn* and *Boote*, desiring to know their pleasure thereon.

The Congress was then adjourned to *Thursday*, the first day of *February* next.

VIRGINIA CONVENTION.

Proceedings of the Convention of Delegates held at the Town of *Richmond*, in the Colony of *Virginia*, on *Friday*, the first of *December*, 1775, and afterwards by adjournment in the City of *Williamsburgh*. Present:

For Albemarle: *John Walker* and *Chas. Lewis*, Esqrs.
For Amelia: *John Tabb* and *John Winn*, Esquires.
For Amherst: *William Cabell*, Jun., and *Joseph Cabell*, Esquires.
For Augusta: *Samuel McDowel* and *Thomas Lewis*, Esquires.
For Bedford: *John Talbot*, Esquire.
For Botetourt: *Andrew Lewis* and *John Bowyer*, Esquires.
For Brunswick: *Frederick Maclin* and *Henry Tazewell*, Esquires.
For Buckingham: *Thomas Patterson*, Esquire.
For Berkeley: *Robert Rutherford* and *William Drew*, Esquires.
For Caroline: *Edmund Pendleton* and *James Taylor*, Esquires.
For Charles City: *William Acrill* and *Benjamin Harrison*, Jun., Esquires.
For Charlotte: *Paul Carrington* and *Isaac Read*, Esquires.
For Chesterfield: *Archibald Cary* and *Benjamin Watkins*, Esquires.
For Culpepper: *Henry Pendleton* and *Henry Field*, Jun., Esquires.
For Cumberland: *William Fleming* and *John Mayo*, Esquires.
For Dinwiddie: *John Banister* and *John Ruffin*, Esqrs.
For Dunmore: *Jonathan Clark* and *Peter Muhlenburg*, Esquires.
For Elizabeth City: *Henry King* and *Worlich Westwood*, Esquires.
For Essex: *James Edmonson* and *Meriwether Smith*, Esquires.
For Fairfax: *Charles Broadwater*, Esquire.
For Fauquier: *James Scott*, Esquire.
For Frederick: Rev. *Charles M. Thruston*.
For Fincastle: . . . . .
For Gloucester: *Thomas Whiting*, Esquire.
For Goochland: *John Woodson* and *Thomas M. Randolph*, Esquires.
For Halifax: *Nathaniel Terry* and *Micajah Watkins*, Esquires.
For Hampshire: *James Mercer* and *Joseph Neaville*, Esquires.
For Hanover: *John Syme* and *Samuel Meredith*, Esqrs.
For Henrico: *Richard Adams* and *Richard Randolph*, Esquires.
For James City: *Robert C. Nicholas* and *William Norvell*, Esquires.
For Isle-of-Wight: *John S. Wills* and *Josiah Parker*, Esquires.
For King George: *Joseph Jones* and *William Fitzhugh*, Esquires.
For King and Queen: *George Brooke*, Esquire.
For King William: *Carter Braxton* and *William Aylett*, Esquires.
For Lancaster: *James Selden* and *Chas. Carter*, Esqrs.
For Loudoun: *Francis Peyton* and *Josiah Clapham*, Esquires.
For Louisa: *Thos. Johnson* and *Thos. Walker*, Esqrs.
For Lunenburg: *David Garland* and *Thomas Tabb*, Esquires.
For Middlesex: *Edmund Berkeley* and *James Montague*, Esquires.
For Mecklenburgh: *Robert Burton* and *Bennet Goode*, Esquires.
For Nansemond: *James Murdaugh* and *Andrew Meade*, Esquires.
For New-Kent: *Burwell Bassett* and *Bartholomew Dandridge*, Esquires.
For Norfolk: *Thomas Newton*, Jun., and *James Holt*, Esquires.
For Northampton: *Michael Christian*, Esquire.
For Northumberland: *Peter P. Thornton* and *Rodham Kenner*, Esquires.
For Orange: *Thos. Barbour* and *James Taylor*, Esqrs.
For Pittsylvania: *Peter Perkins* and *Benjamin Lankford*, Esquires.
For Prince Edward: *Robert Lawson* and *Wm. Bibb*, Esquires.
For Prince George: *Richard Bland* and *Peter Poythress*, Esquires.
For Princess Anne: *Christopher Wright*, Esquire.
For Prince William: *Henry Lee* and *Thomas Blackburn*, Esquires.
For Richmond: *Robert W. Carter* and *Walter Jones*, Esquires.
For Southampton: *Edwin Gray* and *Henry Taylor*, Esquires.
For Spottsylvania: *George Stubblefield* and *Mann Page*, Jun., Esquires.
For Stafford: *Charles Carter*, Jun., and *Thomas Ludwell Lee*, Esquires.
For Surry: *Allen Cocke* and *Nicholas Faulcon*, Jun., Esquires.
For Sussex: *David Mason* and *Henry Gee*, Esquires.
For Warwick: *William Harwood* and *William Langhorne*, Esquires.
For Westmoreland: *Richard Lee* and *John A. Washington*, Esquires.
For York: *Dudley Digges* and *Hugh Nelson*, Esqrs.
For Jamestown: *Champion Travis*, Esquire.
For Williamsburgh: *Joseph Prentis*, Esquire.

Paul Carrington, Esq., a Delegate for the County of *Charlotte*, reminded the Convention of the death of the Honourable *Peyton Randolph*, Esq., the late worthy President, which made it necessary to appoint another, and did recommend *Edmund Pendleton*, Esq., as a gentleman in every respect qualified to fill that important office. He was seconded by *James Mercer*, Esq., a Delegate for the County of *Hampshire;* and upon a question put, the said *Edmund Pendleton* was elected President, and took the chair accordingly, from whence he made his acknowledgments for this distinguished mark of their favour, in calling him to an office of such honour and importance, as unsolicited as unmerited. He entreated their candour and assistance to enable him to discharge it with propriety, in which he promised every exertion of his small abilities.

Ordered, That Mr. *John Tazewell* be appointed Clerk of this Convention.

A Letter from Colonel *Woodford*, of the Second Regiment, was laid before the Convention, and read; representing the situation of the Troops under his command, and of those under Lord *Dunmore;* that he had received an offer of assistance from the commanding officer of the Troops stationed in *North-Carolina*, not far distant, which he had hitherto declined to call for, thinking the force he had at present sufficient, but that he would take his measures as circumstances should occur.

Resolved, That the President be required, in a Letter to Colonel *Woodford*, to be sent by express, to desire he will risk the success of his arms as little as possible, and, if there is not a moral probability of security with the Troops he hath, he will embrace the offer of assistance from those of *North-Carolina*, by sending immediately for them.

Ordered, That Mr. *Francis Eppes* be appointed Messenger to this Convention.

Resolved, That Mr. *Joseph Prentis*, who is elected a Delegate to represent the City of *Williamsburgh*, in the

room and during the necessary absence of *George Wythe*, Esq., one of the Delegates for this Colony in General Congress, be admitted into this Convention as a Delegate for the said city.

The Convention adjourned till *Monday* next eleven o'clock, then to meet in the City of *Williamsburgh*.

—

Williamsburgh, Monday, December 4, 1775.

The Convention met according to adjournment; but there not being members sufficient to proceed to business, adjourned till to-morrow ten o'clock.

—

Tuesday, December 5, 1775.

Resolved, That the Rev. *Thomas Price* be appointed Chaplain to this Convention, and that he be desired to read prayers every morning, at ten o'clock.

Resolved, That *John A. Washington*, Esq., having accepted the office of Sheriff of the County of *Westmoreland*, is incapable of sitting and voting in this Convention as a Delegate for the said County, and that the President issue his Warrant for the election of a Delegate for the said County, and for all other Counties and Corporations as are not represented in this Convention, by the necessary attendance of the Delegates appointed to represent this Colony in General Congress, during their absence.

Ordered, That the Committee of Safety do lay their Proceedings before this Convention.

Several Letters received by the Committee of Safety, from the Committee for the County of *Elizabeth City*, were presented to the Convention, and ordered to be referred to Mr. *Mercer*, Mr. *Bland*, Mr. *Henry Lee*, Mr. Treasurer, *Joseph Jones*, Mr. *Holt*, Mr. *Newton*, Mr. *King*, Mr. *Ruffin*, and Mr. *Read*, and they are to report such thereof to this Convention as may concern the publick.

Mr. *Bland* from the Committee of Safety, according to order, laid before the Convention the Proceedings of the said Committee, which were ordered to lie on the table.

The President laid before the Convention several Letters received from the Delegates of this Colony in General Congress, and others, which were ordered to lie on the table.

Resolved, That this Convention will immediately resolve itself into a Committee to take into their consideration the state of the Colony; and that the Letters laid before this Convention by the President, together with the Proceedings of the Committee of Safety, be referred to the said Committee.

The Committee accordingly resolved itself into a Committee on the state of the Colony; and after some time spent therein, Mr. President resumed the chair, and Mr. Treasurer reported, that the Committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the state of the Colony, but not having time to go through the same, had directed him to move for leave to sit again.

Resolved, That this Convention will to-morrow resolve itself into a Committee to take into their further consideration the state of the Colony.

Resolved, That the Committee of Safety be revived, and that they continue to exercise the powers with which they were vested by the several Ordinances until the end of this session.

Ordered, That Mr. *Cary*, Mr. *Adams*, Mr. *Parker*, Mr. *Banister*, and Mr. *William Cabell*, be appointed a Committee to examine *Charles Robertson*, who hath been apprehended as a suspected person, together with the several Papers found in his possession, and make report.

Adjourned till to-morrow, half after ten o'clock.

—

Wednesday, December 6, 1775.

A proposition from the Rev. *John Dixon* was presented to the Convention and read; setting forth, that by several experiments made in the County of *Gloucester*, he finds he can make considerable quantities of Salt, and desiring the encouragement of the publick in so useful an undertaking.

Ordered, That the said proposition do lie on the table.

Resolved, That the Commanding Officer of the Forces raised for the protection and defence of this Colony do lay before the Convention a state and return of the Forces under his command, and of their several stations.

Resolved, That all intercepted Letters which are supposed to concern the publick be transmitted to the Committee of Safety, unopened.

Mr. *Mercer*, from the Committee appointed to report such of the Letters transmitted to the Committee of Safety from the Committee of the County of *Elizabeth City*, as concerned the publick, reported several of the said Letters.

Ordered, That the said Letters be referred to the Committee on the state of the Colony.

The President laid before the Convention a Letter from Colonel *Woodford*, in answer to one formerly written to him.

Ordered, That the said Letter be referred to the Committee on the state of the Colony.

Several Letters lately received from the Committee for the County of *Elizabeth City* were presented to the Convention, and ordered to be referred to the Committee formerly appointed to report such Letters as should be found to concern the publick.

The Commanding Officer of the Forces raised for the defence and protection of this Colony laid before the Convention, according to order, a state and return of the Forces under his command.

Ordered, That the same be referred to the Committee on the state of the Colony.

The Convention then, according to the Order of the Day, resolved itself into a Committee on the state of the Colony; and after some time spent therein, Mr. President resumed the chair, and Mr. Treasurer reported, that the Committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the state of the Colony, but not having time to go through the same, had desired him to move for leave to sit again.

Resolved, That this Convention will to-morrow resolve itself into the said Committee.

Adjourned till to-morrow, half after ten o'clock.

—

Thursday, December 7, 1775.

Resolved, That Colonel *Woodford*, of the Second Regiment, be empowered to employ a Secretary, with the same wages as are allowed to the Secretary of the Colonel of the First Regiment.

Ordered, That the proposition of the Rev. *John Dixon*, for the manufactory of Salt, be referred to Mr. *Braxton*, Mr. *Mason*, Mr. *Carter* of *Stafford*, Mr. *Thomas Walker*, and Mr. *Clapham*, and they are to report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the Convention.

Mr. *Mercer*, from the Committee appointed to report such of the Letters lately received from the Committee for the County of *Elizabeth City*, as concerned the publick, reported several of the said Letters.

Ordered, That the said Letters be referred to the Committee on the state of the Colony.

The Convention then, according to the Order of the Day, resolved itself into a Committee on the state of the Colony; and after some time spent therein, Mr. President resumed the chair, and Mr. Treasurer reported, that the Committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the state of the Colony, and had come to a Resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and then delivered in at the Clerk's table, where the same was again twice read and agreed to, as follows:

Resolved, That it is the opinion of this Committee, that five hundred effective Men, three Companies whereof to be Riflemen, be employed for the protection and defence of the Counties of *Northampton* and *Accomack*.

Resolved, That this Convention will to-morrow again resolve itself into a Committee, to take into their further consideration the state of the Colony.

Adjourned till to-morrow, at half after ten o'clock.

Friday, December 8, 1775.

The President laid before the Convention a Letter received from Colonel *Woodford*, of the Second Regiment.

Ordered, That the said Letter be referred to the Committee on the state of the Colony.

A Proclamation issued by Lord *Dunmore*, the 7th of *November* last, declaring martial law to be enforced throughout this Colony, and requiring every person capable of bearing arms to resort to His Majesty's standard by him erected in the Town of *Norfolk*, or be considered as traitors to His Majesty's crown and Government, and further declaring all negroes and indented servants capable of bearing arms, and appertaining to rebels, free; also, a certificate of an oath taken by several of the inhabitants of the Counties of *Norfolk* and *Princess Anne*, in consequence thereof; were presented to the Convention and read.

Ordered, That the said Proclamation and Certificate be referred to Mr. Treasurer, Mr. *Braxton*, Mr. *Rutherford*, Mr. *Jones*, Mr. *Banister*, Mr. *Parker*, Mr. *Cary*, Mr. *Smith*, the Rev. Mr. *Muhlenburg*, and Mr. *Page;* and they are to draw up a Declaration in answer thereto, and make report.

Ordered, That the said Committee do also select for publication such of the Letters laid before this Convention as they shall think proper.

Resolved, That the venders of Salt, imported not contrary to the Continental Association, be allowed to demand and receive whatever price they can obtain for that necessary article.

Resolved, That the Treasurer of this Colony for the time being be required to purchase for the publick use, all the good and merchantable Gunpowder which may be imported into this Colony, or manufactured here, at any time within six months, and allow the price of six Shillings per pound for the same.

Resolved, That *Joseph Cabell*, *Thomas Randolph*, and *Jerman Baker*, Gentlemen, be appointed Commissioners to receive for and pay to the several claimants, in the Southern District, for services in the late expedition against the *Indians*, whatever may be due them from the publick, and not called for at the Treasury; and that *Francis Peyton*, *George Rootes*, and *John Neavill*, Gentlemen, be appointed Commissioners for the like purpose in the Northern District.

Mr. *Braxton*, from the Committee to whom the proposition of the Rev. *John Dixon*, for the manufactory of Salt, was referred, reported, that the Committee had had the same under their consideration, and had come to the following Resolutions thereupon; which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the Clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the Convention.

Resolved, That the samples of Salt exhibited by the Rev. Mr. *Dixon* do not appear to be sufficiently purified, but are of great strength in their taste.

That the said Mr. *Dixon*, having given assurances of his intention to proceed in this work with expedition and diligence, if supported with a sum of money from the country, not exceeding fifty Pounds, to purchase his kettles, and other necessaries, the Committee are of opinion the said sum ought to be advanced to the said Mr. *Dixon*, upon his giving security to repay the money if his work succeeds within twelve months; and if it does not, to return what articles he bought with the country's money.

The Convention then, according to the Order of the Day, resolved itself into a Committee on the state of the Colony; and after some spent therein, Mr. President resumed the chair, and Mr. Treasurer reported, that the Committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the state of the Colony, but not having time to go through the same, had directed him to move for leave to sit again.

Resolved, That this Convention will to-morrow resolve itself into a Committee to take into their further consideration the state of the Colony.

Adjourned till to-morrow, half after ten o'clock.

—

Saturday, December 9, 1775.

Resolved, That the Treasurer of this Colony do advance the sum of one hundred Pounds to *Charles Carter*, Esq., as an encouragement to promote the manufactory of Saltpetre, in which he is at present engaged, he entering into bond, with security to repay the same in saltpetre, at the price of three Shillings per pound, within six months.

Resolved, That the like sum of one hundred Pounds be advanced by the Treasurer of this Colony to the *Dumfries* Saltpetre Company, to promote their manufactory of that article, they entering into bond, with security to repay the same in saltpetre, at the price of three shillings per pound, within six months.

Ordered, That Mr. *Carter* of *Stafford*, have leave to be absent from the service of this Convention for the remainder of this session.

The Convention then, according to the Order of the Day, resolved itself into a Committee on the state of the Colony; and after some time spent therein, Mr. President resumed the chair, and Mr. Treasurer reported, that the Committee had, according to order, had under their further consideration the state of the Colony, but not having time to go through the same, had directed him to move for leave to sit again.

Resolved, That this Convention will, on *Monday* next, resolve itself into the said Committee.

Adjourned till *Monday*, half after ten o'clock.

—

Monday, December 11, 1775.

A Letter from Colonel *Woodford*, of the Second Regiment, was laid before the Convention and read.

Ordered, That the said Letter do lie on the table.

A representation from the Committee for the County of *Accomack* was laid before the Convention and read, and ordered to be referred to the Committee on the state of the Colony.

Ordered, That Mr. *Mercer*, Mr. *Bland*, Mr. *Henry Lee*, Mr. *Newton*, Mr. *Aylett*, Mr. *Holt*, and Mr. *Brooke*, be a Committee to inquire into the conduct of *John Goodrich*, *William Goodrich*, and *John Goodrich*, Jr., relating to the importation of Gunpowder and other articles, for the use of this Colony.

A Petition and Representation from the Committee for the County of *Warwick*, was laid before the Convention and read.

Ordered, That the said Petition and Representation be referred to the Committee on the state of the Colony.

The Convention then, according to the Order of the Day, resolved itself into a Committee on the state of the Colony; and after some time spent therein, Mr. President resumed the chair, and Mr. *Carey* reported, that the Committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the state of the Colony, and had made a further progress therein, but not having time to go through the same, had directed him to move for leave to sit again.

Resolved, That this Convention will to-morrow resolve itself into the said Committee, to take into their further consideration the state of the Colony.

The President laid before the Convention a Journal of the Proceedings of the General Congress held at the City of *Philadelphia*, the tenth day of *May* last.

Ordered, That the same do lie on the table, for the perusal of the members.

Adjourned till to-morrow, half after ten o'clock.

—

Tuesday, December 12, 1775.

The Convention, according to the Order of the Day, resolved itself into a Committee on the state of the Colony; and after some time spent therein, Mr. President resumed the chair, and Mr. *Carey* reported, that the Committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the state of the Colony, and had come to several Resolutions thereupon, which he was ready to report when the Convention should be pleased to receive them.

Ordered, That the said Report be received to-morrow.

Resolved, That this Convention will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a Committee, to take into their further consideration the state of the Colony.

The President laid before the Convention a Letter received from Colonel *Woodford*, which being read,

Resolved unanimously, That this Convention do highly approve of Colonel *Woodford's* conduct, manifested as well in the success of the Troops under his command, as in the humane treatment of, and kind attention to, the unfortunate, though brave Officers and Soldiers, who were made prisoners in the late action near the *Great Bridge*, and that the President communicate to Colonel *Woodford* the sense of his country on this occasion.

Adjourned till to-morrow, half after ten o'clock.

—

Wednesday, December 13, 1775.

Mr. Treasurer, from the Committee appointed to draw up a Declaration in answer to Lord *Dunmore's* Proclamation, reported, that the Committee had accordingly prepared the following Declaration; which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the Clerk's table, where the same was again twice read, and unanimously agreed to:

By the Representatives of the People of the Colony and Dominion of Virginia, *assembled in General Convention.*

A Declaration.

Whereas Lord *Dunmore*, by his Proclamation, dated on board the Ship *William*, the 7th day of *November*, 1775, hath presumed, in direct violation of the Constitution, and the laws of this country, to declare martial law in force, and to be executed throughout this Colony, whereby our lives, our liberty, and property, are arbitrarily subjected to his power and direction; and whereas the said Lord *Dunmore*, assuming powers which the King himself cannot exercise, to intimidate the good people of this Colony into a compliance with his arbitrary will, hath declared those who do not immediately repair to his standard, and submit in all things to a Government not warranted by the Constitution, to be in actual rebellion, and thereby to have incurred the penalties inflicted by the laws for such offences; and hath offered freedom to the servants and slaves of those he is pleased to term *Rebels*, arming them against their masters, and destroying the peace and happiness of His Majesty's good and faithful subjects, whose property is rendered insecure, and whose lives are exposed to the dangers of a general insurrection: We, as guardians of the lives and liberty of the people, our constituents, conceive it to be indispensably our duty to protect them against every species of despotism, and to endeavour to remove those fears with which they are so justly alarmed.

If it were possible the understandings of men could be so blinded that every gleam of reason might be lost, the *hope* his Lordship says he hath ever entertained of an accommodation between *Great Britain* and this Colony might now pass unnoticed; but truth, justice, and common sense, must ever prevail, when facts can be appealed to in their support. It is the peculiar happiness of this Colony, that his Lordship can be traced as the source of innumerable evils, and one of the principal causes of the misfortunes, under which we now labour. A particular detail of his conduct, since his arrival in this Colony, can be considered only as a repetition, it having been already fully published to the world by the proceedings of the General Assembly, and a former Convention; but the unremitting violence with which his Lordship endeavours to involve this country in the most dreadful calamities, constantly affords new matter for the attention of the publick, and will remove every imputation of ingratitude to his Lordship, or of injustice to his character. His Lordship is pleased to ascribe the unworthy part he hath taken against this Colony, to a necessity arising from the conduct of its inhabitants, whom he hath considered in a *rebellious* state, but who know nothing of *rebellion* except the name. Ever zealous in support of tyranny, he hath broken the bonds of society, and trampled justice under his feet. Had his Lordship been desirous of effecting an accommodation of these disputes, he hath had the most ample occasion of exerting both his interest and abilities; but that he never had in view any such salutary end, most evidently appears from the whole tenor of his conduct. The supposed design of the Canada bill having been to draw down upon us a merciless and savage enemy, the present manœuvres amongst the *Roman Catholicks* in *Ireland*, and the schemes concerted with Doctor *Connolly*, and other vile instruments of tyranny, which have appeared by the examination of the said *Connolly*, justify the supposition, and most fully evince, his Lordship's inimical and cruel disposition towards us, and can best determine whether we have been wrong in preparing to resist, even by arms, that system of tyranny adopted by the Ministry and Parliament of *Great Britain*, of which he is become the rigid executioner in this Colony. The many depredations committed also upon the inhabitants of this Colony, by the tenders and other armed vessels employed by his Lordship for such purposes, the pilfering and plundering the property of the people, and the actual seduction and seizure of their slaves, were truly alarming in their effects, and called aloud for justice and resistance. The persons of many of our peaceable brethren have been seized and dragged to confinement, contrary to the principles of liberty, and the constitution of our country. Yet have we borne this injurious treatment with unexampled patience, unwilling to shed the blood of our fellow-subjects; who, prosecuting the measures of a *British* Parliament, would sacrifice our lives and property to a relentless fury, and unabating avarice. If a Governour can be authorized, even by majesty itself, to annul the laws of the land, and introduce the most execrable of all systems, the law martial; if, by his single fiat, he can strip us of our property, can give freedom to our servants and slaves, and arm them for our destruction; let us bid adieu to every thing valuable in life, let us at once bend our neck to the galling yoke, and hug the chains prepared for us and our latest posterity.

It is with inexpressible concern we reflect upon the distressed situation of some of our unhappy countrymen who have thought themselves too immediately within the power of Lord *Dunmore*, and have been induced thereby to remain inactive. We lament the advantage he hath taken of their situation, and at present impute their inactivity in the cause of freedom and the constitution, not to any defection or want of zeal, but to their defenceless state; and whilst we endeavour to afford them succour, and to support their rights, we expect they will contribute every thing in their power to effect their deliverance. Yet, if any of our people, in violation of their faith plighted to this Colony, and the duty they owe to society, shall be found in arms, or continue to give assistance to our enemies, we shall think ourselves justified, by the necessity we are under, in executing upon them the law of retaliation.

Impressed with a just and ardent zeal for the welfare and happiness of our countrymen, we trust they will, on their part, exert themselves in defence of our common cause, and that we shall all acquit ourselves like freemen, being compelled, by a disagreeable, but absolute necessity of repelling force by force, to maintain our just rights and privileges; and we appeal to *God*, who is the sovereign disposer of all events, for the justice of our cause, trusting to his unerring wisdom to direct our counsels, and give success to our arms.

Resolved, That the Committee appointed to prepare a Declaration in answer to Lord *Dunmore's* Proclamation, do also draw up and report a Declaration offering pardon to such Slaves as shall return to their duty within ten days after the publication thereof, or be liable to such punishment as shall be directed by the Convention.

Resolved, That a Delegate be chosen by ballot, on *Friday* next, to attend the Continental Congress, in the room of the late Hon. *Peyton Randolph*, Esq.

Resolved, That the Committee of Safety do write to Colonel *Woodford*, desiring that he will endeavour to effect an exchange of the Prisoners in his possession for our worthy countrymen now confined by Lord *Dunmore;* and, if he should not be able to effect such exchange, that he send his Prisoners to the City of *Williamsburgh*, as soon as it can be conveniently done, and that he also send the Slaves taken to the said City.

Ordered, That the Slaves taken and confined at the Town of *Hampton*, be sent to the publick Jail in the City of *Williamsburgh*.

The President laid before the Convention a Letter received from the Delegates appointed to represent this Colony in General Congress, enclosing several Resolutions of that respectable body; which were read, and ordered to be referred to the Committee on the state of the Colony.

A Petition of sundry surviving Captains of Companies on the late expedition against the *Indians*, was presented to the Convention, and read; setting forth, that the said expedition was greatly promoted by their zeal for the service, and that they had advanced considerable sums of money, and extended their credit to the utmost, in order to supply the soldiers under their command with every necessary for the campaign; that they did this from an expectation that the Troops would be paid off in the manner practised heretofore, and that each Captain should receive the pay of his Company, and thereby be enabled to reimburse himself what he might have advanced the Soldiers under him; but that it is with great concern they have lately understood the Commissioners appointed to settle the accounts had come to a resolution not to pay any soldier or packhorse-man unless such person should appear, or give an order in writing for the same, by which they conceive they shall be considerable losers, as many of the Soldiers were now dispersed over the Continent, expecting their pay would be delivered into the hands of their respective Captains, to discharge the money advanced for them; and praying such relief as this Convention should think just and reasonable.

Resolved, That the Commissioners appointed to receive for and pay to the several Claimants in the Southern District, for services in the late expedition against the *Indians*, whatever may be due to them from the publick, do in the first place settle the Accounts between the Captains and the Men under their command, and pay to the said Captains whatever shall be found due to them on such settlement.

Mr. *Cary*, according to order, reported, that the Committee of the whole Convention had come to the following Resolutions; which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the Clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the Convention:

Resolved, That the regular Forces now in the pay of this Colony be recruited to ten Companies of sixty-eight men each, rank and file; and that six other Battalions, each to consist of the like number of men, with their proper Officers, exclusive of the forces already voted for the defence of the Counties of *Northampton* and *Accomack*, be raised and embodied for the defence and protection of this Colony, and that these levies be recruited throughout the Colony.

Resolved, That each of the said Battalions be commanded by a Colonel, a Lieutenant Colonel, Major, ten Captains, twenty Lieutenants, ten Ensigns, and thirty Sergeants.

Resolved, That one of the said Battalions be composed of *Germans*, with *German* Officers.

That the plan formerly established for the defence of this Colony, by Minute-men and Militia, ought to be continued, with some alterations.

Ordered, That Mr. *Cary*, Mr. *A. Lewis*, Mr. *Meredith*, Mr. *Wills*, Mr. *Jones*, Mr. *Banister*, Mr. *Smith*, Mr. *Rootes*, Mr. *Thomas Walker*, Mr. *Fitzhugh*, Mr. *Harvie*, Mr. *Kenner*, Mr. *Dandridge*, Mr. *Fleming*, Mr. *Holt*, and Mr. *Travis*, be a Committee to prepare and bring in an Ordinance pursuant to the foregoing Resolutions.

Resolved, That the said Committee, or any seven of them, be a sufficient number to proceed to business.

Mr. *Cary*, from the Committee to whom it was referred to examine *Charles Robinson*, who had been apprehended as a suspected person, reported, that the Committee had accordingly examined him, and had found no Papers of a publick nature in his possession; but, as he is at present in the employment of a person in arms against this Colony, they are of opinion he ought not to be suffered to return to *Norfolk*, but be admitted to go at large on his parole.

Resolved, That the Convention doth agree with the Committee in the said Report.

The Order of the Day, for the Convention to resolve itself into a Committee on the state of the Colony, being read,

Resolved, That this Convention will to-morrow resolve itself into the said Committee.

Adjourned till to-morrow, half after ten o'clock.

Thursday, December 14, 1775.

The President laid before the Convention a Letter from Colonel *Woodford*, enclosing a Petition from the poor Inhabitants of the Town of *Norfolk*, requesting his protection; also a Petition from sundry distressed *Highlonders*, lately arrived from *Scotland*, praying that they might be permitted to go to *Cape Fear*, in *North-Carolina*, the place where they intended to settle, together with sundry other papers, which were read.

Resolved, That the President be desired to write to Colonel *Woodford*, directing him that all such Tories taken by him, who shall, upon an examination before the Field Officers, appear to have borne Arms against this Colony, be sent to the City of *Williamsburgh*; and that all others who, upon such examination, shall appear inimical to the liberties of *America*, be detained by him till the further order of the Convention, or Committee of Safety; that he extend all reasonable indulgence to such as appear to have taken the part of Lord *Dunmore* through necessity; that he take the distressed *Highlanders*, with their families, under his protection, permit them to pass by land unmolested to *Carolina*, and supply them with such provisions as they may be in immediate want of.

The President also laid before the Convention a Letter from Colonel *Howe*, of *North-Carolina*, informing him that he had joined Colonel *Woodford* with the Troops under his command, and should be happy to afford him his best assistance.

Resolved, That the President be desired to write to Colonel *Howe*, acknowledging the receipt of his obliging Letter, and thanking him for his good intentions towards this Colony.

The Convention then, according to the Order of the Day, resolved itself into a Committee on the state of the Colony; and after some time spent therein, Mr. President resumed the chair, and Mr. *Cary* reported, that the Committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the state of the Colony, and had come to several Resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the Clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to, as follows:

Resolved, As the opinion of this Committee, that the Ordinance for providing Arms and Ammunition for this Colony, ought to be amended.

Resolved, As the opinion of this Committee, that persons harbouring Deserters from the forces raised, or to be raised for the defence of this Colony, ought to be punished.

Resolved, That the representation from the County of *Accomack*, and request therein contained, are reasonable, and that they be assured the Convention will pay a proper attention thereto, and afford them every protection in their power.

Resolved, That Mr. *Mercer*, Mr. *Cary*, Mr. *Fitzhugh*, Mr. *Page*, Mr. *R. Carter*, Mr. *John Walker*, Mr. *Harrison*, Mr. *Rutherford*, Mr. *Harvie*, Mr. *Gray*, Mr. *Perkins*, Mr. *Lankford*, and Mr. *Poythress*, be a Committee to prepare an Ordinance pursuant to the first of the said Resolutions; and that the Committee formerly appointed to prepare and bring in an Ordinance pursuant to the Resolutions for recruiting the regular Forces, now in the pay of this Colony, to ten Companies, and for raising six other Battalions, do receive a clause, or clauses, pursuant to the second Resolution.

Mr. Treasurer, from the Committee appointed to draw up a Declaration, offering pardon to such Slaves as should return to their duty, reported, that the Committee had accordingly prepared the following Declaration; which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the Clerk's table, where the same was again twice read, and unanimously agreed to:

By the Representatives of the People of the Colony and Dominion of VIRGINIA, *assembled in General Convention.*

A DECLARATION.

Whereas Lord *Dunmore*, by his Proclamation, dated on board the Ship *William*, off *Norfolk*, the 7th day of *November*, 1775, hath offered freedom to such able-bodied Slaves as are willing to join him, and take up arms against

the good people of this Colony, giving thereby encouragement to a general insurrection, which may induce a necessity of inflicting the severest punishments upon those unhappy people, already deluded by his base and insidious arts; and whereas, by an act of the General Assembly now in force in this Colony, it is enacted, that all negro or other slaves, conspiring to rebel or make insurrection, shall suffer death, and be excluded all benefit of clergy: we think it proper to declare, that all slaves who have been, or shall be seduced, by his Lordship's Proclamation, or other arts, to desert their master's service, and take up arms against the inhabitants of this Colony, shall be liable to such punishment as shall hereafter be directed by the General Convention. And to the end that all such who have taken this unlawful and wicked step may return in safety to their duty, and escape the punishment due to their crimes, we hereby promise pardon to them, they surrendering themselves to Colonel *William Woodford*, or any other commander of our Troops, and not appearing in arms after the publication hereof. And we do further earnestly recommend it to all humane and benevolent persons in this Colony to explain and make known this our offer of mercy to those unfortunate people.

A Memorial from the Vestry of the Parish of *Henrico*, in the County of *Henrico*, was presented to the Convention, and read; setting forth, that they are at a loss to know in what manner their Minister's salary ought to be levied and collected, the same being directed by Act of Assembly to be paid to the Minister in Tobacco, if required by him; and praying the Convention would take the same into consideration, and give such direction therein as shall be thought just and reasonable.

Ordered, That the said Petition be referred to the Committee on the state of the Colony.

Ordered, That leave be given to bring in an Ordinance for establishing a general Test; and that Mr. *Mercer* and Mr. *Adams* do prepare and bring in the same.

Resolved, That this Convention will to-morrow again resolve itself into a Committee, to take into their further consideration the state of the Colony.

Resolved, That the Arms and Warlike Accoutrements taken at the late engagement at the *Great Bridge*, be fairly appraised, and retained for the use of the Colony; and that the value thereof, together with the Money to be produced by the sales of the other articles taken on that occasion, be divided among the Soldiers.

Resolved, That no person be allowed to make reprisal on the property of Lord *Dunmore*, in this Colony, or their property seized by him, or the Navy, without the order of this Convention.

The President laid before the Convention a Letter from the Commissioners appointed to treat with the different Tribes of *Indians*, which was read, and ordered to lie on the table.

Ordered, That the Committee of Safety do cause so many of the captive Slaves, as they shall think necessary, to be employed in working the Lead Mine in the County of *Fincastle*, for the use of this Colony.

Adjourned till to-morrow, half after ten o'clock.

—

Friday, December 15, 1775.

The Convention, according to the Order of the Day, proceeded to the appointment of a Delegate, to represent this Colony in General Congress, in the room of the late Honourable *Peyton Randolph*, Esq.; and the Members having prepared tickets, with the name of the Delegate to be appointed, and put the same into the ballot box, Mr. *Thomas Ludwell Lee*, Mr. *Carrington*, Mr. *Digges*, Mr. *William Cabell*, and Mr. *Carter*, of *Lancaster*, were appointed a Committee to examine the ballot box, and report on whom the majority fell; and it appearing, from their Report, that there was a majority of the whole Convention in favour of *Carter Braxton*, Esq.,

Resolved, therefore, That the said *Carter Braxton*, Esq., be appointed a Delegate to represent this Colony in General Congress, in the room of the late Honourable *Peyton Randolph*, Esq.

Resolved, That this Convention will to-morrow proceed to the appointment of a Committee of Safety, to consist of eleven persons, and that the same be made by ballot.

Ordered, That Mr. *Terry*, Mr. *Watkins*, and Mr. *Bibb*, be added to the Committee appointed to prepare an Ordinance for amending the Ordinance of the last Convention for providing Arms and Ammunition for the use of this Colony.

The Convention then, according to the Order of the Day, resolved itself into a Committee on the state of the Colony; and after some time spent therein, Mr. President resumed the chair, and Mr. *Cary* reported, that the Committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the state of the Colony, but not having time to go through the same, had directed him to move for leave to sit again.

Resolved, That this Convention will to-morrow resolve itself into the said Committee, to take into their further consideration the state of the Colony.

Adjourned till to-morrow, half after ten o'clock.

—

Saturday, December 16, 1775.

A Petition of *Robert Stephen* was presented to the Convention and read; setting forth, that his son *William Stephen*, being very desirous of serving his country in the late expedition against the *Indians*, enlisted, by his permission, as a soldier, although only fourteen years of age; that, unfortunately for your Petitioner, he was slain in the action with the *Indians*, the tenth of *October*, 1774, by which means your Petitioner, being aged and infirm, is deprived of his only support, and therefore praying that this Convention will take his case into consideration, and grant him such relief as shall be thought reasonable.

Ordered, That the said Petition be referred to the Commissioners appointed to settle the Accounts of the Militia lately drawn out into actual service; and they are to report the same, together with their opinion thereupon, to the Convention.

A Petition of sundry Inhabitants of the County of *Lunenburgh*, was presented to the Convention, and read; setting forth, that they are determined with their lives and fortunes, to defend the liberties of *America*, and to stand or fall with their country; that they will, at all times, endeavour to promote union and brotherly love among their countrymen, and those from any other parts of the world, who do not show themselves inimical to the rights of mankind; that they are persuaded this Convention had in view these important objects when the Resolution in favour of the Merchants and Factors from *Great Britain* residing here was entered into, but experience having proved that the good purposes thereby intended are not answered, but on the contrary, jealousies and distinctions, which before might have existed, are greatly increased, and praying the said Resolution may be rescinded, and in lieu thereof a Test established, whereby the friends of *America* may be distinguished from those who are inimical to the glorious cause in which this country is engaged.

Ordered, That the said Petition be referred to the Committee on the state of the Colony.

A Petition of Doctor *Archibald Campbell*, of the Borough of *Norfolk*, was presented to the Convention, and read; setting forth, that at a meeting of the Magistrates, and other principal Inhabitants of the said Borough, he was deputed, with several others, to wait on Colonel *Woodford*, commander of the Forces of this Colony, then at the *Great Bridge*, in *Norfolk* County, to know his intentions in respect to the treatment the Inhabitants of the said Borough were to expect from the Army under his command, as it had been currently reported that the Town was to be plundered, and then burnt, and also to know what part they were to act to avoid such calamities; that he accordingly made application to Colonel *Woodford*, who directed him to apply to this Convention, to whom he should submit the matter; that he hath been informed that some unfriendly person had represented to Colonel *Woodford*, that he had taken an active part, under Lord *Dunmore*, relative to the late transactions in the said Borough, which charge he denies, so far as it relates to matters inimical to the Colony; and that he never acted under Lord *Dunmore* further than he was constrained by his Lordship's esta-

*

blishing martial law; and praying the protection of this Convention in behalf of the Inhabitants of the said Borough; and that if any inquiry into his conduct should be thought necessary, a Committee might be appointed for that purpose.

Ordered, That the said Petition be referred to Mr. *Holt*, Mr. *Newton*, Mr. *Meade*, Mr. *Murdaugh*, Mr. *Wills*, Mr. *Adams*, Mr. *Andrew Lewis*, Mr. *Meredith*, Mr. *Rootes*, and Mr. *Mercer;* and they are to report the same, together with their opinion thereupon, to the Convention.

Ordered, That the said *Archibald Campbell* be confined to his room in the City of *Williamsburgh*, under a proper Guard, till the further order of the Convention, or Committee of Safety.

The Convention then, according to the Order of the Day, proceeded, by ballot, to the appointment of the Committee of Safety; and the Members having prepared tickets, with the names of eleven persons to be of the said Committee and put the same into the ballot box, Mr. *Watkins*, Mr. *Gray*, Mr. *Syne*, and Mr. *Drew*, were appointed a Committee to examine the same, and report on whom the majority fell; who retired, and after some time returned into Convention, and reported that the numbers stood as follows:

For *Dudley Digges*, Esq.,	74
John Page, Esq.,	73
Paul Carrington, Esq.,	72
Edmund Pendleton, Esq.,	65
James Mercer, Esq.,	64
Thomas Ludwell Lee, Esq.,	61
William Cabell, Esq.,	59
Richard Bland, Esq.,	55
Joseph Jones, Esq.,	48
John Tabb, Esq.,	46
Thomas Walker, Esq.,	31

Resolved therefore, That the said *Dudley Digges*, *John Page*, *Paul Carrington*, *Edmund Pendleton*, *James Mercer*, *Thomas Ludwell Lee*, *Wm. Cabell*, *Richard Bland*, *Joseph Jones*, *John Tabb*, and *Thomas Walker*, Esquires, be appointed Members of the said Committee of Safety.

The Order of the Day, for the Convention to resolve itself into a Committee on the state of the Colony, being read,

Resolved, That the Convention will, on *Monday* next, resolve itself into the said Committee.

Adjourned till *Monday*, half after ten o'clock.

—

Monday, December 18, 1775.

Ordered, That leave be given to bring in an Ordinance for continuing and amending an Ordinance appointing a Committee of Safety; and that Mr. *Richard Lee* and Mr. *Henry Lee* do prepare and bring in the same.

A Petition of *John Chew*, *John Hews*, and *Ambrose Rains*, was presented to the Convention, and read; setting forth, that they had served under Captain *John Herndon* as volunteers to *Williamsburgh* in *August* last, and were, on their return home, taken ill and obliged to employ a Doctor, at an expense too heavy for them to bear; that as this expense was incurred whilst they were employed in the service of their country, they hope this Convention will order the same to be repaid them.

Ordered, That the said Petition be referred to Mr. *Norvell*, Mr. *Travis*, Mr. *King*, and Mr. *Langhorne;* and that they report the same, together with their opinion thereupon, to the Convention.

A Letter from the Committee of the County of *Fairfax*, containing instructions to their Delegates in Convention, was presented, and read.

Ordered, That the said Instructions be referred to the Committee on the state of the Colony.

Resolved, That the Treasurer of this Colony be empowered to employ such persons as he shall think proper to fill up and sign the Treasury Notes emitted pursuant to an Ordinance of the last Session of the Convention.

Ordered, That Colonel *Woodford's* Letter of the 4th instant, together with the enclosures, be referred to the Committee on the state of the Colony.

A Letter from the Committee for the County of *Isle-of-Wight*, enclosing a Resolution of the said Committee, was presented to the Convention, and read; setting forth, that *Cæsar*, a negro man slave, belonging to *Walter Gwynn*, of the County of *Gloucester*, and pilot to a tender, was placed by the Captain of the said tender on board the *Molly*, Captain *Conyard*, with orders to carry her to *Norfolk*, but that Captain *Conyard*, had prevailed with him, by offering him a reward, to run the said vessel into *Pagan Creek*, in the said County of *Isle-of-Wight*, where she now lies; that they had sent the said negro *Cæsar* to the Committee of Safety, to be dealt with as they shall think proper.

Ordered, That the said Letter and Resolution be referred to Mr. *Richard Randolph*, Mr. *Harrison*, Mr. *Bassett*, Mr. *Terry*, Mr. *Brooke*, Mr. *Berkeley*, and Mr. *Rootes;* and they are to report the same, together with their opinion thereupon, to the Convention.

The Convention being informed that a Vessel, belonging to Messrs. *Gibson & Co.*, was about to sail for *Great Britain* with Naval Stores,

Resolved, That it be recommended to the Committee for the County of *Nansemond* not to permit the said Vessel to proceed to sea, till the further order of this Convention.

A Petition of *Joseph Simpson*, and *John Campbell*, was presented to the Convention, and read; setting forth, that they had supplied the Soldiery under the command of Lord *Dunmore*, in the late expedition against the *Indians*, with sundry articles, which were appraised agreeably to law, the amount of which appraisement, the Commissioners appointed to settle the Accounts of the Militia lately drawn out into actual service, refused to allow them; that they had advanced to Major *John Connolly* sums of Money, and other things to a considerable amount, depending wholly upon his pay as an officer, which he had assigned to them before he had attempted to perpetrate his diabolical plot, which the said Commissioners also refused to allow them; that they have claims against the publick, for assignments from sundry officers and men who were in service at *Fort Pitt* before the 26th of *May*, 1774, and from sundry artificers for their pay whilst employed in repairing *Fort Pitt* and building *Fort Fincastle*, and for sundry materials used in those works, for all which they pray such allowance as shall be found to be just.

Also a Petition of *Alexander Ross*, setting forth that *William Thompson*, together with your Petitioner, purchased of the Crown the buildings and materials belonging to *Fort Pitt* when they were evacuated, and occupied the same till some time in the year 1774, when Major *John Connolly*, by command of Lord *Dunmore*, took possession thereof for the use of this Colony, and had the same appraised by proper judges, upon oath, to the sum of 1482*l.* 17*s.* 2*d.*, besides sundry articles, the sole property of your Petitioner, appraised to 314*l.* 1*s.* 9*d.*, and retained the same till the month of *August* last, when Captain *John Neavill*, by direction of this Convention, took possession thereof for the defence of this Colony; and praying the premises may be taken into consideration, and such relief granted them as their case shall be found to deserve.

Ordered, That the said Petitions be referred to Mr. *Mercer*, Mr. *Neavill*, Mr. *Rootes*, Mr. *Harvie*, Mr. *Muhlenburg*, Mr. *Richard Lee*, Mr. *Henry Lee*, Mr. *Carrington*, Mr. *Peyton*, Mr. *William Cabell*, Mr. *Thos. Walker*, Mr. *Andrew Lewis*, Mr. *Adams*, Mr. *Cary*, Mr. *Smith*, and Mr. *Taylor*, and they are to report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the Convention.

The Convention then, according to the Order of the Day, resolved itself into a Committee on the state of the Colony; and after some time spent therein, Mr. President resumed the chair, and Mr. *Cary* reported, that the Committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the state of the Colony, and had come to the following Resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the Clerk's table, where the same was again twice read, and agreed to:

Resolved, (as the opinion of this Committee,) That some mode ought to be established for the payment of the Minister's salary, and other Tobacco Debts, throughout this Colony.

Ordered, That Mr. *Cary*, Mr. *Adams*, Mr. *Dandridge*,

Mr. *Banister*, Mr. *Jones*, Mr. *Richard Randolph*, and Mr. *Bassett*, be a Committee to prepare and bring in an Ordinance pursuant to the said Resolution.

Resolved, That this Convention will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a Committee, to take into their further consideration the state of the Colony.

Adjourned till to-morrow, half after ten o'clock.

—

Tuesday, December 19, 1775.

The President laid before the Convention a Letter from Colonel *Howe*, and also a Letter from Colonel *Woodford*; which were read, and ordered to lie on the table.

A Petition of *Edward Hack Mosely*, and *Edward Hack Moseley*, Jun., of the County of *Princess Anne*, and *Matthew Phripp*, of the Borough of *Norfolk*, was presented to the Convention and read, setting forth that they had been directed by Colonel *Woodford* to appear before this Convention for an inquiry into their conduct during the unhappy disturbances which have lately prevailed in the Borough of *Norfolk*; that they understand very unfavourable and injurious reports have prevailed against them, representing them as inimical to their country, of which they hope honourably to acquit themselves, when this Convention shall be pleased to grant them a hearing.

Ordered, That the said Petition be referred to Mr. *Holt*, Mr. *Newton*, Mr. *Meade*, Mr. *Murdaugh*, Mr. *Wills*, Mr. *Adams*, Mr. *Andrew Lewis*, Mr. *Meredith*, Mr. *Rootes*, and Mr. *Mercer*, and they are to report the same, together with their opinion thereupon, to the Convention.

Ordered, That the said *Edward Hack Mosely*, *Edward Hack Mosely*, Jun., and *Matthew Phripp*, be confined to their room in the City of *Williamsburgh*, under a proper guard, till the further order of the Convention, or Committee of Safety.

A Representation from the Committee for the County of *Caroline* was presented to the Convention and read, setting forth that they had seized sundry effects belonging to *Thomas Hepburn*, of the Town of *Norfolk*, who had appeared in arms against this Colony, and should retain the same till they received the orders of this Convention in relation thereto.

Ordered, That the said Representation be referred to the Committee on the state of the Colony.

The President laid before the Convention the Depositions of *Morgan Alexander* and *Richard Partridge*, taken by the Committee of Safety on the examination of *John Dew*, charged with endeavouring to persuade several of the soldiers belonging to the Company of the said *Alexander* to desert; which were read, and ordered to be referred to the Committee on the state of the Colony.

Resolved, That the Committee of Safety be directed to send such force, for the protection of the County of *Warwick*, as to them shall appear necessary, as soon as the same can be supplied from the forces in the City of *Williamsburgh*.

The Convention then, according to the Order of the Day, resolved itself into a Committee on the state of the Colony; and after some time spent therein, Mr. President resumed the chair, and Mr. *Cary* reported, that the Committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the state of the Colony, and had come to the following Resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the Clerk's table, where the same was again twice read and agreed to as follows:

Whereas a Petition was preferred to the last Convention by sundry Merchants, as well in their own behalf as for others, natives of *Great Britain* and resident in this Colony, setting forth, amongst other things, that they being chiefly agents, factors, and persons, who from their youth had been bred up to and employed in commerce, and had not interfered with the civil institutions of the country; that they were very sensible the unhappy differences subsisting between the Parent State and her Colonies had given rise to distinctions to their prejudice amongst the natives of the country, and excited jealousies of them, which otherwise had never existed, although, as in the sincerity of their hearts they declared, that they held the people of this Colony in the highest estimation as friends and fellow-subjects; that, in war or peace, they would cheerfully contribute with them to the exigencies of their common state; that in all internal commotions or insurrections they pledged their faith, at the risk of their lives and fortunes, jointly with their fellow-subjects of this Colony, to defend the country; and that, in case of an attack from the troops of *Great-Britain*, they would not aid in any manner, or communicate intelligence to them by letter or otherwise; that they wished not an exemption from the hardships and burdens in which the people of this country are exposed, from the civil contest subsisting with the Parent State, but were willing and ready to participate in all instances, except taking up arms against the people among whom they were born, and with whom, perhaps, they are connected by the nearest ties of consanguinity; that they entreated the impartial and favourable attention of the Convention to that circumstance, and begged that a line of conduct might be marked out, by which, in this dangerous crisis, they might move as useful members of the community, without being held to the necessity of shedding the blood of their countrymen, an act at which nature recoiled, and which every feeling of humanity forbid. Which Petition the said Convention immediately took under their most serious consideration, and although it appeared unequal that any particular set of men in a society should have the full enjoyment of all the benefits arising therein, and not bear an equal share of the dangers to which it might be exposed, yet the Convention, in hopes of satisfying the Petitioners and quieting their fears, resolved unanimously that the said Petition was reasonable, and recommended it to the Committees of the several Counties and Corporations, and others the good people of this Colony, to treat all such natives of *Great Britain* resident here, as did not shew themselves enemies to the common cause of *America*, with lenity and friendship; to protect all persons whatever in the just enjoyment of their civil rights and liberty; to discountenance all national reflections; to preserve, to the utmost of their power, internal peace and good order; and to promote union, harmony, and mutual good-will among all ranks of people.

And whereas, notwithstanding the favourable and kind disposition shown by the Convention and the natives of this Colony, and the extraordinary and unexampled indulgence by them held out to the natives of *Great Britain*, residing in this Colony, many of these have lately become strict adherents to the Lord *Dunmore*, and the most active promoters of all his cruel and arbitrary persecutions of the good people of this Colony, not only by violating the Continental Association, to which they had solemnly subscribed, in many the most flagrant instances—not only by giving intelligence to our enemies, and furnishing them with provisions, but by propagating, as well in *Great Britain* as this Colony, many of the most glaring falsehoods, to the great prejudice and dishonour of this country; and, moreover, many of these natives of *Great Britain*, instead of giving their assistance in suppressing insurrections, have, contrary to all faith solemnly plighted in their said Petition, excited our slaves to rebellion, and some of them have daringly led them in arms against our inhabitants: The Committee having these things in full proof, and considering their alarming and dangerous tendency, do give it as their opinion, and accordingly resolve, that the foregoing recited Resolution ought, from henceforth, to be totally abrogated and rescinded; that none of the freemen, inhabitants of this country, wherever born, ought to be exempted from any of the burdens or dangers to which the Colony is exposed, but that, as good citizens, it is incumbent on them to use every exertion of their powers and abilities in the common defence; and should any persons of ability decline or shrink from so necessary a duty to the community, that all such, except those who have taken up arms against our inhabitants, or show themselves inimical to us, may be permitted, under a license of the Committee of Safety, to leave the country.

The President laid before the Convention a Letter from *Thomas Price* and *Thomas Smith*, of the County of *Isle-of-Wight*; which was read, and ordered to lie on the table.

Resolved, That this Convention will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a Committee, to take into their further consideration the state of the Colony.

Adjourned till to-morrow, half after ten o'clock.

Wednesday, December 20, 1775.

Mr. *Richard Lee*, from the Committee appointed, presented to the Convention, according to order, an Ordinance for continuing and amending an Ordinance appointing a Committee of Safety; and the same was read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Ordered, That leave be given to bring in an Ordinance for appointing Sheriffs, and that Mr. *Bland* and Mr. *Poythress* do prepare and bring in the same.

A Petition of sundry Freeholders, of the County of *York*, was presented to the Convention and read, complaining of an unfair and illegal election of a Sub-Delegate, chosen in the room of *Thomas Nelson*, Esq., and praying that an inquiry might be made into the same.

Ordered, That the said Petition be referred to Mr. *Digges*, Mr. Treasurer, Mr. *Bland*, Mr. *Cary*, Mr. *Jones*, Mr. *Braxton*, Mr. *Fitzhugh*, Mr. *Carter* of *Lancaster*, Mr. *Carrington*, Mr. *Bassett*, Mr. *Dandridge*, Mr. *Holt*, Mr. *Henry Lee*, Mr. *Richard Lee*, Mr. *Mercer*, Mr. *Fleming*, Mr. *Page*, and Mr. *M'Dowell*, and they are to report the same, together with their opinion thereupon, to the Convention.

Resolved, That the said Committee, or any seven of them, be a sufficient number to proceed to business.

Mr. *Bland*, from the Committee appointed, presented to the Convention, according to order, an Ordinance for appointing Sheriffs; which was read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. *Mercer*, from the Committee appointed, presented to the Convention, according to order, an Ordinance for establishing a general Test; which was read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

A Petition of *John Burroughs*, of *West Augusta*, was presented to the Convention and read, setting forth that he was appointed, by Colonel *Charles Lewis*, a Lieutenant under Captain *David Scott*, in the expedition against the *Indians*, under Lord *Dunmore*, but was deprived of his commission by the said *Scott*, without any reasonable cause, and therefore praying that he might be allowed the expense he was at in raising men, and for the time he was out of service.

Ordered, That the said Petition be referred to Mr. *Mercer*, Mr. *Neavill*, Mr. *Rootes*, Mr. *Harvie*, Mr. *Muhlenburg*, Mr. *Richard Lee*, Mr. *Henry Lee*, Mr. *Carrington*, Mr. *Peyton*, Mr. *Wm. Cabell*, Mr. *Thomas Walker*, Mr. *Andrew Lewis*, Mr. *Cary*, Mr. *Smith*, and Mr. *Taylor*, and they are to report the same, together with their opinion thereupon, to the Convention.

A Petition of sundry Inhabitants of the County of *Augusta*, was presented to the Convention and read, setting forth that on the last expedition against the *Indians* being resolved upon, it became necessary that a number of Pack-horses should be employed for carrying out provisions and other necessaries for the Army; that they very cheerfully entered their horses into the said service, not doubting but they should receive allowances which had been usually made; but that they are sorry to inform the Convention that the Commissioners, appointed to settle the Accounts of the said expedition, have allowed your petitioners a recompense inadequate to the services afforded by them, especially when it is considered how long they have been prevented from receiving any satisfaction whatever for the same; and praying the Convention will take the premises into consideration, and grant them such relief as shall be judged just and reasonable.

Ordered, That the said Petition be referred to Mr. *M'Dowell*, Mr. *Neavill*, Mr. *Rootes*, Mr. *Thos. Walker*, Mr. *Field*, Mr. *John Walker*, Mr. *Adams*, Mr. *Richard Randolph*, Mr. *Henry Pendleton*, Mr. *Bowyer*, Mr. *Barbour*, Mr. *Harrison*, and Mr. *Read*, and they are to report the same, together with their opinion thereupon, to the Convention.

A Representation from Lieutenant-Colonel *Christian*, of the First Regiment, was presented to the Convention and read, setting forth that a number of Soldiers, at the time of their enlistment, had been promised by their Officers that they should be supplied, at the publick expense, with Hunting-shirts and Leggings; that he has strongly recommended to the Soldiers to provide themselves with uniform clothing, such as Shirts, Leggings, and bound Hats, which they have generally done; and submitting it to the Convention whether the expense thereof should not be paid by the publick.

Resolved, That the Soldiers in the regular service be allowed Hunting-shirts, Leggings, and Bindings for their Hats, by the publick.

The President laid before the Convention the Proceedings of the Commissioners appointed to treat with the several different Tribes of *Indians*.

Ordered, That the same do lie on the table for the perusal of the Members.

Ordered, That the several County Lieutenants do cause double Patroles to be kept in their several Counties during the ensuing holidays.

Ordered, That Mr. *Blackburn* be added to the Committee to whom the Petition of *Alexander Ross* was referred.

Ordered, That Mr. *Whiting* be added to the Committee to whom the Letter and Resolution of the Committee for the County of *Isle-of-Wight* was referred.

Ordered, That leave be given to bring in an Ordinance for amending the Ordinance of the last Convention, directing the elections of Delegates and Committee-men, and that Mr. *Holt*, Mr. *Meade*, and Mr. *Murdaugh*, do prepare and bring in the same.

Ordered, That the Officers and Men directed to be raised by an Ordinance of the last Convention, in the County of *Fincastle*, and stationed at such posts as might, from time to time, be ordered and directed by the Committee of the said County, be now disbanded.

A Representation of *William Finnie* was presented to the Convention and read, setting forth that he had been appointed by the Committee of Safety Quartermaster-General to the *Virginia* Regiments; but as no such Officer had been directed by the Ordinances, he was referred to this Convention, as well for a confirmation of the said appointment, as for such allowance as his services should be thought to merit, and praying that he might be confirmed in the said office.

Ordered, That the said Representation do lie on the table.

The Convention then, according to the Order of the Day, resolved itself into a Committee on the state of the Colony; and after some time spent therein, Mr. President resumed the chair, and Mr. *Cary* reported, that the Committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the state of the Colony, and had come to the following Resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the Clerk's table, where the same was again twice read and agreed to, as follows:

Resolved, That the commanding Officer at *Norfolk* be directed to cause inquiry to be made, whether the Salt stopped from the Men-of-War, and mentioned in Colonel *Woodford's* letter, was imported agreeably to the terms of the Continental Association; and, if it shall appear to have been so, that he contract with the proprietor for the purchase thereof, at a reasonable price, on account of the publick, which will be paid by the Treasurer, upon his order. On the contrary, should it be found to have been imported against the Association, the Colony will pay for the same at two Shillings per bushel, the money to be divided amongst the Officers and Soldiers in that department, in proportion to their pay. And in either case, that he cause the Salt to be stored in a proper place, for the use of the publick, till further orders.

Resolved, That this Convention will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a Committee, to take into their further consideration the state of the Colony.

Adjourned till to-morrow, half after ten o'clock.

—

Thursday, December 21, 1775.

Mr. *Cary*, from the Committee appointed, presented to the Convention, according to order, "An Ordinance for raising an additional number of Forces for the defence and protection of this Colony, and for amending an Ordinance entitled 'An Ordinance for raising and embodying a sufficient force for the defence and protection of this Colony;'"

which was read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. *Cary*, from the Committee appointed, presented to the Convention, according to order, "An Ordinance for establishing a mode of making Tobacco payments during the discontinuance of the Tobacco law;" which was read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

A Petition of *John Willoughby*, of the County of *Norfolk*, was presented to the Convention and read, setting forth that he had been directed by Colonel *Woodford* to appear before this Convention, for an inquiry into his conduct during the unhappy disturbances which have lately prevailed in the Borough of *Norfolk*; that he understands very unfavourable and injurious reports have prevailed against him, representing him as inimical to the interests of his country, of which he hopes honourably to acquit himself, when the Convention shall be pleased to grant him a hearing.

Ordered, That the said Petition be referred to the Committee to whom the Petition of *Archibald Campbell* is referred, and they are to report the same, together with their opinion thereupon, to the Convention.

Ordered, That Mr. *Jones*, Mr. *Banister*, Mr. *Henry Lee*, Mr. *Smith*, Mr. *Robert Wormeley Carter*, Mr. *Blackburn*, Mr. *Edmondson*, Mr. *Carter* of *Lancaster*, Mr. *John Walker*, and Mr. *Thornton*, be added to the said Committee, and that any seven of the said Committee be a sufficient number to proceed to business.

Mr. *Mercer*, from the Committee appointed, presented, according to order, "An Ordinance for amending an Ordinance entitled 'An Ordinance for providing Arms and Ammunition for the use of this Colony;'" which was read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

A Petition of *Archibald Govan* was presented to the Convention and read, setting forth that he loaded and cleared out the Sloop *Christian* and cargo agreeably to the terms of the Association; that she has been prevented proceeding on her voyage by being brought into *Hampton* by the soldiery stationed there; and as there is no market in this country, at present, but for the Army, he would be glad the cargo, amounting to near two thousand five hundred bushels of wheat, might be taken for the use of the troops, at such a price as shall be thought reasonable; that he has been told this House are in want of some vessels for the service of the country, for which purpose he begs leave to offer his sloop, which is a well-found vessel and fast sailer, and little more than three years old; that, from the candour and justice of this Convention, he hopes, as he has not in any instance infringed the Association, and as the letters wrote by himself, and found on board the said sloop, were fraught with sentiments friendly to this country, no degree of guilt will be imputed to him on account of the many unfriendly letters found in the said vessel.

Ordered, That the said Petition be referred to the Committee on the state of the Colony.

A Letter from Col. *Henry*, of the First Regiment, was read, and ordered to be referred to the Committee on the state of the Colony.

An Ordinance, "For raising an additional number of Forces for the defence and protection of this Colony, and for amending an Ordinance, entitled, 'An Ordinance for raising and embodying a sufficient Force for the defence and protection of this Colony,'" was read a second time, and referred to a Committee of the whole Convention.

Resolved, That this Convention will to-morrow resolve itself into a Committee on the said Ordinance.

Ordered, That Mr. *Whiting* be added to the Committee to whom the Petition of sundry Freeholders of the County of *York* was referred.

Ordered, That the Resolution appointing *Joseph Cabell*, *Thomas Randolph*, and *Jerman Baker*, gentlemen, Commissioners, to receive for, and pay to, the several Claimants in the Southern District, for services in the late expedition against the *Indians*, whatever may be due to them from the publick, and not called for at the Treasury, and *Francis Peyton*, *George Rootes*, and *Joseph Neavill*, gentlemen, for the like purpose, in the Northern District, be rescinded.

A Petition of the Inhabitants of the County of *Frederick*, and others residing to the westward of the *Blue Ridge* of mountains, was presented to the Convention, and read; setting forth, that being deeply interested, as well in the calamities of the late *Indian* War, as in the transactions and business consequent thereupon, they cheerfully contributed their assistance, by supplying wagons, horses, arms, and provisions, for the publick use; that the Commissioners appointed by the late Convention, to settle and adjust the expenses of the said expedition, being utterly unacquainted with the customs and manners of the inhabitants, and with the prices at which live stock, flour, meat, and other articles wanting to an army are usually sold, and also with the expense of wagonage, packing, and other modes of conveyance over that rugged and mountainous country, have, in the settlement of the accounts of the petitioners and their brethren, committed many errors and mistakes, to their very great prejudice; and praying that the Convention will take the same into consideration, and grant them such relief as shall seem just.

Ordered, That the said Petition be referred to the Rev. Mr. *Thruston*, Mr. *Rutherford*, Mr. *Drew*, Rev. Mr. *Muhlenburg*, Mr. *Clarke*, Mr. *Rootes*, Mr. *Mercer*, Mr. *Neavill*, Mr. *Field*, Mr. *Henry Pendleton*, Mr. *Barbour*, Mr. *Taylor*, Mr. *Thomas Walker*, Mr. *John Walker*, Mr. *Edmondson*, Mr. *Selden*, Mr. *Carter* of *Lancaster*, Mr. *Kenner*, Mr. *Dandridge*, Mr. *Brooke*, Mr. *Jones*, Mr. *Fitzhugh*, and Mr. *Page*; and they are to report the same, together with their opinion thereupon, to the Convention.

The President laid before the Convention a Letter from Col. *Howe*, and also a letter from Col. *Woodford*; which were read, and ordered to lie on the table.

A Petition of *Sampson* and *George Matthews*, and also a Petition of *William Ingles*, were presented to the Convention, and read, setting forth, that some time in the month of *July*, 1774, they were requested by Col. *Andrew Lewis* to undertake the business of Commissary-General to the Army, about to be raised by orders from the Governour, for an expedition against the *Indians*, which request they complied with, and in the course of that business procured for the Army provisions, ammunition, tents, packhorses, drivers for the horses, and almost every other necessary for their accommodation; and for that purpose had expended considerable sums of their Money; for all which they have passed their bonds, which they have paid, or are still to pay, with interest; that they presume they have, by their prudent management, saved a considerable sum to the country, and praying that the Convention will take their case into their consideration, and allow them such a sum of money for their trouble and expenses as shall appear just and reasonable.

Ordered, That the said Petition be referred to Mr. *Cary*, Mr. *William Cabell*, Mr. *Thomas Lewis*, Mr. *Harvie*, Mr. *Thomas Walker*, Mr. *Joseph Cabell*, and Mr. *M'Dowell*; and they are to report the same, together with their opinion thereupon, to the Convention.

The Order of the Day, for the Convention to resolve itself into a Committee on the state of the Colony, being read,

Resolved, That this Convention will to-morrow resolve itself into the said Committee.

Adjourned till to-morrow, half after ten o'clock.

—

Friday, December 22, 1775.

Ordered, That the Committee to whom the Letter and Resolution of the Committee for the County of *Isle-of-Wight* was referred, be empowered to summon such witnesses as they shall think necessary for their information.

A Petition of *Cary Mitchell* was presented to the Convention, and read; setting forth, that he understands many reports have prevailed to his prejudice, and that he hath been considered as unfriendly to his country; that he is at a loss to discover what actions of his life could give just grounds for such reports; that he wishes for nothing more than that a full and impartial inquiry may be made into his conduct, upon which he doubts not but he shall be able to clear himself of every suspicion.

Ordered, That the said Petition be referred to the Committee to whom the Petition of Doctor *Archibald Camp-*

bell is referred; and they are to report the same, together with their opinion thereupon, to the Convention.

Ordered, That Doctor *Archibald Campbell*, *Edward Hack Moseley*, *Edward Hack Moseley*, jun., *Matthew Phripp*, *John Willoughby*, and *Cary Mitchell*, be admitted to their parole, to continue in the City of *Williamsburg*, till the further order of this Convention.

Mr. *Cary*, from the Commissioners appointed to settle the Accounts of the Militia lately drawn out into actual service, laid before the Convention the Report of the said Commissioners; which was ordered to be referred to the Committee to whom the Petition of *Sampson* and *George Matthews* was referred, and that they make a reasonable allowance to the Clerk employed by the said Commissioners.

Mr. *Thomas Walker*, from the Committee to whom the Petition of the Inhabitants of the Counties of *Augusta*, *Botetourt*, *Fincastle*, *Bedford*, and *Culpepper*, was referred, reported that they had accordingly had the same under their consideration, and had come to the following Resolution thereupon; which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the Clerk's table, where the same was again twice read, and agreed to by the Convention:

Resolved, That each of the Horses, employed on the said occasion, be paid for after the rate of one Shilling and three Pence per day; and that the Commissioners appointed to settle the accounts do make the said allowance.

Mr. *King*, from the Committee appointed, reported that the Committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the Petition of *John Chew*, *John Hews*, and *Ambrose Rains*, and had come to the following Resolution thereupon; which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the Clerk's table, where the same was again twice read, and agreed to by the Convention:

Resolved, That the said Petition is reasonable, and that *John Chew* ought to be allowed the sum of 4*l*. 0*s*. 6*d*., *John Hews* the sum of 8*l*. 11*s*. 9*d*., and *Ambrose Rains* the sum of 2*l*. 0*s*. 6*d*.

Resolved unanimously, That the Thanks of this Convention are justly due to the brave Officers, gentlemen Volunteers, and Soldiers of *North-Carolina*, as well as our brethren of that Province in general, for their prompt and generous aid in defence of our common rights against the enemies of *America* and of the *British* Constitution; and that the President be desired to transmit a copy of this Resolution to Col. *Howe*.

The Convention then, according to the Order of the Day, resolved itself into a Committee on the Ordinance "For raising an additional number of Forces for the defence and protection of this Colony, and for amending an Ordinance entitled, An Ordinance for raising and embodying a sufficient Force for the defence and protection of this Colony;" and, after some time spent therein, Mr. President resumed the chair, and Mr. *Cary* reported that the Committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the said Ordinance, and had made some progress therein, but, not having time to go through the same, had directed him to move for leave to sit again.

Resolved, That this Convention will to-morrow resolve itself into a Committee, to take into their further consideration the said Ordinance.

The Convention, according to the Order of the Day, resolved itself into a Committee on the state of the Colony; and, after some time spent therein, Mr. President resumed the chair, and Mr. *Cary* reported that the Committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the state of the Colony, and had come to the following Resolutions thereupon; which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the Clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the Convention:

Resolved, That the Committee for the County of *Elizabeth City* be directed to deliver to Mr. *Maximilian Calvert*, or his order, the Vessel and Cargo belonging to him, and lately brought into *Hampton* Creek.

Resolved, That the Committee for the County of *Elizabeth City* be directed to cause the Salt, and other articles, lately brought into *Hampton*, to be landed and placed in some secure repository; and that all the vessels, except Mr. *Calvert's*, be detained till further orders.

Resolved, That this Convention will to-morrow resolve itself into a Committee, to take into their further consideration the state of the Colony.

Ordered, That the Reverend Mr. *Thruston*, Mr. *Benjamin Watkins*, Mr. *Reade*, and Mr. *Clarke*, be added to the Committee to whom the Petition of *Alexander Ross* is referred.

A Petition of sundry persons of the County of *Cumberland*, whose names are thereunto subscribed, was presented to the Convention, and read, setting forth, that many disorders were occasioned in their Militia by an improper appointment of Officers, and by the indulgence granted to Foreigners by this Convention at their last meeting, which they pray may be recalled, and in lieu thereof a Test established for all suspected persons.

Ordered, That the said Petition do lie on the table.

A Petition of *Alexander Sniggers* was presented to the Convention, and read, setting forth, that the Commissioners appointed to settle the accounts of the Militia, lately drawn out into actual service, had refused to allow him more than eight Shillings a day for each Wagon employed by him in the service, although the usual price had always been ten Shillings; and that they had also refused to allow him for sundry other articles, an account whereof he begs to lay before the Convention; and praying that he may be made such further allowance as shall be thought reasonable.

Ordered, That the said Petition be referred to the Committee to whom the Petition of sundry Inhabitants of the County of *Frederick* was referred; and they are to report the same, together with their opinion thereupon, to the Convention.

Adjourned till to-morrow, half after ten o'clock.

—

Saturday, December 23, 1775.

The President laid before the Convention two Letters, just received from the Delegates appointed to represent this Colony in General Congress; which were read, and ordered to be referred to the Committee on the state of the Colony.

Ordered, That Mr. *Cary Mitchell* be permitted to visit his family at *Hampton*, upon his parole, to appear in the City of *Williamsburgh* on *Saturday* next.

A Petition of *James Wood*, of the County of *Frederick*, was presented to the Convention, and read, setting forth, that he was appointed to the command of a Company in the late expedition against the *Shawanese* Towns; that, in order to arm his company for the service, he was under the necessity of impressing a number of Guns, for which he passed his receipt to the proprietors, many of which guns were carried away by deserters; and others, by different accidents, were never returned to their owners; for all which the Commissioners have made your Petitioner liable, and have deducted the amount thereof out of his pay; and praying that the premises may be inquired into, and such further allowance made him as shall be thought just and reasonable.

Ordered, That the said Petition be referred to the Committee to whom the petition of the Inhabitants of the County of *Frederick* was referred; and they are to report the same, together with their opinion thereupon, to the Convention.

A Petition of *Stephen Pierce* was presented to the Convention and read, setting forth, that he is master of the sloop *Industry*, lately brought into *Hampton*, and praying that he may be allowed to proceed to St. *Mary's*, in *Maryland*, with the said Vessel and her Cargo, if the same can be done with safety.

Ordered, That the said Petition be referred to Mr. *Blackburn*, Mr. *Henry Lee*, and Mr. *Carrington*; and they are to report the same, together with their opinion thereupon, to the Convention.

Ordered, That the Leggings allowed to the Soldiers in the regular service do not exceed the price of four Shillings for each pair.

Ordered, That Mr. *Harrison* have leave to be absent from the service of this Convention till *Thursday* next.

The Orders of the Day, for the Convention to resolve itself into a Committee on the state of the Colony, and on the Ordinance "For raising an additional number of Forces

for the defence and protection of this Colony, and for amending an Ordinance, intituled An Ordinance for raising and embodying a sufficient Force for the defence and protection of this Colony;—being read,

Ordered, That the same be put off till *Monday* next.

Resolved unanimously, That the Thanks of this Convention are justly due to Colonel *Elliott*, and the Officers and Soldiers under his command, to Messrs. *James* and *Richard Barron*, and to the Inhabitants of *Hampton*, for their spirited and successful exertions in defeating the designs of our enemies; and that the President be desired to transmit the same, and to inform them the Convention will take an early opportunity of rewarding their merit.

Adjourned till *Monday*, half after ten o'clock.

—

Monday, December 25, 1775.

The Convention met, and adjourned till to-morrow, half after ten o'clock.

—

Tuesday, December 26, 1775.

The President laid before the Convention a Letter from Colonel *Henry*, of the First Regiment, informing the Convention that Col. *Elliott*, the Commanding Officer at *Hampton*, had brought into that harbour a Vessel from *Rhode-Island*, and had enclosed to him the Papers found therein, which he took the liberty to lay before the Convention, and desiring their direction respecting the said Vessel.

Resolved, That the said Vessel be permitted to proceed on her voyage.

Resolved, That a Committee be appointed to inquire whether the Salt, and other goods, lately taken on board several vessels at *Hampton*, were imported agreeably to the terms of the Continental Association, and whether the same be the property of friends to *America*, or of those who have been in arms, or otherwise taken an active part against this Colony; and make a special report respecting each Vessel and Cargo, to this Convention; and that Mr. *Cary*, Mr. *Mercer*, Mr. *Holt*, Mr. *Digges*, Mr. *Nelson*, Mr. *Langhorne*, Mr. *Harwood*, Mr. *King*, Mr. *Westwood*, Mr. *Murdaugh*, and Mr. *Meade*, be of the said Committee.

Resolved, That the Commanding Officer at *Hampton* be directed to retain the Salt lately brought into that place, for the use of the publick; and that the Committee appointed to inquire whether the same was imported agreeably to the terms of the Continental Association do also consider of and report the most proper method for the distribution thereof.

Resolved, That *John Bowyer*, gentleman, be appointed a Commissioner to receive for, and pay to, the several claimants in the Counties of *Pittsylvania*, *Augusta*, *Botetourt*, *Fincastle*, and *Bedford*, whatever may be due to them from the publick, and not called for at the Treasury; and that he enter into bond, with sufficient security, for the due performance thereof, and return an account to the Treasurer within six months from the time he shall have received the money from the Treasury.

Ordered, That *Charles Robertson*, who hath been detained in this city on his parole, be discharged.

Resolved, That the Committee appointed to inquire whether the Salt, and other goods, lately brought into *Hampton*, were imported agreeably to the Continental Association, do also inquire into the several cases of the Prisoners now in the publick jail in this city, and report the same, as it shall appear to them, with their opinion, how each person, white or black, ought to be disposed of, to the Convention.

Resolved, That the Committee of Safety be directed to issue their Warrant to the Treasurer for the payment of such sum of Money as they shall think necessary, to Mr. *John Harmanson*, to be applied towards recruiting the Soldiers to be raised for the defence of the Counties of *Northampton* and *Accomack*; he giving bond and security for the due application thereof.

Ordered, That the Committee to whom the Petition of sundry Freeholders of the County of *York* was referred, be discharged from proceeding thereon, and that the Petitioners have leave to withdraw the same.

An Ordinance for establishing a mode of making Tobacco Payments during the discontinuance of the Inspection Law, was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a Committee of the whole Convention.

Resolved, That this Convention will to-morrow resolve itself into a Committee on the said Ordinance.

The Convention then, according to the Order of the Day, resolved itself into a Committee on the Ordinance for raising an additional number of Forces for the defence and protection of this Colony, and for amending an Ordinance, intituled An Ordinance for raising and embodying a sufficient Force for the defence and protection of this Colony; and after some time spent therein, Mr. President resumed the chair, and Mr. *Cary* reported, that the Committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the said Ordinance, but not having time to go through the same, had directed him to move for leave to sit again.

Resolved, That this Convention will to-morrow resolve itself into a Committee on the said Ordinance.

The Order of the Day, for the Convention to resolve itself into a Committee on the state of the Colony, being read,

Resolved, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

Adjourned till to-morrow, half after ten o'clock.

—

Wednesday, December 27, 1775.

The President laid before the Convention a Letter from Col. *Howe*, and also a Letter from Col. *Woodford*; which were read, and ordered to be referred to the Committee on the state of the Colony.

Mr. *Holt*, from the Committee appointed, presented, according to order, "An Ordinance to amend an Ordinance, intituled An Ordinance for regulating the election of Delegates and ascertaining their allowances, and also for regulating the election of Committee-men in the several Counties and Corporations within this Colony, and for other purposes therein mentioned," which was read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

The Convention then, according to the Order of the Day, resolved itself into a Committee on the Ordinance for raising an additional number of Forces for the defence and protection of this Colony, and for amending an Ordinance, intituled An Ordinance for raising and embodying a sufficient Force for the defence and protection of this Colony; and after some time spent therein, Mr. President resumed the chair, and Mr. *Cary* reported, that the Committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the said Ordinance, and had made some progress therein, but not having time to go through the same, had directed him to move for leave to sit again.

Resolved, That this Convention will to-morrow again resolve itself into a Committee on the said Ordinance.

The Orders of the Day—for the Convention to resolve itself into a Committee on the state of the Colony, and on the Ordinance for establishing a mode of making Tobacco Payments during the discontinuance of the Inspection Law;—being read,

Resolved, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

Adjourned till to-morrow, half after ten o'clock.

—

Thursday, December 28, 1775.

An Ordinance for continuing and amending an Ordinance appointing a Committee of Safety; also,

An Ordinance for establishing a General Test; also,

An Ordinance for appointing Sheriffs; and also,

An Ordinance for amending an Ordinance, intituled An Ordinance for regulating the election of Delegates and ascertaining their allowances, and also for regulating the election of Committee-men in the several Counties and Corporations within this Colony, and for other purposes therein mentioned; were severally read a second time, and ordered to be committed to a Committee of the whole Convention.

Resolved, That this Convention will to-morrow resolve itself into a Committee on the Ordinances for continuing and amending an Ordinance appointing a Committee of Safety, and for appointing Sheriffs; and on *Saturday* next, on the Ordinances for establishing a General Test, and to amend an Ordinance, intituled An Ordinance for regulating the election of Delegates and ascertaining their allowances, and also for regulating the election of Committee-men in

the several Counties and Corporations within this Colony, and for other purposes therein mentioned.

An Ordinance for amending an Ordinance, entitled An Ordinance for providing Arms and Ammunition for the use of this Colony, was read a second time, and ordered to be committed to Mr. *Mercer*, Mr. *Adams*, the members for *Loudoun*, *Frederick*, *Augusta*, *Botetourt*, *Chesterfield*, *Henrico*, *Prince George*, *Dinwiddie*, and *Surry*.

Ordered, That a Committee be appointed to inquire into the services of Mr. *James Wood*, who was deputed by the House of Burgesses at their last session, to go among the several tribes of *Indians* on the Western frontiers of this Colony, and invite them to the late Treaty held at *Fort Pitt*, and to report what those services deserve; and that Mr. *Bland*, Mr. *Andrew Lewis*, Mr. *Thomas Walker*, Mr. *Peyton*, Mr. *Richard Lee*, Mr. *Henry Lee*, Mr. *Blackburn*, Mr. *Clapham*, the Rev. Mr. *Thruston*, Mr. *Bassett*, and Mr. *Banister*, be of the said Committee.

The Orders of the Day—for the Convention to resolve itself into a Committee on the state of the Colony; and on the Ordinances for raising an additional number of Forces for the defence and protection of this Colony, and for amending an Ordinance, intituled An Ordinance for raising and embodying a sufficient Force for the defence and protection of this Colony; and for establishing a mode of making Tobacco Payments during the discontinuance of the Inspection Law;—being read,

Resolved, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

Ordered, That Mr. *Read*, Mr. *Lawson*, Mr. *Cocke*, Mr. *Faulcon*, Mr. *Parker*, and Mr. *Thomas Tabb*, be added to the Committee appointed to inquire whether the Salt lately brought into *Hampton* was imported agreeably to the terms of the Continental Association, and to consider and report a proper method for the distribution thereof.

Adjourned till to-morrow, half after ten o'clock.

—

Friday, December 29, 1775.

The President laid before the Convention a Letter from Col. *Howe*, enclosing a Letter from Capt. *Bellew*, of His Majesty's Ship the *Liverpool*, desiring to be informed if he still persisted in his resolution to restrain His Majesty's Ships from supplies of Provision, with his answer thereto; which being read, were referred to the Committee on the state of the Colony.

The Convention then, according to the Order of the Day, resolved itself into the said Committee; and after some time spent therein, Mr. President resumed the chair, and Mr. *Cary* reported, that the Committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the state of the Colony, and had come to the following Resolution; which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the Clerk's table, where the same was again twice read, and agreed to:

Resolved, That Col. *Howe* be informed, in answer to his Letter of the 25th, that this Convention are fully sensible of the hardships many innocent persons on board His Majesty's Ships may be exposed to, for want of regular supplies of fresh Provisions, which we would not wish to withhold, unless compelled by the duty we owe to the country, loudly calling upon us to use every exertion for the defence of its inhabitants. That Capt. *Bellew*, who probably is a stranger to us and our situation, should be informed that this country hath ever, till of late, considered the officers and men of His Majesty's Navy as their friends, and have always had great pleasure in showing them every mark of hospitality and civility; but many very recent and unwarrantable instances of the hostile behaviour of some of the Navy towards our inhabitants, justify us in suspicions we would not otherwise entertain. Who are the innocent and helpless whose blood Capt. *Bellew* would not wish to shed, we cannot, from his expressions, determine; but they carry with them the strongest implication, that the effusion of the blood of some of our countrymen is the object of his voyage to this country. That the Convention have the warmest wishes to find themselves mistaken in these apprehensions; and if Capt. *Bellew* can condescend to satisfy them, or Col. *Howe*, that he is come to *Virginia* on a friendly errand, this Convention will take every opportunity of paying proper respect to a gentleman in his station, and use every means in their power to make his stay here as agreeable as possible; but that, if, on the contrary, Capt. *Bellew's* design is to further the views of our enemies, and assist in prosecuting those unjustifiable and cruel measures already set on foot in this country, he must excuse the inhabitants of *Virginia* if they totally decline contributing towards their own destruction.

Mr. *Cary*, from the Committee appointed, reported, that the Committee appointed for that purpose had proportioned the Salt taken by the cruisers at *Hampton* in pay of this Colony, amounting to 3,600 bushels, which necessary of life the inhabitants of sundry Counties are in great want of, occasioned by the many illegal seizures of vessels, laden with that article, by His Majesty's Ships of War, and sundry Piratical Vessels fitted out by Lord *Dunmore*.

Resolved, therefore, That 599 bushels of the said Salt be, with all convenient speed, sent up *James* River to *Richmond*, to the care of the Committee of the County of *Henrico*, for the use of the following Counties, to wit:

For the County of *Augusta*, - - -	214 bushels.
For the County of *Henrico*, - - -	82 bushels.
For the County of *Goochland*, - -	63 bushels.
For the County of *Albemarle*, - -	144 bushels.
For the County of *Amherst*, - - -	96 bushels.
	599

And that 1,260 bushels of the said Salt be sent, as aforesaid, to the care of the Committee of the County of *Chesterfield*, to be landed at *Manchester*, for the use of the following Counties, to wit:

For the County of *Chesterfield*, - -	140 bushels.
For the County of *Cumberland*, - -	133 bushels.
For the County of *Prince Edward*, -	81 bushels.
For the County of *Pittsylvania*, - -	162 bushels.
For the County of *Bedford*, - - -	162 bushels.
For the County of *Fincastle*, - -	214 bushels.
For the County of *Botetourt*, - - -	297 bushels
For the County of *Buckingham*, - -	71 bushels.
	1,260

And that 985 bushels of the said Salt be sent, as aforesaid, to *Petersburgh*, and *Jordan's*, on *Appamattox* River, for the use of the following Counties, and to be left to the care of the Committees of the Counties of *Prince George* and *Dinwiddie*:

For the County of *Amelia*, - - -	162 bushels.
For the County of *Mecklenburgh*, -	122 bushels.
For the County of *Lunenburgh*, - -	63 bushels.
For the County of *Charlotte*, - - -	114 bushels.
For the County of *Halifax*, - - -	128 bushels.
For the County of *Prince George*, -	81 bushels.
For the County of *Brunswick*, - -	193 bushels.
For the County of *Dinwiddie*, - -	122 bushels.
	985

And that 387 bushels of the said Salt be sent, as aforesaid, to *Cumberland* Town, and *Newcastle*, up *York* River, to the care of the Committees of the Counties of *Hanover* and *New-Kent* respectively, for the use of the following Counties, to wit:

For the County of *Hanover*, - - -	162 bushels.
For the County of *New-Kent*, - -	81 bushels.
For the County of *Louisa*, - - -	56 bushels.
For the County of *King William*, -	88 bushels.
	387

And that 272 bushels of the said Salt be landed at *Hampton*, under the care of the Committee for the County of *Elizabeth City*, for the use of the following Counties, to wit:

For the County of *Gloucester*, - -	128 bushels.
For the County of *Elizabeth City*, -	31 bushels.
For the County of *York*, - - - -	63 bushels.
For the County of *Warwick*, - - -	14 bushels.
For the County of *James City*, - -	36 bushels.
	272

And that 63 bushels of the said Salt be sent up *James* River, and landed at *Berkeley*, for the use of the County

of *Charles City*, to be under the care of the Committee of said County.

Resolved, That the Committees of the several Counties above named do, with the utmost despatch, cause the said Salt as above allotted to them, to be divided among such of the inhabitants of their several Counties as shall appear to them to be in the greatest need of that article; the persons receiving the same paying to the Chairman, or such person as shall be deputed by the several Committees, the sum of 5*s*. per bushel for such Salt, and also the expenses which shall accrue in transporting the same; which several sums of money are hereby ordered to be transmitted, by the Chairman of the several Committees, to the Treasurer of this Colony, within three months from this time. And if, on further inquiry, it appears that the Salt taken as above be the property of persons not inimical to this Colony, the Treasurer shall repay to the owners thereof after the rate of 4*s*. per bushel.

Resolved, That this Convention doth agree with the Committee in the said Report, and that the Committee for the County of *Elizabeth City* do cause the same to be delivered according to the several proportions therein mentioned.

The Orders of the Day—for the Convention to resolve itself into a Committee on the Ordinance for continuing and amending an Ordinance appointing a Committee of Safety, and for appointing Sheriffs;—being read,

Resolved, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

The Convention then, according to the Order of the Day, resolved itself into a Committee on the Ordinance for raising an additional number of Forces for the defence and protection of this Colony, and for amending an Ordinance, entitled An Ordinance for raising and embodying a sufficient Force for the defence and protection of this Colony; and after some time spent therein, Mr. President resumed the chair, and Mr. *Cary* reported, that the Committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the said Ordinance, and had made a further progress therein, but not having time to go through the same, had directed him to move for leave to sit again.

Resolved, That this Convention will to-morrow again resolve itself into the said Committee.

Resolved, That this Convention will, on *Monday* next, resolve itself into a Committee to take into their further consideration the state of the Colony.

Adjourned till to-morrow, half after ten o'clock.

—

Saturday, December 30, 1775.

Resolved, That Mr. *Banister*, Mr. *Cary*, Mr. *Andrew Lewis*, Mr. *William Cabell*, Mr. *Carrington*, Mr. *Thomas Lewis*, and Mr. *Syme*, be a Committee to inquire into the Security offered by *John Bowyer*, gentleman, agreeably to the Resolution of *Tuesday* last, and report their opinion thereupon to the Convention.

Ordered, That it be an instruction to the Committee of Safety that they allow *William Johnson*, Adjutant to the Minute-men of the *Prince William* Battalion, three shillings per day for his extraordinary services.

The Convention then, according to the Order of the Day, resolved itself into a Committee on the Ordinance for appointing Sheriffs; and after some time spent therein, Mr. President resumed the chair, and Mr. *Cary* reported, that the Committee had, according to order, had the said Ordinance under their consideration, had gone through the same, and made several amendments thereto; which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the Clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the Convention.

Ordered, That the said Ordinance, together with the several amendments, be fairly transcribed, and read the third time.

Ordered, That the Committee on the state of the Colony be discharged from proceeding on the Petition of *Archibald Govan*, and that the same be referred to Mr. *Banister*, Mr. *Dandridge*, Mr. *King*, Mr. *Westwood*, Mr. *Digges*, Mr. *Nelson*, and Mr. *Langhorne*; and they are to report the same, together with their opinion thereupon, to the Convention.

The Convention then, according to the Order of the Day, resolved itself into a Committee on the Ordinance for raising an additional number of Forces for the defence and protection of this Colony, and for amending an Ordinance, intituled An Ordinance for raising and embodying a sufficient Force for the defence and protection of this Colony; and after some time spent therein, Mr. President resumed the chair, and Mr. *Cary* reported, that the Committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the said Ordinance, and had made a further progress therein, but not having time to go through the same, had directed him to move for leave to sit again.

Resolved, That this Convention will on *Monday* next again resolve itself into a Committee on the said Ordinance.

The Orders of the Day—for the Convention to resolve itself into a Committee on the Ordinance for continuing and amending an Ordinance for appointing a Committee of Safety; for establishing a General Test; and to amend an Ordinance, intituled An Ordinance for regulating the election of Delegates and ascertaining their allowances, and also for regulating the election of Committee-men in the several Counties and Corporations within this Colony, and for other purposes therein mentioned;—being read,

Resolved, That the same be put off till *Monday* next.

Mr. *Richard Lee*, from the Commissioners appointed to settle the Accounts of the Militia lately drawn out into actual service, laid before the Convention several claims, which were directed to be specially reported.

Ordered, That the said Claims be referred to the Committee to whom the Petition of *Alexander Ross* was referred; and they are to report the same, together with their opinion thereupon, to the Convention.

Adjourned till to-morrow, half after ten o'clock.

—

Monday, January 1, 1776.

John Augustine Washington, Esq., having resigned the office of Sheriff for the County of *Westmoreland*, and being re-elected a Delegate for the said County, was admitted to his seat in Convention.

Resolved, That the Thanks of this Convention be presented to the Reverend Mr. *Griffiths*, for his truly patriotic and most excellent Sermon preached yesterday, and that he be requested to permit the same to be printed at the publick expense.

Ordered, That Mr. *Travis* have leave to be absent from the service of this Convention for the remainder of the session.

The Convention then, according to the Order of the Day, resolved itself into a Committee on the Ordinance for raising an additional number of Forces for the defence and protection of this Colony, and for amending an Ordinance, intituled An Ordinance for raising and embodying a sufficient Force for the defence and protection of this Colony; and after some time spent therein, Mr. President resumed the chair, and Mr. *Cary* reported, that the Committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the said Ordinance, and had made a further progress therein, but not having time to go through the same, had directed him to move for leave to sit again.

Resolved, That this Convention will to-morrow again resolve itself into a Committee on the said Ordinance.

The Orders of the Day—for the Convention to resolve itself into a Committee on the Ordinances for continuing and amending an Ordinance appointing a Committee of Safety; for establishing a General Test; to amend an Ordinance, intituled An Ordinance for regulating the election of Delegates and ascertaining their allowances, and also for regulating the election of Committee-men in the several Counties and Corporations within this Colony, and for other purposes therein mentioned; for establishing a mode of making Tobacco Payments during the discontinuance of the Inspection Law;—being read,

Resolved, That the same be put off till *Wednesday* next.

The President laid before the Convention a Letter from Col. *Howe*, and also a Letter from Col. *Woodford*; which were read, and ordered to lie on the table.

Adjourned till to-morrow, half after ten o'clock.

Tuesday, January 2, 1776.

The President laid before the Convention a Letter from Col. *Howe*, and also a Letter from Col. *Woodford*, informing the Convention they had received Petitions from several of the persons who had joined Lord *Dunmore*, and were on board the Vessels in the harbour at *Norfolk*, desiring they might have leave to return, as their wives and children were greatly distressed. That they had given for answer, the women and children were at liberty to come on shore, and should receive assistance and protection, but not to be at liberty to return or give intelligence to our enemies; that the men should have no other violence offered them than to remain prisoners till they could be fairly and impartially tried by their country for taking arms against it. Which being read,

Resolved, That this Convention will immediately resolve itself into a Committee on the said Letter.

The Convention accordingly resolved itself into the said Committee, and after some time spent therein, Mr. President resumed the chair, and Mr. *Mercer* reported, that the Committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the Letter from Col. *Howe* and Col. *Woodford*, and had come to the following Resolution thereupon; which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the Clerk's table, where the same was again twice read, and agreed to by the Convention:

Resolved, That this Convention do highly approve of the offer made by Colonel *Howe* and his Officers to the distressed women and children now on board the vessels in the harbour at *Norfolk*, and the terms offered to those who have taken up arms against this country; and that Col. *Howe* be requested to repeat the same, in the name of the Delegates and Representatives of this Colony.

Ordered, That the Members for *Berkeley* be added to the Committee to whom the Ordinance for providing Arms and Ammunition for the use of this Colony was committed.

A Memorial from *Sampson Matthews*, in behalf of himself and *George Matthews*, was presented to the Convention, and read; setting forth, that they are apprehensive of being laid under great difficulties and disadvantages in consequence of the appointment of *John Bowyer*, gentleman, to receive for and pay to the several claimants in the Southern District whatever may be due them on the account of the late expedition against the *Indians*, and praying that the Convention will again consider of the said appointment, and, if the same shall be found not to answer the purposes thereby intended, that it may be superseded.

Ordered, That the said Memorial be referred to Mr. *Banister*, Mr. *Cary*, Mr. *Andrew Lewis*, Mr. *William Cabell*, Mr. *Carrington*, Mr. *Thomas Lewis*, and Mr. *Syme*; and they are to report the same, together with their opinion thereupon, to the Convention.

A Petition of *Richard Hopper* was presented to the Convention, and read; setting forth, that in consequence of a Letter from *Christopher Scott* and Company, dated *Hull, May* 27th, 1775, *Gibson, Donaldson*, and *Hamilton*, of *Suffolk*, Merchants, did purchase a cargo of Naval Stores on account and risk of the said *Christopher Scott* and Company, and had it ready provided, when the Ship *Buckingham*, of which he is Master, arrived in this Colony, on the 28th of *August* last; that the said Ship was ready on the first of *September* to receive the cargo, great part of which was then afloat in crafts, and part on board the said Ship, when, by a violent storm, which happened on the 2d of *September*, the said Ship was driven on shore; that, as he was prevented by the hand of Providence from sailing before the time limited by the Continental Association, and as other Vessels in the same situation were allowed to load after the 10th day of *September*, your Petitioner applied to the Committee of *Nansemond* County, who were of opinion he might load; that he has been at very considerable expense in refitting the said Vessel for sea, and that, as neither himself nor his owners have acted in the smallest degree unfriendly to *America*, he humbly prays that he may be permitted to proceed on his voyage.

Ordered, That the said Petition be referred to Mr. *Banister*, Mr. *Parker*, Mr. *Fitzhugh*, Mr. *Cary*, and Mr. *Watkins*; and they are to report the same, together with their opinion thereupon, to the Convention.

Ordered, That Mr. *Henry Lee*, and Mr. *Adams*, do wait on the Reverend Mr. *Griffiths*, with the Resolution of yesterday, and present him the Thanks of this Convention agreeably thereto.

A Petition of *Robert Karr* was presented to the Convention, and read; setting forth, that he served as an Ensign in the Company commanded by Captain *James Wood*, in the late expedition against the *Indians*, and that he has only received the pay of a common soldier, and praying such further allowance as shall be thought reasonable.

Ordered, That the said Petition be referred to Mr. *Neavill*, Mr. *Henry Lee*, and Mr. *Clapham*; and they are to report the same, together with their opinion thereupon, to the Convention.

A Petition of *John Mohan* and *James Ross* was presented to the Convention, and read; setting forth, that they had been employed and served as Spies in the late expedition against the *Indians*, and praying that they may be allowed a satisfaction for the same.

Ordered, That the said Petition be referred to the Committee to whom the Petition of *Alexander Ross* was referred; and they are to report the same, together with their opinion thereupon, to the Convention.

Mr. *Thomas Walker*, from the Committee to whom the Petition of *Joseph Simon* and *John Campbell* was referred, reported, that the Committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the said Petition, and that it appeared to them that *John Connolly*, on the 8th day of *June* last, executed a bond to the Petitioners for the sum of 397*l.* 11*s.* 0*d.* *Pennsylvania* currency, the 1st of *July*, 1776, and that the said *Connolly*, on the 2d day of *August* last, did assign unto the Petitioners his pay as a Captain or Major in the service of this Colony, and for sundry articles furnished the soldiers during that time, and also to settle such accounts with the Commissioners, and receive what should be found due to him, and had come to the following Resolution thereupon; which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the Clerk's table, where the same was again twice read, and agreed to by the Convention:

Resolved, That the said Petition is reasonable, and that the sum of 657*l.* 10*s.* 1*d.* ought to be allowed and paid to the said Petitioners by the publick; and that there appears to be due to the Petitioners on account of the pay of the said *John Connolly*, as an officer, and for other services, the sum of 286*l.* 13*s.* 9*d.*, which ought to be allowed and paid to the said Petitioners, after deducting what may be due to the country from the said *Connolly*.

The Reverend Mr. *Thruston*, from the Committee to whom the Petition of *Edward Snickers* was referred, reported, that they had, according to order, had the same under their consideration, and had come to the following Resolutions thereupon; which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the Clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the Convention:

Resolved, That so much of the said Petition as prays a further allowance of two Shillings per day for thirty-five Wagons, thirteen hundred and seventy-one days, and his expenses as a Commissary, is reasonable, and that the sum of 158*l.* 19*s.* 9*d.* halfpenny ought to be allowed and paid to the Petitioner by the publick.

Resolved, That so much of the said Petition as prays an allowance for expenses in attending the Commissioners, and employing a Clerk, be rejected.

The Reverend Mr. *Thruston*, from the Committee to whom the Petition of *James Wood*, was referred, reported, that they had, according to order, had the said Petition under their consideration, and had come to the following Resolution thereupon; which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the Clerk's table, where the same was again twice read, and agreed to by the Convention:

Resolved, That the said Petition is reasonable, and that the Petitioner ought to be allowed the sum of 28*l.* 11*s.* 0*d.* by the publick.

The Reverend Mr. *Thruston*, from the Committee to whom the Petition of sundry Inhabitants of the Counties of *Frederick* and *West Augusta* was referred, reported,

that the Committee had, according to order, had the same under their consideration, and had come to the following Resolution thereupon; which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the Clerk's table, where the same was again twice read, and agreed to by the Convention:

Resolved, That the said Petition is reasonable.

The Order of the Day—for the Convention to resolve itself into a Committee on the Ordinance for raising an additional number of Forces for the defence and protection of this Colony, and for amending an Ordinance, entitled An Ordinance for raising and embodying a sufficient Force for the defence and protection of this Colony; and for the Convention to resolve itself into a Committee on the state of the Colony;—being read,

Resolved, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

An Ordinance for appointing Sheriffs were read a third time.

Resolved, That the said Ordinance do pass.

Ordered, That Mr. *Carter* of *Lancaster*, Mr. *John Walker*, and Mr. *Drew*, be added to the Committee appointed to inquire into the services of Mr. *James Wood*.

Adjourned till to-morrow, half after ten o'clock.

—

Wednesday, January 3, 1776.

Walter Jones, Esq., having been re-elected a Delegate for the County of *Richmond*, in the room of *Francis Lightfoot Lee*, Esq., took his seat in Convention, as a Delegate for the said County.

A Petition of *Mary Durley*, of the County of *Isle-of-Wight*, was presented to the Convention, and read; setting forth, that, some time in the month of *October* last, in order to support herself and family, she employed a certain *Joseph Wren* to navigate a small Vessel belonging to her, which was employed in carrying oysters, shells, and other things, up *James* River; that, upon his return from up the said river, when opposite to *Burwell's Ferry*, he was fired on by the *Kingfisher* man-of-war, and was obliged to go on board her; upon which, some Riflemen, part of our Troops stationed at *Burwell's Ferry*, seized the Vessel, which in the late bad weather was driven on shore, and rendered useless to your Petitioner; and praying that this Convention will make her some compensation for the loss of the said Vessel, upon which her subsistence chiefly depended.

Ordered, That the said Petition be referred to Mr. *Parker*, Mr. *Norvell*, Mr. *Westwood*, Mr. *Langhorne*, and Mr. *Wills*; and that they report the same, together with their opinion thereupon, to the Convention.

Mr. *Holt*, from the Committee to whom the Petitions of *Archibald Campbell*, *John Willoughby*, and *Cary Mitchell*, were referred, reported, that the Committee had accordingly had the same under their consideration, and that it appeared to them, from the Depositions of *Lewis Hansford*, *Maximilian Calvert*, and *Cornelius Calvert*, and the testimony of *Matthew Phripp*, that the said *Archibald Campbell* hath frequently denied the right of the *British* Parliament to tax *America*; that the said *Archibald Campbell* was against violent measures on either side, thinking a strict adherence to the commercial opposition would produce a redress of grievances, and refused to join in soliciting Lord *Dunmore* down to *Norfolk*; that the said *Campbell* took the oath prescribed by him, but was determined to stand neuter; that the said *Campbell* had sent his family to *Bermuda*, and intended shortly to follow them; and that he does not appear to have assisted Lord *Dunmore*, either with money or provisions.

That it appeared to them that the said *John Willoughby* had acted a very friendly part to his country until Lord *Dunmore* had gained too great an ascendency about *Norfolk*; that the said *Willoughby* was Chairman of the Committee of the County of *Norfolk*, and constantly attended their meetings; that, on the 17th of *November*, the said *Willoughby* was called upon to appear before Lord *Dunmore*, and take his oath; that he expostulated with his Lordship, and desired time, until the next day, to consider of it; that, immediately after, Captain *Leslie* declared those who would not sign should be taken into custody and deemed Rebels; that the said *Willoughby* did then take the oath, but has never borne arms on the side of Lord *Dunmore*, or encouraged others to do so, but has generally behaved as a friend to *America*; that it further appears, that the said *Willoughby*, as County Lieutenant of *Norfolk*, wrote to the Captains of the Militia of that County to assemble their Companies, but that he was then under the immediate influence of Lord *Dunmore*, and his conduct proceeded from compulsion, and not inclination.

That they had wrote to Colonel *Woodford* to send up from *Norfolk*, where the said *Cary Mitchell* lately resided, any testimony he might be able to procure, either for or against him, and had given a reasonable time for obtaining the same, and that no such proof had been received.

And that the Committee had come to the following Resolutions thereupon; which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the Clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the Convention:

Resolved, That the conduct of the said *Archibald Campbell* does not appear to have been inimical to the rights and liberties of *America*.

Resolved, That the said *John Willoughby* acted as a friend to *American* liberty before Lord *Dunmore* erected his standard, and whatever he afterwards did to the contrary proceeded from compulsion, being himself, and family, in the power of Lord *Dunmore*.

Resolved, That the said *Cary Mitchell* doth not appear to have acted unfriendly to *American* liberty, nor does it appear that the reports mentioned in the said Petition are true.

Resolved, That the said *Archibald Campbell*, *John Willoughby*, and *Cary Mitchell*, be discharged on their parole not to give intelligence or assistance to the enemies of *America*.

Mr. *Cary*, from the Committee to whom the report of the Commissioners appointed to examine, state, and settle the claims against the publick in the Southern District, on account of the late expedition against the *Indians*, was referred, reported, that they had accordingly examined the same, and come to the following Resolution thereupon; which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the Clerk's table, where the same was again twice read, and ordered to lie on the table:

Resolved, That the Accounts contained in the said Report are fairly and justly stated, and, together with the several allowances therein made, ought to be paid by the publick.

The President laid before the Convention a Letter from Colonels *Howe* and *Woodford*, which was read, and ordered to lie on the table.

Ordered, That Mr. *Joseph Jones*, Mr. *Fitzhugh*, Mr. *Thomas Walker*, and Mr. *John Walker*, be added to the Committee to whom the Ordinance for amending an Ordinance, entitled An Ordinance for providing Arms and Ammunition for the use of this Colony, is committed.

A Memorial of Lieutenant-Colonel *Christian*, of the Second Regiment, in behalf of himself, and *William Preston* and *Arthur Campbell*, Esqrs., was presented to the Convention, and read; setting forth, that some time in the month of *May*, 1774, he was advised by Lord *Dunmore* to return home from the City of *Williamsburgh*, and use his endeavours to prevent the inhabitants from leaving their settlements on the approach of the late *Indian* war; that, in order to determine what had best be done, a council of officers was held on the 25th of *June*, when it was resolved that your Memorialist, who was then a Lieutenant-Colonel, should march with a body of the Militia to the frontiers of *Clinch*, which he immediately did, and continued in actual service about three weeks, when it appeared an expedition against the *Indian* Towns, was resolved on; and although he was not in the field again till the 12th of *August*, yet, during the intermediate time, he was chiefly employed in promoting the service, so as to neglect his own private affairs; that *William Preston*, Esq., by order of Lord *Dunmore*, immediately wrote to his Officers, directing them how to conduct themselves on that alarming occasion; that, from that time to the last of *October*, he was chiefly employed in the service of the country, and was at considerable expense; that the said *William Preston*, from the time of the expedition's being set on foot, was employed therein, and afterwards continued to exert

himself in promoting the expedition, and often did the duty of a contractor, as well as that of an officer; that *Arthur Campbell*, Esq., was the oldest Captain on *Holston's* River and *Clinch*, which constitutes about one half of the County, and of course spent much of his time in the service, from the breaking out of the war until some time in the month of *August;* that, from his situation and usefulness as an Officer, he did all these matters with care and ability, until some time in *November;* and your Memorialist is conscious that his extraordinary exertions produced the most beneficial effects to the country. And desiring, as well on behalf of the said *William Preston* and *Arthur Campbell*, as himself, that this Convention will take their services into consideration, and grant them such compensation as they shall be found to deserve.

Ordered, That the consideration of the said Memorial be referred to the next Convention.

Mr. *Banister*, from the Committee to whom the Petition of *Archibald Govan*, was referred, reported, that they had, according to order, had the same under their consideration, and had come to the following Resolutions thereupon; which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the Clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the Convention:

Resolved, That the said Petition, so far as it relates to the cargo of his Vessel, is reasonable; and that all the Wheat on board the said Vessel, which may be sound and merchantable, be taken on account of the country, at the price of four Shillings per bushel, being the original cost, and manufactured for the use of the Troops stationed at *Hampton*.

Resolved, That the said Petitioner may dispose of his Vessel as he thinks proper.

Ordered, That Mr. *Holt*, Mr. *Dandridge*, Mr. *Peyton*, and Mr. *Langhorne*, be added to the Committee to whom the Memorial of *Sampson Matthews* was referred.

Mr. *Banister*, from the Committee to whom the Petition of *Richard Hopper* was referred, reported, that they had, according to order, had the same under their consideration, and come to the following Resolution thereupon; which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the Clerk's table, where the same was again twice read, and agreed to by the Convention.

Resolved, That the allegations of the said Petition are true, and it is reasonable that the Vessel therein mentioned be permitted to proceed on her voyage, in ballast, and with passengers, but not with her cargo of Naval Stores.

The Convention then, according to the Order of the Day, resolved itself into a Committee on the Ordinance for raising an additional number of Forces for the defence and protection of this Colony, and for amending an Ordinance, entitled An Ordinance for raising and embodying a sufficient Force for the defence and protection of this Colony; and after some time spent therein, Mr. President resumed the chair, and Mr. *Cary* reported, that the Committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the said Ordinance, and had made a further progress therein, but not having time to go through the same, had directed him to move for leave to sit again.

Resolved, That this Convention will to-morrow resolve itself into a Committee, to take into their further consideration the said Ordinance.

Mr. *Blackburn*, from the Committee to whom the Petition of *Stephen Pierce* was referred, reported, that it appeared to the said Committee, that the Sloop whereof the Petitioner was master, cleared out at the Port of *North Potomac*, in the Province of *Maryland*, for *Antigua*, on the 25th day of *September* last, with three hundred barrels of Flour, two hundred bushels of Corn, and some live stock; that she arrived at *Antigua*, the 16th of *November* following, and on the 28th, cleared out from *Turk's Island* with eight hundred bushels of Salt, for the County of *St. Mary's*, in *Maryland;* that, by means of the late storm, she was driven into *Hampton*, and taken by Captain *Barron;* that the said *Stephen Pierce* alledges, in his justification for exporting the Flour and other articles after the 10th of *September*, that the gust on the 6th of that month retarded his sailing, and he was permitted to sail at the same time he did; but no evidence of those facts appears to your Committee, nor can any be procured at this time. And that they had come to the following Resolution thereupon; which he read in his place, and then delivered in at the Clerk's table, where the same was again twice read, and agreed to:

Resolved, That there is probable cause to suspect that the said *Stephen Pierce* hath, in the first instance, been guilty of a breach of the Continental Association; but, as our friends in *Maryland* may be in want of the Salt, it is the opinion of this Committee that the said Vessel be permitted to proceed on her voyage, and that the Committee of the said County of *St. Mary's* ought to be informed of that transaction, that they may take such measures as to them may appear necessary.

The Orders of the Day—for the Convention to resolve itself into a Committee on the state of the Colony, and on the Ordinance for continuing and amending an Ordinance appointing a Committee of Safety; for establishing a General Test; to amend an Ordinance, intituled An Ordinance for regulating the election of Delegates, and ascertaining their allowances, and also for regulating the election of Committee-men in the several Counties and Corporations within this Colony, and for other purposes therein mentioned; and for establishing a mode of making Tobacco Payments during the discontinuance of the Inspection Law;—being read,

Resolved, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

Mr. *Holt*, from the Committee to whom the Petition of *Edward Hack Moseley* and *Edward Hack Moseley*, Jun., was referred, reported, that it appeared to the Committee, from the testimony of *Lemuel Newton*, *Matthew Phripp*, *Alexander Mosely*, and *John Ramsay*, that the said *Mosely* took the oath prescribed by Lord *Dunmore;* that *Jacob Elligood* came to their house with the parchment and oath, which they there took and subscribed; and that they did not repair to the standard erected by Lord *Dunmore*, nor in any respect aid or assist him with money or provisions, and that they in general endeavoured to keep out of the way of Lord *Dunmore* and his adherents. And that they had come to the following Resolution thereupon; which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the Clerk's table, where the same was again twice read, and agreed to:

Resolved, That the said *Edward Hack Moseley* and *Edward Hack Moseley*, Jun., did not appear inimical to *American* liberty before Lord *Dunmore* had erected his standard'; and that whatever they did afterwards proceeded from their great fear of Lord *Dunmore*, and his adherents.

Resolved, That the said *Edward Hack Moseley* and *Edward Hack Moseley*, Jun., be discharged on their parole not to give intelligence or assistance to the enemies of *America*.

Adjourned till to-morrow, half after ten o'clock.

—

Thursday, January 4, 1776.

Ordered, That the Committee appointed to inquire into the security offered by *John Bowyer*, gentleman, be discharged from proceeding therein.

Mr. *Holt*, from the Committee to whom the Petition of *Matthew Phripp* was referred, reported, that it appeared from the testimony of *Daniel Hutchings*, that the said *Phripp* was extremely active in encouraging the people of *Norfolk* to make themselves acquainted with military discipline, and to prepare for defending their country; that the said *Phripp* was chosen Colonel of that Borough, and was twice elected Chairman of the Committee; that the said *Phripp* took up arms against Lord *Dunmore*, on his taking the type from the printer in *Norfolk*, but that, on the people refusing to join him, he declined to act any longer as their Colonel; that it appeared, from the depositions of *Paul Loyal* and *Christopher Calvert*, that the said *Matthew Phripp*, during Lord *Dunmore's* stay in and about *Norfolk*, demeaned himself as a friend to his country; and it does not appear that the said *Phripp* hath assisted Lord *Dunmore*, with either money, provisions, or vessels, or advised or persuaded any person to join him or take his oath; that it appears to them that the said *Phripp*, being deserted by the people in that part of the country, in danger of being delivered up to, and having much of his property in, the power of Lord *Dunmore*, was compelled, by his situation, to take the oath prescribed by his Lordship; and that

it appeared to them that the said *Phripp's* visit to *Norfolk* proceeded from the pressing invitation of his aged and infirm father. And that they had come to the following Resolution thereupon; which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the Clerk's table, where the same was again twice read, and agreed to:

Resolved, That the said *Matthew Phripp* hath uniformly shown himself the firm and steady friend of *American* liberty, until his unfortunate visit to *Norfolk*, in consequence of the invitation of his aged parent, at which time, falling into the power of Lord *Dunmore*, he had only the alternative of submitting or exposing his life and fortune to his Lordship's resentment; that, in his extremity, he yielded and took the oath; but, as the said *Matthew Phripp* soon after manifested his willingness to support the common cause, we think, upon the whole, he ought to be restored to the confidence of his countrymen.

The Convention then, according to the Order of the Day, resolved itself into a Committee on the Ordinance for raising an additional number of Forces for the defence and protection of this Colony, and for amending an Ordinance, intituled An Ordinance for raising and embodying a sufficient Force for the defence and protection of this Colony; and after some time spent therein, Mr. President resumed the chair, and Mr. *Cary* reported, that the Committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the said Ordinance, and had made a further progress therein, but not having time to go through the same, had directed him to move for leave to sit again.

Resolved, That this Convention will to-morrow again resolve itself into a Committee to take into their further consideration the said Ordinance.

The Orders of the Day—for the Convention to resolve itself into a Committee on the state of the Colony, and on the Ordinances for continuing and amending an Ordinance appointing a Committee of Safety; for establishing a General Test; to amend an Ordinance, entitled An Ordinance for regulating the election of Delegates, and ascertaining their allowances, and also for regulating the election of Committee-men in the several Counties and Corporations within this Colony, and for other purposes therein mentioned; and for establishing a mode of making Tobacco Payments during the discontinuance of the Inspection Law;—being read,

Resolved, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

Ordered, That Mr. *Holt* have leave to be absent from the service of this Convention for the remainder of the session.

Mr. *Thomas Walker* laid before the Convention an Account of the money expended at the late Treaty with the *Indians*, by the Commissioners appointed for that purpose; which was ordered to lie on the table, for the perusal of the members.

Adjourned till to-morrow, half after ten o'clock.

—

Friday, January 5, 1776.

Mr. *Cary*, from the Committee to whom it was referred to inquire whether the Salt, and other goods, lately taken on board several vessels at *Hampton*, were imported agreeably to the terms of the Continental Association, and whether the same were the property of friends to *America*, or of those who have been in arms, or have taken an active part against this Colony, reported, that the Committee had, according to order, had the same under their consideration, and that it appeared to them that Capt. *Wilson*, of the Sloop *Agatha*, sailed from this Colony, some time in the month of *August* last, for the *Granadas*, where he took on board 30 hhds. of Rum, the property of *Isaac Wilson*, of the Town of *Portsmouth*, two the property of the Captain himself, and two the property of *Cornelius Calvert*, jun., who was Supercargo of the said Vessel, which appears to be the property of *John Shedden*, of *Norfolk*, *Robert Shedden*, of *Portsmouth*, and *John Syme*, of *Smithfield*; that it further appears that the said *Robert Shedden* had given orders to his agents in *Glasgow* to ship large quantities of Goods from thence, in direct violation of the Association, which he had agreed to and subscribed, and had thereby discovered an earnest intention of injuring, as much as possible, the cause of *America*; and that it appeared that the sum of 53*l.* 11*s.* 4*d.* is now due to the mariners of the said Vessel. That the Sloop *Swallow*, of which *George Burwell* is Master, cleared out in ballast, from *Hampton*, about the 1st of *September* last, to the Island of *Tortuga*, where she arrived, and took in great part of her load of Salt, and then sailed for *Turk's Island*, and took in 300 bushels more, and arrived in this Colony with the same; that 2,155 bushels thereof appeared to be the property of *Hector M'Allister*, of *Norfolk*, and the residue to belong to the Captain and his Mates; that the said Vessel, except about sixty Pounds in her value, belonged to the said *George Burwell*. That the Sloop *Molly*, whereof *Samuel Servant* is Master, cleared out at *Hampton*, with a cargo of Grain, and other commodities, on the 10th of *September* last, and sailed about the twentieth of the same month for *Antigua*, and that the whole of her Cargo was on board when she cleared out; that she arrived at *Nevis*, and then sailed for *Turk's Island*, and took on board 1,232 bushels of Salt; that the said Sloop, together with the Cargo, except fifty bushels of Salt taken on board for the Captain's use, belonged to *William Turner*, *Archibald Brown*, and *James Woddrop*, of *Norfolk*; and that it appeared, from the testimony of Dr. *Archibald Campbell*, that the said *James Woddrop* had been very active under Lord *Dunmore*, since the commencement of the present disputes, and had received a commission as an officer of the Militia from him, and was one of the party at the *Great Bridge*, and principally engaged in carrying of the cannon during the action. That the Brig *Corlet*, whereof *John Harris* is Master, sailed from *Hampton*, some time in the month of *June* last, for *Scotland*, and from thence, in *September*, for this Colony, in ballast; that she has on board three pieces of *Irish* Linen, two pieces of Diaper, and six Macaroni Waistcoats, which were for his own use; one piece of Osnaburgs, two pieces of *Irish* Linen, three parcels of Pins, a parcel of Needles, and one piece of Green Plaids, sent by one *Maclean*, of *Scotland*, to his wife, at *Norfolk*; and two pieces of *Irish* Linen, one dozen and ten pair men's Thread Stockings, the property of *Andrew Sprowle*, of *Norfolk*. And that they had come to several Resolutions thereupon; which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the Clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, as follows:

Resolved, That the Rum in the Sloop *Agatha* was not imported contrary to the Continental Association, but that 11 hhds. thereof, together with the said Sloop, being the property of Messrs. *Robert* and *John Shedden*, and *John Syme*, from the inimical conduct of the said *Robert*, are become justly forfeited to this Colony, and ought to be considered as lawful prize; but as the conduct of the said *John Shedden* and *John Syme*, two of the owners thereof, cannot be inquired into, they refer the further examination to the Committee of Safety.

Resolved, That the remainder of the said Cargo be delivered to the several Proprietors thereof.

Resolved, That the said Vessel, and 11 hhds. of Rum, be sold at publick auction; and that the sum of 53*l.* 11*s.* 4*d.*, due to the Mariners of the said Vessel, for their wages, be paid to them, and the residue be disposed of as the Convention shall direct.

Resolved, That the Salt in the Sloop *Swallow* doth not appear to have been imported contrary to the terms of the Continental Association; but that the conduct of *Hector M'Allister*, owner of the said Vessel and Cargo, ought to be inquired into by the Committee of Safety.

Resolved, That the Goods imported in the Brig *Corlet* be forfeited to this Colony, and sold at publick auction.

Ordered, That the said Report do lie upon the table.

Ordered, That the Cargo of the Sloop *Agatha* aforesaid, except 11 hhds. of Rum, belonging to *Robert* and *John Shedden*, and *John Syme*, be delivered to the several proprietors thereof.

Mr. *Bland*, from the Committee appointed to inquire into the services of Mr. *James Wood*, who was sent by the House of Burgesses to invite the several tribes of *Indians* on the Western Frontiers of this Colony to a Treaty, according to a Resolution of the Council and House of Burgesses in *June* last, reported, that the Committee had, according to order, had the same under their consideration, and that it appeared to them that the said *James Wood* set out on the 25th of *June* last, in the execution of his commission; that, in his progress through the several tribes of *Indians*, he was informed that Governour *Carleton's* emissaries had exerted their endeavours to persuade them to

take up the hatchet against this Colony; that, in consequence thereof, many of the said *Indians* entertained very hostile intentions; that the said *Wood* was frequently in danger of his life, particularly from one of those hostile tribes who had formed a scheme for killing him, but that he discovered their design, and made his escape; that, at last, by exerting all his abilities, he happily removed their prejudices, and engaged them, with the other tribes, to attend the said Treaty, which engagement they accordingly performed, whereby peace and safety was restored to this Colony; that the said *Wood* was near two months employed in the progress of this business, and underwent the greatest fatigues, difficulties, and dangers. And that they had come to the following Resolution thereupon; which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the Clerk's table, where the same was again twice read, and agreed to:

Resolved, That the said *James Wood* ought to be paid by the publick the sum of two hundred and fifty Pounds, for the great service he hath done to this Colony, by his diligent and faithful execution of the Commission with which he was intrusted.

The President laid before the Convention a Letter from the Committee for the County of *Northampton;* which was read, and ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. *Henry Lee*, from the Committee appointed, informed the Convention that they had waited on the Rev. Mr. *Griffiths*, and presented to him the Thanks of this Convention for his excellent Sermon, and requested he would permit the same to be printed at the publick expense; and that he returned for answer, that he entertained the most grateful sense of the publick mark of approbation shown his Sermon by this Convention, and would cheerfully comply with their request.

A Petition of sundry Freeholders, of the County of *Caroline*, was presented to the Convention and read, setting forth that the former Committee for the said County omitted to appoint persons to superintend the election of a Committee in the month of *November* last, to determine the right of any person to vote who offered a list for that purpose, and who might have prevented many lists being received from persons whom your Petitioners suspect had no right to vote; and that the lists were immediately destroyed, which put it out of the power of your Petitioners to examine them; and praying that the said election may be set aside, and a new one directed, agreeably to the Ordinance of the last Convention.

Ordered, That the said Petition be referred to Mr. *Digges*, Mr. Treasurer, Mr. *Bland*, Mr. *Cary*, Mr. *Jones*, Mr. *Braxton*, Mr. *Fitzhugh*, Mr. *Carter* of *Lancaster*, Mr. *Carrington*, Mr. *Bassett*, Mr. *Dandridge*, Mr. *Holt*, Mr. *Henry Lee*, Mr. *Richard Lee*, Mr. *Mercer*, Mr. *Fleming*, Mr. *Page*, and Mr. *M'Dowell*, and they are to report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the Convention.

The Convention then, according to the Order of the Day, resolved itself into a Committee on the Ordinance for raising an additional number of Forces for the defence and protection of this Colony, and for amending an Ordinance, intituled An Ordinance for raising and embodying a sufficient Force for the defence and protection of this Colony; and after some time spent therein, Mr. President resumed the chair, and Mr. *Cary* reported, that the Committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the said Ordinance, and had made a further progress therein, but not having time to go through the same, had directed him to move for leave to sit again.

Resolved, That this Convention will to-morrow again resolve itself into a Committee on the said Ordinance.

The Orders of the Day—for the Convention to resolve itself into a Committee on the state of the Colony, and on the Ordinances for continuing and amending an Ordinance appointing a Committee of Safety; for establishing a General Test; to amend an Ordinance, intituled An Ordinance for regulating the election of Delegates, and ascertaining their allowances, and also for regulating the election of Committee-men, in the several Counties and Corporations within this Colony, and for other purposes therein mentioned; and for establishing a mode of making Tobacco Payments during the discontinuance of the Inspection Law; —being read,

Resolved, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

Mr. *Parker* laid before the Convention the Proceedings of the Committee of the County of *Isle-of-Wight*, relative to the conduct of *John Goodrich*; which were read, and ordered to be referred to the Committee appointed to inquire into the conduct of the said *John Goodrich*, concerning the importation of Gunpowder and other articles, for the use of this Colony.

The President laid before the Convention the Proceedings of the Court of Inquiry held on the Prisoners taken at *Norfolk*, and in the neighbourhood thereof; which were read, and ordered to be referred to Mr. *Cary*, Mr. *Mercer*, Mr. *Holt*, Mr. *Digges*, Mr. *Nelson*, Mr. *Langhorne*, Mr. *Harwood*, Mr. *King*, Mr. *Westwood*, Mr. *Murdaugh*, Mr. *Meade*, Mr. *Robert Wormley Carter*, Mr. *Richard Randolph*, Mr. *Watkins*, Mr. *Thomas M. Randolph*, Mr. *Parker*, and Mr. *Mason*, and they are to report the same, together with their opinion thereupon, to the Convention.

Adjourned till to-morrow, half after ten o'clock.

—

Saturday, January 6, 1776.

Mr. *Adams*, from the Committee to whom the Petition of *Alexander Ross* and *William Tompson* was referred, reported, that they had, according to order, had the same under their consideration, and that it appeared to them that, in the year 1760, His Majesty had a garrisoned fort erected at the place called *Fort Pitt*, which was kept up until the year 1772, after which a Corporal and a few men only were continued in the said fort; that the Petitioners produced to them a bill of sale from Major *Charles Edmonstone*, commander of the said fort, to them, bearing date the 10th day of *October*, 1772, reciting that the said *Edmonstone*, for and in consideration of the sum of fifty Pounds, *New-York* currency, to him in hand paid by the said *Alexander Ross* and *William Tompson*, did bargain and sell, in behalf of the Crown, unto the said *Alexander Ross* and *William Tompson*, all the pickets, bricks, stones, timber, and iron, which are now in the buildings or walls of the said fort, and in the redoubts, to be demolished by order of his Excellency General *Gage*, Commander-in-Chief of His Majesty's Forces in *North-America;* and that it also appeared, from the testimony of *John Campbell*, that he, with many others, signed a Remonstrance, and sent it to General *Gage*, whereby they complained of a private sale made of the ruins of the fort, by the said *Charles Edmonstone*, to the Petitioners, and requested that they might be publickly sold; that they received for answer from General *Gage*, that although the said *Charles Edmonstone* had proceeded irregularly, yet, as a sale was made, he could not set it aside; that it further appeared, from the deposition of *Dorsey Penticost*, that he saw a letter from Gen. *Gage*, dated in the winter of 1772, which seemed to be an answer to a remonstrance of the inhabitants of *Fort Pitt*, desiring to purchase the ruins of the fort, wherein he informs them that he had received a return from Major *Edmonstone* of the sale thereof, which was good and by his orders; that there were a corporal and three men left at *Fort Pitt*, who, he was informed by *Edward Hand*, surgeon of the said Regiment, were left to take care of the boats, batteaus, &c.; that it also appeared the further sum of fifty Pounds was given as a present, by the Petitioners, to the said *Charles Edmonstone*, and the sum of twenty-five Pounds to one *Bredau*, an ensign to the said Regiment, and a witness to the bill of sale; and that the said *Edward Hand*, another witness to the bill of sale, had empowered him to receive from the said *Alexander Ross* one-third of the sales of the ruins of the fort, by virtue of a contract subsisting between the said *Edward Hand* and the Petitioners; that it further appeared that the Petitioners, since the purchase aforesaid, have sold some of the ruins of the said fort, and were in possession of others in the year 1774, when *John Connolly*, by order of Lord *Dunmore*, took possession thereof, and had the same appraised and valued by *John Gibson* and *Thomas Smallman*, sworn for that purpose, which valuation amounted to 1082*l.* 7*s.* 2*d.*, current money of *Virginia;* that the said *Alexander Ross* had built, without the said fort, several houses, and enclosed a garden with pickets and a brick wall, and was possessed of two redoubts and eight stacks of chimnies, as his private pro-

perty, some of which were made use of, and others destroyed, by the said *John Connolly*, having been previously valued by the said *Gibson* and *Smallman*, on oath, to the sum of 314*l.* 1*s.* 9*d.*, *Virginia* currency. And that they had come to the following Resolutions thereupon; which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the Clerk's table, where the same were again twice read and agreed to:

Resolved, That so much of the Petition as relates to the claim of the said *Alexander Ross* and *William Tompson* be rejected.

Resolved, That such other part of the Petition as relates to the said *Alexander Ross* is reasonable, and that the sum of 107*l.* 1*s.* 9*d.* ought to be allowed and paid to the said *Ross*, by the publick, deducting 55*l.* 10*s.*, which appears at present to be due to the country from the said *Ross*, for Provisions furnished by *John Connolly* to four men of the Eighteenth Regiment of Royal *Irish*, remaining in *Fort Pitt*, to which the said *Ross* was Commissary.

Mr. *Mercer*, from the persons to whom the Ordinance for amending an Ordinance, intituled An Ordinance for providing Arms and Ammunition for the use of this Colony was committed, reported, that the Committee had, according to order, had the same under their consideration, and had directed him to report the same without any amendments.

Ordered, That the said Ordinance be fairly transcribed and read a third time.

Ordered, That Colonel *Woodford*, of the Second Regiment, have leave of absence from the service, for such time as shall be agreed on between Colonel *Howe* and himself.

The Convention then, according to the Order of the Day, resolved itself into a Committee on the Ordinance for raising an additional number of Forces for the defence and protection of this Colony, and for amending an Ordinance, entitled An Ordinance for raising and embodying a sufficient Force for the defence and protection of this Colony; and after some time spent therein, Mr. President resumed the chair, and Mr. *Cary* reported, that the Committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the said Ordinance, had gone through the same, and made several amendments thereto, which he was ready to report when the Convention should be pleased to receive the same.

Ordered, That the said Report be received on *Tuesday* next.

The Orders of the Day—for the Convention to resolve itself into a Committee on the state of the Colony, and on the Ordinances for continuing and amending an Ordinance appointing a Committee of Safety; for establishing a General Test; to amend an Ordinance, intituled An Ordinance for regulating the election of Delegates and ascertaining their allowances, and also for regulating the election of Committee-men in the several Counties and Corporations within this Colony, and for other purposes therein mentioned; and for establishing a mode of making Tobacco Payments during the discontinuance of the Inspection Law;—being read,

Ordered, That the same be put off till *Tuesday* next.

Adjourned till *Monday*, half after ten o'clock.

—

Monday, January 8, 1776.

The President laid before the Convention a Letter from the Committee of Correspondence for the County of *Dinwiddie*, informing the Convention that *Thomas Irving*, an inhabitant of the Town of *Petersburgh*, was a Deputy Postmaster in the said Town, and was then an agent for *Neil Jamieson*, who had appeared to be inimical to this country; that they wish not to appear officious, or to act without proper authority, but are of opinion it is improper that the said *Irving* should continue Postmaster, by which means he may have an opportunity of opening letters, and conveying intelligence of the most dangerous nature; and desiring the Convention would be pleased to give such directions as they shall think proper.

Ordered, That the said Letter do lie on the table.

An Ordinance for amending an Ordinance, intituled An Ordinance for providing Arms and Ammunition for the use of this Colony, which had been fairly transcribed, was read a third time.

Resolved, That the said Ordinance do pass.

Ordered, That the Treasurer do advance any sum, not exceeding 1,000*l.*, for the immediate relief of the poor distressed Inhabitants of the Borough of *Norfolk*, who have been sufferers by the destruction of that Town; and that the Committee of Safety do provide, in the best manner they are able, for their removal to the more interior and more secure parts of the Colony.

The President laid before the Convention, for their opinion, the cases of two Vessels taken by Capt. *Richard Barron* in *Hampton* Roads, and carried up *York* River. The first is the Brig *Fanny*, the property of *Joseph Hewes*, Esq., of *North-Carolina*, whereof *John Cunningham* is master; who, being examined, declares, that he sailed about a year ago with the said Brig from *North-Carolina*, with instructions from his owner to land her cargo in the Island of *Antigua*, and there or elsewhere to take any freights that might offer; that, having landed his cargo accordingly, he took a freight to *Grenada*, and from thence another to *Cork* in *Ireland*, where he was offered a freight to *Boston*, in Government service, which he refused; that he was likewise offered a freight in the same service to *Gibraltar*, which he would have accepted, but the contractor declined employing him, not caring, as he said, to trust an *American*; upon which he would have returned to *North-Carolina* in ballast, but a man-of-war arriving, he was informed that all *American* Vessels would be stopped, to evade which, he agreed to accept a freight of provisions from Government for the troops at *Boston*; that he sailed from *Cork*, the 18th of *October*, in company with seven sail of Transports, with three regiments of Soldiers destined for *Quebec*, as he was told, whom he parted with the night after he sailed; that, having sprung his mast, he came into the Capes, intending to *Norfolk*, to get a new one, and then to proceed to *Boston*, but was taken on his way to *Norfolk* by Capt. *Barron*; that he shipped one Mr. *Wogan*, a native of *Capel*, in *Ireland*, who took his passage for *Boston*, to collect some money there, and then to proceed to *Philadelphia*, as he said; that by the bills of lading, dockets, and intercepted letters, it appears the cargo of the said Vessel is as followeth: on Government account, one thousand and fifty barrels of pork, four hundred firkins of butter, four half-barrels of tongues, two hogsheads and four hampers of potatoes, and one barrel of parsnips; and, on private account, and designed as presents for the officers in *Boston*, several parcels of beef, butter, cheese, tongues, and potatoes.

The other Vessel is the Brig *Industry*, *James Sampson* master, an inhabitant of *Philadelphia*, from whence he had gone to sea many years in the employ of Messrs. *James* and *Drinker*, merchants in that city; that, about five years ago, he sailed from thence in the said Brig, whereof himself, his Mate, *William Simpson*, and *Laundrice Cuthbert*, of *Pennsylvania*, are owners, and has been trading in many parts, chiefly in the *Mediterranean* Sea, till lately, when, inclining to return, he came to the Island of *Grenada*, with intention to take a freight from thence to *Philadelphia*; but being told a man-of-war at *Newcastle* would prevent his passage to that City, and that the Port of *Norfolk*, in this Colony, was open, he engaged the following freight for *Norfolk*, to wit: twenty-five puncheons of rum for Messrs. *Kerr* and Company, and ten hogsheads of rum and two hogsheads of sugar for Messrs. *Roper* and *Boyd*; and also laded on board sixty-five hogsheads of rum, three barrels of sugar, two casks of *Malaga* wine, and five or six blankets, the manufacture of *Tunis*, which are the property of himself and Mate. Upon consideration whereof, the Convention are of opinion, and do resolve, that the cargo on board the Brig *Fanny* is lawful prize, and justly forfeited to this Colony, and that the same be disposed of under the direction of the Committee of Safety; and that the Brig *Industry* and her cargo shall not be water-borne below *Cumberland* Town, where the same now is.

Mr. *Banister*, from the Committee to whom the Memorial of *Sampson* and *George Matthews* was referred, reported, that the Committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the said Memorial, and that it

appeared to them that the said Memorialists were concerned in trade, and may therefore be deeply interested in the disposition of the country's money, so far as may relate to the collection of their debts from persons concerned; that it further appeared to them, that the Memorialists were extremely active in the promotion of the service, as commissaries, and that they discharged their duty therein in an advantageous manner to the country; that it also appeared, that Col. *John Bowyer*, at the first marching of the forces, was averse to the war, and retarded the service; but, upon some attacks of the Savages on *Greenbrier*, he consented to Capt. *Murray's* drafting part of his company, in order to repel them; that Col. *Bowyer* is no otherwise concerned in the disposal of the publick money than as it may be in his power to favour his brothers, who have lately broke up their store, and had many debts to collect. And that they had come to the following Resolution thereupon; which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the Clerk's table, where the same was again twice read, and agreed to by the Convention:

Resolved, That some person, totally disinterested in the commercial way with the claimants, ought to be appointed to pay the publick money to the persons entitled thereto.

Resolved, That the Resolution appointing *John Bowyer*, gentleman, a Commissioner to receive for and pay to the several claimants in the Counties of *Pittsylvania*, *Augusta*, *Botetourt*, *Fincastle*, and *Bedford*, whatever may be due to them from the publick, and not called for at the Treasury, on account of the late expedition against the *Indians*, be now rescinded; and that *Joseph Cabell*, gentleman, be appointed a Commissioner in his stead, for the purposes aforesaid, and that he enter into bond, with sufficient security, for the due performance thereof; that he return an account to the Treasurer within six months from the time of receiving the money, and that he be allowed the sum of one hundred and fifty Pounds for his trouble and expenses in discharging the said trust.

Adjourned till to-morrow, half-after ten o'clock.

—

Tuesday, January 9, 1776.

Mr. *Neavill*, from the Committee to whom the Petition of *Robert Carr* was referred, reported, that the Committee had, according to order, had the same under their consideration; and that it appeared to them, from the testimony of Mr. *James Wood*, that the Petitioner acted as ensign in his Company, without a commission, from the 12th of *October* till the 12th day of *November* following, by the express direction of Lord *Dunmore*, the two Lieutenants belonging to the Company being rendered incapable of duty by sickness; and that it also appeared, that the Petitioner had received pay as a private soldier only, during the time aforesaid. And that they had come to the following Resolution thereupon; which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the Clerk's table, where the same was again twice read, and agreed to:

Resolved, That the said Petition is reasonable, and that the Petitioner ought to be allowed the sum of 6*l.* 15*s.* 0*d.*, being the difference of pay between that of an ensign and common soldier.

Ordered, That the Account of the money expended at the late Treaty with the *Indians* be referred to Mr. *Carrington*, Mr. *Cabell*, Mr. *Cary*, Mr. *Fleming*, Mr. *Thomas Mann Randolph*, and Mr. *Watkins*; who are to examine the said Accounts, and report the same, together with their opinion thereupon, to the Convention.

Ordered, That leave be given to bring in an Ordinance for establishing a certain mode of Punishment for the enemies of *America*; and that Mr. *Braxton*, Mr. *Banister*, Mr. *Cary*, Mr. *Dandridge*, Mr. *Mercer*, Mr. *Jones*, Mr. *Smith*, Mr. *Thruston*, Mr. *Walter Jones*, and Mr. *Kenner*, do prepare and bring in the same.

A Petition of *Richard Hopper*, master of the Ship *Rockingham*, in behalf of *Christopher Scott*, and Company, merchants in *Hull*, was presented to the Convention, and read; setting forth, that as he was prevented from proceeding to *Great Britain* with his cargo of Naval Stores, by order of this Convention, and as the same is of a perishable nature, he humbly prays that this Convention will take the same for the use of the publick, and grant him such relief as his case shall be found to deserve.

Ordered, That the said Petition be referred to Mr. *Banister*, Mr. *Wills*, Mr. *Parker*, Mr. *David Mason*, Mr. *Gee*, Mr. *Faulcon*, and Mr. *Cocke*; and they are to report the same, together with their opinion thereupon, to the Convention.

Mr. *Cary*, from the Committee of the whole Convention, reported, according to order, the several Amendments to the Ordinance for raising an additional number of Forces for the defence and protection of this Colony, and for amending an Ordinance, entitled An Ordinance for raising and embodying a sufficient Force for the defence and protection of this Colony; which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the Clerk's table, where the same were again twice read.

Ordered, That the consideration of the said Amendments be put off till to-morrow.

The Orders of the Day—for the Convention to resolve itself into a Committee on the state of the Colony, and on the Ordinance for continuing and amending an Ordinance appointing a Committee of Safety; for establishing a General Test; to amend an Ordinance, intituled An Ordinance for regulating the election of Delegates and ascertaining their allowances, and also for regulating the election of Committee-men in the several Counties and Corporations within this Colony, and for other purposes therein mentioned; for establishing a mode of making Tobacco Payments during the discontinuance of the Inspection Law; being read,

Ordered, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

Adjourned till to-morrow, half after ten o'clock.

—

Wednesday, January 10, 1776.

A Petition of *Joseph Bowman* was presented to the Convention and read; setting forth that he commanded a Company of Militia under Lord *Dunmore* in the late expedition against the *Indians*, and furnished a number of his men with necessaries, to the amount of 44*l.* 18*s.* 3*d.* three farthings, who afterwards deserted, by which means he lost the sum of 21*l.* 19*s.* 3*d.* three farthings, and praying the same may be repaid him.

Ordered, That the said Petition be referred to Mr. *Muhlenburg*, Mr. *Clarke*, Mr. *Thruston*, Mr. *Harvie*, and Mr. *Rootes*; and they are to report the same, together with their opinion thereupon, to the Convention.

The President laid before the Convention several Letters from the Delegates appointed to represent this Colony in General Congress, and also a Letter from Col. *Howe*; which were read, and ordered to lie on the table.

The Convention took into consideration the amendments reported to the Ordinance for raising an additional number of Forces for the defence and protection of this Colony, and for amending an Ordinance, entitled An Ordinance for raising and embodying a sufficient Force for the defence and protection of this Colony; and having gone through the same, and agreed thereto, the said Ordinance, together with the amendments, were ordered to be fairly transcribed, and read a third time.

The President laid before the Convention a Letter from the Council of Safety for the Province of *North-Carolina*, informing the Convention that they had sent orders to Col. *Howe*, commander of the Troops at *Norfolk*, to remain in this Colony with the *Carolina* Troops, as long as the publick service might require, or until it should be absolutely necessary to recall him for the defence of their Province, and had directed him to receive all his orders respecting his operations, whilst in this Colony, from the Convention or Committee of Safety.

Ordered, That the President be desired to write to the Council of Safety of *North-Carolina*, acknowledging the receipt of their very polite Letter, and thanking them for the assistance afforded this Colony against the enemies of *America*.

The Orders of the Day—for the Convention to resolve itself into a Committee on the state of the Colony, and on the Ordinances for continuing and amending an Ordinance appointing a Committee of Safety; for establishing a Gene-

ral Test; to amend an Ordinance, intituled An Ordinance for regulating the election of Delegates, and ascertaining their allowances, and also for regulating the election of Committee-men in the several Counties and Corporations within this Colony, and for other purposes therein mentioned; and for establishing a mode of making Tobacco Payments during the discontinuance of the Inspection Law;—being read,

Ordered, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

Ordered, That the Committee of Safety do dispose of the Provisions and other things laid in for the use of the several Battalions of Minute-men, which may not be necessary, for the use of the publick.

Resolved, That the Committee of Safety be directed to write to the Delegates from this Colony, in answer to their last Letter, enclosing several Resolutions of Congress, to inform them that this Convention, having maturely considered the state of *Virginia*, its peculiar and exposed situation, as well to domestick as foreign enemies, are of opinion that the Colony cannot remain in any tolerable degree of security without nine Battalions of regular Forces at least; that they have resolved to augment our two Regiments to the Continental establishment, and to raise seven new Regiments, six for the further defence of the *Western*, and one for the protection of the two Counties on the *Eastern-Shore*; that, besides these Regiments, they find it necessary to continue the former establishment of Minute Battalions, and to arrange the Militia throughout the Colony in the most effectual manner for its defence, which must greatly increase our publick expenses; that this Convention had hoped the Congress would have supposed them competent judges of the number of Forces necessary to the security of this Colony, and, considering the large proportion of the Continental expenses which it is expected our inhabitants are to pay, that they would, without hesitation, have taken all the regular Forces found necessary for their defence into Continental pay; that the Delegates be desired to submit this matter to the revision and further consideration of the Congress, who, it is hoped, will be of opinion that it is reasonable the Continent in general should bear at least an equal share of the expenses of our present two Regiments, consisting of one thousand and twenty Privates, with their proper Officers, from the time of their entering into the service, which we think it equitable and just to fix about the first of *November*, allowing for the difference of time when the several Companies were completed; that, should the Congress adhere to their resolution of taking into Continental pay no more than six Battalions, it be earnestly recommended to them to suffer our two present Regiments (to be completed as before mentioned) to stand first in the arrangement, since otherwise the Officers first appointed by this Convention, most of whom have already gone through a laborious and painful service, will be degraded in the ranks, and there is too much reason to apprehend that great confusion will ensue.

A Petition of *John Goodrich*, was presented to the Convention, and read; praying, among other things, that the Committee of Safety might be directed to pay him the balance of his Account against the publick.

Ordered, That the said Petition be referred to the Committee appointed to inquire into the conduct of the said *John Goodrich*, relative to the importation of Gunpowder, and other articles for the use of the Colony.

Resolved, That the Cargo of the Brig *Fanny*, lately taken by Captain *Barron*, and carried to *Cumberland*, be disposed of, as the Committee of Safety shall direct, for the use of this Colony; the said Committee being directed to pay to Captain *Barron* one-tenth of the value of the said Cargo, another tenth to the mate and sailors, allowing three shares to the mate.

The Convention then took into consideration the Report of the Commissioners appointed to examine, state, and settle the claims against the *Indians*, and the Resolution thereupon, which was agreed to by the Convention.

Adjourned till to-morrow, half after ten o'clock.

—

Thursday, January 11, 1776.

An Ordinance for raising an additional number of Forces for the defence and protection of this Colony, and for amending an Ordinance, entitled An Ordinance for raising and embodying a sufficient Force for the defence and protection of this Colony, which had been fairly transcribed, was read a third time.

Resolved, That the said Ordinance do pass; and that the title be, "An Ordinance for raising an additional number of Forces for the defence of this Colony, and for other purposes therein mentioned."

Mr. *Digges*, from the Committee to whom the Petition of sundry Inhabitants of the County of *Caroline* was referred, reported, that the Committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the said Petition, and that it appeared that the Committee of the said County did not, previous to their election in *November* last, appoint any persons to superintend the said election, in order to determine the right of any person to vote who should offer a list, although the Chairman, and several of the members, were present at the said election. And that they had come to the following Resolution thereupon; which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the Clerk's table, where the same was again twice read, and agreed to:

Resolved, That the election of Committee-men for the said County of *Caroline*, was illegal, and that a new Committee be chosen for the said County.

The Convention then proceeded, by ballot, to the appointment of a Colonel to the Third Regiment; and the members having prepared tickets, with the name of the person to be appointed, and put the same into the ballot box, Mr. *Digges*, Mr. *Carrington*, Mr. *John Walker*, and Mr. *Dandridge*, were appointed a Committee to examine the same, and report on whom the majority fell; and it appearing, from their Report, that there was a majority of the whole Convention in favour of *Hugh Mercer*, Esq.,

Resolved, therefore, That the said *Hugh Mercer* be appointed Colonel to the Third Regiment.

The Orders of the Day—for the Convention to resolve itself into a Committee on the state of the Colony, and on the Ordinances for continuing and amending an Ordinance appointing a Committee of Safety; for establishing a General Test; to amend an Ordinance, entitled An Ordinance for regulating the election of Delegates, and ascertaining their allowances, and also for regulating the election of Committee-men in the several Counties and Corporations within this Colony, and for other purposes therein mentioned; and for establishing a mode of making Tobacco Payments during the discontinuance of the Inspection Law;—being read,

Ordered, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

The Convention took into consideration that part of the Report made on *Friday* last, from the Committee to whom it was referred to inquire whether the Salt, or other Goods lately taken at *Hampton*, were imported agreeably to the terms of the Continental Association, which related to the Brig *Carlett*, and Goods imported in her, and came to the following Resolution thereupon:

Resolved, That the said Brig *Carlett* be delivered to the owners, and that the Goods imported in her be sold for the use of this Colony, and the money paid into the hands of the Treasurer.

Ordered, That the Treasurer do pay to Mr. *Sampson Matthews* the Account of the *Augusta* and *Botetourt* Brigade, he entering into bond, with sufficient security, for paying the same to the persons entitled thereto.

Adjourned till to-morrow, half after ten o'clock.

—

Friday, January 12, 1776.

The President informed the Convention, that the Committee of Safety had inquired into the property of the Brig *Fanny*, and that it appeared to them, from the Register of the said Vessel, that she belonged to *Joseph Hewes*, Esq., of *North Carolina*; that, from instructions given *John Cunningham*, Master of the said Vessel, he was instructed to proceed in the said Brig to *Antigua*, to unload his cargo, and then take freight to any part of *Europe*, to return with a load of Salt, as should be thought best by Messrs. *Joseph* and *Samuel Brown*, merchants, whose directions he was to follow; that the said *Cunningham* produced two charter-

parties, by which it appeared he took a freight from *Antigua* and *Grenada* to *Ireland*, and another from thence, in Government service, to *Boston;* that the said *Joseph Hewes*, Esq., was a member of the General Congress, and a known friend to *America*, and wholly a stranger to the ill conduct of the Captain in taking the injurious freight from *Cork* to *Boston;* and prayed the opinion of the Convention relative to the said Vessel and her Freight. Whereupon the Convention came to the following Resolution:

Resolved, That the said Brig *Fanny* be delivered to the Proprietor, on payment of the mariners' wages.

Mr. *Carrington*, from the Committee to whom the Account of the money expended at the late *Indian* Treaty, was referred, reported, that the Committee had examined the same, and found the said Accounts to be fairly and truly stated, and supported by proper vouchers, and that the sum of 44*l.* 14*s.* 5*d.* is now due to the Commissioners.

Resolved, That this Convention doth agree with the Committee in the said Report.

A Petition of *Evan Williams*, was presented to the Convention, and read; setting forth that he served as Clerk to the Commissioners appointed to examine, state, and settle the expenses of the late *Indian* expedition, and that they allowed him the sum of 100*l.* for his services, which he considered as a sufficient compensation at the time the same was made; but, as he was obliged afterwards to transcribe the whole of the said proceedings, he hopes this Convention will think it just to make him some further allowance.

Ordered, That the said Petition be referred to Mr. *Peyton*, Mr. *Richard Lee*, Mr. *Henry Lee*, Mr. *Clapham*, Mr. *Cary*, Mr. *Blackburn*, Mr. *William Cabell*, and Mr. *Fleming*, and they are to report the same, together with their opinion thereupon, to the Convention.

The Reverend Mr. *Muhlenburg*, from the Committee to whom the Petition of *Joseph Bowman* was referred, reported, that the Committee had had the same under their consideration, and had come to the following Resolution thereupon; which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the Clerk's table, where the same was again twice read and agreed to:

Ordered, That the said Petition be referred to the Commissioners to be appointed to revise the settlement of the Accounts of the late *Indian* expedition; and if it should appear to them the articles furnished the soldiery were necessary for fitting them for service, the said Petition is reasonable.

A Petition of *James Trimble* was presented to the Convention and read; setting forth, that he cured Captain *William Linn*, who was wounded in the late expedition; and that he served as Surgeon's Mate to Dr. *Charles Wheeler*, in the said expedition, from the 30th of *September* till the 20th of *November;* and praying that he may have some allowance made him for the said services.

Ordered, That the said Petition be referred to Mr. *Peyton*, Mr. *Richard Lee*, Mr. *Henry Lee*, Mr. *Clapham*, Mr. *Cary*, Mr. *William Cabell*, and Mr. *Fleming*, and they are to report the same, together with their opinion thereupon, to the Convention.

The Convention then proceeded, by ballot, to the appointment of a Colonel to the Fourth Regiment; and the members having prepared tickets, with the name of the person to be appointed, and put the same into the ballot-box, Mr. *Digges*, Mr. *Carrington*, Mr. *John Walker*, and Mr. *Dandridge*, were appointed a Committee to examine the same, and report on whom the majority fell; and it appearing, from their report, that there was a majority of the whole Convention in favour of *Adam Stephen*, Esq.,

Resolved, therefore, That the said *Adam Stephen* be appointed Colonel to the Fourth Regiment.

The Convention proceeded, in the same manner, to the appointment of a Colonel to the Fifth Regiment; and it appearing, from the report of the Committee, that there was a majority of the whole Convention in favour of *William Peachey*, Esq.,

Resolved, therefore, That the said *William Peachey* be appointed Colonel to the Fifth Regiment.

The Convention proceeded, in the same manner, to the appointment of a Colonel to the Sixth Regiment; and it appearing, from the report of the Committee, that there was a majority of the whole Convention in favour of *Mordecai Buckner*, Esq.,

Resolved, therefore, That the said *Mordecai Buckner* be appointed Colonel to the Sixth Regiment.

The Convention then proceeded, by ballot, to the appointment of a Colonel to the Seventh Regiment; and it appearing, from the report of the Committee, that the greatest number on the ballot was in favour of *William Dangerfield*, Esq.; on the question being put,

Resolved, That the said *William Dangerfield* be appointed Colonel to the Seventh Regiment.

Resolved, That *Peter Muhlenburg*, Esq., be appointed Colonel, *Abraham Bowman*, Esq., Lieutenant-Colonel, and *Peter Helphinstone*, Esq., Major, to the Eighth or *German* Regiment.

The Convention then proceeded, by ballot, to the appointment of a Colonel to the Ninth Regiment; and it appearing, from the report of the Committee, that there was a majority of the whole Convention in favour of *Thomas Fleming*, Esq.,

Resolved, therefore, That the said *Thomas Fleming* be appointed Colonel to the Ninth Regiment.

The Convention then proceeded, by ballot, to the appointment of a Lieutenant-Colonel to the Third Regiment; and it appearing, from the report of the Committee, that the greatest number on the ballot was in favour of *George Weedon*, Esq.; on the question being put,

Resolved, That the said *George Weedon* be appointed Lieutenant-Colonel to the Third Regiment.

The Convention then proceeded, by ballot, to the appointment of a Lieutenant-Colonel to the Fourth Regiment; and it appearing, from the report of the Committee, that there was a majority of the whole Convention in favour of *Isaac Reade*, Esq.,

Resolved, therefore, That the said *Isaac Reade* be appointed Lieutenant-Colonel to the Fourth Regiment.

The Convention then proceeded, by ballot, to the appointment of a Lieutenant-Colonel to the Fifth Regiment; and it appearing, from the report of the Committee, that the greatest number on the ballot was in favour of *William Crawford*, Esquire; but there not being a majority of the whole Convention, on the question being put,

Resolved, That the said *William Crawford* be appointed Lieutenant-Colonel to the Fifth Regiment.

The Convention then proceeded, by ballot, to the appointment of a Lieutenant-Colonel to the Sixth Regiment; and it appearing, from the report of the Committee, that there was a majority of the whole Convention in favour of *Thomas Elliott*, Esq.,

Resolved, therefore, That the said *Thomas Elliott* be appointed Colonel to the Sixth Regiment.

The Convention then proceeded, by ballot, to the appointment of a Lieutenant-Colonel to the Seventh Regiment; and it appearing, from the report of the Committee, that there was a majority of the whole Convention in favour of *Alexander M^c^Clanahan*, Esq.,

Resolved, therefore, That the said *Alexander M^c^Clanahan* be appointed Lieutenant-Colonel to the Seventh Regiment.

Resolved, That *George Matthews*, Esq., be appointed Lieutenant-Colonel to the Ninth Regiment.

The Convention then proceeded, by ballot, to the appointment of a Major to the Third Regiment; and it appearing, from the report of the Committee, that there was a majority of the whole Convention in favour of *Thomas Marshall*, Esq.,

Resolved, therefore, That the said *Thomas Marshall* be appointed Major to the Third Regiment.

Resolved, That *Robert Lawson*, Esquire, be appointed Major to the Fourth Regiment.

The Convention then proceeded, by ballot, to the appointment of a Major to the Fifth Regiment; and it appearing, from the report of the Committee, that the greatest number on the ballot was in favour of *Josiah Parker*, Esq.; but there not being a majority of the whole Convention, on the question being put,

Resolved, That the said *Josiah Parker* be appointed Major to the Fifth Regiment.

The Convention then proceeded, by ballot, to the appointment of a Major to the Sixth Regiment; and it appearing, from the report of the Committee, that the greatest number on the ballot was in favour of *James Hendricks*, Esq.; but there not being a majority of the whole Convention, on the question being put,

Resolved, That the said *James Hendricks* be appointed Major to the Sixth Regiment.

The Convention then proceeded, by ballot, to the appointment of a Major to the Seventh Regiment; and it appearing, from the report of the Committee, that there was a majority of the whole Convention in favour of *William Nelson*, Esq.,

Resolved, therefore, That the said *William Nelson* be appointed Major to the Seventh Regiment.

Resolved, That *Matthew Donavon*, Esq., be appointed Major to the Ninth Regiment.

The Orders of the Day—for the Convention to resolve itself into a Committee on the state of the Colony, and on the Ordinances for continuing and amending an Ordinance appointing a Committee of Safety; for establishing a General Test; to amend an Ordinance, entitled An Ordinance for regulating the election of Delegates, and ascertaining their allowances, and also for regulating the election of Committee-men in the several Counties and Corporations within this Colony, and for other purposes therein mentioned; and for establishing a mode of making Tobacco Payments during the discontinuance of the Inspection Law;—being read,

Ordered, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

Adjourned till to-morrow, half after ten o'clock.

—

Saturday, January 13, 1776.

A Petition of sundry Inhabitants of the Counties of *Norfolk* and *Princess Anne* was presented to the Convention and read; setting forth, that from the commencement of the present unhappy disputes between the *British* Parliament and the Colonies, they have been uniformly active in promoting the measures recommended by the General Congress and Convention, for the preservation and defence of their rights and liberties; that, in consequence of this conduct, many of them had been reduced to the cruel necessity of abandoning their aged parents, their wives and children, and leaving them to the mercy of a lawless, plundering soldiery, and the more savage slave; that their plantations had been ravaged, their wives and children stripped almost to nakedness, their very bed-chambers invaded at the silent hour of midnight by ruffians with drawn daggers; their houses not only robbed of plate, money, and every thing valuable, but wantonly reduced by fire to ashes; their persons treated with every indignity that elated insolence and cruelty could suggest; some of their friends dragged into confinement, and now languishing under the hands of oppression; that they lamented the tardy and equivocal conduct of some of their luke-warm friends, by which Lord *Dunmore* had been encouraged to begin these depredations, which, with some concealed as well as open and avowed enemies, he continued to commit so long with impunity; that whilst our troops keep possession of *Norfolk*, they enjoy a state of safety, but the possibility of their being dislodged presents a dreadful prospect of the renewal or the exercise of greater cruelties; that they can but endeavour to guard against such calamities in future; that they apprehend the friends to their country are much inferior to its enemies, among the leaders of the people in the two Counties; that they have every thing to fear from those who have thereby been induced to bear arms against their country, should they have it in their power; that many of their friends have been obliged to abandon their homes, which has put it out of their power to bear testimony against many who had been apprehended and justly deserved punishment; and praying that a strict inquiry might be made into the conduct of those who had appeared inimical to this Country, and that they might be removed to some distant part of the Colony, or so disposed of as to prevent their doing further mischief, and earnestly recommending that the slaves who had borne arms should be transported to the *West-India Islands*.

Ordered, That the said Petition be referred to the Committee of Safety.

Ordered, That no member absent himself from the service of this Convention without leave.

Ordered, That the Brig *Corlet* be detained until the mariners' wages are paid; and, on refusal of the Captain to pay the same, that the Committee for the County of *Elizabeth City* be empowered and directed to make sale of so much of the sails and apparel of the said Brig as will satisfy the same.

Ordered, That Major *Spotswood* have leave to be absent from the service for such time as shall be agreed on between Col. *Howe* and himself.

Ordered, That Mr. *Taylor* and Mr. *Banister* have leave to be absent from the service of this Convention, for the remainder of this session.

Resolved, That the Treasurer of this Colony pay to Capt. *Samuel M'Dowell* the sum of eight hundred Pounds, to be by him applied to the payment of the Wages of the Company that served under him in the late expedition against the *Indians*, and also a Ranging Company; on his giving bond, with sufficient security, for the due and faithful application of it to the purpose aforesaid, and rendering a just account thereof to *Joseph Cabell*, Esq., when required.

The Orders of the Day—for the Convention to resolve itself into a Committee on the state of the Colony, and on the Ordinance for continuing and amending an Ordinance appointing a Committee of Safety; for establishing a General Test; to amend an Ordinance, intituled An Ordinance for regulating the election of Delegates and ascertaining their allowances, and also for regulating the election of Committee-men in the several Counties and Corporations within this Colony, and for other purposes therein mentioned; and for establishing a mode of making Tobacco Payments during the discontinuance of the Inspection Law;—being read,

Ordered, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

Mr. *Mercer*, from the Committee to whom the representation of the Committee of the County of *Isle-of-Wight* was referred, reported, that they had inquired into the conduct of the said *John Goodrich* therein named, and that it appeared to them that the said *John Goodrich* had drawn on him, and two of his sons, the resentment of Lord *Dunmore*, by assisting the country in the importation of Gunpowder, who caused them to be seized and confined; but, upon their engaging to be no further concerned in that business, the said *John Goodrich*, and his son *John*, on the parole of the former to appear on board Lord *Dunmore's* ship every tenth day, or oftener, if required, the said *John Goodrich* has since resided at his plantation in *Nansemond*, and has been on board his Lordship's ship four times, agreeably to his engagement, passing in his vessel unmolested by any of the Navy; that the said *John Goodrich* acknowledged he intended to move some Corn from his plantation, in the County of *Isle-of-Wight*, to his plantation in *Nansemond*; but says, the quantity was but a few barrels, which his family was in want of, and that he had no conveniency of carrying it but by water. And that they had come to the following Resolution thereupon; which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the Clerk's table, where the same was again twice read, and agreed to.

Resolved, That the said *Joseph Goodrich* hath been active in favour of this Colony, and hath suffered considerably on that account; that nothing in his conduct appears to be inimical to the common cause; but that no Grain, or other article of provision, should be water-borne in the neighbourhood of the enemy.

The President laid before the Convention a Letter from Col. *Henry*, of the First Regiment; which was read, and ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. *Mercer*, from the Committee appointed to inquire into the conduct of *John Goodrich*, *William Goodrich*, and *John Goodrich*, Jun., relating to the importation of Powder, and other articles for the use of this Colony, reported, that the Committee had accordingly inquired into the same, and that it appeared to them that the Linens imported into this Colony, on board the Schooner *Fanny*, were on the joint account of the said *John Goodrich*, *John Goodrich*, Jun. and *Bartlet Goodrich*; that it further appeared from the

information of the said *John Goodrich*, Jun., and an invoice of the said Cargo produced by him, that the said *Bartlet*, when at *Antigua*, about the first of *October* last, purchased *British* Goods, consisting of checks, cottons, ginghams, striped holland, jeans, *Scotch* thread, printed linens, *Irish* linens, white lead, and linseed oil, to the amount of 291*l.* 16*s.* 10*d.* Sterling, imported there from *Liverpool* by a return Ship from *Guinea*, of which the said *Bartlet* was fully apprized; that the said *Bartlet* carried them to *St. Eustatia*, had them reviewed and packed in rum puncheons, and sent into *Potomack* River, in this Colony, addressed to *John Goodrich* and Company, where the said *John Goodrich*, Jun., took them into his possession, and offered them for sale, knowing them to be of *British* manufacture; that there further appeared to be several erasures in the invoice of the said Goods, intended to conceal the place from whence they were originally imported, particularly the words *Liverpool* and *Antigua*, which are yet legible—the latter having been altered, and *St. Eustatia* inserted; the words *Scotch* and *Irish* erased, and the word *Dutch* inserted; that the said *John Goodrich* alledged, to justify this importation, that his brother, *Bartlet*, being anxious to supply his brother, *William Goodrich*, with Powder, for the use of this Colony, and meeting with about fifteen hundred weight on board the *Liverpool* Ship, offered to purchase it, but the Captain refused to sell it, unless he would take the aforesaid *British* Goods, which the said *Bartlet* thought it better to purchase, than to lose so much Powder, for the use of this Colony; that, from the testimony of *Connoway*, Master of the said Vessel, it appears he received the Goods aforesaid, together with the Powder, on board his Vessel, when at *St. Eustatia*, and delivered the Powder to *William Goodrich*, and was then informed, by the said *Bartlet Goodrich*, that he was obliged to purchase the said Goods, or go without the Powder, which cost three Shillings, and two Shillings and nine Pence per pound, at *Antigua*; that it further appeared that the aforenamed *John Goodrich* was employed, in the month of *July* last, to purchase and import Powder for the use of this Colony, and for that purpose was entrusted with bills of exchange to the amount of five thousand Pounds Sterling; that he sent his son *William* to the *West-Indies* for the same, and imported into *North-Carolina*, some time in the month of October last, about four thousand weight; which being discovered by Lord *Dunmore*, he caused the said *William* to be seized and detained in custody till some time in *December* last, when it appeared that, being greatly intimidated, he was prevailed on by Lord *Dunmore* to make a discovery of the whole transaction, and the agent who assisted him in the *West-Indies* in this business; whereupon Lord *Dunmore* sent an armed Vessel, with the said *William Goodrich* as a witness, to demand the value of the Powder imported, and the money remaining in the said agent's hands; that it further appeared the said *William Goodrich* is lately returned to *Norfolk*, and was discharged by Lord *Dunmore*; but, upon his hearing that the said *William* intended to *Williamsburgh*, he was again seized; and is still detained in custody; that they cannot obtain any certain information of what passed between him and the Agents in the *West-Indies*, but are informed by the said *John Goodrich*, and *John Goodrich*, Jun., that the said *William* had brought neither Powder nor money; that the said *William Goodrich*, by an account lodged in the Treasury office, upon oath, hath charged four Shillings and six Pence, *West-India* currency, for the Powder purchased at *St. Eustatia*; that the said *John Goodrich*, Jun., accounted for this by saying that *Bartlet Goodrich* purchased the said Powder for his own use, and afterwards sold it to *William Goodrich*, at four Shillings and six Pence per pound. And had come to the following Resolution thereupon; which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the Clerk's table, where the same was again twice read, and agreed to:

Resolved, That the said *Bartlet Goodrich*, and *John Goodrich*, Jun., have manifestly violated the first article of the Continental Association, in the importation of the said *British* Goods, and that the same ought to be forfeited to the use of this Colony.

Ordered, That the foregoing Report and Resolution be published in the *Virginia Gazette*, and that all persons be warned to have no further dealings with the said *Bartlet* and *John Goodrich*, Jun.

The Convention being informed that Col. *Robert Howe* had arrived in this City, from *Norfolk*, requested his attendance.

Col. *Howe* accordingly was introduced into the Convention, and examined, concerning the present situation of *Norfolk*, and the neighbourhood thereof, and then retired.

The President laid before the Convention a Letter from Col. *Woodford*, enclosing the proceedings of a Council of Field Officers, held at *Norfolk*; which were read, and ordered to be referred to the Committee on the state of the Colony.

Adjourned till *Monday*, half after ten o'clock.

—

Monday, January 15, 1776.

Mr. *Peyton*, from the Committee to whom the Petition of *Evan Williams* was referred, reported, that they had, according to order, had the same under their consideration, and had come to the following Resolution thereupon; which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the Clerk's table, where the same was again twice read, and agreed to:

Resolved, That the Petition of the said *Evan Williams* is reasonable, and that the further sum of fifty Pounds ought to be allowed and paid to him by the publick.

The President laid before the Convention Letters from the Delegates appointed to represent this Colony in General Congress; which were read, and ordered to lie on the table.

The Convention then, according to the Order of the Day, resolved itself into a Committee on the state of the Colony; and after some time spent therein, Mr. President resumed the chair, and Mr. *Cary* reported, that the Committee had, according to order, had the same under their consideration, and had come to the following Resolution thereupon; which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the Clerk's table, where the same was again twice read, and agreed to.

Resolved, That it be recommended to such of the Inhabitants of the counties of *Norfolk* and *Princess Anne* as may be exposed to the attacks of the enemy, to remove themselves and their effects, and that the poorer sort be assisted in their removal by the publick.

Ordered, That Mr. *Nelson* and Mr. *Acrill* have leave of absence from the service of this Convention, for the remainder of the session.

The Orders of the Day—for the Convention to resolve itself into a Committee on the Ordinances for continuing and amending an Ordinance appointing a Committee of Safety; for establishing a General Test; to amend an Ordinance, intituled An Ordinance for regulating the election of Delegates and ascertaining their allowances, and also for regulating the election of Committee-men in the several Counties and Corporations within this Colony, and for other purposes therein mentioned; and for establishing a mode of making Tobacco Payments during the discontinuance of the Inspection Law;—being read,

Ordered, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

Resolved, That this Convention will to-morrow again resolve itself into a Committee on the state of the Colony.

Mr. *Cary*, from the Committee to whom it was referred to inquire into the several cases of the Prisoners in the City of *Williamsburgh*, reported, that the Committee had had the same under their consideration; and that it appeared to them, that *Alexander Gordon* hath borne arms against this Colony, and had been active in favour of Lord *Dunmore*; that *Joshua Whitehurst* had also been active, and endeavoured to raise men for Lord *Dunmore*; that Doctor *Thomas Hall* had been heard to say, that he would only act as a private militia-man, which he supposed Lord *Dunmore's* party could make him do; that he was an ensign in one of his new raised Regiments; that he had, by Lord *Dunmore's* order, searched some places for persons supposed to have intended to burn the Town of *Norfolk*; that he afterwards offered to resign his commission, and, at the desire of Mr. *Fleming*, attended the wounded regulars for several days. That *Mordecai Robinson*, *James Hamilton*, *John Crammond*, *Joseph Garrett*, *Zachariah Christie*, *James Cunningham*, *Francis Powell*, *Samuel Blews*, *James Carmichael*, *Andrew Stephenson*, and *William Barker*, have borne arms under the officers of Lord *Dun-*

more, and were in the battle at the *Great Bridge*. That *John Corlett* was taken in a Tender of Lord *Dunmore's*, of which he was commander; that he had been for some time with Lord *Dunmore*, and that he had, at some time, signified his intention of quitting the service, into which he said he was impressed by Lord *Dunmore's* people. That *Levin Townshend*, *Levi Townshend*, *Elias Townshend*, *Zedick Townshend*, *Isaac Costem*, *Benjamin Selby*, *Francis Brett*, *William Dickinson*, and *Cornelius Adams*, had gone to *Norfolk* to purchase Salt, and were there taken by a party of Lord *Dunmore's* and forced to march with his troops to the *Great Bridge;* that they were afterwards sent out in a Tender to the *Eastern-Shore*, and being driven on shore, near *Hampton*, were taken; that it appeared the said *Levin* was desirous of making his escape from the service. That *Jesse Clarkson*, *Arthur Ward*, *Charles Hanley*, *John Quick*, and *Henry Turner*, acted as militiamen in the battle at *Kemp's Landing* against Lord *Dunmore*, after which they were forced into his service by Col. *Elligood*, and bore arms at the *Great Bridge*. That *Hugh Granville*, *Samuel Yatcman*, *Robert Slater*, *William Jameson*, *Joseph Cobden*, and *John Norman*, are sailors belonging to the Ships at *Norfolk*.

Resolved, That the said *Alexander Gordon*, *Joshua Whitehurst*, *Thomas Hall*, *Mordecoi Robinson*, *James Hamilton*, *John Crammond*, *Joseph Garrett*, *Zachariah Christie*, *James Cunningham*, *Francis Powell*, *Samuel Blews*, *James Carmichael*, *Andrew Stephenson*, *William Barker*, *John Corlett*, *Levin Townshend*, *Levi Townshend*, *Elias Townshend*, *Isaac Costem*, *Benjamin Selby*, *Francis Brett*, *William Dickinson*, *Cornelius Adams*, *Jesse Clarkson*, *Arthur Ward*, *Charles Henley*, *John Quick*, *Henry Turner*, *Hugh Granville*, *Samuel Yateman*, *Robert Slater*, *William Jameson*, *Joseph Cobden*, and *John Norman*, ought to be detained as prisoners of war; but that the Committee of Safety be at liberty to discharge such of them as they may think proper.

That it further appeared, that *Caleb Whitehurst*, *Randal Hodges*, *John Woodside*, *Richard Brown*, and *James Leitch*, have in some manner aided Lord *Dunmore;* but that they have not taken arms, or been so active as to be deemed prisoners of war.

Resolved, That the said *Caleb Whitehurst*, *Randal Hodges*, *John Woodside*, *Richard Brown*, and *James Leitch*, be discharged, on their parole not to aid Lord *Dunmore* in future.

That it appeared, that *John Kay* presented a loaded gun at the wife of one *William Carr*, swearing that he would kill her if she did not furnish him with thirty Pounds; but, not being able to obtain the money, he took from her five ducks, which were all she had.

Resolved, That the said *John Kay* be remanded to the Jail of the proper County where the said offence was committed, to be inquired into, there to remain till discharged by due course of law.

Adjourned till to-morrow, half after ten o'clock.

—

Tuesday, January 16, 1776.

Mr. *Mercer*, from the Committee to whom the Petition of *John Goodrich*, for himself and partners, was referred, reported, that it appeared to the Committee that the Sloop *Dorothy* arrived in this Colony from *Antigua*, and was taken by Captain *Barron* on her way to *Norfolk*, and carried into *Hampton;* that it appeared to them, that the contract made with the Commissary of Stores, for the purchase of sundry goods, hath been complied with on behalf of the Petitioners, and that there is now due to them one thousand and ninety-eight Pounds current money; and that they had come to the following Resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the Clerk's table, where the same was again twice read, and agreed to:

Resolved, That the said sum of one thousand and ninety-eight Pounds ought to be retained until the money furnished the said *John Goodrich* by this Colony for the purchase of Gunpowder be fairly and fully accounted for; and that the said Sloop *Dorothy* ought to be delivered to the owners.

Mr. *Richard Lee*, from the Committee to whom sundry Claims against the publick were referred, reported, that they had examined the same, and come to the following Resolutions thereupon; which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the Clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to:

Resolved, That the several Claims, amounting to 398*l.* 11*s.* 3*d.* halfpenny, ought to be allowed and paid by the publick.

Resolved, That the Claim of *John Briscoe* ought to be referred to the Commissioners to be appointed to revise and settle sundry Accounts respecting the late expedition against the *Indians*.

On a motion made,

Resolved, That *Edmund Pendleton*, Esq., be allowed the annual sum of four hundred Pounds current money, commencing from the 1st of *December* last, as a recompense for his services as President of the Convention; and that the same be paid to him quarterly, so long as he shall continue in the said office.

Mr. *Porker*, from the Committee to whom the Petition of *Richard Hopper* was referred, reported, that they had, according to order, had the same under their consideration, and had come to the following Resolution thereupon; which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the Clerk's table, where the same was again twice read, and agreed to:

Resolved, That the Petition of the said *Richard Hopper*, praying that the publick will purchase his cargo of Naval Stores, is unreasonable, and ought to be rejected.

A Petition of *John Goodrich* was presented to the Convention, and read; setting forth, that *Robert Shedden*, of the Town of *Portsmouth*, merchant, with his wife, the daughter of the Petitioner, and their two young children, are now on board a sloop in the harbour of *Norfolk;* that although he had appeared inimical, by sending for goods contrary to the Association, yet he had assisted the Petitioner in the importation of Gunpowder, for the use of this Colony; and praying that he may be allowed to come on shore, and reside under the protection of this Colony.

Ordered, That the said Petition be referred to Mr. *Parker*, Mr. *Cary*, Mr. *Thomas Lee*, Mr. *Smith*, Mr. *David Mason*, Mr. *Thomas Walker*, Mr. *Whiting*, Mr. *Walter Jones*, and Mr. *Newton;* and they are to report the same, together with their opinion thereupon, to the Convention.

A Petition of *John Goodrich* and *John Goodrich*, Jun., was presented to the Convention, and read; setting forth, that they had exposed themselves to great danger, had suffered many hardships and inconveniences, and had incurred considerable expense, in their endeavours to serve this Colony, and praying that this Convention would take the same into consideration, and make them such reasonable compensation as shall be thought just.

Ordered, That the said Petition be referred to Mr. *Parker*, Mr. *Cary*, Mr. *Thomas Lee*, Mr. *Smith*, Mr. *David Mason*, Mr. *Thomas Walker*, Mr. *Whiting*, Mr. *Walter Jones*, and Mr. *Newton;* and they are to report the same, together with their opinion thereupon, to the Convention.

The Convention then, according to the Order of the Day, resolved itself into a Committee on the Ordinance for continuing and amending an Ordinance appointing a Committee of Safety; and after some time spent therein, Mr. President resumed the chair, and Mr. *Cary* reported, that the Committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the said Ordinance, but not having time to go through the same, had directed him to move for leave to sit again.

Resolved, That this Convention will to-morrow again resolve itself into a Committee on the said Ordinance.

The Orders of the Day—for the Convention to resolve itself into a Committee on the state of the Colony, and on the Ordinance for establishing a General Test; to amend an Ordinance, intituled An Ordinance for regulating the election of Delegates, and ascertaining their allowances, and also for regulating the election of Committee-men in the several Counties and Corporations within this Colony, and for other purposes therein mentioned; and for establishing a mode of making Tobacco Payments, during the discontinuance of the Inspection Law;—being read,

Resolved, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

Ordered, That the Treasurer do pay to the executors

of the Hon. *Peyton Randolph*, Esq., deceased, the late worthy President of this Convention, the Salary settled upon him, by act of General Assembly, as Speaker of the House of Burgesses, to the sixth day of *December* last.

Resolved, That *John Harvie*, gentleman, be appointed a Commissioner to receive the Money due to the several Claimants in the Counties of *Berkeley*, *Frederick*, *Dunmore*, *Hampshire*, and *West-Augusta*, from the publick, on account of the late expedition against the *Indians*, and to pay the same to them; and the said *John Harvie* is required to settle and state all the Accounts of the said expedition that remain unsettled, and to revise those already settled in *West-Augusta*, and make report thereof to the next Convention. And that *Joseph Neaville*, gentleman, be appointed to revise and adjust the Accounts for the said expedition in the Counties of *Berkeley*, *Frederick*, *Dunmore*, and *Hampshire*, and report the same to the next Convention.

Adjourned till to-morrow, half after ten o'clock.

—

Wednesday, January 17, 1776.

Ordered, That the last Letters received from the Delegates appointed to represent this Colony in General Congress, be referred to the Committee on the state of the Colony.

Ordered, That the Treasurer do pay to Mr. *James Wood* his expenses incurred in consequence of his embassy to the different Tribes of *Indians*, exclusive of the sum of money formerly voted him for his services on that occasion.

The Convention then, according to the Order of the Day, resolved itself into a Committee on the Ordinance for continuing and amending an Ordinance appointing a Committee of Safety; and after some time spent therein, Mr. President resumed the chair, and Mr. *Cary* reported, that the Committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the said Ordinance, and had gone through the same, and made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the Clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to.

Ordered, That the said Ordinance, together with the several amendments, be fairly transcribed, and read a third time.

Colonel *Howe* laid before the Convention a Letter from Captain *Bellew* to him, and his answer thereto; which were read, and ordered to lie on the table.

The President laid before the Convention a Letter from the Committee of the County of *Northampton*, informing him they had sent over the several Prisoners taken in that County, agreeably to the direction of the Convention.

Ordered, That the examination of the said Prisoners, be referred to the Committee of Safety; and that they, in the mean time, be confined to their room, under a proper guard.

Mr. *Braxton*, from the Committee appointed, presented, according to order, an Ordinance for establishing a mode of punishment for the enemies of *America*; which was read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Ordered, That Mr. *Neaville* have leave to be absent from the service of the Convention for the remainder of the session.

The Orders of the Day—for the Convention to resolve itself into a Committee on the state of the Colony, and on the Ordinances for establishing a General Test; to amend an Ordinance, entitled An Ordinance for regulating the election of Delegates, and ascertaining their allowances, and also for regulating the election of Committee-men in the several Counties and Corporations within this Colony, and for other purposes therein mentioned; and for establishing a mode of making Tobacco Payments during the discontinuance of the Inspection Law;—being read,

Resolved, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

Mr. *King*, from the Committee appointed to inquire into the several cases of the Prisoners confined in the publick Jail, reported, that the Committee had, according to order, had the same under their consideration; and that it appeared to them, that *Henry Crouch* was a Sergeant in Captain *Saunder's* Company. That it further appeared to them, that negro *Tom*, belonging to the estate of *Joseph Selden*; and *Tawley*, belonging to *Edward Hack Moseley*; *Dick*, belonging to *Edmund Ruffin*; *Lewis* and *Bob*, belonging to *Jacob Keeling*; *Dick*, to *James Legate*; *Harry*, to *Joel Cornick*; *George*, to *Elizabeth Woodhouse*; *Jemmy*, to *Thomas Banks*; *Jasper* and *Luke*, to *William Keeling*; *Tom* and *Roger*, to *Mary Jones*; *Europe*, to *William Haynes*; *Romeo*, to *Lemuel Cornick*; *Frank*, to *John Henley*; *Peter*, to *William Keeling*; *Will*, to *Joel Cornick*; *Africa*, to *Charles Sayer*; *Harry*, to *Arthur Boush*; that *George*, belonging to *Samuel Donaldson*; *Ishmael*, to *George Gaskin*; *Cuff*, to *Willis Wilkinson*; *Ned*, to *William Forsyth*; *Cato*, to *Stephen Tankard*; *Lewis*, to *Robert Langley*; *Michael*, to *Robert Boush*; were taken at the *Great Bridge*. That *Derry*, belonging to *Edward Cooper*; and *Bob*, belonging to *John Shedden*, have been active, and some of them borne arms under Lord *Dunmore*. That it appeared to them, that *Charles*, belonging to *John Poole*; *Cuffy*, to *Charles Boush*; *Davy*, to *Charles Jenkins*; *Poole*, to *Willis Hoflin*; *Dennis*, to the widow *Hodges*; were also taken at the *Great Bridge*. That *Billy*, belonging to *Anthony Robinson*; *Tom*, *Will*, and *Jemmy*, belonging to *Merit Moore*; *Anthony*, to *Henry Howard*; *Ned* and *Sam*, to *Bennet Tompkins*; in attempting to run away from their several masters, were by them pursued and taken at *Point Comfort*. That it does not appear that the said *Charles*, *Cuffy*, *Davy*, *Poole*, *Dennis*, *Billy*, *Tom*, *Will*, *Jemmy*, and *Anthony*, have ever borne arms, or been active in the service of Lord *Dunmore*. That it also appeared, that *Rachel* and *Amy*, belonging to *Bennet Tompkins*, have been guilty of a robbery in the County of *York*; and that *Neptune*, belonging to *George Wythe*, Esq., was taken up as a runaway. And that they had come to the following Resolutions thereupon; which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the Clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to:

Resolved, That the said *Henry Crouch* be detained as a Prisoner.

Resolved, That the said several Slaves who have been active under Lord *Dunmore*, or have borne arms in his service, be detained in Jail until the Committee of Safety shall procure them to be properly valued, and sent to the foreign *West-India* Islands, or the Bay of *Honduras*, there to be sold, and the money arising therefrom, after deducting the charges, be paid to the Treasurer of this Colony, to be repaid to their respective owners, provided they are not unfriendly to *American* liberty.

Resolved, That such of the said Slaves who have not borne arms, or not been active in the service of Lord *Dunmore*, be delivered to their respective owners, on their paying the expenses which have accrued, or shall accrue, from the time of their being taken, till the time of their delivery; and that a list of the said negroes, with the names of their several owners, be inserted in the *Virginia Gazette*. And, if the owners do not apply within two months from the date of the said advertisement, that such thereof as remain may then be sold at publick auction, and the balance, after deducting the expenses aforesaid, be lodged in the hands of the Treasurer of this Colony, to be paid to the owners, when demanded.

Resolved, That the said *Rachel* and *Amy* be committed to the Jail of the proper County, there to remain till discharged by due course of law.

Adjourned till to-morrow, half after ten o'clock.

—

Thursday, January 18, 1776.

Resolved, That each member of the Committee of Safety be allowed the sum of ten Shillings for every day of his attendance in the said Committee, exclusive of the sum formerly allowed for their expenses.

Mr. *Parker*, from the Committee to whom the Petition of *John Goodrich* was referred, reported, that they had, according to order, had the same under their consideration, and had come to the following Resolution thereupon; which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the Clerk's table, where the same was again twice read, and agreed to:

Resolved, That *Robert Shedden* and family, mentioned in the said Petition, are sufficiently provided for by a De-

claration of this Convention, and the repeated promises of Colonels *Howe* and *Woodford*, wherein they offered every friendly office which humanity could dictate, to the unhappy women and children on board the Fleet under the command of Lord *Dunmore*.

On a motion made,

Resolved, That the Colonel of the First Regiment be allowed an Aid-de-camp, until General Officers shall be appointed by the General Congress; and that the said Aid-de-camp be allowed six Shillings per day, from the time he hath been appointed.

Resolved, That the duties on the Rum imported in the several Vessels taken by Captain *Barron* be paid, or secured to be paid, to the Treasurer of this Colony.

An Ordinance for continuing and amending an Ordinance appointing a Committee of Safety, having been fairly transcribed, and the blanks therein filled up, was read a third time:

Resolved, That the said Ordinance do pass; and that the title be, "An Ordinance for reviving and amending an Ordinance appointing a Committee of Safety."

The Convention then proceeded, by ballot, to the appointment of a Deputy Quartermaster-General; and the members having prepared their tickets with the name of the person to be appointed, Mr. *Digges*, Mr. *Carrington*, Mr. *Dandridge*, and Mr. *John Walker*, were appointed a Committee to examine the ballot box, and it appearing, from their report, that there was a majority in favour of *William Finnie*, Esq.;

Resolved, therefore, That the said *William Finnie*, be appointed Deputy Quartermaster-General.

Resolved, That *Thomas Bullitt*, Esq., be appointed Adjutant-General.

The Convention then proceeded, by ballot, to the appointment of a Deputy Adjutant-General; and the members having prepared tickets with the name of the person to be appointed, Mr. *Digges*, Mr. *Carrington*, Mr. *Dandridge*, and Mr. *John Walker*, were appointed a Committee to examine the ballot box, and it appearing, from their report, that there was a majority in favour of *John Sears*, Esq.,

Resolved, therefore, That the said *John Sears* be appointed Deputy Adjutant-General.

An Ordinance for establishing a mode of punishment for the enemies of *America*, was read a second time, and ordered to be committed to a Committee of the whole Convention.

The Convention accordingly resolved itself into a Committee on the said Ordinance, and after some time spent therein, Mr. President resumed the chair, and Mr. *Cary* reported, that the Committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the said Ordinance, and had made some progress therein, but not having time to go through the same, had directed him to move for leave to sit again.

Resolved, That this Convention will to-morrow again resolve itself a Committee on the said Ordinance.

The Orders of the Day—for the Convention to resolve itself into a Committee on the state of the Colony, and on the Ordinances for establishing a General Test; to amend an Ordinance, intituled An Ordinance for regulating the election of Delegates, and ascertaining their allowances, and also for regulating the election of Committee-men in the several Counties and Corporations within this Colony, and for other purposes therein mentioned; and for establishing a mode of making Tobacco Payments during the discontinuance of the Inspection Law;—being read,

Resolved, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

Adjourned till to-morrow, half after ten o'clock.

—

Friday, January 19, 1776.

Ordered, That Mr. *Mason*, Mr. *Taylor*, Mr. *Gray*, Mr. *Parker*, Mr. *Newton*, and Mr. *Murdaugh*, or any four of them, be a Committee to inquire into the conduct of the Officers and Militia in the County of *Princess Anne*, lately drawn out into actual service, and to report the same to the next Convention.

The Convention then, according to the Order of the Day, resolved itself into a Committee on the Ordinance for establishing a mode of punishment for the enemies of *America*; and after some time spent therein, Mr. President resumed the chair, and Mr. *Cary* reported, that the Committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the said Ordinance, and had gone through the same, and made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the Clerk's table, where the same were again twice read and agreed to.

Resolved, That the said Ordinance, together with the several amendments, be fairly transcribed and read a third time.

The Orders of the Day—for the Convention to resolve itself into a Committee on the Ordinances for establishing a General Test; to amend an Ordinance, entitled An Ordinance for regulating the election of Delegates, and ascertaining their allowances, and also for regulating the election of Committee-men in the several Counties and Corporations within this Colony, and for other purposes therein mentioned; and for establishing a mode of making Tobacco Payments during the discontinuaoce of the Inspection Law;—being read,

Resolved, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

The Convention, then, according to the Order of the Day, resolved itself into a Committee on the state of the Colony; and after some time spent therein, Mr. President resumed the chair, and Mr. *Cary* reported, that the Committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the state of the Colony, and had come to a Resolution thereupon, which he was ready to report when the Convention should be pleased to receive the same.

Ordered, That the said Report be received to-morrow.

Adjourned till to-morrow, nine o'clock.

—

Saturday, January 20, 1776.

Ordered, That the Treasurer do pay to Captains *George Matthews* and *Alexander M'Clanahan*, the money due to their respective Companies, from the publick, on account of the late expedition against the *Indians*, and reported by the Commissioners.

The Convention then, according to the Order of the Day, resolved itself into a Committee on the Ordinances to amend an Ordinance, intituled An Ordinance for regulating the election of Delegates, and ascertaining their allowances, and also for regulating the election of Committee-men in the several Counties and Corporations within this Colony, and for other purposes therein mentioned; and for establishing a mode of making Tobacco Payments during the discontinuance of the Inspection Law; and after some time spent therein, Mr. President resumed the chair, and Mr. *Cary* reported, that the Committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the said Ordinances, and had gone through the same, and made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the Clerk's table, where the same were again twice read and agreed to.

Resolved, That the said Ordinances, together with the several amendments, be fairly transcribed and read a third time.

Mr. *Cary*, from the Committee of the whole Convention, reported, according to order, that the Committee had come to the following Resolution; which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the Clerk's table, where the same was again twice read and agreed to:

Whereas the *British* Ministry have at length engaged in an open and avowed war with the good people of this Colony, and in the prosecution thereof have manifested the most unrelenting fury, by burning and destroying open and defenceless Towns, contrary to the practice of war among civilized nations, by exciting insurrections among our slaves, inviting the savages, and arming them against us:

Resolved, (as the opinion of this Convention,) That we hold it incumbent upon us (a duty which we owe to ourselves, to our country, and to this whole Continent,) to oppose, by every method in our power, such unjust and cruel attempts; that the most likely means of effecting this, and of gaining relief and assistance to ourselves, and of distressing our enemies, would be by opening our Ports to all persons willing to trade with us, *Great Britain, Ireland*,

and the *British West-Indies* excepted; and that we give it in recommendation to our delegates in General Congress, to use their endeavours to have such a measure adopted, and carried into execution, so soon as it shall be deemed proper by the said General Congress to permit exportation from *North-America*.

An Ordinance for establishing a mode of punishment for the enemies of *America*, having been fairly transcribed, was read a third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

Resolved, That the said Ordinance do pass, and that the title thereof be, "An Ordinance for establishing a mode of punishment for the enemies to *America* in this Colony."

Resolved, That all the publick Money, except His Majesty's Quit-rents, now in the hands of the Collectors, Naval Officers, Sheriffs, and Clerks, and which may hereafter be received by them, be paid into the hands of the Treasurer of this Colony.

An Ordinance to amend an Ordinance, entitled "An Ordinance for regulating the election of Delegates, and ascertaining their allowances, and also for regulating the election of Committee-men in the several Counties and Corporations within this Colony, and for other purposes therein mentioned," having been fairly transcribed, was read a third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

Resolved, That the said Ordinance do pass.

Resolved, That in case of the sickness or inability of the Treasurer of this Colony to sign and countersign the Treasury Notes, emitted pursuant to an Ordinance of Convention, he be empowered to appoint such other person as he may think proper to do the same in his stead.

Resolved, That the appointment of Captain *John Sears* to the office of Deputy Adjutant-General, disqualifies him from holding the office of Captain to his Company.

An Ordinance for establishing a mode of making Tobacco Payments during the discontinuance of the Inspection Law, having been fairly transcribed, and the blanks therein filled up, was read a third time.

Resolved, That the said Ordinance do pass, and that the title thereof be, "An Ordinance for establishing a mode of making Tobacco Payments during the discontinuance of the Inspection Law, and for other purposes therein mentioned."

Resolved, That the several sums following be allowed to the several Officers of this Convention, for their services during the present session:

To the Rev. *Thomas Price*, Chaplain, forty Pounds.

To Mr. *John Tazewell*, Clerk of the Convention, one hundred and seventy-five Pounds.

To Mr. *Francis Eppes*, Messenger to the Convention, fifty Pounds.

To *Edmund Pendleton*, Jun., Clerk to several Committees, fifty Pounds.

To *William Dandridge*, Jun., Clerk to several other Committees, fifty Pounds.

To *Robert Hyland*, *William Hicks*, *John Creagh*, and *William Drinkard*, Doorkeepers to the Convention, twenty-five Pounds each.

Resolved, That Mr. *John Pendleton*, Clerk to the Committee of Safety, be allowed twenty Shillings per day for his expenses and services while on duty.

Resolved, That the Committee of Safety do allow the Quartermaster and Adjutant to the several Minute-men at *Hampton*, the Adjutant to the Minute-men in the City of *Williamsburgh*, and Wagon-master, whatever their several services, in their opinions, shall be thought to deserve.

Adjourned till the second day of *April* next, then to meet in the City of *Williamsburgh*, or such other place as may be appointed by the Committee of Safety.

—

ORDINANCES PASSED BY THE CONVENTION.

1. *An Ordinance for raising an additional number of Forces for the defence and protection of this Colony, and for other purposes therein mentioned.*

Whereas the Earl of *Dunmore*, by his many hostile attacks upon the good people of this Colony, and attempts to infringe their rights and liberties, by his Proclamation declaring freedom to our servants and slaves, and arming them against us, by seizing our persons and properties, and declaring those who opposed such his arbitrary measures in a state of rebellion, hath made it necessary that an additional number of Forces be raised for our protection and defence:

Be it therefore ordained, by the Delegates and Representatives of the several Counties and Corporations within the Colony and Dominion of Virginia, now assembled in General Convention, and it is hereby ordained by the authority of the same, That the two Regiments formerly raised be augmented, by the addition of three hundred and eighty-two men, to be divided into five Companies, consisting of sixty-eight men each, rank and file, under the command of one Captain, two Lieutenants, one Ensign, and four Sergeants; each Company to be allowed a Drummer and Fifer, and two of the said Companies to be added to the First, and the remaining three Companies to the Second Regiment.

And be it further ordained, That there be likewise immediately raised, and taken into pay from the time of their enlistment, six other Regiments complete, to be composed of ten Companies of sixty-eight men each, rank and file, (three of which Companies in each Regiment to consist of Riflemen, to act as Light Infantry,) under the command of a Colonel, Lieutenant-Colonel, Major, ten Captains, twenty Lieutenants, ten Ensigns, forty Sergeants; and to be allowed ten Drummers and ten Fifers; and to each of the said Regiments there shall be moreover allowed a Chaplain, an Adjutant, a Regimental Quartermaster, one Surgeon, two Surgeon's Mates, one Sergeant-Major, one Drum-Major, and Quartermaster's Sergeant.

And be it further ordained, That of six Regiments to be levied as aforesaid, one of them shall be called a *German* Regiment, to be made up of *German* and other officers and soldiers, as the Committees of the several Counties of *Augusta*, *West-Augusta*, *Berkeley*, *Culpepper*, *Dunmore*, *Fincastle*, *Frederick*, and *Hompshire*, (by which Committees the several Captains and subaltern officers of the said Regiment are to be appointed,) shall judge expedient.

And whereas, by an Ordinance passed at the last meeting of this Convention, intituled "*An Ordinance for raising and embodying a sufficient Force for the defence and protection of this Colony*," it is ordained, that a battalion of Minute men be raised in the Counties of *Accomack* and *Northampton*, which at present is thought to be inadequate to the defence of that part of this Colony: *Be it therefore ordained*, That so much of the said Ordinance as relates to the raising the said Battalion be repealed; and that over and above the Regiments aforesaid, there be raised one other Regiment, to be composed of seven Companies, for the protection and defence of the said Counties of *Accomack* and *Northampton*; each Company to consist of sixty-eight, rank and file, and to be under the command of a Colonel, Lieutenant-Colonel, a Major, seven Captains, fourteen Lieutenants, seven Ensigns, twenty-eight Sergeants, and each Company to be allowed a Drummer and Fifer. Four of which Companies to be raised in the said Counties of *Accomack* and *Northampton*, as herein after directed; the other three (two of which to consist of Riflemen, to be allotted to this Regiment by the Committee of Safety) out of the other levies to be raised by this Ordinance; and the said Regiment shall moreover be allowed a Chaplain, a Paymaster, with a salary of seventy-five Pounds per annum, and the like Staff Officers as are directed for the other Regiments, to be appointed in the same manner.

And be it further ordained, That the whole of the nine Regiments be under the command of one Major-General, and two Brigadiers-General, each of whom shall have an Aid-de-Camp and Secretary of their own appointment; and that there be one Quartermaster-General, one Adjutant-General, and one Deputy Adjutant-General.

And for the more regular, speedy, and equal appointment of Officers, *Be it further ordained*, That the General Officers shall be appointed by the General Congress, and that the Field Officers shall be nominated and appointed by the General Convention of this Colony, and the Captains and Subalterns by the several County and Distri Committees, as follows, that is to say: That each of the Committees of the Counties of *Albemarle*, *Augusta*, *West-Augusta*, *Berkeley*, *Bedford*, *Culpepper*, *Dunmore*, *Fauquier*, *Fincastle*, *Loudoun*, *Orange*, *Prince William*, and *Spotsylvania*, shall nominate and appoint two proper and

discreet persons to be Captains, two other such persons to be First Lieutenants, two others to be Second Lieutenants, and two others to be Ensigns, who shall be by them respectively directed to proceed with all expedition in recruiting levies, in order to raise in the whole twenty-six Companies.

Provided, That the Officers of the one hundred men ordered from *Fort Pitt*, by a late Resolution of this Convention, shall be considered as part of the Officers to be nominated by the Committee of *West-Augusta*, if the said Officers shall incline to continue in the service of this Colony, agreeably to the said Resolution. That each of the Committees of the Counties of *Amelia*, *Amherst*, *Botetourt*, *Brunswick*, *Buckingham*, *Caroline*, *Charlotte*, *Chesterfield*, *Cumberland*, *Charles City*, *Dinwiddie*, *Frederick*, *Fairfax*, *Goochland*, *Gloucester*, *Halifax*, *Hampshire*, *Hanover*, *Henrico*, *King George*, *King and Queen*, *King William*, *Lunenburgh*, *Louisa*, *Mecklenburgh*, *Nansemond*, *Northumberland*, *New-Kent*, *Pittsylvania*, *Prince Edward*, *Prince George*, *Southampton*, *Stafford*, *Sussex*, and *Westmoreland*, shall nominate and appoint one such proper person to be Captain, one other to be First Lieutenant, one other to be Second Lieutenant, and one other to be Ensign, who shall be by the Committees respectively directed to proceed immediately in recruiting levies, in order to raise, in the whole, thirty-three Companies. That the several District Committees, hereinafter described, do nominate and appoint the remainder of the officers for raising thirteen Companies, as follows: the District of *Accomack* and *Northampton*, four Captains, four First Lieutenants, four Second Lieutenants, and four Ensigns; the District of *Essex* and *Middlesex*, one Captain, one First Lieutenant, one Second Lieutenant, and one Ensign; the District of *Isle-of-Wight* and *Surry*, two Captains, two First Lieutenants, two Second Lieutenants, and two Ensigns; the District o *Lancaster* and *Richmond*, one Captain, one First Lieutenant, one Second Lieutenant, and one Ensign; the District of *Norfolk* and *Princess Anne* Counties, one Captain, one First Lieutenant, one Second Lieutenant, and one Ensign; and the District of *York*, *Elizabeth City*, *Warwick*, *James City*, and the City of *Williamsburgh*, two Captains, two First Lieutenants, two Second Lieutenants, and two Ensigns. And the several Officers so to be appointed shall be, by the respective District Committees, directed to proceed immediately in recruiting as aforesaid, in order to raise their Companies; which several Recruiting Officers shall be at liberty to raise their levies in any part of the Colony, without being confined to Counties or Districts.

And be it further ordained, That if any Captain and his Subaltern Officers, so to be appointed, shall not recruit the whole number of men for a Company on or before the last day of *February* next, the Committee of the County or District by whom such officers were appointed may either appoint others, instead of the officer or officers who shall fail to recruit the following number, according to his rank, to wit: a Captain, twenty-eight; a First Lieutenant, twenty-one; a Second Lieutenant, sixteen; and an Ensign, nine; or may continue the former officers, if it shall appear probable to the Committee that the Company may be sooner completed by them than raised by appointing new officers as aforesaid.

Provided always, That if any Company shall not be made complete by the first nominated officers or others, to be chosen in their stead as aforesaid, by the 25th day of *March* next, the several County and District Committees, wherein such failure should happen, shall make report of the whole matter to the Committee of Safety, who shall take such order therein as to them shall seem most likely to forward the service, and appoint such and so many officers as they may judge proper to recruit at large within this Colony, without regard to the place of residence of such officer.

And be it further ordained, That the several County and District Committees, at the time of appointing the officers as aforesaid, shall fix on some certain convenient place where the Officers of each Company shall rendezvous the men by them enlisted, and also nominate two of their members, residing as near as may be to such place of rendezvous, to review the men to be enlisted in each Company; which members having examined the persons enlisted, and found them to be able-bodied, healthy men, and to have been regularly sworn and attested according to the direction of this Ordinance, shall grant a certificate thereof, which shall be returned to the County or District Committee who appointed the Officers, and be by them respectively returned to the Committee of Safety, who shall grant Commissions to the Officers thereupon, as is hereinafter directed. And in case it shall appear, from such certificates, that two or more Companies have been reviewed on the same day, the Committee of Safety shall settle the priority of rank between the Officers by a fair and equal lot.

And be it further ordained, That the Chaplain and Surgeon to each Regiment be appointed by the Field-Officers and Captains of such Regiment; the Surgeon's Mates, by the Surgeon himself, with the approbation of the Commanding-Officer; the Adjutant, Regimental Quartermaster, Sergeant-Major, Quartermaster-Sergeant, and Drum-Major, by the Commanding-Officer of such Regiment.

And for the more certain and regular appointment of the several District Committees, *Be it ordained*, That the several Committees of the Counties and Corporations before named shall each depute three of their members to attend at some convenient and central place in each District, to be appointed by the Chairman of the Committee of the County first named in each District; of which appointment such Chairman shall give reasonable notice to the Chairmen of the other Committees within his District; which Deputies, or a majority of them, the whole having such reasonable notice, shall be a District Committee for the purposes of this Ordinance, and proceed to the nomination and appointment of Officers in the same manner as is directed by a former Ordinance of Convention.

And for the more regular embodying the several Regiments, and stationing the Troops for the protection of the several parts of this Colony, *Be it ordained*, That the Committee of Safety shall allot certain Companies to each Regiment, and appoint the station of such Regiment; of which notice shall be given to the County and District Committees where such Companies are expected to be raised; which Committees, at the time of their granting certificates of the completion of the Companies, shall order each Company to march to the station, and certify the same, and the distance to such station, to the Committee of Safety.

And to prevent unreasonable delay in such march, *Be it ordained*, That the Officers and Men shall receive no more pay, from the date of such marching orders to the time of their arrival at their station, than after the rate of one day's pay for every fifteen miles, according to the distance, unless delayed by bad weather, or unavoidable accidents, of which the Committee of Safety shall judge and determine before they grant a warrant for the pay of any Company.

And for making a certain provision for Cadets, *Be it ordained*, That every Cadet who shall enter into the service, with the approbation of the Commanding-Officer of the respective Regiment which he is willing to join, shall be allowed the pay and provision of a Private Soldier, and be found the like tents, allowing one to every four Cadets.

And be it further ordained, That in case any vacancies should happen, by deaths or otherwise, among the Commissioned-Officers, the same shall be supplied, from time to time, by regular succession, in course of seniority; and, in case of a defect of Officers to supply such succession, the Commanding-Officer of the Regiment shall fill up the vacancy out of the Cadets, if any, paying due regard to their seniority; and, if there be no Cadets, out of such others as he may think proper, with the approbation of the Committee of Safety.

And that the Companies may be kept complete, from time to time, *Be it further ordained*, That if any vacancies should happen among the Private Men, the Commanding-Officer of the Regiment shall supply the same by new recruits, in the best and most expeditious manner he may be able.

And be it further ordained, That the Soldiers to be raised shall be enlisted on the terms following, to wit: That they shall continue in the service so long as may be judged necessary, by the General Congress, or by the General Convention or General Assembly of this Colony, but not be compelled to continue more than two years from the 10th day of *April* next.

Provided, Any Soldier or Soldiers do give the Commanding-Officer three months previous notice, in writing, of his or their desire to be discharged at the end of such

*

period; and, if it shall be judged expedient to disband the Army before the expiration of the said two years, that then each Soldier discharged within that time shall be entitled to and receive six weeks pay over and above what is actually due to him. That the pay of each Captain, Lieutenant, and Ensign, shall commence on the day of his appointment, by the District or County Committees; of the Chaplain, and all the Subaltern Officers, on the days of their respective appointments; of the common Soldiers, on the days of their enlisting; and that the pay of the several Field and Staff Officers shall commence on the days of their being called into duty by the Committee of Safety.

Provided always, That no Recruiting Officer shall be allowed to enlist into the service any servant whatsoever, except apprentices bound under the laws of this Colony, nor any such apprentice unless the consent of his master be first had in writing; neither any man unless he be five feet four inches high, healthy, strong made, and well limbed, not deaf, or subject to fits.

And be it further ordained, That the Soldiers to be enlisted, and the several Sergeants appointed, or to be appointed, shall, at the expense of the publick, be furnished each with one good musket and bayonet, cartouch box, or pouch, and canteen; and, until such musket can be provided, that they bring with them the best gun of any other sort that they can procure; and that they also bring with them (if to be had) one blanket each; and that such as are to act as riflemen, bring with them one good rifle and tomahawk each, to be approved by their Captain; for the use of which guns they shall be allowed as follows, to wit: For the smooth-bores, or muskets, after the rate of twenty shillings, and for the rifles and tomahawks after the same rate by the year, and for the blanket so much as by the judgment of any Field-Officer of his Regiment the same shall be considered to be worth at the time it is produced. That each common Soldier, not already sufficiently provided, in the opinion of his Commanding-Officer, shall be provided with sufficient clothing, at the expense of the publick, to be deducted out of his pay, and also to be allowed by the publick a hunting-shirt, a pair of leggins, and binding for his hat.

Provided, If any Minute-man who has been already furnished with such articles shall enter into the regular service, he shall have no further allowance.

And be it further ordained, That, over and above the Rifle Companies belonging to the *German* Regiment, there be raised seventeen Companies of expert Riflemen, in the following Counties, that is to say: In the Counties of *Bedford* and *Loudoun*, each two Companies; in the Counties of *Albemarle*, *Amherst*, *Berkeley*, *Botetourt*, *Buckingham*, *Charlotte*, *Culpepper*, *Dunmore*, *Fauquier*, *Halifax*, *Orange*, *Pittsylvania*, and *Prince Edward*, each one Company; which shall be allotted by the Committee of Safety to the respective Regiments, as before directed.

And be it further ordained, That proper Medicine Chests, and Surgeons' Instruments, be provided, at the expense of the publick.

And be it further ordained, That the Pay of the Officers and Soldiers shall be as follows, to wit: To a Colonel, seventeen Shillings and six Pence; to a Lieutenant-Colonel, twelve Shillings and six Pence; a Major, ten Shillings; a Deputy Quartermaster-General, ten Shillings; an Adjutant-General, twelve Shillings and six Pence; a Deputy Adjutant-General, ten Shillings; a Captain, six Shillings; a Lieutenant, four Shillings; an Ensign, three Shillings; a Chaplain, ten Shillings; an Adjutant, (holding no other office,) six Shillings; if in other office, three Shillings; to a Regimental Quartermaster, (holding, or not holding, any other office,) the same as to an Adjutant; to a Sergeant-Major, to be appointed from amongst the most expert Sergeants, by the Commanding-Officer of the Regiment, two Shillings and six Pence; to a Quartermaster-Sergeant, two Shillings and six Pence; to a Sergeant, two Shillings; to a Drum-Major, two Shillings; to a Corporal, Drummer, and Fifer, each one Shilling and eight Pence; and to each Private Soldier, one Shilling and four Pence; to a Surgeon, ten Shillings; and to a Surgeon's Mate, five Shillings per day.

And be it further ordained, That one Company of Artillery be forthwith raised, and taken into the pay of this Colony, to consist of one Captain, three Lieutenants, one Sergeant, four Bombardiers, eight Gunners, and forty-eight Matrosses; the Officers to be appointed and commissioned by the Committee of Safety, and the Non-Commissioned Officers and Gunners to be appointed by the Captain; the pay of whom shall commence on the days of their several appointments and enlistments, and be as follows: To a Captain, eight Shillings; a Lieutenant, six Shillings; a Sergeant, four Shillings; a Bombardier, three Shillings; a Gunner, two Shillings and six Pence; and each Matross, two Shillings per day; which Company, when complete, shall be passed and reviewed by such person as the said Committee of Safety shall appoint, and take the oath and subscribe the articles directed by this Ordinance for the other Forces, and be subject to the like rules and regulations.

And for the greater security of the Inhabitants of this Colony from depredations of the enemy by water, *Be it ordained*, That the Committee of Safety shall, and they are hereby empowered and required to provide, from time to time, such and so many Armed Vessels as they may judge necessary for the protection of the several Rivers in this Colony, in the best manner the circumstances of the country will admit; and, to that end, to raise and take into pay a sufficient number of officers and men, as well sailors as marines, whose pay shall be settled by the Committee of Safety, not exceeding the following rates, to wit: To a Chief Commander of the whole, as Commodore, fifteen Shillings; to a Master, ten Shillings; a First Mate, seven Shillings and six Pence; a Second Mate, five Shillings; a Boatswain, three Shillings; a Common Sailor, two Shillings per day; a Captain of Marines, six Shillings; a Lieutenant, four Shillings; a Midshipman, three Shillings; a Marine, one Shilling and six Pence.

Provided always, and be it further ordained, That, where the land service will admit of it, and the Officers and Soldiers of the regular forces shall be willing to enter upon any temporary expedition in such Armed Vessels, they may be allowed so to do, and shall receive pay according to the rates aforementioned; which Officers, Sailors, and Marines, may be removed or disbanded by the said Committee of Safety, as they shall judge expedient.

And be it further ordained, That the Colonel of each Regiment, when detached from the main body, on a separate command, shall be allowed a Secretary, to be appointed by himself, who shall be allowed for his services four Shillings a day.

And be it further ordained, That every Commissioned and Staff Officer shall be allowed a Tent; and every two Sergeants shall have the same allowance; and that for every six Private Men there shall be provided a proper and sufficient Tent; and that one Bell Tent for each Company shall also be provided, at the publick expense.

And be it further ordained, That, for the more speedy supply of the Forces with Wagons, Tents, Bedding, Arms, Accoutrements, Clothes, Provisions, and all other necessaries, the Committee of Safety shall, and they are hereby required, to appoint some fit person, or persons, to provide Arms and Accoutrements, Clothes, Wagons, Tents, and Bedding, upon the best and cheapest terms, and also to appoint one or more Contractors or Commissaries, who are hereby required to use all possible despatch in purchasing such Provisions as shall be necessary for the Army, and in laying off the same in such convenient place, or places, as may best suit their different stations and marches.

And for the more regular Pay of the Army, *It is hereby ordained*, That the Committee of Safety shall appoint one Paymaster to the first four of the said Regiments, and one Paymaster to the other four of the said Regiments, with a salary of one hundred and fifty Pounds per annum each, and one Assistant-Paymaster, who shall pay the troops on the frontiers, and shall be allowed such salary as shall be approved by the Committee of Safety for his services; which Paymasters are also to act as Muster-masters. And it shall and may be lawful for the said Committee, from time to time, to issue their warrants to the Treasurer, appointed by or pursuant to an Ordinance of this Convention, for paying the several Recruiting Officers, Commissioners, Commissaries, or Contractors, and Paymasters, by them appointed; and to all expresses, and other persons by them employed, in lesser services, so much money as the said Committee shall judge necessary for their several purposes, taking proper security for the due disbursement and appli-

cation thereof, and making a proper and reasonable allowance to the several persons so to be appointed, for their trouble and expenses in conducting either branch of business to him or them assigned. And the said Committee of Safety shall have full power and authority to displace and remove from his office any person so by them appointed, either for misconduct or neglect of duty. And the said Treasurer is hereby required to pay all such sums as he may be directed, by such warrants, out of the publick money in his hands.

And be it further ordained, That the said Committee of Safety shall have full power and authority, at such times and places as they may think necessary and convenient, to call all such persons who may receive any publick money for carrying into execution the purposes of this Ordinance, to a strict account; and, upon examining their accounts, and finding them justly stated, certify the same, and, if necessary, to give proper acquittances and discharges.

And whereas it may be necessary, for the publick security, that the Forces to be raised by virtue of this Ordinance should, as occasion may require, be marched to different parts of the *United Colonies*, and that the Officers should be subject to a proper control: *Be it therefore ordained, by the authority aforesaid*, That the Officers and Soldiers under their command shall, in all things not otherwise particularly provided for by this Ordinance and the Articles established for their regulation, be under the control, and subject to the order, of the Committee of Safety.

And whereas, in this time of danger, it is probable, from the exposed situation of this Colony, and the many navigable Rivers and Creeks therein, that the attempts of the enemy will be made on different parts thereof: For the better security and defence of the inhabitants: *Be it further ordained*, That the Regiments to be raised and augmented by virtue of this Ordinance shall be stationed in such parts of the Districts hereinafter mentioned as the Committee of Safety may judge most proper, that is to say: Between the Rivers of *Potomack* and *Rappahannock*, two Regiments; between *Rappahonnock* and *York* River, two Regiments; between *York* and *James* River, two Regiments; and on the south side of *James* River, two Regiments; and the said Committee of Safety shall have full power and authority, from time to time, to call the said Regiments, or such parts thereof as they may think proper, to any place within this Colony, to repel the invasion or attacks of the enemy; provided the Forces so ordered shall return to their respective stations so soon as the emergency shall cease; any thing in this, or any former Ordinance, to the contrary notwithstanding.

And for preserving proper rank, and establishing equal pay, among all the Officers of the Continental Army: *Be it ordained*, That all commissions already granted, or hereafter to be granted, by the Committee of Safety, in pursuance of this and a former Ordinance of Convention, to any regular Officer, be, and the same are hereby declared void as soon as such Officer, or any other in his stead, shall be appointed or commissioned by the General Congress; and the pay of every such officer shall, from the time of such appointment, and notice thereof to the Committee of Safety of this Colony, be the same as shall be settled by the said General Congress, any thing in this or the said Ordinance to the contrary thereof in any wise notwithstanding.

And whereas so much of the Ordinance, intituled An Ordinance for raising and embodying a sufficient Force for the defence and protection of this Colony, as relates to the performance of battalion duty by the Minute-men, is found to be inconvenient: *Be it further ordained*, That so much of the said Ordinance as requires the said duty, be, and the same is hereby repealed.

And be it further ordained, That, where the Officers of Minute-men heretofore appointed have failed to make up their Companies, and shall not complete the same within thirty days after the passing of this Ordinance, the Committee of the County where any such failure hath happened are required to appoint other Officers to such Companies, in manner following, that is to say: where a Captain has not enlisted the number of twenty-five, a Lieutenant eighteen, and an Ensign twelve, in all such cases, the said Committee shall appoint other Officers in the room of such Officers failing to enlist such number of men; unless the failure of making up any Company has been occasioned by the men of the said Company enlisting into the Regular service; and the several Minute Captains are required, once in every month, to make return of the number of men enlisted into their Companies to the Commanding-Officers of their respective Districts, to be by them transmitted to the Committee of Safety.

And be it further ordained, That, if any Officer of a Minute Company shall enter into the Regular service, the Committee of the County to which his Company belongs shall appoint another Officer to supply such vacancy; also, when any of the Minute-men shall enlist into the Regular service, the Officer to whose Company such Soldier belonged shall forthwith proceed to recruit and enlist others in their room. And if any Minute Company shall be ordered into service before the same is complete, the same, if amounting to eighteen, shall go under the command of the Lieutenant; and if under that number, to be commanded by the Ensign of the said Company.

And be it further ordained, That each Minute-man who shall furnish himself with a good musket, or other gun, to be approved of by his Captain, shall be allowed by the publick ten Shillings per annum, as a consideration for the use thereof, and shall be liable to a fine of twenty Shillings for not appearing with the same when called on duty.

And be it further ordained, That in lieu of the Oath to be taken by the Officers and Soldiers, either of Regulars or Minute-men, as directed by the Ordinance, intituled An Ordinance for the better government of the Forces to be raised and employed in the service of the Colony and Dominion of *Virginia*, that the following Oath be by them hereafter taken, (except by the people called Quakers and Menonists, who are required to make a solemn Affirmation to the same effect,) to wit: "I, A B, do swear, that I will be faithful and true to the Colony and Dominion of *Virginia;* that I will serve the same to the utmost of my power, in defence of the just rights of *America*, against all enemies whatsoever; that I will, to the utmost of my abilities, obey the lawful commands of my superior Officers, agreeably to the Ordinances of the Convention and the Articles of War, to which I have subscribed, and lay down my arms peaceably, when required so to do, either by the General Convention or General Assembly of *Virginia*. So help me *God*." Which Oath shall be administered to the General and Field-Officers of the Regulars by the Committee of Safety, and to the other Commissioned-Officers by the District or County Committee by whom such Officers shall be appointed; and shall be administered to the other inferior Officers, and Men, by a Justice of the Peace, or any County or Corporation Committee-man, within twenty-four hours after the time of enlistment.

And whereas, by a new election of Committee-men throughout this Colony, pursuant to an Ordinance of the last Convention, the power of the Deputies elected to form the District Committees is supposed to be at an end: *Be it therefore ordained*, That the Committees of the several Counties and Corporations within this Colony, where the same hath not been already done since their last election, shall appoint such a number of their members respectively, as, in the former Ordinance for raising the Forces, is limited and directed, to meet in District Committees, who shall do and perform what remains to be done by such Committees respectively, for carrying into execution this and the former Ordinance; and so, as often as a dissolution of any Committee, and a new election of others, shall take place, they shall proceed in like manner, to the new election of Deputies, to represent them in District Committee.

Provided always, and be it further ordained, That where it shall be necessary to appoint a new Captain or Subaltern Commissioned-Officer of Minute-men, upon the death or resignation of one formerly nominated, or on his failing to raise the number of men required by this Ordinance, in that case, the appointment of such Officer shall be made by the Committee of the County or Corporation wherein the Company was to be raised; and that all vacancies among the Field-Officers of the Minute-men shall be filled up by the District Committees, having regard to a regular succession of the Officers, according to their rank.

And whereas, by the former Ordinance, the Committee of Safety are restrained from granting Commissions to the Officers in the Minute service until a return is made of the completion of the Battalions throughout the Colony, which

is found inconvenient: *Be it therefore ordained*, That upon a certificate of the review of any Company of Minute-men, as in the said Ordinance is directed, the Committee of Safety shall issue Commissions to the Captain and Subaltern Officers appointed to command such Company, bearing date on the day they were or shall be reviewed; and as soon as four Companies in any District shall appear to have been reviewed, shall grant a Commission to the Major, bearing date the day of the last Company's review; where seven Companies are completed, shall also grant a Commission to the Lieutenant-Colonel, bearing the like date of the review of the last Company; and, when the whole Battalion is completed, shall grant a Commission to the Colonel, to be dated the day of such completion; any thing in the said former Ordinance contained to the contrary notwithstanding.

And be it further ordained, That where Minute Companies are called into duty together from several Districts, and no Field-Officer shall attend from either, the Committee of Safety may appoint any Field-Officer in the Minute service to take the command of such detachment, during the time of their continuance in actual service.

And be it further ordained, That hereafter no Dissenting Minister, who is not duly licensed by the General Court, or the Society to which he belongs, shall be exempted from bearing arms in the Militia of this Colony; and that Overseers, heretofore exempted, shall be obliged to furnish themselves with Arms and Ammunition, in the same manner as the Militia-men, and shall be obliged to act as Patrollers when thereto required by the Commanding-Officer of the Militia of the County or Corporation wherein they reside; and if any Militia-man or Overseer shall neglect or refuse so to do, he or they so refusing, shall be liable to a fine of five Shillings for every neglect or refusal, to be recovered and appropriated in the same manner as Militia fines are directed to be recovered and appropriated.

And for the more expeditious, convenient, and speedy drafting into service Detachments of the Militia of this Colony, as occasion may require: *Be it further ordained*, That, at the general muster of the Militia, to be had in the month of *March* next, the Commanding Officer of each County or Corporation shall, by fair and equal lot, cause to be drawn out of each Company so many men as will amount to one-tenth part thereof, and cause the names of the persons so allotted to be enrolled, who shall from thenceforth be considered as the first division of Militia for such County or Corporation; and that the Commanding Officer shall in like manner proceed, by lot, to fix, one after the other, the nine other divisions of the said Militia, enrolling their names in the second division, third, and so on, according to such allotment; and thereafter, if the Militia of such County or Corporation shall be called into duty, the same shall be performed by the divisions, in the order they shall so stand enrolled, one after another, so as to preserve the regular rotation of duty amongst them. And every person so enrolled, who shall fail to attend, when required, or find an able-bodied man to serve in his room, shall be subject to the fines imposed for the like offence by the said recited Ordinance, to be by the Commanding-Officer laid out in bounties to such Volunteers as shall be willing to serve in the room of the persons so refusing, if to be had, or otherwise to be appropriated as in the said Ordinance is directed.

And be it further ordained, That the Commanding Officer shall appoint proper Officers to command the men so called into duty, according to the number, during the time of their being employed in actual service, having regard to the seniority and rank of the Officers of the County or Corporation in such appointment.

Provided always, That if there shall, at any time, be a sufficient number of men, who will voluntarily enter into the service, to answer the demand made upon the Militia of any County or Corporation for such assistance, in that case, such Volunteers shall be accepted instead of calling on the divisions, as before directed.

And be it further ordained, That the Militia or Volunteers to be employed, if not well armed, shall be furnished with Arms out of such as belong to the County or Corporation, to be returned as soon as they shall be discharged from the service.

And whereas, by a former Ordinance, the Militia and Minute-men are exempted from musters in the month of *February*, which may be attended with inconvenience to the country, by retarding the discipline of those bodies of men: *Be it therefore ordained*, That so much of the said recited Ordinance as relates to the said exemption, be, and is hereby repealed; and that the Minute-men and Militia shall do duty in the abovementioned month, in the like manner as is directed for the rest of the year.

And be it further ordained, That the Commanding-Officer of the Militia of any County shall, when called out on duty, receive the same pay as the like Officer in the Minute service.

And for the greater encouragement and promotion of the service, *Be it further ordained*, That there shall be advanced and paid to the several regular Soldiers hereafter to be enlisted, a bounty of twenty Shillings, upon their enlistment; and that the several regular Soldiers already enlisted shall be allowed the like bounty of twenty Shillings on their re-enlistment, to serve for such time as the Troops hereby to be raised shall be enlisted to serve; and that all regular Soldiers and Non-commissioned Officers shall be exempted from the payment of their personal taxes, during their continuance in the service. And if any of the Regulars, Minute, or Militia-men aforesaid, shall be so maimed or disabled as to be rendered incapable of maintaining themselves, they shall, upon their discharge, be supported at the expense of the publick.

And be it further ordained, That the Court-Martial of each County and Corporation shall, and they are hereby required to appoint a Collector of all fines to be assessed at each sitting of such Court, by virtue of this and a former Ordinance of Convention, who shall enter into bond, with sufficient security, for the due collection and accounting for all fines by them collected in consequence of such appointment, and is hereby required to demand and receive the several fines ordered by the Courts-Martial respectively to be levied; and, in case of non-payment, on or before the tenth day of *May*, annually, to levy the same by distress and sale of the goods of the person refusing, according to the laws enabling the sale of goods distrained for rent. And if any Collector shall fail to account for and pay what he shall have received, or might have received, of such fines, to the Receiver appointed for that purpose, deducting six per centum for his commission in collecting, it shall be lawful for the Court of the County or Corporation, upon motion of the Receiver, to give judgment for the same, with costs, against such Collector and his securities, his or their executors and administrators, provided they have respectively ten days previous notice of such motion.

And be it further ordained, That the fines inflicted for disobedience to this Ordinance shall be levied and applied as the fines are directed to be levied and applied by the Ordinance, entitled "An Ordinance for raising and embodying a sufficient Force for the defence and protection of this Colony."

And to prevent the harbouring of Deserters from the Forces already, or hereby to be raised: *Be it further ordained*, That whoever shall harbour or conceal any person, being a Deserter, and knowing him to be such, for every such offence shall forfeit and pay the sum of five Pounds, or, on failure thereof, receive ten lashes on his or her bare back.

And be it further ordained, That the Treasurer of this Colony shall and may apply the Money which may be in his hands, pursuant to an Ordinance of the last Convention, for the purposes of that and the other Ordinances and Resolutions of this and a former Convention; and if there shall be a deficiency, and the Continental Congress should not supply it, by taking our Troops, or part of them, into their pay, this Convention will make a further provision for the Troops raised, or to be raised.

And whereas the Paper on which the Treasury Notes were directed to be issued by an Ordinance of the last Convention falls much short of the quantity expected: *Be it further ordained*, That the Treasurer of this Colony for the time being shall, and he is hereby authorized to procure a sufficient quantity of other proper paper, to make up the deficiency; to be used as directed by the said Ordinance, and for the purposes therein and hereby appointed, and no other.

II. *An Ordinance for appointing Sheriffs.*

Whereas, by an Act of Assembly made in the 22d year of the reign of his late Majesty King *George* II, entitled "An Act prescribing the method of appointing Sheriffs, and for limiting the time of their continuance in office, and directing their duty therein," it is, among other things, enacted, that every County Court of this Dominion shall annually, between the last day of *June* and the last day of *August*, present to the Governour, or Commander-in-Chief of this Colony for the time being, a list or recommendation of three persons named in the commission of the peace for their County, one of which persons so recommended, shall thereupon be commissioned by the said Governour or Commander-in-Chief to execute the office of Sheriff of that County for the next ensuing year; and whereas *John* Earl of *Dunmore*, His Majesty's Lieutenant and Governour-General of this Colony, hath withdrawn himself from the seat of his Government, and commenced hostilities against the good people of this Colony, hath also, by his Proclamation, declared martial law to be in force in this Colony, and refuseth to grant commissions for executing the office of Sheriffs, according to the directions of the said recited act; whereby justice is and may be greatly delayed and hindered:

For remedy whereof, *Be it ordained by the Delegates and Representatives of the several Counties and Corporations within this Colony in the present General Convention, and it is hereby ordained by the authority of the same*, That upon the expiration of the office of Sheriff of any County in this Colony, the Court of such County, instead of recommending three persons to the Governour or Commander-in-Chief, to be by him commissioned to the office of Sheriff, shall, and they are hereby empowered and required to nominate and appoint one of the persons named in the commission of the peace for their County to execute the office of Sheriff of their said County for one year; and the person so nominated and appointed shall have all the powers and authorities, and shall perform and execute the said office in as full and ample manner, as if appointed by commission from the Governour or Commander-in-Chief of this Colony, according to the direction of the said recited act. And the person so nominated and appointed, before he enters upon his office, shall take the oath of office, and enter into bonds with sufficient security, agreeebly to the laws now in force. And if any person shall refuse to accept the said office, the Court shall proceed to appoint another in the room of the person so refusing, who shall give the like bonds and security, and take the oath of office as aforesaid.

Provided always, That so soon as the executive powers of Government in this Colony are restored to their proper channel, and other Sheriffs shall be appointed pursuant to the said Act of Assembly, that the persons who may be appointed to the office of Sheriff by the County Courts in manner aforesaid shall cease to execute the said office, and the powers hereby given shall be revoked.

—

III. *An Ordinance for amending an Ordinance, entitled "An Ordinance for providing Arms and Ammunition for the use of this Colony."*

Whereas it is found that an Ordinance of the last Convention, entitled "An Ordinance for providing Arms and Ammunition for the use of this Colony," is insufficient, in this time of imminent danger: *Be it therefore ordained, by the Delegates and Representatives of the several Counties and Corporations within this Colony and Dominion of Virginia, now in General Convention assembled, and it is hereby ordained by the authority of the same*, That the Committee of Safety for the time being may, and they are hereby required to contract, upon the best terms they can, with such Gunsmiths, or others, as they may approve, for manufacturing or supplying such quantity of Arms as they shall judge proper for the defence of this Colony.

Provided, That such contract for Rifles shall not be made to continue longer than the first day of *July* next, and for Muskets longer than twelve months from the passing of this Ordinance.

And for the more speedy and effectual providing of Powder, *Be it further ordained by the authority aforesaid*, That the Committee of Safety may, and they are hereby required to contract with proper persons willing to manufacture the same on the publick account, and to erect, or cause to be erected, one or more Powder Mills, at the publick expense, at such places as the said Committee of Safety may judge to be free from danger, and conveniently situated with respect to the Colony in general.

And be it further ordained by the authority aforesaid, That the Saltpetre and Sulphur purchased, or to be purchased, for the use of this Colony, be subject to the disposition of the Committee of Safety, for the purposes last mentioned.

—

IV. *An Ordinance for reviving and amending an Ordinance appointing a Committee of Safety.*

Whereas an Ordinance of the last Convention, entitled "An Ordinance appointing a Committee of Safety, for the more effectual carrying into execution the several Rules and Regulations established by this Convention for the protection of this Colony," did expire on the meeting of this Convention, and it is necessary that a new Committee be appointed for the purposes aforesaid: *Be it therefore ordained, by the Delegates deputed to represent the several Counties and Corporations within this Colony, in the present General Convention, and it is hereby ordained by the authority of the same*, That *Dudley Digges*, the Hon. *John Page*, *Paul Carrington*, *Edmund Pendleton*, *James Mercer*, *Thomas Ludwell Lee*, *William Cabell*, *Richard Bland*, *Joseph Jones*, *John Tabb*, and *Thomas Walker*, Esquires, be, and they are hereby appointed and declared a Committee of Safety throughout this Colony; and they, or any six or more of them, shall have and exercise all the powers and authorities given to the Committee of Safety in and by the said recited Ordinance or any other Ordinance or Resolution of Convention, from and after the passing hereof, until the end of the next session of the General Convention, or for one year, in case the Convention should not meet within that time.

And be it further ordained, by the authority aforesaid, That the said Committee of Safety shall have full and ample powers, during the recess of Convention, to direct all such measures and military operations, as, in their judgment, shall be necessary for the publick security.

And be it further ordained, That the said Committee of Safety shall and may appoint one assistant Clerk, when they shall think the same necessary, who shall have such allowance as shall be thought reasonable by the General Convention.

And whereas the time of continuance of the Officers in the service of this Colony, and the manner of resignation, have been doubted, *Be it declared and ordained*, That all Officers now or hereafter to be appointed, shall continue in service so long as the Regiments, to which they belong, shall be kept up, and that no Officer hath or shall have right to resign, but with the consent of the Convention or Committee of Safety of this Colony.

Provided, Any Officer willing to resign, may do so at the expiration of the time for which the Private-men are or shall be enlisted, on giving the like previous notice of such intention as is required of such Private-men.

And be it further ordained, That *Thomas Everard* and *James Cocke*, Esqrs., shall be and they are hereby appointed Commissioners, to examine, state, and settle such Accounts as shall be referred to them for that purpose by the Committee of Safety; each of which Commissioners shall be allowed such salary as the Convention or Committee of Safety shall determine.

—

V. *An Ordinance for establishing Tobacco Payments during the discontinuance of the Inspection Law, and for other purposes therein mentioned.*

Whereas, by reason of the expiration of an Act of General Assembly, for improving the staple of Tobacco, and preventing frauds in His Majesty's Customs, the people in this Colony may be subjected to great difficulties for want of a certain mode of making Tobacco Payments for levies or other debts, and sundry disputes may arise between them and the officers or creditors, which may increase the con-

fusions in the Colony, already too much convulsed by the unhappy disputes with *Great Britain:*

For remedy whereof, *Be it ordained, by the Delegates and Representatives of the people of this Colony, now met in General Convention, and by the authority of the same,* That it shall and may be lawful for any person who shall be indebted for levies or other demands, payable in Tobacco, to discharge the same by good, sound, and merchantable Tobacco, leaf or stemmed, tied up in bundles, and clear of trash and dirt; and if the collector or creditor shall refuse to receive Tobacco tendered in such payment, on account of its not being clean, sound, or merchantable, it shall be referred to two judicious neighbours, to be chosen one by each of them, (or if one shall refuse to nominate, the other may choose them both,) who, being sworn to give an impartial judgment, shall determine the point between the parties; and if they disagree, they shall choose a third person, who shall be sworn in like manner, and his judgment shall be final; the payments of levies and rents to be made on the plantation of the debtor, with a reasonable allowance, in cases of rents, for the charge of carrying the same to the next inspection; in other cases, at the place appointed by the contract.

And be it further ordained, That where the Vestries shall not have compounded with their Ministers for his receiving money in lieu of Tobacco for his salary, according to a late Act of Assembly, in such case the Collector of the Parish Levy shall convey the Tobacco, so to be received for levies, to the house of the Minister, who shall receive the Tobacco, so brought from time to time, until his full salary of sixteen thousand pounds of Tobacco, with the allowance of four per cent. for cask, and four per cent. for shrinkage, with the usual expense for transporting the same to the nearest publick landing, on some navigable river, is fully paid; and the residue of the Tobacco, so to be received, shall be by the Collector carefully prized up into hogsheads, and sold, according to the directions of the last mentioned act; but this is not to extend to or affect such Counties or Parishes where by law the inhabitants are allowed to pay their levies at a certain price in money.

And be it further declared and ordained, That the several Vestries shall be empowered to levy for the Collector of their several levies, such additional allowance for his trouble in collecting the Tobacco in manner aforesaid, as to them shall seem reasonable, according to the extent of the Parish; and shall also allow the Minister two Shillings and six Pence for every thousand pounds of Tobacco by him received for his salary as aforesaid, for prizing up the same.

And whereas five of the members of the Vestry of the Parish of *Frederick*, in the County of *Frederick*, have resigned their said offices, and another of the members being dead, there doth not remain a sufficient number to hold a Vestry for the purpose of electing others to fill up the said vacancies, by reason whereof the maintenance of the Poor, and other parochial affairs in the said Parish, are wholly neglected: *Be it therefore further ordained,* That it be, and is hereby recommended to the several members of the said Vestry, who have so resigned their offices, to resume the same; and upon their so doing, or so many of them as with the resuming members will make a Vestry, that such resumption be entered in the Vestry-book, and from thenceforth the Vestrymen, so remaining, shall have the same power to act in all things pertaining to the said office, as if they had never resigned the same.

And be it further ordained, That if a sufficient number of the said resigning members, as with the others will make a Vestry, shall not agree to resume their offices within two months from the passing hereof, that then the said Vestry shall be dissolved, and the Freeholders and Housekeepers of the said Parish, at such time and place as shall be appointed by the Sheriff of the said County, shall proceed to elect twelve able and discreet persons, in the usual and accustomed manner, to be Vestrymen of the said Parish; and the persons so elected, having taken an oath before the County Court well and truly to execute their office as Vestrymen, and subscribed to be conformable to the doctrine and discipline of the Church of *England*, shall be, to all intents and purposes, the Vestry of the said Parish.

VI. *An Ordinance to amend an Ordinance, entitled "An Ordinance for regulating the election of Delegates, and ascertaining their allowances, and also for regulating the election of Committee-men in the several Counties and Corporations within this Colony, and for other purposes therein mentioned."*

Whereas, by the extreme badness of the weather and other unavoidable accidents, the Freeholders, and others qualified to vote at the election of Committees for several Counties and Corporations in this Colony, were prevented from assembling at the times and places directed by an Ordinance, passed at the last Convention, entitled "An Ordinance for regulating the election of Delegates, and ascertaining their allowances, and also for regulating the election of Committee-men in the several Counties and Corporations within this Colony, and for other purposes therein mentioned," by means whereof no Committees have been or can now be regularly chosen, to act in such Counties and Corporations until the next general election:

Be it therefore ordained, by the Delegates deputed to represent the several Counties and Corporations within this Colony, in the present General Convention, and it is hereby ordained, by the authority of the same, That the Freeholders, and others qualified to vote for Committees in such Counties and Corporations as have not chosen Committees pursuant to the said recited Ordinance, shall, and they are hereby required to meet at the respective places by the said Ordinance appointed, as soon after the passing this Ordinance as publick notice can be given, and delivered in, to the Chairman of the last preceding Committee, or, in case of his absence or refusal to act, to the Clerk of such Committee, or, in case of his absence or refusal to act, to one of the Delegates of such County or Corporation, a list of twenty-one persons, qualified as by the said recited Ordinance is directed, to serve as a Committee for such County or Corporation, until the next general election; which several lists shall be fairly counted by the person receiving the same, in the presence of so many of the preceding Committee as may choose to attend, and publication shall be made of the several persons having a majority of votes, who are hereby declared to be duly elected a Committee to serve as aforesaid; and the said Committees shall have the like power and authority, and be governed in their proceedings by the same rules and regulations as directed by the said recited Ordinance; and in case of the death, resignation, or removal of any member of a County or Corporation Committee, already or hereafter to be elected, such vacancy shall be supplied by the choice of the rest of the Committee.

Provided, and be it further ordained, That in the County of *Norfolk*, the Court-House being lately destroyed by the enemy, the election of a Committee for that County may be at any other convenient place therein as shall be appointed by the person undertaking the management of such election, any thing in the said recited Ordinance to the contrary notwithstanding.

Whereas the time appointed for the general election of Committees is, from experience, found inconvenient: *Be it ordained,* That from and after the passing of this Ordinance, the time for making general elections of Committees, in the several Counties and Corporations in this Colony, shall, and the same is hereby declared to be on the Court days of the respective Counties and Corporations, in the month of *October*, annually.

And it is hereby ordained, That so much of the said recited Ordinance as relates to the fixing the time of electing Committees, shall be, and the same is hereby repealed.

And whereas, by the said recited Ordinance, no provision is made for reimbursing the County and Corporation Committees for any expense they may be put to in employing Messengers to summon persons before them, despatching and forwarding Expresses, and other necessary expenses upon the publick service: *Be it ordained,* That the Chairman of the respective Committees, incurring such expense, shall certify the same to the Committee of Safety, who are hereby empowered to issue their Warrants, from time to time, to the Treasurer, for the payment thereof; and that the allowance to the Clerks of the several Committees be paid in like manner by the Treasurer, instead of being levied by the County Court, as formerly directed.

And whereas the election of the present Committee for the County of *Caroline* was not made agreeably to the afore-recited Ordinance: *Be it ordained*, That the said Committee of the County of *Caroline* be, and the same is hereby dissolved.

And be it further ordained, That the former Committee of the said County shall proceed to the choice of three of their members to judge of the qualification of voters; and that the Freeholders of the said County, at such time as shall be appointed by the late Chairman, of which publick notice shall be given, shall proceed to the election of another Committee, pursuant to the directions of the first recited and this present Ordinance.

And be it further ordained, That the Chairman, Clerk, or Delegate, shall cause publick notice to be given of the time appointed for such election, at every Parish Church in his respective County or Corporation, two several *Sundays* before the day of such election.

—

VII. *An Ordinance for establishing a mode of punishment for the enemies to America in this Colony.*

Whereas the most dangerous attempts have been made, by some persons in this Colony, to subvert the rights and liberties of the inhabitants; and whereas, by a Declaration of this Convention, a humane disposition towards such offenders has fully been manifested, who, notwithstanding, have failed to avail themselves thereof, and return to that duty which they owe both to this country and the rights of mankind; and whereas it is become necessary to declare what are and shall be considered as offences, to the end a regular mode of punishment may be established, and equal right and justice administered to all persons within this Colony:

Be it therefore ordained, by the Delegates of the people assembled in General Convention, and it is hereby ordained, by the authority of the same, That if any white person, or persons, who have been in arms against this Colony, shall fail to surrender himself, or themselves, to the Committee of Safety, within two months from the publication of this Ordinance; and if any white person, or persons, shall hereafter aid or assist the enemy, by inlisting Soldiers, giving intelligence, or furnishing them with Arms, Provision, or Naval Stores, or shall bear arms against this Colony; all and every such person, or persons, so having borne arms, or hereafter offending in manner aforesaid, shall, upon being convicted as hereafter mentioned, be liable to be imprisoned, or otherwise confined, in such manner as the Committee of Safety may direct. And proper persons shall be appointed by the Committee of Safety to take possession of their estates, both real and personal, and to cultivate the same to the best advantage, and pay the profits thence arising into the hands of the Treasurer of this Colony for the time being, to be disposed of towards satisfying the just debts of such delinquent, to be ascertained by the Committee of Safety; and the residue for the publick use, in such manner as the said Committee shall think most for the advantage of this Colony. And the principal estates shall be subject to the future determination of the Convention.

Provided, nevertheless, The Committee of Safety shall have full power and authority to pardon such as have heretofore been or shall be in arms against this Colony, or shall otherwise offend as aforesaid, upon being satisfied of his or their repentance, and desire to be restored to the confidence of this Colony, and returning to his or their duty; and in all such cases, the said Committee of Safety shall state the case of each offender to the Convention, to enable them to determine what should be done with their estates.

And whereas it is essential to the peace, the happiness, and safety of this Colony, that the Continental Association should be strictly observed, and that all violators of the same should be duly punished:

Be it further ordained, That from and after the passing of this Ordinance, all Merchants, Traders, or other persons who shall import into this Colony any goods, wares, or merchandise, contrary to the said Continental Association, (except in cases allowed by the General Congress, or the General Convention,) shall forfeit the goods, wares, or merchandise, so imported; and if any person, or persons, so offending, shall refuse or fail to deliver up the said goods, wares, or merchandise, when required by the Committee of Safety so to do, he, she, or they, so refusing or failing, shall forfeit and pay the full value thereof in money; and, in either case, shall, moreover, be for ever rendered incapable of trading in this Colony. And if any person, or persons, shall hereafter put on board any vessel, or vessels, for exportation, or shall hereafter export any produce of this Colony contrary to the said Association, except as aforesaid, he, she, or they, so offending, shall forfeit the cargo, or cargoes, so put on board or exported, or the value thereof; and all and every vessel, or vessels, in which any such goods, wares, or merchandise, shall be imported, or in which any such produce shall be exported, shall be, moreover, forfeited to the use of this Colony, and the moneys arising therefrom paid into the Treasury, for the publick use.

Provided, nevertheless, That no such vessel or vessels aforesaid shall be forfeited, except the value of the goods, wares, and merchandise, therein imported, or of the produce exported, exceed the sum of twenty Pounds sterling.

And be it further ordained, That if any person, or persons, shall hereafter, by writing, or otherwise, order any goods, wares, or merchandise whatsoever, to be imported into this Colony contrary to the Continental Association, except as aforesaid, all and every such person, or persons, so offending, shall, upon conviction thereof, be for ever rendered incapable of trading in this Colony; and every such offender, so convicted, who shall trade within this Colony contrary to this Ordinance, shall suffer, for every such offence, three months imprisonment, without bail or mainprize.

And whereas it is expedient and necessary, the better to determine all offences within this Ordinance, and for the more speedy carrying into execution the several penalties and forfeitures incurred thereby, that persons should be appointed to take cognizance of the same: *Be it therefore ordained*, That *John Blair*, *James Holt*, and *Edmund Randolph*, Esquires, or any two of them, be, and they are hereby constituted Judges to try and determine on all matters relating to vessels and their cargoes; which said judges shall have power to appoint an Advocate, Clerk, and such other person as they may think proper to act as Marshal, who shall, from time to time, execute all process of the said Court, to be issued and signed by the Clerk thereof. And all witnesses who shall be summoned, and fail to appear and attend the said Court, on such day as their attendance was required, shall forfeit and pay the sum of fifty shillings, for which the said Court shall have power to give judgment, and award execution thereupon; and the said fines, when recovered, shall be paid to the Treasurer for the time being, for the use of this Colony.

Provided always, That any witness failing to appear before and attend the said Court, as aforesaid, shall, at any time within three months, be allowed such excuse as the said Court may think reasonable; and every witness attending the said Court shall have the same allowance as a witness attending the General Court.

And be it further ordained, That, in all cases of condemnation made of vessels or cargoes by the said Court, the person, or persons, proprietors thereof, shall, if they incline so to do, have an appeal to the Committee of Safety, on giving bond and security, in the sum of twenty Pounds, for duly prosecuting such appeal within thirty days from the time of granting the same; and the determination of the said Committee of Safety thereupon shall be conclusive. And in all cases where no such appeal shall be desired, the said Court shall appoint the Marshal to sell and dispose of such condemned vessels and cargoes.

And be it further ordained, That the Judges aforesaid shall, before entering upon the execution of their office, take the following Oath, to be administered by the Committee of Safety, to wit: "I . . . , do swear, that I will truly and faithfully execute the office of a Judge of Admiralty, according to an Ordinance of Convention; and that I will do equal right and justice to all men, to the best of my judgment, without favour, affection, or partiality. So help me *God*." And the said Judges, being so sworn, shall administer the following Oath to the Clerk and Marshal, that

is to say: "I . . . , do swear, that I will well and truly demean myself (as Clerk or Marshal, as the case may be) in the execution of my office; and that I will faithfully and truly, to the best of my power, execute all orders of the Court of Admiralty, without favour, affection, or partiality. So help me *God*."

And be it further ordained, That the Judges, being so qualified, shall meet at such place within this Colony as they may think most proper for the execution of their said office, and shall have full power and authority to adjourn from day to day, and from time to time, to such other place as to them may appear necessary. And there shall be allowed and paid to each of the said Judges, by the Treasurer for the time being, the sum of twenty-five shillings per day for each day of sitting in, or travelling to or from, the said Court, for their services; and that there shall also be paid to the Advocate, Clerk, and Marshal of the said Court, so much for their services as shall be thought reasonable, in the opinion of the Judges of the said Court, for each respective capture. And the said Judges shall have full power and authority to displace or remove, at any time, such officers of their appointment as to them shall appear necessary.

And be it further ordained, That the Committee of Safety may, and they are hereby required to commission five members of the Committee of each County in this Colony, to be recommended to them by the respective County Committees, to take cognizance of, and determine, all offences contained in this Ordinance which may arise within their respective Counties, except such as relate to vessels and their cargoes; which said Commissioners, so appointed, shall take an oath well and truly to discharge the duty of Commissioners for their respective Counties, agreeably to this Ordinance, which oath shall be first taken by the person first named in the said commission, in the presence of the other Commissioners, and by him afterwards administered to them. And the said Commissioners, or any three of them, shall be and they are hereby constituted a Court for the purposes aforesaid, with full power and authority to meet at the Court-house of their respective Counties, or such other convenient place as they may think proper; and the Clerk of the Committee of the said County, and the Sheriff thereof, having first taken the like oath of office directed to be taken by the officers of the Court of Admiralty, shall attend the said Court, and in all things perform the duties of their respective offices, in like manner as is directed for the officers of the Court of Admiralty, which said officers shall be paid by the Treasurer of this Colony such reasonable allowance for their services as the said Court shall direct.

And be it further ordained, That in all trials pursuant to this Ordinance, the Commissioners aforesaid shall cause a jury to be summoned, and proceed in the same manner as hath been heretofore observed for the trial of civil causes in this Colony; and in case of condemnation, the said Court shall appoint Commissioners for taking care of and managing the estate of the offenders as aforesaid, in such manner as is hereinbefore directed.

Provided, nevertheless, The defendant or defendants shall have liberty to appeal, as aforesaid, to the Committee of Safety, whose judgment shall be final.

And be it further ordained, That if any slave, or slaves, shall be hereafter taken in arms against this Colony, or in the possession of an enemy, through their own choice, the Committee of Safety shall have full power and authority to transport such slave, or slaves, to any of the foreign *West-India* Islands, there to be disposed of by sale, and the money arising from such sale to be laid out in the purchase of Arms and Ammunition, or otherwise applied to the use of this Colony, as the Committee of Safety shall judge most proper; and in case such slaves, so taken in arms, or in the possession of an enemy, cannot be transported with convenience to this Colony, the same shall be disposed of for the use of this Colony, or returned to the owner or owners of such slaves, or otherwise dealt with according to an act of Assembly for punishing slaves committing capital offences, as the Committee of Safety may judge most proper.

Provided always, and be it further ordoined, That the owner or owners of such slave shall be paid, by the Treasurer of this Colony for the time being, the full amount of such sale, or value of such slaves, after deducting the expenses and charge of transportation; which said valuation shall be made by the Commissioners in each County aforesaid, and certified to the Committee of Safety, who shall thereupon grant their warrant, directed to the Treasurer, for payment of the value of such slave as aforesaid.

And be it further ordained, That this Ordinance shall be published at the Court-house of each County, by the Sheriff; and at the several Churches and Meeting-houses in each Parish, by the clerk or reader, immediately after divine service.

ADDRESS OF THE GENTLEMEN, ETC., OF THE CITY OF CARLISLE.

Address of the Gentlemen and principal Inhabitants of the City of *Carlisle*, presented to His Majesty by *Thomas Graham, M. D.*

To the King's Most Excellent Majesty.

The humble Address of the Gentlemen and principal Inhabitants of the City of Carlisle.

Most Gracious Sovereign:

We humbly beg leave to approach your sacred person, and acknowledge in your presence the deep sense we entertain of your Majesty's unexampled patronage of the supremest of blessings—the liberty of the subject.

Penetrated with your unceasing attention to cherish and advance to luxuriant maturity this birthright of *Britons*, we behold with horror the base innovations and black ingratitude of rebellious *Americans*.

Struck with admiration of your Majesty's wise and lenient measures, we beg leave to assure your Majesty that we will exert ourselves to the utmost in supporting the rights of the Crown, and the authority of Parliament; and that nothing, on our part, shall be wanting to counteract the frantic and nefarious machinations of aristocratic or Republican traitors.

ADDRESS OF THE GENTLEMEN, CLERGY, FREEMEN, FREEHOLDERS, ETC., OF DUBLIN.

Address of the Gentlemen, Clergy, Freemen, Freeholders, Merchants, Traders, Manufacturers, and other Citizens of *Dublin*, transmitted to the Right Honourable Lord Viscount *Weymouth*, one of His Majesty's principal Secretaries of State, and presented to His Majesty.

To the King's Most Excellent Majesty.

The humble Address of the Gentlemen, Clergy, Freemen, Freeholders, Merchants, Traders, Manufacturers, and other Citizens of Dublin.

May it please your Majesty:

We, the Gentlemen, Clergy, Freemen, Freeholders, Merchants, Traders, Manufacturers, and other Citizens of *Dublin*, the metropolis of your Majesty's kingdom of *Ireland*, feeling ourselves at this time particularly called upon, embrace with pleasure the opportunity of testifying to your Majesty our steadfast loyalty and zealous attachment to your sacred person, crown, and dignity; for the preservation and honour of which we are, and ever shall be ready, to devote our lives and fortunes; truly sensible of the happiness we enjoy under your Majesty's mild and auspicious Government.

We hear, with equal sorrow and astonishment, that many of your misguided subjects in *America* have withdrawn themselves from their allegiance to your Majesty. We lament that, influenced by the counsels of wicked and designing men, they have even dared to adopt a system tending to render themselves independent of the parent country; yet, deeply affected by the troubles subsisting in the Colonies, we have the fullest reliance on your Majesty's wisdom and justice, that you will pursue with firmness such measures as may tend effectually to restore the violated rights of the *British* Empire.

We feel ourselves bound at so important and critical a conjuncture, most humbly and zealously to lay our hearts

at the foot of the Throne, and to express our warmest gratitude for your Majesty's paternal goodness to this your Kingdom of *Ireland*, so recently and so amply shown by several acts of the *British* Parliament for the encouragement of our commerce, manufactures, and agriculture. And our duty also leads us to acknowledge the grateful sense we entertain of your Majesty's peculiar indulgence, in sending to preside over us so excellent a Chief Governour; to whose faithful representation of our loyalty and attachment we attribute those important advantages which have flowed to us from your royal protection and favour.

Alarmed with apprehensions for what we have heard, and grateful for the blessings we feel and enjoy, we cannot avoid fervently to offer our prayers to the *Almighty* for the preservation of your Majesty's royal person and family; that your reign over us may be long and happy, and that you may ever triumph over the enemies of our glorious Constitution.

PAUL MICHEAU TO THE NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

Richmond County, December 1, 1775.

Sir: I received yours of the 24th ult. last night, and expected that our Committee had acquainted the Congress ere this of the state of the County relative to the choosing new Deputies.

When I returned from Congress, I immediately acquainted them that the Congress was dissolved, and had ordered the Committees in each County to convene the people to elect deputies, and desired them to advertise all such persons in the County as had a right to choose representatives in General Assembly. I am now to inform you, that, agreeably to my request, a meeting of the Committee was called to advertise, and not a majority appearing, those that did appear, concluded they were not empowered to act. Since which nothing has been done.

Should be glad the Congress would write the Committee to send their reasons for not convening the people. A list of their names you will see at bottom.

The situation of my family is such, at present, that if the people should think proper to choose me again, I can, by no means, serve.

That the present Congress may endeavour to keep tranquillity and good order in our Province, and make peace with our mother country, is the sincere and fervent wish of, your most sincere friend and humble servant,

Paul Micheau.

P. S. Please to communicate this to the Congress.

To Mr. *Robert Benson*.

Committee's names:—Captain *John Kettletas*, Captain *Christian Jacobson*, Captain *Cornelius Disisoway*, *Henry Perine*, *David Latourette*, Esq., *Peter Mersereau*, *John Poillon*, *Moses Dupuy*, *Lambert Merrill*, *John Tyren*, *Joseph Christopher*, *George Barnes*, *Daniel Corsen*.

PROCLAMATION BY GOVERNOUR TRYON.

By his Excellency, William Tryon, *Esq.*, *Captain-General and Governour-in-Chief in and over the Province of* New-York *and the Territories depending thereon, in America, Chancellor and Vice-Admiral of the same.*

A Proclamation.

Whereas the General Assembly of this Province stands prorogued to the sixth day of *December* instant, I have thought fit, for His Majesty's service, to prorogue, and I do by and with the advice of His Majesty's Council, further prorogue the said General Assembly to the first day of *January* next; of which all His Majesty's subjects concerned therein are required to take notice, and govern themselves accordingly.

Given under my hand and seal at arms, in the City of *New-York*, the first day of *December*, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-five, in the sixteenth year of the reign of our Sovereign Lord *George* the Third, by the grace of *God*, of *Great-Britain*, *France*, and *Ireland*, King, Defender of the Faith, and so forth.

Wm. Tryon.

By his Excellency's command:

Sam. Bayard, Jr., *Secretary*.

God *save the King*.

RECANTATION OF DAVID TAYLOR, JUN.

Danbury, December 1, 1775.

Whereas I have, for some time past, spoken rashly and inadvertently about the Congress, particularly against the present mode of proceeding of the *United Colonies*, in many of my past conversations, by which I have incurred the displeasure of many of my friends, and my countrymen in particular: I therefore now most sincerely ask forgiveness of my friends and countrymen for those unfriendly speeches, and from real conviction do declare, that I am heartily sorry for my late conduct against my country, and further promise that, for the future, I will not directly or indirectly speak against the Continental, or any other Congress or Assembly struggling for their just liberties; neither will I do any thing to frustrate any of the Colony Associations, but, on the contrary, will do every thing in my power to aid and assist the *United Colonies* in opposing the wicked and tyrannical measures of the *British* Ministry, and make known all plots against *America*, which shall come to my knowledge, and, by my behaviour, hope to be again restored to the favour of my countrymen.

David Taylor, Jun.

To the Gentlemen of the Committee of the Town of *Danbury*.

GENERAL LEE TO GENERAL BURGOYNE.

Camp on Prospect Hill, December 1, 1775.

Dear Sir: As I am just informed you are ready to embark for *England*, I cannot refrain from once more trespassing on your patience. An opportunity is now presented of immortalizing yourself as the saviour of your country. The whole *British* Empire stands tottering on the brink of ruin, and you have it in your power to prevent the fatal catastrophe; but it will admit of no delay. For Heaven's sake avail yourself of the precious moment; put an end to the delusion; exert the voice of a brave, virtuous citizen, and tell the people at home they must immediately rescind all the impolitick, iniquitous, tyrannical, murderous acts; that they must overturn the whole frantic system, or that they are undone. You ask me, in your letter, if it is independence at which the *Americans* aim? I answer, no; the idea never entered a single *American's* head until a most intolerable oppression forced it upon them. All they required was to remain masters of their own property, and be governed by the same equitable laws which they had enjoyed from the first formation of the Colonies. The ties of connection which bound them to their parent country were so dear to them, that he who would have ventured to have touched them, would have been considered as the most impious of mortals; but these sacred ties the same men who have violated or baffled the most precious laws and rights of the people at home, dissipated or refused to account for their treasures, tarnished the glory, and annihilated the importance of the nation—these sacred ties, I say, so dear to every *American*, *Bute* and his tory administration are now rending asunder.

You ask whether it is the weight of taxes of which they complain? I answer, no; it is the principle they combat; and they would be guilty in the eyes of *God* and men, of the present world and all posterity, did they not reject it; for if it were admitted, they would have nothing that they could call their own. They would be in a worse condition than the wretched slaves in the *West-India* Islands, whose little peculium has ever been esteemed inviolate. But wherefore should I dwell on this? Is not the case of *Ireland* the same with theirs? They are subordinate to the *British* Empire, they are subordinate to the Parliament of *Great Britain*, but they tax themselves. Why, as the case is similar, do not you begin with them? But you know, Mr. *Burgoyne*, audacious as the Ministry are, they dare not attempt it. There is one part of your letter which I confess I do not thoroughly understand. If I recollect right, (for I unfortunately have not the letter by me,) you say that if the privilege of taxing themselves is what the *Americans* claim, the contest is at an end. You surely cannot allude to the propositions of *North*. It is impossible that you should not think with me, and all mankind, that these propositions are no more or less than adding to a most abominable oppression a more abominable insult. But to recur to the question of *America's* aiming at inde-

*

pendence. Do any instructions of any one of the Provinces to their Representatives or Delegates, furnish the least ground for this suspicion? On the contrary, do they not all breathe the strongest attachment and filial piety for their parent country? But if she discards all the natural tenderness of a mother, and acts the part of a cruel step-dame, it must naturally be expected that their affections cease; the Ministry leave them no alternative—*aut servire, aut alienari jubent.* It is in human nature—it is a moral obligation, to adopt the latter. But the fatal separation has not yet taken place, and yourself, your single self, my friend, may perhaps prevent it. Upon the Ministry I am afraid you can make no impression. To repeat a hackneyed quotation,

> "They are in blood,
> Steep'd in so far, that should they wade no more,
> To return would be as tedious as to go o'er."

But if you will at once break off all connections with these pernicious men—if you will waive all consideration but the salvation of your country, *Great Britain* may stand as much indebted to General *Burgoyne* as *Rome* was to her *Camillus.* Do not, I entreat you, my dear sir, think this the mad rhapsody of an enthusiast, nor the cant of a factious, designing man, for in these colours I am told I am frequently painted. I swear by all that's sacred, as I hope for comfort and honour in this world, and to avoid misery in the next, that I most earnestly and devoutly love my native country; that I wish the same happy relation to subsist for ages, betwixt her and her children, which has raised the wide arch of her empire to so stupendous and enviable a height; but at the same time I avow, that if the Parliament and people should be depraved enough to support any longer the present Ministry in their infernal scheme, my zeal and reverence for the rights of humanity are so much greater than my fondness for any particular spot, even the place of my nativity, that had I any influence in the councils of *America,* I would advise not to hesitate a single instant, but decisively to cut the Gordian knot now besmeared with civil blood.

This, I know, is strong, emphatick language, and might pass, with men who are strangers to the flame which the love of liberty is capable of lighting up in the human breast, for a proof of my insanity; but you, sir, you, unless I have mistaken you from the beginning, well conceive that a man in his sober senses may possess such feelings. In my sober senses, therefore, permit me, once more, most earnestly to entreat and conjure you to exert your whole force, energy, and talents, to stop the Ministry in this their headlong career. If you labour in vain, (as I must repeat I think will be the case,) address yourself to the people at large. By adopting this method, I am so sanguine as to assure myself of your success; and your publick character will be as illustrious as your personal qualities are amiable, to all who intimately know you. By your means, the Colonists will long continue the farmers, planters, and shipwrights of *Great Britain;* but if the present course is persisted in, an eternal divorce must inevitably take place. As to the idea of subduing them into servitude, and indemnifying yourselves for the expense, you must be convinced, long before this, of its absurdity.

I should not, perhaps, be extravagant, if I advanced that all the ships of the world would be too few to transport force sufficient to conquer three millions of people, unanimously determined to sacrifice every thing to liberty. But if it were possible, the victory would be not less ruinous than the defeat. You would only destroy your own strength. No revenue can possibly be extracted out of this country. The army of placemen might be increased, but her circuitous commerce, founded on perfect freedom, which alone can furnish riches to the metropolis, would fall to the ground. But the dignity of *Great Britain,* it seems, is at stake! Would you, sir, if in the heat of passion you had struck a simple drummer of your regiment, and afterwards discovered that you had done it unjustly, think it any forfeiture of your dignity to acknowledge the wrong? No, (I am well acquainted with your disposition,) you would ask him pardon at the head of your regiment.

I shall now conclude (if you will excuse the pedantry) with a sentence of *Latin: "Justum est bellum quibus necessarium, et pia arma quibus nulla, nisi in armis, relinquitur spes."*

I most sincerely wish you a quick and prosperous voyage, and that your happiness and glory may be equal to the idea I have of your merits, as I am, with the greatest truth and affection, yours, &c.,

C. Lee.

To General *Burgoyne.*

COLONEL MOYLAN TO COLONEL WENTWORTH.

Cambridge, December 1, 1775.

Sir: Your favour of the 27th came safe to hand, at a time when we were all flushed with the agreeable account of Captain *Manly's* having taken a prize of the utmost consequence, which made us look over the potatoes and turnips of Captain *Adams;* but now, being a little cool, I assure you I do not think *Adams's bon fortune* so despicable. Though of little value to us, it is depriving the enemy of what to them would be of consequence. As to the prisoners, I wish you had kept or discharged them. In future you will please to let the Committee examine such as in these circumstances may fall into your hands, and they will judge of the best method of disposing of them. The money you advance must be a charge against the capture. I doubt not of Captain *Adams's* frugality and attention; you will therefore supply him with what necessaries he calls for. You will please to dispose of the cargo by the *Rainbow,* and lay up the schooner until further orders; though, if a reasonable price can be got for her, you may dispose of her. This is left to your better judgment. I have supplied *Benjamin* ten dollars towards defraying his expense back. This must also become a charge upon the capture. I hope *Adams* will soon take such a prize as *Manly* has. I really believe the cargo could not cost short of £10,000 sterling. To us it is invaluable.

Adieu, my dear sir. Believe me your assured friend,

S. Moylan.

Colonel *Joshua Wentworth, Portsmouth.*

COLONEL MOYLAN TO WILLIAM WATSON.

Cambridge, December 1, 1775.

Sir: Your favours of the 23d and 29th ultimo are come to hand. Captain *Coit's* lieutenant has been here, and gives an account of his schooner being so old and crazy as to be unfit for the service he is employed in. If there was a possibility of fitting a better vessel out in six or eight days, and removing the guns, &c., from on board the schooner, his Excellency would be glad it could be done, as there are store-ships and transports expected all this month. But that mutinous spirit which reigns through the marines and sailors, makes the General despair of your being able to effect this to any purpose; so that I believe it is best to give the affair up, and not put the publick to an unnecessary expense. You must be the proper judge in this matter. To you his Excellency leaves it, adverting that if the vessel cannot be fitted, and men willing to go in her in the abovementioned time, you are to lay the schooner up, have the ammunition, stores, and every thing on board carefully secured, a proper inventory taken of them, signed by the proper officers, and transmitted to head-quarters by the first good conveyance. Should this be necessary, you will please to inform Captain *Coit* that it is his Excellency's orders that he make what despatch he can to camp, with the men under his command.

As to Captain *Martindale's* people, it is his Excellency's orders that all such as are unwilling to proceed to cruise with him, be immediately sent to camp to join their respective regiments, under the care of an officer; and if Captain *Martindale* can, with your assistance, get people to go with him, they shall receive forty shillings lawful money per month, and one-third of all prizes they may have the good luck to make, divided agreeably to the instructions given to the captain. Indeed, the shares, I believe, will be on a better plan than therein mentioned, as it is now under consideration of Congress to allow one-third of all vessels and cargoes to the captors. Should you and Captain *Martindale* find it impossible to get men on these terms in a seasonable time, I must only say, that the deficiency of public spirit in this country is much more than I could posssibly have an idea of.

His Excellency has been abroad whilst I wrote the fore-

going. It is his desire that as the brigantine is so well fitted, that at all events she must be sent out to cruise. She is on the publick service, and ceremony must be waived, so that if Captain *Martindale* cannot get hands to go with him, you must put in Captain *Coit*, or any one else that can, as her being detained in port now may be of the utmost prejudice to the *American* cause. Fourteen transports, with military stores, sailed in company with one now taken by Captain *Manly*, of immense value. His crew will make their fortunes by *Manly's* activity. I am sorry to think that this is a qualification that *Martindale* is deficient in; at least he has given reason for the General to think so.

Could not a crew for the brigantine be procured out of both vessels? In fine, get her out, let the expense be what it will, and put what captain and crew you think best for the good of the service on board of her.

I am, &c., S. Moylan.

William Watson, Esq., *Plymouth*.

DR. JACKSON TO NEW-HAMPSHIRE PROVINCIAL CONGRESS.

Gentlemen: It having been insinuated that I have been absent from the army a considerable part of my time since my first entering, I beg leave humbly to inform Congress, that I arrived at the army 19th of *June*. I tarried until the 29th, when, not having a shift of clothing, I informed Gen. *Folsom* that I purposed going home. He positively refused it, and insisted on my tarrying, as the small-pox was in the army, and not one of the surgeons had had the disease. However, on my promise to return in a few days, he consented, having first stopped my whole chirurgical apparatus for his son *Adams*, who (as well as every other surgeon in the *New-Hampshire* regiments) was at that time even destitute of a needle to ligate a bleeding vessel.

The Congress desired me, when at *Exeter*, to procure some proper person to mount some field-pieces, which I endeavoured to do, but could not; I therefore took a drawing of every member of a field-carriage. When I arrived at *Portsmouth* I employed myself every day, from sunrising to sun-setting, in mounting the brass field-pieces, which are as well executed as any on the continent. On the 13th of *July* I returned to the army, and have never been absent but eight days, on command to recruit the medicine chest, which I did at *Salem* and *Portsmouth*. I have now been home fifteen days; my whole time has been taken up in laying out fortifications at *Kittery* and *New-Castle*, in making cartridges, and cannisters, and port-fires, for the field pieces, in raising and exercising the artillery company, in hearing and administering to the innumerable complaints of the soldiers in regard to their health.

The honourable Congress will please to observe, that I first perform my business, and then ask for such a reward as they shall judge reasonable, while others, conscious of their own inabilities, would not venture their performances upon the same issue, but insist on large and remarkable stipends before they enter the service.

If there is the least objection in Congress to grant me the commission asked for, I am so little anxious to continue in the service, that I beg leave to retract the request.

I solemnly declare that I have never received but one shilling and four pence, and have not charged more than twenty shillings since the 17th day of *June*, though my accounts for seven years past have never been less than three hundred and thirty pounds lawful money.

H. Jackson.

To the Honourable President and Members of the *New-Hampshire* Congress.

ADDRESS OF THE MAGISTRATES, ETC., OF THE BOROUGH OF JEDBURGH.

Address of the Magistrates and Town Council of the ancient Borough of *Jedburgh*, transmitted to the Earl of *Suffolk*, one of His Majesty's principal Secretaries of State, and presented to His Majesty.

To the King's Most Excellent Majesty.

The humble Address of the Magistrates and Town Council of Jedburgh.

Most Gracious Sovereign:

We, your Majesty's most loyal and dutiful subjects, the Magistrates and Town Council of your ancient borough of *Jedburgh*, beg leave, in the present important conjuncture, to express the grateful sense we have of your Majesty's mild and equitable reign; of your constant and tender attention to the happiness and honour of the nation, and the religious and civil liberties of your people.

Inspired with love and admiration of our Constitution, we cannot without alarm hear doctrines maintained subversive of the principles upon which it is established; the supreme power of Parliament, the basis and security of British liberty, denied and opposed by a great number of your *American* subjects, who, grown insolent from prosperity, and lost to all sense of justice and gratitude, proceeding from tumult to rebellion, obstinately persevere in the rash and desperate purpose of shaking off their constitutional dependence on the mother country.

We feel most sensibly for those of our *American* brethren whose attachment to order and government continually subjects them to violence and outrage; we feel even for those, who, misled from duty by the insidious protestations of loyalty and patriotism under which ambitious men have been carrying on their interested schemes, are likely to fall victims to their unhappy delusion. Permit us to assure your Majesty, that we view with the highest indignation and abhorrence both their principles and designs; and that we are ready, to the utmost of our power, to vindicate and support the interests of this Kingdom, and the constitutional dependence of all its Colonies.

We confide in the justice and wisdom of your Majesty and your Parliament, for the measures proper to be pursued, and trust that, from a suitable exertion of the powers of Government, and the wisdom of your councils, their daring attempts shall not only be frustrated, but the unnatural intention extinguished, unity restored, and a more permanent tranquillity secured.

That this desirable event may be speedily and happily accomplished, and that your Majesty may long reign in peace and prosperity over a happy and grateful people, is our ardent wish and prayer.

Sealed and signed, for and in our name, and by our order and authority, in Council assembled, this second day of *December*, 1775, by

Andrew Lookup.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO COMMANDER OF PENNSYLVANIA BATTALION.

Congress Chamber, December 2, 1775.

Sir: I am directed by Congress to order you immediately to send, keep, and continue, until further orders, such and so large a guard of the battalion under your command, as you shall think proper for guarding and secure keeping the vessels and stores on the wharves of Messrs. *Willing & Morris*, and Mr. *Cuthbert*, in the city of *Philadelphia*. I am, &c., John Hancock, *President*.

To the Officer Commanding the Battalion raised in *Pennsylvania*.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Philadelphia, December 2, 1775.

Sir: Your several letters from the time the Committee left the camp to the 19th of *November*, inclusive, being duly received, were laid before Congress, on which, as well as on the report of their Committee, they have come to sundry further resolutions, which I have the honour to enclose you. The money ordered is getting ready, and will be forwarded with all possible expedition. The Congress have resolved to make a further emission of three millions of dollars, which I hope will be finished, and such supplies forwarded as will answer your exigencies, and enable you for the future to pay the army monthly, and fulfil your other engagements.

I forward you several commissions for the officers of the armed vessels, also a number of printed articles for the regulation of the army as altered.

For the recommendation of Captain *Crafts* and Mr. *Trott*, to be appointed officers in the regiment of artillery, and the steps to be pursued with respect to the release of Colonel *Ethan Allen*, I beg leave to refer you to the resolutions enclosed.

I herewith send you a commission for *Henry Knox*, as Colonel of the regiment of artillery.

The enclosed accounts of advances to the rifle companies, you will please to order the Paymaster-General to deduct from their pay, agreeably to the several charges.

I have nothing further in command from the Congress.

Yesterday we received advice by an express from the Committee of *Frederick*, in *Maryland*, that *Connolly* and three associates were taken prisoners, and are now in confinement in that county. By his examination taken, and the papers found with him, the deposition of his servant, which you transmitted to Congress, is fully confirmed.

This day we received advice from *Southampton*, in *Virginia*, that Lord *Dunmore* has erected his standard at *Norfolk*, proclaimed martial law, invited the negroes to join him, and offered them freedom; for which purposes he has issued a proclamation from on board the ship where he resides; and that two counties have been obliged to submit to him. However, I hope such measures are taking as will speedily and effectually repel his violence, and secure the peace and safety of that Colony.

The committee have just brought in their report on the vessel taken by the people of *New-Hampshire*. As soon as the Congress have come to a determination thereon, I shall do myself the pleasure to transmit it to you.

In the mean time, with sincere and hearty wishes for your safety, happiness, and prosperity, I have the honour to be, sir, &c.,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

To General *Washington*.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Philadelphia, December 2, 1775.

SIR: The Congress having found it necessary to send Commissioners to the northward to consult with General *Schuyler*, among other things have instructed them to use their best endeavours to induce the men to reinlist for one year from the first of *January* next, in the Continental service; and for the encouragement of the *Connecticut* troops, who have not been mustered by the Deputy Mustermaster-General, they have given directions that such as reinlist be paid all arrears that may be due to them, according to the rolls to be sent by you.

You will be pleased, therefore, as soon as possible, to transmit to General *Schuyler*, by express, the rolls of such of your Colony as are employed in that department, ascertaining how long the men have been in the service.

I enclose you the resolutions of Congress respecting the disposition of the officers taken at *St. John's;* by which you will perceive they are to be stationed in the lower parts of *Lebanon* and *Windham*, and to be upon their parole, and under certain restrictions therein mentioned, which you will please to order to be executed, and when effected, transmit me a copy signed by each officer, to be laid before the Congress.

I am directed by Congress to inform you that no bounty is to be allowed the soldiers on reinlistment, but the General is directed to pay such soldiers as will reinlist for the succeeding year, their wages for the months of *October*, *November*, and *December*, and also to advance to them one month's pay; and I am ordered to recommend to you to promote the recruiting service in the present army, as well as in the particular Colony.

I have the honour to be, &c.,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO NEW-HAMPSHIRE CONVENTION.

Philadelphia, December 2, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: The enclosed resolutions I transmit you by order of Congress. Your zeal in the cause renders any further recommendation unnecessary.

Having nothing more in charge to communicate, and being much engaged in despatching expresses, I can't add, but that I am, with much respect, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

To the President and Members of the Convention of *New-Hampshire*.

THEODORE VAN WYCK TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

New-York, December 2, 1775.

SIR: I have the honour to be elected a member of this Congress, but am sorry the publick did not duly consider my infirmity in respect to my hearing, which renders me a very unfit person to discharge that important trust, as I am not able to distinguish or understand any argument or debate, unless the speakers are very near me, which always gives me extreme pain and uneasiness. I humbly beg, therefore, in case of my non-attendance, that the gentlemen of the Congress, will not impute it to any unwillingness in me to serve; for I can assure them that I am a friend to the rights and liberties of my country, and will cheerfully bear my part of the burden to preserve them inviolate in any thing that I am capable of, or properly qualified for.

I have the honour to be, sir, yours and their very humble servant,

THEODORE VAN WYCK.

To Colonel *Woodhull*, President of the *New-York* Provincial Congress.

DECLARATION OF THOMAS COLDEN.

New-York, December 7, 1775.

Thomas Colden, High Sheriff of *Ulster* County, having received the King's proclamation, with Governour *Tryon's* subjoined, gave public notice that he intended reading said proclamation at *St. Andrew's* Church, in *Ulster* County, on *Saturday*, the 2d of *December*, 1775, to all such officers, both civil and military, and all others that chose to attend. Whereupon the Committee of *Hanover* Precinct (the place of his residence) met and judged it their duty to oppose every measure that would have a tendency to strengthen the hands of ministerial tyranny, and that would, on the other hand, weaken or discourage the promoters and supporters of *American* freedom, and thereupon applied to the commanding officer of the regiment of militia to which they belong, who immediately ordered four companies of militia to march to the abovementioned church, where all the officers (Capt. *Cadwallader* and *C. Colden*, Jun., excepted,) and most of their men attended, together with three companies of minute-men, at which time and place the following declaration was offered to the Sheriff, and then read to the seven companies then and there present, who unanimously accepted thereof, as full satisfaction for the first publick offence; which declaration he publicly signed at the head of the seven companies then under arms, and in the presence of a great number of spectators assembled on the occasion, who thereupon were dismissed and separated without the least confusion or disorder.

DECLARATION.

"I do hereby acknowledge that I have acted in such a manner as to draw the resentment of all those that have appeared friends to the true interests of the *United Colonies*, and supporters of the measures of the Continental and Provincial Congress; and that I am sorry for it, and that I will for the future act and behave as a friend to the measures adopted by the *United Colonies:* And that I will hereafter, whenever required by the Committee where I reside, be aiding and assisting in carrying into execution the resolves of the Continental and Provincial Congresses, on all occasions, as far as in me lies.

"Given under my hand at *St. Andrew's* Church, in *Hanover* Precinct, in *Ulster* County, the 2d day of *December*, 1775.

"THOMAS COLDEN, *Sheriff*."

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM AN OFFICER IN THE NORTHERN ARMY, DATED MONTREAL, DECEMBER 2, 1775.

Last night Gen. *Wooster* received information, by letters from *Boucharville*, that a plan was laid for cutting off the communication between Gen. *Montgomery's* army and our garrison, and at one stroke to destroy all the friends of the *United Colonies;* that a magazine of arms, &c., was deposited with a captain of the militia; that the scheme was concerted and to be conducted by *St. Luke La Corne*, who had a strong party in readiness to put it in execution.

On this intelligence Col. *Ritzema*, with a detachment of one hundred men, among whom was part of my com-

pany, was ordered in quest of the principal persons mentioned in the information. About ten o'clock at night embarked in three batteaus, crossed the river, and marched about twelve miles to *Boucharville*, where we surprised and took *St. Luke La Corne*, his son-in-law, Major *Campbell*, and several others, whom we brought to General *Wooster*, who ordered them to *La Prairie*, in order to be sent down to one of the *United Colonies*.

I do not think the information was supported by sufficient evidence, but it was such as made it indispensable for the General to act as he did; and *St. Luke La Corne* was known to be a very dangerous person in Canada. Our garrison is weak, but General *Wooster* is taking the most prudent and spirited measures to put in the best order of defence possible. I hope a full conviction of the very great importance of this place, and the necessity of a powerful army to defend the possession, in obtaining which Providence has favoured us in so remarkable a manner, will stimulate the *United Colonies* to send speedy and ample supplies of men, well fitted with every article necessary to that end; ten thousand men will secure the country against all attempts that may be made to retake it from them.

COMMITTEE OF THE ASSEMBLY TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Hartford, December 2, 1775.

Honoured Sir: The enclosed letter was delivered to the Pay-table last evening, but, as we are not empowered to take the publick moneys into our hands, or proceed to *Roxbury* as desired, must refer the matter entirely to your Honour's direction. Should it be thought best that somebody go down, it appears to us that it must be such as have been most conversant with the papers and accounts, and that not less than two hands will be sufficient for the purpose of settling and paying, but submit the propriety and direction of the whole to your Honour.

And are, with great regard, your most obedient humble servants,

Wm. Pitkin,
T. Seymour,
O. Ellsworth.

P. S. We beg leave to observe to your Honour that the Captains of the several companies are now charged with a number of guns and accoutrements bought by the Colony. These they must be accountable for at settlement, unless somebody is empowered to receive the same, whose receipt may discharge the Paymasters. T. S.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Cambridge, December 2, 1775.

Sir: The reason of my giving you the trouble of this is the late extraordinary and reprehensible conduct of some of the *Connecticut* troops. Some time ago, apprehending that some of them might be inclined to go home when their time of inlistment should be up, I applied to the officers of the several regiments to know whether it would be agreeable to the men to continue until the first of *January*, or until a sufficient number of other forces could be raised to supply their places; who informed me that they believed the whole of them would readily stay till that could be effected. Having discovered last week that they were very uneasy to leave the service, and determined upon it, I thought it expedient to summon the general officers at head-quarters, and invited a delegation of the General Court to be present, that suitable measures might be adopted for the defence and support of our lines. The result was, that three thousand Minute-men and Militia of this Province, and two thousand men from *New-Hampshire*, should be called in by the 10th instant for that purpose. With this determination the *Connecticut* troops were made acquainted, and requested and ordered to remain here, as the time of most of them would not be out before the 10th, when they would be relieved. Notwithstanding this, yesterday morning most of them resolved to leave the camp; many went off, and the utmost vigilance and industry were used to apprehend them; several got away with their arms and ammunition. I have enclosed you a list of the names of some of them in General *Putnam's* regiment, only, who escaped, and submit to your judgment whether some example should not be made of these men, who have basely deserted the cause of their country at this critical juncture, when the enemy are receiving reinforcements.

I have the pleasure to inform you that one of our armed vessels, the *Lee*, Captain *Manly*, took and brought in the other day a valuable store-ship, bound to *Boston*.

I am, &c.,

G. Washington.

To the Hon. *Jonathan Trumbull*, Governour, &c.

COLONEL MOYLAN TO WILLIAM BARTLETT.

Cambridge, December 2, 1775.

Dear Sir: I have examined the papers belonging to the sloop *Phœbe*, and, from them and other circumstances, it does not appear that Captain *Broughton* had good reason for making seizure of her. Added to this, Governour *Cooke*, of *Rhode-Island*, has wrote a letter to his Excellency by Mr. *James Aborn*, who is really the owner of this sloop, though she was, in order to protect her from the enemy, made over to Mr. *Enoch Rust*, of *Nova-Scotia*. It is, therefore, his Excellency's orders that you deliver the sloop aforesaid, with her cargo and appurtenances, to Mr. *Aborn* or Captain *Hawkins*, who will deliver you this, for which this shall be your sufficient warrant, at the same time taking a receipt for the same.

I am, with great regard, yours, &c.,

Stephen Moylan.

William Bartlett, Esq., *Beverley*.

COLONEL MOYLAN TO WILLIAM BARTLETT.

Cambridge, December 2, 1775.

Sir: It being now under consideration of Congress the mode of disposing of such vessels and crews as are taken in supplying the enemy, it is his Excellency's pleasure that Captain *Hunter* and his crew return to you; that their private adventure be given them, with liberty to dispose thereof as they think proper, and that they be treated with all humanity due to fellow-citizens in distress. If you think proper, you may let them live on board the vessel until further orders. Your attention and activity give much pleasure to the General, which he desires me to inform you of.

I am, with great regard, sir, your most obedient servant,

S. Moylan.

To *Wm. Bartlett*, Esq., Agent for the Brigantine *Nancy*.

To Captain *John Glover*, the same.

ELEAZAR WHEELOCK TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Dartmouth College, December 2, 1775.

Much honoured and respected Sir: On the 13th ult. the famous Major *Rogers* came to my house from a tavern in the neighbourhood, where he called for refreshment. I had never before seen him. He was in but ordinary habit for one of his character. He treated me with great respect; said he came from *London* in *July*, and had spent twenty days with the Congress, in *Philadelphia*, and I forget how many at *New-York;* had been offered and urged to take a commission in favour of the Colonies, but, as he was now in half pay from the Crown, he thought proper not to accept it; that he had fought two battles in *Algiers*, under the Dey; that he was now on a design to take care of some large grants of land made to him; that he was now going to visit his sister, at *Moor's Town*, and then return by *Merrimack River*, to visit his wife, whom he had not yet seen since his return from *England;* that he had got a pass or license to travel from the Continental Congress; that he came in to offer his service to procure a large interest for this College; that the reputation of it was great in *England;* that Lord *Dartmouth*, and many other noblemen, had spoken of it, in his hearing, with expressions of highest esteem and respect; that Capt. *Holland*, Surveyor-General, now at *New-York*, was a great friend to me and the College, and would assist me in the affair; and that now was the most favourable time to apply for a large grant of lands for it.

I thanked him for expressions of his kindness, but, after

I had shown some coldness in accepting it, he proposed to write me in his journey and let me know where I might write him, and he should be ready to perform any friendly office in the affair. He said he was in haste to pursue his journey that evening. He went to the aforesaid tavern and tarried all night; the next morning told the landlord he was out of money and could not pay his reckoning—which was three shillings—but would pay him on his return, which would be within about three months, and went on his way to *Lyme;* since which I have heard nothing from him. But yesterday two soldiers, viz: *Palmer,* of *Orford,* (whom they say was Lieutenant under Colonel *Bedel,*) and *Kennedy,* of *Haverhill,* on their return from *Montreal,* informed me that our officers were assured by a *Frenchman,* a Captain of the artillery, whom they had taken captive, that Major *Rogers* was second in command under General *Carleton;* and that he had lately been in *Indian* habit through our encampments at *St. John's,* and had given a plan of them to the General; and suppose that he made his escape with the *Indians,* which were at *St. John's.*

This account is according to the best of my remembrance. If it shall prove of any service to detect such an enemy I shall be glad; if not, my intention will, I trust, apologise for what I have wrote.

I am, much honoured Sir, with much esteem and respect, your Excellency's most obedient and very humble servant,

ELEAZAR WHEELOCK.

His Excellency General *Washington.*

GENERAL SULLIVAN TO THE NEW-HAMPSHIRE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Winter Hill, December 2, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: I take this opportunity to inform you that the *Connecticut* forces not only determine to quit our lines at the expiration of their term, but, to their eternal infamy, endeavoured to leave us yesterday, which was five days before their time expired. We can therefore have no hope of their tarrying after the 6th. Half of General *Putnam's* regiment is now under guard. The people who have escaped from *Boston* inform us that the enemy are fully acquainted with our situation, and will probably take advantage of it. For heaven's sake despatch your forces as soon as possible

Gentlemen, I am, with much respect, your most obedient servant.

JOHN SULLIVAN.

Honourable Committee of Safety.

P. S. Captain *Odiorne,* the bearer hereof, says he thinks he can raise a number of men to march immediately. If so, should recommend him; but this is more properly your province. J. S.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM AN OFFICER AT BOSTON, TO A FRIEND IN EDINBURGH, DATED DEC. 2, 1775.

Our condition is better than it has lately been, but it is still far from being comfortable. We are obliged to have a number of our men employed, night and day, amidst the frost and snow, in guarding our out-posts, and watching the motions of the Rebels. Many of our men are sick, and fresh provisions very dear.* But the Rebels must be in a much worse condition from their want of clothing and proper shelter. I hope one severe winter campaign (and, indeed, it promises to be a very severe one) will cool their enthusiasm. We are much afraid that the *Nancy* transport, loaded with a great quantity of artillery, ammunition, &c., of which the Rebels were in great want, has fallen into their hands.

* PRICE CURRENT AT BOSTON, DECEMBER 1, 1775.—The head of a sheep, a quarter of a dollar; salt, one dollar a hogshead, by the quantity; *Jamaica* rum, four shillings; *West-India* do. 3*s.* 3*d.* sterling per gallon; fresh fish, one shilling sterling per pound; geese, two dollars each; turkies, three do.; ducks, one do.; fowls, three quarters do.; hams, two shillings sterling per pound; a keg of water-bread, fourteen shillings sterling; do. butter-bread, twenty-one do.; fresh beef, fresh pork, mutton, lamb, cheese, and butter, fifteen pence sterling per pound; veal, rice, peas, none in *Boston;* apples, five dollars a barrel; sheep, eight dollars each; eggs, four shillings sterling a dozen; flour and ship bread, forty shillings sterling cwt.; potatoes, six shillings sterling a bushel; onions, a pistareen a rope; four calves' feet, three shillings sterling; fire-wood, ten dollars a cord; and every other kind of necessaries in proportion.

MAJOR-GENERAL HOWE TO THE EARL OF DARTMOUTH.

Boston, December 2, 1775.

MY LORD: For your Lordship's most perfect information of the state of this Army, I have done myself the honour to enclose copies of returns and estimates, with my own occasional remarks, which I have transmitted to the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury by this opportunity; also a copy of my letter accompanying them, for their Lordships' consideration; to which I have nothing further to add, than that I am, &c.,

W. HOWE.

Earl of *Dartmouth.*

Return of Provisions in store, at BOSTON, *the* 16*th* NOVEMBER, 1775, *and how long the same, with those since deposited, will serve twelve thousand men, at the allowance now issued for want of pease and rice, viz:*

In store, belonging to the Crown, 3½ casks suet; 12,880 pounds pork; 23,489lbs. dried cod-fish; 9,857 bushels of wheat; 521,590lbs. flour; 94,044lbs. bread; 20,384 pints oil.

In store, belonging to the Contractors, 764,690lbs. pork; 552,499lbs. flour; 9,633lbs. bread; 48,196lbs. butter; 9,857lbs. rice

November 28, deposited by do., 982 barrels flour, of the ship *Queen of Naples,* cargo from *London;* the rest, being 813 barrels flour, have proved bad and unfit for use—223,896lbs. flour.

Total: 3½ casks suet; 777,570lbs. pork; 23,469lbs. dried cod-fish; 9,857 bushels wheat; 1,297,985bls. flour; 103,677lbs. bread; 48,196lbs. butter; 20,384 pints oil; 9,857lbs. rice.

The pork and fish will serve twelve thousand men ninety-nine days, ending the 26th *February* next.

The wheat, flour, and bread, will serve one hundred and sixteen days, ending 24th *March* next.

And the butter and oil, will serve one hundred and six days, ending the 4th *March* next.

The suet and rice are reserved for the use of the hospitals.

The cargo of the snow *Industry,* from *Bristol,* is not included in the above return; she began to discharge two days ago.

The live stock is likewise not included.

D. CHAMIER, *Commissary of Provisions.*

To his Excellency the Hon. Sir *William Howe,* Major-General and Commander-in-Chief, &c. &c.

Boston, November 29, 1775.

OBSERVATIONS ON THE PROVISION RETURN.

By the return herewith enclosed, it appears that there are not provisions for the army, in store, to serve longer than the beginning of *March,* 1776.

Six months biscuit, for twenty thousand men, of a quality to keep twelve months, may prove of essential service in the course of the ensuing campaign, as the conveniences for baking bread cannot be always had in this country; and if the biscuits be made of about six to the pound, they will pack the better.

It is requested that one-fifth part of the meat designed for the army may be beef.

An additional quantity of the small species, especially oat-meal, rice, suet, and vinegar, will be requisite for the use of the hospitals.

One-third of the whole to be packed up in small casks, which should not exceed one hundred pound gross, for the convenience of carrying two of them upon a horse.

W. HOWE.

Return of effective Horses, Cattle, and Sheep, with the quantity of Forage in store, and the number of days it will last.

Departments.

Light Dragoons, 234 horses.
Generals and Officers, 160 horses.
Royal Artillery, 200 horses.
Deputy Quartermaster-General, 80 horses, 100 cattle, 400 sheep.
Total: 674 horses; 100 cattle; 400 sheep.

In Store.

450 tons hay; 12,391 bushels oats; 5,640 bushels *Indian* corn; 12,861 bushels bran.

The whole will last, { Hay, - - - - 100 days. Oats, &c., - - - 150 days.

Expected.

From *Canada*: 150 tons hay; 10,000 bushels oats; 5,000 bushels bran.

From *Nova-Scotia*: 150 tons hay.

Total: 300 tons hay; 10,000 bushels oats; 5,000 bushels bran.

The whole will last, { Hay, - - - - 60 days. Oats, &c., - - - 50 days.

N. B. The ration, at the present allowance, is 13½ pence.

In case of scarcity, the damaged flour now in store, to the amount of three thousand barrels, equal to 600,000 weight, may be made use of by mixing a proportion with oats, corn, &c., which will increase the price of the ration to 1*s.* 9½*d.*

W. Howe.

Head-Quarters, Boston, Nov. 27, 1775.

State of the Barrack Bedding, Furniture, and Fuel, in the care of the Barrackmaster.

At Boston.

Bedding: 3,333 bed cases; 4,149 bolster cases; 577 rugs; 2,321 blankets; 4,280 pair sheets; 16 mattresses and pillows.

Furniture: 1,052 iron pots; 705 grates; 296 pair dog-irons; 229 tongs; 231 shovels; 202 axes; 316 candle-sticks; 120 iron stoves; 1,020 trammels; 600 pokers; 500 ash-boxes; 425 buckles; 120 mallets; 260 iron wedges; 250 tables; 320 forms; 120 chairs; 36 lanterns.

Fuel and Candles: 668 cords of wood; 899 chaldrons coals; 10,000 pounds candles.

Ordered from England, *and daily expected.*

Bedding: 3,376 bed cases; 2,560 bolster cases; 3,650 rugs; 8,000 blankets; 3,945 pair sheets; 50 tons flocks.

Furniture: 50 iron stoves.

Fuel and Candles: 4,000 chaldrons coals; 25,000 pounds candles.

Total.

Bedding: 6,709 bed cases; 6,709 bolster cases; 4,227 rugs; 10,321 blankets; 8,225 pair sheets; 50 tons flocks; 16 mattresses and pillows.

Furniture: 1,052 iron pots; 705 grates; 296 pairs of dog-irons; 229 tongs; 231 shovels; 202 axes; 316 candle-sticks; 170 iron stoves; 1,020 trammels; 600 pokers; 500 ash boxes; 425 buckles; 120 mallets; 260 iron wedges; 250 tables; 320 forms; 120 chairs; 36 lanterns.

Fuel and Candles: 668 cords of wood; 4,899 chaldrons coals; 35,000 pounds candles.

N. B. In the first article of bedding at *Boston*, is included 1,000 sets of bedding got from the transports, equal to half the number of double beds.

The coals and candles are ordered from *England* by me, independent of that I now learn is ordered by the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury. And there is now at *Halifax* 10,000 cords of wood, ready to be transported hither when transports can be spared to fetch it; 5,000 cords of wood are directed to be cut against the spring; and by that time 6,000 chaldrons of coals, now digging, will be ready to be shipped at *Spanish* River, in the Island of *Cape Breton*.

James Robertson, *Barrackmaster-General.*

Boston, December 1, 1775.

Two Estimates of Horses and Wagons wanting for the Campaign, 1776.

I. *Supply of Wagons for an Army of thirty Battalions of Infantry and two Regiments of Cavalry, for the carriage of Baggage, Bread, and Provisions, with Horses in proportion:*

Distribution.

	Wagons.	Horses.
For the baggage of one battalion, - - -	12	48
Twenty-nine more, - - - - - - -	348	1,392
For the soldiers' tents of one battalion, - -	0	10
Twenty-nine more, - - - - - - -	0	290
For the bread of one battalion, - - - -	4	16
Twenty-nine more, - - - - - - -	116	464
For the baggage of one regiment of cavalry,	8	32
One more, - - - - - - - - - -	8	32
For the bread of one regiment of cavalry, -	2	8
One more, - - - - - - - - - -	2	8
For the generals and staff officers, including their saddle-horses, - - - - -	40	342
To mount two regiments of cavalry, - - -	0	600
For the saddle-horses of the officers of one battalion of infantry, supposed to be,	0	14
Twenty-nine more, - - - - - - -	0	406
Total, - - - - - -	540	3,662

Forage for the above Horses.

For what time.	Hay—Tons. Rat. 20 lb.	Oats—Tons. Rat. 9 lb.
For one day, - - - - - - - -	33	15
For ninety-one days, - - - -	3,003	1,365

N. B. Complete harness wanting for four hundred and ninety wagons; four horses to each wagon.

Effective Horses and Wagons in the Garrison.

Distribution.

	Horses.	Wagons.
Light Dragoons, - - - - - - - -	0	234
Ditto Quartermaster-General, - - - -	50	80
Generals and other officers, - - - -	0	160
	50	474
Wanting to complete, - - - - - -	490	3,188
Total, - - - - - -	540	3,662

It is intended that the magazines for this army should be carried by water, and not more than twenty miles distance from it.

Head-Quarters, Boston, 27th November, 1775.

II. *Proportion of Batt-Horses for the carriage of the Baggage of the same Army, with Wagons to carry Bread, Provisions, and the General Officers' baggage.*

Distribution.

		Horses.	Wag.
Lieutenant-colonel, - 9 Major, - - - - - 7 8 captains, 5 each, - 40 18 subalterns, 3 to 2, 27 1 to the general's com., 2 5 staff, 2 each, - - 10 95	For one battalion, batt-horses included, - - - Twenty-nine more,	95 2755	
Bread, - - - - - 4 Provisions, - - - 3	For one battalion, Twenty-nine more,	28 812	7 203
For mounting two regiments of cavalry, - -		600	
Batt-horses for ditto, - - - - - - - -		66	
Bread, - - - - 6 Provisions, - - - 4	For two regiments,	40	10
For the general and staff officers, including their saddle-horses, - - - - - - - -		342	40
Total, - - - - - -		4,738	260

Forage for the above Horses.

	Hay—Tons. Rat. 20 lb.	Oats—Tons. Rat. 9 lb.
For one day, - - - - - - - -	43	20
For ninety-one days, - - - - -	3,913	1,820

	Horses.	Wagons.
Difference between the two returns, - -	1,076	280

Return of Horses wanting for the Field Artillery, with Forage for ninety-one days.

		Hay—Tons. Rat. 20 lb.	Oats—Tons. Rat. 9 lb.
Horses,	Effective, - - - 200 Wanting to complete, 448		
Total, - - - - -	648	546	273

Proper saddles wanting for the whole number of batt-horses.

WILLIAM SHERRIFF, *D. Q. M. G.*

Report of the Cargo of the Ship QUEEN OF NAPLES, *Captain* POWELL, *from* LONDON, *shipped on the Contractors' account, and consigned to their Agent,* HENRY LLOYD, *Esq., at* BOSTON, *viz:*

Barrels of flour, good,	744
Ditto, fit for present use,	238
Sour and bad,	813
Total,	1,795 barrels.

D. CHAMIER, *Com. of Stores and Provisions.*

To his Excellency the Hon. *W. Howe,* Major-General and Commander-in-Chief, &c.

Boston, 29th November, 1775.

Return of Stores wanted for service of His Majesty's works in the Engineers' Department at BOSTON, *7th August, enclosed to the Honourable Board of Ordnance, 19th August,* 1775, *viz:*

Chevaux-de-frize, sets,	200
Cuirasses with head pieces, sets,	50
Calthrops or crow's feet, lb. weight,	2,000
Crows of iron,	100
Hammers, hand,	100
Hammers, sledge,	50
Carpenters' tools in boxes, sets,	6
Grindstones, with troughs, &c.	20
Mantelets of cured hides,	200
Hambrough lines, skeins,	100

Intrenching Tools.

Axes, broad,	200
Axes, felling,	600
Axes, pick,	1,000
Hand-hatchets,	1,000
Barrows, wheel,	500
Barrows, hand,	300
Spades, common,	2,000
Spades, ditching,	500
Shovels, shod,	1,500
Shovels, iron,	500
Hand-bills,	1,000
Saws, hand,	100
Saws, cross cut,	50
Sand-bags, bushel, 10,000 } Sand-bags, half bushel, 10,000 }	20,000
Spikes, of sorts, size from 5 to 8½ inches, barrels,	20
Nails, 24*d.*, barrels,	10
Augurs, of sorts,	200

Rope.

Tarred: 4½ inch, 2; 3 inch, 2; 2½ inch, 3; 2 inch, 3.
White: 3½ inch, 2; 2 inch, 3; 1½ inch, 3.
Total: 18 coils.

Octobcr 1st, an addition was thought absolutely necessary to be made to the within return, by adding the following artificers:

Carpenters, master,	1
Ditto, foreman,	1
Ditto, carpenters,	20
Bricklayers, master,	1
Ditto, bricklayers,	6
Blacksmiths, master,	1
Ditto, blacksmiths,	6
Wheelwrights,	2
	38

The company of artificers to be sent out to serve under the immediate direction of the commanding engineer, as at *Newfoundland, Gibraltar,* &c.

JOHN MONTRESOR, *Commanding-Engineer.*

His Excellency Major-General *Howe.*

Remarks.

It will be necessary to begin the campaign with six months forage in the magazines, which cannot be procured in this country in its present situation, therefore it must be looked for from *Europe.*

Rhode-Island, from the best information, can supply fifteen thousand tons of hay in a season, but still great difficulties will arise in procuring it, if the inhabitants of that island are inimical, as you must depend upon them to cut and cure the hay. The same observation will answer with respect to *Long-Island* and *Staten-Island* in the Province of *New-York.* Therefore upon this uncertainty the dependence upon magazines must be upon *Europe.*

The army being in the field, may furnish itself with green forage from the middle of *June* to the middle of *September.*

Canada is able to supply the articles of oats and bran; but the length and uncertainty of the voyage is such, that it is thought these articles may be brought from *England* or *Ireland* full as cheap, and with this advantage, that oats in particular are far superior in quality.

As to horses, wagons, and harness, when the present temper of the *Americans* is considered, they certainly will drive off every thing of that kind, wherever the army appears; but on the other hand, should any one of the Provinces return to their duty, it would furnish the army with these articles necessary for carrying on the war.

W. HOWE.

Head-Quarters, Boston, 27th November, 1775.

LORD STIRLING TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Dec. 8th, referred to Mr. Jay, Mr. Wilson, Mr. W. Livingston.]

Head-Quarters, Elizabethtown, New-Jersey, December 3, 1775.

SIR: On my leaving *Philadelphia,* the 22d *November,* I proceeded to *Burlington,* in order to meet the Committee of Safety of *New-Jersey,* and to prevail on them to take proper measures for securing arms for the two *New-Jersey* regiments, and to get the barracks in this Province prepared for the reception of those regiments. Some measures were that evening agreed to, which I hope will forward the service, but I fear will not be quite effectual. I proceeded the next morning to *Trenton,* and there despatched particular orders to each of the Captains to assemble their companies, (on the days agreed upon with the Paymaster,) for reviewing and paying them off to the first of this month, in order to enable them to leave their counties and go into barracks. On *Friday,* I went on to *Brunswick,* in order to get barracks there put in order. On *Saturday,* I went to my own house at *Baskinridge.* On *Monday,* Mr. *Lowrie,* the paymaster, joined me according to appointment. On *Tuesday,* at *Morristown,* we reviewed and paid off the two companies commanded by Captains *Morris* and *Howell.* After dismissing two or three men from each company, I think they are the best body of new men I ever saw. On *Wednesday,* we proceeded to *Elizabethtown,* in hopes of meeting, according to appointment, the two companies commanded by Captains *Myers* and *Necker,* but they being neither complete nor mustered, I was obliged to adjourn their review till the next week. The latter I found very deficient, and poorly officered. I, therefore, posted Ensign *Dallas,* of Captain *Morris's* company, to act as second lieutenant to Captain *Necker's,* on a promise of his recruiting twenty men for it in a week's time, which I have no doubt he will perform. On *Thursday,* we proceeded to *Brunswick,* and were that and the next day employed in reviewing and clearing off the two companies commanded by Captains *Conway* and *Polhemus.* Captain *Piatt* brought his company to *Rariton* Landing, but as he was not mustered, nor had a sufficient number of men present, his muster was adjourned to *Monday,* and then to march to *Elizabethtown.* These three companies, after a little purging, are very good recruits.

On *Saturday,* I returned to this place. Mr. *Lowrie* proceeded to the westward, and purposes next week to clear off Colonel *Maxwell's* regiment. Captain *Longstreet,* of *Monmouth* County, reported to me at *Brunswick* that his company is near complete, but scattered at so great distance that it will be impossible to assemble them in less than ten days. I have appointed *Friday,* the 15th inst., to review and muster them at *Amboy,* and then to put them in barracks. These Captains all complain very heavily of the usage they meet with from the justices, who issue warrants against the men on the smallest pretence. They have been obliged to pay off a number of trifling and vexa-

tious demands; but if this is suffered to go on, and the men put under stoppage for the repayment of it, they must perish in service for want of necessary clothing. I have, therefore, ordered the Captains to make no engagements which can interfere with the necessities of the men. A number of them are now in the different jails for small debts, which is the reason why some of the companies appear so small in the enclosed returns. By a law of this Province, made during the last war, no man inlisted in Provincial service, could be taken from that service for a debt less than 15*l.* (Proc.) to any one person, or 60*l.* in the whole of his debts. If a similar rule be not now adopted, I am afraid much confusion will ensue. What was found necessary then, is now absolutely so for the existence of a Continental army. I have met with a good deal of difficulty about barracks. Assembly, Committee of Safety, County Committee, and Barrackmaster, refer me from one to the other whenever I apply for the possession or repair of any of them; at this place, indeed, the committee have ordered them to be cleared out and repaired. I believe to-morrow we shall have two or three companies in them. At *Brunswick*, they are occupied by people who thought it not safe to remain in *New-York*. At *Amboy*, the barrackmaster is under the absolute direction of the Governour, and no acting Committee there; this barrackmaster is in possession of five hundred good new blankets, desirable objects to us at present.

I did not receive your letter of the 27th, till my arrival at this place, on *Wednesday* last, and finding from Mr. *P. V. B. Livingston*, that there was neither Convention nor Committee of Safety in being at *New-York*, I wrote to Mr. *McKesson*, Secretary to their late Convention, to know whom it was proper to correspond with on publick matters. His answer and my letter to Colonel *Maxwell*, you have copies of herewith.

Of the six companies ordered to the fortress on *Hudson* river, one of those of my regiment will move this week, the other two next week. I hope the three companies of Colonel *Maxwell's* regiment will move near the same time. In our scattered situation, without great towns, it is difficult to fit out men as they ought to be suddenly. Their stockings are yet at *Philadelphia*.

I must beg the favour of you to fill up the Quartermaster's commission with the name of *Abner Hetfield*. A surgeon is absolutely necessary, and if Congress allows one to my regiment, I should be glad that *William Barnet*, Jun., be appointed to it. Both these gentlemen are well known to Mr. *William Livingston*, and Mr. *Crane*. I think they are both well qualified for the respective offices.

We are much in want of an authentick edition of the Continental Articles of War; if they were published, each regiment should be possessed of at least two dozen of them. I should be glad if you would order them to be delivered to Mr. *Lowrie*, who will forward them.

No provision is yet made, that I know of, for ammunition. I shall be glad to be instructed with regard to it, as well as camp equipage, &c. I have do doubt the Congress will put us on the same footing with the other corps in the Continental service. But it is necessary I should know how to regulate these matters.

It was not possible for me to write to you before. I have seized the first leizure hour to make up for it.

I am, sir, with the highest regard, your most obedient and most humble servant,

STIRLING.

JOHN McKESSON TO LORD STIRLING.

New-York, November 30, 1775.

MY LORD: I am honoured with yours of this day. The Provincial Congress was to have met some days ago. The members from several counties are here attending, and it is expected they will be sufficiently numerous to-morrow, or on *Monday*, at farthest, to proceed to business. Who will be elected to preside is uncertain; but as *Nathaniel Woodhull*, Esq., was the last who presided, in the absence of Mr. *Livingston*, the correspondence you mention will most properly be directed to him for the present. Colonel *Woodhull* lodges so near to me that, if your letters are sent to me, I will see that they are delivered immediately.

There is not any Committee of Safety here at present. The members elected for a Provincial Congress, and myself, receive and open all correspondence on publick affairs, or from the Continental Congress.

I have the honour to be, with great respect, my Lord, your Lordship's most obedient, humble servant,

JOHN McKESSON.

Lord *Stirling*.

LORD STIRLING TO COLONEL MAXWELL.

Brunswick, December 2, 1775.

DEAR SIR: The Continental Congress are extremely pressing and anxious about the march of the six companies to the *North River*. One company of my regiment marches next *Wednesday*; another will soon follow. And I must beg you'll exert yourself to get off the three companies of your regiment. You may choose the routes for them either through *Sussex* to *New-Windsor*, or by *Morristown* or *Elizabethtown* to *Dobbs's Ferry*; but you will take care to give me as early notice as possible of their march, that I may have sloops ready at the place they are to embark at.

I am your most humble servant, STIRLING.

To Colonel *Maxwell*.

Return of the Eastern or First Regiment of Foot of NEW-JERSEY, *in the Continental service.*

Reviewed.			Reviewed and paid to the 30th November, inclusive.									Found by the men.	
When.	Where.	Companies commanded by,	Captains.	Lieutenants.	Ensigns.	Sergeants.	Corporals.	Drums and Fifes.	Privates.	Total.	Arms.	Blankets.
1775.													
Nov. 28th...	Morristown.	Joseph Morris....	1	1	1	4	4	2	73	86	27	40
Nov. 28th...	Do.	Silas Howell....	1	1	1	4	4	2	68	81	28	25
Dec. 1st.....	Brunswick..	John Conway...	1	1	1	4	4	1	62	74	9	26
Dec. 2d.....	Do.	John Polhemus..	1	1	0	4	4	2	60	72	4	4

The following as reported, but not mustered, reviewed, or paid.

Reviewed.		Reviewed and paid to the 30th November, inclusive.								Found by the men.
Where.	Companies commanded by,	Captains.	Lieutenants.	Ensigns.	Sergeants.	Corporals.	Drums and Fifes.	Privates.	Total.	Arms.
At present at Raritan Landing*.....	Daniel Piatt.....	1	1	1	4	4	2	68	81	few.
Elizabethtown†.....	And. McMyere.	1	1	1	4	4	2	68	81	few.
Do.†.....	Joseph Mecker.	1	1	1	about			50	53	few.
Monmouth§.....	Elias Longstreet	1	1	1	about			50	53	few.

* To be mustered the 5th, and to march to Elizabethtown.
† To be mustered the 5th, at Elizabethtown.
‡ To be mustered the 9th, at Elizabethtown.
§ To be mustered the 15th, at Amboy.

December 2, 1775. STIRLING.

CAPTAIN ROBERT ERSKINE TO THE OFFICERS OF THE FIRST NEW-JERSEY BATTALION.

Ringwood, December 2, 1775.

"*In Provincial Congress, Trenton, New-Jersey, August* 17, 1775:—This Congress being informed by *John Fell*, Esq., one of the Deputies for the County of *Bergen*, that *Robert Erskine*, Esq., hath, at his own expense, provided Arms, and accoutred an Independent Company of Foot Militia in said County, do highly approve of his zeal in the same, and do order that he be commissioned as Captain of said Company.

"A true copy from the Minutes:

"WM. PATERSON, *Secretary.*"

GENTLEMEN: Above is a copy of an order from the

Provincial Congress, upon the sanction of which I have raised and disciplined an Independent Company of Foot at the iron-works under my direction.

The Congress, no doubt, in granting this licence, considered that iron, being a staple commodity of the Province, iron-works in general deserved every encouragement; and, in particular, that as those for which I am concerned are of the greatest consequence, it was highly proper the persons belonging to them should be subject to their direction, both in a civil and military capacity, without which the hands could not be kept together, nor the works carried on in times of general commotion; and that therefore they should be in a situation both to defend themselves, and assist their neighbours in cases of urgent necessity. Their company, indeed, could not be called off without stopping them, as, exclusive of officers, whose presence are constantly wanted, it consists of forgemen, carpenters, blacksmiths, and other hands, whose attendance is daily required. I dare say, however, there is not a man belonging to it but would willingly lend his aid in a case of extremity, when every consideration must give way to the salvation of the country.

Such, gentlemen, are the principles upon which I understood the Congress favoured me with their commission; in consequence of which I have been at a very great expense in arms, uniforms, and discipline. I am therefore persuaded that neither the Congress nor the officers in general of the battalions now raising, would wish to deprive the works of their hands, particularly such as had engaged to serve in this company, and were already trained, unless it were by open requisition; in which case, some, whose absence would be dispensed with, might have turned out volunteers, on whom much more dependence could be placed, than on such as have forfeited their engagements, and been trepanned into another service. As I have no doubt that such clandestine proceedings will meet both with your disapprobation and reprehension, I am sorry to have the occasion of laying a complaint against one of your officers on this score. Lieutenant *Yellas Mead* has enlisted several of my men without my knowledge or consent; and though I called several times at his quarters, on purpose to speak with him, yet he has left the country without seeing me, though within six miles. Such conduct, gentlemen, lays me under the necessity to give you this trouble, and to inform you that four of the men he inlisted are in my debt. These, at least, I flatter myself you will discharge, and order back to the works, were it only for example sake, which is certainly necessary for the good of the service in general; because soldiers, after receiving encouragement in one place, may move off to another corps or Province, if not checked, as whim, caprice, or a more commodious situation may induce them. The debts these men owe are the mere balances due at our stores. Were I to make a charge of the time allowed them for discipline, for which they were paid as if at work, and to which I am justly entitled, my demands would be much more considerable. However, being loath to discourage the service, I have omitted that charge in their account; and as I choose to have my company composed only of such as I can entirely depend on, I beg leave further to inform you, that three of the fellows, whose debts are considerable, I shall immediately discharge on their appearance here, and return them to the battalion, having no doubt you will order their debts to be stopped out of their pay.

With sincerest wishes of success—to the success of the *British* constitution and the liberties of *America*, I beg leave, by Mr. *Hays*, my first lieutenant, to lay this representation before you, a favourable answer to which will greatly oblige, gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servant,

ROBERT ERSKINE.

To the Colonel and Officers of the First Battalion of Continental Forces, *New-Jersey*.

WALTER LIVINGSTON TO THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS.

Albany, December 3, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: The present successful campaign drawing to a close, the persons who have been employed by the commanding officers, and those whom I have nominated, by the direction of the Hon. Major-General *Schuyler*, to act in the commissary's branch at *Fort George*, the north end of *Lake George*, *Ticonderoga*, *Crown Point*, *St. John's*, and in the neighbourhood of *Montreal*, are preparing their accounts for a settlement. Some of them have already applied to me to know what salaries I intended to allow them. I having no authority to pay them any fixed wages; do now apply to Congress to know what each person on the different posts are to receive for their services.

I remain, gentlemen, with the greatest respect, your obedient servant,

WALTER LIVINGSTON,
Deputy Commissary-General.

To the Honourable the Continental Congress.

ROBERT H. HARRISON TO COUNCIL OF MASSACHUSETTS.

Cambridge, December 3, 1775.

SIR: I am commanded by his Excellency to inform you that four deserters have just arrived at head-quarters, giving an account that several persons are to be sent out of *Boston*, this evening or to-morrow, that have been lately inoculated with the small-pox, with design, probably, to spread the infection, in order to distress us as much as possible. The men are sent for their examination upon oath, who will give you such intelligence as may make it necessary to send down some judicious person to *Pudding Point*, where those people are to be landed, to examine into the matter, upon whose report proper measures may be taken to frustrate this unheard-of and diabolical scheme. Enclosed you have also a letter from Colonel *Baldwin*, containing the same account.

I am, sir, your most obedient servant,

ROBERT H. HARRISON, *Aid-de-Camp.*

To the Honourable the President of the Council of the *Massachusetts-Bay*.

COLONEL GLOVER TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Beverly, December 3, 1775.

HONOURED SIR: I have the pleasure to inform your Excellency that Captain *Manly*, in your schooner *Lee*, brought into the mouth of *Marblehead* harbour, this morning, the ship *Concord*, *James Lowrie*, master, from *Glasgow*. The invoices, and all the papers on board her, have sent forward by Capt. *Richard James*. The ship, immediately on her coming into *Marblehead*, ordered her to *Beverly*. As she was turning in, got aground on the bar, but hope she will receive no damage. Captain *Bartlett* and I shall take all the care of the ship and cargo possible can be taken.

I am, sir, your Excellency's most humble servant,

JONATHAN GLOVER, *Agent at Marblehead.*

To his Excellency General *Washington*.

GENERAL SULLIVAN TO NEW-HAMPSHIRE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Winter-Hill, December 3, 1775.

MUCH RESPECTED GENTLEMEN: Notwithstanding every method has been taken to keep the *Connecticut* forces on the ground till relief could be had from the country, the cowardly traitors begin to leave us in companies and regiments, and that even six and seven days before the time is expired. What has possessed these vile poltroons remains yet a secret. We have sent handbills, similar to the one enclosed, before them on the road, and I trust they will have the designed effect.

A gentleman from *Boston* was here last evening; says the enemy are, by some means or other, fully acquainted with our situation, and he fears much they will take advantage of it.

I entreat you, gentlemen, to spare no pains in forwarding the march of your troops, as much may depend upon their speedy arrival.

Your most obedient servant, JOHN SULLIVAN.

To the Honourable Committee of Safety, *New-Hampshire*.

JOSH. WENTWORTH TO STEPHEN MOYLAN.

Portsmouth, December 3, 1775.

SIR: I wrote you of 27th ultimo, per post, enclosing a package of papers and letters taken with the schooner

Rainbow; am still without your directions respecting said vessel and cargo.

Last evening, two officers passed through this town to head-quarters. I did not see either of them. This morning, twenty-two men, including prisoners, from the armed schooners *Franklin* and *Speedwell*, came to town from *Winter Harbour*, where they inform me they left two prizes—one a schooner of one hundred and thirty tons, with sundry stores and dry goods, from *London*, for the island of *St. John's;* the other a brig, and laden with dry fish, packed in hogsheads, bound from *Nova-Scotia* to the *West-Indies*. These vessels were taken by the two armed vessels cruising off the mouth of the river *St. Lawrence*, of which you will be particularly informed by the officers gone forward.

I must advise, from principle of security, that those vessels be ordered to this or some safe port, as soon as may be, not only from the danger of the enemy, but the distance from any place of sale for the cargoes, should they be deemed prizes. Were I warranted, under a slight pretence, should not hesitate at ordering them hither without delay. The risk I apprehend but trifling, the distance only twelve leagues. Fish, at this time, is much wanted here, to complete the cargoes of sundry vessels fitting out for the Continental and Provincial service. It will command thirteen shillings and four pence, per quintal, if it is good.

The bearer, *John Lewis*, belonging to the schooner *Speedwell*, applied for a supply to defray his expense here, and help him forward to head-quarters; which I thought justifiable, and have furnished him with three pounds eighteen shillings, lawful money. I shall wait further orders, and, on receipt thereof, immediately attend to them in the most secure and particular mode.

Captain *Adams*, of the armed schooner *Warren*, informed me that his number of men are reduced to thirty odd, owing to sickness, and has left a number on shore, two of which have died. If he is to be continued any time cruising, would it not be advisable to make up his complement? He is now out on a cruise.

Nothing further has occurred worthy of notice; which concludes me, respectfully, sir, your most obedient servant,

JOSH. WENTWORTH.

Stephen Moylan, Esq.

NEW-HAMPSHIRE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY TO COLONEL HOBART.

In Committee of Safety, December 3, 1775.

SIR: The pressing necessity of suddenly raising a number of men to guard our lines, left open by the *Connecticut* forces, make it necessary for us to desire you (laying all other business aside) to proceed, with all possible despatch, to the County of *Hillsborough*, and endeavour to raise a number of companies for that service.

We send you a number of inlisting orders, forms for the soldiers to sign, which we desire you to give out to such persons as you judge best for the service, of filling up the blanks when you deliver them.

We entreat your exerting yourself, as your country, and all we have, may depend upon the lines being manned by the 10th of *December*.

With great respect, in behalf of the Committee, I am your humble servant.

Colonel *Hobart*.

NEW-HAMPSHIRE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY TO COLONEL WALKER.

In Committee of Safety, December 3, 1775.

SIR: By express from General *Sullivan*, we are informed that the *Connecticut* troops, whose time by inlistment expired the last day of *November*, are about returning home. General *Washington* has desired *New-Hampshire* to send him thirty-one companies, to man the lines until the 15th of *January* next, and to be at *Winter-Hill* by the 10th of this month at farthest.

We send you enclosed several orders for inlistment, and forms for the soldiers to sign, and desire you to find persons you judge suitable for inlisting and commanding the companies, and then to fill up the blanks.

We earnestly request your utmost exertions in raising and forwarding the men, as our lines, being left open, may be of fatal consequence. The time is short; pray employ every moment to have some companies marched. The captains are desired to be careful in inlisting none but good men, properly equipped, as they cannot be mustered. They must take provisions from home to last them to the camp, for which the General engages to pay the money.

In behalf of the Committee, I am, &c.

P. S. Your delaying one week in paying the troops will be no damage. Colonel *Hobart* has gone home on this business. *James Shepherd*, of *Canterbury*, has been recommended as a good man to raise a company.

Colonel *Walker*.

MAJOR-GENERAL HOWE TO THE EARL OF DARTMOUTH.

Boston, December 3, 1775.

MY LORD: By a letter received last night from Lieutenant-Governour *Cramahé*, which your Lordship has enclosed, there is too much reason to fear that, by a general defection of the *Canadians*, the whole Province of *Quebeck* will fall into the hands of the Rebels; and by a private letter from thence, of later date, by one day, I learn *Montreal* has surrendered; that General *Carleton* was on his way down the river in an armed vessel, and that there was little reason to believe the capital would be able to withstand the expected attack.

The Lieutenant-Governour of *Quebeck*, under those circumstances, has been induced to detain five transports sent from hence for forage, by which we not only lose the hay and corn expected, as per return in my separate letter of 2d instant, but are deprived of one thousand four hundred and sixteen tons of shipping, to be added to the quantity specified in the return of tonnage in my despatch of 26th *November* as wanting for the removal of this garrison, &c., at one embarkation. I hope that the transports to replace these, and to make up the deficiency in the return, may be ordered out early in the spring, and in consideration of the loss we have already sustained by the enemy, that they should come under convoy.

I learn the *Nancy* brigantine, an ordnance transport, having on board four thousand stand of arms complete, one hundred thousand flints, a thirteen-inch mortar, with other stores in proportion, was taken in the bay last week by the Rebels' privateers, and affords an instance for this necessity. The circumstance is rather unfortunate to us, as they are now furnished with all the requisites for setting the town on fire, having got a large quantity of round carcasses and other stores, with which they could not have been otherwise supplied. The particular manner whereby she was taken is not ascertained; but so many artifices have been practised upon strangers, under the appearance of friendship, false pilots, &c., that those coming out with stores of any kind cannot be put too much upon their guard.

And I submit to your Lordship the necessity there may be of supplying the loss of arms, flints, &c., suffered on this occasion.

I am also to request your Lordship will be pleased to direct twice the quantity of engineer's tools contained in the enclosed return to be sent out in separate ships, for two divisions of the army, both of which may be employed in sieges. The date of this return will point out the time when the requisition was made.

From an apprehension that the advantages gained by the Rebels in Canada, and their good fortune here in possessing themselves of our stores, may encourage them to further attempts, I shall, with all despatch, send to *Halifax* the part of the Sixty-fifth now here under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel *Bruce*, who will command on his arrival; and with this reinforcement I must conclude that place will be in perfect security.

Upon this unfortunate event in *Canada*, and your Lordship's encouragement to mention my opinion, I beg leave to say, for the recovery of that Province as a primary object, the army to effect it should not consist of less than twelve thousand fighting men; at the same time I desire I may not be understood to give up the plan as set forth in my letter, No. 2, of the 26th *November*, as the enemy will feel more immediate distress by being attacked on the

most vulnerable side, than from any success to be gained in *Canada*.

The Admiral has informed me that, by a letter received this day from Captain *Wallace*, of the *Rose* ship-of-war, stationed at *Rhode-Island*, the Rebels give out they are to fortify the heights above the town of *Newport;* also that they are fitting out an armed ship at *Philadelphia*, to carry thirty-six guns, and two or three more of a less force, with a design of cruising to the southward, and to take Lord *Dunmore* in their way.

I am, &c., W. Howe.

LOUISA COUNTY (VIRGINIA) COMMITTEE.

At a Committee held in *Louisa, December* 4, 1775, present, the Rev. *Thomas Hall*, Chairman, the Rev. *John Todd, Thomas Johnston*, (Mayor,) *Charles Smith, Robert Armistead, Thomas Johnston*, (Sheriff,) Col. *Richard Anderson, James Dabney, Charles Barrett*, Col. *William White, Nathaniel Anderson, Waddy Thomson, Thomas Johnston*, (minor,) *George Meriwether, Charles Yancy, John Bullock, William Pettus, Garret Minor, John Nelson, William Lipscomb*, and *William Hughes:*

Resolved unanimously, That the thanks of this Committee be given to the Rev. *Thomas Hall* and *John Todd* for their unwearied application of their abilities in the service of their country, as well in checking the wild irregular sallies of those who would aim at too much, as in rousing those lethargick wretches who would tamely submit to a deprivation of their rights and liberties, to a proper sense of their danger and duty.

Resolved, also, on a consideration of the great distress that our brethren in some of the lower Counties are reduced to by the calamity of the times, that this Committee, in the name of the whole County, do make the best provision for them in their power, either by offering a welcome asylum, or in contributing to their relief.

Signed by order of the Committee:

Henry Garrett, *Clerk.*

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM LIEUTENANT-COLONEL SCOTT TO HIS FRIEND IN WILLIAMSBURGH, VA., DATED GREAT BRIDGE, DECEMBER 4, 1775.

Since I wrote you, which was about two days ago, we have have been well informed that we killed sixteen negroes and five white men the first day we got to this place. The next day, Lieutenant *Tibbs*, who had the command of the boat guard, about five miles from this place, was attacked by a party of the *King's* troops and several negroes, upon which some of our people gave ground; but Mr. *Tibbs*, with four of his people, maintained his post until I reinforced him with fifty men under Captain *Nicholas*, who were obliged to pass through a very heavy fire from the enemy. Before they got to the place, Mr. *Tibbs* had beat off the enemy and killed seven of their men, amongst whom was the commander of the party.

We still keep up a pretty heavy fire between us, from light to light. We have only lost two men; and about half an hour ago one of our people was shot through the arm, which broke the bone near his hand.

Last night was the first of my pulling off my clothes for twelve nights successively. Believe me, my good friend, I never was so fatigued with duty in my whole life; but I set little value upon my health when put in competition with my duty to my country and the glorious cause we are engaged in.

The *Carolina* forces are joining us. One company came in yesterday, and we expect eight or nine hundred of them to-morrow, or next day at farthest, with several pieces of artillery, and plenty of ammunition and other warlike stores. A gun fired—I must stop.

P. S. Since I finished my letter, we saw a large pile of buildings at the far end of this town all in flames, between which and the fort we had four sentinels, who can give no account how it happened. As I mentioned above, the fire was discovered when the gun fired; and, by the time the men got paraded, a volley of small arms was fired from the fort, mixed with, now and then, a cannon shot. About eleven at night it ceased for about half an hour, when, to our great surprise, we saw several other houses in a blaze, which are just now consumed. It is now one o'clock. I shall lie down till the next alarm.

JOSIAH BARTLETT TO NEW-HAMPSHIRE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Philadelphia, December 4, 1775.

Gentlemen: Yesterday I received yours of the 21st ultimo, requesting the Congress to grant a sum of money to our Colony, towards what we have advanced on account of the Continent. I took the opportunity this morning to lay the same before Congress, who have voted us the sum of forty thousand dollars, as you will see by the enclosed extract from their minutes.

I fear it will not be ready in less than three or four weeks from this time, as all that has been emitted is expended, and several grants previous to ours made on the next emission, which was ordered by Congress near a month ago; but the Committee has been retarded for want of proper paper; they now say they shall begin in a few days.

If the Congress should not rise before the money is ready, (which is at present uncertain,) I will use my best endeavours to send it as soon as possible by some safe conveyance; perhaps I may send it to *Cambridge*, and inform you to send for it there. If the Congress shall rise before it can be procured, I will give my orders to have it sent as soon as may be, unless, by tarrying a short time, I can bring it with me.

I am, gentlemen, with great respect, your very humble servant,

Josiah Bartlett.

The Provincial Committee of Safety.

SAMUEL TUCKER AND HENDRICK FISHER TO LORD STIRLING.

Burlington, December 4, 1775.

My Lord: Your favour of the 2d current we duly received, and, agreeable to your directions in the return sent, we have sent the commissions of Captains *Morris, Howell*, and *Conway*, and all their officers, except the ensign's commission for *Jonathan Ford Morris*, to whose appointment there are many objections, unnecessary to mention by us at this time. We wish some fit person was recommended, or, at least, some person that might be more agreeable for that ensigncy. Mr. *Fisher* has wrote to *New-Brunswick* about the barracks: and further, a law this day passed our House appointing Barrackmasters. What success it will meet with by Governour and Council we can't yet tell.

As to the several other matters you recommend to us, be assured we will do all in our power to forward.

We are, with tenders of service, your Lordship's most obedient humble servants,

Sam. Tucker,
Hend'k Fisher.

LORD STIRLING TO ISAAC BONNEL.

Elizabethtown, December 4, 1775.

Sir: I have received your letter of this day's date by Captain *Conway*. In answer to which, I must desire that you will deliver into Captain *Conway's* charge all the blankets now under your care as Barrackmaster of this Province, having them first sorted into different parcels, viz: Such as are as good as new ones, those a little worn, such as are a quarter worn, and so on; and this is to be done in the presence of two or three indifferent persons, to be chosen by yourself and Captain *Conway*, whose receipt you will take for the same; for my meaning is, that we shall be answerable for the value of these blankets, and to pay that value into the hands of any person the Assembly of this Province shall appoint to receive the same. The usual barrack furniture you will also deliver to Captain *Conway*, taking his receipt for them, particularly enumerated. And, with regard to the repairs necessary and the providing fire-wood, I should be glad you would have it executed; and it shall be paid for by the Commissary of the *Jersey* troops in the Continental service at the usual rates.

Stirling.

To *Isaac Bonnel*, Esq., *Perth-Amboy.*

LORD STIRLING TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

Elizabethtown, December 4, 1775.

By a letter of the 27th ultimo, from the President of the Continental Congress, I am informed that he has wrote to the Convention of *New-York*, to furnish the Continental troops under my command, in this Province, with as many fire-arms as they can spare, and that he has desired them to be sent for their use.

I should be very glad to know what number can be spared; and as I am ordered immediately to despatch six companies, of ninety each, to the new fort on *Hudson* river, in the *Highlands*, it would facilitate that service very much if three hundred stand of arms could immediately be sent over to me; and in order to avoid any danger there may be in passing by water to this place, I will take care at any appointed time to receive them with a proper guard, at *Hoboken*, *Weehawken*, or any other place on *Hudson* river that shall be thought most proper.

The six companies destined to garrison the beforementioned new fort, I hope will be ready to move during this and the next week. I purpose to march them to *Dobbs's Ferry*, where it will be necessary that two or three sloops should attend about eight days hence, in order to embark and sail with them as they arrive. As soon as I can fix the day on which the first company can be there, I will inform you of it.

Be pleased to inform me whether the barracks at the new fortress be in readiness to receive the six companies I am ordered to send there, and whether provision, fire-wood, &c., be provided. I shall use my utmost endeavours to furnish the companies I send off with twenty-four rounds of powder and ball. I hope your Congress will provide a further supply of those articles at the fortress.

I am, sir, your most humble servant,

STIRLING.

Nathaniel Woodhull, Esq., Vice-President of the late *New-York* Provincial Congress.

GOVERNOUR TRYON TO WHITEHEAD HICKS.

Ship Dutchess of Gordon, New-York Harbour, December 4, 1775.

SIR: I desire you will lay before the Corporation the enclosed paper, containing my sentiments on the present convulsed state of this country, and that you will please to make the same publick.

I am, &c.,

WILLIAM TRYON.

To *Whitehead Hicks*, Esq., Mayor of the City of *New-York*.

TO THE INHABITANTS OF THE COLONY OF NEW-YORK.

I take this publick manner to signify to the inhabitants of this Province, that His Majesty has been graciously pleased to grant me his royal permission to withdraw from my Government, and at the same time to assure them of my readiness to perform every service in my power to promote the common felicity.

If I am excluded from every hope of being any ways instrumental towards the re-establishment of that harmony, at present interrupted, between *Great Britain* and her Colonies, I expect soon to be obliged to avail myself of His Majesty's indulgence.

It has given me great pain to view the Colony committed to my care in such a turbulent state as not to have afforded me, since my arrival, any prospect of being able to take the dispassionate and deliberate sense of its inhabitants, in a constitutional manner, upon the resolution of Parliament for composing the present ferments in the Provinces. A resolution that was intended for the basis of an accommodation, and if candidly considered in a way which it will be most probably successful, and treated with that delicacy and decency requisite to the cultivation of a sincere reconciliation and friendship, might yet be improved for the purposes of restoring the general tranquillity and security of the empire. I owe it to my affection to this Colony, to declare my wish that some measure may be speedily adopted for this purpose, as I feel an extreme degree of anxiety in being witness to the growing calamities of this country, without the power to alleviate them; calamities that must increase, while so many of the inhabitants withhold their allegiance from their Sovereign, and their obedience to the parent country, by whose power and patronage they have hitherto been sustained and protected.

WILLIAM TRYON.

Ship Dutchess of Gordon, Harbour of New-York, December 4, 1775.

TO HIS EXCELLENCY WILLIAM TRYON, ESQ.

New-York, December 6, 1775.

SIR: As you have been pleased to address yourself in a publick manner to the inhabitants of this Province at large, an apology can hardly be necessary for the freedom I use in conveying my sentiments to you on the interesting contents of your letter, in which, as an individual, I feel myself deeply concerned.

The rectitude of your Excellency's conduct, in your official capacity, has deservedly acquired you an eminent degree of popularity and esteem among all orders of men; and, on this account, every step you take is an object of peculiar attention; even what in another might seem offensive and exceptionable, in you is regarded with the most indulgent partiality. I should with regret see you embrace any measure which might tend to alienate the affections of the people, and sully the laurels you have reaped from your former virtuous administration.

With respect to your letter under consideration, permit me to intimate to you, that, unless it be a mere formality, arising from the necessity of your station, it is, at least, a very indiscreet proceeding, and can answer no other end than to lessen you in the general estimation. We have too good an opinion of your understanding to imagine you can seriously believe there is any thing conciliating, or looking towards an accommodation, in the resolution you mention; a resolution, the terms whereof are diametrically opposite to every principle of liberty, and which has been recommended to us by the most indelicate and indecent of all arguments—the point of the bayonet. We must confess to you, that we are as yet in a state of too much simplicity to understand rightly that species of kindness which is evidenced by carnage and devastation.

Our interests we consider as inseparably united with those of our sister Colonies. In union we place our strength; in disunion we see our destruction. We have also the greatest confidence in the judgment and integrity of those who are entrusted with the management of publick affairs; and we can never think of deserting the common cause and breaking the most sacred engagements, by venturing to decide on what is properly a subject of general determination, and by exposing ourselves to the snares and entanglements of a separate treaty. The necessity of union we have been taught by the sagacious Lord *North* himself, who declared in the House of Commons, in support of the motion, that if one link of the chain could be broken, the whole would inevitably fall to pieces, and that *divide et impera* (divide and domineer) is a maxim both just and wise in Government. For this instance of plain dealing we are very much indebted to his Lordship; and if we do not profit by it, we shall exhibit to the world a lasting monument of unexampled stupidity.

We would not wish to suppose that you would offer such violence to your "affection for this Colony," or bring such an indelible stain upon your own honour, as to be capable of stooping to the mean task of promoting those flagitious and dark designs avowed by the Minister; and yet, there are unfortunately some appearances, which, in a people less ingenuous than we are, might too easily beget a suspicion of the kind.

It is incumbent upon us to thank your Excellency for the genteel and polite language in which you are pleased to charge us with disloyalty and rebellion. To say we have traitorously conspired against His Majesty's crown and dignity, and wantonly trampled upon the laws of the State, according to the stale jargon of the times, would be far more harsh and ill-sounding than the smooth, harmonious expressions you have adopted. Only to tell us we "withhold our allegiance from our Sovereign, and our obedience from the parent country," is civil enough, all things considered. But, at the same time, we beg leave to assure you that you have been deceived as to the fact, and that, though we have been forced to stray from the ordinary

forms of decorum, we desire nothing more than to be speedily restored to the good old way in which we trod for almost two centuries, to the mutual satisfaction and advantage of *England* and *America*. I know not how you can be unacquainted with this truth, that it is in the power of Administration, in a moment, to re-establish the tranquillity and security of the empire, which they alone have interrupted, by relinquishing those attempts which are subversive of our rights as a free people, and by reinstating us in the same happy situation in which the conclusion of the late war found us. Then shall *Britain* reap a rich harvest of opulence and power, the fruits of our loyalty and attachment, and we shall again flourish under the fostering wings of a reformed parent.

I wish, however, that your Excellency had thought proper to explain what you meant by allegiance to the King, and obedience to the parent country. If by the former you intend an unconditional obsequiousness to the will of the Prince, or of his Ministers, even though repugnant to the constitution, and by the latter an absolute submission to the laws of Parliament in all cases, we must confess it is our glory to withhold both the one and the other. We acknowledge no obligations which are inconsistent with our rights and privileges as men and freemen.

I am, with all due respect, your Excellency's most humble servant,

A Citizen.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER RECEIVED IN PHILADELPHIA, DATED MONTREAL, DECEMBER 4, 1775.

I have just arrived here from *Quebeck*, from whence I have been driven on account of my refusing to take arms against the *American* troops. General *Montgomery's* behaviour in this country will gain him great honour, as he has all along acted with the greatest humanity and integrity. He is now on his way to *Quebeck*, with about three thousand men, and I suppose will be in possession of that garrison in a few weeks. General *Carleton* has about twelve hundred fighting men with him; but the extensiveness of the walls, and the different places that his troops must repair to on an alarm, will so divide his force, that to me it appears certain they cannot hold out long. His rigorous treatment of the *Americans* in *Quebeck*, from the first entrance of the troops into the country, would take up more time than I can spare; but to crown the whole, he has turned us all out, giving us two days to prepare, but not suffering us to take any thing.

There will certainly be a strong army to retake *Canada* in the spring. The General has sent home a number of pilots to bring the fleet here early. I suppose the Congress will send men here to defend it; and, indeed, should they garrison it with ten or twelve thousand, it will not be in the power of *Britain* to retake it.

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO COUNCIL OF MASSACHUSETTS.

Lebanon, December 4, 1775.

Sir: Enclosed, I send you the certificate, permits, &c., from the Committee of *Falmouth* to Captain *Phineas Fanning*, to purchase and transport provisions to the Island of *Nantucket*, and the subsequent doings of the inhabitants of *Suffolk* County, on *Long-Island*, thereon. This I should not have noticed, but as I am informed by Captain *Niles*, who commands one of the armed vessels belonging to this Colony, called the *Spy*, of nine other vessels, as large, and some larger permits, some of which have been into this Colony, but have not succeeded here, and are now gone to *Long-Island*. Surely such large supplies of provisions to the favourites of Administration looks suspicious, and ought to be duly watched. Indeed, it was always my opinion that those inhabitants of that Island who are friendly to this country's cause, ought to remove themselves to the main, and leave the rest to be supported by their good friends the Administration. I give you this intelligence that such measures may be taken, that while we are at war with, we may not at the same time be feeding our enemies.

I am, with the greatest respect and esteem, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

Jonathan Trumbull.

To the President of the Council of the *Massachusetts-Bay*.

Falmouth, October 19, 1775.

These may certify any Committee of Correspondence, Inspection, &c., or any other whom it may concern, that we, the Committee of Correspondence of *Falmouth*, in the County of *Barnstable*, in the Province of *Massachusetts-Bay*, are appointed a Committee of Supplies for the Island of *Nantucket*, with orders to give permits to any that shall make application to us for provisions for the internal use of said Island, to be supplied through us, from any Colony or Province in *North-America;* those we give permits to being persons we can confide in.

Barakiah Bassett, *Chairman.*
Nathaniel Shiverick, *Clerk.*

A true copy of the original, taken at *Shelter-Island*, *November* 27, by me,

Ret. Moore, *Clerk of the Spy.*

These may certify to whom it may concern, that *Phineas Fanning* acquaints us he intends to import to this Island a quantity of provisions, which we think will be wanted for the internal consumption of the inhabitants.

Josiah Barker,
Shuball Bainard,
Stephen Hussey,
Richard Mitchell, Jr.,
} *Selectmen.*

A true copy of the original, taken at *Shelter-Island*, the 27th of *November*, 1775, by me,

Ret. Moore, *Clerk of the Spy.*

Falmouth, October 19, 1775.

This is to certify whom it may concern, that the Committee of Correspondence of the Town of *Falmouth*, in the County of *Barnstable*, have permitted *Phineas Fanning*, of *Nantucket*, to purchase five hundred barrels of flour, three hundred barrels of beef, one hundred firkins of butter, one thousand weight of leather, six hundred weight of tallow, sixteen cords of wood, three hundred pair of shoes, and any other necessary for the internal consumption of the inhabitants of the Island of *Nantucket*, agreeable to an act of the General Court of the Province of the *Massachusetts-Bay*, in *New-England*, passed *August*, 1775.

By order of the Committee:

Nathaniel Shiverick, *Clerk.*

A true copy of the original, taken at *Shelter-Island*, *November* 27, 1775.

Ret. Moore, *Clerk of the Spy.*

At a meeting of the Committee of the County of *Suffolk*, *November* 7, 1775:

Ordered, That Mr. *Phineas Fanning* be permitted to purchase and take on board his vessel, the *Ranger*, in this county, five hundred barrels of flour, or wheat equivalent, three hundred barrels of beef, one hundred firkins of butter, one thousand weight of leather, six hundred weight of tallow, sixteen cords of wood, three hundred pair of shoes, two hundred weight of flax, two hundred weight of hog's lard, one hundred weight of candles, and twenty barrels of pork; to be transported to *Falmouth*, in the *Massachusetts-Bay;* and that he produce a certificate at or before the first of *April* next, from the Committee of Correspondence of said *Falmouth*, of the delivery of said goods according to their order, the danger of the seas and seizures excepted, on penalty of being advertised as an enemy to his country; said certificate to be delivered to the Chairman of the Committee of the town of *Southold;* and that said goods be shipped under the inspection of Colonel *Thomas Cushing*, *James Howell*, *Sylvester Lester*, and *James Havens*, or either of them.

Per order: Wm. Smith, *Chairman.*

The above is a true copy of the original, taken at *Shelter-Island*, *November* 27, 1775.

Ret. Moore, *Clerk of the Spy.*

COLONEL MOYLAN TO MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL.

Cambridge, December 4, 1775.

Sir: *S. Smith* and *Joseph Young* were taken prisoners on board a sloop in the Ministerial service, as you will see by a copy of a charter party, found amongst other papers,

on board the sloop *Polly*. The first is the captain, the other the mate.

John Hitch, captain; *Thomas Goulding*, pilot; *James Piper*, *John Siplin*, *William Allen*, *Thomas Anderson*, *Henry Stampson*, mariners. These were taken on board the sloop *Success*, by some of the inhabitants of *Salem*. They were armed, and belong to *Boston*. Sent up by the Committee of Safety.

Pat. Burns, *Richard Rabits*, *Robert Burnet*, *Thomas Walden*, and *William Hancock*, sailors belonging to the *Canceaux* man-of-war. *John Larkin* and *Bateman Baker*, midshipmen belonging to the *Canceaux*.

I am, with great respect, sir, your most obedient servant,

STEPHEN MOYLAN, *P. T. S.*

To the Hon. *James Otis*, President of the Council.

P. S. A team will be necessary to carry the baggage.

GOVERNOUR COOKE TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Providence, December 4, 1775.

SIR: Three men having deserted from one of the armed schooners in the harbour of *Newport*, on *Wednesday* evening last, the Captain, with a Midshipman, came ashore after them, and were both taken prisoners. They were brought here yesterday. The Captain, whose name is *Stanhope*, was a lieutenent on board the *Glasgow*. It was reported that he was a son of Earl *Stanhope*. Upon examination he denied it, but confessed a relation and acquaintance with his Lordship, and declined giving any particular account of himself. I am informed that he is nearly related to his Lordship; and that he is nephew to the Dutchess of *Chandois*. I have no doubt but that he is a person of some consequence. He cannot be safely kept here unless he is confined in close jail, which I should not choose. I request your Excellency's early advice upon this subject; and, in the mean time, shall take every prudent precaution to prevent his escape.

I am greatly concerned at the disinclination of the soldiers to reinlist in the Continental Army; and should be glad to know, as soon as possible, what deficiency there will probably be, that our attention may be turned towards supplying our quota for completing the army. For the doing of which, your Excellency may rely upon my utmost exertions.

I am, with great esteem, sir, your most obedient and humble servant,

NICHOLAS COOKE.

To General *Washington*.

AT A GENERAL COURT-MARTIAL HELD AT ROXBURY, DECEMBER 4, 1775—PRESENT:

Colonel *Jonathan Ward*, President.

Members: Captains *Rowley*, *Hazeltine*, *Ball*, and *Briggs*: Lieutenants *Bissel*, *Gray*, *Pincheon*, *J. Gray*, *Jacobs*, *Redding*, and *Sheppard*.

The Court being duly sworn, proceeded to the trial of *John Short*, a soldier in Captain *Clapp's* Company, and Colonel *Cotton's* Regiment, confined for desertion and theft.

The prisoner appears and pleads not guilty.

On hearing the evidence brought to support the charge, the Court are unanimously of opinion the prisoner is guilty. It likewise appears very clear to the Court, from sundry papers that were found with him, and from his own incoherent stories, that he is guilty of a breach of the 27th and 29th, and also the 3d article of the Rules and Regulations of the *Massachusetts* Army. According to said rules, the Court adjudge the following sums of money to be paid out of his wages and effects, viz: To Captain *Earl Clapp*, the sum of 1*l.* 16*s.*, for expense of advertising and apprehending him; also, 36*s.*, that said *Clapp* paid, at said *Short's* desire, for a former theft. To *William Cowing*, a soldier in Captain *Clapp's* company, 36*s.* 10*d.*, that he carried away with him when he deserted. To *Daniel Crawford*, in said company, 4*l.* 16*s.*, for the damage done him by stealing his clothes. Likewise adjudge him to be whipped thirty-nine stripes on the naked back, and suffer two years imprisonment in *Newgate* Prison, in *Symsbury*, and as much longer as the present contest between *Great Britain* and the *American* Colonies shall subsist.

John Smith, a soldier in Captain *Harwood's* Company, and in Colonel *Learned's* Regiment, confined for attempting to desert to the enemy.

The prisoner appears, and pleads guilty.

The Court are of opinion he is guilty of a breach of the 8th as well as of the 7th article of the Rules and Regulations of the *Massachusetts* Army, and therefore adjudge him to pay the sum of eight shillings to Brigadier-General *Thomas*, to defray the expense of bringing him back to camp, and suffer six months imprisonment in *Newgate* Prison, in *Symsbury*.

Owen Resick, a transient person, confined for aiding, advising, and assisting *John Smith* to desert to the enemy.

The prisoner appears, and pleads not guilty.

On hearing and examining the evidence brought to support the charge, the Court are of opinion the prisoner is guilty of a breach of the 8th and 31st articles of the Rules and Regulations of the *Massachusetts* Army; and therefore adjudge him to suffer one year's imprisonment in *Newgate* Prison, in *Symsbury*, and as much longer as the present disputes between *Great Britain* and the Colonies shall subsist.

Attest: J. WARD, *President*.

The above sentences were confirmed by Major-General *Ward*. SAMUEL OSGOOD, *Aid-de-camp*.

Abstract of Accounts sent the General respecting the foregoing Prisoners, viz:

	£	s.	d.
Allowance of provisions, subsistence in health and during sickness, &c., charged, - -	18	13	11
For attendance of *John Smith*, *Nathaniel Winchell's* account, - - - - - - - -	2	6	0
Ashel Hollcomb, Esq., keeping guard and tending, &c., *John Smith*, - - - - - -	1	11	4
Purchose Capon, *Eleazer Rice*, *Nathaniel Winchell*, and *Samuel Prounty*, seventy nights watching, at 1*s.* 3*d.*, - - - - -	4	7	6
Surgeons, dressing, visits, &c., *John Smith*,	7	6	5
Committee, for expenses, - - - - - -	9	6	0
Coffin for *John Short*, per *Elijah Wolworth*,		7	0
	£43	18	2

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO COLONEL M^cDOUGALL.

Cambridge, December 4, 1775.

SIR: *Henry Knox*, Esq., having informed me by letter from *New-York*, of the 27th ultimo, that, upon his application, you had been kind enough to promise your good offices in Congress, to have twelve good iron four-pounders, with a quantity of shells and shot, sent to this camp, and also to spare two brass six-pounders, I have now the pleasure to acquaint you that we are fully supplied with shells and shot from the store-ship which has fortunately fallen into our hands, and there is no necessity that these two articles should be sent. The cannon are much wanted, and I should be much obliged by your having them forwarded as expeditiously as possible.

I am, &c., GEORGE WASHINGTON.

Colonel *Alexander McDougall*, *New-York*.

ROBERT H. HARRISON TO WILLIAM BARTLETT.

Cambridge, December 4, 1775.

SIR: I am commanded by his Excellency to inform you that he does not consider the sloop at *Cape-Anne*, sent in by Captain *Broughton*, to be a prize, and that he does not wish to have any thing to do with her. There should always be great care taken that cargoes brought in should not be injured or embezzled. It appears that the vessel belongs to General *Greene*, and he will dispose of her as he shall think proper. I am, sir, your humble servant,

R. H. HARRISON.

William Bartlett, Esq., *Beverly*.

ROBERT H. HARRISON TO WILLIAM PALFREY.

Cambridge, December 4, 1775.

SIR: I am commanded by his Excellency to inform you that he received your favours of the 1st and 3d instant, and that your activity and conduct merit his approbation. He

is much obliged to the people who have afforded their assistance in securing this valuable prize, and for the alertness they have discovered, and zeal for the service of their country. You will be pleased to spare the Committee a few of the cannon shot, taking a receipt for the same, and mentioning the sort, that they may be repaid when they get theirs. As to the cannon, his Excellency is exceedingly sorry that the want of them here is so great that he cannot spare them, or he willingly would. His Excellency thinks that the ship *Concord* and cargo should be a prize, as the enemy every day are seizing our vessels; but, conceiving himself not authorized to judge a vessel coming from *Britain* here, with goods for a company or house in *Boston*, he thinks it expedient to send to Congress for their determination, for which purpose an express will go tomorrow morning, with such letters and papers as may be necessary for them to determine upon.

If this vessel can be run up into some secure place, where the enemy cannot get her again, the goods may and should be kept on board, under a proper guard, to prevent embezzlement. But if this cannot be done, and there will be danger of the enemy's recovering the ship and cargo, the goods must be landed. The bill of lading is sent for that purpose, which will do as well as the invoice. There are several small parcels on board, for which there are no invoices. I am, &c.,

R. H. Harrison.

P. S. The Committee may keep the two four-pounders you spared them till called for. Take their receipt.

To Colonel *John Glover*, *Marblehead*, the same.

COLONEL MOYLAN TO JONATHAN GLOVER.

Cambridge, December 4, 1775.

Sir: I am commanded by his Excellency to acknowledge the receipt of your favour of the 3d instant, giving an account of Captain *Manly's* taking the sloop *Concord*, from *Glasgow*, with goods from *Boston*. His Excellency has no doubts but (as the enemy are seizing and making prizes of our vessels every day) that reprisals should be made; but not thinking himself authorized to declare vessels taken, transporting goods from *English* or *British* owners for their agents here, lawful captures, he has thought it expedient to refer the matter to the determination of the Congress, for which an express is to set out with every necessary letter and papers that were found on board Captain *Laurie*. If the ship can be kept entirely secure from the enemy, and run into any place where there would be no risk of the enemy getting her again, his Excellency would advise the cargo to be kept on board, and an officer and guard to prevent embezzlement or loss. If this cannot be done, she must be unladened, and the goods secured until further orders.

I am yours, &c., S. Moylan.

To *William Bartlett*, Esq., the same.

WILLIAM WATSON TO STEPHEN MOYLAN.

Plymouth, December 4, 1775.

Sir: Your much esteemed favour of the 1st instant, per Lieutenant *Champion*, came to hand at eight o'clock, *Saturday* evening. I did, without a moment's loss of time, set out, determined, if it were possible, to get the brigantine to sea next day, which, with the assistance of my good friend, Mr. *Spooner*, I happily effected. After repairing on board the brig *Saturday* night, inquiring into the cause of the uneasiness among the people, and finding it principally owing to their want of clothing, and after supplying them with what they wanted, the whole crew, to a man, gave three cheers, and declared their readiness to go to sea the next morning. The warm weather at that time, and the news of Captain *Manly's* good success, had a very happy influence on the minds of the people. The brig sailed *Sunday* afternoon, and has had fine weather ever since.

Captain *Coit* is got from *Barnstable*, has hauled his schooner on the ways, is now graving and refitting her, will be ready in two days, and is determined to take another cruise in her. His people are contented and behave well.

I have the six negroes now in my care, and shall wait his Excellency's directions respecting them.

I have, agreeably to the General's orders of the 16th ultimo, delivered to *Jabez Hatch's* order his bedding and wearing apparel. I found nothing secreted among them.

I would take this opportunity to inform his Excellency, that instead of seven half-joes delivered Captain *Coit* by Captain *Coffin*, it was eight half-joes. I have not had opportunity yet to mention this matter to Captain *Coit*. If *Coit* has delivered me one more than he received of *Coffin*, I shall return it to him.

I am, sir, your most obedient humble servant,

William Watson.

Stephen Moylan, Esq.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read December 13, 1775.]

Cambridge, December 4, 1775.

Sir: I had the honour of writing to you the 30th ultimo, enclosing an inventory of the military stores taken on board the brig *Nancy*, by Captain *Manly*, of the armed schooner *Lee*. I have now to inform you, that he has since sent into *Beverly* a ship named the *Concord*, *James Laurie* master, from *Greenock*, in *Scotland*, bound to *Boston*. She has on board dry goods and coals, to the value of 3,606*l.* 9*s.* 7*d.* sterling, shipped by *Crawford*, *Anderson & Co.*, and consigned to *James Anderson*, merchant, in *Boston*. It is mentioned in the letters found on board, that this cargo was for the use of the army; but on strict examination I find it is really the property of the shippers, and the person to whom consigned. Pray what is to be done with this ship and cargo? and what with the brigantine which brought the military stores?

It was agreed in the conference last *October*, "that all vessels employed merely as transports and unarmed, with their crews, to be set at liberty upon their giving security to return to *Europe*; but that this indulgence be not extended longer than till the first of *April* next." In the shippers' letter they mention, "you must procure a certificate from the General and Admiral, of the *Concord's* being in the Government service, such as the *Glasgow* packet brought with her, which was of great service, procured a liberty to arm her, which was refused us, also gave her a preference for some recruits that went out in her." In another part of their letter they say, "Captain *Laurie* will deliver you the contract for the coals: we gave it to him, as it perhaps might be of use as a certificate of his ship being employed in the Government service." Every letter on board breathes nothing but enmity to this country, and a vast number of them there are.

It is some time since I recommended to the Congress that they would institute a court for the trial of prizes made by the Continental armed vessels, which I hope they have ere now taken into their consideration, otherwise I should again take the liberty of urging it in the most pressing manner.

The scandalous conduct of a great number of the *Connecticut* troops, has laid me under the necessity of calling in a body of the militia much sooner than I apprehended there would be an occasion for such a step. I was afraid some time ago that they would incline to go home when the time of their inlistment expired. I called upon the officers of the several regiments, to know whether they could prevail on the men to remain until the first of *January*, or till a sufficient number of other forces could be raised to supply their place: I suppose they were deceived themselves; I know they deceived me, by assurances that I need be under no apprehension on that score, for the men would not leave the lines. Last *Friday* showed how much they were mistaken, as the major part of the troops of that Colony were going away with their arms and ammunition. We have, however, by threats, persuasion, and the activity of the people of the country, who sent back many of them that had set out, prevailed upon the most part to stay; there are about eighty of them missing. I have called in three thousand men from this Province; and General *Sullivan*, who lately returned from the Province of *New-Hampshire*, having informed me that a number of men were there ready at the shortest notice, I have demanded two thousand from that Province. These two bodies I expect will be in by the 10th instant, to make up the deficiency of the *Connecticut* men, whom I have pro-

mised to dismiss on that day, as well as the numbers to whom I was obliged to grant furloughs before any would inlist.

As the same defection is much to be apprehended when the time of the *Massachusetts-Bay*, *New-Hampshire*, and *Rhode-Island* forces are expired, I beg the attention of Congress to this important affair. I am informed that it has been the custom of these Provinces, in the last war, for the legislative powers to order every town to provide a certain quota of men for the campaign: this, or some other mode, should be at present adopted, as I am satisfied the men cannot be had without. This the Congress will please to take into their immediate consideration. My suspicions on this head I shall also communicate to the Governours *Trumbull* and *Cooke*; also to the *New-Hampshire* Convention.

The number inlisted in the last week are about thirteen hundred men; by this you see how slow this important work goes on. Enclosed is a letter wrote to me by General *Putnam*, recommending Colonel *Babcock* to the Brigadier-Generalship now vacant in this army. I know nothing of this gentleman; but I wish the vacancy was filled, as the want of one is attended with very great inconveniences.

An express has just come in from General *Schuyler*, with letters from Colonel *Arnold* and General *Montgomery*, copies of which I have the honour to enclose you. Upon the whole, I think affairs carry a pleasing aspect in that quarter. The reduction of *Quebeck* is an object of such great importance, that I doubt not the Congress will give every assistance in their power for the accomplishing it this winter.

By the last accounts from the armed schooners sent to the river *St. Lawrence*, I fear we have but little to expect from them; they were falling short of provisions, and mention that they would be obliged to return, which at this time is particularly unfortunate, as, if they choose a proper station, all the vessels coming down that river must fall into their hands. The plague, trouble, and vexation I have had with the crews of all the armed vessels, is inexpressible. I do believe there is not on earth a more disorderly set. Every time they come into port we hear of nothing but mutinous complaints. *Manly's* success has lately, and but lately, quieted his people. The crews of the *Washington* and *Harrison* have actually deserted them; so that I have been under the necessity of ordering the agent to lay the latter up, and get hands for the other on the best terms he could.

The House of Representatives, and the honourable Board, have sent me a vote of theirs relative to the harbour of *Cape-Cod*, which you have herewith. I shall send an officer thither to examine what can be done for its defence; though I do not think I shall be able to give them such assistance as may be requisite, for I have at present neither men, powder, or cannon to spare. The great want of powder is what the attention of Congress should be particularly applied to. I dare not attempt any thing offensive, let the temptation or advantage be ever so great, as I have not more of that most essential article than will be absolutely necessary to defend our lines, should the enemy attempt to attack them.

By recent information from *Boston*, Gen. *Howe* is going to send out a number of the inhabitants, in order, it is thought, to make more room for his expected reinforcements. There is one part of the information that I can hardly give credit to: a sailor says that a number of those coming out have been inoculated, with design of spreading the small-pox through this country and camp. I have communicated this to the General Court, and recommended their attention thereto. They are arming one of the transports in *Boston*, with which they mean to decoy some of our armed vessels. As we are apprised of their design, I hope they will be disappointed.

My best respects wait on the gentlemen in Congress, and I am, sir, your most humble obedient servant,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

The Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq.

P. S. I was misinformed when I mentioned that one regiment had arrived at *Boston*; a few companies of the seventeenth, and artillery, were all that are yet come. Near three hundred persons are landed on *Point Shirley*, from *Boston*.

—

GENERAL PUTNAM TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Camp in Cambridge, December 1, 1775.

SIR: I shall esteem it as a particular favour if your Excellency will be so obliging as to recommend my worthy friend, Colonel *Henry Babcock*, to the honourable Continental Congress, to be appointed to the rank of Brigadier-General in the Continental Army. I have been upon service with him several campaigns the last war, and have seen him in action behave with great spirit and fortitude, when he had the command of a regiment. He has this day been very serviceable in assisting me in quelling a mutiny, and bringing back a number of deserters.

Your Excellency well knows I am in great want of a Brigadier-General in my division, and such a one as I can put confidence in and rely upon. I know of no man who will fill the vacancy with more honour than the gentleman above named.

I have the honour to be, with great truth and regard, your Excellency's most obedient, most humble servant,

ISRAEL PUTNAM, *M. G.*

His Excellency General *Washington*.

—

In the House of Representatives, December 1, 1775.

Upon a motion, *Ordered*, That Mr. Speaker and Colonel *Orne*, with such as the Honourable Board shall join, be a Committee to acquaint his Excellency General *Washington* of the importance of *Cape-Cod* harbour, and to confer with him on some method to deprive the enemy of the advantage they now receive therefrom.

Sent up for concurrence. J. WARREN, *Speaker*.

In Council, December 1, 1775.

Read and concurred. *Walter Spooner*, Esq., is joined.

PEREZ MORTON, *Dep. Sec'y*.

—

ORDERS BY GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, December 1, 1775.

(Parole, *Exeter*.) (Countersign, *Providence*.)

The fatal consequences which have at all times, and upon all occasions, befallen armies attacked at unawares, when men are scattered and remote from their posts, or negligent whilst at them, are too well known, and very often too unhappily felt, to stand in need of description; whereas, a handful of men, prepared for an attack, are seldom defeated: It is therefore ordered, in the most express and peremptory terms, that no non-commissioned officer or soldier do presume, under any pretence whatsoever, day or night, to be out of drum-call of his alarm post, without leave of the Captain or commanding officer of the company he belongs to. And it is also as expressly ordered that no non-commissioned officer or soldier do pass from *Cambridge*, and the lines on this side the river, to *Roxbury*, or come from thence hither, or go from either to any other place in the neighbourhood, without a written pass from the Captain or commanding officer of the company he belongs to, although he should not mean to stay more than an hour or two.

The officers of each regiment are to be subject to the same restraints, and to obtain leave in the same manner from the Colonel or commanding officer of the regiment they respectively belong to; and it is expected that all officers and soldiers in this army will pay the strictest attention to this order, as they shall answer the consequence. This order is not intended to change the mode of giving furloughs, (already pointed out in past orders,) the sole design being to keep men to their duty, that they may be always ready to meet their enemy upon the shortest notice.

It is again and again expressly ordered, that an officer of each company do once a day examine the arms and ammunition of the company he belongs to, and see that they are fit for use. This and the foregoing orders are to be frequently read to the men, and the usefulness of them fully inculcated upon their minds; they are to be considered as standing orders, till countermanded.

The Colonels or commanding officers of the new established regiments are to take especial care that the new

recruits are put under proper drill-sergeants as fast as they join, in order that they may, as quick as possible, be made acquainted with their duty. It is also recommended to these gentlemen to provide their regiments with good drummers and fifers.

—

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, December 2, 1775.

(Parole, ——.) (Countersign, ——.)

James McCormick, of Captain *Dibble's* company, in Colonel *Woodbridge's* regiment, tried at a General Court-Martial, for "striking General *Putnam's* horse, and saying, at the same time, damn you! who is there? clear the road! and for repeatedly leaving the camp without orders." The Court are of opinion that the prisoner is guilty of a breach of the 3d, 15th, 16th, and 17th Articles of War, and adjudge him to receive thirty-nine lashes on his bare back.

Sergeant *James King*, of Colonel *Patterson's* regiment, tried at the same General Court-Martial, upon an appeal from a Regimental Court-Martial. The Court were of opinion that the prisoner is guilty of being absent from his regiment without leave, and of striking and abusing Sergeant *Goodrich* when in the execution of his duty, and therefore adjudge the prisoner to be reduced to the ranks and pay a fine of twenty shillings, to be appropriated according to the 51st Article of the Rules and Regulations of the Army.

—

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, December 3, 1775.

(Parole, *Sawbridge.*) (Countersign, *Hartley.*)

It is with surprise and astonishment the General learns, that, notwithstanding the information which was communicated to the *Connecticut* troops, of the relief being ordered to supply their places by the 10th of this month, that many of them have taken their arms with them and gone off, not only without leave, but contrary to express orders. This is, therefore, to inform those who remain, that the General has sent an express to the Governour of *Connecticut* with the names of such men as have left the camp, in order that they may be dealt with in a manner suited to the ignominy of their behaviour. The General also informs those who remain, that it is necessary for them to obtain a written discharge from the commanding officer of the regiment they belong to, when they are dismissed on the 10th instant, that they may be distinguished from and not treated as deserters.

The Colonels and commanding officers of the *Connecticut* regiments are to give in the names of all those of their respective regiments, for the purpose above mentioned.

—

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, December 4, 1775.

(Parole, *Cushing.*) (Countersign, *Payne.*)

Lieutenant-Colonel *Enos*, tried at a late General Court-Martial, whereof Brigadier-General *Sullivan* was President, for "leaving his commanding officer without permission or orders, and returning to *Cambridge*." The Court, after mature consideration of the evidence, are unanimously of opinion that the prisoner was, by absolute necessity, obliged to return with his division, and do therefore acquit him with honour.

The General orders Lieutenant-Colonel *Enos* to be forthwith released from his arrest.

—

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, December 5, 1775.

Parole, *Albany*. Countersign, *Bristol*.

—

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM LIEUTENANT-COLONEL SCOTT TO HIS FRIEND IN WILLIAMSBURGH, VA., DATED GREAT-BRIDGE, DECEMBER 4, 1775.

Since my last we have sent a party of one hundred men, under the command of Col. *Stevens*, of the Minute Battalion, over the river, who fell in last night, about twelve o'clock, with a guard of about thirty men, chiefly negroes. They got close up to the sentinel undiscovered; the sentinel challenged, and was not answered, upon which he fired. Our people being too eager, began the fire immediately, without orders, and kept it up very hot for near fifteen minutes. We killed one, burnt another in the house, and took two prisoners, (all blacks,) with four exceeding fine muskets, and defeated the guard. There is hardly an hour in the day but we exchange a few shot. I am, &c.

—

CONSTITUTIONAL POST-OFFICE OF ANNAPOLIS.

Annapolis Constitutional Post-Office, December 5, 1775.

Notice is hereby given that the Northward and Southward Mails arrive at this office every *Friday* at two o'clock, and return the same day at six; and on every *Monday* a rider leaves this town for *Baltimore*, and returns on *Tuesday* for the Northward Mail.

The Constitutional Office having been instituted by the Congress for the security and ready conveyance of letters and all kinds of intelligence through this Continent, and as the same has been attended with a great expense, it is not doubted that all well-wishers to the present laudable opposition in America will promote the same, by sending, and procuring to be sent, all letters, packages, &c., to the Constitutional Post-Office.

WILLIAM WHETCROFT, *Postmaster*.

—

LORD STIRLING TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

Head-Quarters, Elizabethtown, December 5, 1775.

SIR: In answer to the letters I wrote yesterday to Colonel *Woodhull* at *New-York*, I have this moment received a letter from him, of which the enclosed is a copy.

The receipt of this letter shall make no alteration in my conduct with regard to preparing the six companies ordered to march to the new fortress on *Hudson* river, but shall hold them in readiness to march until further order from the Congress. The members of the Continental Congress, who are best acquainted with the country in the neighbourhood of the new fortress, must know the impossibility of quartering men in any place contiguous to it, for there are not five habitable houses within five miles of it. It is my private opinion that we can at any time aid that fortress from hence as well as from any other place I know of, especially if I am allowed a discretionary power of giving such aid, whenever, by my intelligence, I find it is like to be necessary: the men, in the mean time, will be made more fit for service. However, I shall strictly adhere to any instructions I may receive from the Congress.

There are, I am informed, several men, who were recruited in this Province for the *New-York* regiment in the Continental service, lately returned into this neighbourhood, I believe, without discharges; they spread evil reports of the hardships they pretend to have met with, and greatly discourage the present service. I should be glad to be instructed what I may do with such as I meet with.

With great veneration and esteem, I am your most obedient and most humble servant,

STIRLING.

To the Hon. *John Hancock*, Esq.

—

NATHANIEL WOODHULL TO LORD STIRLING.

New-York, December 5, 1775.

MY LORD: We were honoured last night with your favour of yesterday, upon the subject of arms for your troops, their marching to the new fort, and the making provision of fire-wood and other necessaries for them. In answer to which we inform you, that the Deputy Commissary-General has orders to provide provisions for one thousand men, a considerable part of which is already sent to the fort, and we have directed our Commissioners to purchase fire-wood sufficient for the barracks now built, and to be built, for the winter season. Those already built will not lodge more than three hundred men, and a great part of them are now occupied by the workmen; the remaining part will not quarter more than two complete companies. Two incomplete companies are now there, and a third came from thence a few days ago, to guard the prisoners to *Newark*. When this company was there, the barracks were much crowded. It is expected that, in the course of the winter, additional barracks will be built, which, with those already built, will lodge about one thousand men. At present, it will be impossible to quarter the

six companies you mention in the fort. If they are sent up, they must be quartered in the neighbourhood.

We have it not in our power to supply the fort with any powder or ball. When it is in our power, we shall do it very cheerfully. This Colony has been gleaned of its arms to furnish the troops raised in it. Many have been impressed for this purpose; and this city, in particular, has been stripped of five hundred and fifty of its best arms, so that we are very badly armed as a Colony, and have no arms in our power to spare. Our Colony has already put all its publick arms in the Continental service, and we hope our neighbours of *Jersey* have spared their's before they called on us, stripped as we are.

Our zeal to promote the publick service has determined us to purchase about one hundred muskets of our citizens, of different bores, with bayonets and steel ramrods, for your troops, for which we are to pay four pounds per musket. To prevent any misunderstanding in settling the publick accounts, we expect these arms are to be on account of your Colony, or the Confederated Colonies. They will be in order in about ten days. When they are finished we shall advise you.

We are, with great truth and regard, your Lordship's most obedient, humble servants.

By order of the members present:

NATHANIEL WOODHULL.

The Right Hon. *William*, Earl of *Stirling*.

NEW-YORK CONGRESS TO COMMISSIONERS AT HIGHLANDS.

New-York, December 5, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: The Continental Congress have ordered six companies of ninety men each, besides those already here, to be placed in the fortifications on *Hudson* river. These six companies are nearly ready, and if barracks can be fit to receive them, may be there in eight days. We earnestly request you to have sufficient barracks completed for a thousand men, if possible, and to lay in immediately a sufficient quantity of fire-wood for the barracks that now are and can be built.

We are, gentlemen, your humble servants. By order.

To *John Grenell*, *Samuel Bayard*, *William Bedlow*, and *Jonathan Lawrence*, Esquires.

NEW-YORK COMMITTEE.

At a meeting of the General Committee for the City and County of *New-York*, on *Tuesday* evening, *December* 5, 1775. Present: *John Broome*, Chairman,

Colonel Hyer,	Mr. Gilbert,	Mr. Norwood,
Mr. Roosevelt,	Captain Dennis,	Mr. Van Voorhies,
Mr. Dunscomb,	Mr. Ray, Sen.,	Mr. Berrian,
Mr. Brinkerhoff,	Mr. Banker,	Mr. Anthony,
Mr. Johnson,	Mr. Phenix,	Mr. Bull,
Mr. Brower,	Captain Pell,	Mr. Janeway,
Mr. Ramsay,	Mr. Ray, Jun.,	Colonel Lasher,
Mr. Totten,	Mr. Bassett,	Mr. John Anthony,
Mr. Miller,	Mr Byvanck,	Mr. Roome,
Mr. Moore,	Mr. Abeel,	Colonel Lott,
Mr. Abrahams,	Mr. Sharpe,	Mr. Mulligan,
Mr. Breasted,	Mr. Van Zandt,	Mr. Burling,
Mr. Stoutenburgh,	Mr. Sands,	Mr. T. Curtenius.

The case of *James Taylor*, respecting his having quitted his post at *Foster Lewis's*, and suffering two prisoners to escape, having been resumed,

Ordered, That the Chairman issue his Warrant to apprehend the said *James Taylor*, and hold him to bail until he be discharged by order of Congress or the Committee.

A draft of a Petition to the honourable the Provincial Congress for the Province of *New-York*, was read, and is as follows, viz:

To the Honourable the Provincial Congress for the Province of NEW-YORK.

The Petition of the General Committee for the City and County of NEW-YORK, *humbly showeth:*

That a body of troops, from a neighbouring Colony, did lately make their publick entry into the city at noon-day, and did seize and carry off the types belonging to one of the publick Printers of this Colony, without any authority from the Continental or this Congress, your Petitioners, or any other body having power to grant such authority. And being apprehensive that such incursions, should they be repeated, will be productive of many great and evil consequences to the inhabitants of such place wherein they may be hereafter made, your Petitioners do therefore conceive it highly necessary, in the present situation of publick affairs, as well for the sake of internal peace and harmony of each Colony, as for the maintenance of the general union of the Continent, now happily subsisting, and so essential at this juncture, that each of the Associated Colonies on the Continent should have the sole management and regulation of its publick matters by its Congress or Committee, unless otherwise directed by the honourable the Continental Congress.

Your Petitioners do therefore most humbly pray, that this honourable House of Delegates would be pleased to take the premises into their consideration, and devise some expedient to prevent, for the future, the inhabitants of any of the neighbouring Colonies coming into this, to direct the publick affairs of it, or to destroy the property or invade the liberty of its inhabitants, without the direction of the Continental or this Congress, or the Committee of Safety, or the Committee of the County into which such inhabitants may come, or of the Continental Generals, unless there should be an invasion into this Colony. And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, shall ever pray, &c.

By order of the Committee.

Ordered, That the same be fairly copied, and signed by the Chairman of this Committee, and delivered to the Chairman of the Congress.

It having been represented that *John Roff*, Boatman, loaded for the Provincial account with Provisions and other necessaries, intended to leave this City, for *Albany*, this night, and a man-of-war's Tender being on a cruise up the *North* River:

Ordered, That the said *John Roff* be directed not to depart this City without leave from the Chairman of this Committee.

Information having been brought to the Committee, that an Armed Vessel was gone up the *North* River, which might intercept the Vessels coming down with Provisions,

Ordered, That an Express be despatched to give notice to all the landing places as far up as *Constitution Fort*, unless he shall have information that the said Vessel is returned to *New-York*.

It having been represented to the Committee that the appointment of a Town Major is very necessary at this time, and the same being put to vote, *William Leary* was appointed by a majority of voices.

Ordered, That *William Leary* be recommended to the Provincial Congress, and request that he may be appointed accordingly; and that he be desired to act until he receives a commission for that purpose.

Whereas it is represented to this Committee that there are vacancies in several of the Beats in this City, for want of which being filled up by their proper Officers the Night-Watch is greatly interrupted:

Ordered, That the commanding officer of every Regiment be authorized to appoint a day of election for every vacant office within his Regiment, excepting Field or Staff Officers, and be empowered to call upon two Committee-men, who are hereby required to attend on the day appointed to fill up the same, according to the direction of the Provincial Congress.

The examination of *John Myford*, for aiding and assisting in the inlisting of men to send on board the *Asia* man-of-war: He says he never did supply the man-of-war with oars, but that Mr. *Lott* has had his boat, but does not know what was carried on board; that Captain *Harris* and the other two men were not above two or three hours at his house; that they informed him they were going up to *Poughkeepsie*, and had some money, of which they were afraid of being robbed, and desired the use of the pistols, for which they left him a half-johannes in pledge; that he never supplied the man-of-war with provisions at any time whatever; that he did not make use of any expressions against the Congress; that he was not acquainted with *Richard Sprong's* going on board of the man-of-war, or inlisting as a soldier.

The Committee having heard the charge against the said *John Myford*, and his defence,

Ordered, That he be discharged from his confinement, with a reprimand from the Chairman.

It having been represented that there was a necessity for certain Regulations for the Night-Watch in this City,

Ordered, That a Committee of the following gentlemen be appointed to draw up a set of Regulations, and report them to the next Committee, viz: Colonel *Lasher*, Colonel *Hyer*, Major *Abeel*, Captain *Berrian*, Major *Stoutenburgh*, and Captain *Gilbert*.

Mr. *Curtenius* moves that *Peter P. Van Zandt* be appointed Major in the Third Battalion, and *Patrick Welsh* Adjutant.

The office of Secretary to this Board being vacant by the resignation of Mr. *Blagge*,

Ordered, That the Chairman procure and commission a suitable person to supply his place.

—

Committee Chamber, Friday evening, December 8, 1775.

Twenty-eight Members met, who not being sufficient to constitute a House, they dismissed.

—

Committee Chamber, Tuesday evening, December 12, 1775.

The following Members met, viz: *John Broome*, Chairman,

Mr. Janeway,	Mr. Roome,	Mr. D. Phenix,
Mr. Bassett,	Captain Pell,	Mr. Dunscomb,
Mr. Johnson,	Mr. C. P. Low,	Mr. Templeton,
Colonel Lasher,	Mr. J. Totten,	Mr. Abeel,
Mr. Stoutenburgh,	Mr. Abrahams,	Mr. Ray, Sen.,
Mr. N. Roosevelt,	Captain Dennis,	Mr. Ray, Jun.,
Mr. Norwood,	Mr. L. Burling,	Mr. Bleeker.
Mr. Ramsey,	Mr. W. Denning,	

The above Members requested the Chairman to have an order served on the absenting Members, and know from them if they intended serving as Committee-men in future.

—

MAJOR SKENE TO HUGH GAINE.

Asia, December 5, 1775.

Mr. Gaine: I was much surprised on reading your paper of the 20th of *November* last, to find that you was assured "that Major *Skene*, the younger, who was released from close confinement on his parole of honour, lately made his escape from *Connecticut*," &c.

This assertion, being entirely groundless, so far as it respects my parole of honour, I think it my duty to inform the publick thereof, in order to remove any impressions which so base an act must have made on them. It is out of my power, at present, to give any further proof of my innocence, than by appealing to the Committee at *Hartford*, for the truth of what I declare, and which I am positive they will not contradict.

I am, sir, your humble servant,

Andrew P. Skene.

—

DUTCHESS COUNTY COMMITTEE TO THE NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

Poughkeepsie, December 5, 1775.

Gentlemen: Some few days past, three men were committed to jail in consequence of an order from the General Committee of *Dutchess* County, on a charge of having aided and assisted *Peter Harris* in inlisting men for the Ministerial Army. The Committee of *Poughkeepsie* Precinct, having reason to believe that some further discovery might be made of the pernicious scheme carrying on in this County against the friends of *American* liberty, as well to procure further evidences against said prisoners, the Chairman issued citations for a number of persons to appear before said Committee the 4th instant, on which day most of them appeared; and Mr. Justice *Ellis* being called in to qualify them, three persons, whom the Committee deemed the most material witnesses, refused to be sworn, and contemned the authority of the Committee, saying, they had taken counsel so to do.

And the Committee being of opinion that there are several very officious Ministerial agents in this County, who have corrupted the minds of many of the ignorant and baser sort of men among us, maliciously telling them, the Whigs are in rebellion, the King would conquer them, and their estates be forfeited; and if they take up arms against them, the King, for their services, will give them the Whigs' possessions: The Committee, taking these matters into consideration, and being of opinion that the denial of their authority is of the last importance, and not being clear that any particular rule is pointed out by Congress, think it expedient to solicit their advice in the premises.

We are, gentlemen, your most obedient and very humble servants.

By order of the Committee:

Samuel Dodge, *Chairman*.

To the Provincial Congress, *New-York*.

—

COLONEL KNOX TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Fort George, December 5, 1775.

May it please your Excellency: I arrived here yesterday, and made preparations to go over the lake this morning, but General *Schuyler* reaching here before day prevents my going over for an hour or two. He has given me a list of stores on the other side, from which I am enabled to send an inventory of those which I intend to forward to camp. The garrison at *Ticonderoga* is so weak, the conveyance from the fort to the landing is so difficult, the passage across the lake so precarious, that I am afraid it will be ten days at least before I can get them on this side. When they are here, the conveyance from hence will depend entirely on the sledding; if that is good, they shall immediately move forward; without sledding, the roads are so much gullied that it will be impossible to move a step. General *Schuyler* will do every thing possible to forward this business.

I have the honour to be, with the greatest respect, your Excellency's most obedient humble servant,

Henry Knox.

His Excellency General *Washington*.

P. S. General *Schuyler* assures me, that, although the navigation through *Lake-George* should be stopped, yet, if there is any sledding, they shall move on another way.

—

A List of Stores to be conveyed to Camp at Cambridge, from Ticonderoga.

Twelve 18-pounders, iron; one 18-pounder, brass; two 13-inch iron mortars; one 7-inch iron mortar; one 6½-inch iron mortar; two mortars, one 10½-inch, iron; one 10-inch, iron; two howitz, one 8¼-inch, iron; one 8-inch, iron; one 8-inch mortar, brass; one cohorn, brass; eleven brass field-pieces, 4-pounders; one brass field-piece, 24-pounder; twenty-five boxes lead, the quantity in each unknown. A small quantity of flints.

The beds for mortars, and the carriages for the cannon, are to be made at camp, except six field-carriages for the brass field-pieces, which are now making at *Albany*.

—

GENERAL MONTGOMERY TO GENERAL SCHUYLER.

Holland-House, near the Heights of Abraham, December 5, 1775.

My dear General: I have been this evening favoured with yours of the 19th ult., and return you many thanks for your warm congratulations. Nothing shall be wanting on my part to reap the advantage of our good fortune. The season has proved so favourable as to enable me to join Colonel *Arnold* at *Point-aux-Trembles*, where I arrived with the vessels Mr. *Prescott* made us a present of. They carried the few troops, about three hundred, which were equipped for a winter campaign, with the artillery, &c. Colonel *Livingston* is on his way, with some part of his regiment of *Canadians*.

Mr. *Carleton*, who is I suppose ashamed to show himself in *England*, is now in town, and puts on the show of defence. The works of *Quebeck* are extremely extensive, and very incapable of being defended.

His garrison consists of *Maclean's* banditti, the sailors from the frigates and other vessels laid up, together with the citizens obliged to take up arms, most of whom are impatient of the fatigues of a siege, and wish to see matters accommodated amicably. I propose amusing Mr. *Carleton* with a formal attack, erecting batteries, &c., but

mean to assault the works, I believe, towards the lower town, which is the weakest part. I have this day written to Mr. *Carleton*, and also to the inhabitants, which I hope will have some effect. I shall be very sorry to be reduced to this mode of attack, because I know the melancholy consequences, but the approaching severe season, and the weakness of the garrison, together with the nature of the works, point it out too strong to be passed by.

I find Colonel *Arnold's* corps an exceeding fine one, inured to fatigue, and well accustomed to cannon shot, (at *Cambridge*.) There is a style of discipline among them, much superior to what I have been used to see this campaign. He himself is active, intelligent, and enterprising. Fortune often baffles the sanguine expectations of poor mortals. I am not intoxicated with the favours I have received at her hands, but I do think there is a fair prospect of success.

The Governour has been so kind as to send out of town many of our friends who refused to do military duty; among them several very intelligent men, capable of doing me considerable service. One of them, a Mr. *Antill*, I have appointed chief engineer; Mr. *Mott* and all his suite having returned home. Be so good as to show Congress the necessity I was under of clothing the troops, to induce them to stay and undertake this service, at such an inclement season. I think had their Committee been with me, they would have seen the propriety of grasping at every circumstance in my power, to induce them to engage again. I was not without my apprehensions of not only being unable to make my appearance here, but even of being obliged to relinquish the ground I had gained. However, I hope the clothing and dollar bounty will not greatly exceed the bounty offered by Congress. Whilst the affair of *Chambly* was in agitation, Major *Brown*, as I am well informed, made some promises to the *Canadians* who engaged in that service, which I believe I must, from motives of policy as well as justice, make good, viz: to share the stores, excepting ammunition and artillery. When matters are settled, I shall pay them in money, being inconvenient to part with the provisions.

Upon another occasion, I have also ventured to go beyond the letter of the law. Colonel *Easton's* detachment, at the mouth of the *Sorel*, was employed on the important service of stopping the fleet; they were half naked, and the weather was very severe. I was afraid that not only they might grow impatient and relinquish the business in hand, but I also saw the reluctance the troops at *Montreal* showed to quit it. By way of stimulant, I offered as a reward all publick stores taken in the vessels, to the troops who went forward, except ammunition and provisions. *Warner's* corps refused to march, or at least declined it. *Bedel's* went on, and came in for a share of the labour and honour. I hope the Congress will not think this money ill laid out.

With a year's clothing of the 7th and 26th, I have relieved the distresses of *Arnold's* corps, and forwarded the clothing of some other corps. The greatest part of that clothing is a fair prize, except such as immediately belonged to the prisoners taken on board; they must be paid for theirs, as it was their own property. We shall have more time hereafter to settle this affair. Should there be any reason to apprehend an effort next spring to regain *Canada*, I would not wish to see less than ten thousand men ordered here. The *Canadians* will be our friends as long as we are able to maintain our ground, but they must not be depended upon, especially for defensive operations. The great distance from any support or relief renders it in my opinion absolutely necessary to make the most formidable preparations for the security of this important Province. What advantages the country below *Quebeck* affords for defence I cannot yet assert, but the Rapids of *Richlieu*, some miles above, may be defended against all the navy and all the military force of *Great Britain*, by such a body of troops as I have mentioned, provided with sufficient artillery, row-gallies, and proper vessels fitted for fire-ships.

Some time since you desired a return from General *Wooster* of the men he has discharged between *Albany* and *Ticonderoga*. I was afraid there might be something disagreeable to him in the desire, and as it was too critical a time to put any body out of humour, I therefore suppressed it. I shall now make him acquainted with your pleasure on that head.

There are several appointments I have thought necessary to make, which I shall soon make known to you. I hope the Congress will not yield to any solicitations to the prejudice of the troops who have borne the burden of the service here. I have paid particular attention to Colonel *Arnold's* recommendations. Indeed I must say he has brought with him many pretty young men.

I don't know whether I informed you, that it was in vain to think of engaging the troops for twelve months. The 15th of *April*, which allows them time to plant their corn upon returning home, was all I dared to ask. I hope the proper measures will be taken for sending fresh troops into the country before that time.

I am, &c., RICHARD MONTGOMERY.

COLONEL ARNOLD TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Before Quebeck, December 5, 1775.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY: My last of the 20th ultimo, from *Point-aux-Trembles*, advising of my retiring from before *Quebeck*, make no doubt your Excellency has received. I continued at *Point-aux-Trembles*, until the 3d instant, when to my great joy General *Montgomery* joined us with artillery, and about three hundred men. Yesterday we arrived here, and are making all possible preparation to attack the city, which has a wretched motley garrison of disaffected seamen, marines and inhabitants; the walls in a ruinous situation, and cannot hold out long. Enclosed is a return of my detachment, amounting to six hundred and seventy-five men, for whom I have received clothing of General *Montgomery*. I hope there will soon be provision made for paying the soldiers' arrearages, as many of them have families who are in want. A continual hurry has prevented my sending a continuation of my journal.

I am, with very great respect, your Excellency's most obedient humble servant, BENEDICT ARNOLD.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM AN OFFICER IN CANADA, TO ISAIAH THOMAS, DATED HOSPITAL-GENERAL, NEAR QUEBECK, DECEMBER 5, 1775.

The difficulties that our detachment underwent in the woods are beyond description. For forty days I waded more or less, my feet continually wet, except nights; the most of the time freezing weather; we were at an allowance of half a pint of flour a man for a fortnight, and half that time no meat; climbing hills, passing through morasses, cedar swamps, and drowned lands, wading creeks and rivers at the same time; the number that we lost was small, not exceeding three or four, and these with hunger. We marched from *Cambridge* the 13th of *September*, and reached the *French* inhabitants the third of *November*. I arrived at *Point-Levi* the 12th, and crossed the *St. Lawrence* the 13th. We lay before *Quebeck* five days, then retired to *Point-aux-Trembles* in order to form a junction with General *Montgomery*, which was happily effected the first instant, and we returned to the place yesterday, and have laid close siege to the city of *Quebeck*, and are in hopes soon to bring them to terms. The inhabitants are all in our favour, and are excessive kind.

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO GENERAL SCHUYLER.

Lebanon, December 5, 1775.

SIR: I have to acknowledge your two esteemed favours of the 10th and 18th of last month. The events therein announced are very interesting, and arguments of praise to the Supreme *Director*, and a termination of this affecting controversy between *Great Britain* and *America*, much to be wished for. The return of the troops taken at *St. John's*, sent me, is enclosed. They are, by Congress, called down to *Pennsylvania*, which is agreeable to us in this Colony.

Wishing you health and future prosperity, I am, with great sincerity and regard, sir, your most obedient humble servant, JONATHAN TRUMBULL.

Major-General *Schuyler*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO THE GENERAL COURT OF MASSACHUSETTS.

Cambridge, December 5, 1775.

SIR: I have of late met with abundant reason to be convinced of the impracticability of recruiting this army to the new establishment, in any reasonable time, by voluntary inlistments. The causes of such exceeding lukewarmness I shall not undertake to point out; sufficient it is to know that the fact is so. Many reasons are assigned; one only I shall mention, and that is, that the present soldiery are in expectation of drawing, from the landed interest and farmers a bounty equal to the allowance at the commencement of this army, and that therefore they play off. Be this as it may, I am satisfied that this is not a time for trifling, and that the exigency of our affairs calls aloud for vigorous exertions. By sad experience it is found that the *Connecticut* regiments have deserted, and are about to desert, the noble cause we are engaged in. Nor have I any reason to believe that the forces of *New-Hampshire*, this Government, or *Rhode-Island*, will give stronger proofs of their attachment to it when the period arrives when they may claim a dismission. For, after every stimulus which I have been able to throw in their way, and near a month's close endeavour, we have inlisted but about five thousand men; fifteen hundred of which are to be absent at a time, on furlough, until all have gone home, in order that they may visit and provide for their families.

Five thousand militia from this Government, and the Colony of *New-Hampshire*, are ordered to be at this place by the 10th inst., to relieve the *Connecticut* regiments and supply the deficiency which will be occasioned by their departure and those on furlough. These men, I am told by officers who have been eye-witnesses to their behaviour, are not to be depended upon for more than a few days, as they soon get tired, grow impatient, ungovernable, and of course leave the service. What will be the consequence, then, if the greatest part of the army is to be composed of such men? Upon the new establishment twenty-six regiments were ordered to be raised, besides those of the artillery and riflemen. Of these *New-Hampshire* has three, *Massachusetts* sixteen, *Rhode-Island* two, and *Connecticut* five. A mode of appointing the officers was recommended, and as strictly adhered to as circumstances would admit of. These officers are now recruiting, with the success I have mentioned.

Thus, sir, have I given you a true and impartial state of our situation, and submit it to your wisdom, and the other three *New-England* Colonies, whether some vigorous measures, if the powers of the Government are adequate, ought not to be adopted, to facilitate the completion of this army, without offering a bounty from the publick, which the Congress have declared against, thinking the terms, exclusive thereof, greater than ever soldier had. I have by this conveyance laid the matter before Congress, but the critical situation of our affairs will not await their deliberation and recommendation. Something must be done without further delay. I am, sir, your obedient servant,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To the Hon. the General Court of the *Massachusetts-Bay*.

GENERAL COURT OF MASSACHUSETTS TO GEN. WASHINGTON.

Watertown, December 7, 1775.

SIR: We enclose to your Excellency an attested copy of the resolve passed by the General Court on the first instant; upon the subject-matter of which resolve a Committee of both Houses had yesterday the honour of a conference with your Excellency. We are clearly of opinion that the words of the resolve will not admit of such a construction as was suggested to your Excellency by General *Heath;* but that they plainly put the officers and soldiers of the militia, now to be raised, upon the same footing, in all respects, as the rest of the *American* army under your Excellency's command, and that they were so intended by the Court. We could have wished that Gen. *Heath* had deferred giving the information he did to your Excellency, unless he had been possessed of fuller evidence than he appears to have had. We trust this account of the matter will be fully satisfactory to your Excellency, and prevent any difficulties from arising upon this head.

His Excellency Gen. *Washington*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GENERAL SCHUYLER.

Cambridge, December 5, 1775.

DEAR SIR: Your much esteemed favour of the 22d ult., covering Colonel *Arnold's* letter, with a copy of one to General *Montgomery*, and his to you, I received yesterday morning. It gave me the highest satisfaction to hear of Col. *Arnold's* being at *Point-Levi*, with his men in great spirits after their long and fatiguing march, attended with almost insuperable difficulties, and the discouraging circumstance of being left by one-third of the troops that went on the expedition. The merit of this gentleman is certainly great, and I heartily wish that fortune may distinguish him as one of her favourites. I am convinced that he will do every thing that his prudence and valour shall suggest, to add to the success of our arms, and for reducing *Quebeck* to our possession. Should he not be able to accomplish so desirable a work with the forces he has, I flatter myself that it will be effected when General *Montgomery* joins him, and our conquest of *Canada* be complete.

I am sorry to find you so much plagued and embarrassed by the disregard of discipline, confusion, and want of order among the troops, as to have occasioned you to mention to Congress an inclination to retire. I know that your complaints are too well founded, but I would willingly hope that nothing will induce you to quit the service, and that in time, order and subordination will take the place of confusion, and command be rendered more agreeable. I have met with difficulties of the same sort, and such as I never expected. But they must be borne with. The cause we are engaged in is so just and righteous, that we must try to rise superior to every obstacle in its support, and therefore I beg that you will not think of resigning, unless you have carried your application to Congress too far to recede.

I am, dear sir, with great esteem and regard, yours, &c.,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

Major-General *Schuyler*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO COLONEL ARNOLD.

Cambridge, December 5, 1775.

DEAR SIR: Your letter of the 8th ultimo, with a postscript of the 14th from *Point-Levi*, I have had the pleasure to receive. It is not in the power of any man to command success; but you have done more—you have deserved it; and before this I hope have met with the laurels which are due to your toils, in the possession of *Quebeck*. My thanks are due, and sincerely offered to you, for your enterprising and persevering spirit. To your brave followers I likewise present them. I was not unmindful of you or them in the establishment of a new army. One out of twenty-six regiments (lately General *Putnam's*) you are appointed to the command of, and I have ordered all the officers with you to the one or the other of these regiments, in the rank they now bear, that in case they choose to continue in service, and no appointments take place where they now are, no disappointment may follow.

Nothing very material has happened in this camp since you left it. Finding we are not likely to do much in the land way, I fitted out several privateers, or rather armed vessels, in behalf of the Continent, with which we have taken several prizes, to the amount, it is supposed, of fifteen thousand pounds sterling; one of them a valuable store-ship, (but no powder in it,) containing a fine brass mortar, thirteeen-inch, two thousand stand of arms, shot, &c., &c.

I have no doubt but a junction of your detachment of the army, under General *Montgomery*, is effected before this. If so, you will put yourself under his command, and will, I am persuaded, give him all the assistance in your power to finish the glorious work you have begun. That the *Almighty* may preserve and prosper you in it, is the prayer of, dear sir, &c.,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

Colonel *Arnold*.

P. S. You could not be more surprised than I was at *Enos's* return, with the division under his command. I immediately put him under arrest, and had him tried for quitting the detachment without your orders He is acquitted on the score of provision.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GOVERNOUR COOKE.

Cambridge, December 5, 1775.

SIR: I have of late met with abundant reason to be convinced of the impracticability of recruiting this army to the new establishment, in any reasonable time, by voluntary inlistments. The causes of such exceeding great lukewarmness I shall not undertake to point out; sufficient it is to know that the fact is so. Many reasons are assigned; one only I shall mention, and that is, that the present soldiery are in expectation of drawing from the landed interest and farmers a bounty equal to the allowance at the commencement of this army, and that therefore they play off. Be this as it may, I am satisfied that this is not a time for trifling, and that the exigency of our affairs calls aloud for vigorous exertions.

By sad experience it is found that the *Connecticut* regiments have deserted, and are about to desert the noble cause we are engaged in; nor have I any reason to believe that the forces of *New-Hampshire*, this Government, or *Rhode-Island*, will give stronger proofs of their attachment to it, when the period arrives when they may claim their dismission. For, after every stimulus in my power to throw in their way, and near a month's close endeavour, we have inlisted but about five thousand men; fifteen hundred of which are to be absent at a time, on furlough, until all have gone home, in order to visit and provide for their families. Five thousand militia, from this Government and the Colony of *New-Hampshire*, are ordered to be at this place by the 10th instant, to relieve the *Connecticut* regiments, and supply the deficiency which will be occasioned by their departure, and of those on furlough. These men, I am told, by officers who have been eye-witnesses to their behaviour, are not to be depended upon for more than a few days, as they soon get tired, grow impatient, ungovernable, and of course leave the service. What will be the consequence, then, if the greatest part of the army is to be composed of such men? Upon the new establishment, twenty-six regiments were ordered to be raised, besides those of the artillery and riflemen. Of these, *New-Hampshire* has three, *Massachusetts* sixteen, *Rhode-Island* two, and *Connecticut* five. A mode of appointing the officers was also recommended, and as strictly adhered to as circumstances would admit of. These officers are now recruiting, with the success I have mentioned.

Thus, sir, have I given you a true and impartial state of our situation, and submit it to the wisdom of your and the other three *New-England* Colonies, whether some vigorous measures, if the powers of Government are adequate, ought not to be adopted, to facilitate the completion of this army, without offering a bounty from the publick, which Congress have declared against, thinking the terms, exclusive thereof, greater than ever soldiers had. I have, by this conveyance, laid the matter before Congress; but the critical situation of our affairs will not await their deliberation and recommendation. Something must be done without further delay. I am, sir, &c.,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

COLONEL MOYLAN TO THE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY OF SALEM.

Cambridge, December 5, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: The brig *Kingston Packet*, *Samuel Ingersoll*, master, was taken at *Barington*, in *Nova-Scotia*, on suspicion of being engaged in business contrary to the Association of the *United Colonies*. His Excellency cannot be a competent judge of such matters; if he was, he has no time to attend to them. He therefore commands me to lay the papers which came to his hands before you, and whatever you determine on will meet the General's approbation. It is told his Excellency that the brig was to proceed to *Cape François* with her cargo; should she be permitted to proceed or not, you must be the judges.

I am, with great respect, gentlemen, your most humble servant,

STEPHEN MOYLAN, *P. T. S.*

COLONEL MOYLAN TO CAPTAIN PELEG WADSWORTH.

Cambridge, December 5, 1775.

SIR: I have it in command from his Excellency, Gen. *Washington*, to desire that you will examine the harbour of *Cape-Cod*, and see what fortifications may be necessary for the defence of its entrance, which, when you have with attention and accuracy executed, you will please to make a report thereof at Head-quarters.

I am, sir, your most humble servant,

STEPHEN MOYLAN, *P. T. S.*

COLONEL MOYLAN TO WILLIAM WATSON.

Cambridge, December 5, 1775.

SIR: By people who came out of *Boston* yesterday, we have an account that the enemy are fitting out one of the transports, which is to carry a number of guns and a large number of men; that the guns are to be concealed in such a manner as not to be perceived until a vessel comes so close as it may not be in their power to get away. She is to carry every appearance of a transport, with hay, &c., on her quarters, in order to decoy one or more of our armed vessels into her clutches. If any of the armed vessels are in your port, and are to go out any more, (I mean if *Martindale* or *Coit* can get men for their vessels,) you will please to communicate this intelligence to them.

Captain *Darby* informs me that Captain *Coit* has unjustly seized on a schooner named the *Thomas*, from *Fayal*, bound to *Salem*. It is his Excellency's commands that she be immediately delivered up to him, and that Capt. *Coit* pay for any thing that the schooner may be robbed of. It is not the intention of the Continent to interrupt good citizens in their trade. That was not the intent of fitting out these armed vessels at the Continental expense; this Capt. *Coit* would know well if he consulted the instructions given him.

I am, with great respect, sir, your most obedient servant,

STEPHEN MOYLAN, *T. P. S.*

To *William Watson*, Esq., *Plymouth*.

GENERAL COURT OF MASSACHUSETTS TO DELEGATES IN CONGRESS.

Watertown, December 5, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: We are informed by his Excellency General *Washington*, that it is his opinion the paying our troops by the lunar month will throw the rest of the army into disorder, as the Continental Congress have resolved that it is the calendar month they mean to pay by, and that the difference between the two must be considered as a Colonial and not a Continental charge.

We are sensible it is unhappy when there is any militation between the doings of any branch in a society and those of the whole, as it hath a tendency to produce a disunion and disorders consequent thereon; but such, we consider, may be the state of things, that, fully to prevent a diversity, consistent with a due regard to the greatest good, may be impossible.

The Congress have resolved that the men shall be paid by the calendar month. It may be unhappy for us, that previously we had taken a resolution diverse therefrom, with regard to our forces. You are sensible, gentlemen, that it hath been the invariable practice of this Colony to pay their troops by the lunar month, and it was with an expectation of this that our men inlisted. For us to have attempted an innovation after the service was performed, which would have been the case had we adhered to the resolution of the *American* Congress, we supposed would have produced such uneasiness in the minds of the people as could not easily have been quieted, and that it would have destroyed that confidence and esteem which every person in the community ought to have of the justice and equity of their rulers, a confidence never more necessary to be maintained than at the present day, for, without this, it would have been extremely difficult, if not impossible, for us to have continued our forces in the field.

When these circumstances are taken into consideration, and that our establishment for the pay of the men was long before any resolution was formed in the *American* Congress to pay the troops upon any conditions, therefore cannot be considered as a design in this Colony to involve the *United Colonies* in an undue expense in paying them. We trust that we shall meet with the approbation of the honourable *Congress*, and, if any inconveniences shall arise, they will be attributed to the necessity of the case.

With regard to the expense arising by the difference between the lunar and calendar months being Colonial

and not Continental, after you have fully represented the matter to Congress, we can safely confide in their determination, being assured that it will be founded in that wisdom and justice which hath ever marked their resolutions.

In the name and by order of the whole Court,

WALTER SPOONER.

To the Hon. *John Hancock*, *Thomas Cushing*, *Samuel Adams*, *John Adams*, and *R. T. Paine*, Esqs.

WILLIAM WHIPPLE TO GENERAL SULLIVAN.

In Committee of Safety, Portsmouth, December 5, 1775.

SIR: Upon Mr. *Sherburne's* arrival on *Friday* evening, expresses went, which brought the Committee together on *Saturday* in the forenoon. They immediately proceeded, with the utmost diligence, to raise the companies requested, sent off expresses to the County of *Hillsborough*, to *Concord*, &c., as well as to the neighbouring towns, with a considerable number of inlisting orders and letters to gentlemen of the greatest influence, requesting their vigorous exertions in the affair, but have no returns from the distant parts. We have had many obstacles to encounter which we did not expect, and have spent most of the time, day and night, since we met, in endeavouring to surmount them. None of the troops here would inlist before they were paid for their time here, until the last inlistment. No pay-rolls were made out before. We have had near twenty to examine and pay, and a great part to draw over and calculate, which took up a great deal of time. Many demanded pay for their time since the last inlistment, which we were obliged to comply with. Another great difficulty was, that but three out of four commissioned officers could be admitted into the companies proposed, and many clamored highly because no field-officers were to go, alledging they should be commanded by field-officers from other Colonies, which they would not submit to. Several accounts were current of naval preparations making at *Boston*, supposed for this port, which caused many to think we should be left naked if our troops were sent hence, and encouraged the officers and soldiers to expect to be continued here if they did not inlist. However, after struggling with all these and many more difficulties, we have so far prevailed as to get several companies filled up. Captains *Baker*, *Copps*, *Elkins*, *Clark*, and *Webster*, from the troops here, we expect will be on their march to-day and to-morrow. Captain *Mark Wiggin*, of *Stratham*, we hear, has raised a company, and is ready to march. Several more companies are forwarded. Captain *Denbo*, of *Lee*, inlisted near thirty men here, and went home to recruit on *Sunday*. We think there is a good prospect of near half the companies you asked for being seasonably in, from this part of the Colony. We hope the people on the western part of the Government will exert themselves. A few more than thirty-one orders have been given out, as we thought some would fail.

Strict orders have been given every one to be at the camp by the 10th instant; however, it is probable, as the time was so short, some will be later. If they should, in that case, be sent back, it will hurt the cause greatly. We shall continue our most strenuous efforts to forward the men. Colonel *Burnham* has, to his great honour, exerte himself greatly in this matter. His influence has increased the inlistment very much. He is now going forward to hasten and muster the companies, and accompany them to the camp. We commend him to your notice as a person very deserving, especially for his extraordinary zeal in this manœuvre.

In behalf of the Committee, I am your obedient humble servant,

WM. WHIPPLE.

To Brigadier-General *Sullivan*.

PROCLAMATION BY GOVERNOUR LEGGE.

By his Excellency FRANCIS LEGGE, *Esq.*, *Captain-General and Governour-in-chief in and over His Majesty's Province of* NOVA-SCOTIA *and its Dependencies, Vice-Admiral of the same, &c., &c.*

PROCLAMATION.

Whereas, in prejudice of all order and regularity, a daring and traitorous rebellion against His Majesty's person and Government at present subsists in many of His Majesty's Plantations and Colonies on this Continent:

And whereas, in pursuance of such unnatural and traitorous designs, many of the Rebels from the said Colonies have, at several times, dared to insult and make actual invasion on this Province, to the great detriment of numbers of His Majesty's faithful subjects therein:

And whereas, by such like proceedings as these, the trade of this Province may be endangered, and thereby the accustomed and lawful pursuits of its inhabitants be hindered or prevented; armed vessels fitted out by the Rebels having, at several times, traitorously and illegally seized and made prizes of vessels the property of His Majesty's loyal subjects of this Province, and particularly, of late, two armed vessels have appeared off *Canso*, where they have daringly seized and taken a schooner belonging to this Port:

To the intent, therefore, that all and such like proceedings may in future be prevented, the persons and properties of His Majesty's faithful and loyal subjects within this Province be rendered secure, and that all aiders, abetters, and correspondencers with Rebels, in arms against His Majesty's Government, may more effectually and speedily be convicted and brought to condign punishment for such atrocious and treasonable crimes, I have thought fit, and I do hereby, with and by the advice and consent of His Majesty's Council, publish and declare martial law, to be of full force within this Province, requiring all persons to take notice thereof.

And all His Majesty's officers military, are hereby required to assemble in military array, and by force of arms to repel all such invaders and all other His Majesty's enemies. And all His Majesty's civil officers, and other his liege subjects, are hereby required to be aiding and assisting therein, agreeably to the laws of the Province in that case made and provided, and to obey all such orders as they shall receive from me, or other military officers appointed by me for that purpose.

Given under my hand and seal at *Halifax*, this 5th day of *December*, 1775, and in the sixteenth year of His Majesty's reign.

FRANCIS LEGGE.

By his Excellency's command,

RICHARD BULKELEY.

GOD *save the King!*

ADDRESS OF THE NOBLEMEN, ETC., OF THE COUNTY OF CAITHNESS.

Address of the Noblemen, Gentlemen, Freeholders, Justices of the Peace, and Commissioners of Supply, of the County of *Caithness*, in general meeting assembled, transmitted to the Earl of *Suffolk*, one of His Majesty's principal Secretaries of State, and presented to His Majesty.

Unto the King's Most Excellent Majesty.

The humble Address of the Noblemen, Gentlemen, Freeholders, Justices of the Peace, and Commissioners of Supply, of the County of CAITHNESS, *in general meeting assembled.*

Most Gracious Sovereign:

Alarmed with the prospect of seeing the greatest and noblest, because the freest empire that *God* ever framed, rent in pieces by an unnatural war with *America*, and an unprovoked faction at home, which has fomented and still foments that spirit of rebellion, we your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Noblemen, Gentlemen, Freeholders, Justices of the Peace, and Commissioners of Supply of *Caithness*, at this dangerous crisis, presume to express the sentiments of duty and loyalty which animate the breasts of the inhabitants of this most northerly part of your Majesty's dominions.

We beg leave to assure your Majesty that the hearts of all your people are united in affection and gratitude to your person. That they approve highly of the lenient measures which your Majesty and Parliament have hitherto taken with regard to *America*; and that they will support with their lives and fortunes, the vigorous exertions which they foresee may soon be necessary to subdue a rebellion premeditated, unprovoked, and that is every day becoming more general.

Untainted by the vices that too often accompany affluence, our people have been inured to industry, sobriety, and, when engaged in your Majesty's service, have been distinguished for an exact obedience to discipline, and a faithful discharge of duty; and we hope, if called forth to action in one combined corps, it will be their highest ambition to merit a favourable report to your Majesty from their superior officers. At the same time, it is our most ardent prayer to Almighty *God*, that the eyes of our deluded fellow-subjects in *America* may soon be opened, to see whether it is safe to trust in a Congress unconstitutionally assembled, in a band of officers unconstitutionally appointed, or in a *British* King and Parliament whose combined powers have indeed often restrained the licentiousness, but never invaded the rational liberties of mankind.

Signed in our name, and by our appointment, by our Præses, at *Thurso*, the 6th day of *December*, 1775.

Caithness Præses.

ADDRESS OF THE MAGISTRATES, ETC., OF CUPAR IN FIFE.

Address of the Magistrates, Council, and Incorporations of the Royal Burgh of *Cupar*, in *Fife*, transmitted to the Earl of *Suffolk*, one of His Majesty's principal Secretaries of State, and presented to His Majesty.

To the King's Most Excellent Majesty.

Most Gracious Sovereign:

We, your Majesty's most loyal and dutiful subjects, the Provost, Magistrates, Council, and Incorporations of your Royal Burgh of *Cupar*, in *Fife*, beg leave humbly to testify to your Majesty our unshaken attachment to your person, family, and Government, that, sensible of the many valuable blessings we, with the rest of your Majesty's subjects enjoy, under your mild, legal, and just Government, do, with the utmost abhorrence and detestation, see an unnatural rebellion broke out in your Majesty's *American* Colonies, influenced by some restless and seditious spirits among themselves, and not a little fomented by a small disappointed faction at home; and we humbly beg leave to assure your Majesty, that (with the almost universal voice of your Majesty's *British* subjects,) we will concur, with heart and hand, life and goods, in supporting your Majesty in executing those measures you shall judge most effectual for restoring peace, liberty, and a due dependance on your Majesty, and the legislative authority of this empire, in the *British American* Colonies; where rebellion, tyranny, oppression, and confusion do at present prevail.

Signed in our name, in our presence, and at our appointment, by

JOHN BAXTER, *Provost.*

Cupar, December 6, 1775.

MEETING OF SUGAR PLANTERS AND LONDON MERCHANTS.

At a general meeting of the Planters of His Majesty's Sugar Colonies, residing in *Great Britain*, and of the Merchants of *London*, trading to the said Colonies, at the *London* Tavern, *December* 6, 1775:

BEESTON LONG, *Esq., in the Chair.*

Resolved, That a Committee be appointed to attend to the general interest of the *West-India* Planters and Merchants at this alarming crisis, and to report their proceedings to such general meetings as may be called from time to time.

Resolved, That the Committee consist of forty-three; and that the following gentlemen be named of the Committee: *Beeston Long*, *Richard Oliver*, *James Phipps*, *Samuel Turner*, *George Drake*, *Charles Spooner*, *J. L. Aikenhead*, *Stephen Fuller*, *John Kennion*, *John Bourke*, *Thomas Oliver*, *John Pennant*, *Bryan Edwards*, *John Ellis*, *Joshua Steele*, *Richard Atkinson*, *Edward Morant*, *John Brathwaite*, *Alexander Campbell*, Sir *James Cockburn*, Bart., *John Hankey*, *Samuel Eastwick*, *Godschall Johnson*, *Rose Fuller*, Sir *Philip Gibbs*, Bart., *John Jackson*, *Michael McNamara*, *William Holder*, *William Bond*, *Thomas Walker*, *Henry Dawkins*, Hon. *Thomas Walpole*, *Richard Neave*, *George Walker*, *Thomas Boddington*, *Thomas Lucas*, *Arnold Nesbit*, *James Gordon*, *Thomas Storer*, *Wastel Briscoe*, *Philip Dehany*, *Chalmer Archdekne*, *John Trevanion*, Esquires.

Resolved, That seven be a quorum to do business.

Resolved, That the said Committee be instructed to give particular attention to the Bill now depending in the House of Commons, interdicting all foreign trade with the associated Colonies, thereby confirming that agreement, of whose ruinous effects a general meeting expressed their apprehensions to both Houses of Parliament the last session, and also to certain Resolutions of the House of Commons, intending important variations in the several Acts of Parliament, which gave the produce of the *British* Plantations in the *West-Indies* a preference over the produce of the foreign.

A Petition to the House of Commons being produced by Mr. *Eastwick;* it is

Resolved, That the same be immediately referred to the consideration of the said Committee, who accordingly withdrew, and after some time reported the same with amendments.

Resolved, That the said Petition is proper to be presented to the House of Commons, and that the same be engrossed, and left for signing at the *London* Tavern till to-morrow at two o'clock in the afternoon.

Resolved, That Mr. *Alderman Oliver* be desired to present the said Petition, and that the several members interested in the *West-India* Islands, and the Representatives of *London*, *Bristol*, *Liverpool*, and the great commercial towns, be requested to attend and support the same.

Resolved, That the Thanks of this meeting be given to Mr. *Eastwick* for the above Petition.

JAMES ALLEN, *Secretary.*

The Committee having agreed to confine their present Petition merely to the subject of the Bill depending in Parliament, reserving themselves for further application on other matters, so much only of the following Petition was presented to the House of Commons as related to the Bill.

To the Honourable the Commons of GREAT BRITAIN, *in Parliament assembled.*

The humble Petition of the Planters of His Majesty's Sugar Colonies residing in GREAT BRITAIN, *and of the Merchants of* LONDON *trading to the said Colonies:*

Showeth, that your Petitioners having upon a former occasion stated and laid before this honourable House, with all the accuracy, precision and truth that were in us, the worth and value of His Majesty's Sugar Colonies in the *West-Indies*, their national magnitude and importance to *Great Britain*, their situation as depending upon their sister Colonies in *North-America*, for the maintenance of property and support of life, our fears and apprehensions of dangers and distress, arising out of the unhappy disputes subsisting between *Great Britain* and *America;* we firmly trusted, if conciliation did not render it unnecessary that these substantial motives would have made us the objects of your consideration and attention.

That, in this state of things, at first positively bad, now comparatively worse, and soon, too soon, may be superlatively bad; again do we, your Petitioners, find ourselves obliged to return, to lay our grievances before you, and to implore that relief which justice pleads for, under innocent and unmerited sufferings.

That, fixed between two contending powers, to be abandoned by both, though tied to each by the closest bands of interest, of friendship, of blood; and to be left to beggary, nay, to famine, without a helping hand from either; what scene of piteous horror more can imagination form. And yet this frightful picture is our own.

That, thrust out from our natural channel, and stopped from that course of trade which immemorial usage had rendered habitual, and till now uninterrupted, it is not in us, but in your wisdom, to say what substitute must now take place, what manner of help may be had.

That suggestions of bounties on certain enumerated goods to be procured from *Canada*, *Nova-Scotia*, and the *Floridas*, have been made, as one probable mode of assistance; but, added to the vain hope of receiving any supplies from these Colonies, alas, sorry are we to think that our wants and necessities will afford bounties of a sufficient encouragement to them, and enough to fill even the unsparing hand of extortion itself.

That another idea has been entertained of obtaining a

*

market for the disposal of our rum; an idea, though very inadequate to our purposes, yet, as it promises some advantage, and is the only anchor of hope that remains with us, we wish to cherish, and to look towards you for its effects.

That the means that have been pointed out for effectuating this measure, are in two ways: either to stop the distillation of malt spirits here, and thus admit our rum to consumption in their room, with the general impost upon it, or by taking off the general impost, to enable us to sell it at so low a price, as by increasing thereby the consumption, the increased quantity imported might, in like proportion, find its vent.

That, amidst the flattering expectation that that application might meet a forward disposition in you to relieve, our hopes are at once blasted, and cut off by the bringing in of a bill "to prohibit all trade and intercourse with the Colonies of *New-Hampshire, Massachusetts-Bay,*" &c., by which we feel ourselves considered as objects of intended punishment, rather than as faithful subjects in need of protection.

That, when the *American* Congress adopted their Non-Importation and Non-Exportation Resolve, the fears naturally arising to us from thence were somewhat abated, by a reliance on our parts of a relaxation of theirs, at least with regard to us; but lest, happily for us, this event might succeed, the present bill not only deprives us of the probability, but establishes the impossibility likewise.

That, as to the principle and general policy of the bill, these we leave to those whom they may concern; we confine ourselves merely to so much thereof as is afflicting to us.

Your Petitioners, therefore, most humbly pray, that upon this ground we may be allowed to be heard at your bar, by our agents and counsel, against the said bill, relying on your wisdom, goodness, justice, and mercy, not only for special relief in this instance, but for such other assistance as we have asked, and you can further give.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray, &c.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM SOUTH-CAROLINA, RECEIVED AT WILLIAMSBURGH, VA., DECEMBER 6, 1775.

Having an opportunity to *Virginia*, I embrace it with pleasure, to inform you what confusions we have in this Province. The upper part are against the lower part. The former call themselves King's men, and as such will not submit to the laws of the Provincial Congress; they are even raising a party to put a stop to their proceedings. Many of our lives are threatened by them. One Colonel *Fletchall*, and Colonel *Kirkland*, are at the head of this party. They have the vanity to think that they can influence the minds of the people in general, and by that means subdue the rest; then proceed to *North-Carolina* and *Virginia*, and so on, till they meet General *Gage;* then to compel the *Americans* to swallow those unreasonable acts which Lord *North* and his party have made; and after all is accomplished, they expect that the King will make one of them Generalissimo over all the Continent.

A few days past, a number of the Sons of Liberty went and took a certain Mr. *Brown*, the principal man they had that could say any thing worth hearing, and gave him a genteel suit of tar and feathers, which so exasperated his clan that they raised a company, which was coming down to take every person that had a hand in it; but the report of a few great guns, which we had luckily procured, put an entire stop to them with respect to that manœuvre.

My dear friend, only observe the vanity, pride, and ambition of these men. Let us be aware of their abominable principles, and pity such who are led by them. We have entirely overcome that body in the aforesaid quarter, and reduced them to their former submission.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM A GENTLEMAN IN HENRICO, TO HIS FRIEND IN WILLIAMSBURGH, DATED DECEMBER 6, 1775.

We that live on the river, and have fisheries, are in daily apprehension of being visited by the Upland people, and have our houses searched for salt, as it seems they are in extreme want of that article, and imagine we have laid up a superabundance. Several companies of armed men have already come down and taken it from the merchants. One company, on *Monday* last, came by my house, and went over to *Four-Mile Creek*, where they took from one gentleman fifty bushels, being part of two hundred which he had laid up for his own use. For my part, I think the case truly alarming, and may be productive of the most fatal consequences, because a man that has but little salt would not choose to have it taken from him by a person whom he doth not know. Further, the Uplanders do not, or will not, understand that more salt is necessary in the families of the poor and middling sort of people in this part of the country, than in the upper part; for they, not having it in their power to raise pork and beef, are obliged to live upon salted fish. This being the case, if the Uplanders should make an equal division of the salt which they find among us, they will have greatly the advantage; for if our poor have not salt enough to cure their fish, they must eat bread alone, because they cannot raise meat, and have not money to buy it; while the same quantity of salt in the hands of an Uplander, would cure meat enough for his family, which he can raise upon easier terms, or perhaps may have a good stock, while it is utterly out of the power of our poor to keep any stock to speak of. Thus circumstanced, some among us may be induced to make opposition to what they think the Uplanders unjustly demand, while the Uplanders, not considering the matter in the same light, will think us selfish, hard-hearted, and engrossers, which, as I before observed, may produce civil discord, and other bad consequences.

CHESTERFIELD COUNTY (VIRGINIA) COMMITTEE.

At a Committee held for *Chesterfield* County, *December* 6, 1775:

Mr. *Edward Johnston*, of *Manchester*, appeared, upon summons, to answer a charge against him of having passed to *Norfolk* in violation of a passport granted him for his safe conduct to Colonel *Woodford's* camp.

Upon hearing evidence, and Mr. *Johnston's* reasons for his conduct, the Committee are of opinion that he has wilfully violated the proclamation of the Committe of Safety, and the promise he made under which he obtained the passport; whereupon it is ordered by the Committee, that the said *Edward Johnston* do not depart this County without the leave of the Committee, except to *Hanover* Court, to return by *Saturday* next, of which order notice was given him.

Extract from the minutes:

JERMAN BAKER, *Clerk.*

At a Committee held at *Chesterfield* County, *January* 5, 1776:

Mr. *Edward Johnston*, of *Manchester*, appeared, upon a charge against him of having declared his determination, in case he was pressed to take arms in the present contest between *Great Britain* and the *United Colonies* of *America*, that he would join the Governour.

Several witnesses were sworn, and a deposition of Mr. *Thomas Bates* was read. Upon hearing of the whole matter, the Committee are unanimously of opinion that he is not guilty of the offence he stood charged with; and also ordered, that he be discharged from the injunction laid upon him by the Committee at their last meeting.

Extract from the minutes:

JERMAN BAKER, *Clerk.*

SAMUEL PATTERSON TO MESSRS. RODNEY, M'KEAN, AND READ.

Christiana Bridge, December 6, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: As our representatives in Congress, from some late vague information, I heard that gold was hard to had in the City of *Philadelphia*. To answer valuable purbe poses, I am, and was always willing to contribute my small mite to the times; I now will inform you, if you want, you can have one thousand pounds in gold; and will, for exchange, take the Congress bills as now, by that authority, circulating. If of service to the common cause, send for it, and the exchange as above. I should be glad my offers were of any service to the grand cause.

Your answer shall be punctually obeyed by your most humble servant,

SAMUEL PATTERSON.

To the *Delaware* Delegates in Congress, at *Philadelphia*.

RICHARD HENRY LEE TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Philadelphia, December 6, 1775.

DEAR SIR: The enclosed letter from Colonel *Pendleton*, came to hand two days ago, and as it will save a good deal of unnecessary writing, I send it to you. The proclamation there alluded to, we have seen. It proclaims martial law through *Virginia*, and offers freedom to all the slaves, calling their masters Rebels, &c. It seems this unlucky triumph over *Hutchings*, with his less than half armed militia, so dispirited the miserable wretches in that neighbourhood, that many have taken an oath of Lord *Dunmore's* prescribing, reprobating Congress, committees, &c. Long before this, Colonel *Woodford*, with eight hundred good men, must be arrived in those parts, and I make no doubt has forced his Lordship on board his ships again. All this would have been prevented if our troops could have crossed *James* River in proper time, but they were obstructed and forced to march high up by the men-of-war; and, indeed, such is the nature of our water-intersected country, that a small number of men provided with naval force, can harass us extremely. I have good reason to hope that, in a few weeks, the state of things in *Virginia* will be greatly altered for the better.

I thank you for your list of armed vessels, but at present no use can be made of them. I hope some of them will be fortunate enough to meet with prizes eastward.

I had not heard of your improvements on the *Kanhawa* being destroyed, and unless Mr. *Lund Washington* has received very accurate information on this head, I am yet inclined to doubt it; because I see in the treaty lately concluded with all the *Ohio Indians*, they first inform the Commissioners of the *Kanhawa* fort being burnt by some of their rash young men; but they promise to punish the offenders, and prevent repetition of the like offences. They are very precise in their information, and mention only the fort, as well as I remember. I hope, therefore, that your property may yet be safe. This treaty with the *Indians* is the more likely to last, as *Connolly*, with his little corps of officers, are now in close custody in *Maryland*, having been arrested there as they were stealing through the country to *Pittsburgh*, from whence they were to proceed to *Detroit*, and with the troops in those western parts, *Indians*, &c., he was to have done wonders. This wonderful man is now in close jail.

I congratulate you on the surrender of *Montreal*, and from General *Montgomery's* letter giving account of that event, I think we have room to expect that *Quebeck* is fallen before now. A Committee of Congress some time since sent to *Canada*, have directions to raise a regiment in that country, to invite delegates to this Congress, and to give the strongest assurances of protection to their civil and religious rights.

I am glad to hear of your getting *Cobble Hill*, and I hope it will prove useful to you. We are told that your enemy's troops are very uneasy on *Bunker's Hill*. *God* grant that their uneasiness may increase to their ruin.

No accounts yet from *England;* but ships are daily expected.

I am, with much esteem, dear sir, your affectionate and obedient servant,

RICHARD HENRY LEE.

EDMUND PENDLETON TO RICHARD HENRY LEE.

Virginia, November 27, 1775.

DEAR SIR: For want of a Committee sitting, and as it is impossible to judge what will be the sentiments of the Convention on the several points, previous to an application to the Congress for assistance to this Colony, I can say nothing on the subject of your joint letter of the 14th, but that I will lay that and former letters before the Convention, at their meeting on *Friday* next. In the mean time I will mention what has happened below, according to the loose accounts I have had, which, perhaps, may be more fully related in the papers which will accompany this.

Eight companies, with some baggage, had passed the river at *Jamestown*, and were waiting at *Cobham* for the remainder with Colonel *Woodford*, who were obliged by the navy to go up the river to pass, and did not get over till *Sunday* sen'night. In the mean time, Colonel *Joseph Hutchings*, and some others in *Princess Anne*, raised about one hundred and seventy men, and were marching to meet and join *Woodford's* corps. The Governour, hearing of this, marched out with three hundred and fifty soldiers, tories and slaves, to *Kemp's Landing*, and after setting up his standard, and issuing his proclamation, declaring all persons Rebels who took up arms for the country, and inviting all slaves, servants, and apprentices, to come to him and receive arms, he proceeded to intercept *Hutchings* and his party, upon whom he came by surprise, but received, it seems, so warm a fire, that the ragamuffins gave way; they were however rallied, on discovering that two companies of our militia gave way, and left *Hutchings* and Dr. *Reid* with a volunteer company, who maintained their ground bravely, till they were overcome by numbers, and took shelter in a swamp. The slaves were sent in pursuit of them; and one of Colonel *Hutchings's* own, with another, found him. On their approach, he discharged his pistol at his slave, but missed him, and was taken by them after receiving a wound in his face with a sword. The numbers taken or killed, on either side, is not ascertained. It is said the Governour went to Dr. *Reid's* shop, and after taking the medicines and dressings necessary for his wounded men, broke all the others to pieces. Letters mention that slaves flock to him in abundance, but I hope it is magnified. Young *Goodrich*, who brought in the powder, is sent to *Boston*. They have also taken the old man near the *Capes*, in his passage to the *West-Indies*, and, 'tis said, used him very ill; but I had not particulars. We are told *Matt Shripp* was in *Hutchings's* party, and fought bravely, so that I hope he is not really fallen off. Present my compliments to your worthy colleagues, and to Dr. *Shippen*.

I am, dear sir, your most humble servant,

EDMUND PENDLETON.

To *Richard Henry Lee*.

To the Honourable the Continental Congress:

A MEMORIAL.

By the treaty at *Easton*, the *Indians* made choice of me to superintend their business, particularly to keep up the old friendship, &c.; and the messengers sent down from the *Six Nations* having represented that their brethren in *Maryland* (the *Nantikokes*) are desirous of going with them to live with their brethren in the *Indian* country, and they apprehending that the several tracts of land in *Maryland*, on which they now live, to be their own property, are desirous of selling the same for the value thereof, have sent a messenger to me with a string of wampum, requesting my interposition, and the *Indians* are now waiting for an answer. The necessity of doing every thing in our power to cultivate harmony with the *Indians*, must appear to every person concerned for our liberties. I feel myself happy in performing any services conducive to the publick good, but look upon myself as not authorized to give these people the assistance necessary, if not appointed by Congress. The *Indians'* appointment, and Commissioners answer, appear upon the treaty now before your honourable body.

JOHN BULL.

Philadelphia, December 6, 1775.

LORD STIRLING TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

Head-Quarters, Elizabethtown, December 6, 1775, Two o'clock, P. M.

SIR: This moment a gentleman of this place is come over from *New-York*, who tells me, this morning, that a sloop arrived from *Albany*, after a very short passage, the master of which says that an express was at *Albany*, on his way to *New-York*, with an account that on Colonel *Arnold's* presenting himself before *Quebeck* the inhabitants threw open the gates and joyfully received him; that he has obtained the entire possession of that city, without the loss of a man; that General *Carleton* is on Lake *St. Francis*, between *Montreal* and *Quebeck*, and will not easily escape the vigilance of Colonel *Arnold*. I most sincerely congratulate you, and all the friends of *America*, on

this very important event; and that you may be informed of it as soon as possible, I now despatch Lieutenant *Flahavan* express with this letter.

I have the honour to be your most humble servant,

STIRLING.

The Hon. *John Hancock*, Esq.

PUNISHMENT OF THOMAS RANDOLPH.

New-York, December 28, 1775.

The 6th of *December*, at *Quibbletown*, *Middlesex* County, *Piscataway* Township, *New-Jersey*, *Thomas Randolph*, cooper, who had publickly proved himself an enemy to his country, by reviling and using his utmost endeavours to oppose the proceedings of the Continental and Provincial Conventions and Committees, in defence of their rights and liberties; and he being judged a person of not consequence enough for a severer punishment, was ordered to be stripped naked, well coated with tar and feathers, and carried in a wagon publickly round the town; which punishment was accordingly inflicted. And as he soon became duly sensible of his offence, for which he earnestly begged pardon, and promised to atone, as far as he was able, by a contrary behaviour for the future, he was released, and suffered to return to his house in less than half an hour. The whole was conducted with that regularity and decorum that ought to be observed in all publick punishments.

DECLARATION OF INHABITANTS OF QUEEN'S COUNTY, NEW-YORK.

Queen's County, Long-Island, December 6, 1775.

We, freeholders and inhabitants of *Queen's* County, seeing, in common with our fellow-subjects, the deepest anxiety and distress from the most unhappy state of affairs between *Great Britain* and the *American* Colonies, and beholding, with horror, every appearance of being involved in any the least unfriendly contention with our neighbours, countrymen, and fellow-subjects, have resolved to take every step in our power to prevent so destructive an event —an event which, if permitted to take place, will introduce misery and distress, and open wounds that many years cannot heal. Impressed with these ideas, and the most friendly disposition towards all our fellow-subjects, we make this publick declaration of our sentiments and intentions, by which we hope to obtain the approbation of every real friend to liberty.

We declare that we have not the most distant design or inclination to injure or offend any of our fellow-subjects; but if, in exercising the essential privilege of freemen, we unfortunately differed with our brethren as to the mode of bringing the present troubles to a happy conclusion, we have carefully avoided every ostentatious display of that difference in sentiment and every irritating measnre. We wish only to remain in peace, nor have we done aught to interrupt the quiet of others. So far have we been from harbouring a wish to offer violence to any, that we remained a long time destitute of the ordinary means of self-defence. We trusted that as we meant not to injure any man, so none would attempt to injure us. At length, however, we found too much reason to be apprehensive for the safety of ourselves, our families, and property. Reports have been circulated, and messages delivered to us, importing that we are to be disarmed, and some of our principal people taken in custody; that we are, in short, to be treated as enemies to our country. We call upon every man who values himself upon the inheritance of an *Englishman*, to say what he would do in such a case. Would he suffer himself to be disarmed, and tamely confess himself an abject slave? Certainly no. Can any one, then, who feels the spirit of liberty, impose that on us which he had rather die than submit to himself? Can he blame us for doing that which he most surely would do was he in our situation? Impelled by the most powerful arguments of self-defence, we have at last been driven to procure a supply of those means for protecting ourselves, of which we have been, till now, almost totally destitute; but we solemnly declare we procured them for the sole purpose of defending ourselves from insults and injuries.

And as many reports have been propagated, tending to excite the resentment of our countrymen against us, and to represent us as entirely inimical to them, we take this opportunity to declare that all such reports are wicked inventions and void of truth.

To remain peaceable and quiet, we again repeat, is our earnest desire; and breathing the most friendly disposition towards our neighbours, countrymen, and fellow-subjects, we entreat them to behold in us those endearing connections, and not suffer a difference in opinion, or mischievous and groundless reports, to hurry them into acts of violence against us, which the laws of *God* and man will justify us in resisting.

The above declarations are published as containing the sentiments and intentions of a large majority of the inhabitants of the County.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER, DATED CAMP BEFORE QUEBECK, NEAR THE GENERAL-HOSPITAL, DECEMBER 6, 1775.

DEAR SIR: I wrote you the 21st ultimo, which I make no doubt you have received. I then gave you some particulars of our march, proceedings, &c., since which General *Montgomery* has joined us with artillery, and about three thousand men; and yesterday we arrived here from *Point-aux-Tremble*, and are making preparation to attack the enemy, who are in close garrison, but cannot hold out long, as from the best accounts they are much divided amongst themselves, and a prodigious panick has seized them all. *Carleton*, we are told, is determined to hold out to the very last, as his only hope; for he can expect nothing but punishment from the Ministry, whom he hath most egregiously deceived with regard to the inhabitants of this country. All his friends, or rather his courtiers, say he could not have taken more effectual measures than he has to ruin the country.

The 22d ultimo he issued a very extraordinary proclamation, strictly ordering all who refuse to take up arms and defend the garrison, to depart the town and district within four days, with their wives and children, under pain of being treated as rebels or spies. In consequence of which a great number of the principal inhabitants came out with their families, but were obliged to leave all their property behind, except some wearing apparel and a little household furniture, &c. I enclose you a copy of the proclamation.

Among the corps who came with General *Montgomery*, is your worthy friend, Captain *Lamb*, whom I had the pleasure of seeing a few days ago at *Point-aux-Tremble*.

Our men are in high spirits, being now well clothed with the regimentals taken from the Seventh and Twentieth regiments, who were taken prisoners at *St. John's*. This is a circumstance which, I believe, the like never before happened to the *British* troops, as two regiments of them to be made prisoners at one time. Providence smiles on us in a most remarkable manner. The *Canadians* say, "surely God is with this people, or they could never have done what they have done." They are all astonished at our march through the wilderness, which they say was impossible, and would not believe our coming until they had occular demonstration of it.

We are at a great loss for intelligence from the army at *Cambridge* and other quarters, having had no certain accounts of their movements, nor the least syllable of news since we left *Newbury*.

I am astonished a regular communication has not been opened between *Montreal* and the Colonies; hope you will pay a little attention publickly to it, more especially as there are some scoundrels who with impunity open the letters directed to the officers in our army, and I suppose they continue the like infamous practice with the letters which are sent to our friends and acquaintance.

The General is now absent sending off an express, by whom I send this. I hope the next time I write you it will be from *Quebeck*; for, if the insulting foe does not surrender shortly, I believe it is the General's intention to carry the town by storm.

CONNECTICUT COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Wednesday, December 6, 1775.

At a meeting of the Governour and Council of Safety, Present: His Honour the Governour, *Jabez Huntington*,

William Williams, Nathaniel Wales, Jedediah Elderkin, Joshua West, Benjamin Huntington.

On motion by Captain *Jonathan Wells*, (present,) for directing, &c.,

Voted, That the Captain and other Officers and Sailors belonging to the armed vessel lately taken near *St. John's*, and now at *Canaan*, be disposed of by the Committee for taking care of prisoners, in such town or towns in the County of *Litchfield* as they shall judge most convenient, until further orders from the General Congress, or the Governour and this Council. Copy given.

Voted, That Captain *William Hunter*, Lieutenant *John Smith*, Dr. *Thomas Sundon*, *John Kent*, *William Kent*, and a servant of said *Smith*, who were lately taken at *St. John's*, and sent as prisoners to be quartered in this Colony, be allowed to reside within the town of *Wethersfield*, in this Colony, upon their parole of honour not to depart out of said town, until further orders from the Governour and this Committee, or from the Continental Congress. And the Committee for taking charge of and providing for prisoners, are hereby directed to provide for said Captain *Hunter*, &c., in said *Wethersfield*, in the same manner as others of their rank are provided for. Copy given.

N. B. Said Lieutenant and Doctor were present, requesting the same favour, &c.

His Honour having received a letter from General *Washington*, informing that a number of Soldiers of General *Putnam's* Regiment, &c., had deserted the service, challenging their term to be expired, &c.; that he had sent after them, &c., and much resenting their conduct, and moving that they ought to be made examples of, &c., &c., the subject-matter thereof, and their conduct, was largely discussed.

It seems the opinion that their conduct is very reprehensible, and that they are deserters, but considering their term of inlistment was very nearly expired, that it is a critical time, about forming a new Army, that perhaps it is not so well within our Province to deal with them; that the law provides, &c., and that the Assembly will probably soon be called, &c., it is best to refer the matter to them; and a letter be wrote to General *Washington* expressing these things, and our resentment of their conduct, and holding forth the zeal and firmness of the Colony notwithstanding, &c. And a letter was accordingly prepared, and considered, and submitted to the Governour's correction.

And being night, the meeting was dismissed.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL OF MASSACHUSETTS.

Cambridge, December 5, 1775.

Sir: Copies of the enclosed letter I have already written to the Governours of *Rhode-Island* and *Connecticut*, and shall do the same to the President of the Congress in *New-Hampshire*, as I conceive our affairs are in a very critical situation. It was mentioned to me yesterday, in conversation, that the militia of this Government which were ordered on to supply the places of the *Connecticut* troops, are allowed forty shillings per month of twenty-eight days. The first I highly approved of, because I was unwilling to see any invidious distinction in pay, the never-failing consequence of which is jealousy and discord. But, sir, if the General Court of this Colony have resolved on the latter, you must give me leave to add, that it aims the most fatal stab to the peace of this army that ever was given, and that Lord *North* himself could not have devised a more effectual blow to the recruiting service.

Excuse me, sir, for the strength of these expressions; if my information is wrong (I had it from General *Heath*, who says he had it from a member of your Court) they are altogether improper, and I crave your pardon for them; if right, my zeal in the *American* cause must plead my excuse.

I am, with great respect,

George Washington.

The Honourable *James Otis*, Esq., President of the Council of *Massachusetts-Bay*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GOVERNOUR COOKE.

Cambridge, December 6, 1775.

Sir: Your favours of the 28th and 30th ultimo, I received, and am to inform you that from the good character you gave of Mr. *Aborn*, I ordered the agent in whose care his vessel was, to deliver her up to him. There were other circumstances, too, that were favourable to Mr. *Aborn*, and that induced a belief that he was not inimical to our cause.

I am much obliged by your kind attention to my two letters of the 15th and 18th of *November*, and for your promise to lay the matters mentioned in the first before the General Committee, and ordering the troops which were on *Block-Island* to this camp.

I am, &c.,

George Washington.

Hon. *Nicholas Cooke*.

COLONEL MOYLAN TO SALEM COMMITTEE.

Cambridge, December 6, 1775.

Sir: The representation of the Committee of the town of *Salem* was yesterday laid before his Excellency. He orders me to assure you, that it will give him great pleasure to contribute towards the particular safety of the town and inhabitants of *Salem*, when he can do it consistent with that attention he must pay to the defence of the whole.

The shot taken on board the prize is very much wanting at camp; what are in cases cannot possibly be spared. What are loose in the hold are two sorts, twelves and sixes; of these they may have the small assortment demanded; they giving an obligation to repay the same, or their value, in order that the Continent or their captors may not be deprived of their right. On showing this to Captain *William Bartlett* and Captain *John Glover*, agents for the prize, they will deliver the shot conformable to the conditions above mentioned.

Stephen Moylan.

To *Timothy Pickering*, Esq. Chairman of the Committee of Safety and Correspondence of the Town of *Salem*.

COLONEL MOYLAN TO WILLIAM BARTLETT.

Cambridge, December 6, 1775.

Sir: I send you by the bearer two thousand dollars to defray the expense attending the military stores. Do you pay all the charges, and keep vouchers, that we may not be troubled with a multiplicity of accounts.

I am yours,

Stephen Moylan.

To Captain *William Bartlett*, *Beverly*.

JAMES SULLIVAN TO GENERAL SULLIVAN.

Watertown, December 6, 1775.

Dear Sir: I this evening received your important letter by Major *Scammel*, and have just returned from a conference with General *Washington* on the subject-matter of it. As to our paying our troops to the first of *August* by lunar months, it was our engagement with them to do it when we inlisted them, and we can by no means go from it; but I believe we shall be content to make it a Provincial charge rather than have uneasiness with the other Colonies.

I am uneasy at the backwardness of our men to engage in the ensuing campaign, and there will be nothing left undone that our Court has in its power to do, in order to facilitate the raising a new army. I have been this evening drawing a plan to lay before our Court in the morning. It is yet incorrect, but you have here a copy of it:

"The prevailing uneasiness in the army seems to arise more from a disposition in the soldiers to rule, and their opinion of their own importance, than any unjustness in their pay or treatment. This, if long subsisting, will daily obtain in their minds, and have the most probable tendency to break up the army, and therefore should be rooted out as soon as possible. But, as some of the persons who now command as subalterns, were lately neighbours to, and on a level with, the privates they command; and as the soldiery in this country are by no means dependant on the army for a living, this must be done with the greatest delicacy.

"The paying our soldiers by lunar months, or giving them a bounty, will so much enhance the expense of war, that the Southern Colonies, who bear a great part of the

expense and share none of the profits of the campaign, may prove discontented, and destroy that union which now so happily subsists. If this Colony should pay the extraordinary expense of lunar months out of its own treasury, or should bid a bounty at its own expense, the troops of the other *New-England* Colonies would, as they are on the same service, expect the same advantage, and leave the service unless they have it.

"If all the *New-England* Governments should bid a bounty, or pay the extraordinary charge of lunar months, out of their own treasury, the soldiery, by gaining this demand, would soon make another, and have from this condescension of Government such evidence of their own importance as would induce them to suppose that all their demands must be immediately complied with.

"If, therefore, some measure can be hit upon to convince the soldiers now in the camp that an army can be raised without them, they will readily inlist for the ensuing campaign.

"The Colony of the *Massachusetts-Bay* is to raise sixteen regiments. As the having so many of the inhabitants of the Colony in good wages in the present state of our affairs is a great privilege, it should be held up so to the people as an inducement to them to engage.

"It might be expedient, therefore, for the General Court to apportion, according to the tax bill of the present year, the number of privates each town is entitled to have in pay in the army; which each town should be ordered to furnish at the lines upon or before the first day of *January* next, inlisted according to the Continental establishment of the army, preference being given by each town to such of their inhabitants as shall have been in the camp this year, provided they are inlisted upon the twentieth day of *December* instant."

I am your humble, obedient servant,

JAMES SULLIVAN.

To General *Sullivan*.

If any part or all of this plan is wrong, you will give me your opinion thereon as soon as may be, that it may be altered. Your's, as above.

GENERAL FOLSOM TO NEW-HAMPSHIRE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Exeter, December 6, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: Immediately after my return home on *Sunday* afternoon, I despatched Colonel *Hobart* for *Chester*. The next morning I sent an express to Major *Bartlett*, of *Nottingham*, who is now with me. He expects to have his company full by *Thursday* night, and march them off *Friday* morning; but wants a dollar per man, which I should be glad you would give me an order for. I also applied without loss of time to several of the likeliest persons here to raise a company, but without success, till *Simeon Ladd* took the blank order for a company. He has, as yet, inlisted but three, yet refuses to give up the order till he has tried further. I have since employed *Benjamin Boardman*, of this town, and *Porter Kimball*, of *Brentwood*, who, I believe, will raise a company; *Boardman* having inlisted about twenty, and *Kimball* about the same number. Shall therefore be glad you would send up beating for them, and an order for one dollar for each of the men.

You may depend on my sparing no pains in getting the men ready to march by *Friday* morning.

I now send you by the bearer, Mr. *Ebenezer Dearing*, two hundred pounds, agreeably to your request.

I am, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

NATHANIEL FOLSOM.

MR. HARTLEY'S PLAN OF RECONCILIATION.

London, December 7, 1775.

The plan of pacification with *America*, which was moved this day in the House of Commons by Mr. *Hartley*, and seconded by Sir *George Savile*, was opened upon the following grounds: That Lord *North* having, in the beginning of the session, expressed himself to this effect: "Would to *God* that all things were as they were in 1763, if the authority of this country could likewise be replaced into the same state that it was in 1763, but that an unconditional repeal of all the acts since 1763, without some honourable satisfaction to the authority of this country, would leave this country much disgraced; declaring at the same time, that he would readily waive the point of revenue from *America*." Mr. *Hartley*, who offered last year a draft of a letter of requisition, as a plan of settlement and accommodation, while revenue was the declared object of Administration, desired to offer a proposition to Lord *North* upon the new ground that he had taken.

The substance of Mr. *Hartley's* proposition was, that if there was any sincere desire for peace, he would endeavour to join issue with Lord *North*, and to offer terms of accommodation; by which, if Ministry would consent to replace *America* to the year 1763, he should, on the other part, propose, that *America* should give full satisfaction to the point of honour; that he thought himself authorized to engage for every thing that could in reason be required from the *Americans*, under that declaration in their petition to the King; that they did not even wish for reconciliation, notwithstanding all their distresses, upon terms inconsistent with the dignity of *Great Britain;* that, taking his ground from this declaration, he should propose a recognition, not in words, but in fact, which would effectually replace the authority of this country, (be it more or less, without any invidious line drawn,) where it was in 1763. The test proposed, was the enrolling some act of Parliament by the Assembly of each Province, supposing that the act of Parliament in view should be formed upon principles of justice, and such as the Colonies would have received with a silent and thankful compliance in 1763. All recognitions in words being unavoidably both invidious and insidious, a test, bringing no line of authority or obedience into question, would be the only safe proposition. The *Americans* shall be as they were in 1763, if they will likewise admit an act of test, such as they would not have had the least scruple to have admitted in 1763. Let us throw a veil over all the theoretical disputes of the rights of subjects, either as Colonists, or as men at large; let us not discuss the rights reserved or supposed to be reserved, at their emigration, whether tacitly or explicitly; let mutual concessions on both sides bring the two parties together; let the *Americans* be replaced where they were in 1763, if they will admit and register in their Assemblies, such an act of Parliament as they themselves shall confess that they would have admitted in 1763. It is not an unreasonable request to make to *America*, that they should treat an act of Parliament, flowing from principles of general humanity and justice, with a different reception to what has been given to acts of grievance.

It is certainly dangerous to disturb questions of the rights and extent of empire or obedience, because, after that, even acts of acquiescence may be construed to involve hazardous concessions, supposed to be included in the principles which have been brought under contest. But in the state of human affairs we must not always be too scrupulous. Something must be given up for peace. A civil war never comes too late. Let the *Americans* take their situation as it was in 1763, for better and for worse. In the present miserable prospect of things that is a fair and equitable bargain. The object of the act of Parliament to be proposed to *America*, may be perhaps in the event the abolition, but at the present can only be considered as the first step to correct a vice which has spread through the Continent of *North-America*, contrary to the laws of *God* and man, and to the fundamental principles of the *British* Constitution. That vice is slavery. It would be infinitely absurd to send over to *America* an act to abolish slavery at one word, because, however repugnant the practice may be to the laws of morality or policy, yet to expel an evil which has spread far, and which has been suffered for such length of time, requires information of facts and circumstances, and the greatest discretion to root it out; and moreover the necessary length of settling such a point would defeat the end of its being proposed as an act of compromise to settle the present unhappy troubles; therefore the act to be proposed to *America*, as an auspicious beginning to lay the first stone of universal liberty to mankind, should be what no *American* could hesitate an instant to comply with, viz: that every slave in *North-America* should be entitled to his trial by jury in all criminal cases. *America* cannot refuse to accept and to enroll such an act as this, and thereby to re-establish peace and harmony with the parent State.

Let us all be re-united in this, as a foundation to extirpate slavery from the face of the earth. Let those who seek justice and liberty for themselves, give that justice and liberty to their fellow-creatures. With respect to the idea of putting a final period to slavery in *North-America*, it should seem best, that when this country had led the way by the act for jury, that each Colony, knowing their own peculiar circumstances, should undertake the work in the most practicable way; and that they should endeavour to establish some system, by which slavery should be in a certain term of years abolished. Let the only contention henceforward between *Great Britain* and *America* be, which shall exceed the other in zeal for establishing the fundamental rights of liberty to all mankind.

It is hoped that this plan may be thought definite, satisfactory, and practicable; it will be a test of sincerity to both sides. The objects of the plan are to support the dignity of *Great Britain* as the parent state, to afford redress of grievances to *America*, to restore peace to this distracted empire, and to re-unite its common interests and exertions into one common cause. The motions are as follow:

That an address be presented to His Majesty, humbly setting forth that His Majesty's subjects in *North-America*, having in the most dutiful manner laid their grievances before His Majesty, and having humbly besought the gracious interposition of his royal authority and influence to procure them relief from their afflicting fears and jealousies; and having in the most earnest terms declared their attachment to his person, family, and Government, with all the devotion that principle and affection can inspire; and having solemnly assured His Majesty, that, connected with *Great Britain* by the strongest ties that can unite societies, and deploring every event that tends in any degree to weaken them, they not only most ardently desire that the former harmony may be restored between them, but that a concord may be established upon so firm a basis as to perpetuate its blessings, uninterrupted by any future dissensions, to succeeding generations in both countries; and having further assured His Majesty, that, notwithstanding their sufferings during the course of the present controversy, their breasts retain too tender a regard for the kingdom from which they derive their origin, to request such a reconciliation as might in any manner be inconsistent with her dignity or her welfare; and that the apprehensions which now oppress their hearts with unspeakable grief being once removed, His Majesty will find his faithful subjects in *America* ready and willing at all times, as they ever have been, with their lives and fortunes, to assert and maintain the rights and interest of His Majesty, and of their mother country; and having, with all humility, submitted to His Majesty's wise consideration, whether it may not be expedient that His Majesty be pleased to direct some mode by which the united application of his Colonists may be improved into a happy and permanent reconciliation, his faithful Commons humbly beg leave to represent, that, however well disposed His Majesty's subjects in *America* may be, according to their most earnest professions to return to their former obedience and constitutional dependance, yet, that the horrors of war and bloodshed, raging in their country, must drive them to distraction and despair; and, further, his faithful Commons beg leave to recommend it to His Majesty's parental consideration, that a return to their duty, of their own free mind and voluntary compliance, would ensure a more cordial and permanent reconciliation than any reluctant submission, which, through much bloodshed of His Majesty's subjects, could be enforced by the sword: therefore most humbly to beseech His Majesty, that he will be graciously pleased to give orders for putting a stop to the further prosecution of hostilities in *America*, thereby to prevent the further destruction of the lives of His Majesty's subjects, and to afford the wished-for opportunity to his Colonists, of evincing the sincerity of their professions, by every testimony of devotion becoming the most dutiful subjects, and the most affectionate Colonists.

That leave be given to bring in a bill to empower the inhabitants of the Province of *Massachusetts-Bay* to elect an Assembly and Council, in the manner directed by the charter granted to the inhabitants of that Province, by their Majesties King *William* and Queen *Mary*, bearing date the seventh day of *October*, in the third year of their reign.

That leave be given to bring in a bill to establish the right of trial by jury, in all criminal cases, to all slaves in *North-America*, and to annul all laws in any Province repugnant thereto, and to require the registering of the same by the respective Assemblies of each Colony in *North-America*.

That leave be given to bring in a bill to establish a permanent reconciliation between *Great Britain* and its dependencies in *North-America*, and to restore His Majesty's subjects in *North-America* to that happy and free condition, and to that peace and prosperity which they enjoyed in their constitutional dependance on *Great Britain* before the present unhappy troubles, viz: as in 1763.

That leave be given to bring in a bill for a free pardon, indemnity, and oblivion.

That an humble address be presented to His Majesty, to lay the opinion of this House before His Majesty, that it may be proper, when the present unhappy disputes in *North-America* shall be brought to an amicable termination, that His Majesty should be graciously pleased to give orders, that letters of requisition be written in the accustomed manner to the several Provinces of His Majesty's Colonies and Plantations in *North-America*, and to make provision for the purposes of protecting, defending, and securing the said Colonies and Plantations.

WILLIAM DE HART TO LORD STIRLING.

Morristown, N. J., December 7, 1775.

Dear Sir: Agreeably to your request, I sent forward your letters to Colonel *Winds*. Lieutenant *Dallas* will be down with his party to-morrow evening. Some few of Captains *Howell* and *Morris's* men have abstracted themselves and refuse to appear, who have signed the muster-roll, but not reviewed; others have not, on account of the constables, &c. If it should be agreeable to your Lordship, I would send those men to the barracks for a short time, till those difficulties should be removed. *Peter Lashein*, Captain *Howell's* fifer, is in custody at *Newark*. I expect by this time your Lordship has received an answer from the Committee of Safety in respect to the appointments of the Ensigns and Lieutenants in *Howell's*, *Morris's*, and *Meeks's* companies; if so, pray let me know by the return of the bearer.

I am, sir, your most humble servant,

Wm. De Hart.

I promised Mr. *Clough* to send down Sergeant *Key* this day, but, as he is recruiting, he cannot come till he comes with *Dallas's* party.

ALBANY (NEW-YORK) COMMITTEE TO THE COMMITTEE FOR THE DISTRICT OF KINDERHOOK.

Albany Committee Chamber. December 7, 1775.

Gentlemen: We are extremely unhappy to find that the misunderstanding that has but too long subsisted in the District of *Kinderhook* is not yet compromised. A new cause of discontent has arose, in consequence of the late election held in the District for Delegates and Committees to represent the District. By what we can learn of the affair, we are apt to conclude that the gentlemen of the Committee who held the election had not seen the latter resolve of the Provincial Congress, by which persons who had a possession to the value of eighty pounds, were entitled to vote, in consequence of which none but freeholders were permitted to vote, agreeably to the first resolution, which seems to be the cause why two different polls were held, and eight members chosen instead of four. As a means to reconcile these differences, and for the sake of peace, so much wished for at this time, the Committee propose to you to take the eight members who have been returned on both polls; or otherwise propose to you to endeavour to agree amongst yourselves to take two persons from each poll, who, together, may represent your District; or, in short, to endeavour to agree on any other mode which may reconcile a dispute so detrimental to the interests of the County at this critical time. To defeat the intentions of those who are fond of promoting discord, the Committee

earnestly recommend to the District of *Kinderhook* that they will fall on such measures as will promote amongst them peace and harmony.

We are, gentlemen, your very humble servants.

By order of the Committee:

Ab'm Yates, Jr., *Chairman.*

The Committee of the District of *Kinderhook.*

KINDERHOOK COMMITTEE TO ALBANY COMMITTEE.

Kinderhook, December 18, 1775.

Gentlemen: We are so much disposed for peace at this critical juncture that we cannot but pay particular attention to every proposal of which the professed design is to promote so desirable a purpose. We have, therefore, maturely considered the contents of the letter of *December* 7th, with which you have been pleased to favour us, and we doubt not but you will exercise the same candour, with respect to our reasons, which we shall always think our duty in considering every procedure of this Committee.

When we were to carry into execution the resolutions of the Provincial Congress for the election of Deputies to represent us in Provincial Congress, and members of the Committee, we considered that they were the only rule by which we were to conduct our proceedings, and that the propriety of them was no object of our inquiry. We therefore issued a notification, which was published on the 2d day of *November*, which we now submit to the inspection of the General Committee. On that day two of us opened and attended the poll, at which many respectable inhabitants gave their votes, agreeably to the list we have delivered in; others, to the number of seven, tendered their votes, which we rejected as not having the necessary qualifications mentioned by the Congress. In the course of the election, a letter was shown to us, who superintended the poll, from Mr. *Robert Yates*, directed not to us as a Committee, but to one of the inhabitants of the District, mentioning the subsequent explanatory resolution of the Congress. About four o'clock in the afternoon, having taken all the votes which were offered, and having repeatedly signified our readiness to keep the poll open till another day, if requested, (which, however, was not done,) we closed the election, and have made our returns. You are pleased to say that you "conclude that we had not seen the latter resolve of the Provincial Congress, by which persons who had a possession to the value of £80 were entitled to vote." Upon examining that resolve, we find it declares that "tenants possessed of lands or tenements of the value," &c.; which we suppose is what you allude to. But we conceive it by no means follows that this will entitle every possessor to vote; the term tenant, in our conception, being relative to landlord, and the one necessarily implies the existence of the other. To make this material, however, in the case, it ought to be shown that any persons, even with this qualification, that is to say, "a tenant having lands, &c., to the value of £80," had offered themselves, and been refused; but this did not happen. But even admitting (what we positively deny) that all those were wrongfully rejected whose votes we refused, yet, as they were, as we have before observed, only seven in number, the Committee will find that the majority was so great for the returned Deputies and members, that it is impossible they could prevent the returns we have made from taking place, which we think is a conclusive argument against those who would carp at our proceedings. The rejection of even legal votes, in our apprehension, cannot vitiate a return, unless the majority depends upon the admission or exclusion of them, which, in this instance, is manifestly not the case. But, for your further satisfaction, we observe that it has been shown to us, that even of the * * * voters whom we rejected, no less than * * * would have voted for the members we returned, which is a proof of our impartiality that we hope impudence itself cannot gainsay.

We are clearly of opinion that, as we have already executed the powers given us by the Congress and the Committee, we could not be justified in acquiescing in the proposal of the Committee to agree with those who have taken on themselves to hold a poll, in direct violation of the resolutions of the Congress and the General Committee of the County, upon a matter which would also impeach our own proceedings. By this means we should not only countenance, but become accessaries to the irregularities of others; we should arbitrarily take upon ourselves to counteract the sentiments of the District, of those who conformed to the directions of the Congress, in order to humour those who wantonly opposed them; and how far this will promote union, or "defeat the intentions of those who are fond of promoting discord," we need not mention. Finally, how can we arrogate to ourselves the rejection of any of the members regularly chosen, or obtrude upon them colleagues whose only claim to a right of representing the District is, that they have dared to violate the rules and directions of that very body of which they are so desirous of being members?

If the General Committee had been apprised of the above facts, and adverted to the reasonings upon them, we think they would not have passed that censure upon the District which is implied in the beginning of their letter. The idea of a disunited place is a harsh one to the inhabitants of it; and, for our parts, we know of no "misunderstanding in the District," unless the clamours of a few discontented persons can be called so, who, it seems, have a higher opinion of their own merit than their neighbours have. We dare appeal to the publick records of the District for proof that the affairs of it have been conducted with a unanimity equal to that of any other; and we might remind this Committee of the weight which is due to the applications of the persons who now again appear before them, from what has happened heretofore. If there be any District or place in the County in such entire union as to have not even a few dissenting voices among them, we have not yet heard of that place, and we wish, for a trial of their patience, that the malcontents in our township might take their residence among them. We believe, however, there is no such place, and, if more frequent and louder clamours have come from the few among us, it is because they are more refractory, and have more perseverance, (but we hope are not more countenanced,) than any other. For our parts, fond as we are of union, we wish not to be united with any set of individuals at the expense of our duty, or with such who refuse to conform to any regulation which they do not themselves approve of. When the Committee consider this, they will not be surprised that "a new cause of discontent" has arisen among these people.

Upon the whole, we have conscientiously conformed to the resolutions of the Congress, according to our understanding of them, and we claim no discretionary power to contract or dispense with the directions of that body.

We remain, gentlemen, your humble servants,

Peter Vosburgh, Matthew Goes, Jr.,
Peter Van Alstine, H. V. Schaack.

COLONEL HOLMES TO CAPTAIN WYNKOOP.

Ticonderoga, December 7, 1775.

Sir: I have received a copy of a resolve of the *New-York* Provincial Congress, dated *November* 3d, directing that £13 8*s.* 7*d.* be stopped out of the pay of *Thomas Hampton*, *James Davenport*, and *Henry May*, deserters from your company.

You will make an immediate stoppage in their pay, to reimburse the said sum paid for apprehending said deserters and bringing them to *Albany*, and the expenses attending that service, so that you may account to me for the same, the Congress having, in this resolve, directed me to account to them.

I am your humble servant,

James Holmes.

Captain *Wynkoop*, Fourth Regiment *New-York* Forces, at *Fort George.*

RECANTATION OF GIDEON LOUNSBERY.

Stamford, Connecticut, December 7, 1775.

Whereas I, the subscriber, have, at divers times, spoken many things in time past which have been taken as unfriendly to *American* liberty, and also have inadvertently and inconsiderately spoken disrespectfully of the honourable Continental Congress, and have endeavoured to bring their persons and doings into contempt, I do, in this pub-

lick manner, humbly ask the forgiveness of my bleeding country in general and of this town in particular, for my misconduct in so doing; and do hereby, in the most solemn manner, promise and engage, that for the future I will faithfully adhere to any resolve of the Continental Congress, or any recommendation coming from that honourable body, and will, to my utmost, exert myself in opposition to the Ministerial troops sent into this country to dragoon us into slavery. And do further, in consequence of the above confession and declaration, humbly request the Committee of the town of *Stamford* to revoke the sentence they have heretofore given against me as being an enemy to *American* liberty, and that I may be received and looked upon as a true friend to the grand *American* cause. And whereas it has been alledged against me that I have publickly said that I could raise five hundred men to join the King's forces against the American troops, which expressions I do not remember ever to have made use of; I do hereby declare my aversion and disapprobation to any such measures.

In testimony of my sincerity, I have hereunto set my hand the day and date above written.

GIDEON LOUNSBERY.

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Lebanon, December 7, 1775.

SIR: Your Excellency's letter of the 2d instant, per Captain *Clarke*, came to hand the 4th.

The late extraordinary and reprehensible conduct of some of the troops of this Colony, impresseth me, and the minds of many of our people, with grief, surprise, and indignation, since the treatment they met, and the order and request made to them was so reasonable, and apparently necessary for the defence of our common cause and safety of our rights and privileges, for which they freely engaged; the term they voluntarily inlisted to serve not expired, and probably would not end much before the time, when they would be relieved, provided their circumstances and inclination forbid their undertaking further. Indeed, there is great difficulty to support liberty, to exercise government, to maintain subordination, and at the same time to prevent the operation of licentious and levelling principles, which many very easily imbibe. The pulse of a *New-England* man beats high for liberty. His engagement in the service he thinks purely voluntary; therefore, in his estimation, when the time of inlistment is out, he thinks himself not holden without further engagement. This was the case in the last war. I greatly fear its operation amongst the soldiers of the other Colonies, as I am sensible this is the genius and spirit of our people.

I have the pleasure to inform you, that the people of the towns where the most of the men belong, were so greatly affected with their unreasonable conduct, that they would readily march to supply their places. This is not thought advisable, as your Excellency made no such application.

Our laws against desertion are well calculated to punish such as are guilty; provision is made effectually to discover and punish such offenders. I think it necessary some examples should be made, especially of the ringleaders; of this care will be taken.

The officers, by the act of Assembly appointed paymasters of their companies, not likely to return soon, and many might be uneasy for want of their wages, to obviate this I advised three gentlemen of our Pay-Table Committee to proceed to the camp with money, to take your direction and advice therein, to settle the rolls and pay the wages of the men; taking care for the publick arms and ammunition, for minors, and apprentices.

The union of the Colonies, and the internal union of each, is of the utmost importance.

I determine to call the General Assembly of this Colony to meet at *New-Haven*, on *Thursday*, the 14th instant. Please to notify me of any matters you think proper to suggest for their consideration. You may depend on their zeal and ardour to support the common cause, to furnish our quota, and to exert their utmost strength for defence of the rights of these Colonies.

Your candour and goodness will suggest to your consideration, that the conduct of our troops is not a rule whereby to judge of the temper and spirit of the Colony.

I am, with great sincerity and regard, sir, your most obedient humble servant.

JONATHAN TRUMBULL.

His Excellency General *Washington*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read December 16, 1775.]

Cambridge, December 7, 1775.

SIR: I wrote you the 4th instant, by express, to which I beg you will be referred. My fears that *Broughton* and *Selman* would not effect any good purpose, were too well founded; they are returned, and brought with them three of the principal inhabitants from the Island of *St. John's*. *Mr. Callbeck* is President of the Council, and acted as Governour. They brought the Governour's commission, the Province seal, &c. As the Captains acted without any warrant for such conduct, I have thought it but justice to discharge these gentlemen, whose families were left in the utmost distress.

I am credibly informed that *James Anderson*, the consignee and part owner of the ship *Concord* and cargo, is not only unfriendly to *American* liberty, but actually in arms against us, being Captain of the *Scotch* company at *Boston*. Whether your being acquainted with this circumstance or not will operate against the vessel and cargo, I will not take upon me to say; but there are many articles on board so absolutely necessary for the army, that, whether she is made a prize of or not, we must have them.

I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient humble servant,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq., President of the Congress.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GOVERNOUR COOKE.

Cambridge, December 7, 1775.

SIR: Your favour of the 4th instant I this moment received, advising of the taking of the captain and midshipman of one of the King's armed schooners. You will be pleased to take their parole of honour not to leave *Northampton*, where you will have them sent, where are several other officers prisoners.

I am, sir, &c.,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To Governour *Cooke*, *Rhode-Island*.

P. S. As soon as the deficiency is known, I will inform you; for the present I beg leave to refer you to the other letters which will be handed you by Colonel *Babcock*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO PORTSMOUTH (NEW-HAMPSHIRE) COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Cambridge, December 7, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: *Richard Emms*, a prisoner at *Portsmouth*, having expressed a strong desire to go to his family and friends in the *West-Indies*, in a schooner which is about to go there, you will be pleased to grant him a permit for that purpose, unless there should be objections against it, which I am not apprised of.

I am, &c.,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To the Committee of Safety at *Portsmouth*.

RICHARD DERBY, JUN., TO JOHN MORLAND.

Salem, December 7, 1775.

SIR: On Mr. *Gray's* return I delivered your letter to the Committee of this town, and urged their taking the capture of the brig *Kingston Packet* into consideration; but, as the matter was novel to them, they have declined it, at the same time observing that there does not appear the least cause to detain the vessel; for, admitting she was at *Nova-Scotia* contrary to the General Association, (which is not by any means the case,) it points out another method of punishment very different from that of forfeiture of property.

I am very sorry my health does not admit of my making a personal application to the General on this occasion; and as it does not I must beg leave to refer you to the bearer,

Mr. *Gray*, and to the master, for any information; and, not having the least doubt but his Excellency will give orders for vessel and cargo to be immediately restored to master. I am, sir, your most obedient servant,

RICHARD DERBY, JUN.

John Morland, Esq.

JOHN PICKERING TO STEPHEN MOYLAN.

Salem, December 7, 1775.

SIR: It having been referred to the Committee of Safety and Correspondence of this town, to determine whether the brig *Kingston Packet, Samuel Ingersoll*, master, taken at *Nova-Scotia*, on suspicion of being engaged in business contrary to the Association of the *United Colonies*, should be permitted to proceed on her voyage or not, the Committee beg leave to assure you, sir, that it is not from any desire to avoid doing the utmost service in our power for our country, that we must decline giving our judgment in a matter of this importance. It appears many merchants have considered the prohibition in the same light with the owner of the above brig—many vessels being thus employed. Should the Committees in different towns give different judgments, it would lead to great difficulties. We must therefore request that this important question be determined by judges whose jurisdiction is general.

I am, sir, in the name and by order of the Committee of Safety and Correspondence of *Salem*, your most humble servant,

JOHN PICKERING, JUN., *Chairm. P. T.*

Stephen Moylan, Esq.

JOHN WAITE TO JOHN ADAMS.

Falmouth, December 7, 1775.

SIR: I understand you are appointed one of the Committee to receive accounts of the damage done by the Ministerial troops and navy in this Colony. Beg leave to enclose you an account of the damage I suffered by removing from my Island for your inspection.

I am, sir, your humble servant, JOHN WAITE.

Hon. *John Adams*, Esq.

Falmouth, December 7, 1775.

The town of *Falmouth* being burnt by the Ministerial troops and navy the 18th of *October* last, I, the subscriber, being apprehensive of their coming to the Island of *Chebeague*, in *Casco-Bay*, where my family and a considerable large stock of horned cattle and sheep then were, applied to the gentlemen of the Committee of Safety, to know if they purposed to continue a guard on said Island, as they had hitherto done. Being answered that they did not, I moved immediately from said Island to the country, back to the town of *Falmouth*, (distance from said Island being twelve miles,) with my family and stock, consisting of thirteen persons, twenty-four head of horned cattle, two hundred sheep, household goods, &c., leaving behind me one new house, forty-nine by thirty-eight, two stories, two-thirds finished; three old houses, twenty by eighteen, one story; eight hundred acres of land, about one hundred acres of the same clear.

The damage I sustained thereby I humbly submit to the Committee appointed by the honourable Continental Congress.

From their humble servant,

JOHN WAITE.

I think the damage not less than two hundred pounds. If they should be of opinion it is more, or less, I am content.

J. W.

ADVICES FROM THE INTERIOR OF SOUTH-CAROLINA.

Charlestown, December 8, 1775.

We are glad to inform our readers that the troubles which have lately disturbed our Western frontiers, are now in a great measure removed; and, from the measures adopted by the Provincial Congress, and pursued by the Council of Safety, we have now a prospect of peace and quietness in a very short time being restored in those parts.

The following is the best account of the late transactions in that quarter that we have been able to collect:

About six weeks ago, Mr. *Robert Cunningham*, of *Ninety-Six*, who had taken a very active part in the disturbances last summer, and who refused to accede to the Treaty concluded by the Hon. *William Henry Drayton* with the insurgents, was taken prisoner, brought to town, and put in jail, where he still remains. His friends, upon being informed of this, gathered in a body, with his brother, *Patrick Cunningham*, at their head, intending, as is supposed, to make reprisals. Our late Council of Safety at that time had sent one thousand pounds of gunpowder, and one thousand pounds of lead to the lower *Cherokee Indians*, who were in great want of ammunition for hunting, and who had given the strongest assurances of observing a strict neutrality in the present unhappy dispute. This *Cunningham's* party determined to take possession of, which they easily effected, it being escorted only by a few rangers, whom they allowed to depart.

The Congress was sitting when advice of this outrage was received, and they determined immediately to adopt such measures as would effectually prevent the like in future. They accordingly ordered Colonels *Richardson, Thomson, Neel*, and *Thomas*, to march with a body of rangers and militia. Major *James Maylon*, with about forty-six men of the rangers, and Major *Andrew Williamson*, with about four hundred and sixty of the militia, hearing that the insurgents were increasing daily in numbers, and threatening, while there was no apparent opposition, to ravage the country, joined their forces; and, upon the 17th of last month, having received certain intelligence that the enemy were within a few miles of them, hastily erected a slight square breastwork of old fence rails, joined to a barn, on a spot of cleared ground, on which, in proper places, they fixed a few swivel guns. On the next day, and before the breastwork was quite finished, they were surrounded by about two thousand of the malcontents, that were led on by Major *Joseph Robinson*, who sent a message to Majors *Maylon* and *Williamson*, desiring that they and their men should lay down their arms and surrender themselves prisoners, which was rejected with disdain. The jail, which is about three hundred yards distant from the fort, was taken possession of by *Robinson's* party, who had likewise cut off all communication between the stockade and the only spring of water near it. On the same day they took two men belonging to the rangers or militia prisoners, upon which there began a smart firing on both sides, and was continued with little intermission till *Tuesday* at sunset. Notwithstanding the party in the fort were without water near two days, yet, animated by the example of their commanders, they determined to endure every extremity rather than submit.

On *Tuesday* evening Major *Maylon* received a message from Major *Robinson*, offering a cessation of hostilities for twenty days, which was agreed to. At that time Majors *Maylon* and *Williamson* had nearly expended their ammunition, a circumstance they had the address to conceal from their men.

Of our party, fourteen were wounded; one mortally. Of the enemy, it is known several (some say fifty-two) were killed, and many wounded; but particulars are concealed. That their loss exceeds ours is not to be doubted, else why should two thousand men make advances for a suspension of hostilities to five hundred, whom they had a few days before insolently demanded to surrender at discretion?

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO COMMITTEE OF FREDERICK, MARYLAND.

Philadelphia, December 8, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: Your letter of the 24th of *November* last, being received, was laid before Congress, and I am directed to inform you that the Congress highly approve your conduct and vigilance in seizing *Cameron, Smith*, and *Connolly*.

I do myself the pleasure of enclosing you a resolution of Congress, respecting the place of their confinement; and I am directed to desire you, in pursuance of said resolution, to send the prisoners under guard to *Philadelphia*.

I am, gentlemen, &c.,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

To the Committee of *Frederick* City, *Maryland*.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO NEW-ENGLAND COLONIES.

Philadelphia, December 8, 1775.

On the 2d instant, I forwarded to you, by order, the resolutions of the Congress, directing such soldiers as will reinlist to be paid their wages for the months of *October*, *November*, and *December*, and moreover one month's pay in advance; and desiring you to exert your utmost endeavours to promote the recruiting service in the army, as well as in your particular Colony.

By letters since that, from the General, the Congress are informed that, from the 19th to the 28th of *November*, not more than two thousand five hundred and forty reinlisted, and that only nine hundred and sixty-six had reinlisted before that time. The situation of the General and army is the more alarming, as General *Howe* is well apprised of this matter, and will no doubt, on the first favourable opportunity, avail himself of the information. I need not inform you what pain the Congress feels at this want of publick spirit and backwardness in the soldiers to reinlist; nor need I paint to you the dreadful consequences that must ensue, should the lines be abandoned and the General deserted at a critical moment. I am therefore desired to forward the enclosed resolution of Congress, and to request you to exert yourselves in defence of our common liberties, by affording the General all the aid in your power, and to comply with his request for the assistance of the militia, whenever he may find it necessary to apply for it.

I have the honour, &c.,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President.*

To the Council of *Massachusetts-Bay*, President of the Convention of *New-Hampshire*, and Governours of *Rhode-Island* and *Connecticut*.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Philadelphia, December 8, 1775.

SIR: Your letter of the 28th of *November*, by Captain *Blewer*, being received, was immediately laid before Congress.

By my letter of the 2d inst., which I hope you will in due time receive, you will perceive the Congress have, in a great measure, prevented your wishes, having written to *New-York*, and given orders to General *Schuyler* to supply you with and to forward, with all possible expedition, what cannon can be spared. They have also directed General *Schuyler* to make diligent search for lead; and retaining so much as may be wanted there, to send the remainder to your camp. However, it is hoped the gentlemen you have sent will expedite that business.

By order of Congress, I forward a commission for Mr. *Knox*, who is appointed Colonel of the Regiment of Artillery. The Congress also have relieved your difficulties with respect to the two battalions of Marines, having ordered that the raising them out of the army be suspended. It is the desire of Congress that such a body of forces may be raised; but their meaning is, that it be in addition to the army voted; and they expect you will think of proper persons to command that corps, and give orders for inlisting them wherever they may be found.

The Congress are sensibly affected with your situation, and regret the backwardness of the troops to reinlist. In addition to what I had the honour of transmitting you the 2d instant, they have desired me to enclose you a copy of a resolution passed yesterday, and to write to the Council of *Massachusetts-Bay*, the Convention of *New-Hampshire*, and the Governours of *Rhode-Island* and *Connecticut*, acquainting them with the present state of the army, and enclosing copies of the resolutions of this Congress, relative to your being empowered to call forth the militia of those Governments on any emergency, and requesting those Colonies to exert themselves in defence of our common liberties, by affording you all the aid in their power, and to comply with your request for the assistance of the militia, whenever you may find it necessary to call for it.

The gentlemen with the money set out to-day. I hope the arrival of this will relieve some of your difficulties, and that the payment of the arrears, and the month's advance which you are empowered to offer, will induce many to reinlist, who seem not to be actuated by nobler motives.

By letters received yesterday, we learn that Colonel *Arnold*, after a fatiguing march, had reached *Canada*, where he was well received by the inhabitants; that on the 14th of *November*, he had reached *Point-Levi*, and was preparing to pass the river that night; that, notwithstanding his being deserted by Colonel *Enos*, he had great hopes of gaining possession of *Quebeck*, as both the *English* and *Canadian* inhabitants were well-affected to our cause; that *Carleton*, with the ships under his command, was stopped in his passage down the river by a fort in our possession, at the mouth of *Sorel*, and some row-galleys; and that General *Montgomery* was preparing to attack him from *Montreal*; but of these matters you will doubtless be more fully informed by an express, which we understand was despatched to you from *Ticonderoga*.

I have the honour to be, &c.,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President.*

To General *Washington*.

THOMAS LYNCH TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

December 8, 1775.

DEAR SIR: Your favour, by Captain *Blewer*, gives me infinite concern, not less on yours than on the account of the Continent. Providence favours us every where. Our success in every operation exceeds our most sanguine expectations; and yet when *God* is ready to deliver our oppressors into our hands, that men cannot be found willing to receive them is truly surprising.

With grief and shame it must be confessed that the whole blame lies not with the army. You will find your hands straitened instead of strengthened. What the event will be, it is impossible to foresee. Perhaps it is only intended to force the Continent into their own terms, and to show that neither General or Congress shall be permitted to control the army; perhaps to mortify the favourites of Congress. Be this as it may, resolution and firmness ought to rule our councils; a step yielded to improper and intemperate demands may be irretrievable.

I shall not take upon me to advise; it is as improper as it is needless. Your riflemen, negroes, and deserters, may, in proper passes, defend your artillery, ammunition, and stores. Should your lines be deserted, and the glorious golden opportunity of ending the war be lost, let not hope be lost also. We have, in the *York* papers, an account of your having taken an invaluable transport, and you have doubtless heard of *Arnold's* arrival at *Quebeck*. I hope both may end as we wish. The addition of arms and ammunition in the transport, according to report, must be most important to you. O! had you but an army.

My best compliments to your lady and family, and to all my acquaintance in the army. I told General *Gates*, *Mifflin*, and others, I should be much obliged to them could they send me a good drummer. They have forgot me.

One of our members of Congress sets out to-day for *New-England*. Whether his intents be wicked or not, I doubt much; he should be watched. Ship news, that the *Floridas* have been taken; but it is not credited. If true, I have no doubt but that it is with the consent of our court. *God* give you health and spirits to control all opposition.

Your sincere friend and most humble servant,

THOMAS LYNCH.

To General *Washington*.

P. S. Command me freely, whenever you please.

JOHN MARKS TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

New-York, December, 1775.

Your petitioner humbly desires to be employed in that useful and much needful business of nail-making; and as your petitioner has followed that business formerly, he hopes to give satisfaction to the publick. And as the aforesaid article will be much wanted in the spring, he would set the business up immediately, that the publick might be punctually served in such useful articles. And whereas it will be necessary to have a good quantity of iron and coal, which, if not purchased soon, will render your petitioner unable to carry on the aforesaid business, he having a family of seven children; and having for some time past followed the shipsmith branch, which is now at a stand, and as he is possessed of tools, and fires for eight men to work by, which he will endeavour to get to the employ, (if not, he will take boys, and teach them, which will be of

great service to the publick,) your petitioner humbly prayeth the honourable the Congress will take into consideration, and allow him a little forehand cash, to enable him to carry on the work; and what work he gives in weekly, will pay a moiety towards the advanced money; and the work done at the lowest prices.

If the above is agreeable, and meets with acceptance, your petitioner will forever pray.

JOHN MARKS.

To the Honourable the Provincial Congress.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

Albany, December 8, 1775.

SIR: In the last letter which I had the honour to address you, I took the liberty to recommend to Congress to send three thousand men to this place, that they might seize the first opportunity of marching into *Canada*. Such a measure then appeared to me to be prudent Unfortunately for us, it now seems indispensably necessary, as the enclosed letters from General *Montgomery* and Colonel *Arnold* will evince; for we ought not to depend too much on the *Canadians*. Should Congress be in sentiment with me on this matter, I could wish for the most early advice, whether I am to issue as many more warrants for raising men as to complete a regiment with the four companies now levying, and which were intended for the garrisons of *Fort-George* and *Ticonderoga*. If so, as Colonel *Van Schaick*, Lieutenant-Colonel *Yates*, and Major *Gansevoort*, wish to remain in the service, whether I may give them assurances that they will be continued.

The common shoes worn in the country are by no means proper for a winter march. The troops, if any are to go to *Canada*, should therefore be provided with *Canadian* moccasins, which, I believe, will cost about four shillings, or four and six pence a pair; a thick woollen cap to cover their ears; a pair of *Indian* stockings; and a good pair of mittens.

By the tenor of the officers' commissions, I cannot discharge even those who have quitted the service, and they expect to be paid up to the day to which the men were inlisted.

I have received no accounts from any of the Colonies, of what money has been advanced to the troops raised in them; so that I cannot possibly settle their accounts, nor pay off the men, nor even advance a single shilling, unless Congress will direct me to do it at hazard, and abide by the loss. I assure you, sir, that for the want of these accounts, I am not only put into a very disagreeable situation, but our cause will suffer extremely. Numbers that have gone home, have swore most bitterly that they will never re-engage in the service. Pray, is there not a danger that such people may join our enemies, to which they will be prompted by the malignants, who have now such good materials for the purpose. Permit me, therefore, most earnestly, to entreat Congress that I may be furnished, without the least delay, with those accounts.

The barracks in this place are out of repair. I propose to employ carpenters to mend them, and have requested the opinion of the gentlemen of the Committee on this intention, which they approve of, as they also do of appointing a barrack-master and conductor of the artillery, both of which wi l save thrice their pay in six months.

Lieutenant *Halsey*, of the troops raised in *Connecticut*, and of whom General *Montgomery* complains, has been excessively troublesome during the whole campaign, and deserved to have been dismissed the service soon after my coming to the command. The time for which he engaged to serve is expired. He can therefore only be punished by stopping his pay, unless he will submit to be tried by a court-martial.

The expense that we are put to by the prisoners, runs amazingly high. I wish some means could be fallen upon that they might receive their pay. Would it not be well if a month's pay was offered them for their bills on General *Howe*, in *Boston*. If he accepts them, we get hard cash; if not, we are just where we are; for they may be told that they are not to have any more, and that a bare subsistence only will be allowed them in future.

Of upwards of one hundred batteaus which we built, I am confident twenty-five or thirty will be lost, as they have been left by the lake-side, all the way between *Onion* river and *Skenesborough*, by soldiers that took that route homewards.

I found, on my arrival here, about sixty of the *Six Nations*. To-day, we have had their congratulatory speech, and on *Monday* they are to proceed to business. Not having had a moment's time to myself since my arrival here, which was last night, I have not been able to learn the intention of this visit. No Commissioner but Mr. *Dorr* and myself are here; and there being five, we may be blamed for acting; but necessity drives us to it. Perhaps Congress may think proper to add two or three more out of this place.

I am informed that some of the prisoners have behaved exceeding ill. I shall have the affidavits taken in support of the charges made against them, as soon as I can find a little time, and transmit them to Congress. The Committee of *Albany* have also complained to me of a Mr. *McCoy*, who is a prisoner cherished by some people extremely inimical to us. His abuse has gone to every body indiscriminately. I shall immediately send him to *Connecticut*, under a guard.

Colonel *Knox* is now at *Ticonderoga*. I have arranged matters in such a manner as that I hope all the artillery he wants will be at *Fort George* in a few days, from whence it will be carried to *Boston*, as soon as the roads will permit.

I am pretty confident that a reinforcement might be sent to General *Montgomery*, even before the ice on *Lake Champlain* will be strong enough to bear, by a route hitherto not attempted, and I believe with very little difficulty. I shall immediately employ two trusty men to ascertain this.

My letter, alluded to in the first paragraph of this, was only last night delivered to Mr. *Livingston*, so that it goes by this express.

I am informed that several officers in our army sent a very insulting message to General *Montgomery*, because he had shown some indulgence to a few of the officers that were made prisoners. This turbulent and mutinous spirit will tend to the ruin of our cause; and the necessity of checking it immediately, and taking measures to prevent it in future, strikes me so forcibly, that I take the liberty to observe that it is worthy of the immediate attention of Congress. I speak the more freely on this subject, as I would not wish that General *Montgomery* and my successors, whoever they may be, should lead the disagreeable life we have done.

I am, sir, with esteem and respect, your most obedient and most humble servant,

PHILIP SCHUYLER.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq., &c.

ABRAM DAVENPORT TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Stamford, December 8, 1775.

RESPECTED SIR: Mr. *Selleck* and Mr. *Bates*, two of my neighbours, own a vessel of about fifty tons, with which they are desirous to make voyage to the *West-Indies*, to carry cattle and provisions, and bring back military stores, if a permit can be obtained of your Honour for that purpose. I suppose that it is expected that Mr. *Bates* will go master, if the vessel is permitted to go. I believe he may be depended upon; and I do not know a man better calculated for the business. The vessel is said to be a prime sailer. We have but a few pounds of powder in our town stock, and I believe it will be universally agreeable to the inhabitants of our town that a permit should be granted them. At the desire of Mr. *Bates*, I write this. He informs me that Mr. *Selleck* will apply to your Honour for the permit, and will give bond, (if required,) for the faithful conduct of the master. Mr. *Selleck* is a man of considerable interest, and his bond will be quite sufficient.

I am, with the greatest esteem and respect, your Honour's most obedient and humble servant,

ABRAM DAVENPORT.

Honourable Governour *Trumbull*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GENERAL SULLIVAN.

Cambridge, December 8, 1775.

SIR: The intention of yesterday's order, respecting the review of the *Connecticut* troops, is only to afford a good

opportunity of making choice of such of their arms as shall be found fit for the use of the new army.

I am not without my fears, that if they are apprized of the intention, some of the best arms will be secreted. For this reason I desire you will say nothing of the matter till the regiment (in your brigade) is paraded, and then, in company of the field-officers of it, make choice of all the arms that are good, taking the names of the proprietors of them, that they may be lodged, valued, and paid for agreeably to the general order of the 23d ult.

I am, sir, your most humble servant,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To Brigadier-General *Sullivan, Winter-Hill.*

ROBERT H. HARRISON TO BRIGADIER-GENERAL THOMAS.

Cambridge, December 8, 1775.

SIR: I have it in command from his Excellency to inform you that it is very agreeable to him that Captain *Hazleton* should fill the vacancy occasioned by the resignation of Doctor *Chapin*, especially as he seems to have been neglected before this by some oversight, and to be deserving, from the recommendation mentioned in your favour of this date. I am, &c.,

R. H. HARRISON, *A. D. C.*

COLONEL MOYLAN TO SALEM COMMITTEE.

Cambridge, December 8, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: What is the breach of the Association, or what is not, the General has not time, nor indeed does he think himself a competent judge to decide upon; that surely comes under the cognizance of Committees of Safety.

The General thinks the officers on board the armed vessels have deviated from the line of their instructions, though perhaps not from the spirit of them, by taking this brigantine.

From this principle, which his Excellency is of opinion is a just one, he delivers up to the owner his vessel and cargo.

Your most humble servant,

STEPHEN MOYLAN, *P. T. S.*

To *John Pickering*, Esq., Chairman of the Committee of Safety and Correspondence, *Salem.*

COLONEL MOYLAN TO JOHN GLOVER.

Cambridge, December 8, 1775.

SIR: I am commanded by his Excellency to desire you will put Mr. *Richard Derby* in the proper road to get his brig *Kingston Packet*, and her cargo, into his possession. Whether she is to proceed on her intended voyage to the *West-Indies* or not the General cannot himself determine; that is the business of Committees of Safety. The General is determined to have no further trouble with this vessel. You will, therefore, sir, manage the matter so as Head-quarters may hear no more of her. I beg you will be attentive to Mr. *Callbeck's* goods. Let him have every thing that he has been so cruelly pillaged of. The potatoes on board the *Scotch* vessel should be sold.

I am truly yours,

STEPHEN MOYLAN.

To Colonel *John Glover, Marblehead.*

GENERAL SULLIVAN TO NEW-HAMPSHIRE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Winter-Hill, December 8, 1775.

MUCH RESPECTED GENTLEMEN: Your favour, signed by Colonel *Whipple*, is now before me. But previous to the receipt thereof, common fame, with his usual readiness, had proclaimed your vigorous exertions, and the noble spirit of your people. General *Washington*, and all the other officers, are extremely pleased, and bestow the highest encomiums on you and your troops, freely acknowledging that *New-Hampshire* forces, for bravery and resolution, far surpass the other Colonies; and that no Province discovers so much zeal in the common cause. Though I wish the troops may all arrive before the 10th instant, yet none will be refused on account of their being a few days later. I applaud Colonel *Burnham's* zeal, and shall show him every mark of esteem in my power.

I am, gentlemen, with gratitude and esteem, your most obedient servant,

JOHN SULLIVAN.

Honourable Committee of Safety.

PROCLAMATION BY GOVERNOUR LEGGE.

By his Excellency FRANCIS LEGGE, *Esquire, Captain-General and Governour-in-chief, in and over His Majesty's Province of* NOVA-SCOTIA, *and its Dependencies, Vice-Admiral of the same, &c., &c., &c.*

A PROCLAMATION.

Whereas great mischiefs and inconveniences may and are like to ensue from permitting strangers, who may be in the interest of the Rebels, to resort to the town of *Halifax*, and by that means obtaining and conveying to them intelligence which may prove highly prejudicial to His Majesty's service:

I do therefore hereby strictly order and command all persons, not settled inhabitants of this place, who, since the 30th day of *September* last, have, or who hereafter shall, come into the town of *Halifax*, to repair themselves immediately to *Thomas Procter*, or *Thomas Bridge*, Esquires, two of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the County of *Halifax*, to signify their names and places of abode, together with the occasion of their coming into town; upon pain of being considered and treated as spies, if they remain therein the space of two hours without their repairing to either of the Justices aforesaid.

And I do likewise strictly order and command all tavern-keepers, keepers of publick houses, and all persons who shall receive any stranger or strangers after the publication of this Proclamation, to report the name, place of abode, with the occasion of their coming, in like manner to one or other of the persons aforementioned, within two hours after the coming of such stranger or strangers, upon the like pain and peril as herein before expressed.

And whereas it has been reported that sundry strangers have been landed in the Northwest arm, and by that means have come into this town in the night season, and that the same may be of dangerous consequences:

I do therefore hereby order and strictly forbid any ship, boat, or other vessel, entering into that part of this harbour, either by day or night, without first obtaining license from me, or from such persons as I shall appoint for that purpose; upon pain of being considered and treated as spies.

Given under my hand and seal at arms, this 8th day of *December*, in the sixteenth year of His Majesty's reign.

FRANCIS LEGGE.

By His Excellency's command:

RICHARD BULKELEY.

GOD *save the King.*

London, December 9, 1775.

There is now a bill in the House of Commons which will finally pass there next *Tuesday*, and will most assuredly pass all the branches of the Legislature of *England*. A copy of this bill perhaps may reach *America* by this opportunity, or some other, before it is sent over in the formal manner by Government. By this bill all intercourse whatsoever, by sea, is cut off and prohibited from *America*, or any part thereof, with the rest of the world. And all ships, in any harbour in the Thirteen *United Colonies*, are thereby made liable to seizure, and a legal prize, with every thing on board, let the property be *British*, foreign, or *American*. All ships or vessels, the property of whatsoever nation, bound to or from *America*, are liable to the same penalty. This act empowers the K—g to send over Commissioners to treat with *America;* the Ministers have already settled the powers with which they are to be entrusted. They certainly go no further than authorizing them to receive the unconditional submission of any separate Province, Town, or County, and issue proclamations, and grant pardons, excepting to particular persons; but the secret object of their embassy is to sow dissensions among the Provinces, and the members of the General Congress, by bribery and every artifice; of which they entertain great hopes of success, from the supposed cool-

ness between Mr. *D—k—s—n*, of *Pennsylvania*, and Mr. *J— Ads*, of *Massachusetts-Bay*, and the very unwise distrust which many in *England* suppose prevails in the minds of the Delegates of the Southern Colonies against those of the four *New-England* Provinces. The plan of operations for next year is to carry on a piratical war by sea, and to have thirty thousand men, by land in *America*, dispersed through the different Provinces. Five thousand of them are to sail from *Ireland*, in the course of this month, for *Virginia;* and G—l *Clinton* is ordered to go there from *Boston*, to take the command of them, as Lord *Dunmore* has promised great assistance from the *Scotchmen* and slaves in that Colony. No person can yet find out how it will be possible for the Ministers to get ten thousand men more to send to *America* in the course of next year; however, it is certain that this country will pay eight millions of money for the next campaign against *America*, and it is hardly doubted but the real design of the Cabinet is to exert their utmost efforts next year to subdue *America* to slavery; in which, if they cannot succeed, they mean to give her up entirely as an independent State. This event may be precipitated much sooner than is expected should G—l *Howe* and his troops be driven from *Boston* in the course of the winter, and *Canada* fall into the hands of *America*. Notwithstanding the Minister's majority in Parliament, it is very certain that three-fourths in *England*, and nine-tenths in *Ireland*, are in favour of *America;* the rest, with almost all *Scotland*, are against her; but as Lord *Bute* and his *Scotch* junto rule with absolute sway, *America* will not receive any active assistance from *Great Britain* for a year or two at least, as the people of *England* are slow to action. The Ministers have been trying, with all their address, to get troops from *Russia*, in which they have failed. They are now treating with all the petty Princes in *Germany* for men, as they can get no men to inlist in *England* or *Ireland;* and they have not at this time in all *Great Britain* above two thousand foot, exclusive of the Guards, and not ten thousand in *Ireland*. It is not certainly known yet, but probably they may get four or five thousand from *Germany;* but if *America* continues determined, united, and vigorous, the conquest of that country is thought utterly impracticable. As all communication is now cut off it will not be easy to convey intelligence of what is going on in this country, therefore *America* must act upon all occasions as she finds her own strength and circumstances, without reference to what may or may not pass here.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM LONDON TO A GENTLEMAN IN VIRGINIA, DATED DECEMBER 9, 1775.

You may depend on it, that Government do not intend to make their grand armament at *Boston;* they will only reinforce the army there, so as to enable them to maintain their ground, if the Provincials do not carry the place this winter. The whole force is to be twenty-six thousand men, including those now in *America*, and three regiments of *Scotch Dutch*, who are to come over in the spring from *Holland*, and be sent to *Scotland* to recruit, and from thence go to *America;* no other foreign troops are to be had, nor would the *Dutch* have given them, but they were paid a most extravagant price for them. They are now about two thousand, though nominally three thousand, which number they are to be made. This whole force is to be divided in *America*, and sent to *New-York*, *Virginia*, and *South-Carolina*, so that there will be no very considerable army, though strong bodies of perhaps four, six, and eight thousand men to those places, but the numbers are not ascertained, though they will be strong bodies. All commerce is prohibited with *America*, but Commissioners are certainly going out; but their names are not yet mentioned. The *Scotch* faction prevails at Court. The *Bedford* party are a good deal divided, some having joined the Opposition. Lord *Chatham* will never again appear out; the minority is considerably strengthened. Lord *Rockingham* is the head of a formidable party; indeed, almost all the minority are immediately attached to him. Their strength, however, is greatly inferior to the Ministry, and will be, except the rest of the *Bedford's*, which are the strongest part of that party, and the support of the Ministry, leave them. It is impossible to say what may happen.

COLONEL WOODFORD TO EDMUND PENDLETON, PRESIDENT OF THE CONVENTION.

Great-Bridge, near Norfolk, December 9, 1775.

The enemy were reinforced about three o'clock this morning with (as they tell me) every soldier of the Fourteenth Regiment, at *Norfolk*, amounting to two hundred, commanded by Captain *Leslie;* and this morning, after reveille beating, crossed the bridge by laying down some plank, and made an attack to force our breastwork, (the prisoners say the whole number amounted to five hundred, volunteers and blacks,) with two pieces of cannon, but none marched up but His Majesty's soldiers, who behaved like *Englishmen*. We have found of their dead, Captain *Fordyce* and twelve privates; and have Lieutenant *Battut*, who is wounded in the leg, and seventeen privates prisoners, all wounded. They carried their cannon back under cover of the guns of the fort, and a number of their dead. I should suppose, to speak within compass, their loss must be upwards of fifty. Some powder and cartridges were taken. I sent an officer to inform them, if they would not fire upon our people, they should collect the dead and wounded; this they agreed to, and there has been no firing since. We are now under arms, expecting another attack. There is but one man of ours hurt, and he is wounded in the hand. The prisoners inform us that Lord *Dunmore* has got a reinforcement of Highlanders; they, I expect, will be up next.

MAJOR SPOTSWOOD TO A FRIEND IN WILLIAMSBURGH.

Great-Bridge, December 9, 1775.

We were alarmed this morning by the firing of some guns after reveille beating, which, as the enemy had paid us this compliment several times before, we at first concluded to be nothing but a morning salute; but in a short time after, I heard Adjutant *Blackburn* call out, Boys! stand to your arms! Colonel *Woodford* and myself immediately got equipped, and ran out; the Colonel pressed down to the breastwork in our front, and my alarm-post being two hundred and fifty yards in another quarter, I ran to it as fast as I could, and by the time I had made all ready for engaging, a very heavy fire ensued at the breastwork, in which were not more than sixty men; it continued for about half an hour, when the King's troops gave way, after sustaining considerable loss, and behaving like true-born *Englishmen*. They mounted up to our intrenchments with fixed bayonets; our young troops received them with firmness, and behaved as well as it was possible for soldiers to do. Captain *Leslie*, of the regulars, commanded the fort on the other side of the bridge; Captain *Fordyce*, of the Grenadiers, led the van with his company; and Lieutenant *Battut* commanded the advanced party; the former got killed within a few yards of the breastwork, with twelve privates; the Lieutenant, with sixteen soldiers, were taken prisoners—all wounded. Several others were carried into the fort under cover of their cannon; and from the blood on the bridge, they must have lost one-half of their detachment.

It would appear that Providence was on our side; for during the whole engagement we lost not a man, and only one was slightly wounded in the hand. Colonel *Woodford* is a brave officer, and a man I love. He has had Captain *Fordyce* buried with the military honours due to his rank, and all the prisoners that fell into our hands are taken the greatest care of. We have not, as yet, been able to ascertain the number of killed and wounded on their side. Three officers' fusees, with bayonets and cartouch boxes, fell into our hands; from which we judge that there were three commissioned officers killed. As soon as a general return can be made, it will be sent to the honourable Convention. I am at present in the greatest hurry, and can only give an account of what I have seen.

KING AND QUEEN COUNTY (VIRGINIA) COMMITTEE.

At a meeting of the Sub-Committee of the Upper District of *King and Queen* County, on *Saturday*, the 9th of *December*, 1775:

William Lyne having been charged before this Committee, by *James Jones*, Jun., with endeavouring to preju-

dice the Minute-service, and exciting mutiny, the said *William Lyne*, having heretofore been summoned, now appeared, and on examining several witnesses, it appears to this Committee, that on the day the District Committee chose officers for the regular and minute-service, the said *Lyne* imprudently dropped expressions tending to injure the minute-service. We believe he had no intention of exciting mutiny; and that, from a review of his conduct, he appears to be a friend to *American* liberty.

Ordered, That a copy of these proceedings be transmitted to the Publick Printer of this Colony, to be inserted in the *Virginia Gazette*.

BERNARD TODD, *Clerk*.

COMMITTEE OF TRENTON (NEW-JERSEY) TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read, December 12, 1775.]

Trenton, December 9, 1775.

SIR: In obedience to the resolve of Congress, transmitted to us, we have strictly examined into the conduct of the gentlemen officers stationed here, and have the satisfaction to find it punctually conformable to their parole, except in one instance. Doctor *Huddleston* has been unguarded and imprudent in his discourse, to the great uneasiness of the other gentlemen, who trust to the candour and indulgence of the Congress, if his past indiscretion cannot be overlooked, that their innocence may not suffer by it, as they have never failed to reprove him, and oftentimes severely, for it.

They express great uneasiness at the apprehension of being removed, as well on account of the satisfaction they have in their present situation, as that it must appear to the world as a punishment for breach of honour; and, in justice to them, we assure you, we believe these their declarations to be perfectly sincere.

As to their debauchery, or the people of this place being debauched by them, we apprehend there is not the least danger. The people in and about *Trenton* early fixed their principles upon proper knowledge and rational conviction, and have as steadily maintained them, as any people on the Continent; and we are positive, when occasion offers, will discover a consonant conduct.

Enclosed is their parole agreeably to direction; we should have transmitted it sooner, but Captain *Allgee* was expected from *New-York*.

We are, sir, with great respect, your very humble servants,

SAMUEL TUCKER, ISAAC SMITH,
ABRAHAM HUNT, ROBERT HOOPS.

In Congress, November 17, 1775.

Resolved, That the Commissioned Officers taken in the Forts of *Chambly* and *St. John's*, be put on their parole of honour that they will not go into or near any sea-port town, nor further than six miles distant from the respective places of their residence, without leave of the Continental Congress; and that they will carry on no political correspondence whatever on the subject of the dispute between *Great Britain* and these Colonies, as long as they remain prisoners. By order of Congress:

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

We, the subscribers, acquiesce in the above resolve.

Witness our hands:

J. STOPFORD, *Major*.
RIGAUSILL, *Major*.
J. HAMTON, *Lieutenant*.
J. SHUTTLEWORTH, *Lieutenant*.
RICHARD HUDDLESTON, *Surgeon, Royal Fusileers*.
IBBETSON HAMER, *Lieutenant*.
DAVID ALLGEE.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Albany, December 9, 1775.

DEAR GENERAL: I do myself the honour to advise your Excellency of my arrival here on the 7th instant. Should have wrote you yesterday, but I was all day in conference with sixty of the principal Sachems of the *Six Nations*. The matter was merely congratulatory, and introductory to the business which they intend to open on *Monday*, the substance of which I have not yet been able to learn.

Enclose you copies of letters from General *Montgomery* and Colonel *Arnold*, together with one to your Excellency, from the latter, and one from Colonel *Knox*. I have wrote to Congress, that the necessity of sending a body of troops into *Canada* this winter appeared to me very urgent. I was happy to meet Colonel *Knox*, at *Fort George*. I have made such an arrangement to get the articles he wants at *Fort George*, that I am confident they will arrive there in eight days from this, and I shall take the advantage of the very first snow to send them to *Cambridge*. My baggage is still behind, and therefore cannot send your Excellency the returns; but there is a sufficiency of every thing Colonel *Knox* wanted, except powder and flints.

I am now in tolerable good health, but I believe a perfect restoration will not take place until the cold weather ceases.

Some of the prisoners have attempted to escape. A Captain *Robinson*, of the Emigrants, offered the Captain of an *Albany* sloop two hundred guineas to carry him on board the *Asia* man-of-war. I shall request the Captain to make affidavit of it.

I am, dear General, your Excellency's most obedient and most humble servant,

PHILIP SCHUYLER.

His Excellency General *Washington*.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Albany, December 9, 1775.

DEAR SIR: Since I did myself the honour to address your Excellency on the 28th ult., my baggage is arrived, and now enclose the return of cannon at *Crown-Point*, *Ticonderoga*, &c.; besides there are a few at *Fort-George*, the return whereof I gave Colonel *Knox* to copy, and he forgot to re-deliver it to me.

As soon as I am a little settled, I shall take the liberty to send you copies of my letters to Congress, containing a recommendation of what I though necessary to be done in this quarter, preparatory to the next campaign.

The gentlemen of the Committee are still here, but propose returning to-morrow. Be so good as to make my respects to the gentlemen of your suite.

I am, dear sir, your Excellency's most obedient, humble servant,

PHILIP SCHUYLER.

His Excellency General *Washington*.

P. S. I have just received your Excellency's favour of the 5th inst. I have heretofore observed that Col. *Arnold* had great merit. He has been peculiarly unfortunate, in that one-third of his troops have left him. If the whole had been with him when he arrived before *Quebeck*, he would probably have had the sole honour of giving that important place to *America*. He will, however, share in the glory of its reduction, and I make no doubt but that it will be in our possession before any troops can come to its relief.

If Congress enters into my views, and immediately sends three thousand men to this place, I make no manner of doubt of getting them into *Canada* by the middle of *January*. I am, &c.

A Return of Artillery at TICONDEROGA, CROWN-POINT, *&c.*, DECEMBER 2, 1775.

CANNON.	18-pounders.	12-pounders, double fortified.	12-pounders.	9-pounders.	6-pounders.	4-pounders.	Swivels.	French Swivels.	13-inch Mortars.	8-inch, Brass Mortars.	7-inch, Iron Mortars.	6½-inch Mortars.	Brass Cohorns.
At Ticonderoga	5	–	14	6	17	11	–	3	–	1	1	2	1
At landing, north end L. George	4	–	8	10	3	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
At the landing at the Bridge	3	–	1	1	–	–	–	–	2	–	–	–	–
At Crown-Point	–	4	6	16	12	22	33	2	–	–	–	–	–
Total	12	4	29	33	32	33	2	3	2	1	1	2	1

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Lebanon, December 9, 1775.

Sir: Last evening I received your Excellency's favour of the 5th; in your hurry not signed; the number of men inlisted left blank.

While this express waits for a horse, I have only time to mention, that I shall (*Deo volente*) set out on my journey to meet the Assembly at *New-Haven*, on the 12th. Please to favour me with a list of the officers of our several regiments, and of the companies in each, as they now stand arranged, with the number inlisted into them for the service of the ensuing year. I trust nothing will be wanting in the most vigorous exertions to afford you every assistance on the present alarming occasion.

I am, most respectfully, sir, your most obedient humble servant,

Jonathan Trumbull.

His Excellency General *Washington*.

COLONEL MOYLAN TO MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL.

Cambridge, December 9, 1775.

Sir: Four prisoners are sent for examination, *Jeremiah Dawry*, *William Hedon*, *George Price*, and *John Milton*. They were taken by Captain *Coit*, on board vessels carrying supplies to the enemy in *Boston*, to whom they were pilots. *Pownal Deming*, a sergeant, who was on board the armed vessel when these prisoners were taken, can give the honourable Board every necessary information relative to them.

I have the honour to be, sir, your most humble servant,

Stephen Moylan, *P. T. S.*

The Hon. *James Otis*, Esq.

WILLIAM BARTLETT TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Beverly, December 9, 1775.

Sir: I have the pleasure to acquaint your Excellency, that Captain *Manly* has brought in here a ship from *London*, and a brig from *St. Eustatia*. I enclose your Excellency the papers which I forward by Mr. *Cabot*. Shall secure them until further orders from your Excellency. The brig is safe arrived from *Cape-Ann*.

I am, with respect, your Excellency's most obedient humble servant,

William Bartlett.

To General *Washington*.

N. B. The Captain of ship has hove overboard the chiefest part of his papers, and some arms, &c. I find by the steward, the ship's cargo is chiefly coals, one hundred butts of porter, forty live hogs.

Watertown, December 11, 1775.

We have just received certain intelligence, that on *Saturday* last, (*December* 9,) Captain *Manly*, of the *Lee*, privateer, took and carried into *Beverly* a large ship of three hundred tons burden, (mounted with two double-fortified six-pounders and six blunderbusses, with eighteen men before the mast,) bound from *London* for the Ministerial army at *Boston*, laden with coals and provisions, consisting chiefly of porter, cheese, and forty live hogs; thirty more had died on the passage. Although fuel and the above articles are no rarity to the army of the *United Colonies*, yet, so far as they are distressing to their enemies, so far, it must be acknowledged, they are an advantage to us. The above ship had seven weeks' passage, and brought papers to the 16th of *October*, which, together with the letters, we are informed, the Captain hove overboard after he was taken.

The same day Captain *Manly* also took and carried in there a brig of about one hundred and fifty tons burden, from *Antigua*, for *Boston*, (consigned to one *Brimer*, for the use of the Ministerial navy,) laden with about one hundred and thirty puncheons of rum, besides one hundred cases of gin, some cocoa, and a cask of oranges, to please the delicate appetite of my Lord *Howe*, which, however, may possibly be more acceptable to our army than any other provision, saving a further mess or two for the Congress, which has not a very craving appetite.

COLONEL WOODFORD TO THE VIRGINIA CONVENTION.

Great-Bridge, December 10, 1775.

A servant belonging to Major *Marshall*, who deserted the other night from Colonel *Scott's* party, has completely taken his Lordship in. Lieutenant *Batut*, who is wounded, and at present my prisoner, informs me, that this fellow told them not more than three hundred shirt-men were here, and that imprudent man caught at the bait, despatching Captain *Leslie* with all the regulars, (about two hundred,) who arrived at the bridge about three o'clock in the morning, joined about three hundred black and white slaves, laid planks upon the bridge, and crossed just after our reveille had beat; and lucky time for us, and, you will say, rather an improper season for them to make their push, when, of course, all our men must be under arms. The above lieutenant commanded the advanced party, and Captain *Fordyce*, of the Grenadiers, led the van with his company, who, for coolness and bravery, deserved a better fate, as well as the brave fellows who fell with him, who behaved like heroes. They marched up to our breastwork with fixed bayonets, and, perhaps, a hotter fire never happened, or a greater carnage, for the number of troops. None of the blacks, &c., in the rear, with Captain *Leslie*, advanced further than the bridge.

I have the pleasure to inform you that the victory was complete, and that most of their dead and wounded, with two pieces of cannon, were carried off under cover of their guns from the fort. We buried twelve besides the Captain, (him with all the military honours due to his rank,) and have prisoners Lieutenant *Batut* and sixteen privates, all wounded; thirty-five stands of arms and accoutrements, three officers' fusils, powder, ball, and cartridges, with sundry other things, have likewise fallen into our hands. This was a second *Bunker's Hill* affair, in miniature, with this difference, that we kept our post and had only one man wounded in the hand.*

SAMUEL TUCKER TO LORD STIRLING.

Trenton, December 10, 1775.

My Lord: I have endeavoured to do every thing you have mentioned in your several letters, and now must refer

* From officers who have arrived in town from Colonel *Woodford's* camp since the battle of the *Great-Bridge*, I have, I think, collected a more particular account of that action than any which has yet been communicated to the publick. You will therefore oblige me by publishing it, and perhaps afford, at the same time, no disagreeable entertainment to our countrymen. As the scene of action is but little known to the generality of people, it may be necessary to give some description of it, that the relation may be more clear and satisfactory. The great bridge is built over what is called the Southern Branch of *Elizabeth* river, twelve miles above *Norfolk*. The land on each side is marshy to a considerable distance from the river, except at the two extremities of the bridge, where are two pieces of firm land, which may not improperly be called islands, being surrounded entirely by water and marsh, and joined to the main land by causeways. On the little piece of firm ground on the farther, or *Norfolk* side, Lord *Dunmore* had erected his fort, in such a manner that his cannon commanded the causeway on his own side and the bridge between him and us, with the marshes around him. The island on this side of the river contained six or seven houses, some of which were burnt down (the nearest to the bridge) by the enemy, after the arrival of our troops; in the others, adjoining the causeway on each side, were stationed a guard every night by Colonel *Woodford*, but withdrawn before day, that they might not be exposed to the fire of the enemy's fort in re-crossing the causeway to our camp, this causeway being also commanded by their cannon. The causeway on our side was in length about one hundred and sixty yards, and on the hither extremity our breastwork was thrown up. From the breastwork ran a street, gradually ascending, about the length of four hundred yards, to a church, where our main body were encamped. The great trade to *Norfolk* in shingles, tar, pitch, and turpentine, from the country back of this, had occasioned so many houses to be built here, whence these articles were conveyed to *Norfolk* by water. But this by-the-by. Such is the nature of the place as described to me, and such were our situation and that of the enemy. On *Saturday*, the 9th inst., after reveille beating, two or three great guns and some musketry were discharged from the enemy's fort, which, as it was not an unusual thing, was but little regarded by Colonel *Woodford*. However, soon afterwards he heard a call to the soldiers to stand to their arms; upon which, with all expedition, he made the proper dispositions to receive the enemy. In the mean time, the enemy had crossed the bridge, fired the remaining houses upon the island, and some large piles of shingles, and attacked our guard in the breastwork. Our men returned the fire, and threw them into some confusion, but they were instantly rallied by a Captain *Fordyce*, and advanced along the causeway with great resolution, keeping up a constant and heavy fire as they approached. Two field-pieces, which had been brought across the bridge and planted on the edge of the island, facing the left of our breastwork, played briskly at the same time upon us. Lieutenant *Travis*, who commanded in the breastwork, ordered his men to reserve their fire till the enemy came within the distance of fifty yards, and then they gave it to them with terrible execution. The brave *Fordyce* exerted himself to keep up their

you to Colonel *Lowrey*, who is appointed by the Continental Congress to subsist the battalions under your command. Mr. *Fisher* received from me two thousand five hundred, being one-half of the five thousand dollars to be applied towards furnishing arms for your battalion. I hope we shall soon have Colonel *Maxwell's* battalion completely armed, for which purpose the members of the Committee of Safety have sent to the several County Committees, entreating their assistance in procuring the Province arms that may be in their Counties.

Our Provincial thirty thousand pounds will not be printed for some time for want of proper paper, which is now making for that purpose; and if it was now ready, the Commissioners are particularly directed in what manner to apply it; and I find the members of the Committee of Safety are of opinion they have no power to apply any of the Provincial money for Continental services.

We passed a law in the House of Assembly appointing barrackmasters to repair the several barracks, which was condemned or d——d in the Council, so that we must now do as well as we can with them.

You no doubt will have seen, ere this comes to hand, the dispute between the Governour and Council. The House of Assembly thought it most for the publick service to avoid all disputes at this critical time.

I am, with tenders of service, your assured friend and most obedient, humble servant,

SAMUEL TUCKER.

P. S. I expect the Commissioners will be here to-morrow or next day.

THOMAS LOWREY TO LORD STIRLING.

Trenton, December 10, 1775.

MY LORD: I received both your favours at *Philadelphia*, and note the contents. I saw Mr. *Hancock*, Mr. *Adams*, Mr. *Livingston*, and sundry others of the members. I informed them, and urged the necessity of having every thing done that you wrote to them about. I had great hopes something would be done, but so much other business on their hands prevented them last week. All the members I talked with promised me something should be done. There is a resolve of the House that Mr. *Crane* is to give directions to you for getting the blankets. He told me he would be home some time this week. I have been with Mr. *Tucker* about the barracks. He says he will call the Committee soon and get something done. I have done all I could every where, and with every one concerned, to forward the cause. I informed them of the trouble your Lordship and myself hath had. All seemed pleased with what we have done.

Mr. *Crane* will forward the articles for wear. The commissions for the sundry persons your Lordship wrote for, will be filled up agreeably to your desire. I did not see Colonel *Maxwell*, but sent him your letter and wrote to him myself. Two of his company will be ready to march in ten days, complete. I have paid off *Falkener's* company; he is in *Burlington* barracks. I have also paid off Captain *Shute*, of *Salem*, and Captain *Howell*, of *Cumberland*. They will be at *Burlington* this week, but in no order for marching; arms and blankets are wanting; and I am now on my way to *Sussex* to forward *Shaw's* and *Scott's* companies, and intend being with you at *Elizabethtown*, on *Thursday* next at furthest. Pray be pleased to order *Meeker*, *M'Myers*, and *Piatt*, to have their muster-rolls, &c., in good order and readiness that I may not be detained when I come.

I am, my Lord, your Lordship's most obedient and humble servant,

THOMAS LOWREY.

CONANICUT (RHODE-ISLAND) PLUNDERED.

Newport, December 11, 1775.

About one o'clock, yesterday morning, the bomb brig, a schooner, and two or three armed sloops, left this harbour, went to *Conanicut*, and landed upwards of two hundred marines, sailors, and negroes, at the east ferry, marched in three divisions immediately over to the west ferry, and set the several houses on fire which were near the ferry-place, then retreated back, setting fire to almost every house on each side the road, from the west to the east ferry, and several houses and barns some distance on the north and south side of the road, driving out the women and children, swearing they should be burnt in the house if they did not instantly turn out.

Widow *Hull* lost one house; *Joseph Clarke*, Esq., two houses and one barn; *Thomas Fowler*, one house, barn, and crib full of corn; *Benjamin Ellery*, two houses, store, and barn; *B. Remington*, two houses; *John Gardner*, Esq., one house and tan-yard; *Thomas Hutchinson*, one house; Widow *Franklin*, two; *Abel Franklin*, one; *Benedict Robinson*, one. All the above houses were plundered of beds, wearing apparel, and such household furniture as could be conveniently carried off; the rest were consumed. Some women, we are told, were stripped of some of their best clothes they had on. It is said Captain *Wallace* commanded on this humane expedition. A company of minute-men had left *Conanicut* the evening before; so that there were but about forty or fifty soldiers on the Island, most of whom had been inlisted but a few days, and arrived there but the evening before in miserable condition for such a sudden attack; but, notwithstanding, it is said there is certainly one officer of marines killed, and seven or eight badly wounded. There was not one Provincial either killed or wounded, except Mr. *John Martin*, who was shot in his belly, standing unarmed in his door. The above vessels brought off about thirty head of oxen and cows, a few sheep and hogs, most of which they killed before they took them on board. They left *Conanicut* yesterday, and came to this harbour again about noon.

The above houses were not all occupied by the owners, but each had at least one family, some two.

STEPHEN MOYLAN TO WILLIAM BARTLETT.

Cambridge, December 10, 1775.

SIR: Your agreeable favour to his Excellency came last night to hand. It was very unlucky that the Captain of the ship threw his papers overboard. He deserves to be severely punished, if it is true that this was done after he was made a prize of. In any other war than the present, he would suffer death for such an action; but we must

spirits, reminded them of their ancient glory, and, waving his hat over his head, encouragingly told them the day was their own. Thus pressing forward, he fell within fifteen stepe of the breastwork. His wounds were many, and his death would have been that of a hero had he met it in a better cause. The progress of the enemy was now at an end; they retreated over the causeway with precipitation, and were dreadfully galled in their rear. Hitherto, on our side, only the guard, consisting of twenty-five, and some others, upon the whole amounting to not more than ninety, had been engaged. Only the regulars of the Fourteenth Regiment, in number one hundred and twenty, had advanced upon the causeway; and about two hundred and thirty tories and negroes had, after crossing the bridge, continued upon the island. The regulars, after retreating along the causeway, were again rallied by Captain *Leslie*, and the two field-pieces continued to play upon our men. It was at this time that Colonel *Woodford* was advancing down the street to the breastwork with the main body, and against him was now directed the whole fire of the enemy. Never were cannon better served; but yet, in the face of them and the musketry, which kept up a continual blaze, our men marched on with the utmost intrepidity. Colonel *Stevens*, of the *Culpepper* battalion, was sent round to the left to flank the enemy, which was done with such activity and spirit that a rout immediately ensued. The enemy fled into their fort, leaving behind them the two field-pieces, which, however, they took care to spike up with nails. Many were killed and wounded in the flight, but Colonel *Woodford* very prudently restrained his troops from urging their pursuit too far. From the beginning of the attack till the repulse from the breastwork, might be about fourteen or fifteen minutes; till the total defeat upwards of half an hour. It is said that some of the enemy preferred death to captivity, from a fear of being scalped, which Lord *Dunmore* inhumanly told them would be their fate should they be taken alive. Thirty-one, killed and wounded, fell into our hands, and the number borne off was much greater. Through the whole of the engagement, every officer and soldier behaved with the greatest courage and calmness. The conduct of our sentinels I cannot pass over in silence. Before they quitted their stations they fired at least three rounds as the enemy were crossing the bridge, and one of them, who was posted behind some shingles, kept his ground till he had fired eight times, and, after receiving a whole platoon, made his escape over the causeway into our breastwork. The scene was closed with as much humanity as it had been conducted with bravery. The work of death being over, every one's attention was directed to the succour of the unhappy sufferers, and it is an undoubted fact, that Captain *Leslie* was so affected with the tenderness of our troops towards those who were yet capable of assistance, that he gave signs from the fort of his thankfulness for it. What is not to be paralleled in history, and will scarcely appear credible, except to such as acknowledge a Providence over human affairs, this victory was gained at the expense of no more than a slight wound in a soldier's hand; and one circumstance which renders it still more amazing, is, that the field-pieces raked the whole length of the street, and absolutely threw double-headed shot as far as the church, and afterwards, as our troops approached, cannonaded them heavily with grape-shot.—*Va. Gaz.*

show him and such as fall into our hands, that *Americans* are humane as well as brave. You will therefore, sir, treat the prisoners with all possible tenderness. There are on board the vessel from *Antigua* two gentlemen, passengers, Mr. *John Burke* and Mr. *Gregory*. The former is strongly recommended to our good friends in *Boston;* though not a friend to *American* liberty, he still has the character of a gentleman; as such, it is the General's orders that he be treated. The other was on board a man-of-war. You will offer these gentlemen a parole agreeably to the enclosed sketch, which I suppose they will not object to; if they should, you must send them to Head-quarters.

The captain and crews of both vessels had best remain with you; and, if you see fit, they may remain on board their vessels until further orders; but do not run the least risk of their doing mischief by so many being together. If any way apprehensive of them, let them be sent to some inland town in your neighbourhood, recommended to the care of the Committee of Safety, who must provide them with necessaries, for which they will be paid. Should they be disposed of in this last way, get the captains to sign the paroles for themselves and their crews, a copy of which you will transmit to the Committee of Safety to whose care they are sent, and mention to the Committee that they be treated with humanity.

There are limes, lemons, and oranges on board, which, being perishable, you must sell immediately. The General will want some of each, as well as of the sweetmeats and pickles that are on board, as his lady will be here to-day or to-morrow. You will please to pick up such things on board as you think will be acceptable to her, and send them as soon as possible; he does not mean to receive any thing without payment, which you will please to attend to. The General is informed that the prizes are crowded with people from shore, as well as those belonging to the armed schooner. It is his positive command that no person be suffered to go on board any of them, the officers and agents excepted, that embezzlements be particularly guarded against. If any should happen, the agents will be blamed and held accountable, so that you see the necessity of being strict in enforcing this order. Pray when are you to send the porter, &c.? We want it much.

I am, &c.,

STEPHEN MOYLAN.

To *William Bartlett*, Esq., *Beverly*.

COLONEL MOYLAN TO CAPTAIN BARTLETT.

Cambridge, December 10, 1775.

SIR: I wrote you this day, to which refer. The cargo by the two prizes to be laid up in a secure place if you think the vessels are not sufficient for that purpose. Captain *Adams* will deliver you this. He says he will take a cruise while the sails, which he thinks absolutely necessary, are making. You will please to let such sails as he wants be put in hands immediately, as we cannot have two many armed vessels out. Give him every assistance in your power. He wants to change his swivels and some of his guns. Dear sir, indulge him, and let him proceed to sea. I am, sir, yours, &c.,

STEPHEN MOYLAN.

To *William Bartlett*, Esq., *Beverly*.

GENERAL GREENE TO GOVERNOUR WARD.

Prospect-Hill, December 10, 1775.

In my last I mentioned to you that the troops inlisted very slowly in general; I was in hopes then that ours would not have deserted the cause of their country, but they seem to be so sick of this way of life, and so home-sick, that I fear the greater part, and the best of the troops from our Colony, will go home. The *Connecticut* troops are going home in shoals this day. Five thousand of the militia, three from this Province, and two from *Hampshire*, are called in to take their place. There is a great defection among their (the *Connecticut*) troops, but from the spirit and resolution of the people of that Province I make no doubt they will furnish their proportion without delay. *New-Hampshire* behaves nobly; their troops engage cheerfully. The regiment raised in the Colony of *Rhode-Island* has hurt our recruiting amazingly; they are fond of serving in the army at home, and each feels a desire to protect his own family.

I harangued the troops yesterday; I hope it had some effect; they appear of a better disposition to-day; some have inlisted, and others discover a complying temper. I leave nothing undone or unsaid that will promote the recruiting service. But I fear the Colony of *Rhode-Island* is upon the decline. There have been, and now are, some unhappy disputes subsisting between the town and country interest, and some wretches, for the sake of a present popularity, are endeavouring to widen the breach, to build up their own consequence, to the prejudice and ruin of the publick interest. God grant that they may meet with the disgrace they deserve.

This Province begins to exert itself; the General Court has undertaken to provide for the army, wood, &c. Their troops begin now to inlist very fast. They are zealous in the country to engage in the service.

I sent home some recruiting officers, but they got scarcely a man, and report that there are none to be had there. No publick spirit prevails; I wish you and your colleague were at home a few days to spirit up the people. *Newport*, I believe, from the best intelligence I can get, is determined to observe a strict neutrality this winter, and in the spring join the strongest party. I feel for the honour of the Colony, which I think in a fair way, from the conduct of the people at home and the troops abroad, to receive a wound. It mortifies me to death that our Colony and troops should be a whit behind the neighbouring Governments in private virtue or publick spirit.

I have been strengthening this Hill, in order that if the soldiery should not engage as cheerfully as we expected, I might be able to defend it with a less number.

ADDRESS OF THE PROVOST, ETC., OF THE BURGH OF WICK.

Address of the Provost, Magistrates, and Common Council of the Royal Burgh of *Wick*, in Council assembled, presented to His Majesty by *John Sinclair*, Esq.

Unto the King's most Excellent Majesty.

The humble Address of the Provost, Magistrates, and Common Council of the Royal Burgh of WICK, *in Council assembled.*

MOST GRACIOUS SOVEREIGN: We, your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Provost, Magistrates, and Common Council of the Royal Burgh of *Wick*, for ourselves, and in behalf of the other inhabitants of this Burgh, beg leave most humbly to approach your Majesty with the genuine sentiments of hearts full of loyalty and affection to the best of Kings, and flowing with gratitude for the invaluable blessings and privileges which we enjoy under a mild and constitutional Government.

We should be wanting in duty to your Majesty, to your Parliament, and to our country, did we not declare to the world our hearty disapprobation and abhorrence of the rebellious conduct of our fellow-subjects in *America*, and of the seditious spirit of a discontented faction at home, whom we consider as the worst enemies of their country, and the corrupted fountain whence the present evils have sprung. We always understood that the acts of the Supreme Legislature of this Kingdom should extend, with equal force, to every part of your Majesty's extensive dominions; we must therefore consider every attempt to oppose that power as repugnant to the *British* Constitution. And when we reflect with what daring insolence and contempt the authority of the laws has been repeatedly set at defiance by the *Americans*, we can no longer withhold our unanimous assent to the vigorous exertion of such measures as will force these deluded people to submit to a constitutional dependance upon your Majesty's Government. And at the same time we do assure your Majesty that, with our lives and fortunes, we are ready to contribute to the due execution of such necessary and indispensable measures.

Signed in our name, and by our appointment, by our Provost; and the common seal of the Burgh is hereto appended, at *Wick*, the eleventh day of December, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-five years.

JAMES SINCLAIR, *Provost.*

COLONEL WOODFORD TO EDMUND PENDLETON.

Great-Bridge, December 10, 1775.

Sir: I must apologize for the hurry in which I wrote you yesterday; since which nothing of moment has happened, but the abandoning of the fort by the enemy. We have taken possession of it this morning, and found therein the stores mentioned in the enclosed list, to wit: 7 guns, four of them sorry; 1 bayonet; 29 spades; 2 shovels; 6 cannon; a few shot; some bedding; a part of a hogshead of rum; two or more barrels, the contents unknown, but supposed to be rum; 2 barrels of bread; about 20 quarters of beef; half a box of candles; 4 or 5 dozen quart bottles; 4 or 5 iron pots; a few axes, and old lumber. The spikes, I find, cannot be got out of the cannon without drilling. From the vast effusion of blood on the bridge, and in the fort, from the account from the sentries, who saw many bodies carried out of the fort to be interred, and other circumstances, I conceive their loss to be much greater than I thought it yesterday, and the victory to be complete. I have received no late information from *Norfolk* or *Princess-Ann*, nor yet fixed on a plan for improving this advantage. I have despatched scouting parties, and from their intelligence I shall regulate my future operations.

Enclosed is an inventory of the arms, &c., taken yesterday, to wit: 2 silver-mounted fusils, with bayonets; 1 steel do., without bayonet; 24 well fixed muskets, with bayonets; 6 muskets, without bayonets; 28 cartouch boxes and pouches; 3 silver mounted cartouch boxes; 2 cannon do.; 26 bayonet belts; 27 caps; 2 hats; one barrel with powder and cartridges; 1 silk handkerchief, with linen in it; 2 watches; cash 12*s.* 6*d.*; 1 pair gloves; 4 stocks and buckles; 1 pair silver shoe buckles; 3 pair silver knee-buckles; 2 snuff boxes; 10 knives; 1 barrel with ball and oakum; 12 coats; 12 waistcoats; 11 pair shoes; 12 pair of gaiters; 1 pair of breeches; 1 shirt; 1 pair of stockings; a parcel of old knee-buckles; a parcel of old buttons; and a black handkerchief. The arms I shall retain for the use of the army; the other articles I shall dispose of at vendue, and apply the money arising from the sale in such manner as the Convention shall be pleased to direct.

Lieutenant *Batut*, having an inclination to inform the King's troops of the humane treatment he has met with here, I despatched Ensign *Hoomes*, with a flag of truce, who returned with the enclosed answer from the commander of the fort, viz:

"Captain *Leslie* presents his compliments to Mr. *Batut*, and returns Col. *Woodford* his sincere thanks for his kind treatment of the prisoners. He is happy Mr. *Batut's* wounds are so slight; but is extremely sorry for the loss of poor *Fordyce*."

The unfortunate Captain *Fordyce* was a captain of the Grenadiers, of the Fourteenth regiment; most of the soldiers were Grenadiers of that regiment. As the Captain was a gallant and brave officer, I promised to inter him with all the military honours due to his great merits; which I hope will meet with the approbation of the honourable Convention.

About two hundred and fifty *Carolina* men are arrived, under the command of Col. *Vail*. They are composed of regulars, minute-men, militia, and volunteers, and have brought with them six cannon. I have received no certain account of Col. *Howe*; where he is, what number of force he commands, how armed and provided, or where or when he intends to join me.

I shall pay a due regard to the reinforcements you mention, and the establishment of the posts. I am just informed, by Lieutenant *Batut*, that a servant of Major *Marshall*, who was in the party with Colonel *Scott*, and deserted, informed Lord *Dunmore* that not more than three hundred shirt-men were here; that imprudent man caught at the bait, and despatched Captain *Leslie*, with all the regulars, who arrived at the fort about four in the morning.

I have enclosed the honourable Convention a general return of the forces under my command; also a list of sick and wounded. It is my wish to receive orders for what is to be done with the wounded prisoners, when able to travel. I recollect nothing more to add at present, than that I am, with great respect, your most obedient servant,

William Woodford.

To *Edmund Pendleton*, President of the Convention.

PARLIAMENTARY POST PROHIBITED.

In Provincial Convention, Annapolis, December 11, 1775.

Resolved, That the Parliamentary Post be not permitted or suffered to travel in or pass through this Province, with any mail, packages, or letters; and the several Committees of Observation are requested and directed to see this resolution strictly observed and executed.

Resolved, That no boat or other vessel belonging to this Province, go out of this Province without a license in writing from this Convention, the Council of Safety hereafter to be appointed, or from some Committee of Observation, in which the particular place such boat or vessel shall be designed to go to, shall be expressed in all licenses granted by the Committees of Observation. And if any such boat or vessel shall be navigated beyond the limits of this Province, without such license, or if, after having obtained such license, the shipper thereof shall, without absolute and inevitable necessity, go to, or touch at any place out of this Province other than mentioned in such license, or shall carry any person or letter, of which he shall not give previous notice to such Committee, or shall bring back any person or letter, of which he shall not give previous notice to such Committee, as soon as may be after his return, such shipper, and all other persons accessory to such misbehaviour, may be punished by imprisonment; but it is understood that this Resolution is not to prohibit the crossing *Potomack*, although the boats or vessels employed or used, therefore, should go up the creeks, or arms of the *Potomack* river, making into *Virginia*, or to prohibit the passing and repassing at the Ferry on *Pocomoke* river.

CAPTAIN JOHN CONWAY TO LORD STIRLING.

Perth-Amboy, December 11, 1775.

Sir: In obedience to your Lordship's commands of the 5th inst., I received of *Isaac Monnel*, Esq., the beds, blankets, &c., belonging to the barracks here, and tendered him a receipt for them, which, for particular reasons, he refused. I also had a sufficient number of rooms cleaned, and provided fire-wood and provision to supply my company several days, which this day marched here, and quartered in the barracks, though not without a great deal of trouble, owing to the unwillingness of them to leave *Brunswick*, and several other trivial reasons.

I have now in confinement three privates, sentinels, two of them for desertion and abuse of their officers, the other, for striking a sergeant, and deserting a party on duty of fatigue. As I think it time to carry some command, and use a little severity, I beg your Lordship's permission to call a regimental court-martial to try them, as making an example of one or more of them will certainly deter others from the like.

Messrs. *Powell* and *Rose*, who accompanied me here, with their fife and drum, will wait on your Lordship with this, and will be proud of serving your Lordship, as fife and drum-major to the regiment; their business is to treat and agree with your Lordship on that matter. I therefore recommend them to your Lordship as two valuable men in that capacity, and would be glad to have them appointed on reasonable terms, which I believe they are willing to accept.

I hope your Lordship's good nature will excuse any impropriety of style, particularly the badness of the writing, as I cannot use my thumb, which I offer as a reason for not sending your Lordship a copy of my last orders.

As the barrack chimneys are very foul and dangerous, I have got a boy from *York*, to have them swept to-morrow morning, (such as will be now used.) There is also some repairs of glazing, carpenter's work, and mending the wood-yard fence, wanting to be done, which, if your Lordship is pleased to order, I will see executed immediately.

I have the honour of being, with great respect, my Lord, your Lordship's most obedient, humble servant,

John Conway.

Lord *Stirling*.

P. S. I beg the favour of your Lordship's orders respecting the above matters, or any further service, as soon as may be pleased to direct; to be left at Captain *Dawson's*, at *Woodbridge*, or *Gershom Lott's*, in *Amboy*.

CAPTAIN JOSEPH MORRIS TO LORD STIRLING.

Hanover, December 11, 1775.

My Lord: I have not seen Lieutenant-Colonel *Winds* since I left *Elizabethtown*. Have not money to buy arms, one equal half of my company have none; nor have I received the cloth for the soldiers; have sent Mr. *Brown*, my Second Lieutenant, to town after it, and to wait on your Lordship for orders. I understand by Major *De Hart* that my son's commission is not come. If it should be thought proper by your Lordship, I would wait on Mr. *Tucker* for it. My Lord, there is nearly one-half my company in the old uniform, (and likewise Captain *Howell's*,) and seem very much opposed to altering it, as they have red waistcoats, and not able to get white.

I am with great esteem, your Lordship's most obedient humble servant,

Joseph Morris.

To Lord *Stirling*.

COMMITTEE OF BARNARD'S TOWNSHIP, NEW-JERSEY.

Committee of Barnard's Township, New-Jersey, December 11, 1775.

Whereas *Nathaniel Haten*, of the Township of *Barnard*, in the County of *Somerset*, and Province of *New-Jersey*, was brought before the Committee of said township as being suspected of being an enemy to the liberties of *America*, and upon examination, it appears to us, the said Committee, that the said *Nathaniel Haten* is an enemy to the liberties of *America*, and all persons are hereby desired to take notice, and have no more dealings or commerce with the said *Nathaniel Haten*, otherwise they will expose themselves to the resentment of the friends of *American* liberty, and will be dealt with accordingly.

By order of the Committee:

Henry Alward, *Chairman*.

ISAAC NICOLL TO JOHN McKESSON.

Goshen, December 11, 1775.

Sir: Some time ago there was application made to Congress for commissions for *Goshen* Minute Company, of which *Moses Hetfield* was chosen Captain; but there are no commissions yet to hand, which makes some uneasiness in the company, as they are ordered to go to the Battery in the *Highlands* to relieve Captain *Wisnor's* company, the 27th of this instant. I should be glad if you would send the commissions by the post.

From your humble servant,

Isaac Nicoll.

To *John McKesson*, Esq., at *New-York*.

GOVERNOUR COOKE TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Providence, December 11, 1775.

Sir: I do myself the honour to address this letter to you by Mr. *Penet*, and another *French* gentleman, who arrived here last night, in Captain *Rhodes*, from *Cape François*, who was despatched some time since from this place for powder. Mr. *Penet* comes extremely well recommended to our Committee for providing powder from a merchant of character at the Cape. He hath proposals to make for supplying the *United Colonies* with arms and warlike stores. I am informed that the other gentleman is a person of some consequence. I beg leave to introduce them to your Excellency, and to assure you that I am with great respect, sir, your most obedient and most humble servant,

Nicholas Cooke.

To General *Washington*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO THE COMMITTEE OF SYMSBURY.

Cambridge, December 11, 1775.

Gentlemen: The prisoners which will be delivered you with this, having been tried by a court-martial, and deemed to be such flagrant and atrocious villains that they cannot by any means be set at large or confined in any place near this camp, were sentenced to be sent to *Symsbury*, in *Connecticut*. You will therefore be pleased to have them secured in your jail, or in such other manner as to you shall seem necessary, so that they cannot possibly make their escape. The charges of their imprisonment will be at the Continental expense.

I am, &c.,

George Washington.

ROBERT H. HARRISON TO MAJOR-GENERAL WARD.

Cambridge, December 11, 1775.

Sir: I am commanded by his Excellency to enclose to your care the letter which you will herewith receive for the Committee at *Symsbury*. Should there be any of the *Connecticut* troops at *Roxbury*, which are going that way, and with whom the prisoners can be trusted, you will get them to take charge of them, as it will save some expense; but if you are of opinion that there will be the least risk of their getting away, you will send them off under a proper guard, with a copy of their sentence for the Committee.

I am, sir, yours, &c.,

R. H. Harrison, *A. D. C.*

To Major-General *Ward*.

ROBERT H. HARRISON TO THOMAS CRAFTS.

Cambridge, December 11, 1775.

Sir: I have it in command from his Excellency to inform you that the Majority in the regiment of artillery is now vacant, and that he would wish you to fill it in preference to any other person. You will please to signify to him whether you incline to accept it, as soon as you conveniently can.

I am, sir, your most obedient servant,

R. H. Harrison, *A. D. C.*

To *Thomas Crafts*, Jun., Esq.

WILLIAM BARTLETT TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Beverly, December 11, 1775.

Sir: I beg leave to enclose your Excellency the petition of the Committee of Correspondence of this town, where they set forth the situation of it in a very clear light, and pray your Excellency would hear and answer the same, if you in your great wisdom think it necessary.

Those valuable prizes, brought in here, are much exposed, as we have nothing to defend them with. Our harbour is as safe as any can be, where there is water sufficient to bring in such vessels. Our forts and breastworks, built at the town's expense, would not only protect the prizes, but the town, if we had guns and ammunition to put in them. Therefore, pray your Excellency would hear the petition not only for the relief of the town, but to preserve that interest now belonging to the Continent.

And am, with the greatest respect, your Excellency's most obedient, humble servant,

William Bartlett.

To his Excellency General *Washington*.

Beverly, December 11, 1775.

May it please your Excellency: The petition of us, the subscribers, humbly showeth: That as the high hand of Ministerial cruelty hath brought us into a most unnatural war with our mother country, by which means the town of *Beverly* is much exposed to their most unnatural, savage-like cruelty, (the town lying more than four miles on the sea-coast, and a great part of that way convenient for landing,) the inhabitants of this town, with the assistance of some of the neighbouring towns, have thrown up breastworks in several of the most advantageous places within the same, and have no cannon or ammunition, or next akin to none, to support them with. And what renders us more obnoxious to their most unnatural cruelty and vengeance is, that the Continental privateers, and others, make this harbour their place of rendezvous, and have of late brought into this harbour a number of very valuable prizes, which we think are very much exposed to the enemy, as also the town in general. Therefore, your petitioners humbly pray that your Excellency would be graciously pleased to give us some relief under our most difficult and distressed circumstances, and let us have, if you in your wisdom think best, two nine-pounders, or one twelve-pounder, with a suitable quantity of ammunition for the same; and those two six-pounders and a half barrel of powder, and about twenty balls, on board of the ship *Jenny*, and those two

small pieces of cannon brought in on board the brig *Hannah*, together with a half barrel of powder said to be on board, (which vessels were brought into this harbour by Captain *Manly*,) and also for some shot for the abovesaid small cannon, which will, we think, contribute much to the safety of the interest of the *United Colonies*, as also of this town in particular, and will be gratefully received by your most humble and obedient servants,

Caleb Dodge, Nathan Leech,
Joseph Rea, Livermore Whittredge,
Joseph Wood,
Committee of Correspondence of Beverly.

To his Excellency General *Washington*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read December 19, 1775.]

Cambridge, December 11, 1775.

Sir: Captain *Manly*, of the *Lee*, armed schooner, has taken and sent into *Beverly* two prizes since I last wrote to you, which was the 7th instant. One of them is the ship *Jenny*, Captain *Forster*, who left *London* late in *October*. He has very unfortunately thrown all his papers overboard; is not yet arrived at camp; if he does before I close this, I will let you know what information I get from him. His vessel is loaded with coal and porter; of the latter, about one hundred butts. The other is a brigantine from *Antigua*, called the *Little Hannah*, *Robert Adams* master. Her cargo consists of one hundred and thirty-nine hogsheads of rum, one hundred cases of *Geneva*, and some other trifling articles. Both cargoes were designed for the use of the army and navy at *Boston*. I have great pleasure in congratulating you on this success.

The numbers inlisted last week are . . . . . men. If they go on at this slow rate, it will be a long time before this army is complete. I have wrote to the Governours of *Connecticut* and *Rhode-Island*, also to the Convention of *New-Hampshire*, on this subject. A copy of my letter to them I have the honour to enclose herewith; a letter to the same purport I sent to the Legislature of this Province.

The militia are coming in fast. I am much pleased with the alacrity which the good people of this Province, as well as those of *New-Hampshire*, have shown upon this occasion. I expect the whole will be in this day and to-morrow, when what remains of the *Connecticut* gentry, who have not inlisted, will have liberty to go to their fire-sides.

The Commissary-General is still, by his indisposition, detained from camp. He committed an error when making out the ration list; for he was then serving out, and has continued so to do, six ounces, per man per week, of butter, though it is not included in the list approved of by Congress. I do not think it would be expedient to put a stop thereto, as every thing that would have a tendency to give the soldiery room for complaint, must be avoided.

The information I received, that the enemy intended spreading the small-pox amongst us, I could not suppose them capable of. I now must give some credit to it, as it has made its appearance on several of those who last came out of *Boston*. Every necessary precaution has been taken to prevent its being communicated to this army, and the General Court will take care that it does not spread through the country.

I have not heard that any more troops are arrived at *Boston*, which is a lucky circumstance, as the *Connecticut* troops, I now find, are for the most part gone off. The houses in *Boston* are lessening every day. They are pulled down either for fire-wood, or to prevent the effects of fire, should we attempt a bombardment, or an attack upon the town. *Cobble-Hill* is strongly fortified, without any interruption from the enemy. Colonel *Enos* has been tried and acquitted. Upon what principle, you will see by the process of his trial, which I now send you. As the time of Colonel *Enos's* engagement was near expired, a doubt arose whether he could then be tried by a court-martial. This it was which occasioned his trial to come on before Colonel *Arnold's* evidence could be had.

This is what at present occurs from, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

George Washington.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq.

P. S. The weekly returns of inlistments not being yet received for more than ten regiments, amounting to seven hundred and twenty-five men, I cannot fill up the blank in this letter; but this, added to the former, makes, in the whole, five thousand two hundred and fifty-three.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Cambridge, December 5, 1775.

Sir: I have of late met with abundant reason to convince me of the impracticability of recruiting this army to the new establishment, in any reasonable time, by voluntary inlistments. The causes of such exceeding great backwardness I shall not undertake to point out; sufficient it is to know that the fact is so. Many reasons are assigned; one only I shall mention, and that is, that the present soldiery are in expectation of drawing from the landed interest and farmers a bounty equal to the allowance at the commencement of this army, and therefore they play off. Be this as it may, I am satisfied that this is not a time for trifling, and that the exigency of our affairs calls aloud for vigorous exertions.

By sad experience it is found that the *Connecticut* troops have deserted, and are about to desert the noble cause we are engaged in; nor have I any reason to believe that the forces of *New-Hampshire*, this Government, or *Rhode-Island*, will give stronger proofs of their attachment to it, when the period arrives when they may claim their dismission. For after every stimulus in my power has been thrown in their way, and near a month's close endeavour, we have inlisted but about five thousand men; fifteen hundred of which are to be absent at a time on furlough, until all have gone home, in order to visit and provide for their families. Five thousand militia, from this Government and the Colony of *New-Hampshire*, are ordered to be at this place by the 10th instant, to relieve the *Connecticut* regiments, and supply the deficiency which will be occasioned by their departure, and of those on furlough. These men, I am told by officers who have been eye-witnesses to their behaviour, are not to be depended upon for more than a few days, as they soon get tired, grow impatient, ungovernable, and of course leave the service. What will be the consequence, if the greatest part of the army is to be composed of such men? Upon the new establishment, twenty-six regiments were ordered to be raised, besides those of the artillery and riflemen. Of these, *New-Hampshire* has three, *Massachusetts* sixteen, *Rhode-Island* two, and *Connecticut* five. A mode of appointing the officers was also recommended, and as strictly adhered to as circumstances would admit of. These officers are now recruiting, with the success I have mentioned.

Thus, sir, have I given you a true and impartial state of our situation, and submit it to the wisdom of your and the other three *New-England* Colonies, whether some vigorous measures, if the powers of Government are adequate, ought not to be adopted, to facilitate the completion of this army, without offering a bounty from the publick, which Congress have declared against, thinking the terms, exclusive thereof, greater than soldiers ever had. I have laid the matter before Congress by this conveyance; but the critical situation of our affairs will not await their deliberation and recommendation. Something must be done without further delay.

I am, sir, &c., George Washington.

To the Hon. *Jonathan Trumbull*, Esq., Governour, &c.

Proceedings of a General Court-Martial of the line, held at Head-Quarters, Cambridge, *by order of his Excellency* George Washington, *Esq., Commander-in-Chief of the Forces of the* United Colonies, December 1, 1775.

Brigadier-General *Sullivan*, President; Colonel *Bridge*, Colonel *Sargent*, Colonel *Greaton*, Lieut. Colonel *Cleaveland*, Lieut. Colonel *March*, Lieut. Colonel *Read*, Lieut. Colonel *Brewer*, Lieut. Colonel *Vose*, Major *Poor*, Major *Wood*, Major *Woods*, Major *Johnson*.

William Tudor, Judge Advocate.

The Court, being duly sworn, proceeded to the trial of Lieutenant-Colonel *Enos*, of the Twenty-second Regi-

ment, under an arrest for leaving the detachment under Colonel *Arnold*, and returning home without permission from his commanding officer.

Colonel *Enos*, being arraigned on the above charge, says, that true it is he did return without permission from Colonel *Arnold*, his commanding officer, but that the circumstances of the case were such as obliged him so to do. In justification of his conduct, the Colonel begged leave to produce the following evidences, who were accordingly admitted and sworn, viz:

Captain *Williams* deposes: At the Great Carrying-place, I heard the men ahead of us were in great want of provisions. About two-thirds across the Great Carrying-place, I met Major *Bigelow* coming back with ninety-five men, who said they wanted provisions. I dealt out to them a barrel of pork, and one of flour. I delivered Major *Bigelow* six barrels more of provisions. We proceeded forward, and met several parties returning home, and we had orders to supply them with provisions to reach the *English* settlements. When I came up with Colonel *Enos*, I was informed there had been a council of war, and that it was settled that, for want of provision, the whole detachment under Colonel *Enos* should return. Colonel *Enos* proposed to go forward himself, and let his division return; but as there was a large number besides those which belonged properly to our division, and we had several invalids to bring back, and were very short of provision, (having but three days' provision, and being above one hundred miles from the *English* settlements,) I thought it was absolutely necessary for Colonel *Enos* to take the command of the party back, and protested against his going on to join Colonel *Arnold*, not knowing what orders Colonel *Enos* had from Colonel *Arnold*. The division which went on to join Colonel *Arnold*, had not more than five days' provisions. We supplied them with most of their provision, and left ourselves only three days' allowances.

Captain *McCobb:* About fifty miles up the *Dead* river, we held a council of war, at which I assisted as a member, and it was agreed that the whole division under Colonel *Enos* should return, there not being sufficient provision to carry both divisions through. Colonel *Green's* division being some way ahead, it was found that we should save two days' time by letting that division go forward; and time was too precious, and provision too scanty, to dispute the point. It was thought most conducive to the service that Colonel *Green's* division should proceed. We accordingly left them with five days' provision, and set out on our return with three. Lieutenant-Colonel *Enos* was going forward without his division, but, for the same reasons which have been mentioned by Captain *Williams*, I protested also against his going on.

Captain *Scott* confirms all that Captain *McCobb* deposes, and adds, that he himself protested against Colonel *Enos's* going forward; that he then thought, and is now confirmed in the opinion, that the presence of Colonel *Enos* was very necessary to preserve the harmony and order necessary to secure the safe retreat of the men who were ordered to return.

Lieutenant *Hyde:* I assisted at the council of war, before mentioned, up the *Dead* river. We found, by the best computation, that it would take fifteen days to reach any *French* inhabitants, and that it would be impossible for both divisions (*Green's* and *Enos's*) to get through, the provisions being so short. It was judged there was about four days' provisions for those who went forward, and we returned with three days' supply. I protested against Colonel *Enos's* going on to join Colonel *Arnold*, his presence being necessary for our safe retreat, as we had a number of invalids, and a considerable number of men who did not belong to either of the companies in our division.

Lieutenant *Buckmaster* confirms what Lieutenant *Hyde* deposes, and adds, that it was the opinion of all the officers of Colonel *Enos's* division, that he should return with his division, as we had one hundred and fifty men who did not belong to our division, who had only a subaltern to command them, and whom it would have been impossible, under our circumstances, to manage without Colonel *Enos's* presence.

The Court being cleared, are unanimously of opinion, after the most mature consideration, that Lieutenant-Colonel *Enos* was under a necessity of returning with the division under his command, and therefore acquit him with honour.

JOHN SULLIVAN, *President.*

ORDERS BY GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, December 6, 1775.

Parole, *Philadelphia.* Countersign, *Allen.*

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, December 7, 1775.

(Parole, *Sydney.*) (Countersign, *Brutus.*)

The *Connecticut* regiments are to be under arms upon their regimental parades, on *Saturday*, at eleven in the forenoon, in order to be reviewed. They are to have their arms in good order, the rolls to be called over, and no man to be absent; every one that is able must appear; for this purpose they are to be exempt from all other duty on that day.

The Quartermaster-General is strictly enjoined to pay proper attention to the order of the 23d of *November*, respecting the quartering officers, &c., and is to prevent boards and other materials being applied to the building any houses without his orders, as none such will be allowed for by the publick.

All officers are to pay due obedience to this order.

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, December 8, 1775.

Parole, *St. Asaph.* Countersign, *Cato.*

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, December 9, 1775.

(Parole, *London.*) (Countersign, *Granby.*)

Sergeant *Lane*, of Colonel *Whitcombe's* regiment, with nineteen men of different regiments, whose names, corps, and companies are delivered to Brigade-Major *Carey*, are immediately to be drafted, and sent to the Quartermaster-General to receive his orders.

The Court Martial whereof Colonel *Woodbridge* was President is dissolved.

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, December 10, 1775.

(Parole, *Burke.*) (Countersign, *Barre.*)

The General has great pleasure in thanking Colonel *Bridges*, and the officers of the Twenty-seventh Regiment, (who, from a peculiarity of circumstances, or want of vacancies, have no appointment in the new established army,) for their polite address to him. He considers the assurances which they have given, of their determination to continue in service (if required) until the new regiments are completed, in a very favourable light, especially as it is accompanied with further assurances that the men of the Twenty-seventh Regiment are consenting thereto. Such a conduct at this important crisis, cannot fail of giving pleasure to every well-wisher to his country; and, next to engaging for another year, is the highest proof they can give of their attachment to the noble cause of liberty. At the same time that it reflects honour upon themselves, it may, under Providence, give posterity reason to bless them as the happy instruments of their delivery from those chains which were actually forging for them.

Four companies of the *New-Hampshire* militia are to march to *Roxbury*, for the reinforcement of that division; the Captain will receive General *Ward's* orders what regiments they are to be attached to. The rest of the *New-Hampshire* militia are to join the brigades on *Winter* and *Prospect Hills*, in *Cambridge*, &c., and, together with the companies of militia from *Massachusetts*, which are ordered to join *Preston's*, *Greaton's*, and *Nixon's* regiments, are to be appointed to the new established regiments, as the Majors and Brigadiers-General shall think fit for the most equal distribution of them.

The Captains of the several militia companies from the *Massachusetts* and *New-Hampshire* Governments, are to make exact rolls of their companies, and return them signed, without delay, to the Adjutant-General.

Head-Quarters, December 11, 1775.

(Parole, *Otis.*) (Countersign, *Warren.*)

The Majors of Brigade to be more exact in obliging the Adjutants to deliver to them every *Saturday*, at orderly time, an exact return, signed by the commanding officers

of the new established regiments, of the number of men weekly inlisted in each of those regiments. The Majors of Brigade will, for the future, be answerable for any neglect in executing this order.

To reward and encourage military merit, the Congress thought proper to increase the pay of the captains and subalterns of the Continental army; and, as uniformity and decency in dress are essentially necessary in the appearance and regularity of an army, his Excellency recommends it earnestly to the officers to put themselves in a proper uniform. The field officers of each of the new corps will set the example, by clothing themselves in a regimental of their respective corps; and it is not doubted but the captains and subalterns will immediately follow the example.

The General by no mean recommends or desires officers to run into costly or expensive regimentals; no matter how plain, or coarse, so they are but uniform in their colour, cut, and fashion.

The officers belonging to those regiments whose uniforms are not yet fixed upon, had better delay making their regimentals until they are.

GENERAL SULLIVAN TO MESHECH WEARE.

Winter-Hill, December 11, 1775.

Dear Sir: Though continually involved in those difficulties which necessarily attend a military life, I can by no means forget the duty I owe to that Province whose generous favours I have so largely shared, and whose generous favours I have so often experienced. Being deeply impressed with gratitude to that truly patriotick Colony, and fully sensible that the remaining part of my life ought to be devoted to the interest of my country in general, and that Province in particular, I have stolen a few moments from the busy scenes of war, to offer you my thoughts upon a matter which I deem essential to the future welfare of my truly spirited and deserving brethren within that Government.

I hear that the Continental Congress has given our Province a power to assume government. But the contents of this letter to the Provincial Congress having never transpired, and my friends at the Continental Congress having never informed me but in general terms that we had liberty to assume government, I must conclude that liberty is given to set up and establish a new form of government; for, as we were, properly speaking, a King's Government before, the giving us a power to assume government, would be giving us a license to assume a form of government which we could never obtain. Taking it therefore for granted that the Congress have given us liberty to set up that form of government which will best answer the true end and design thereof, I shall beg leave to offer you my thoughts upon the subject, leaving you to make such use thereof as your wisdom shall direct. And, as my ideas of government may in some measure differ from many others, I shall beg leave to premise some few things. And in the first place must observe, that all governments are, or ought to be, instituted for the good of the people; and that form of government is most perfect where that design is most nearly and effectually answered.

Secondly. That government which admits of contrary or clashing interests, is imperfect, and must work its own ruin whenever one branch has gained a power sufficient to overrule or destroy the other. And the adding a third, with a separate and distinct interest, in imitation of the *British* Constitution, so much celebrated by those who understand nothing of it, is only like two contending powers calling in a third which is unconnected in interest, to keep the other two in awe, till it can gain power sufficient to destroy them both. And I may almost venture to prophesy, that the period is now at hand when the *British* nation will too late discover the defects in their much boasted Constitution, and the ruin of that empire evince to the world the folly and danger of establishing a government consisting of different branches, whose interests must ever clash with each other.

Third. That no danger can arise to a State from giving the people a free and full voice in their own government. And that, what is called the prerogatives of the Crown, or checks upon the licentiousness of the people, are only the children of designing or ambitious men, no such thing being necessary; for, though many States have been overturned by the rage and violence of the people, yet that spirit of rage and violence has ever been awakened in the first place by the misconduct of their rulers. And, though often carried to the most dangerous heights, so far from being owing to too much power being lodged in the hands of the people, that it is clearly owing to their having too small, and their rulers too extensive a power.

Thus, we find *Rome* enjoyed its liberties until their Dictators and others were clothed with power unknown before, at least in that country, and made in some sort independent of the people; and to this authority, so inconsiderately given, should be charged all the tumults at *Rome*, and the final ruin of that empire. This uncontrollable power, so much sought after by designing men, is made use of to enslave the people, and either brings about that event, or raises the just indignation of the people to extirpate the tyrant thus seeking their ruin. And it sometimes happens that the resentment is so far carried by the fury of an enraged populace, as totally to destroy the remains of government, and leave them in a state of anarchy and confusion; and too often have designing persons taken advantage of this confusion, and established tyranny in its place.

I am well convinced that people are too fond of their own ease and quiet to rise up in rebellion against government, unless where the tyranny of their rulers becomes intolerable. And their fondness for government must clearly appear, from their so often submitting to one tyrant after they had extirpated another, rather than live in a state of anarchy and confusion.

I would therefore advise to such a form of government as would admit of but one object to be kept in view, both by the governour and governed, namely, the good of the whole; that one interest should unite the several governing branches, and that the frequent choice of the rulers, by the people, should operate as a check upon their conduct, and remind them that a new election would soon honour them for their good conduct, or disgrace them for betraying the trust reposed in them.

I by no means object to a Governour, but would have him freely appointed by the people, and dependent upon them, and his appointment not to continue for a long time, unless re-elected—at most, not exceeding three years; and this appointment to be made by the freeholders in person, and not by their representatives, as that would be putting too dangerous a power in their hands, and possibly a majority of designing men might elect a person to answer their own particular purposes, to the great emolument of those individuals, and the oppression of their fellow-subjects; whereas, we can never suppose the people to have any thing but the true end of government, viz: their own good in view, unless we suppose them idiots or self-murderers.

I am likewise much in favour of a Council and House of Representatives, but would have them likewise chosen by the people, and by no means for a longer time than three years; and this mode of choosing would effectually destroy that pernicious power distinguishing Governours, to throw aside those persons who they found would not join them in enslaving the people.

The late conduct of *Bernard* and *Hutchinson*, and the present unhappy state of the Province I am now in, are striking witnesses of the justice of this observation; nor can I see the least reason for a Governour having a power to negative a Speaker of the House.

I would have some rule established for making that person incapable of holding either of the above offices, that should, either before or after his election, bribe or treat the voters, with intent either to procure an election or reward the electors for having chosen him. Accusation, if against the Governour, to be tried by the two Houses; and if against either of the other members, by the Governours and the other members of both Houses, he having only a vote equal to any other member. And in case judgment should pass against the new elected Governour, the old one to remain till a new election be had; and in case he be the same person formerly elected, the President of the Council to supply his place till a new election can be made, which President should be appointed by free vote of the members of the Council, at their first meeting.

The infamous practice of bribing people, in *Great Bri-*

tain, to sell their votes, and consequently their liberty, must show the danger of permitting so dangerous a practice to be instituted under our Constitution, to prevent which, and to guard against the undue influence of persons in power over votes, I would recommend the *Pennsylvanian* method, viz: that every vote should be rolled up, sealed on the back thereof, be noted that it is a vote for a Governour, which should be deposited in a box prepared for that purpose; and a vote for Counsellors and Representatives, sealed up, noted on the back, brought in as aforesaid, and deposited in separate boxes, provided for the purpose. That all voters having once given in their votes, should pass out, and care be taken that they should not come in again till the voting was over; or, if it be thought more expedient, to let the clerk of the meeting have a perfect list of all voters, with three columns ruled against those names, one marked for a Governour, one for a Representative; and when a person brings in a vote for one, a mark to be made against his name in that column; and if he brings in for all three at the same time, a mark to be made in each column; which I think will effectually prevent any fraud in voting again. The Representatives' box to be examined in meeting, and the election declared. The votes given for Counsellors and Governour to be sealed up by the clerk, and forwarded by him to the capital of the Province, where all the votes being had together, a sworn committee should examine the whole and declare the elections.

This method, though it may appear somewhat troublesome, will not turn out so upon trial; and it is the most effectual method to secure the freedom of voting, and prevent every species of fraud and connivance.

Any persons who offer themselves as candidates for any berth, may, agreeably to the method practised in *Pennsylvania*, publish their design in newspapers, or communicate it in any other method they may think proper, or leave the people to find out persons of merit and nominate for themselves. All civil officers should be appointed by the three branches, and all military officers by the Governour and Council, and never superseded in commission but by the same power which created them. All laws negatived by a Governour, if revived afterwards, and passed by a new House and Council, to be assented to by him at all events, as it would be unreasonable to suppose two Houses of Representatives, and two sets of Counsellors, possessed of less wisdom, or to have less understanding of the true interests of the people, than a single person has, and that after having a long time to think upon the matter, and to consult their constituents thereon.

And here I must beg leave to observe that, however high other people's notions of government may run, and however much they may be disposed to worship a creature of their own creation, I can by no means consent to lodging too much power in the hands of one person, or suffering an interest in government to exist separate from that of the people, or any man to hold an office, for the execution of which he is not in some way or other answerable to that people to whom he owes his political existence.

Time will not permit me to go more largely into the subject, but I must leave you to weigh these hints, and make such improvement thereon as your wisdom shall direct; and though my notions of government are something singular, yet, I think this plan will be an improvement upon the Constitution, by far the happiest I know of. Where I have supposed a defect in that Constitution, I have taken the freedom to borrow from that of *Pennsylvania*, and other governments, to supply it; and, in some instances have added my own thoughts, which, if they have the force of reason in them, will have their weight. If they should not appear to be founded on reason, I must beg you to excuse my giving you trouble, as I sincerely aim to promote the welfare of that Colony, to which I wish the most lasting happiness.

And assure yourself that I am, with much esteem, your most obedient servant,

JOHN SULLIVAN.

ADDRESS OF THE MAGISTRATES AND COUNCIL OF KIRKWALL.

Address of the Magistrates and Council of the Burgh of *Kirkwall*, presented to His Majesty by *Thomas Dundas*, Esq., Representative in Parliament for *Stirlingshire*.

To the King's Most Excellent Majesty.

The humble Address of the Magistrates and Council of the Burgh of KIRKWALL.

Most Gracious Sovereign:

We, your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Provost, Magistrates, and Council of the Burgh of *Kirkwall*, beg leave to approach the Throne with unfeigned hearts and real zeal for the many blessings we have enjoyed by the dispensation of Providence during your Majesty's reign, which we wish may be long and prosperous. We at the same time declare our abhorrence and detestation of the unhappy and unnatural disputes of the Colonists in *America* with their mother country, fomented and promoted by divisions at home, and carried on and supported by the enthusiastick spirit and overgrown wealth of the Colonists themselves, insomuch that their unbounded liberties have increased not only to licentiousness, but to open rebellion.

We will not pretend to prescribe rules or methods for terminating these miseries; but we earnestly wish that your Majesty, assisted by the Parliament of *Great Britain*, will endeavour to suppress this rebellion, and to bring the troubles and calamities thereby occasioned, to as speedy an issue as your Majesty's wisdom, the spirit of the nation, and the welfare of *Great Britain*, shall permit; and to effectuate and bring about this happy and desirable end we will always be ready to contribute to the utmost of our power.

Signed in name, presence, and appointment of the Council, the 12th day of *December*, 1775 years, by

JOHN RIDDOCH, *Provost*.

ADDRESS OF THE NOBLEMEN, ETC., OF ROXBURGH.

Address of the Noblemen and Gentlemen of the County of *Roxburgh*, presented to His Majesty by the Right Honourable Sir *Gilbert Elliot*, Bart., their Representative in Parliament.

Unto the King's Most Excellent Majesty.

The humble Address of the Noblemen and Gentlemen of the County of ROXBURGH.

Most Gracious Sovereign:

We, your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Noblemen and Gentlemen of the County of *Roxburgh*, beg leave to approach your Majesty with hearts full of gratitude for the many blessings we enjoy under your mild and auspicious Government, and to testify to your Majesty our abhorrence of the unnatural and unprovoked rebellion which now rages in your *North-American* Colonies.

At the same time that we sincerely lament the misery and distraction into which your deluded subjects of *America* have thrown their unhappy country, by an ungrateful departure from their duty and allegiance, we can assure your Majesty that we have the most entire confidence in the justice, wisdom, and vigour of your measures, for restoring peace and good government to every part of your extensive dominions; and that we are ready, with our lives and fortunes, to support your Majesty's authority, and that of the Parliament of *Great Britain*, against every attempt to overthrow our present happy Constitution.

Signed by our appointment:

JAMES DOUGLASS, *Præses*.

COLONEL WOODFORD TO THE VIRGINIA CONVENTION.

Great-Bridge, December 12, 1775.

Lieutenant-Colonel *Stephens* arrived at *Kemp's Landing* last night, and, agreeably to my orders, sent a party to secure every person in that neighbourhood that had left *Norfolk* since the battle of the *Great-Bridge*. He informs he has Mr. *McCalvert*, Dr. *Campbell*, Mr. *Matthew Phripp*, and others, now with him, whose examinations I now enclose. I have had a number of people from thence to day, whose stories disagree. They bring two petitions, one from the poor inhabitants of *Norfolk*, the other from the distressed Highlanders, which I likewise send enclosed; and have given no answer to them yet. Have detained the bearers for further consideration.

Two gentlemen this moment brought me in a young *Scotchman*, named *Hamilton*, who confesses he has borne arms, and was at this fort in *Gilmore's* company. He was making his way to *Nansemond*. I have ordered him to be coupled to one of his brother black soldiers, with a pair of handcuffs, which is the resolution I have taken shall be the fate of all these cattle, till I am further instructed by your honourable House.

Enclose a copy of my advertisement, dispersed over *Princess-Ann* and *Norfolk* Counties, and hope it will meet with your approbation.

Major *Eppes* arrived here this evening with his party, and Colonel *Howe* with three hundred and forty of the *Carolina* regulars. I shall march to-morrow with a number of the troops.

I am just informed that several sail of vessels were arrived to day, thought to have troops on board; but Colonel *Howe* supposes them to be the tenders returning from *North-Carolina*.

Two companies of choice riflemen have arrived at headquarters this week, who are well armed, commanded by Captain *Campbell*, of *Fincastle*, and Captain *Gibson*, of *West-Augusta*. Captain *Morgan Alexander*, with his rifle company, is expected this day. As fine men we have here as ever were seen.

COLONEL SCOTT TO CAPTAIN SOUTHALL.

Great-Bridge, December 12, 1775.

We are now about to finish the work that we came down about. We sent a detachment of four hundred men to *Kemp's Landing* last night to take possession of that place, which they did without interruption. The inhabitants of *Norfolk* are daily sending petitions to us for protection. We have not yet answered them. We have taken up some of the worst of the tories, and coupled them to a negro with handcuffs. The most stupid kind we discharge. I expect a flag of truce here every moment.

We have just received a letter from Lord *Dunmore*, desiring to exchange the prisoners. I do not expect we shall agree to do it without consulting the Convention. Four of the prisoners are dead since taken. We are well informed that the Governour has disarmed the negroes, and taken all the troops, together with a number of *Scotchmen*, on board.

I am your most obedient, C. Scott.

P. S. The flag I mentioned above has since come to our camp, in order to exchange prisoners. They behaved exceeding well, and were discharged about eleven o'clock at night, but it is expected we shall hear again from them so soon as our express returns from *Williamsburgh*.

HANOVER COUNTY (VIRGINIA) COMMITTEE.

Mr. Alexander Purdie: The Committee of *Hanover* County, having understood that reports have been propagated reflecting on their conduct with regard to the steps taken by them to prevent disorder and confusion in the County, occasioned by the probability of a scarcity of salt; and that the publick may be satisfied as to the rectitude of their conduct, they have directed me to desire you will publish, in your next Gazette, their proceedings relative thereto, hereunto annexed, which you will please to comply with.

I am your most obedient, humble servant,

William Bentley, *Clerk*.

December 12, 1775.

In Committee, December 12, 1775.

Whereas it is represented to this Committee, that several persons have of their own accord gone about in a disorderly manner, to search for Salt, and have taken the same where it could not be well spared. And this Committee, taking under their consideration the above alarm, occasioned by the scarcity thereof, and being willing and desirous, as far as in their power, to preserve peace and good order, and to prevent riots and tumults:

Resolved, therefore, That, upon application being made to any three or more of this Committee, they will search all suspected places within this County, in the most decent and respectful manner; and if they shall find more than is sufficient for a person's own use, they will do therein as to them shall seem best and expedient, and report the same to this Committee. And if any person or persons whatsoever, within their jurisdiction, shall presume, or offer, without the authority aforesaid, to go about to search for Salt at any publick or private places, that this Committee will use their utmost endeavours to suppress the same, by such ways and means as they shall think proper, and hold the persons guilty thereof to the publick, for contempt of peace, justice and good order.

And that no persons offending herein may plead ignorance for an excuse:

Ordered, That the Clerk of this Committee do cause a copy of this order to be set up at every publick place in this County, and be also published on some Lord's day at the several churches in the said County, by the Ministers and Recorders thereof.

Signed by order of the Committee:

William Bentley, *Clerk*.

COMMITTEE OF SECRET CORRESPONDENCE TO ARTHUR LEE.

Philadelphia, December 12, 1775.

Sir: By this conveyance we have the pleasure of transmitting to you sundry printed papers, that such of them as you think proper may be immediately published in *England*.

We have written on the subject of *American* affairs to Monsieur *C. G. F. Dumas*, who resides at the *Hague*. We recommend to you to correspond with him, and to send through his hands any letters to us, which you cannot send more directly. He will transmit them via *St. Eustatia*. Mr. *Story* may be trusted with any despatches you think proper to send us. You will be so kind as to aid and advise him.

It would be agreeable to Congress to know the disposition of foreign Powers towards us, and we hope this object will engage your attention. We need not hint that great circumspection and impenetrable secrecy are necessary. The Congress rely on your zeal and abilities to serve them, and will readily compensate you for whatever trouble and expense a compliance with their desire may occasion. We remit you for the present two hundred pounds.

Whenever you think the importance of your despatches may require it, we desire you to send an express boat with them from *England*, for which service your agreement with the owner there shall be fulfilled by us here.

We can now only add, that we continue firm in our resolutions to defend ourselves, notwithstanding the big threats of the Ministry. We have just taken one of their ordnance store-ships, in which an abundance of carcasses and bombs, intended for burning our towns, were found.

With great esteem, we are, sir, your most obedient, humble servants,

B. Franklin,
John Dickinson,
John Jay.

PHILADELPHIA COMMITTEE.

In Committee, December 12, 1775.

Resolved, That the price of Oil be limited to five pounds per barrel, and no person who may purchase any to retail again be allowed to advance above five shillings per barrel when sold at the wharf, and seven shillings and six pence per barrel, for what they store; and that this Committee recommend it to the retailers in small quantities to sell it in proportion.

R. S. Jones, *Secretary*.

LORD STIRLING TO NEW-JERSEY COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Elizabethtown, December 12, 1775

Dear Sir: Your letter of the 9th instant, I have received, and am glad to find the appointment of *William Barret*, Jun., to the surgency of my regiment has taken place, as we have already use for him, in curing broken shins, and a variety of small business, which unavoidably happen among a number of men assembled together. I wish the commission could be immediately despatched and sent to

me, with an account of his pay and allowance that is made with regard to his medicine chest.

Mr. *Abner Hatfield* was well recommended to me as a fit person to be Quartermaster to the regiment, before I mentioned him as such to Congress. I knew of no disqualification; he has indeed been unfortunate in his circumstances; but I could not conceive that was one, as no money matters, or any other matter would come within his charge that can be affected by his poverty. I apprehend that the nature of this office has been mistaken by your Committee, or that they supposed it was a branch of the Quartermaster-General's office, especially as you mention it as an office worthy the acceptance of Colonel *Dayton*, or Colonel *Thomas*. But it has no connection with that department; he is a mere regimental officer, who must at all times attend the regiment, and therefore by no means can suit either of the gentlemen you mention. If still an objection lies against Mr. *Hatfield*, I must then recommend Mr. *Mathias Halsted* for that office. In this I am backed by Mr. *John De Hart*, Colonel *Dayton*, and Colonel *Thomas*, and should be glad to have the commission expedited as soon as possible, as we now stand in need of that officer, three companies being now in town, and the rest of the regiment to be here in a few days, the inhabitants having cheerfully agreed to take in all the companies that cannot be quartered in the barracks.

We have quietly got possession of the barracks at *Amboy*, with all the barrack stores and blankets. One company of this battalion are now there. As soon as Colonel *Maxwell's* regiment is ready, they will take possession of the barracks at *Trenton*, *Brunswick*, and *Amboy*.

STIRLING.

RECANTATION OF JAMES MILLER.

I, *James Miller*, of *Bedford*, in the Province of *New-York*, notwithstanding my signing the Association in the year past, which was recommended by the Provincial Congress of the Province of *New-York*, in which I engaged to abide by the resolves of the honourable Continental Congress, and to oppose the present tyrannical measures pursued by the *British* Ministry and their adherents in *America*, in order to enslave the inhabitants of the Colonies, yet in the face of all my engagements, by signing the Association above mentioned, I have resolutely opposed all the military preparations recommended by the Delegates of the *United Colonies* in the Continental Congress, and in many instances have, to my shame, acted against the liberties of the country which gave me birth; and have by indecent and abusive language endeavoured to ridicule those that appeared determined to support their liberties at the hazard of their lives, against all tyranny and oppression. I endeavoured also to break up the Minute company in the town of *Bedford;* for which, and all my misbehaviour toward them, and opposition to the liberties of *America*, I now ask their forgiveness, and the forgiveness of all the inhabitants of my bleeding country, which I have injured by my misconduct, and promise to behave myself for the future, consistent with the proposals of the honourable Continental Congress.

As witness my hand in *Stamford*, this 12th day of *December*, 1775, desiring the same may be published.

JAMES MILLER.

RECANTATION OF LEWIS McDONALD.

I, *Lewis McDonald*, Jun., of *Bedford*, *Westchester* County, in the Province of *New-York*, having lately taken the office of Justice of the Peace, under the Ministerial party in this Province, in which I have endeavoured to support their measures, and also violently opposed the military preparations made in consequence of the directions of the honourable Continental Congress, and in many instances have, both in principle and practice been inimical to the liberty and rights of *America;* for the whole of which conduct I am sincerely sorry, and ask the forgiveness of this Committee, and all the inhabitants of my bleeding country, whom I have injured by my misconduct, either by my private conduct, or in the execution of my office of justice of the peace; and promise that I will suspend acting in that office without the consent of the Committee of the town of *Bedford*. Which above confession and promise I freely set my hand unto, in *Stamford*, in *Connecticut*, desiring the same to be published in one of the *New-York* papers.

LEWIS McDONALD, JUN.

December 12, 1775.

RECANTATION OF STEPHEN BAXTER.

I, *Stephen Baxter*, of *Bedford*, in the Colony of *New-York*, acknowledge, that, by horrid cursing and profane swearing, I have opposed the liberties of *America*, and the measures pursued by the honourable Continental Congress; calling those Rebels that adhered to that, and endeavoured to frustrate them in their opposition to the present tyrannical measures pursued by the *British* Ministry and their tools; for all of which conduct of mine, I am sincerely sorry, and ask the forgiveness of all those whom I have abused personally, and also the friends of *American* liberty in general, to whom I desire my confession may be made publick in one of the *New-York* papers.

As witness my hand in *Stamford*, this 12th day of *December*, *A. D.* 1775.

STEPHEN BAXTER.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Albany, December 12, 1775.

SIR: Your favour of the 5th instant I had the honour to receive yesterday. I thank your Honour for the return that was enclosed. Mr. *M'Kay*, who was taken at *St. John's*, has behaved in such a manner that the Committee of this place have requested his removal. I have discharged him from his parole of honour, and he goes under an escort to *Lebanon*. I hear that both the elder and younger *Skene* are fled, and consequently broke their parole of honour. Some of the officers that went under Captain *Mott's* charge have also attempted to run off. I fear they do not consider their parole of honour as binding. General *Montgomery* left *Montreal* on the 25th ultimo, to join Colonel *Arnold*. The former cannot take above three hundred men with him; and the latter has only five hundred and fifty.

Lieutenant *Halsey* has behaved so ill that General *Montgomery* has returned him to me as a deserter. The General says that it was he that instigated the people to refuse going to *Montreal*. He is certainly turbulent and seditious; I found him so early in the campaign. An extract from General *Montgomery's* letter, in which the above charge is contained, I have sent to the honourable Continental Congress, and have observed: "That as the time for which Mr. *Halsey* was engaged is expired, he can only be punished by stopping all his pay, which must be done, unless he will request to be tried by a court-martial."

Wishing your Honour much health and happiness, I am, with great respect and esteem, your most obedient, humble servant,

PHILIP SCHUYLER.

To the Honourable *Jonathan Trumbull*, Esq.

GENERAL LEE TO RICHARD HENRY LEE.

Camp, December 12, 1775.

MY DEAR FRIEND: I have just received your letter by Mr. *Custis*. I am heartily glad that you have sent a Committee into *Canada*, but, *inter nos*, think it might have been better chosen. *Payne* has certainly not the *mannieres* . . . . which, according to Lord *Chesterfield*, and my observation, are so requisite to captivate the *French;* for Heaven's sake, my dear friend, why are you not more decisive, and wherefore are any of the sea-port towns suffered to furnish the men-of-war with fresh meat, or even with a single carrot; this indecision will ruin us; this cursed tenderness for the sea-port towns will at least prolong the war and all its calamities. It was indecision that has thrown your affairs in *Virginia* into their present situation; had my opinion been thought worthy of attention, Lord *Dunmore* should have been disarmed of his teeth and his claws. I proposed seizing *Tryon*, and all his tories, at *New-York*. I knew if it was moved in Congress his Excellency would be instantly apprised of it, and of course the possibility of effecting it would not be left to us; in this persuasion, I would have struck the stroke, and applied afterwards to your

mightinesses for approbation. You will justly accuse me of self-conceit and egotism, but I have not yet done. I propose, therefore, the following measures:

First. To seize every Governour, Government man, placeman, tory, and enemy to liberty, on the Continent; to confiscate their estates, or, at least, lay them under heavy contributions for the publick; their persons should be secured in some of the interior towns, as hostages for their treatment of those of our party whom the fortune of war shall throw into their hands; they should be allowed a reasonable pension out of their fortunes for their maintenance.

Secondly. I propose that *New-York* be strongly garrisoned and fortified, or destroyed.

Thirdly. That a strong flying camp, with not only an able officer at their head, but an officer who has the reputation of being able, in order to inspire the people with confidence, be kept about *Hampton, York,* or *Williamsburgh,* in *Virginia;* another, not quite so strong, about *Alexandria;* and a third, a strong one, about *Annapolis,* in *Maryland.*

Fourth. That *Charlestown,* in *Carolina,* should be well secured.

Fifth, and lastly. That, if the *Canadians* desire it, you spare no expense in furnishing them with an army; but, above all, that you be extremely careful in the choice of officers sent to that country; that they be not only men of strict integrity, but of a frank, open address, with elevated sentiments expressed in their manners. I should think such men may be found with you more easily than in these Provinces, as I find you propose in your letter, for I never saw a people so universally destitute *du l'air du monde,* as these here; Mr. *Bowdoin,* an invalid, is the only exception. These propositions, I before offered to a member of your Congress, with one other, respecting the construction of your army, here omitted.

Recruiting goes on here more briskly than we expected; the men are strange mortals, but they have virtue, and many good qualities. Adieu, my dear friend.

Yours, affectionately, C. Lee.

GENERAL GATES TO GENERAL SULLIVAN.

Head-Quarters, December 12, 1775.

Sir: I have received his Excellency's orders in answer to your letter by the bearer. You have his permission to deliver the *Connecticut* arms to such of the militia as are in want of arms, taking proper receipts, and making proper persons accountable for the re-delivery.

I am, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

Horatio Gates, *Adjutant-General.*

To Brigadier-General *Sullivan, Winter-Hill.*

TO DR. WHEELOCK.

Cambridge, December 12, 1775.

Acknowledged receipt of two letters. Thanked him for information respecting Major *Rogers,* and enclosed a letter for him, which was saved, with other papers thrown overboard by Captain *Forster.* R. H. H.

ROBERT H. HARRISON TO THE REV. DOCTOR STILES.

Cambridge, December 12, 1775.

Sir: I am commanded by his Excellency to inform you that he received your favour of the 1st instant, with your History of *America,* containing several useful and necessary maps, for which he is exceedingly obliged to you. It will be taken care of and returned when you want it. General *Gates* will have the perusal of it, to whom your respects have been tendered.

I am, sir, your humble servant,

R. H. Harrison.

To the Rev. Dr. *Stiles, Newport.*

PROCLAMATION BY VIRGINIA CONVENTION.

By the Representatives of the People of the Colony and Dominion of Virginia, *assembled in General Convention.*

A Declaration.

Whereas Lord *Dunmore,* by his Proclamation, dated on board the ship *William,* the 7th day of *November,* 1775, hath presumed, in direct violation of the Constitution and the laws of this country, to declare martial law in force, and to be executed throughout this Colony, whereby our lives, our liberty, and property, are arbitrarily subjected to his power and direction; and whereas the said Lord *Dunmore,* assuming powers which the King himself cannot exercise, to intimidate the good people of this Colony into a compliance with his arbitrary will, hath declared those who do not immediately repair to his standard, and submit in all things to a government not warranted by the Constitution, to be in actual rebellion, and thereby to have incurred the penalties inflicted by the laws for such offences; and hath offered freedom to the servants and slaves of those he is pleased to term Rebels, arming them against their masters, and destroying the peace and happiness of His Majesty's good and faithful subjects, whose property is rendered insecure, and whose lives are exposed to the dangers of a general insurrection: we, as guardians of the lives and liberty of the people, our constituents, conceive it to be indispensably our duty to protect them against every species of despotism, and to endeavour to remove those fears with which they are so justly alarmed.

If it were possible the understanding of men could be so blinded that every gleam of reason might be lost, the hope his Lordship says he hath ever entertained of an accommodation between *Great Britain* and this Colony, might now pass unnoticed; but truth, justice, and common sense, must ever prevail, when facts can be appealed to in their support. It is the peculiar happiness of this Colony that his Lordship can be traced as the source of innumerable evils, and one of the principal causes of the misfortunes under which we now labour. A particular detail of his conduct since his arrival in this Colony, can be considered only as a repetition, it having been already fully published to the world by the proceedings of the General Assembly, and a former Convention; but the unremitting violence with which his Lordship endeavours to involve this country in the most dreadful calamities, constantly affords new matter for the attention of the publick, and will remove every imputation of ingratitude to his Lordship, or of injustice to his character. His Lordship is pleased to ascribe the unworthy part he has taken against this Colony to a necessity arising from the conduct of its inhabitants, whom he hath considered in a rebellious state, but who know nothing of rebellion except the name. Ever zealous in support of tyranny, he hath broken the bonds of society, and trampled justice under his feet. Had his Lordship been desirous of effecting an accommodation of these disputes, he hath had the most ample occasion of exerting both his interest and abilities; but that he never had in view any such salutary end, most evidently appears from the whole tenor of his conduct. The supposed design of the *Canada* bill having been to draw down upon us a merciless and savage enemy; the present manœuvres amongst the *Roman* Catholicks in *Ireland,* and the schemes concerted with Doctor *Connolly,* and other vile instruments of tyranny, which have appeared by the examination of said *Connolly,* justify the supposition, and most fully evince his Lordship's inimical and cruel disposition towards us, and can best determine whether we have been wrong in preparing to resist, even by arms, that system of tyranny adopted by the Ministry and Parliament of *Great Britain,* of which he is become the rigid executioner in this Colony. The many depredations committed also upon the inhabitants of this Colony, by the tenders and other armed vessels employed by his Lordship for such purposes, the pilfering and plundering the property of the people, and the actual seduction and seizure of their slaves, were truly alarming in their effects, and called aloud for justice and resistance. The persons of many of our peaceable brethren have been seized and dragged to confinement, contrary to the principles of liberty, and the Constitution of our country. Yet have we borne this injurious treatment with unexampled patience, unwilling to shed the blood of our fellow-subjects, who, prosecuting the measures of a *British* Parliament, would sacrifice our lives and property to a relentless fury, and unabating avarice. If a Governour can be authorized, even by Majesty itself, to annul the laws of the land, and introduce the most execrable of all systems, the law martial; if, by his single fiat, he can strip us of our property,

can give freedom to our servants and slaves, and arm them for our destruction, let us bid adieu to every thing valuable in life; let us at once bend our neck to the galling yoke, and hug the chains prepared for us and our latest posterity.

It is with inexpressible concern we reflect upon the distressed situation of some of our unhappy countrymen who have thought themselves too immediately within the power of Lord *Dunmore*, and have been induced thereby to remain inactive. We lament the advantage he hath taken of their situation, and at present impute their inactivity in the cause of freedom and the Constitution, not to any defection or want of zeal, but to their defenceless state; and whilst we endeavour to afford them succour, and to support their rights, we expect they will contribute every thing in their power to effect their deliverance. Yet, if any of our people, in violation of their faith plighted to this Colony, and the duty they owe to society, shall be found in arms, or continue to give assistance to our enemies, we shall think ourselves justified, by the necessity we are under, in executing upon them the law of retaliation.

Impressed with a just and ardent zeal for the welfare and happiness of our countrymen, we trust they will, on their part, exert themselves in defence of our common cause, and that we shall all acquit ourselves like freemen, being compelled by the disagreeable, but absolute necessity, of repelling force by force, to maintain our just rights and privileges: and we appeal to *God*, who is the sovereign disposer of all events, for the justice of our cause, trusting to His unerring wisdom to direct our councils, and give success to our arms.

EDMUND PENDLETON, *President*.

Virginia, December 13, 1775.

COLONEL HOWE TO THE VIRGINIA CONVENTION.

December 13, 1775.

We have scouting parties down the Bay, to give intelligence of the arrival of any vessels, or any other event, either to our advantage or otherwise. From the officers commanding those parties, we have received certain intelligence that a man-of-war, either of thirty-six or forty guns, is within the Bay, and on her way to this place, with a large brig, supposed to be a store-ship, both full of men. This may probably give us something to do, and I hope we may execute it properly.

CHARLES STEWART TO GOVERNOUR PENN.

Ringwood, December 13, 1775.

SIR: In pursuance of your Honour's letter (of 25th ultimo) to the Magistrates of *Northampton* County, which was delivered to *George Taylor*, Esq., in *Philadelphia*, he and I met at *Easton*, on the 28th, where the contents were made known to Messrs. *Gorden*, *Kuchlin*, and *Van Compon*. The Justices, *Nicholas Depui* and *Garret Broadhead*, were wrote to, to attend at *Easton*, but did not come. In a day or two after, writs were renewed against the *New-England* people who had been formerly indicted; and Mr. *Taylor* furnishing ammunition for the occasion, Mr. Sheriff proceeded over the mountain where some time was spent in collecting a posse; mean time, I sent a proper person to examine the situation of *Fort Parks*, with directions to return and meet Mr. Sheriff, who accordingly did, and reported, what was found afterwards true, that the *Yankees* would make little or no resistance; therefore, those that were found were taken; about one-half got out of the way. Mr. Sheriff returned forthwith, without demolishing any part of the fort, and the prisoners were forty miles on their way to *Easton*, when an express from *Fort Augusta* arrived, with intelligence that the Sheriff and posse of *Northumberland* had not yet moved up the river, and wanted to get some assistance from *Northampton* County. This account embarrassed us exceedingly. The prisoners were told, when they met me, terms would be made; and, declaring their willingness to do any and every thing, I produced to them the enclosed paper, which they readily executed, and sent a man back with them to see that they performed what further promises they made, viz: to cut down the stockades of the fort, and to collect all the settlers that had hid or fled, and get them to sign the copy of the enclosed, and send it to *Easton* at court next week, with their principal men, where they propose to take leases for their respective improvements or purchase, which some of them say they mean to do, if possible. *Silas Parks*, who is the only one amongst them who stood indicted, had gone to *Wyoming* the day before the Sheriff got up; had he been taken, I would not have consented to his stopping short of prison. The rest we had, in fact, no process against, except a warrant, in which their names, as they gave them in, were inserted. Notwithstanding *Yankees* have so often deceived me, I really expect those men will appear at court, and gladly come under lease; if they do not, I flatter myself the paper they have signed will operate against them hereafter, and be a foundation for calling on them again. At any rate, I beg leave to assure your Honour I did it for the best, and was cautious of giving reason to censure us for cruelty. I also thought treating those people tenderly might facilitate the expedition of the *Northumberland* Sheriff at *Wyoming*. I sent an express to them, informing them of what was done, and a copy of the terms. I likewise sent a duplicate of the writ, attested under the seal of Mr. *Gorden's* office, that they might have all the authority that would be given them to secure the old offenders that are at *Wyoming*. As the party who went to *Fort Parks*, or *Wallanpapeck*, were weary at their return, some disputes having also happened among them, it was with great difficulty I could collect a party to go and join the Sheriff of *Northumberland*; however, about thirty set out on *Monday* evening and *Tuesday* morning, with *Isaiah Jennings* at their head. I expect that, if they can cross the creeks, they will be this night with the *Northumberland* men at *Waphalapane*, the place proposed in their letter to meet at.

I had daily intelligence from *Wyoming* whilst I was over the mountain. Great divisions have arisen at *Wyoming* lately. *Lazarus Stewart* has sent me repeated assurances of his neutrality, at least, and his adherents are hourly wrangling with the real *Yankees*, so that I think a surrender must ensue. *John McDowell* and his son-in-law, *Jacob Stroud*, from *Fort Penn*, set off last *Sunday* to bring away from *Wyoming* their relations, who are numerous, and secure the moneys due them at *Wyoming*, which is considerable. I believe *Stroud* will do all he can to serve the cause now, as he has lately been chosen a Colonel, and I gave him to understand he must exert himself or his cockade would be in danger, complaints having been made against him for supplying the *Yankees* with ammunition and arms to disturb the peace of the Province. Mr. *Taylor* has done every thing in his power to serve Government on this occasion, and furnished the ammunition, without which nothing would have been done. Mr. *Kuchlin* and Mr. *Van Compon* have also been active. I hope the *Northumberland* posse will succeed without shedding blood. At any rate, I am convinced they will make them submit, and a few days will bring the news. If your Honour thinks proper to let the *Wallanpapeck* lands to those people on lease, the copy of the draft, with instructions as to terms, will be wanted at *Easton* court. If the paper they signed contained sufficient power to enter judgment on, I would advise them to be done, to prevent future disputes about possession with them. If Colonel *Tench Francis* and Mr. *Taylor* were appointed to treat with those people, I believe it would be answering a good purpose. I know no man so fit to talk to *Yankees* as Col. *Francis*, and *Taylor* may surely be depended on. I will, if able to ride, be at *Easton*, but am and have been several days in great pain with a rheumatism in my legs.

I am your Honour's most obedient, humble servant,

CHARLES STEWART.

The Honourable *John Penn*, Esquire.

ASSOCIATION OF CONNECTICUT INTRUDERS.

Whereas we, the subscribers, with *Silas Parks* and others, our associates, have riotously and in defiance of the laws of the Province of *Pennsylvania*, seized upon and taken possession of a tract of land surveyed for the honourable the Proprietaries of this Province of *Pennsylvania* aforesaid, situate on the waters of *Lackawaxen*, at a place called *Wallanpapeck*, in the County of *Northampton*; for which forcible entries, riots, and other illegal acts of any,

bills of indictment have been found against us. And the Sheriff and Magistrates of the said County, producing His Majesty's process or writs unto us, we confess the legal service thereof on us severally. And do voluntarily and most cheerfully surrender ourselves to the humanity of the honourable the Proprietaries of *Pennsylvania*, in regard to our possessions, and to the lenity of the laws of said Province in regard to our crimes, and will appear, agreeably to our recognizances, at *Easton* court next term. And we do, each for himself, solemnly and voluntarily declare and promise that we will, in future, pay due obedience unto, and be governed by, the laws of *Pennsylvania* in every respect. We also disclaim all title to our present possessions, in pursuance of any claim or pretended right we, or any of us, may formerly have had under the *Susquehannah* or *Delaware* Companies, in *Connecticut*. And we covenant and promise to yield up our said possessions to the said Proprietaries, or their agents, at any time they may please to demand the same; and we do severally empower *James Biddle*, Esq., Attorney, or any other Attorney in the Province of *Pennsylvania* aforesaid, to appear for us and to receive a declaration in ejectment as of any term after this date, and to confess judgment thereon, with full powers to release all errors in the said judgment. We likewise promise that we severally will avoid all future quarrels with our neighbours, and unite and muster with Captain *Van Eltan's* company, and, if necessary, are willing to march where our assistance may be required for the defence of *American* liberty, in the common cause; and cheerfully, hereafter, obey all and every the resolutions and orders of the Continental Congress, the Assembly of the Province of *Pennsylvania*, or the Committee of Safety, of all whom we severally and humbly crave forgiveness for past offences; and in testimony of our sincere intentions to behave becomingly in future, we have hereunto set our hands and seals, this eighth day of *December*, 1775.

W. Fitch,	William Pellet,
Zadok Killiam,	Deliverance Adams,
Enos Woodward,	Amos Park,
Elijah Wilton,	Matthew Clash,
Hezekiah Bingham,	Abel Kimbal.

Test: Gerret Broadhead,
John Van Compon.

LOSSES FROM HOSTILITIES BY THE MINISTERIAL TROOPS.

New-York, December 13, 1775.

Whereas the Continental Congress, by their Resolve of the 18th of *October* last, did order and direct, "That a well-authenticated account of the hostilities committed by the Ministerial troops and navy in *America* since *March* last," should "be collected, with proper evidence of the truth of the facts related;" and also, "the number and value of the buildings destroyed by them," with "the number and value of the vessels, inward and outward bound, which have been seized by them since that period, as near as the value can be ascertained;" also, "the stock taken from different parts of the Continent:" And whereas the Committee appointed by them to collect the same, have transmitted a copy of the foregoing Resolve to the Provincial Congress in this City, requesting their assistance in obtaining the same; which letter, with the foregoing Resolve, being, by order of the Provincial Congress aforesaid, delivered to the Chairman of the General Committee for this City and County, "requiring them to ascertain, in the best manner possible, the damages sustained by people of this City and County, with all necessary particulars thereof, and with proofs to support the same, and to transmit them to the Provincial Congress with all convenient speed:" And whereas the General Committee afresaid have appointed *Cornelius P. Low*, *Oliver Templeton*, and *Daniel Phœnix*, to be a sub-Committee for that purpose: All persons in this City and County who have sustained any loss or damage by the Ministerial army or navy in *America* since *March* last, are hereby requested to prepare and deliver to them an accurate estimate of the same, with the examinations of witnesses and other papers and documents, officially authenticated; as also, clear, distinct, and circumstantial details of the hostile and destructive acts by them done, or captures or seizures made, that the same may be laid before the Provincial Congress without delay.

EDWARD JONES TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

New-York, December 13, 1775.

Gentlemen: I make bold to lay my grievances before you, in hopes you will see me righted. I have been this five months a Corporal in Captain *Ledyard's* company, and have received no more than 53*s*. 4*d*. a month. I have been lately informed by one or two Corporals that came down from *St. John's* that they received 58*s*. 8*d*. per month. Now, gentlemen, as I have been always ready and willing to do any thing for the good of my country, I hope your Honours will be so kind as to grant me my full pay, which will be forever acknowledged by your much obliged, very humble servant,

Edward Jones.

To the Provincial Congress in *New York*.

COMMISSIONERS FOR FORTIFICATIONS TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

Fort-Constitution, December 7, 1775.

Sir: Yours of the 3d instant, covering extracts of a letter from Lord *Stirling*, dated the same day, by which we find six companies, of ninety men each, are ordered up to this post, besides those already here. As to the orders to have sufficient barracks completed for one thousand men, we beg leave to observe, that it is not in our power to get done; the additional one (from the first plan) is not this day completed with filling in, but other ways fit and finished for troops, Captain *Grenell's* and Captain *Halbert's* companies being, with part of Captain *Ledyard's*, quartered in them. The first barrack, a single story, four rooms, twenty men in a room, is occupied by our artificers and labourers. We have ordered, eight days ago, another barrack of eighty feet by twenty, two stories high, with a garret, to be framed at *New-Windsor*; but the badness of the weather up here, by what we can learn, has prevented the person employed from getting the timber together to begin to frame. We shall hurry him, and may be able to get it raised and covered, but the stacks of chimneys and filling in much doubt if it can be done, as we have neither brick nor lime for it, and if we had, unless more favourable weather than for this fortnight past, could not much work at, as our mortar is continually freezing in the mortar-house. We beg leave to mention our frequent desire to know what number of men would be wanted to remain this winter at this post, as a government to us; in particular, in ours to Mr. *John Berrien* of the 15th ultimo, your not then nor since making a House, he could not give us a direct answer.

We could not take the artificers from the works of defence had materials (and we directions) for more barracks been on the spot. Artificers and labourers must have covering, and fire to go to. While they continue they take up the room of the first barrack; when they be dismissed, the two barracks now built will contain three hundred men.

We would also beg leave to refer the honourable Provincial Congress to ours of the 10th ultimo, in which we informed them what barracks we had then, to which we have never been honoured with an answer. Our mentioning these things is from a distress we are in on finding so many men ordered up to this post, when we never expected any more than three hundred to winter here, and, hearing nothing to induce us to think otherwise, provided, as well as circumstances and time permitted, for only that number.

As to procuring fire-wood, we are very ready to do it; but it must be bought and brought by water here. We think this comes more properly under the direction of the Commissary to the troops to be quartered here. We have been down in the sloop *Liberty*, examining the river as low as *Slaughter's Landing*, and find the depth of water, from there to this post, greatly to exceed the information we have had. We also took a view of *Pooploop's Hill*, and found its situation the best by much for any defensive works in the *Highlands*. A little to the north of the house, on the hill, is a place where a battery of heavy cannon would obstruct any enemies coming up, as it commands the river down and up, the length of point-blank

shot. Timber in plenty, near, to be had. No enemy can land at *Haverstraw* and cross the mountain, to annoy it by land. The height of the place, about one hundred feet above the river, and is not much wider over to *Anthony's Nose* than at this post. From *Pooploop's Hill*, we understand, there is a tolerable road, and can be made, with ease, much better to the *West-Point*. From there an enemy might bring cannon by land against this post.

We beg you will be pleased to lay the above before the honourable Congress.

And are, sir, your humble servants,

William Bedlow,
Thomas Grenell,
Jonathan Lawrence.

To *Nathaniel Woodhull*, Esquire.

ROBERT H. HARRISON TO COLONEL BALDWIN.

Cambridge, December 13, 1775.

Sir: I have it in command from his Excellency to inform you that, notwithstanding his orders to the contrary, some of the persons that came last from *Boston* to *Point Shirley* have been at this camp. One he has seen himself. He is exceedingly desirous to prevent a measure that may prove of fatal consequence to the army, and therefore enjoins that you will make it known to these people, and all others that may be sent out, that they do not come here without special leave obtained first of him; and if they do, they will be immediately imprisoned.

R. H. Harrison.

To Colonel *Loammi Baldwin, Chelsea.*

COLONEL MOYLAN TO WILLIAM WATSON.

Cambridge, December 13, 1775.

Sir: Your favour of the 4th instant is come to hand. Your attention and activity in fitting out the armed vessels is pleasing to his Excellency. I wish they may carry in some prizes that may pay you for all your trouble. Captain *Manly's* good fortune seems to stick to him; he has taken three valuable prizes since my last. This shows of what vast advantage to the cause these vessels would be, if the commanders were all as attentive to their duty and interest as *Manly* is. There runs a report about camp that one of our little fleet is taken and carried into *Boston*. We shall be uneasy until we hear from *Martindale*, as he is the one suspected. If Captain *Coit* and he are safe, let us know it as soon as possible.

Yours of the 11th is come to hand. I fear there is no doubt that the *Washington* is taken.

Mr. *Isaac Symms* receives £1015 16*s.* 8½*d.*, being the amount of the account of expenses for fitting out the *Washington* and *Harrison*, armed vessels. The General returns his thanks for the venison.

I am, &c.,

Stephen Moylan.

To *William Watson*, Esq., *Plymouth.*

ELBRIDGE GERRY TO SAMUEL ADAMS.

Watertown, December 13, 1775.

Dear Sir: With pleasure I received your letter of *October* 29th, relative to the militia and other subjects equally important. When writing on the subject of the militia, I proposed they should be under the command of a Continental General, in case of their being raised to reinforce his army, and upon the supposition that this must require an act of the Court of the Colony whose militia should be thus raised. A Continental General, as such, I am clearly of opinion, ought not to have any command of the militia. It is by no means necessary for general defence. It would lead a principal servant of the Government to forget his station, and conceive himself its master; but since, in military operations, it is absolutely necessary to have but one head, each Assembly would find it necessary that the commanding officer of the army which their militia should occasionally reinforce, should take the command of such part as they might order to his assistance, and this during the pleasure, only, of such Assembly; upon which plan he would, as to this, be in effect a Colonial officer. We already see a growing thirst for power in some of the inferior departments of the army, which ought to be regulated so far as to keep the military entirely subservient to the civil in every part of the *United Colonies.*

Your sentiments on the choice of men for publick offices are extremely just. The jealousy you speak of is plentifully produced in our House of Representatives. This is so natural to their habits, and toryism so noxious, that an enemy to *America* might as well attempt to scale the regions of bliss as to insinuate himself into the favour of the Assembly; but I should be glad to see a sufficient guard against the choice of men on account of pecuniary recommendation. It is happy to find a man independent in his fortune, of good sense and true patriotism, filling a publick office; but when the last is wanting, the possession of the first is an evil. Notwithstanding which, there have been instances in this Government, of persons chosen into publick office who might have lived till the millenium in silent obscurity had they depended on their mental qualifications to bring them into publick view.

With respect to incompatible offices, a bill is on foot to prevent this evil, and particular care will be taken to exclude gentlemen of the army from the Legislative, that military influence may never reach the Senate.

History can hardly produce such a series of events as have taken place in favour of *American* opposition. The hand of Heaven appears to have directed every occurrence. Had such an event as lately occurred in *Essex* happened to *Cromwell*, he would have published it as a miracle in his favour, and excited his soldiers to enthusiasm and bravery.

The manufacture of saltpetre is increasing. We shall be greatly served if a plan of the *Philadelphia* powder-mills can be sent us, which (Mr. *Revere* tells me) the owner was so selfish as to refuse, without a reward of one hundred half-johannes.

Your very true friend,

Elbridge Gerry.

MAJOR-GENERAL HOWE TO THE EARL OF DARTMOUTH.

Boston, December 13, 1775.

My Lord: His Majesty's ship *Tartar*, being ordered to *England*, by Admiral *Graves*, I am to confirm to your Lordship the intelligence before communicated, of the capture of the ordnance brig *Nancy*, by the Rebels, and that there is certainty of another vessel, the property of a merchant, loaded with woollen goods and every article necessary for clothing, having lately fallen into their hands, which must afford great relief to their most essential wants.

Since the departure of the *Boyne*, man-of-war, on the 5th instant, there have been no arrivals from *Britain;* and I am induced to believe, from the long prevalence of northerly winds, that the transports from *Cork*, with the 17th, 27th, 28th, 46th, and 55th regiments, together with the ships bringing stores for this place, have been forced far from the coast; and if so, the difficulties they have to encounter in getting to this port will increase in proportion as the winter season advances.

These considerations, and the state of provisions in store, a particular account of which your Lordship has with my separate letter of the 2d instant, sent by the *Boyne*, give rise to very alarming apprehensions, especially as demands for this article are increased from the transports, provisions for the seamen being expended from the pressing wants of useful persons, who must be supported for their services, and of many others, who have ever been attached to Government.

I am also concerned to observe that the uncertainty of defenceless vessels getting into this harbour is rendered more precarious, by the rebel privateers infesting the bay, who can take the advantage of many inlets on the coast, where His Majesty's ships cannot pursue them, and from whence they can safely avail themselves of any favourable opportunities that offer. The Admiral being of opinion that the ships cannot block up the several ports of *Cape Anne, Marblehead, Beverly*, and *Plymouth*, which afford protection to these pirates, without the assistance of a land force, that cannot at present be spared, has placed his ships in *Nantasket-Road*, with orders to cruise from thence in the bay; which, not proving effectual, I would humbly propose that the provisions, and other valuable stores, be

sent out for the future in ships-of-war, without their lower deck-guns, or in vessels of sufficient force to defend themselves against these Pirates. One of them, a brigantine, with seventy-three men, has been brought in by His Majesty's ship *Fowey*; and I enclose to your Lordship a copy of the Captain's instructions, from Mr. *Washington*, commanding the Rebel army. The prisoners are sent to *England* in the *Tartar*.

The troops entered into quarters here yesterday, leaving a detachment intrenched upon the heights of *Charlestown*, for the defence of that post.

Six companies of the Sixty-fifth are embarked, and will sail for *Halifax*, under convoy of the *Cerberus* frigate. The 18th and 59th Regiments, being drafted into other corps, their commissioned and non-commissioned officers, with the invalids and recruiting parties, go from hence on board of transports, in company with the *Tartar*.

By advice received from the head-quarters of the Rebels, I learn that General *Carleton* embarked at *Montreal* for *Quebeck*, on the 12th of *November*, with one hundred soldiers, and as many *Canadians*, carrying with him all the military stores he could convey; and that the Rebels took possession of the town the next day.

I am, &c.,

W. Howe.

ADDRESS OF THE FREEHOLDERS, ETC., OF THE COUNTY OF PEEBLES.

Address of the Justices of the Peace, Freeholders, and Commissioners of the Land Tax of the County of *Peebles*, presented to His Majesty by Sir *Robert Murray Keith*, Knight of the Bath, their Representative in Parliament.

To the King's most Excellent Majesty.

The humble Address of the Justices of the Peace, Freeholders, and Commissioners of the Land Tax of the County of Peebles.

We, your Majesty's most loyal and dutiful subjects, the Justices of the Peace, Freeholders, and Commissioners of the Land Tax, of the County of *Peebles*, beg leave, upon the present very serious and alarming occasion, to express, with perfect unanimity, that warm affection and gratitude which we have and owe to your Royal person, under whose auspicious Government we feel, in common with all your Majesty's subjects, every blessing that the best laws, executed by the best of Kings, can possibly produce.

We lament the situation of those of your Majesty's subjects, in *America*, who, by the artifices and false suggestions of designing men, have been induced to go into rebellion, from the groundless apprehensions of their property being rendered precarious, and their liberties destroyed, by their submitting to be taxed by the *British* Legislature.

We detest all the illegal and disloyal artifices that have been used for seducing your Majesty's *American* subjects, not only to violate the law, in the destruction of private property, but also to resist and destroy all legal authority, and at last, by open rebellion, even to dispute the sovereignty of the *British* Legislature.

We likewise beg leave to testify our disapprobation and dislike of all the licentious, seditious, and poisonous doctrines which have of late been maintained and published, either by speaking or writing, that have a tendency, at this critical juncture, to add to the deception of the deluded people of *America*, by making them believe that their rebellion is lawful, and approved of by the subjects of *Britain*.

We confide in the wisdom of your Majesty's Councils, aided and supported by your Parliament, and in the valour of your Majesty's arms, that every proper means will be used successfully, under the kind protection of Heaven, for bringing our deluded fellow-subjects of *America* to a just sense of their duty of obedience to the Supreme Legislative authority of these Kingdoms, and to eradicate those groundless apprehensions that seem to have inflamed their minds; that the reconciliation may be sincere and permanent; and we beg leave to assure your Majesty of our wish and most earnest desire to exert every means we can to strengthen the power of your Government.

We pray God, that your Majesty may long reign over us; and that the *British* Dominions, united in your reign, may be transmitted, in that state, to your Majesty's latest posterity.

Signed in our name, and by our appointment, at *Peebles*, the 14th of *December*, 1775.

James Montgomery.

In Massachusetts House of Representatives, February 14, 1776.

Mr. Speaker communicated to the House a letter from *St. Eustatia*, signed *Yankoo*, dated *December* 14th, enclosing a number of newspapers.

TO ANY PROVINCIAL COMMITTEE OR CONGRESS ON THE CONTINENT OF AMERICA.

St. Eustatia, December 14, 1775.

Gentlemen: My last, via *Salem*, was intended via *Rhode-Island*, but lost the opportunity, and am fearful if the letter reached you, as I must suppose captures have commenced in *America*, as well as in the *West-Indies*. Several vessels inwards from *America*, and bound thither, among the islands, have been detained and sent into port, particularly *Antigua* and *Dominico*; and, notwithstanding their clearances, will be condemned, as reprisals are made without distinction, of all vessels going to or coming from *America*. Various are the reports from *England*, respecting *America*; which proves it is little known what is intended; but if we were to judge from circumstances, in particular that of reprisals, taking in pay foreign forces, and the enumerating their transports, with every kind of stores, ammunition, &c., &c., it certainly carries appearances very different from an accommodation. I saw a letter from *Bristol*, to a gentleman here, dated 23d *October*; part says, no prospect of a reconciliation, the Ministry being determined to push measures. Another, from *Scotland*, this very day received, and two days later, says: Matters between *Great Britain* and *America* will certainly be settled on the meeting of the Parliament. Letters anterior to these, and differently received, bear near the same import. Some say an accommodation will take place, others not. I fancy no true judgment can be formed but from the result of the Parliament. God send the agreeable tidings of peace to each other. May Heaven inspire their souls with just ideas of duty, each to the other, that justice may be sealed in mercy, and so enlighten the minds of that great tribunal as to remove every oppressive measure from before the throne, that the subjects of *Britain*, wherever dispersed, may know no grievance, but, in every part of their wide extended empire, be able, with honest truth, to sing aloud in anthems of joy: Justice, justice runs down our streets like a stream; all evils are now removed from before us; and one and all adore the God of justice, as the King of our King, and the Supreme of the Universe. May brotherly love be mutually renewed, under the banners of justice, and *Britain* and *America* join in grateful songs of praise for a happy deliverance from destruction, and be inseparably united to their glory, and the glory of God the giver; is the fervent wish of your obedient and affectionate,

Yankoo.

P. S. A brig here will sail for *Boston*, in ten days, with molasses for the troops. I shall write.

DECLARATION BY VIRGINIA CONVENTION.

By the Representatives of the People of the Colony and Dominion of Virginia, assembled in General Convention.

A Declaration.

Whereas, Lord *Dunmore*, by his Proclamation, dated on board the ship *William*, off *Norfolk*, the 7th day of *November*, 1775, hath offered freedom to such able-bodied slaves as are willing to join him, and take up arms against the good people of this Colony, giving thereby encouragement to a general insurrection, which may induce a necessity of inflicting the severest punishments upon those unhappy people, already deluded by his base and insidious arts; and whereas, by an act of the General Assembly, now in force in this Colony, it is enacted, that all negro or other slaves, conspiring to rebel or make insurrection, shall suffer death, and be excluded all benefit of Clergy: We think it proper to declare, that all slaves, who have been, or shall be, seduced by his Lordship's proclamation, or other arts,

to desert their masters' service, and take up arms against the inhabitants of this Colony, shall be liable to such punishments as shall hereafter be directed by the General Convention. And to the end that all such who have taken this unlawful and wicked step may return in safety to their duty, and escape the punishment due to their crimes, we hereby promise to pardon them, they surrendering themselves to Col. *William Woodford*, or any other commander of our troops, and not appearing in arms after the publication hereof. And we do further earnestly recommend it to all humane and benevolent persons in this Colony, to explain and make known this our offer of mercy to those unfortunate people.

EDMUND PENDLETON, *President.*

Virginia, December 14, 1775.

LORD STIRLING TO CAPTAIN JOHN POLHEMUS.

Elizabethtown, December 14, 1775.

SIR: I must desire that you will forthwith call in all such men as are now absent from your company, and, for the future, to give no furlough or leave of absence to any officer or private, but to hold your company in order for marching at twenty-four hours' notice.

I am your most humble servant, STIRLING.

Captain *John Polhemus, Brunswick.*

LORD STIRLING TO CAPTAIN JOHN CONWAY.

Elizabethtown, December 14, 1775.

SIR: I have received your letter of the 11th inst., and much approve of your getting possession of the beds, blankets, and other barrack utensils, at *Amboy*. Be pleased, by the first opportunity, to furnish me with an exact account of each article you have received, and to be particular with regard to the blankets—distinguishing how many of them are new, how many partly worn, and how many of them are distributed to the men of your company.

The three men you have confined must remain prisoners until we can form a regimental court-martial, which will not be till next week. *Powell* and *Rose* are engaged as drum and fife majors to the regiment.* The repairs you speak of are absolutely necessary, and I must desire you will get them done, and keep an exact account of the expense.

The men of your company should be kept in constant exercise, especially marching. We are at it here at least five hours every day.

I am, &c., STIRLING.

Captain *John Conway.*

COMMISSIONERS OF INDIAN AFFAIRS TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

Albany, December 14, 1775.

SIR: Conscious that it is a duty we owe our respectable constituents and ourselves, not to permit any doubts or suspicions to exist, relative to or concerning any transactions of ours, when it is in our power to eradicate them; and reports prevailing, that what *Tiahogwando*, the *Onondaga* chief, delivered at the conference held here in the months of *August* and *September* last, respecting the *Susquehannah* lands, now unhappily in controversy between the Colonies of *Pennsylvania* and *Connecticut*, was not in consequence either of directions from his particular nation, or the result of the united councils of the *Six Nations*, we unanimously resolved to enter into an inquiry. Accordingly we sent for Messrs. *Deane* and *Kirkland*, who agreed in the following information, viz: That immediately after *Tiahogwando* had delivered his speech, a murmur ran through the assembly as at a matter not only unexpected but improper; and that some of the sachems, after the rising of the assembly, spoke to them on the subject, expressing their astonishment at such a speech, of which no notice had been given to the *Six Nations*.

Mr. *Fulmer*, another interpreter, was then called before us; and as, in the information which he gave, Colonel *Francis's* name was mentioned, we thought proper to take his deposition and enclose it.

After *Fulmer's* information, we were of opinion that the sachems should be convened, that we might confer with them on the occasion. Accordingly, *Tiahogwando*, with another *Onondaga* sachem, and two from each of the other nations now in town, were convened; at which meeting were also present, Messrs. *Deane*, *Kirkland*, *Bleeker*, and *Fulmer*, interpreters. The *Indians* being made acquainted with the business of the meeting, *Tiahogwando*, the *Onondaga* sachem, gave the following information: That coming from the meeting preceding that in which the *Susquehannah* lands were mentioned, Colonel *Francis* took him by the hand, and informed him that all the other sachems had been to see him, and asked why he did not come and smoke a pipe with him; and invited him to his room in the evening, that he had something to say to him. The sachem replied, it was not the custom of *Indians* to come alone on such an occasion, and that he would therefore bring one or two along with him. Two accordingly came with him in the evening. After they had drank a little, and began to be intoxicated, Colonel *Francis* informed them that Governour *Penn* had directed him to make inquiry about the sale of the *Susquehannah* lands. Upon which, *Tiahogwando* then related what he (being a lad) had heard *Dinasteego* inform his father, being in substance the same as he had delivered in his speech. He observed that he was sorry the white people deceived the *Indians*, by giving them liquor, to make them say things they ought not; and that what he had said was not in consequence of any directions he had either from his nation or the *Six Nations*.

Tiahogwando further says, that Colonel *Francis* promised to give the sachems of the *Six Nations* something, provided he would deliver it at the close of the business of the next meeting, and not mention his name—meaning Colonel *Francis*. This chief then observed to us, that the white people have a medicine (meaning liquors) which would make *Indians* bring out all that is in their minds.

We hope, sir, that in making this inquiry, we have not gone beyond the line of our duty. Our only motives for prosecuting this inquiry, we have taken the liberty to give Congress in the former part of this letter.

We remain, sir, with sentiments of respect and esteem, yours, &c., &c.,

PHILIP SCHUYLER,
VOLKERT P. DOUW,
TIMOTHY EDWARDS.

The Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read December 22, 1775.]

Albany, December 14, 1775.

SIR: Since my last to you, I have received no accounts from *Canada*. The *Indians* delivered us a speech on the 12th, in which they related the substance of all the conferences Colonel *Johnson* had with them the last summer, concluding with that at *Montreal*, where he delivered to each of the *Canadian* tribes a war-belt and a hatchet, who accepted it; after which they were invited to feast on a *Bostonian*, and drink his blood—an ox being roasted for the purpose, and a pipe of wine given to drink. The war-song was also sung. One of the chiefs of the *Six Nations*, that attended at that conference, accepted of a very large, black war-belt, with a hatchet depictured in it, but would neither eat nor drink, nor sing the war-song. This famous belt they have delivered up, and we have now a full proof that the Ministerial servants have attempted to engage the savages against us.

* It is agreed between *Thomas Rose*, on the one part, and *William*, Earl of *Stirling*, Colonel of the First *New-Jersey* Regiment, in the Continental service, on the other part, as follows: That the said *Thomas Rose* doth inlist himself as a drummer in the said regiment, at the usual Continental pay of seven and one-third of a dollar per month; and also four dollars per month, subsistence, or provision in lieu thereof; and in consideration that the said *Thomas Rose* is well qualified for drum-major of the said regiment, and is able to teach the other drummers the use of their drums and the whole of their duty, the said Colonel does agree to pay to the said *Thomas Rose*, eight dollars and two-thirds of a dollar more, monthly, to be stopped out of the pay of the other drummers; and this to continue as long as the said *Thomas Rose* continues in the service, which will be during his good behaviour, or as long as the regiment continues in the service. It is further agreed, that out of the above mentioned pay, eight dollars per month shall, by the Paymaster, monthly, be lodged in the hands of Colonel *John Neilson*, of *Brunswick*, for the use of the said *Thomas Rose's* wife; one month's pay to be advanced to the said *Thomas Rose*, when the Paymaster next comes to Head-quarters.

Witness my hand, this 12th day of *December*, 1775.

THOMAS ROSE.

I learn that the recruiting parties I have sent out, meet with little success. The troops of *Fort-George* and *Ticonderoga*, have only seventeen days more to serve, and I fear they will come away as soon as their time of service is expired.

All the prisoners are not yet arrived here. The moment they come in, I shall send them to *Esopus*, as well the officers as men; for Colonel *Wolcott* informs me that Governour *Skene*, as well as his son, have fled, and that two *Frenchmen* are also gone, one of which is *Orillat*, whom Mr. *Brook Watson* recommended to Major *Shirreff* to get exchanged. The vicinity of *Hudson* river to *Newtown* and *Bridgefield* (the two tory towns in *Connecticut*) favours their escape. I have given such orders to Colonel *Wynkoop*, that, if they are properly executed, I shall be under no apprehensions for those that go to *Ulster* County. *Wynkoop* is a spirited and good officer.

The river here is closed. The prisoners are to march by land. I propose keeping the *French* seigneurs until I can move them at a less expense. Perhaps, too, if *Quebeck* should fall into our hands, General *Montgomery* may beg of Congress to permit them to pay a visit to their families.

I am, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

PHILIP SCHUYLER.

Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq., &c.

JOSEPH HOPKINS'S REPORT ON LEAD-MINES.

To the Honourable General Assembly, convened at NEW-HAVEN, *on the* 14*th* DECEMBER, 1775:

Whereas Captain *Samuel Forbes* and the subscriber were appointed by your Honours, at your sessions in *October* last, a Committee to examine and explore a lead-mine at *New-Canaan*, in the Province of *New-York*, and to report, &c.

The said subscriber begs leave to report that, on the 7th of *November* last, on my journey to said *New-Canaan*, I expected said Captain *Forbes* to join me; but he being ill, and unable to assist in said business, advised me to proceed; with which advice I complied, and repaired to said *New-Canaan*, where I found said mine, the vein of ore in which appears about fifty or sixty rods in length, lying north and south in a ledge of rocks or lime-stone, mixed with white flint, at the south end of which the ground falls about twenty-six feet, below which the water cannot be drawn off by a level; which vein I found had been opened about one rod in length, and about three or four feet deep, where I employed a skilful miner to blast the rock, but found no continued or adherent vein, but found the ore in bodies, in different shapes, about three or four inches in diameter, lying about three or four feet distant. The said miner also opened the vein in several places where it had not before been tried, and it appeared to lie in the same manner. I also smelted about eight ounces of said ore, and found, when it was well refined, it weighed five ounces, and was very malleable and good. All which is submitted.

Your Honours' most obedient, humble servant,

JOSEPH HOPKINS.

N. B. The mine aforesaid lies in a tract of land called the *King's District*, where the fee has never been granted, or patent, to any person, and the inhabitants claim to hold by possession only; and I employed the miner aforementioned, with others, to labour in said mine seven days, about half of which time was spent in preparing to open the vein, and by the other half of the labour was raised one hundred weight of ore.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

Cambridge, December 14, 1775.

SIR: The two *French* gentlemen who will appear before you with this, brought recommendations to me from Governour *Cooke*, of *Providence;* their names are Messieurs *Penet* and *De Pliarne*. They propose a plan for supplying this Continent with arms and ammunition, which appears to me very eligible. As I am not acquainted with the extent of schemes already formed by Congress for the attainment of these necessary articles, I have declined entering into any engagements with them, but have prevailed with them to proceed, at the publick expense, to *Philadelphia*, and there, through you, to lay their proposals before Congress, or a Committee of Congress, to whose attention I beg leave to recommend them, and the important business they come upon.

I am, &c., GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To the Hon. *John Hancock*, Esq., President of Congress.

P. S. I have given these gentlemen reason to expect that they can get back to the *Capes* as commodiously and speedily from *Philadelphia* as they could from *Providence*, in which I should be very sorry if they were disappointed.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read December 23, 1775.]

Cambridge, December 14, 1775.

SIR: I received your favour of the 2d instant, with the several resolves of Congress therein enclosed. The resolves relative to captures made by Continental armed vessels, only want a court established for trial to make them complete. This, I hope, will be soon done, as I have taken the liberty to urge it often to the Congress. I am somewhat at a loss to know whether I am to raise the two battalions of marines here or not. As the delay can be attended with but little inconvenience, I will wait a further explanation from Congress, before I take any steps thereon. I am much pleased that the money will be forwarded with all possible expedition, as it is much wanting; also, that *Connolly* and his associates are taken; it has been a very fortunate discovery. I make no doubt but that the Congress will take every necessary measure to dispossess Lord *Dunmore* of his hold in *Virginia*. The sooner steps are taken for that purpose, the more probability there will be of their being effectual.

Mr. *William Aspenwall* and Mr. *Lemuel Hayward* were appointed surgeons at *Roxbury*, in the first formation of the army. They were confirmed by Dr. *Church*, who promised them to write to the Congress in their behalf. They applied to me during his confinement here, at a time that I had notice of Dr. *Morgan's* appointment. I referred them to his arrival, and enclosed you have his sentiments relative to them; also of Dr. *Rand*, surgeon to the small-pox hospital, and his mate. I have to remark to you that when we had some time past got the better of the small-pox, Dr. *Rand* applied to me for a continuance of him in that department, which, from a principle of not multiplying officers, I declined. He is at present wanting, and says that by only attending occasionally, he loses his country practice—of course his livelihood. You will please to lay these matters before Congress for their consideration.

I was happy enough to anticipate the desire of Congress respecting Mr. *Crafts* and Mr. *Trott*. They both declined. The latter did not choose to serve. The former's ambition was not fully gratified by the offer made to him of a Majority, and higher rank must have turned out Colonel *Burbeck* or Major *Mason*, who had served in those characters in that regiment to acceptation. I hope Col. *Knox* will soon finish the business he is upon, and appear here to take the honourable command conferred on him by the Congress. I will make application to General *Howe*, and propose an exchange for Mr. *Ethan Allen*. I am much afraid I shall have a like proposal to make for Captain *Martindale*, of the armed brigantine *Washington*, and his men, who, it is reported, were taken a few days past by a man-of-war, and carried into *Boston*. We cannot expect to be always successful.

You will doubtless hear of the barbarity of Captain *Wallace*, on *Conanicut* Island, ere this reaches your hands. About one hundred and fifty more of the poor inhabitants are come out of *Boston*. The small-pox rages all over the town. Such of the military as had it not before, are now under inoculation. This, I apprehend, is a weapon of defence they are using against us. What confirms me in this opinion is, that I have information that they are tearing up the pavement, to be provided against a bombardment. I wrote you this day by Messieurs *Penet* and *De Pliarne*, who will lay before the Congress, or a committee thereof, proposals for furnishing the Continent with arms and ammunition. I refer you to themselves for further particulars.

*

I have the honour to be, sir, your most humble and obedient servant,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq.

DOCTOR MORGAN TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

General Hospital, December 12, 1775.

SIR: In pursuance of your Excellency's command, I have carefully inquired into the state of the General Hospital, and of the sick in each house, and do find that the number set down in the last weekly return, made to me from the surgeons of the hospital, amounts to six hundred and seventy-six; but they have sometimes amounted to near fifteen hundred, of which the proportion at *Roxbury* is about one-third; and on an average their returns have generally proved to be nearly in that proportion. And whereas, from the great number of troops stationed at *Roxbury*, and its being so remote from *Cambridge*, it is absolutely necessary to have houses there for the reception and care of the sick, and to have stores and proper officers for the same; and on further consideration of the merits and services of *William Aspenwall* and *Lemuel Hayward*, in establishing houses for that purpose, and their care, attention, and skill, manifested as surgeons ever since the army has been established, as well as the expediency of retaining gentlemen of their abilities and good character in the hospital, and the particular advantage of their being stationed at *Roxbury*, in case of action in that quarter, (the mates of the hospital, in general, being not yet sufficiently qualified for a trust of that importance, without the direction of a superior; and the four surgeons, already appointed by Dr. *Church*, being fully employed, in times of prevailing sickness, at *Cambridge*, and will be all wanted there in case of a general action,) I would beg leave to recommend that Mr. *Aspenwall* and Mr. *Hayward* may still be kept in pay as additional surgeons in the General Hospital, so long as circumstances require, with liberty to draw on this hospital for the necessary supplies of instruments, medicines, &c. And whereas the small-pox hath made its appearance at several times in the army, and a number of persons have been lately sent out of *Boston*, and landed at *Point-Shirley*, with the small-pox on them, it is highly expedient to fix on a proper place for conveying such persons to, as may have the small-pox, with suitable conveniences to prevent its spreading, and to have a surgeon and mate of experience kept there continually, whose sole business shall be restricted to the taking care of the soldiers, and other persons that may have the small-pox, and be sent thither to prevent its spreading. And whereas Dr. *Isaac Rand* has hitherto been employed as surgeon, and Mr. *Lyon* as his mate, to take care of the small-pox patients, who are willing to remain in that department, I do further recommend that they may be continued in pay as surgeon and mate for the service, so long as occasion requires, with liberty to draw on the General Hospital for necessary supplies.

With all dutiful submission, I remain your Excellency's most obedient and most humble servant,

JOHN MORGAN.

His Excellency General *Washington*.

ORDERS BY GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, December 12, 1775.

(Parole, *Effingham.*) (Countersign, *Fuller.*)

The honourable the Continental Congress having been pleased to appoint *Henry Knox*, Esquire, Colonel of the Regiment of Artillery, upon the new establishment, he is to be obeyed as such. The Colonels or commanding officers of the five *Connecticut* regiments, upon the new establishment, to deliver to the Adjutant-General to-morrow, at orderly time, an exact list of the commissioned officers of their respective corps, together with a return of the men they have each of them inlisted for the above regiments, as an express is immediately to set out to Governour *Trumbull*, who has demanded the same, to lay them before the Assembly of the Colony.

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, December 13, 1775.

(Parole, *Camden.*) (Countersign, *Chatham.*)

The Major-Generals are to order the militia companies to be joined to the different brigades and regiments in their respective divisions, in such a manner as to supply the deficiency of the *Connecticut* troops, and to prevent disorder and confusion in case we should be called to action, and make a report thereof as soon as it is done. As the companies have an inclination to join particular regiments, the General has no objection to it in every instance where it can be done consistent with the good of the service, and the allotment to the different encampments. The Adjutants of every regiment, to which any of these companies are joined, are to acquaint them with all general and brigade orders, that they may not unknowingly disobey them.

The Colonels of the several regiments, upon the new establishment, may respectively apply to the Commissary of the Ordnance Stores for seventy-five stand of arms, lately taken in the store-ship from *London*. These arms the Colonels will be careful to put into the hands of the soldiers most approved for their care and bravery, and such only as are inlisted for the next campaign; exact lists of their names to be returned to the respective Colonels. The carbines taken in the said ship are not to be delivered without especial orders.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GOVERNOUR COOKE.

Cambridge, December 14, 1775.

SIR: Your favour of the 11th inst., was handed me by the two *French* gentlemen, Messrs. *Penet* and *De Pliarne*, for which I am exceedingly obliged to you. I have heard their proposals and plan for supplying the Continent with arms and ammunition, which appear plausible, and to promise success. But not thinking myself authorized to enter into any contract respecting the same, and being not fully acquainted with the measures Congress have adopted for procuring these articles, I have prevailed upon them to go to *Philadelphia*, and recommended them, and the consideration of their plan, to that body, where the matter will be finally agreed upon or rejected.

I must request the favour of you to furnish every necessary for accommodating them, and carriages, with all expedition, for carrying them as far as Governour *Trumbull's*. They are to travel at the Continental expense; and whatever charge you may be at on their account, you will be pleased to transmit to me, and it shall be immediately reimbursed.

Yours, &c.,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To Governour *Cooke*, *Rhode-Island*.

WILLIAM BARTLETT TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Beverly, December 14, 1775.

SIR: I now forward to your Excellency, by the bearer, three casks of porter, purchased of Capt. *Hunter;* one barrel of lemons, of what was remaining sound out of the ship *Concord;* one box of pickles; one keg of sweetmeats; one box of wine; two cases of wine; one barrel of tea and loaf sugar; one box of oranges, being all the sound ones on board the brig *Hannah*. The oranges being directed to his Excellency General *Gage*, hope they will be the more acceptable to his Excellency General *Washington*. The box of sweetmeats being all I can find at present on board, when she is unloaded, if there should be any more found, shall forward them to your Excellency. There is on board the brig *Hannah* a number of casks of lemons and limes, being almost all perished—therefore shall sell them, next *Monday*, at publick auction, if no counter orders are received from your Excellency; four loaves of sugar out of ship *Jenny*, being all there was on board. Hope these will arrive safe, and clear from frost; and am, with the greatest respect, your Excellency's most obedient, humble servant,

WILLIAM BARTLETT.

To his Excellency General *Washington*.

COLONEL MOYLAN TO COLONEL WENTWORTH.

Cambridge, December 14, 1775.

SIR: I see by your favour of the 3d *December*, that mine to you of the 1st had not then reached your hands. I then desired you would dispose of the cargo by the *Rainbow;* also the sloop, if a tolerable price could be got for her. If this last is not done ere this reaches your hands, you must defer it until further orders.

The two vessels sent into *Winter* Harbour were very unjustly taken, and are delivered up to their respective owners.

Captain *Adams* has his complement of men made up. Please to make my compliments to Mr. *King;* tell him I will be much obliged to him for the invoice of flour by first private hand.

Captain *Manly* has been very successful since I last wrote you, having taken three more valuable prizes. I wish the commanders of the rest of our little fleet were as active; if they were, we could conquer our enemies without loss of blood. I am, &c.,

STEPHEN MOYLAN.

To Colonel *Joshua Wentworth, Portsmouth.*

MAJOR ROBERT ROGERS TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Medford, (Porter's Tavern,) December 14, 1775.

SIR: I sailed from *Gravesend* the 4th of *June* last, in a merchant ship, bound to *Baltimore*, in *Maryland*, which was, at the time I came away, the nighest passage I could get to *Philadelphia*, where I waited on the gentlemen that compose the Continental Congress, in order to obtain their permit to settle my private affairs, being much encumbered with debts, chiefly contracted in the Province of *New-York;* in which settlement my brother, Colonel *James Rogers*, (who lives in the Province of *New-York*, about twenty miles west of *Connecticut* river,) was deeply concerned, being bound for me in several sums of money, which made it necessary for me to visit him in my way home, and for that purpose came by the way of *New-York* and *Albany*, to my brother's, and from thence to *Portsmouth*, to my wife and family, (a pleasure long wished for,) having been six years in *Europe.*

I have taken the earliest opportunity that would permit to come to this town, (where I arrived this morning,) in order to lay before your Excellency the passport I received at *Philadelphia*, from the Committee of Safety there, a copy of which is transmitted at the bottom of this letter, together with the minutes made thereon by the Committees of Safety at *New-York* and *New-Hampshire.* I do sincerely entreat your Excellency for a continuance of that permission for me to go unmolested where my private business may call me, as it will take some months from this time to settle with all my creditors.

I have leave to retire on my half-pay, and never expect to be called into the service again. I love *North-America;* it is my native country, and that of my family, and I intend to spend the evening of my days in it.

I should be glad to pay you my respects personally, but have thought it prudent to first write you this letter, and shall wait at this place for your Excellency's commands.

I am, sir, your Excellency's most obedient and most humble servant,

ROBERT ROGERS, *Major.*

To his Excellency General *Washington.*

The following is a copy of the aforesaid Permit, and the Certificates relative thereto, viz:

"I, *Robert Rogers*, Major, on half-pay in His Majesty's army, a prisoner in the custody of the Committee of Safety for the Province of *Pennsylvania*, and being kindly treated and protected by them, and enlarged on parole, do hereby solemnly promise and engage, on the honour of a soldier and a gentleman, that I will not bear arms against the *American* United Colonies, in any manner whatever, during the present contest between them and *Great Britain;* and that I will not in that time attempt to give intelligence to General *Gage*, the *British* Minister, or any other person or persons, of any matters relative to *America.*

"(Signed) ROBERT ROGERS."

"Philadelphia, September 23, 1775."

"These are to certify, to all persons to whom these presents may appear, that the above writing is a true copy of the parole of honour given by the bearer, Major *Robert Rogers*, to the Committee of Safety for the Province of *Pennsylvania.*

"It is therefore recommended to such persons, that the said Major *Rogers*, be permitted to pass where his business may lead him, without any hindrance or molestation.

"Extract from the minutes of the Committee of Safety.

"(Signed) WILLIAM GOVETT, *Sec.*

"Philadelphia, September 23, 1775."

"In Provincial Congress at New-York, October 5, 1775.

"The above certificate was read in Provincial Congress at *New-York.*

"(Signed) NATHANIEL WOODHULL, *Pres't.*"

"Colony of New-Hampshire, in Committee of Safety, December 12, 1775.

"The within certificate was read and considered, and this Committee acquiesce therein.

"(Signed) MATTHEW THORNTON, *Chair'n.*"

ADVICES RECEIVED IN ENGLAND, FROM AMERICA, TO DECEMBER 14, 1775.

General *Howe* has barely six thousand effective men at *Boston.* The fortifications begun to be erected from water to water, within the *Neck* of *Boston*, he has been obliged to abandon for want of men sufficient to perform the work.

General *Clinton* preserves his post at *Bunker's Hill.* The Provincials have abandoned *Ploughed-Hill*, but the Regulars have not taken possession of it. The situation of the troops at *Bunker's Hill* is truly deplorable; much snow, northeast winds, &c., no fire, poor clothing, salt provisions, &c., &c.

The distress of the troops and people at *Boston* exceed the possibility of description. There are advices in town of *December* 14th; not a coal ship was then arrived. The inhabitants and troops literally starving with cold. They had taken the pews out of all the places of worship for fuel; had pulled down empty houses, &c., and were then digging up the timber at the wharves for firing; very poor clothing, and so scarce of provisions they have been eating horse-flesh for some time.

A difference has broke out between General *Howe* and Admiral *Graves*, at *Boston.* General *Howe* is obliged to repair the light-house with his own people; the Admiral refused to have any thing to do with it.

The distress of the troops and inhabitants in *Boston* is great beyond all possible degree of description. Neither vegetables, flour, nor pulse for the inhabitants, and the King's stores so very short none can be spared from them. No fuel; and the winter set in remarkably severe. The troops and inhabitants starving for want of provisions and fire. Even salt provision is fifteen pence sterling per pound.

Three coal ships from *England*, were taken at the mouth of the harbour, by the *American* privateers, as was also a vessel with live stock, from *Halifax.* They boarded another vessel within two miles of the light-house.

On account of this accumulating distress, the inhabitants petitioned General *Howe* for leave to quit the town. He refused. They then petitioned to go out, leaving their effects in the town. But he still refused. They consist chiefly of the Selectmen and other principal inhabitants, and it is thought the General keeps them as security for the town.

The Provincial Generals intend, as soon as the water is frozen between *Dorchester-Neck* and *Boston-Neck*, to erect batteries upon *Dorchester-Point.* No ships nor floating batteries can then annoy them. They waited for the frost, otherwise they would have been done long ago. From *Dorchester-Point* they can command the town of *Boston.*

The *Americans* ridicule the folly and ignorance of the Ministry, in sending transports to *Boston*, with troops, stores, and provisions, so late in the season, when, as they say, the northwest winds alone will prevent four in five from ever getting to *North-America.*

The *American* privateers constantly cruise at the mouth of *Boston* harbour, and between *Cape-Cod*, *Cape-Ann*, and *Jeffery's Ledge.*

Only four companies of one of the last two regiments which were sent had arrived, though the whole sailed together.

CONNECTICUT ASSEMBLY.

Anno Regni Regis Georgii Tertii 16to, 1775.

At a General Assembly of the Governour and Company of the *English* Colony of *Connecticut*, in *New-England*, in *America*, holden at *New-Haven*, in said Colony, by special order of the Governour, on *Thursday*, the 14th day of *December*, *Annoque Domini* 1775, Present:

The Hon. *Jonathan Trumbull*, Esq., Governour, the Hon. *Matthew Griswold*, Esq., Deputy Governour, *Jabez Hamlin*, *Elisha Sheldon*, *Jabez Huntington*, *William Pitkin*, *Roger Sherman*, *Abraham Davenport*, *William Samuel Johnson*, *Oliver Wolcott*, *Samuel Huntington*, Esquires, Assistants.

Representatives or Deputies of the Freemen of the several Towns are as follows, viz:

HARTFORD: Col. *John Pitkin*, Mr. *Benjamin Payne*.
FARMINGTON: Colonel *Isaac Lee*, Colonel *Fisher Gay*.
SUFFIELD: Captain *Abraham Granger*, Captain *John Harman*.
COLCHESTER: Mr. *Daniel Foot*, Captain *Peter Bulkley*.
EAST-WINDSOR: Colonel *Erastus Wolcott*, Mr. *Benoni Olcott*.
WEATHERSFIELD: Colonel *Thomas Belden*.
SYMSBURY: Mr. *Judah Holcomb*, Mr. *Elisha Graham*.
EAST-HADDAM: Mr. *Daniel Brainard*, Mr. *Jabez Chapman*.
STAFFORD: Captain *Isaac Pinney*, Captain *Samuel Davis*.
HADDAM: Captain *Joseph Brooks*, Mr. *Joseph Smith*.
HEBRON: Captain *Benjamin Buell*, Mr. *Samuel Gilbert*.
WILLINGTON: Major *Elijah Fenton*.
BOLTON: Mr. *Benjamin Trumbull*, Mr. *Seth King*.
TOLLAND: Mr. *Ichabod Greggs*, Captain *James Chamberlin*.
ENFIELD: Major *Nathaniel Terry*, Mr. *Nathaniel Chapin*.
SOMERS: Mr. *Hezekiah Spencer*.
MIDDLETOWN: Mr. *Titus Hosmer*, Dr. *John Dickenson*.
WINDSOR: Major *Roger Newbury*, Captain *Henry Allyn*.
GLASTENBURY: Captain *Jonathan Wells*, Mr. *Abijah Holister*.
CHATHAM: (None.)
NEW-HAVEN: Mr. *Samuel Bishop*, Colonel *Jonathan Fitch*.
DURHAM: Colonel *James Wadsworth*, Mr. *Daniel Hall*.
WALLINGFORD: Mr. *Samuel Beach*, Mr. *Oliver Stanly*.
WATERBURY: Mr. *Joseph Hopkins*, Captain *Ezra Brunson*.
MILFORD: Mr. *Ephraim Strong*, Mr. *Isaac Miles*.
GUILFORD: Mr. *John Burgess*, Mr. *Samuel Brown*.
DERBY: Captain *John Holbrook*.
BRANFORD: Captain *Russell*, Mr. *Daniel Page*.
NEW-LONDON: Mr. *Richard Law*, Mr. *William Hillhouse*.
NORWICH: Mr. *Benjamin Huntington*.
KILLINGWORTH: Mr. *Hezekiah Lane*.
SAYBROOK: Captain *Benjamin Williams*, Captain *Justus Buck*.
LYME: Major *Samuel Selden*, Mr. *John Lay*, 2d.
STONINGTON: Mr. *Nathaniel Minor*.
GROTON: Mr. *Thomas Mumford*, Mr. *Nathan Gallop*.
PRESTON: Captain *William Witter*, Captain *Joseph Tyler*.
FAIRFIELD: Mr. *Jonathan Sturgess*, Mr. *Thaddeus Burr*.
STRATFORD: Captain *Robert Fairchild*, Captain *Ichabod Lewis*.
NORWALK: Colonel *Thomas Fitch*, Doctor *Thaddeus Betts*.
STAMFORD: Mr. *Benjamin Weed*, Mr. *Thomas Young*.
GREENWICH: Colonel *John Mead*.
RIDGEFIELD: Mr. *Samuel Olmstead*, Colonel *Philip B. Bradley*.
DANBURY: Captain *Daniel Starr*.
NEW-FAIRFIELD: Mr. *Alexander Stewart*, Captain *Dan. Towner*.
REDDING: Mr. *William Hawley*.
NEWTOWN: Mr. *Oliver Tousey*, Mr. *Daniel Baldwin*.
WINDHAM: Mr. *Samuel Webb*, Mr. *Ebenezer Devotion*.
LEBANON: Colonel *William Williams*.
CANTERBURY: Colonel *Jabez Fitch*, Captain *Benjamin Bacon*.
COVENTRY: Captain *Ebenezer Kingsbury*, Mr. *Jeremiah Ripley*.
PLAINFIELD: Mr. *Joshua Dunlap*.
POMFRET: Colonel *Ebenezer Williams*.
ASHFORD: Captain *Benjamin Sumner*, Mr. *Ezra Smith*.
KILLINGLY: Mr. *Simeon Learned*, Mr. *Benjamin Leavins*.
MANSFIELD: Captain *Amariah Williams*.
WOODSTOCK: Captain *Elisha Child*, Major *Samuel McClellan*.
VOLUNTOWN: Major *James Gordon*, Mr. *Robert Hunter*.
LITCHFIELD: Mr. *Jedediah Strong*, Mr. *Abraham Bradley*.
WOODBURY: Mr. *Daniel Sherman*, Capt. *Increase Moseley*.
TORRINGTON: (None.)
SHARON: Mr. *John Canfield*, Captain *Caleb Jewet*.
GOSHEN: Colonel *Ebenezer Norton*, Mr. *David Thompson*.
CANAAN: Captain *Samuel Forbes*, Mr. *Asahel Bebee*.
NEW-MILFORD: Major *Samuel Canfield*, Capt. *Sherman Boardman*.
CORNWALL: Mr. *Edward Rogers*, Mr. *John Pearce*.
NEW-HARTFORD: Mr. *Abel Merrill*, Captain *Seth Smith*.
KENT: Captain *Jethro Hatch*, Captain *Justus Sackett*.
HARWINTON: Mr. *Jonah Phelps*, Captain *John Wilson*.
WESTMORELAND: (None.)
SALISBURY: Captain *Abiel Camp*, Captain *James Bird*.

William Williams, Esq., Speaker of the House of Representatives; *Richard Law*, Esq., Clerk.

An Act for raising and equipping a body of Minute-men, to be held in readiness for the better defence of this Colony.

Be it enacted by the Governour, Council, and Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, That one-fourth part of the Militia of this Colony be forthwith selected by voluntary inlistment, with as many other able-bodied effective men, not included in any militia roll, as are inclined to inlist, to stand in readiness as Minute-men, for the defence of this and the rest of the *United Colonies*.

And that such inlistment may be speedily made, *Be it further enacted*, That the Colonels, or chief officers of the respective Regiments of Militia in this Colony, shall forthwith give orders to the Captains, or chief officers of the several military companies in their Regiments, requiring them to call their respective companies together, and inlist the fourth part of the same as aforesaid, with such other able-bodied effective men, not included in any militia roll, as shall voluntarily offer themselves; and said Captains, or chief officers of said companies, shall immediately execute said orders, and make return of their doings to the Colonels or chief officers of the respective Regiments; and thereupon the Field-Officers of each Regiment of Militia shall form said men into distinct companies, each consisting of about sixty-eight rank and file; which companies shall have liberty to choose their own officers, to wit: one Captain, two Lieutenants, and one Ensign, four Sergeants, one Clerk, one Drummer, one Fifer, and four Corporals; and said Field-Officers shall lead such companies to the choice of their commissioned officers, and make return of their choice, with a muster roll of their company, to his Honour the Governour; who, on receipt thereof, is authorized and desired to commission them accordingly.

And be it further enacted, That his Honour the Governour, with the advice of the Committee appointed to assist him in the recess of the General Assembly, be, and he is hereby authorized and desired, to form said companies into distinct Regiments, and specially appoint and empower such of the Field-Officers of the Regiments of Militia for the time being to take command of such new-formed Regiments as he shall think proper and expedient.

And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That such officers and soldiers shall completely equip themselves with arms and ammunition, according to law; and also provide themselves with a good bayonet and knap-

sack, for which they shall be allowed and paid each one the sum of eight shillings, out of the Colony Treasury; and the Captain of each of said inlisted companies shall provide a drum and a fife for the use of his company, for which he shall be paid out of the Colony Treasury, and at the expiration of their service, shall secure the same for the use of this Colony.

And be it further enacted, That the Companies raised and formed as aforesaid, shall be called out by their chief officers, and meet one half day in each fortnight, the three summer months only excepted, either in whole or in such divisions, not exceeding four in number, as the commissioned officers shall direct, for military exercise, and shall be subject to the same penalties for absence or misbehaviour as the militia by law are already subject to; which penalties shall be collected by warrant from the chief officers, and applied to the use and benefit of said company; and the said officers and soldiers shall be allowed and paid out of the publick Treasury for each half day they shall meet and exercise as aforesaid: a Captain, three shillings; a Lieutenant, two shillings; an Ensign, one shilling and sixpence; a Sergeant and Clerk, one shilling and three-pence each; and each Corporal, Fifer, Drummer, and Private Soldier, one shilling.

And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the officers and soldiers of the Regiments and Companies raised and formed as aforesaid, shall hold themselves in constant readiness, to march on the shortest notice, for the defence of this or any other of the *United Colonies*, in obedience to the orders of the Captain-General of this Colony, or other their superior officers; and when they are called out into actual service shall have and receive like wages and billeting allowance, and be subject to the same laws and regulations, as those to which the officers and soldiers already raised and inlisted for the defence of this Colony, by order of the General Assembly, are entitled or subjected.

And be it further enacted, That the Regiments and Companies raised and formed as aforesaid, shall be exempted from military duty in any other Regiment or Company, and shall continue to be held under the aforesaid regulations during the pleasure of the General Assembly, not exceeding twelve months from and after the first day of *January* next, and shall then be disbanded, and returned into the Regiments and Companies of Militia to which they respectively belong, and be again subject to military duty therein, said inlistment notwithstanding: *Always provided*, That no officer or soldier inlisted and liable to do duty as aforesaid, shall be inlisted to have or receive the sum or sums granted to said officers and soldiers for their service as aforesaid, until he or they shall completely arm themselves as is hereinbefore directed and ordered, any thing herein contained notwithstanding.

And it is further provided, The provisions of this act shall not extend to include or affect the Twenty-fourth Regiment of Militia in this Colony.

—

An Act for encouraging the Manufactures of Saltpetre and Gunpowder.

Be it enacted by the Governour, Council, and Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, There shall be given and paid out of the Colony Treasury, a premium or bounty of ten pounds for every hundred pounds weight of good and merchantable Saltpetre or Nitre that shall be made and manufactured in this Colony, between the 1st day of *June*, 1776, and the 1st day of *January*, 1777, and so in proportion for a greater or a lesser quantity: *Always provided*, That in case any proprietor of Saltpetre Works or manufacturers of Saltpetre, shall, upon application and request made to him by any person or persons, neglect or refuse to communicate a full account of the materials out of which, and the process by which such Saltpetre or Nitre is made, such proprietor or manufacturer shall not be entitled to have or receive the aforesaid bounty or premium for any Saltpetre or Nitre he shall make, any thing herein contained notwithstanding.

Be it further enacted, That a suitable number of Inspectors of Saltpetre or Nitre be appointed by the General Assembly, and that the claimants of the premium or bounty given by this or any former act for the manufacture of Saltpetre or Nitre, shall procure the Saltpetre or Nitre by them made to be inspected by one or more of said Inspectors, and shall also make oath before such Inspector, which oath such Inspector is hereby enabled to administer, that such Saltpetre or Nitre was made and manufactured in such Colony, out of materials collected therein by him or them, or for his or their account, and that no other certificate hath been had or given for the same; and thereupon said Inspector shall give to the claimant or claimants a certificate of the quantity and quality of such Saltpetre or Nitre, and that proof hath been made as aforesaid, that the same was manufactured in this Colony by such claimant or claimants; which certificate being laid before the Committee of the Pay-Table, they shall draw an order on the Colony Treasurer, to pay such claimant or claimants the amount of the aforesaid bounty or premium on such Nitre or Saltpetre, out of the Colony Treasury, and charge the same to the Colony's account, who shall accept and pay such order accordingly.

Be it also enacted, That every town in this Colony, which hath and doth send Representatives to the General Assembly, in which Saltpetre or Nitre works are not or shall not be erected, and the manufacture of Saltpetre is not or shall not be carried on by some person or persons, shall be and are hereby enjoined as soon as may be, to erect one set of such works, and carry on the manufacture of Nitre or Saltpetre in the same; and that it shall be the duty of the Selectmen of each town in this Colony, and they are hereby authorized and enjoined at the expense, and for the benefit of said town to cause such works to be erected, and said manufacture to be carried on in the same accordingly.

Be it also enacted, That no Saltpetre, Nitre, or Gunpowder, made and manufactured, or that shall be made and manufactured in this Colony, shall be exported out of the same by land or water, without the license of the General Assembly, or his Honour the Governour and Committee of Safety, under the penalty of twenty pounds for every hundred weight of such Saltpetre, Nitre, or Gunpowder, and proportionably for a greater or lesser quantity, so without license exported; to be recovered by bill, plaint, or information, in any court of record in this Colony by law proper to take cognizance thereof.

And whereas it is necessary that two Powder-Mills be immediately erected in this Colony, for manufacturing Gunpowder: *Be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid*, That a bounty or premium of thirty pounds shall be paid out of the Colony Treasury, to the person or persons who shall erect the first Powder-Mill in this Colony, and shall make and manufacture therein five hundred pounds weight of good and merchantable Gunpowder; also, that a bounty or premium of thirty pounds shall be paid out of the Colony Treasury, to the person or persons who shall erect the second Powder-Mill in this Colony, and make or manufacture therein five hundred pounds weight of good and merchantable Gunpowder.

Be it further enacted, That the Inspector or Inspectors, who shall inspect and give a certificate for any quantity of Saltpetre as before directed, shall purchase and receive such Saltpetre for the Colony's use and benefit, and give his or their receipt therefor to the claimant or claimants, who shall be paid therefor out of the Colony Treasury, at such price as the General Assembly shall ascertain and affix.

And whereas it is expedient that Powder-Mills should be so situated as to accommodate the publick in the best manner: *Be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid*, That no Powder-Mill shall be erected in this Colony, for the manufacture of Gunpowder, without the license of the General Assembly, or, in their recess, of the Governour and Council, first had and obtained, under the penalty of thirty pounds for every such offence, to be recovered as the other foregoing penalties in this act are directed to be recovered.

—

An Act for restraining and punishing Persons who are inimical to the Liberties of this and the rest of the United Colonies, *and for directing proceedings therein.*

Be it enacted by the Governour, Council, and Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the autho-

rity of the same, That if any person within this Colony shall directly or indirectly supply the Ministerial Army or Navy with Provisions, Military or Naval Stores, or shall give any intelligence to the officers, soldiers, or mariners, belonging to the said Army or Navy, or shall inlist or procure any other to inlist into the service of said Army or Navy, or shall take up arms against this or either of the *United Colonies*, or shall undertake to pilot any of the vessels belonging to said Navy, or in any other way shall aid or assist them, and be thereof duly convicted before the Superior Court, shall forfeit all his estate; which shall be accordingly seized by order of the said court, for the use of this Colony; and such person shall be further punished by imprisonment in any of the jails in this Colony, at the direction of said court, for a term not exceeding three years.

And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That if any person, by writing or speaking, or by any overt act, shall libel or defame any of the resolves of the honourable Congress of the *United Colonies*, or the acts and proceedings of the General Assembly of this Colony, made, or which hereafter shall be made, for the defence or security of the rights and privileges of the people, and be thereof duly convicted before the Superior Court, shall be disarmed, and not allowed to have or keep any arms, and rendered incapable to hold or serve in any office, civil or military, and shall be further punished either by fine, imprisonment or disfranchisement, or find security of the peace, and good behaviour, as said court shall order, and shall pay the cost of prosecution.

And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That on complaint being made to the civil authority, Selectmen, and Committee of Inspection, of the respective towns in this Colony, against any person or persons dwelling or residing in such town, or any adjoining town, in the same County where there is not a Committee of Inspection, that he or they are inimical to the liberties of this Colony, and the other *United Colonies* in *America*, it shall be the duty of such civil authority, Selectmen, and Committee, to cause every such person or persons to appear before them to be examined; and if on examination they shall not be able to satisfy the said authority, Selectmen and Committee, or the major part of them, that they are not inimical to this or the other *United American Colonies*, then such person or persons shall be by order of such authority, Selectmen, and Committee, or the major part of them, disarmed, and not allowed to have or keep any arms, until they shall satisfy said authority, Selectmen, and Committee, or the major part of them, that such person or persons are friendly to this and the other *United Colonies*.

And for the more effectual carrying into execution this act, according to the true intent and meaning thereof, *Be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid*, That when any person shall be duly convicted and ordered to be disarmed as aforesaid, the Superior Court, or civil authority, Selectmen, and Committee aforesaid, as the case may happen, are hereby empowered and fully authorized to issue a warrant, signed by the Clerk of the Superior Court, or by one or more of the said civil authority, directed to the Sheriff of the County, his Deputy, or to the Constables of the town wherein such person or persons dwell, directing and ordering said officer forthwith to disarm such person or persons; and in case he or they shall refuse to resign up his or their arms, said officer by and with the advice of any one Assistant, and Justice of the Peace, or two Justices, is hereby authorized to raise the Militia of the County, or so many of them as they shall judge needful for the purpose of carrying into execution such warrant; and all military officers and soldiers being duly required, who shall neglect or refuse to obey the command of such Sheriff, his Deputy, or Constable, shall be subject to the same penalty as by law is provided for commissioned officers and soldiers who refuse to obey the Sheriff in the execution of his office. And all informing officers are directed to inquire after, and due presentment make, of all the breaches of the foregoing paragraph of this act.

And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That on information being made to any of the County Courts within this Colony, by the Selectmen of any towns, or the major part of them, that there are real estates in such town belonging to any person or persons, who have, since the making of this act, put, or shall continue to hold and screen themselves under the protection of the Ministerial Army, or have aided or assisted in carrying into execution the present Ministerial measures against *America*, such County Court within the County where such estate lieth, are hereby authorized and empowered to issue a warrant to attach such estate; an attested copy thereof with the officer's doings thereon, shall be left at the last usual place of abode of such person or persons, if within this Colony, at least twelve days before the sitting of the next County Court in such County; and if on inquiry by said court said information shall be found true, said court are directed to order said estate so attached to be held under the care of such person or persons as said court shall appoint, who shall improve said estate or estates for the use of this Colony, and be accountable for the rents and profits thereof.

Whereas this Assembly, in *May*, 1769, did establish and order that the military exercise called the *Norfolk* Militia Exercise, should be used and practised by the Militia of this Colony for the future: And whereas the Continental Army have adopted the military exercise usually called the Manual Exercise, as ordered by His Majesty in the year 1764, which is esteemed preferable in many respects to the said *Norfolk* Militia Exercise, for the purpose of preparing the soldiery for real service:

Resolved by this Assembly, That for the future the military exercise, called the Manual Exercise, ordered by His Majesty in 1764, shall be observed and practised by the Militia in this Colony; and that the Colonels, or chief commanding officer of the respective Regiments in this Colony, do give orders to the commanding officers of each Military Company under their command, that they conform themselves thereto, as soon as conveniently may be, any law or usage to the contrary notwithstanding.

—

An Act in addition to a Law of this Colony, entitled An Act for the punishment of Deserters.

Be it enacted by the Governour and Council, and Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, That if any Soldier or Mariner, regularly inlisted into, taken, or retained in the service of this Colony, or of this and the rest of the *United Colonies*, who shall depart without license of his commander, or that shall desert said service, and shall escape into, or be within this Colony, it shall be the duty of any and every person that shall be made acquainted therewith, and especially of the Constables and Grand Jurors in the several towns in this Colony, immediately to give notice thereof to the next Assistant or Justice of the Peace, who shall, by proper warrant under his hand, cause such person forthwith to be apprehended and committed to the common jail of the County where he shall be taken, and there be secured till he can be returned to his said commander. That if any person shall harbour or conceal any such deserter within this Colony, knowing him to be such, such person shall forfeit and pay to the Treasurer of this Colony, a sum not exceeding fifteen pounds, at the discretion of the court that shall have cognizance thereof, or imprisoned not exceeding two months, at the discretion of said court, and that every person that shall be guilty of any breach of this act, shall be informed against by the same officers, prosecuted in the same manner, and tried before the same court mentioned in said law.

Whereas the Non-commissioned Officers and Soldiers belonging to this Colony, who have been employed for the year past in the Continental Armies, stand liable and obliged by law to pay taxes for their respective polls, yet, considering the fatigues and importance of the service, and being desirous to encourage the future service, and to show some gratuitous token of approbation to those who have behaved well and served out faithfully the stipulated time by them entered into:

Be it therefore enacted by the Governour, Council, and Representatives in General Court assembled, ond by the authority of the same, That those Non-commissioned Officers and Soldiers, who have faithfully discharged their respective duties as soldiers during the campaign that is past, shall be exempted from paying any taxes arising on their

respective polls, in the list given in for the year 1775, and that those who have already inlisted, or shall hereafter inlist into the Continental Army for the ensuing campaign, shall be exempted from paying taxes on their polls in the list to be given in for the year 1776; and that the persons of such as shall so inlist, or have already inlisted, be exempted from arrest for debt until the term of their service is expired.

—

An Act empowering the Commander-in-Chief of the Continental Army, or Officers commanding a Detachment, or Out-posts, &c., to administer an Oath.

Be it enacted by the Governour, Council, and Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, That the Commander-in-Chief of the Army, raised or to be raised by this and the rest of the *United Colonies*, or any officer in the service of the said *United Colonies*, commanding any detachment or out-post, shall have power and authority to administer an oath, and swear any person or persons to the truth of any information or intelligence, or any other matter relative to the publick service.

—

An Act for altering and further ascertaining the Bounds and Limits of the Town of WESTMORELAND, *in this Colony.*

Be it enacted by the Governour, Council, and Representatives, in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, That the Town of *Westmoreland*, in this Colony, shall be bounded east by the River *Delaware*, south by a line of latitude just forty-one degrees north from the Equator, and extend west on said line to the termination of fifteen *English* miles west of the East Branch of the River *Susquehannah;* from thence to run northerly a straight line to the Forks of the River *Tioga*, and continuing the same course to the north line of this Colony, which shall be the west line of said Town and of the County of *Litchfield;* and said Town is bounded north by the north line of this Colony, as described in the Charter from King *Charles* the Second, bearing date the 23d day of *April*, A. D. 1662. And whereas part of the land contained in said Charter to this Colony is claimed by the Proprietors of the Colony of *Pennsylvania*, by virtue of a grant from King *Charles* the Second, made subsequent to the grant to the Governour and Company of this Colony, and a number of persons are settled on part of said lands under said claim, and also numbers of persons are settled on other parts of said disputed territory, under the title of this Colony, which are included within said Town of *Westmoreland*, and in order to preserve the peace of said inhabitants and harmony and friendship between the Colonies, pursuant to the advice of the honourable Congress of the *United Colonies*, until the controversy concerning the title of said lands can be settled and determined, either by an amicable agreement or some competent judicature:

It is resolved by this Assembly, That all the present inhabitants on said disputed territory shall remain quiet in their present possessions, without molestation from any person or persons under the jurisdiction of this Colony, provided they behave themselves peaceably towards the inhabitants settled under the claims of this Colony, and provided the persons belonging to this Colony who have been lately apprehended on said lands by some of the people of *Pennsylvania*, be released, and all the effects, as well of those who have been already released, as those now in custody, be restored to them; and all persons are hereby strictly forbid making any further settlements on said lands, without special licence from this Assembly, or giving any interruption or disturbance to any persons already settled thereon; this temporary provision to remain in force during the pleasure of this Assembly, and shall not affect or prejudice the legal title of this Colony, or of any particular persons to any of said lands in company.

—

Resolved by this Assembly, That, for the future, the Delegates of this Colony who shall be appointed to attend the General Congress of the *United Colonies* of *America* shall be annually chosen by this Assembly at their session in *October*, and such of said Delegates who shall be directed to attend, shall on the first day of *January* next after their being elected as aforesaid, attend said Congress, if then sitting; always provided, that if it shall so happen that said new chosen Delegates shall not arrive at the place where said Congress be then sitting, that the Delegates then attending at said Congress in behalf of this Colony, do continue to sit and act until said new elected Delegates shall arrive and take their seats in said Congress.

Resolved by this Assembly, That the Selectmen for the time being of each Town in this Colony be, and they are hereby appointed Inspectors of Nitre and Saltpetre made and manufactured in this Colony, with all the power and authority given to Inspectors of Saltpetre, in and by an act of this Assembly, intituled An act for encouraging the manufactures of Saltpetre and Gunpowder; which Saltpetre or Nitre shall, from time to time, be delivered to such person or persons as his Honour the Governour; and Committee of Safety shall appoint to receive the same, and cause it to be manufactured into Powder for the use of the Colony.

Resolved by this Assembly, That Mr. *Titus Hosmer*, Mr. *Ephraim Strong*, Captain *John Holbrook*, Colonel *Jabez Hamlin*, and Doctor *John Dickerson*, be a Committee to examine where any mines or mineral substances containing Sulphur may be found within this Colony, and procure proper experienced workmen to separate the Sulphur from its ore, and make experiments on such ores, as to be able to form a judgment what will be the expense of manufacturing Sulphur, and whether it will be practicable to carry on that manufacture to any advantage, and make report to the next session of the General Assembly, or to his Honour the Governour, in case they shall be prepared to make a report before such session of the Assembly; and in case report shall be made by said Committee to the Governour, his Honour the Governour, with the advice of his Council of Safety, is empowered to give orders to such Committee to proceed in manufacturing Sulphur for the use and at the expense of this Colony, and to empower said Committee to receive of the Treasurer such sums of money as shall by them be judged necessary to be used for carrying on said manufacture to the best advantage.

Resolved, That the Brigantine owned by Captain *John Greggs* be purchased for the use of this Colony, to be fitted and improved as an Armed Vessel for the defence thereof; and that Colonel *David Waterbury* be a Committee to purchase said Brigantine and appurtenances, at a price not exceeding one thousand pounds, taking an inventory of the appurtenances belonging to said Brigantine, and a bill of sale thereof, to the Governour and Company of this Colony; and that he make report thereof to this Assembly; and in case the said Colonel *Waterbury* shall purchase said Brigantine, that with all convenient despatch he proceed with her to the Port of *New-Haven*.

Resolved by this Assembly, That Colonel *David Waterbury* and Captain *Isaac Sears* be empowered and directed to inquire, view, examine, and find out some suitable Vessel, to be improved for an Armed Vessel in defence of this Colony, and what terms such an one may be either purchased or chartered, with their judgment, estimate, and opinion thereon, and report make to this Assembly at their present session.

Resolved by this Assembly, That Colonel *David Waterbury* and Captain *Isaac Sears* be a Committee to view and examine a certain Brigantine belonging to Captain *John Greggs*, at *Greenwich*, and find whether said Brigantine, in their opinion and judgment, is fit to be improved for an Armed Vessel for defence of this Colony, find the terms she may be purchased or chartered, and report accordingly.

Resolved by this Assembly, That the Troops now stationed on the sea-coast of this Colony by order of the Governour and Council of Safety be, and they are hereby continued for the defence thereof; that the Battery of *Groton* be furnished with six Cannon—thirty-two pounders, or in lieu thereof, six twenty-four pounders; and that the Battery at *Stonington* be supplied with six Cannon—two eighteen and four twelve pounders; and that the Battery at *New-Haven* be supplied with sixteen Cannon, viz: six eighteen, and ten twelve-pounders; and that the Harbour of *Milford* be supplied with six of the Cannon now at *New-*

Haven, if to be obtained: *And it is further resolved by the authority aforesaid*, That the Governour and his Council of Safety be authorized and empowered to supply the Batteries with said Cannon, and suitable Ammunition, from time to time, as they shall find necessary and expedient: *Provided, nevertheless*, That the Governour and his Council of Safety be, and they are hereby empowered to augment, disband, or discharge any or all of the Troops now stationed on the sea-coast, from time to time, and under such regulations as they shall judge expedient, any thing herein contained to the contrary notwithstanding.

Resolved, That Captain *Giles Hall*, commander of the Brigantine *Minerva*, now in the Colony's service, be directed, and he is hereby directed and ordered, forthwith to deliver to *Jonathan Fitch*, Esq., at *New-Haven*, all the Guns and warlike Stores now on board said Brigantine; and having so done, he is further directed to dismiss as many hands as he shall think proper, reserving a sufficient number to sail said Brigantine into *Connecticut* River, and proceed with her with all possible despatch to *Rocky-Hill* and deliver her to the owner, according to charter party; and in case he should be prevented by ice in the river, he is to lay said Vessel in the most convenient and safe place, and to discharge the hands, reserving only a sufficient number to take proper care of said Vessel, and make return to his Honour the Governour and Council of War of his proceedings, and make up his Portage Bill and Muster-roll, and lay the same before the Committee of Pay-Table for adjustment and payment.

Resolved by this Assembly, That one Armed Vessel, in addition to those already ordered or provided, and also four Row-Gallies, be built or otherwise procured, suitably manned, armed, and equipped, for the defence of this and the neighbouring Colonies, under the direction of his Honour the Governour and the Council appointed to assist him in the recess of the Assembly, who are hereby authorized and fully empowered to perform said service as soon as may be.

Resolved by this Assembly, That the Colonel of each Regiment of Militia in this Colony, excepting the Twenty-fourth Regiment, or in his absence the chief officer in the Regiment be, and they are hereby ordered and directed as soon as may be, or at the time of inlisting Minute-men, to cause the Arms and Ammunition of all the Militia under their command to be viewed and examined, and take an account thereof; and also take an account of the Ammunition now remaining in the several town stocks in their respective Regiments, together with an account of the several sorts and quantity of Ammunition that each town hath supplied or delivered out of their town stocks for the use of the Troops in the Continental service; and also an account of the number of Companies and Troops in their respective Regiments, with the names of the Commissioned Officers, and the number of men in each, and forthwith make return thereof to the Captain-General.

Resolved by this Assembly, That *William Samuel Johnson*, Esq., for the Counties of *Fairfield* and *Litchfield*; *Titus Hosmer*, Esq., for the County of *Hartford*; *Samuel Bishop*, Esq., for the County of *New-Haven*; and *Nathaniel Minor*, Esq., for the County of *New-London* and *Windham*, be appointed, and they are hereby appointed to procure a just and well-authenticated account of the hostilities committed by the Ministerial Troops or Navy, whereby any damage has been done to the property of any person or persons in this Colony since *March* last, together with the proper evidence of the facts related, the number and value of the Vessels, either inward or outward bound, which have been seized by them since that period, and as near as may be their value, with their Cargoes on board, when taken, and make return thereof to his Honour the Governour, to enable him to make proper return to the Committee of the honourable Continental Congress agreeably to a Resolution of said Congress.

Resolved by this Assembly, That a Chaplain be by his Honour the Governour appointed to each of the Regiments from this Colony in the Continental service, who shall receive the same wages as have been given to the Chaplains in the last campaign; and, as a further encouragement, this Assembly grants to each of such, Chaplains so in future to be employed, the sum of forty shillings per month during their continuance in said service, to enable them to supply their respective pulpits in their absence.

Upon the information of *Andrew Adams*, Esq., Attorney of our Lord, the King, for the County of *Litchfield*, showing to this Assembly, that *Benjamin Kilborn*, of *Litchfield*, in said County of *Litchfield*, who is a Lieutenant in the First Military Company or Train-band in said *Litchfield*, did at said *Litchfield*, at sundry times between the first day of *November* last and the date of said complaint, utter and declare that he wished there were ten hundred thousand Regular Troops now landed in the Colony, and that he would immediately join with them in order to subdue the *Americans*, who were in a state of rebellion; that the commanding officer who fired upon the town of *Falmouth*, treated the inhabitants of said town too mildly and gently, and much more so than he would have done if he had had the command; that he was determined to join the Regulars, and would kill some of the inhabitants of said Colony; and that he, the said *Benjamin*, has, during the whole time aforesaid, publickly affirmed and declared that the late oppressive measures of the *British* Administration respecting *America*, were constitutional and right, and that he would willingly join in enforcing the same, and that the conduct of the *United Colonies* in *America* were unconstitutional and rebellious, &c., praying advice in the premises, as per complaint on file:

Resolved by this Assembly, That the said *Benjamin Kilborn* be, and he is hereby cashiered of his said office; and the Captain of said Company is hereby directed to lead them to the choice of a Lieutenant in the room and stead of him, the said *Benjamin*, and such other Commissioned Officers as may be wanted, and make return to the next session of this Assembly: *And it is further resolved*, That the said complainant be, and he is hereby directed to prosecute the said *Benjamin Kilborn*, in law, for his said offences.

Whereas, upon the Memorial and Representation of the Town of *Mansfield* against Captain *Hezekiah Bissell*, of *Windham*, preferred to this Assembly at their session in *October* last, it was resolved by said Assembly in *October*, that the Secretary should serve said *Bissell* with a copy of said Memorial or Representation to notify him to appear and answer thereto at the next session, &c., and said *Bissell* not being notified as aforesaid for want of time, it is now

Resolved by this Assembly, That the Secretary be, and he is hereby directed to serve the said *Bissell* with a copy of said Memorial or Representation, and notify him to appear before the General Assembly at their session in *May* next, to answer thereto, and also that the Secretary send out a citation or summons to the Witnesses to appear before the Assembly at their session in *May* next, to testify what they know in support of said Memorial.

Upon the Memorial of *William Pitkin* and *George Pitkin*, of *Hartford*, representing to this Assembly that they are owners of a convenient stream and place for erecting a Mill for manufacturing Gunpowder, about three miles east of *Connecticut* River, in the Town of *Hartford*, praying liberty to erect such Powder-mill, as per Memorial on file,

Resolved by this Assembly, That the Memorialists have liberty, and license is hereby granted them, to erect such Mill, at such place, for the purpose aforesaid.

Upon the information of *Peter Bulkley*, Esq., of *Colchester*, against *Henry Champion*, Esq., of said *Colchester*, preferred to this Assembly:

Resolved by this Assembly, That the Secretary be, and he is hereby directed to cause the said *Henry Champion*, Esq., to be served with a copy of said information, and also summon him to appear before the General Assembly at their next session, to answer unto said information; also,

Resolved, That the said *Peter Bulkley*, Esq., be, and he is hereby directed to procure and bring forward the Witnesses and other evidence to support and prove the matters in his said information alledged and complained of.

Upon the Memorial of *David Hawley*, of *Stratford*, showing to this Assembly that on the 4th day of *September* last past, he sailed on a voyage to the *West-Indies*, with a small cargo on board, in order to purchase a cargo of Gunpowder, if it was possible to obtain it; if not, then to invest

the nett proceeds of his cargo in Salt and Sugar; all pursuant to and in consequence of the advice of the Committee of Inspection in the Towns of *Fairfield* and *Stratford*, and that on *Tuesday* last he returned from said voyage, and that he had been to several of the *West-India* Islands, and that all that it was in his power to purchase was only one hundred weight of Gunpowder, and that with the rest of his cargo he purchased thirteen hundred and five bushels of Salt, and eighteen hogsheads of Sugar, and made a contract to be supplied with a cargo of Gunpowder, if he should be permitted to go a second voyage after it, and then return; and that, on his return, he found that his Honour, the Governour's proclamation, for continuing the first embargo, which expired a few days before he sailed to the *West-Indies*, arrived at *Fairfield* the day after he sailed, but that he heard nothing of it until his return, although he finds now that it had been issued several days before it arrived at *Fairfield*, and that although he had it not in his heart to disobey the laws of his country, he fears he is liable to a prosecution on the matter aforesaid, and therefore prays that he may be exempted from any prosecution or punishment on account of said voyage, and that he may be directed in the disposal of said Powder as per Memorial on file appears:

Resolved by this Assembly, That the Memorialist be, and he is hereby, exempted and freed from any prosecution or punishment for or on account of said voyage, and that the Memorialist shall and do dispose of said Powder equally between the Towns of *Fairfield* and *Stratford*.

Upon the Memorial of *Adam Babcock*, of *New-Haven*, showing to this Assembly that he has a Brigantine, sold to a person in *North-Carolina*, praying for liberty to export five thousand pounds weight of Cheese, in part to defray the expense of a voyage to recover his effects, as per Memorial on file:

Resolved by this Assembly, That the Memorialist have liberty, and he is hereby permitted, to export to said *North-Carolina* five thousand pounds weight of Cheese, in order that he may procure a quantity of Rice for the use of the Army.

Upon the Memorial of *Jedediah Elderkin* and *Nathaniel Wales*, Jr., praying this Assembly to grant them liberty to erect a Mill, &c., in the Town of *Windham*, for the manufacturing of Gunpowder, as per Memorial on file:

Resolved by this Assembly, That the Memorialists have liberty, and liberty and license is hereby granted to them, to erect a Powder-mill, in the Town of *Windham*, for the purpose of manufacturing Gunpowder, pursuant to an act of this Assembly, directing the building of Powder-mills.

Upon the Memorial of *Abraham Fuller*, of *Kent*, in the County of *Litchfield*, showing to this Assembly that he is Overseer of *Indians*, at *Schaghtacook*, and that there has been considerable expense incurred in curing the sickness and wounds of said *Indians*, as per Memorial on file, on which Maj. *Samuel Canfield* and Capt. *Sherman Boardman* were appointed a Committee, who have now made their Report, that the said *Indians* have about one hundred and twenty acres of Land, improved and lying in one common field; that the same was formerly allotted out to each *Indian*, and therefore can be let out but for little profit; that many of said *Indians* are now removed, and they are reduced to a small number; and that it is advisable that said Lands be leased to defray the expense; and that *David Sherman*, the *Indian* who wounded his brother, be assigned in service to defray the expense incurred by wounding his brother. Which Report is accepted, and approved; and it is thereupon

Resolved by this Assembly, That Major *Samuel Canfield* and Captain *Sherman Boardman* be, and they are hereby appointed a Committee, who are hereby empowered to make a new allotment of said Lands, to the several *Indians*, as shall be necessary for their support; and the residue the Overseer of said *Indians* is hereby directed to lease out, for the purpose of defraying the expenses of said sickness, and the avails thereof, over and above, after repairing and making necessary fences, said Overseer shall render an account to the General Assembly; and that said *Samuel Canfield*, Esq., be, and he is hereby appointed and authorized to assign in service the said *David Sherman*, for the satisfaction of such part of the expense as has arisen on account of wounding his brother, during such time as shall be necessary for that purpose; and make report of their doings in the premises to this Assembly.

Upon the Memorial of *Daniel Clifford*, of *Fairfield*, in the County of *Fairfield*, showing to this Assembly that, on or about the 18th day of *October* last past, he owned a small Boat, of about ten tons burden, used in the coasting business; on which he had loaded, on the 2d day of said *October*, four bushels of *Indian* Corn; and that he, being uncertain of the continuance of an embargo, on said 18th day of *October*, proceeded to *New-York*, and there sold and disposed of one bushel and an half of said Corn to sundry different people, and brought back the residue to said *Fairfield*; that he had no design to contravene the Proclamation issued to continue an embargo, and that a private person had made information to the King's Attorney, in *Fairfield* County; and should he be subject to prosecution it would prove detrimental to his circumstances, as per Memorial on file:

Resolved by this Assembly, That said *Daniel Clifford* be exempted and discharged from all penalties and forfeitures that may be incurred on account of his transporting said Corn as aforesaid, said embargo notwithstanding, he paying all cost that may have arisen on said prosecution.

Resolved by this Assembly, That the Treasurer of this Colony advance and pay to the Honourable *Oliver Wolcott* and *Samuel Huntington*, Esqs., the sum of two hundred Pounds, towards defraying the expense of attendance upon the honourable Continental Congress, as Delegates from this Colony, taking their receipt for to account.

This Assembly is adjourned, by Proclamation, &c., until his Honour the Governour, or in his absence, the Deputy Governor, shall see cause to call it to meet again.

Test:

GEORGE WYLLYS, *Secretary*.

COLONEL HOWE TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE VIRGINIA CONVENTION.

Norfolk, December 15, 1775.

SIR: The course of service necessarily inducing an inquiry between Colonel *Woodford* and myself respecting our commissions, we found that mine, from the nature of it, had the precedence of his. He conducted himself upon this occasion in that manner which his knowledge of discipline could not but dictate, and with that gentility which never forsakes him. It is with diffidence, sir, that I undertake this charge; and I must add, however honourable, with reluctance, as I supersede a gentleman I so much esteem, whose abilities I know to be equal to the duties of the station, and who hath so amply filled the measure of his duty.

If real attachment to the noble cause in which I am engaged, and the strictest attention to my duty, can in any manner compensate for want of abilities, the Colony of *Virginia* may rely upon my utmost exertions to serve them; in which, I flatter myself, I shall not be wholly unsuccessful, as I am promised the assistance of my friend Colonel *Woodford*, whose advice I shall upon every occasion ask, and whose aid I am certain never will be denied me. I shall be happy to be honoured with your instructions on every occasion, and an exact compliance with your commands shall be considered as an indispensable obligation.

I have the honour to be, with great respect, sir, your obedient servant,

ROBERT HOWE.

COLONEL WOODFORD TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE CONVENTION.

Norfolk, December 15, 1775.

SIR: I wrote you last night; since then nothing material has happened; we still remain in the same situation. This morning a midshipman, with a flag of truce, arrived from the *Otter*. That and our answer you have enclosed. All the principal tories, with their families and effects, have retired on board the ships-of-war and other vessels in the harbour, of which there is a very large fleet. What they intend I know not, and I am much at a loss to inform your

honourable body what steps we shall take, further than to keep possession of this part of the town, and afford what protection we can to the inhabitants that claim it. We are much at a loss for your further orders, which we hoped to have received before this time, and are not without our fears that some accident must have happened to your express.

I received a letter this morning from Mr. *Cary Mitchell*. Our answer is enclosed, with his letter. I have the worst opinion of the people here; and have no doubt but every thing relating to us is laid before his Lordship. If it is your intention that a part only of the present force should remain at this place, I would submit it to your consideration whether the Second Regiment, or any part of it you may think proper to withdraw, may not, after their duty, be drawn off.

I wrote the Convention last night that I had resigned the command to Colonel *Howe*. As that gentleman's military abilities and great experience will be full equal to every task, I would ask the Convention's leave of absence to see my family, and attend to my private affairs, for so long time as may be agreeable to them. I do not mean this so long as there is a prospect of any actual service, either offensive or defensive.

You have enclosed a return of the strength of the troops at this place, and for further particulars must refer you to several members of your respectable body, who are the bearers of this.

I am, with the greatest respect, sir, your most obedient servant,

WILLIAM WOODFORD.

Otter sloop-of-war, off Norfolk, December 15, 1775.

To the Officer Commanding at NORFOLK:

Captain *Squire's* compliments to the commanding officer, informs him that several musket balls were last night fired at the King's ship, from some people at *Norfolk*. Captain *Squire* did not return the fire, from a supposition that it was done out of wantonness. Captain *Squire* does not mean to fire on the town of *Norfolk*, unless first fired at; must beg to know if any hostile intention was meant to His Majesty's ship, and people under his command.

Answer to the above.

Colonel *Howe's* and Colonel *Woodford's* compliments to Captain *Squire*, and assure him they gave no orders to fire upon the *Otter*, and conceive the musket balls mentioned in Captain *Squire's* message to have come from our guard, who fired by mistake upon one of our own parties.

ROBERT HOWE.
WILLIAM WOODFORD.

CAPTAIN COVENHOVEN TO LORD STIRLING.

December 15, 1775.

SIR: I would inform you that Captain *Longstreet* has been under many disadvantages in raising his company. In the first place, his Lieutenant failing, put him back a fortnight; some people discourage the inlistment; and others, seeing those that had inlisted, which retard the business considerably. However, I hope, with some of our leading men, they have agreed to enter to his assistance, with spirit. I make no doubt that the company will soon be filled.

Your giving some further indulgence will oblige, sir, your very humble servant,

JOHN COVENHOVEN.

Sir, please to excuse haste.

To Colonel *Stirling*.

CAPTAIN POLHEMUS TO LORD STIRLING.

New-Brunswick, December 15, 1775.

SIR: Your favour of the 14th instant, I received, and note the contents, and shall endeavour to call in all the men out on furlough as speedily as possible. I find much difficulty in keeping the men together, now they are billeted about the town; but expect to have the barracks ready to go into by *Monday* or *Tuesday* next, and doubt not by the latter end of next week to have my company altogether in the barracks, ready for your further orders. I understood that two or three companies of our battalion are expected to lie here some time; if so, shall esteem it a particular favour of your Lordship if you will continue us in this town till such times as we may be properly equipped or wanted for immediate duty.

I have the honour to be, my Lord, your Lordship's most obedient, humble servant,

JOHN POLHEMUS.

The Honourable Earl of *Stirling*, *Elizabethtown*.

NEW-YORK COMMITTEE.

At a meeting of the General Committee for the City and County of *New-York*, on *Tuesday* evening, *December* 15th, 1775, Present: *John Broome*, Chairman pro tem.,

Colonel Hyer,	Mr. Van Zandt,	Mr. Templeton,
Mr. Janeway,	Mr. Gilbert,	Mr. T. Curtenius,
Mr. Reade,	Mr. Ray,	Mr. Mulligan,
Mr. Pintard,	Mr. Banker,	Mr. Norwood,
Mr. Dunscomb,	Mr. Johnson,	Mr. Brinkerhoff,
Mr. Stoutenburgh,	Mr. Moore,	Mr. Theop. Anthony,
Mr. Bassett,	Mr. Abeel,	Mr. Ray, Jun.,
Mr. Duyckinck,	Mr Byvanck,	Mr. Totten,
Mr. Roome,	Mr. Breasted,	Mr. Low,
Mr. Lott,	Mr. Jay,	Mr. Burling,
Mr. Roosevelt,	Mr. John Anthony,	Mr. Phenix,
Colonel Lasher,	Mr. Miller,	Mr. Ramsay.
Captain Dennis,		

The Chairman laid before the Committee a letter from *Mathias Williamson*, of *Elizabethtown*, to his son, requesting him to obtain permission from this Committee to send a Chariot to Mr. *Johnson*, in *Jamaica*, which being read,

Ordered, That the Chairman give permission accordingly.

The Chairman produced an Inventory of a quantity of Provisions, belonging to Mr. *Daubeny*, which were taken by the City Guard, going to *Long-Island* in order to be conveyed on board the *Asia*, man-of-war. Mr. *Daubeny* being called in, from his examination it appeared that he had inadvertently attempted to send some necessaries on board the *Asia*, without the permission of Mr. *Lott*.

The question then being put, whether Mr. *Daubeny* should be dismissed by receiving a reprimand from the Chairman, was carried in the affirmative.

Mr. *Daubeny* being then called, and having received a reprimand from the Chairman,

Ordered, That he be dismissed.

Mr. *Dunscomb* moved that the Secretary enter the names of the members as they voted, on each side of the question, which was unanimously agreed to, and ordered accordingly.

The names of the members as they voted on the question relating to Mr. *Daubeny:*

For the Affirmative.

Mr. Reade,	Mr. Ray,	Mr. Brinkerhoff,
Mr. Pintard,	Mr. Banker,	Mr. Theop. Anthony,
Mr. Duyckinck,	Mr. Johnson,	Mr. Totten,
Mr. Roome,	Mr. Jay,	Mr. Low,
Colonel Lott,	Mr. Miller,	Mr. Ramsey,
Captain Dennis,	Mr. Templeton,	Mr. Breasted.—18.

For the Negative.

Colonel Hyer,	Colonel Lasher,	Mr. Curtenius,
Mr. Janeway,	Mr. Van Zandt,	Mr. Mulligan,
Mr. Dunscomb,	Mr. Gilbert,	Mr. Norwood,
Mr. Stoutenburgh,	Mr. Abeel,	Mr. Ray, Jun.,
Mr. Bassett,	Mr. Byvanck,	Mr. Burling.—17.
Mr. Roosevelt,	Mr. John Anthony,	

Whereas, many of the Members of this Committee have hitherto neglected to give their attendance at the stated meetings,

Ordered, therefore, That the Chairman issue his order to the Door-keeper, directing him to apply to every Member who is absent at this time, (excepting those who belong to the Continental or Provincial Congresses, those who have removed out of town, and those who are in the Provincial service,) and obtain a declaration in writing whether they mean to be considered as members of this Board, and engage to attend accordingly; and that the Door-keeper report to the Chairman each written answer, with all convenient speed.

As there are several persons now confined in the Guard-House,

Ordered, That Mr. *Gilbert* and Mr. *Dunscomb* be a Committee to inquire into the offence of the prisoners, procure the evidences' names, and report the same at the next meeting.

It being suggested to the Committee that one *Graham*, residing near the *North* River, has been employed in procuring Provisions, and supplying the *Asia*, man-of-war, therewith,

Ordered, That *William Sloo* and *Joseph Bauldwin* be sent for immediately.

Mr. *Bauldwin* attending, informed the Committee that he well knows this *Graham* to have purchased large quantities of Provisions, and that he verily believed they were bought for the use of the man-of-war; that *Joseph De Groat* and *George Anderson* carted the Provisions.

William Sloo declares to the above effect, and furthermore says, that one Mrs. *Haily*, in *Dey Street*, informed him (*Sloo*) that she was employed by the said *Graham* to procure a large quantity of Butter; that *David Morris*, Carpenter, can give some further intelligence.

Major *Stoutenburgh*, *Garret Abeel*, *John Lasher*, and *William Hyer*, a Sub-Committee, appointed to draw up a set of Regulations for the Night Watch, reported that they had drawn up said Regulations; which, being read and amended, are in the words following, viz:

Whereas, the Military Night Watch, which has been kept for several months past, has been found of great utility towards preserving peace and good order in the city, and protecting the persons and property of its inhabitants; and as the continuance of such a Watch has become more necessary than ever, from the unsettled state of publick affairs, and the recent instances of insults offered to the rights and persons of said inhabitants, the Sub-Committee appointed by the General Committee to draw up directions for the Regulations, are therefore of opinion it be again published in the newspapers, that it is expected the inhabitants of this city continue with willingness and punctuality said Watch, agreeably to the rules and orders of the Provincial Congress for regulating the Militia, and the directions of the General Committee.

The following directions for the Watch, are submitted to the General Committee for their approbation:

First. That at least one company, properly officered, mount guard every evening at such place and time as shall be directed by the General Committee; that the present Watch be kept at the Barracks on the *Battery*, and attend there every evening at six o'clock, and be discharged at daylight in the morning, unless it be found necessary by the Commanding Officer of the Regiment or Battalion to which such company belongs, to continue the same through the day.

Second. That the Town-Major give notice to the Adjutant of each Battalion, whose tour of duty it is, at least twenty-four hours before he mounts guard; and that the officer report to the Town-Major the occurrences of the night, and deliver him a return of the men who have been on duty, and of the defaulters, which report is to be delivered by him to the Colonel, or next Commanding Officer of the Battalion to which the company or guard belongs.

Third. That immediately after roll-calling, sentinels be set at such places as have been directed by the Committee, or shall be directed by the Town-Major, or be found necessary by the officer on guard.

Fourth. That detachments be made from said guard, to patrol the streets every two hours, under the command of a Commissioned or a Non-commissioned Officer, beginning at ten o'clock; that said patrol endeavour, by all means, to prevent outrage on person or property; and that all offending or suspected persons, or those who cannot give a proper account of themselves, be by them taken up and carried to the Guard-Room, and there kept in safe custody until disposed of in the morning by the Chairman of the Committee, or the Commanding Officer of the Regiment or Battalion to which the company or guard belongs, which Chairman or Commanding Officer, is hereby authorized to examine the person or persons so taken in custody, and release him or them, if sufficient proof does not appear to render their further confinement necessary. And if said patrol should discover any person or persons landing or taking off goods in the night, they place a sentinel or sentinels over said goods, until notice be given to the officer on guard, who shall repair himself, or send another officer to the place, to be fully satisfied that said goods are not landed or laden contrary to the Association, or orders of the Congress or General Committee.

Fifthly. That no wanton alarm be given to the inhabitants, by firing of guns or beating of drums.

Sixthly. That if any alarm shall be given in the night, by fire or otherwise, the guard stand to their arms, and the officer immediately despatch a sufficient detachment to inquire into the reason of such alarm.

Seventhly, or lastly. It is expected by the General Committee, that every officer of the Military Watch adhere strictly to the 23d and 24th Articles of the Rules and Orders of the Provincial Congress, in fining and punishing delinquents.

ISAAC STOUTENBURGH, JOHN LASHER,
GARRET ABEEL, WILLIAM HYER.

Ordered, That a fair copy of the aforegoing Regulations be made out and signed by the Chairman, and delivered to the Town-Major, with orders to have the same pasted on a board and hung in the Guard-Room.

Abraham P. Lott and *Peter T. Curtenius*, appointed to superintend the election of Officers for Beat No. 28, reported that they had attended the said election, and that *William De Witt* was, by a majority of votes, elected Captain of said Beat No. 28, and that *Martin Shire* was chosen First-Lieutenant, *John Horne*, Second-Lieutenant, and *John Brevort*, Ensign.

Abraham P. Lott and *Jacob Van Voorhies*, appointed to superintend the election of a Captain in Beat No. 5, reported that they had attended said election, and that *James Wessels* was, without any opposition, chosen Captain of said Beat.

Ordered, That the Officers' names be sent to the Provincial Congress, requesting their commissions to be made out.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Albany, December 15, 1775.

DEAR SIR: Your Excellency's favour of the 28th *November*, I received on the 11th instant. The inventory of the military stores taken from the enemy, gave great joy in this place.

With mine of the 8th instant, your Excellency will receive an account of our strength in *Canada*. It is daily decreasing; above an hundred have left it since General *Montgomery's* letter. I fear much that by the first of next month I shall not have a man left at *Ticonderoga*, *Crown-Point*, or *Fort-George*, of those now there; and I cannot learn that the officers to whom I gave warrants to raise new companies, to garrison those places, meet with any success.

The treaty with the *Indians* is not yet concluded. They have delivered us the war-belt and hatchet which Colonel *Johnson* gave them at *Montreal*. When this belt was delivered at *Montreal*, *Johnson* had caused an ox to be roasted, and a cask of red wine was prepared; and when he invited them to the feast, he said it was to eat a *Bostonian*, and to drink his blood. The sachems of the *Six-Nations*, present, refused to partake of the feast, or to let the warriors sing the war-song; but took the belt to lay it before their Grand Council. We have now sufficient proof that the Ministry attempted to engage the savages to fight against us.

The *Mohawks* have received a severe and publick reprimand from the other nations, because they did not immediately send for the few of the tribe that were in *Canada*, some of which were killed by our people.

I do myself the honour to enclose your Excellency copies and extracts of my late letters to Congress.

I have not heard a word from Colonel *Knox* since I left him at *Fort-George*. The weather is so moderate at present, that I am in hopes he has got most of the stores to *Fort-George*.

I am, dear sir, with every sentiment of esteem, your Excellency's most obedient and most humble servant,

PHILIP SCHUYLER.

His Excellency General *Washington*, &c., &c.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO JOSEPH REED.

Cambridge, December 15, 1775.

DEAR SIR: Since my last, I have had the pleasure of

receiving your favours of the 28th ultimo, and the 2d instant. I must again express my gratitude for the attention shown to Mrs. *Washington*, at *Philadelphia*. It cannot but be pleasing, although it did, in some measure, impede the progress of her journey.*

I am much obliged to you for the hints contained in both of the above letters, respecting the jealousies which you say are gone abroad. I have studiously avoided, in all letters calculated for the publick eye, (I mean for that of the Congress,) every expression that could give pain or uneasiness; and I shall observe the same rule with respect to private letters, any further than appears absolutely necessary for the elucidation of facts.

I cannot charge myself with incivility, or, what in my opinion is tantamount, ceremonious civility, to the gentlemen of this Colony; but if such my conduct appears, I will endeavour at a reformation, as I can assure you, my dear *Reed*, that I wish to walk in such a line as will give most general satisfaction. You know that it was my wish, at first, to invite a certain number of the gentlemen of this Colony every day to dinner; but, unintentionally, we some how or other missed of it. If this has given rise to the jealousy, I can only say that I am sorry for it; at the same time I add, that it was rather owing to inattention, or, more properly, too much attention to other matters, which caused me to neglect it.

The extracts of letters from this camp, which so frequently appear in the *Pennsylvania* papers, are not only written without my knowledge, but without my approbation, as I have always thought they must have an unfavourable tendency; but there is no restraining men's tongues or pens, when charged with a little vanity, as in the accounts given of, or rather by, the riflemen.

With respect to what you have said of yourself, and your situation, I can only add to what I have before said on this subject, that whilst you leave the door open to my expectation of your return, I shall not think of supplying your place. If ultimately you resolve against coming, I should be glad to know it as soon as you have determined.

The Congress have resolved well, in respect to the pay of the men; but if they cannot get the money signers to despatch their business, it is of very little avail; for we have not, at this time, money enough in camp to answer the Commissary's and Quartermaster's accounts, much less to pay the troops.

The account which you have given of the sentiments of the people respecting my conduct, is extremely flattering. I pray God that I may continue to deserve them, in my perplexed and intricate situation.

Our inlistment goes on slowly. By the returns last *Monday*, only five thousand nine hundred and seventeen men are engaged for the ensuing campaign; and yet we are told that we shall get the number wanted, as they are only playing off, to see what advantages are to be made, and whether a bounty cannot be extorted, either from the publick at large or individuals, in case of a draft. Time only can discover this. I doubt the measure exceedingly.

The fortunate capture of the store-ship has supplied us with flints, and many other articles we stood in need of; but we still have our wants.

I am, &c., GEORGE WASHINGTON.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Cambridge, December 15, 1775.

SIR: Your favours of the 7th and 9th instant I received, and was much pleased to hear of the zeal of the people of *Connecticut*, and the readiness of the inhabitants of the several towns to march to this town, upon their being acquainted with the behaviour and desertion of their troops.

I have nothing to suggest for the consideration of your Assembly; I am confident they will not be wanting in their exertions for supporting the just and constitutional rights of the Colonies.

Enclosed I send you a list of the officers and companies under the new establishment, with the number of the men inlisted; the returns only came in to-day, or I would have transmitted it before.

Having heard that it is doubtful whether the Reverend Mr. *Leonard*, from your Colony, will have it in his power to continue here as a Chaplain, I cannot but express some concern, as I think his departure will be a loss. His general conduct has been exemplary and praiseworthy; in discharging the duties of his office, active and industrious; he has discovered himself a warm and steady friend to his country, and taken great pains to animate the soldiery, and impress them with a knowledge of the important rights we are contending for. Upon the late desertion of the troops, he gave a sensible and judicious discourse, holding forth the necessity of courage and bravery, and at the same time, of obedience and subordination to those in command.

In justice to the merits of this gentleman, I thought it only right to give you this testimonial of my opinion of him, and to mention him to you as a person worthy of your esteem and that of the publick.

I am, sir, &c., GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To Governour *Trumbull, Connecticut.*

ROBERT H. HARRISON TO JAMES WARREN.

Cambridge, December 15, 1775.

SIR: I have it in command from his Excellency, to transmit to you the enclosed letter, from *John Dalton* and *William Ramsay*, Esquires, two of the Committee for the County of *Fairfax*, in the Colony of *Virginia*, by which you will see that they have sent the sum of fifty-three pounds thirteen shillings and three pence, by *John Custis*, Esq., who arrived here this week, for the suffering poor of *Boston*. As your honourable Court may make a distribution of this money in a manner, probably, which will better answer the benevolent intentions of the contributors than what his Excellency can, it is his desire that you will have an order made respecting the same, and send some person with it, to whom the money may be paid. The letter you will please to return.

I have the honour to be your very humble servant,

ROBERT H. HARRISON, *A. D. C.*

To the Hon. *James Warren*, Esq., Speaker.

P. S. If you can certify that the other donations were received, it will give the *Fairfax* Committee satisfaction.

TO WILLIAM BARTLETT, ESQ., BEVERLY.

Cambridge, December 15, 1775.

SIR: Acknowledged receipt of his letter, with petition from Committee of Correspondence of *Beverly*. If any cannon, not immediately wanting for the armed vessels, to be lent them. Shot to be lent. Powder found on board the prizes to be detained in his hands; and, if absolutely wanting for the town, to be lent.

COLONEL MOYLAN TO WILLIAM BARTLETT.

Cambridge, December 15, 1775.

SIR: Your favour of the 14th came to hand, with the sundry articles therein mentioned. I was in hopes there was some bottled porter, which would have been much more agreeable than that in cask. The General sends back the tea, which I am informed consists of two canisters only. The barrel of lemons was not half full. There was some preserved ginger on board the *Antigua*, which would be very agreeable.

Captain *Lowrie* just now delivered yours of the 11th. His Excellency thinks the price of teams, as fixed by the Province, full sufficient; he will not raise the price. His Excellency approves of your selling the lemons and limes, the potatoes, cabbage, and every thing perishable, on board the different prizes.

Captain *Lowrie* and Captain *Foster* have liberty to stay at *Salem* on their parole. Let them have their wearing apparel, and what to you appears clearly to be their private property, taking their receipts for what you give them.

Mr. *Burke* will deliver you this. You are ordered to give him and Mr. *Gregory* all their private property, taking their receipts. You must also give Captain *Adams* all his private property, taking his receipt.

* CAMBRIDGE, *December* 14, 1775.—Last *Monday* night came to town, from *Virginia*, the lady of his Excellency General *Washington*, and the lady of the Hon. Adjutant-General *Gates*, accompanied by *John Custis*, Esq., and lady, and *George Lewis*, Esq.

Attend to former orders, by preventing embezzlements. As the court is not yet established to bring on the trial, I have nothing further to mention to you concerning them, than that all possible care must be taken of every article. Four loaves of sugar are all that came to hand.

I am, sir, yours, &c.,

STEPHEN MOYLAN.

To *William Bartlett*, Esq., *Beverly*.

COLONEL MOYLAN TO WILLIAM BARTLETT.

Cambridge, December 15, 1775.

SIR: I wrote you this day by Mr. *Burke*, to which you will please be referred.

The General was much surprised at the rapacity of the crews, in stripping the prizes of every little thing they could lay their hands upon. It is now his positive command, that you make strict inquiry for the different articles which have been taken, and such as can be got, returned to the proper owners; and that such articles as cannot be found, must be made good to them—the same to be deducted from the shares of those whom it can be proved the pillagers. If they cannot be found out, it must be a charge upon the one-third belonging to the captors. Of this you must acquaint Captain *Manly* and the agent for the people, if any such is by them appointed.

It is his Excellency's desire you will pay a strict attention to this order, and that he may not be plagued with any more applications of this sort.

STEPHEN MOYLAN.

To *William Bartlett*, Esq., *Beverly*.

Opinion given by JOHAN DERK *Van der* CAPELLEN, *upon the request of the King of* GREAT BRITAIN *for the loan of the* SCOTCH *Brigade, in the Assembly of the States of* OVERYSSELL, *on the 16th of* DECEMBER, 1775, *and inserted in the Records of that Province.*

Honourable and Mighty Gentlemen:

The request of a neighbouring Power for some troops of this State, to be taken into their service and pay, is, in the present state of *Europe*, an affair of so great consequence to our Republick, that I chose rather to communicate my sentiments to you in writing, desiring, at the same time, that this my opinion be inserted in the Records of this Province.

Assisting a foreign Power with troops, in order to extricate them from troubles in which they are involved, is simply no less than engaging therein, choosing a party, and putting ourselves in danger of being deeper involved than may, at first, be foreseen or wished for, and thus exposing ourselves to all the consequences of the first step.

Our Republick (which, though it flourishes only by peace, yet has constantly been engaging in unsuccessful wars, subsists principally by commerce and agriculture, and to both which, but especially the former, sufficient encouragement has not been given) is, by the great influence of some, and blind zeal of others, brought to so low a state of power as only to be recovered (if any remedy be still left) by observing a strict neutrality in all quarrels throughout *Europe*. Every proposal, therefore, however plausible, must be tried by this touchstone, and rejected if it does not stand the test. Of this sort, (and nobody can take amiss that I speak my sentiments on what regards the State so nearly with the true spirit of *Batavia* freedom; I even look upon myself as called upon, and that silence would be criminal when to speak is my duty,) I say, of this sort is that you are now deliberating upon; at least, I view it in that light. The torch which now burns in *America* is capable of inflaming all *Europe*, already full of combustibles. If assistance is offered to *England*, *America* will not want it on her side.

The House of *Bourbon*, and all who wish the peace of *Europe* and freedom of commerce, look with a jealous eye on the greatness of *England*, in raising it to which we have most unaccountably sacrificed ourselves without any reward or national profit whatever, and by which the balance of power in *Europe*, which cost such an effusion of blood, is entirely lost; insomuch that we now behold that Kingdom exercising an imperial power on the sea, even much greater than was ever known to exist before; and it is more than probable a blow will be aimed against her, when a proper opportunity occurs, in order to stab her to the quick.

What will then be the consequence? No other than seeing ourselves again involved in a destructive war with one of our mightiest neighbours, (*France*,) who, from a reciprocal interest, is our natural friend, and can wish nothing more than that there should exist such a neutral, and by trade flourishing, Republick as the *United Provinces*, to carry on, (by means of our extensive shipping and naval force,) with mutual advantage, their navigation and commerce, when obstructed by their wars with *England*. This appears obvious to me, besides other reasons of no less consequence.

What advantage can this Republick expect from this cession of troops? What advantage has ever accrued to her from her near alliance with *Great Britain*? What reward has she received for her ever faithful assistance, so cheerfully and readily granted? That Kingdom, on the contrary, got, at the end of the Succession war, (which proved so fatal to this country,) besides her extensive conquests in *America*, nothing less than the key to the *Mediterranean*, *Gibraltar* and *Minorca*; and what we, but (as a certain writer too justly remarks) an irrecoverable and exhausted treasury, the just fruits of our folly?

Not only the advantages of our commercial treaties, so strictly observed on our side, and by which we are granted nothing more than the law of nature and nations require, but even a free navigation and trade, have been denied us. Our ships were searched and confiscated at pleasure when trading on the free seas, which belong solely to the great Creator; nay, even on our own coasts. Their courts declared goods to be contraband which really were not so; and they have treated us often in a manner by no means suitable to a free and independent State.

Let these just causes of complaint be removed, and the immense sums taken from our merchants refunded. Then shall I allow myself to deliberate on rendering services which we are by no means held to do, and show my readiness, provided our own circumstances and the state of affairs permit it.

This brings me to my last observation. Though not as principals, yet as auxiliaries, our troops would be employed towards suppressing (what some please to call) a rebellion in the *American Colonies*; for which purpose I would rather see janizaries hired than troops of a free State. In what an odious light must this unnatural civil war appear to all *Europe*, a war in which even savages (if credit can be given to newspaper information) refuse to engage; more odious, still, would it appear for a people to take a part therein who were themselves once slaves, bore that hateful name, but at last had spirit to fight themselves free. But above all, it must appear superlatively detestable to me, who think the Americans worthy of every man's esteem, and look on them as a brave people, defending in a becoming, manly, and religious manner, those rights which, as men, they derive from *God*, not from the Legislature of *Great Britain*. Their mode of proceeding will, I hope, serve as an example to every nation deprived, by any means, of its privileges, yet fortunate enough in being able to make suitable efforts towards retaining or regaining them.

These are my reasons, which I look upon as sufficiently convincing; but must further observe, that I am not without apprehensions that this cession of troops may lead towards an augmentation of our own, of which I am daily more and more afraid. An overgrown military power is too apt to interfere in civil and criminal jurisdiction, and creates an *imperium in imperio*, which frequently obstructs the administration of justice. In neighbouring monarchies there are many proofs of this. In *England* it is unknown. It is one of the dreadful innovations of the last century. Bitter complaints of it were made throughout *Europe*, and, in my opinion, it ought never more to be mentioned in this Republick; yet, sorry I am to say, this military spirit gains ground more and more, and serves only to dissolve the weak bands which have hitherto, in some degree, connected the armed and unarmed part of our country, and which only can make the former retain any idea

of their dependance on, and submission to, the civil power. For all these reasons, I find myself bound to give the following opinion: That, as the interest of the Republick in general, and the Province in particular, does not require or admit the cession of these troops, and could not even be done without a manifest injustice to people who have no ways injured us, it becomes necessary, for the present, not to grant the King of *Great Britain's* request.

As this affair, from its nature and consequences, (which are very extensive,) does not come under those points which belong to the daily administration of Provincial affairs, I trust that my negative voice will, in the end, have such influence, and be of so much effect, as is consistent with what of old has been, and still is, customary,* in such cases, in your High Mightinesses' Assembly.

J. D. Van der Capellen, *tot den Poll.*

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM LONDON, TO A GENTLEMAN IN VIRGINIA, DATED DECEMBER 16, 1775.

The King's Speech was calculated to inflame, rather than allay animosities. The pretence of hypocrisy in the *Americans*, and denunciations of decisive exertions, I can easily see will have no good effect. In pursuance of the spirit of the Royal denunciation, the Parliament have shut up all the ports of *America*. At the same time, for a show of clemency, Commissioners are to go over to receive the submissions of those who will come in to the Royal standard, pardon them, and restore their trade. Another act has also passed, allowing *Nova-Scotia* an exemption from all taxes, they paying eight per cent. on all goods imported from any parts except *Great Britain* and its dominions. The other Colonies are to be allowed this plan if they choose to accept it; but in this plan *England* is considered as having an indefinite legislative power over the Colonies, and the acts altering the Constitution of *Massachusetts-Bay*, the *Canada* Bill, indeed all the acts complained against, are to remain unrepealed. I know of no probability that we shall have any better terms offered, unless some news should arrive of success on the side of the Provincials. If *Bunker's Hill* should be retaken, *St. John's* reduced, &c., matters might take a somewhat more favourable turn. At present the nation is against us, and think we shall be an easy prey. *New-England*, they confess, will do something; the other Colonies, they say, nothing. An account is lately received that Lord *Dunmore*, with eighty regulars, beat five hundred *Virginians*. I cannot believe it; but if, unfortunately, it proves true, it will strengthen the Ministry and dishearten our friends, who are already but few. *Europe* is quiet, and like to be so. Administration will receive no check in their career of vengeance, unless given by our troops.

SAMUEL TUCKER TO LORD STIRLING.

Trenton, December 16, 1775.

My Lord: Your favour of yesterday is before me, and observe the contents. With it, I received per *Camp*, two memorials, one from *Yellas Mead*, recommended by a considerable number of respectable signers, for the Lieutenant's commission; the other memorial from *George Ross*, the third, of *Springfield*, in the County of *Essex*, supported by a great number of respectable signers, for the Ensign's commission in Captain *Meeker's* Company, alledging that he has inlisted a considerable number, and ought to have the Ensign's commission; both directed to the Committee of Safety. I, therefore, could not fill up these commissions until directed by the Committee of Safety, which must meet, unless it can be settled without. All the other commissions I have filled up, and now send you by *Caleb Camp*, Esq., as stated at the foot of your letter. I wish the matters may be settled, as I am of opinion the Committee will pay attention to the matters set forth in the memorials, more especially as they are supported by so many persons of caution.

An answer will oblige your assured friend, and most obedient, humble servant,

Samuel Tucker.

* At the commencement of the Republick, unanimity was necessary in their determinations. A single negative was sufficient to reject any proposition.

LORD STIRLING TO CAPTAIN LONGSTREET.

Elizabethtown, December 16, 1775.

Sir: Your Lieutenant, Mr. *Schenck*, this moment informs me, that you are arrived at *Amboy* with part of your Company. I hope the rest will be there soon. *Lawry*, the Commissary, will take care to furnish your Company with provisions according to the orders of the Continental Congress, and will call on you on *Monday*, and will advance you such money as the incomplete state of your Company will admit of. You will mount a guard at the barracks, of a sergeant, a corporal, and twelve men, and keep your men as much within the barracks as possible.

Stirling.

To Captain *Longstreet*.

LORD STIRLING TO CAPTAIN JOHN CONWAY.

Elizabethtown, December 16, 1775.

Sir: You are hereby requested to deliver to Mr. *John Van Emberg* the keys of the stores of the barracks at *Amboy*, with all the stores therein, taking an exact account of the same; and if no other troops be arrived at those barracks, or at *Amboy*, you are desired to pick twelve or twenty-four men out of your Company, such as you can best depend on, as a guard for the possession of those barracks, and the stores there. Mr. *Van Emberg* will supply them with provision according to the orders of the Continental Congress. The remainder of your Company may stay at *Brunswick* till further orders, and go immediately into barracks. Captain *Polhemus's* Company is also to go immediately into barracks, and both to receive provisions from the Commissary, Mr. *Lawry*, or his deputy.

Stirling.

To Captain *Conway*.

LORD STIRLING TO JOHN VAN EMBERG.

Elizabethtown, December 16, 1775.

Sir: You are hereby requested to take into your possession the keys of the barrack-stores at *Amboy*, with all such stores as you will find there, or that you will receive from Captain *Conway*, agreeably to an order I now send him. You will observe to take an exact account of the stores you receive, and of the expenditure of them.

Stirling.

To Mr. *John Van Emberg*.

RECANTATION OF JAMES JUDD.

Norwalk, Connecticut, December 16, 1775.

I, *James Judd*, of *Danbury*, in the County of *Fairfield*, have this day been brought before the Committee of Inspection of *Norwalk*, and detected in my wicked and mischievous striving to undo, and bring destruction and ruin on my bleeding country, by going on board sundry of the King's ships in *New-York*, and then and there gave in my name, and there held criminal correspondence with a man called Governour *Tryon*, who gave me as a present, four pamphlets, to inflame the country people against the resolves of the Continental Congress and Committees, which I had a design to spread in the country, which I now conceive was very wicked and wrong to do against my country, and am now heartily sorry for, and request the forgiveness of all true friends to the *United Colonies*; and hereby promise and engage to give information of all plots and intrigues laid, or hereafter may be laid, to circumvent or disconcert any of the resolves of the honourable Continental Congress, or any other Congress or Committee under them, but will freely take up arms and fight for my country, against the Ministerial army, or any under them. In confirmation of what is above written, I have voluntarily, with my own hands, committed to the flames the above mentioned pamphlets.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand, the date above.

James Judd.

A true copy of the original.

Jesse Raymond, *Clerk, P. T.*

GENERAL MONTGOMERY TO GENERAL WOOSTER.

Head-Quarters before Quebeck, December 16, 1775.

Dear General: The bearer, Mr. *Melchior*, I sent express to *St. John's* for artillery stores; be so good as to

give him all the assistance in your power, particularly in money matters. Yesterday we opened a battery of five guns and a howitzer, and with very little effect. I attempted to summon the Governour by a flag of truce; he would not receive any letter. The enemy have very heavy metal, and I think will dismount our guns very shortly; some they have already rendered almost useless. This gives very little uneasiness; I never expected any other advantage from our artillery than to amuse the enemy and blind them as to my real intention.

I propose the first strong northwester to make two attacks by night: one, with about a third of the troops, on the lower town, having first set fire to some houses, which will, in all probability, communicate their flames to the stockade lately erected on the rock near *St. Roque;* the other upon *Cape Diamond* bastion, by escalade. I have not time to point out my reasons for this particular attack; let it suffice that it is founded on the nature of the grounds, works, and the best intelligence I have been able to procure. However, I am not certain whether or no the troops relish this mode of proceeding; I am fully convinced of the practicability. But should it not appear in the same advantageous light to the men, I shall not press it upon them, well knowing the impossibility of making troops act with the necessary vigour on such an occasion, if their minds are possessed with imaginary terrors.

We are exceedingly weak, it is true, but the enemy are so too, in proportion to the extent of their works; and as they know not where they will be attacked, all must be guarded; indeed, their apprehensions for the lower town, induce them to bestow their greatest attention on that quarter. I hope the arms, lead and flints are on the way. I could wish for a reinforcement if to be spared. We have not much above eight hundred men fit for duty, exclusive of a few ragamuffin *Canadians*. I believe you will not think it proper to let the contents of this letter go abroad. Should you have no accounts of any cash on the way, I must beg you will send an express to hasten it. I shall soon be exceedingly distressed if a supply does not arrive. I must therefore beg you to raise what you can for fear of accidents. Let a considerable number of shirts be sent down as soon as possible; our men are much in want of them. I must refer you to Mr. *Melchior* for particulars.

Believe me, dear sir, with much esteem, yours, &c.,

RICHARD MONTGOMERY.

To General *Wooster*.

GENERAL MONTGOMERY TO GENERAL CARLETON.

Holland-House, near Quebeck, December 16, 1775.

SIR: Notwithstanding the personal ill-treatment I have received at your hands—notwithstanding the cruelty you have shown to the unhappy prisoners you have taken, the feelings of humanity induce me to have recourse to this expedient to save you from the destruction which hangs over your wretched garrison. Give me leave to inform you that I am well acquainted with your situation. A great extent of works, in their nature incapable of defence, manned with a motley crew of sailors, most of them our friends; of citizens, who wish to see us within the walls; a few of the worst troops, that call themselves soldiers; the improbability of relief, and the certain prospect of wanting every necessary of life, should your opponents confine themselves to a simple blockade, point out the absurdity of resistance. Such is your situation. I am at the head of troops accustomed to success, confident of the righteousness of the cause they are engaged in, inured to danger and fatigue, and so highly incensed at your inhumanity, illiberal abuse, and the ungenerous means employed to prejudice them in the minds of the *Canadians*, that it is with difficulty I restrain them, till my batteries are ready, from assaulting your works, which would afford them a fair opportunity of ample vengeance, and just retaliation. Firing upon a flag of truce, hitherto unprecedented, even among savages, prevents my following the ordinary mode of conveying my sentiments; however, I will at any rate acquit my conscience. Should you persist in an unwarrantable defence, the consequence be upon your own head. Beware of destroying stores of any sort, as you did at *Montreal* or in the river. If you do, by Heavens there will be no mercy shown.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM A GENTLEMAN IN THE CONTINENTAL SERVICE, DATED BEFORE QUEBECK, DECEMBER 16, 1775.

General *Carleton* escaped from *Montreal* by paddling with his hands by our men in the night, and got safe to *Quebeck*, where he gave immediate orders for all that would not take up arms to leave the city.

We have, upon the Plains of *Abraham*, a battery of gabions, filled with snow, and water poured on till it froze quite hard, which does very well, and we have some mortars in *St. Roque*, behind a tory's house, at a little distance from the Palace gate, from both of which we have put them into some confusion, and set the town on fire in several places. We have roused them up these five nights successively, and I believe they are almost tired out. Yesterday we sent a flag of truce to them, which they would not receive, and it was with great difficulty the raw sailors could be prevented from firing on the person who carried it. General *Montgomery*, in that, offered a safe convoy to *Carleton* and *Cramahé*, Lieutenant-Governour, but he would not read it. Last *Saturday* night we made the *Indians* fire several letters into the town, with bows and arrows, which were found by the inhabitants, and are circulating through the town. One was directed to the inhabitants, informing them of our requests, and the consequence of a refusal; and another to *Carleton*, threatening him with immediate death unless he gave up the city. Was it not for *Carleton*, *Cramahé*, Colonel *Maclean*, a *Scotchman*, (who was taken up by the Congress at *New-York*, but denied interfering in the dispute, when, at the same time, he had a commission to raise men,) and *Hanslie*, Collector of the Customs, we should have been in *Quebeck* before now; but in a few nights we are to take it by storm, to play from both batteries, attack in the lower town, and scale the wall with ladders, which are almost finished. All that get safe into the city will live well, for they are allowed to plunder, and take what they please.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM LIEUTENANT VAN WAGENEN, OF CAPTAIN QUACKENBOSS'S COMPANY OF NEW-YORKERS, DATED BEFORE QUEBECK, DECEMBER 16, 1775.

We are now before *Quebeck*, which makes an obstinate defence. A flag was lately sent them to surrender, but it was fired at by *Carleton*, and obliged to retire. Colonel *Arnold*, and *Macpherson*, our General's Aid-de-camp, were again despatched; they got to the walls, but were ordered to be gone immediately; they asked if the Governour would not receive a letter which they had for him; they were answered, No; and ordered to decamp; upon which they retired. We have thrown above two hundred shells into the town, and this morning opened a six gun battery, which is now playing on the walls. The enemy have killed ten or twelve of our men. A council of war was called last evening, when it was concluded not to storm the town until a reinforcement should arrive, as it was generally thought that they have more men within the walls than we have without.

SAMUEL NORTON TO MASSACHUSETTS ASSEMBLY.

Martha's Vineyard, December 16, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: On the 24th *November* last, I observed a sail-boat, with six men on board, sailing from *Edgartown*, in pursuit of His Majesty's ship *Swan*, Captain *James Ayscough*, commanding. I being officer on guard on the east side of *Holmes's Hole* harbour, observed her motions; but she being so far from the shore, could not command her to, but going nearer the west side, the guard fired upon the said boat, but the people would not bring to. But keeping watch of said boat's return, I had the pleasure of seizing her on the 25th said *November;* and as there was no Committee or leading men in this town that would take notice of the offenders, I, by order of my commanding officer, took said offenders under examination, before a Justice of the Peace, whose affidavits I have herewith enclosed, which will show your Honours said offenders' faults.

Your advice in this case shall be ever acknowledged by your dutiful and obedient servant,

SAMUEL NORTON,
Lieutenant in Second Company in Dukes County.

To the Honourable the General Court and House of Representatives for the Colony of the *Massachusetts-Bay.*

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[R ad December 26, 1775.]

Chelsea, December 16, 1775.

Observation of the day.—Last evening eight men came in a boat from *Boston*, to our guard, at the ferry; six of them Captains of vessels. They brought the following account: Yesterday one large mortar was carried over to *Bunker-Hill;* the troops filling water, carrying it on board the transports; provisions scarce, not more than sufficient for six weeks; one regiment of Foot and three companies of the Light-Horse sail for *Halifax* this day.

Dorchester, December 16, 1775.

Sailed out of *Boston* Harbour this morning, eight large and two small vessels, taken to be tenders; by their firing appeared to be going a voyage out to sea. Mr. *Joshua Pico* came last night from *Boston;* he confirms the information that the regiment of Foot and some companies of Light-Horse were preparing to embark for *Halifax.*

Cambridge, December 16, 1775.

SIR: The information contained in the above, coming so many different ways, corroborated by several vessels having sailed this day from *Boston*, I thought it my duty to transmit it to you. Though *Halifax* is the place given out for their destination, it is possible they may be bound elsewhere. I shall communicate this intelligence to Governours *Cooke* and *Trumbull*, and to the Convention of *New-York*, for their government.

I remain, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq., President of the Congress.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GENERAL COURT OF MASSACHUSETTS.

Cambridge, December 16, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: Among many resolves of Congress, which were forwarded to me the other day, are the enclosed.

Not being able to discover from the resolves themselves, or the letter which accompanied them, whether a copy had been transmitted to you by the President, or to be handed in by me, I thought it best to err on the safe side, especially as the Quartermaster-General has just informed me that he is exceedingly scarce of hay, and can get none under six pounds lawful a ton; and that he is fearful, if he should even consent to offer this, (enormous as it is,) the price will be further advanced upon him as heretofore, and in the article of wood.

I am, &c., GEORGE WASHINGTON.

Honourable General Court of *Massachusetts-Bay.*

FROM GENERAL WASHINGTON'S SECRETARY.

Cambridge, December 16, 1775.

MADAM: I am commanded by His Excellency to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 8th instant, and to inform you that an exchange of prisoners is not yet agreed upon; when it is, Mr. *Tilly* will probably be released among the rest. He will not be forgot then.

I am, &c.

To Mrs. *Ruth Tilly, New-Haven.*

"In Committee of Safety for New-Hampshire, October 27, 1775.

"GENTLEMEN: It having been represented to this Committee as necessary that a number of vessels should be properly moored above the Boom in *Piscataqua* river, in order to prevent the passage of the enemy's ships up the river, we do therefore hereby desire you, or any three of you, to take a sufficient number of the meanest vessels you can easily find, that will answer the purpose, and fix them in such places, and in such a manner, above the Boom, as you shall judge most proper; and to appraise each of said vessels, and make return thereof, with the names of the owners, to this Committee. And to assure the owners of the vessels so taken that, in case they are destroyed in said service, they shall be paid for according to your appraisement.

"By order of the Committee,

"MATTHEW THORNTON, *Chairman.*

"To *William Knight* and *Joshua Wentworth*, Esqs., Captain *William Pearce*, Captain *Thomas Thompson*, and Captain *Supply Clap.*"

Pursuant to the above order, we, the subscribers, determined on and transported some vessels for the purpose above mentioned, and valued the same; since which, finding it unnecessary they should lay any longer at their moorings, have returned them to the respective wharves from whence they were taken, and delivered them to the several owners, unhurt; but that some of the cables and hawsers are injured by use, of which a future estimate may be made, if the owners require it.

WILLIAM KNIGHT, WILLIAM PEARCE,
JOSHUA WENTWORTH, SUPPLY CLAP.

Portsmouth, December 16, 1775.

COLONEL SCOTT TO CAPTAIN SOUTHALL.

Norfolk, December 17, 1775.

DEAR SIR: I have just time to inform you that we have got possession of the most horrid place I ever beheld; I mean *Norfolk.* Almost all the inhabitants fled on board the ships. Flags are continually passing, asking water, provision, or to exchange prisoners. Duty is harder than I ever saw before. Our guards have not been relieved for forty-eight hours. The men-of-war fell down last evening about four miles, and left a brig, with five thousand bushels of salt, behind; which our guard took, and brought to the wharf; but have not got one bushel on shore yet. We have got on board the vessel Mr. *Cary Mitchell.*

COLONEL WOODFORD TO EDMUND PENDLETON, PRESIDENT.

Norfolk, December 17, 1775.

Your favour of the 14th came safe to hand last night, and I should esteem myself wanting in duty, and respect to your honourable body, if I did not take the earliest opportunity to express the high sense I have of the great honour done me by your resolution of the 13th instant, and to assure the Convention that I consider my country's approbation of my conduct a sufficient reward for any services I may be thought to render at this alarming crisis.

I had taken the liberty to afford that protection and assistance to the distressed *Highlanders* which I find is the wish of the Convention; and Colonel *Howe* and myself will pay due regard to your directions respecting those that remain still in this town. Their vessel being detained, and their distressed wives and little ones left to starve in a strange country, is a fresh instance of the inhumanity of a certain Lord.*

* *A remarkable instance of Lord* DUNMORE'S *humanity.*—A ship from *Cameron*, in *North-Britain*, with about two hundred and fifty *Highlanders*, consisting of men, women, and children, was bound to *Newbern*, in *North-Carolina*, but forced by bad weather and other accidents to put into *Norfolk*, in this Colony, Lord *Dunmore*, whose troops had a few days before been defeated in the battle at the *Great-Bridge*, forced these poor people on shore, seized their ship for accommodating his Tory friends, who, after the battle, fled from *Norfolk*, on board the ships and other vessels lying in the harbour, and left his other countrymen, with their wives and children, to perish for want of subsistence, in a strange land. In this wretched condition they petitioned Colonel *Woodford* to take them under his protection. This petition was transmitted by that brave officer to the General Convention, sitting at *Williamsburgh*, who immediately gave orders that the Colonel should take them under his protection, relieve their immediate wants, and afford them all necessary assistance, to conduct them to *North-Carolina*, the place of their first destination. In consequence of these orders, Colonel *Woodford* sent the *Highlanders*, in wagons, under a proper escort, to *Suffolk;* from whence, by order of the Committee of Safety, they are to be conducted to *North-Carolina*, agreeably to the order of the Convention. The Committee of Safety, of this Colony, have wrote to the Committee of Safety of *North-Carolina*, informing them of the distresses of these poor people, occasioned by Lord *Dunmore's* cruel treatment, and requesting them to give directions for their relief and accommodation, till they shall arrive among their friends in that Province, amongst whom they intended to settle. Lord *Dunmore* had forced about one hundred and sixty of these unfortunate people into his service; but, upon being informed of the humane intention of this Colony, they

Your orders respecting the Tories and negro prisoners shall be complied with. We have upwards of one hundred of them now in our guards. Captain *Squire* sent us yesterday the following ticket:

"Captain *Squire's* compliments to Messrs. *Howe* and *Woodford*, and will be glad to know if they mean to prevent the navy and army from being supplied with provisions and water."

To which we returned this answer: "Colonel *Howe* and Colonel *Woodford's* compliments to Captain *Squire*, and return him for answer to his message, that as His Majesty's troops and ships-of-war have long since committed hostilities upon the persons and property of the good people of this Colony, and have actually taken and imprisoned several private gentlemen, and others, who did not bear arms at the time, our express orders are, to prevent, to the utmost of our power, any communication whatever between the said troops and ships-of-war and this town, or any part of this Colony."

In the afternoon the two ships-of-war and tenders got under sail, and fell down towards the distillery. They gave a signal for a snow, with four thousand bushels of salt, to follow; but she not being so quick as they expected, our guard ordered her to continue. The *Kingfisher* sent a boat, with about fifteen hands, to bring her off; but our officer hailed her, when within gun-shot, and told her he would fire if she did not return. She took his advice and put about to the man-of-war. On board the snow was Mr. *Cary Mitchell*, with all his official papers, which we have in possession, likewise the vessel, moored to the wharf, and intend landing the salt as soon as a proper house can be got within our guards. That gentleman has made many professions of his innocence, and has prevailed upon Col. *Howe* and myself to take his parole of honour for his appearance before the Convention, for which he sets off to-morrow.

Twenty-odd pieces of cannon were left by the enemy, but spiked and dismantled.

—

Norfolk, December 19, 1775.

Yesterday the two men-of-war, and a large sloop, stood up to their former station, and sent a flag of truce, with the following message:

"Captain *Squire's* compliments to Colonels *Howe* and *Woodford*. Acquaint them that the brig laden with salt alongside the wharf is a prize belonging to the King, and taken by the *Otter*. Captain *Squire* requests she may be immediately delivered up, and proposes sending a boat to take her away. Should any shot be fired on the people, he will most assuredly fire on the town."

To which we returned this answer: "Colonel *Howe* and Colonel *Woodford's* compliments to Captain *Squire*, and return him for answer, that the brig in question fell into our hands the other night, and we shall give orders to fire upon any boat that attempts to take her away."

They have never yet made the attempt, and our parties are ready to oppose the taking the vessel. Our out-scouts inform us that a thirty-six gun frigate, with a brig, are below this, at the Pleasure-House. She is supposed to be the *Liverpool* frigate, with a store-ship. We have parties watching her motions.

—

A morning Return of the Forces under the command of Colonel Howe.

Norfolk, December 17, 1775.

Virginia Second Regiment, - - - - - -	350
Virginia Minute Battalion, - - - - - -	165
Virginia First Regiment, detachment of, - -	172
North-Carolina Second Regiment, - - -	438
North-Carolina Volunteers, - - - - - -	150
Total strength of Companies, - - - -	1275

—

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM A GENTLEMAN OF THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS TO HIS FRIEND IN WILLIAMSBURGH, VIRGINIA, DATED DECEMBER, 1775.

One of our armed vessels has taken an *English* storeship, coming with all the implements of war, except powder, to *Boston*. She is worth about thirty thousand pounds sterling, as General *Washington* informs us, and the stores are adapted to his wants as perfectly as if he had sent the invoice. They have also taken two provision vessels from *Ireland* to *Boston*. A forty-gun ship blew up the other day, by accident, in the harbour of *Boston*. Of a certainty the hand of *God* is upon them. Our last intelligence from *Arnold*, to be relied on, is by letter from him; he was then at *Point-Levi*, opposite *Quebeck*, and had a great number of canoes ready to cross the river. The *Canadians* received him with cordiality, and the regular force in *Quebeck* was too inconsiderable to give him any inquietude. A later report makes him in possession of *Quebeck;* but this is not authenticated. *Montgomery* had proceeded in quest of *Carleton* and his small fleet of eleven pickeroons, then on Lake *St. François*. He had got below him, and had batteries so planted as to prevent his passing. It is thought he cannot escapé their vigilance.

I hope Lord *Chatham* may live till the fortune of war puts his son into our hands, and enable us, by returning him safe to his father, to pay a debt of gratitude.

The Congress have promoted Brigadier-General *Montgomery* to be a Major-General; and on being assured that *Arnold* is in possession of *Quebeck*, it is probable he will be made a Brigadier-General, one of those offices being vacant by *Montgomery's* promotion.

—

LORD STIRLING TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS

[Read December 23, 1775.]

Elizabethtown, December 17, 1775.

Sir: The two letters I wrote you on the 3d and 5th instant, I hope you received. I have not received any answer to either of them, except a letter from Mr. *Walter Livingston*, relative to the surgeon and quartermaster of my regiment, which I have answered.

The enclosed letter from Colonel *Maxwell*, I received yesterday. I had before wrote to him to put his men into barracks as soon as possible. I was then sensible that all the barracks in this Province would not contain the two regiments of Continental troops raised in *New-Jersey*, and therefore intended boarding out two or three of the companies in this town, at a dollar per week, which, considering the expense of fire-wood, will be nearly as cheap as to

*

deserted him, and joined their wives and children, except two maidens, who were detained as bed-makers to his Lordship.

Notwithstanding the Convention had a return from Colonel *Woodford*, after the battle of the *Great-Bridge*, from which, besides from the Colonel's own declaration in his letter to them, it appeared that not one of our men was killed, and but one slightly wounded; and add to these convincing proofs of the truth of this, we have seen officers of veracity that were in the action, who declare the same thing; yet we hear that it was reported in *Norfolk* that we lost one hundred and fifty men; and we have pretty good reason to believe that Lord *Dunmore* had propagated a report amongst the few Tories now left in his interest that fifty of the Grenadiers of the Fourteenth Regiment had fallen into an ambuscade of twelve hundred Rebels; that they fought bravely, killed one hundred and fifty Rebels, and retreated, leaving behind them thirty-three killed and wounded; that their loss was heavy, but that they sold their lives dearly; that the Shirt-men have nothing to boast of, having with difficulty forced the seventeen surviving Grenadiers to retreat, although they had fifty to one. We may therefore expect, when the news of this affair arrives in *England*, that Lord *Dartmouth* will publish Lord *Dunmore's* letter, which will probably contain a more rational account, and may be to this effect: That, finding the Rebels had closely besieged a fort he had built to obstruct their passage to *Norfolk*, that a large reinforcement was daily expected by them from *Carolina*, and that they were procuring cannon, he thought it best to attack them before they could receive such assistance; especially, as he was informed by a deserter that they were but three hundred; that he found that a favourable opportunity, having just pressed into his service some *Scotch Highlanders* who had come over to settle in *America*, and this circumstance giving rise to a report, which he had taken care to propagate, that he had received a reinforcement of five hundred *Highlanders*, he thought it advisable to make an attack as soon as possible; that he ordered Captain *Leslie*, with a company of eight Infantry, and Captain *Fordyce*, with his company of Grenadiers of the Fourteenth Regiment, to take with them all the volunteers and slaves that were well armed, to march in the night of the 8th *December* to the fort, and to sally out by day-break and attack the Rebels; that Captain *Leslie* did so, but being in a great measure deserted by the slaves, and several of the volunteers, (for they could not be prevailed upon to advance,) and the Rebels having near three times the number he had been informed they had, and behaving, indeed, on that occasion, with more resolution than they had ever done, and Captain *Fordyce* and the advance Grenadiers being cut off by the Riflemen, and Captain *Leslie* being unable to rally the negroes, who could not stand the severe fire from hundreds of marksmen, retreated into the fort, and that night abandoned it; that he, finding the people of *Norfolk* were not to be relied on in case of an attack, thought it prudent to retire to the ships, and wait for a reinforcement, which he hourly expected. Some such account as this we may expect to see in some future *English* paper, unless this anticipation of it should happen to be read or republished in *England* before their Lordships have patched up their story.—*Va. Gaz.*

have them in barracks. By this letter, I find Colonel *Maxwell's* regiment cannot, at present, be provided with the barracks at *Trenton*, as I expected. It seems there are about seventy or eighty non-commissioned officers and private soldiers, prisoners from *Canada*, with their women, &c., at *Trenton*, who have taken possession of the best rooms in the barracks, with all the furniture, and behave in a most insolent and improper manner, exciting mutiny and dissension among the men of Colonel *Maxwell's* regiment, posted there. From what I am well assured of, I have reason to believe that it is very improper those prisoners should remain at *Trenton*, or in the Province. The Tories, in every part of it, have of late assumed fresh courage, and talk very daringly. I was yesterday evening informed by the Committee of this County, that they received intelligence of a combination carrying on for opposing the measures of the Congress; that some of them are bold enough to assert that their list of Association already amounts to more than four thousand men; and that they have had a supply of ammunition from on board the *Asia*, man-of-war. On this foundation, the Committee have applied to me for a party of men to seize two of the most active of the gang in this County, and I hope to surprise them to-morrow evening.

Colonel *Lawry* has, yesterday, paid off three companies more of my regiment at this place. Part of the eighth and last company arrived at the barracks at *Amboy* on *Friday;* the remainder of them are expected there to-morrow. On *Tuesday* next, a complete company from *Morristown* will also be there. The troops in barracks will, to-morrow, begin to subsist on their rations, as contracted for by the Congress.

I do not find that it will be possible to get any ammunition in this Province or *New-York*. We ought to have a magazine of at least twenty-four rounds, to guard against unforeseen emergencies.

I shall, on foot hereof, add an account of the manner of stationing these two regiments as I intended them. Colonel *Lawry*, who has lately reviewed the barracks, is of opinion with me that they cannot possibly contain more than I have allotted to them.

I am, very respectfully, sir, your most humble servant,

STIRLING.

To the Hon. *John Hancock*, Esq.

Stations intended for the two Regiments in NEW-JERSEY:

In barracks at *Burlington*,	3	companies.
In barracks at *Trenton*,	3	do.
In barracks at *Brunswick*,	3	do.
In barracks at *Amboy*,	3	do.
In barracks at *Elizabethtown*,	2	do.
In board at *Elizabethtown*,	2	do.
Total,	16	companies.

COLONEL MAXWELL TO THE EARL OF STIRLING.

Trenton, December 14, 1775.

MY LORD: I have wrote to the Continental Congress to have a surgeon appointed, and that there may be some orders given for repairing the barracks. There is another affair of so delicate a nature I thought it proper to consult you on before I would inform the Congress; and if you please to inform the Congress of it, I will decline. The case is thus: The two barracks in the western division will not be sufficient to hold my regiment when they are put in the best order. The *Trenton* barracks are already occupied by the Government prisoners. They have possession of the officers' rooms, and most of the bedding and utensils, which cannot be put up with; besides, I look on them as unfit companions for our soldiers; at any rate they may infuse bad sentiments into their minds, that will not be easily removed. The people in the country talk loudly of it, that *Trenton* is a very improper place for the prisoners, it being so much of a thoroughfare.

I beg you will inform the Congress of what you may think necessary of the above, and you will much oblige me.

My Lord, your Lordship's most obedient, humble servant,

WILLIAM MAXWELL.

To the Hon. *William*, Earl of *Stirling*.

COLONEL MAXWELL TO LORD STIRLING.

Woodbridge, December 17, 1775,

DEAR SIR: You will find by this we got no farther last night. Mr. *Patterson* had me entirely in his power. He would go no farther, but declared he would encamp here; and it was so very dark I did not think it safe to proceed. The purport of this is to beg your Lordship would please to begin the letter I left you yesterday in the following order, viz:

"Trenton, December 14, 1775.

"MY LORD: Your favour of the 10th inst., I just now received, wherein your Lordship informs me the troops are not to march so soon for the *Hudson* river as you first expected. I must acknowledge I am very glad of it; for notwithstanding my utmost endeavours, the soldiers would have been far from complete, as they should be, either in arms or clothing, for such a march to the northward. A great many of our best arms want repairs. I have wrote to the Congress for two casks of powder and one of flints, as I can get none there, and begged they would order the barracks to be repaired."

Please to add what part of the above you may think proper to that you have. Give my compliments to *Lawry*. Mr. *Patterson* begs I may enclose you his compliments.

I am, my Lord, your Lordship's most humble servant,

WILLIAM MAXWELL.

To *William*, Earl of *Stirling*.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER TO A GENTLEMAN IN NEW-YORK, DATED MONTREAL, DECEMBER 17, 1775.

Our brother-soldiers, now before *Quebeck*, have thrown up ramparts of snow and water, which, when condensed and frozen, are proved by experience to be sufficient for the purpose. Who but *Yankoos* would have thought of such a contrivance? Or who but enthusiasts for liberty would carry on a siege at such a season of the year?

The companies of Captains *Weisenfels, Cheeseman, Mott, Varick*, and *Quackenboss*, are before *Quebeck;* Captain *Goforth's* and *Lyon's* are stationed here, under Colonel *Ritzema*. Captain *Willet* has the command at *St. John's*.

COLONEL KNOX TO COLONEL McDOUGALL.

Fort-George, December 17, 1775.

SIR: When I was at *New-York*, I did not know of any 13-inch mortars, a number of which I found at *Ticonderoga*. I must beg, sir, that you would use your influence that there be sent immediately to the camp at *Cambridge*, the following number of shells: Five hundred 13-inch shells; two hundred $5\frac{1}{8}$-inch shells; four hundred $4\frac{1}{2}$-inch shells. You are too well acquainted with the importance of this request to want urging any additional motive for the utmost expedition. If they are not to be had, please to inform General *Washington* immediately. The business on which I came has succeeded equal to my expectation.

I am, sir, with great respect, your obliged and most humble servant,

HENRY KNOX.

Colonel *McDougall*.

COLONEL KNOX TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Fort-George, December 17, 1775.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY: I returned from *Ticonderoga* to this place on the 15th inst., and brought with me the cannon, &c., it having taken nearly the time I conjectured it would to transport them here. It is not easy to conceive the difficulties we have had in getting them over the lake, owing to the advanced season of the year and contrary winds. Three days ago, it was very uncertain whether we could have gotten them over until next spring; but now, please *God*, they shall go. I have made forty-two exceeding strong sleds, and have provided eighty yoke of oxen to drag them as far as *Springfield*, where I shall get fresh cattle to carry them to camp. The route will be from here to *Kinderhook*, from thence into *Great Barrington, Massachusetts-Bay*, and down to *Springfield*. There will scarcely be any possibility of conveying them from here to *Albany* or *Kinderhook*, but on sleds, the roads

being very much gullied. At present, the sledding is tolerable to *Saratoga*, about twenty-six miles; beyond that there is none. I have sent for the sleds and teams to come up, and expect to begin to move them to *Saratoga* on *Wednesday* or *Thursday* next, trusting that between this and that period we shall have a fine fall of snow, which will enable us to proceed farther, and make the carriage easy. If that should be the case, I hope, in sixteen or seventeen days, to be able to present to your Excellency a noble train of artillery, the inventory of which I have enclosed. I have been particular with respect to their dimensions, that no mistake may be made in making their carriages, as there are none here, or implements of any kind. I also send a list of those stores which I desired Colonel *McDougall* to send from *New-York*. I did not then know of any 13-inch mortars, which was the reason of my ordering but few shells of that size; but I now write to him for five hundred 13-inch, two hundred $5\frac{7}{10}$-inch, and four hundred $4\frac{1}{2}$-inches. If these sizes could be had there, as I believe they can, I should imagine it would save time and expense rather than to have them cast. If you should think otherwise, or have made provision for them elsewhere, you will please to countermand this order.

There is no other news here of Colonel *Arnold* than that, from Colonel *Maclean's* having burnt the houses round *Quebeck*, Colonel *Arnold* was obliged to go to *Point-aux-Trembles*, about six miles from the city; that Gen. *Montgomery* had gone to join him with a considerable body of men, and a good train of artillery, mortars, &c. There are some timid and some malevolent spirits who make this matter much worse; but from the different accounts which I have been able to collect, I have very little doubt that General *Montgomery* has *Quebeck* now in his possession.

I am, with the utmost respect, your Excellency's most obedient, humble servant,

HENRY KNOX.

His Excellency General *Washington*.

List of Mortars and Cannon brought from TICONDEROGA, DECEMBER 10, 1775:

		DIAMETER OF THE BORE.	LENGTH.	
	Brass Mortars.		feet. inches.	
2	cohorns,	5 7-10 inches	1 4	
4	do.	$4\frac{1}{2}$ "	1 1	
1	mortar,	$8\frac{1}{2}$ "	2	
1	do.	$7\frac{1}{2}$ "	2	One trunnion wanting, but not damaged.
8				
	Iron Mortars.		feet. inches.	
1	mortar,	$6\frac{1}{2}$ inches	1 10	
1	do.	10 "	3 6	
1	do.	$10\frac{1}{4}$ "	3 6	
3	do.	13 in.	2 feet, 3 feet, and $3\frac{1}{2}$ feet.	
6				
	Iron Howitzers.		feet. inches.	
1	howitzer,	8 inches	3 4	
1	do.	$8\frac{1}{4}$ "	3 4	
2				
	Brass Cannon.		feet. inches.	
8	three-pounders,	3 1-20 inches	3 6	
3	six-pounders,	3 7-10 "	4 6	
1	eighteen do.	5 1-2 "	8 3	
1	short twenty-four	5 11-12 "	5 6	
13				
	Iron Cannon.		feet. inches.	
6	six-pounders,	3 7-10 inches	9 7	
4	nine-pounders,	4 4-10 "	8 4	
6	twelve-pounders,	4 3-4 "	9	
7	double fort. 18-pound.	5 1-2 "	9	
3	long 18-pounders,	5 1-2 "	11	
26				

One large barrel of flints; twenty-three boxes of lead, about one hundred pounds each.

List of Cannon, Stores, &c., ordered from NEW-YORK, NOVEMBER 27, 1775:

Twelve double-fortified iron 4-pounders; two brass 6-pounders; five tons 24-pound shot; five tons 18-pound shot; five tons 13-inch shells; ten tons 10-inch shells; ten tons 8-inch shells; five tons 7-inch shells; port-fire compositions and quick-matches. All the carcasses, although it is dubious whether there are any.

Ordered from the same place, *December* 17, 1775: Five hundred 13-inch shells; two hundred $5\frac{7}{10}$-inch shells; four hundred $4\frac{1}{2}$-inch shells.

Col. *McDougall* mentioned, doubtfully, that he thought there were some carcasses at a place near *New-York*. I ordered, if there were any, for the whole to be forwarded; but have since heard there were but few. They must be provided elsewhere.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GOVERNOUR COOKE.

Cambridge, December 17, 1775.

SIR: By sundry persons and accounts just from *Boston*, I am informed that the Ministerial army is in very great distress for want of fresh provisions, and having received intelligence that there are two hundred fat cattle on *Block-Island*, and some transport vessels cruising that way in quest of necessaries for the army, I must request you to have the cattle, &c., removed from thence immediately, and from every other place where their ships can come and take them off. It is a matter of the utmost importance to prevent their getting a supply. If they can be hindered now, the advanced season of the year, and the inclement weather, which we may expect ere long, will put it out of their power.

I yesterday received the enclosed information from several persons who lately came out from *Boston*, which I thought my duty to transmit to you. It is more than probable that the destination of the troops may be very different from what they have given out. They may have made use of that to deceive in another quarter.

I am, &c., GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To Governour *Cooke, Rhode-Island*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Cambridge, December 17, 1775.

SIR: I yesterday received the enclosed information from several persons who lately came out from *Boston*, which I thought it my duty to transmit to you. Whether these troops are embarked I cannot undertake to say; but if they are, it is very probable that their destination is very different from what they have given out, and that was used only as a feint, and to deceive us. It is certain that several ships sailed from thence yesterday morning.

I am, &c., GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To Governour *Trumbull, Connecticut*.

P. S. Brigadier-General *Prescott*, as it is said, having treated Colonel *Allen* with severity, I beg your particular attention lest he should escape.

The same to the *New-York* Convention.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GENERAL WARD.

Cambridge, December 17, 1775.

SIR: The applications for liberty to go to the lines are so frequent that they cause much trouble. You will, therefore, sir, grant passes to such as you may think proper. At the same time I would recommend to you that the officer who will attend upon these occasions be a person of sense, and one who will carefully attend to the conversation of those who meet on the lines.

I am, &c., GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To Major-General *Ward*.

REPORTS OF CAPTAIN DODGE.

Chelsea, December 16, 1775.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY: I have enclosed the observation of the day:

Last evening, eight men ran away in a boat from *Boston*, to our guard at the ferry. Early in the morning, find-

ing they had been with the guard, I immediately forwarded them to the Committee. On the Committee's reception of them, they cleansed them by smoking them, and let them pass. One of them was Captain *James Warden*, who was taken in Major *Mifflin's* employ, who is very desirous of seeing the Major. Six of them are masters of vessels, and brought the enclosed account.

I am your most humble servant,

RICHARD DODGE, *Captain.*

To his Excellency General *Washington.*

N. B. Yesterday, one large mortar was carried over to *Bunker-Hill.* The troops are filling water, and carrying it on board the transports. Provision is very scarce; the officers say not more than enough to last them six weeks. One of the gentlemen says he dined with a man that dined with Lord *Percy*, a few days ago, upon horse-beef. This is from the men that came out of *Boston* last night.

This account I received from *Boston* this day, *December* 17, 1775:

Remarks for *Tuesday, December* 5, 1775:—Got into *Boston;* met with the ship *Boyne*, bound for *London*, which had on board thirty masters of vessels, passengers.

Thursday, 7: The *Foy*, man-of-war, twenty guns, *Montagu* commander, brought in the brigantine *Washington*, one *Martindale* commander, mounting ten guns and ten swivels, and seventy-two men. The Captain and all the men were put on board the *Preston.*

Monday last:—Prisoners were put on board the *Tartar*, man-of-war, to be sent home for trial as pirates.

The following is the price of provisions in *Boston:* Rum, twelve shillings per gallon; molasses, three shillings, by the hogshead; wood, four pounds, sixteen shillings and six pence, per cord; sea coal, four pounds, fourteen shillings, per chaldron; salt beef, four pounds, five shillings, per pound; *Madeira* wine, one pound eight shillings, per dozen; red porter, one pound four shillings, per dozen; hay, twenty pounds, per ton; geese, nine shillings; turkeys, ten shillings and six pence; fowls, four shillings and six pence; onions, six pence per pound; potatoes, ten shillings per bushel.

Soldiers' allowances, four pounds per week.

Orders from General *Howe*, to pull down the Old North Meeting-house, and one hundred wood houses. *Morison*, a *Scotch* minister, took bribe of a certain gentleman, of thirty-six shillings sterling, to get out of *Boston*, and seventy-two shillings to let him bring out a trunk of two hundred and eighty pounds in cash; which, when he had it in his power, seized the whole and carried it to *Boston* again.

The officers of the Fifty-ninth and Eighteenth regiments are sailed for home in order to recruit, and return in the spring. One regiment of Foot and three companies of the Light-Horse sail for *Halifax* this day.

I am credibly informed that the soldiers have nothing but the above four pounds of pork and bread dealt out to them.

RICHARD DODGE, *Captain.*

GENERAL SULLIVAN TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Camp on Winter-Hill, December 17, 1775.

MUCH RESPECTED GENERAL: Agreeably to your order have again waited on Major *Rogers*, and strictly examined him. Have seen his several permits, and think them genuine, and in every respect agreeably to the copy sent you. He says he left *New-York* about the 10th of *October*, being ill with the fever and ague, was ten days in getting to *Albany;* that there, and at the place called *Stone Rabba*, he tarried ten days more; he then passed through *Hoosuck*, *Standford*, *Draper*, and *Hinsdale*, in his way to his brother, who lives in *Kent;* he was three days in performing this route, and tarried with his brother five or six days more; he was then three days in going to *Westminster*, and in his way passed through by *Dartmouth* College, and saw Mr. *Wheelock;* from thence he went to his farm in *Pennicook*, where he tarried six or eight days; from thence he went to *Newbury*, and from thence to *Portsmouth*, and after tarrying there some few days, laid his permit before the Committee of Safety. He owns every thing in Mr. *Wheelock's* letter, except that of his having been in *Canada*, which he warmly denies, and says he can prove the route he took, and prove himself to have been in the several towns at or near the days he has mentioned. I asked him why he came to the camps, as he had no business with any particular persons, and had no inclination to offer his service in the *American* cause; to which he replied, that he had voluntarily waited upon the Committees of several Colonies, as he thought it a piece of respect due to them, and would probably prevent his being suspected and treated as a person unfriendly to us; that he likewise thought it his duty to wait on your Excellency, and acquaint you with the situation of his affairs, and if he could, to obtain your license, to travel unmolested.

These, sir, are the facts as handed to me by him. What may be his secret designs I am unable to say, and what steps are most proper to be taken respecting him your Excellency can best judge. I am far from thinking that he has been in *Canada;* but as he was once Governour of *Michilimackinack*, it is possible he may have a commission to take that command, and stir up the *Indians* against us, and only waits for an opportunity to get there; for which reason I would advise lest some blame might be laid upon your Excellency in future, not to give him any other permit, but let him avail himself of those he has; and should he prove a traitor, let the blame centre upon those who enlarged him. I beg pardon for intruding my opinion, and subscribe myself your Excellency's most obedient servant,

JOHN SULLIVAN.

His Excellency General *Washington.*

NORTH-CAROLINA PROVINCIAL COUNCIL.

At a Provincial Council held at the Court House in the County of *Johnston*, the eighteenth day of *December*, in the year of our Lord 1775:

The Honourable the President, and ten Members appeared and took their seats in Council, to wit:

Samuel Johnston, Thomas Jones, Samuel Ashe, James Coor, Thomas Eaton, Abner Nash, John Kinchen, Whitmill Hill, Waightstill Avery, Thomas Person, Esquires.

The Council adjourned till to-morrow morning, nine o'clock.

Tuesday, December 19, 1775.

The Council met according to adjournment.

Samuel Spencer, Esquire, one of the members of Council appeared, repeated and subscribed the Test, and took his seat.

The Sheriff of *Halifax* County brought before this Council a certain *Walter Lamb*, with several affidavits accusing him with sundry misdemeanors.

And whereas this Council thinking it proper that the witnesses should personally appear against the said *Lamb*,

Do therefore order, That Mr. *Branch*, the aforesaid Sheriff, take into his custody the said *Lamb*, unless he shall give sufficient security to appear before the said Committee of Safety, for the District of *Halifax*, by them to be tried, acquitted, or punished as they shall think necessary.

The Sheriff of *Halifax* County, brought before this Council a certain *George Massingbird*, with an affidavit accusing him of having made use of some words disrespectful to the cause of *America.*

And whereas this Council thinking it proper that the witnesses should personally appear against the said *George Massingbird*, and he appearing to be truly sensible of his past ill conduct, and having taken an oath satisfactory to the Council:

Do therefore order, That the said *George Massingbird* be discharged from custody.

The Council being informed that *Roger Ormond*, Esq., one of the members of the Committee of Safety for the District of *Newbern* is dead:

It is therefore resolved, That *John Simpson*, Esquire, of the County of *Pitt*, be, and he is hereby appointed a member of the said Committee, for the District aforesaid, in the room and stead of the said *Roger Ormond*, and that he, the said *John Simpson*, be admitted to take his seat accordingly.

The Council adjourned till to-morrow morning, nine o'clock.

Wednesday, December 20, 1775.

The Council met according to adjournment.

Resolved, That the Paymaster of *Hillsborough* District pay unto Messrs. *Nathan Rochester* and *William Johnston*, seventy pounds, seven shillings and four pence, Proclamation money, for one hundred and fifty pounds of Gunpowder, four hundred and seventy-six pounds of bar Lead, and one thousand Gun Flints, purchased by them pursuant to a resolve of the Committee of *Orange* County, and that the said Ammunition be lodged in the hands of *William Johnston*, and that the said Paymaster take his receipt for the same, to be produced whenever demanded by the publick.

Resolved, That *Lehansyus Dekeyser*, Adjutant in the First Regiment of Regulars, raised in this Province, under the command of Colonel *James Moore*, be allowed Adjutant's pay, from the fifteenth day of *September* last, inclusive, he having performed duty from that day.

It appearing to this Council, that the measures concerted for the defence of *American* liberty have been communicated to the prejudice of the publick,

Resolved, That it be recommended to the Committees of *Wilmington* and *Brunswick*, and to the Commanding Officer of the detachment stationed on *Cape-Fear* River, to use their utmost endeavours to cut off all manner of personal communication between his Excellency Governour *Martin* and the officers of the ships-of-war, with the inhabitants of this Province, on any pretext whatever; and that the utmost caution be used in supplying the ships-of-war with Provisions; that they be conveyed in such manner as to prevent any intelligence from being disclosed by the persons conveying the said Provisions.

Resolved, That nothing in the above Resolve shall be construed to prevent any person corresponding by letter with Governour *Martin*, or the ships-of-war, such letter being first laid before the Committees of the said towns, or either of them, or the Commanding-Officer aforesaid, and approved of by them.

Provided, nevertheless, That the Committee of Safety for the District of *Wilmington*, should they think it necessary, are hereby empowered to cut off all supplies of Provisions to any of the ships-of-war lying in *Cape-Fear* River.

Resolved, That the Treasurers, or either of them, pay into the hands of *William Kennon*, Esquire, Commissary to the First Regiment of regular Troops in this Province, the sum of two thousand pounds, for purchasing Provisions for the use of said Troops, to be accounted for with the Provincial Congress; and that they be allowed in their accounts with the publick.

Resolved, That Mr. President write in the name of this Board, to the Council of Safety of *South-Carolina*, requesting them to supply this Province with two thousand weight of Gunpowder, to be delivered *Waightstill Avery*, Esquire, or his order, who is hereby appointed to wait upon them, or empower some other person for that purpose, to receive the same; and that this Board will pay for all Powder delivered to the said *Waightstill Avery* in consequence of this order; and that the Treasurers, or either of them, be ordered to give a draft on the Continental Treasury for the amount.

Resolved, That *Matthew Troy* be appointed to employ proper persons to make Carriages for, and mount four of the Cannon now at *Newbern*, and remove them to *Salisbury*, for the defence of this Province, to be accounted for; and that the Treasurers, or either of them, pay into the hands of the said *Matthew Troy*, the sum of forty pounds for the above service, and be allowed in their accounts with the publick.

Resolved, That the Treasurers, or either of them, pay into the hands of *Abner Nash* and *James Coor*, Esquires, one hundred pounds, to be appropriated by them towards completing the Fortifications now erecting at *Hanging-Point*, on *Neuse* River, and be allowed in their accounts with the publick.

Resolved, That the Treasurers, or either of them, pay into the hands of *Samuel Ashe*, Esquire, one hundred pounds, to be appropriated by him towards completing the Fortification now erecting at *Du Bois's* Mill, on *Cape-Fear* River, and be allowed in their accounts with the publick.

The Council adjourned till to-morrow morning, nine o'clock.

—

Thursday, December 21, 1775.

The Council met according to adjournment.

To either of the Publick Treasurers:

You are to pay unto *James Davis*, printer, two hundred and fifty pounds, Proclamation money, being for one year's salary due to him, the first day of this instant, as publick printer to this Province, according to act of Assembly for that purpose; for which this shall be your warrant.

Resolved, That *Robert Smith*, Esquire, be appointed Paymaster of the Troops stationed in the District of *Edenton*, as also to the Minute-men in the said District, in the room of *Samuel Johnston*, who resigns, he first entering into bond to this Council, with sufficient security in the sum of ten thousand pounds, Proclamation money.

This Council taking into consideration the necessity of fitting out Armed Vessels, for the protection of the trade of this Province · that there be three Armed Vessels fitted out with all despatch, to wit: one at *Cape Fear*, one at *Newbern*, and one at *Edenton:*

Do resolve, That Mr. President, *Samuel Ashe*, *Richard Quince*, *Robert Ellis*, Esquires, and Captain *John Forster*, or any three of them, are appointed Commissioners at *Port Brunswick*; *Abner Nash*, *James Coor*, *Joseph Leech*, *James Davis*, *Richard Ellis*, Esquires, and Messrs. *John Green*, *David Baron*, and *John Wright Standley*, or a majority of them, are appointed Commissioners at *Port Beaufort*; and *Samuel Johnston*, *Thomas Jones*, *Joseph Montfort*, *Robert Hardy*, *Robert Smith*, Esquires, and Mr. *John Norcomb*, or a majority of them, are appointed Commissioners at *Port Roanoke*; and that the said Commissioners do immediately purchase, arm, man, and victual, in a sufficient manner, at each of the above-mentioned ports, one good and substantial vessel, and to recommend proper officers to this Council, and to station them at such place or places as they may think proper, prudent, and necessary, in order to protect the trade and commerce of this Province, the whole under the control of the Provincial Congress and Council.

Resolved, That the Commissioners appointed for each of the ports mentioned by the above resolve, or a majority of them, are hereby empowered to draw on either of the Treasurers of this Province for all necessary sums of money to answer the above purposes, who shall be allowed the same in their accounts with the publick.

Resolved, That *Abner Nash* and *James Coor*, Esquires, or either of them, be empowered to charter one or more Vessels, and agree with the masters and seamen, at the Port of *Newbern*, and load the same to such parts as they may judge expedient, and with such articles as they may think proper, not exceeding the sum of five hundred pounds, Proclamation money, in order to procure Arms and Ammunition for the use and protection of this Province, the same to be at the hazard, risk, and expense of this Province.

Resolved, That Mr. President, *Richard Quince*, Sen., and *John Forster*, Esqs., or either of them, be empowered to charter one or more Vessels, and agree with masters and seamen, at the Port of *Wilmington*, and load the same to such parts as they shall judge expedient, and with such articles as they may think proper, not exceeding the sum of five hundred pounds, in order to procure Arms and Ammunition for the use and protection of this Province, the same to be at the hazard, risk, and expense of this Province.

Resolved, That *Whitmill Hill*, Esquire, be empowered to charter one or more Vessels, and agree with masters and seamen, at the Port of *Edenton*, and load the same to such parts as he shall judge expedient, and with such articles as he may think proper, not exceeding the sum of five hundred pounds, Proclamation money, in order to procure Arms and Ammunition for the use and protection of this Province, the same to be at the hazard, risk, and expense of this Province.

Resolved, That *James Geekie*, be appointed Surgeon of the First Regiment of the Continental Army of this

Province, in the room of Doctor *Isaac Guion*, who neglects his duty.

Resolved, That *Richard Caswell*, Esquire, Treasurer of the Southern District, pay into the hands of *Abner Nash* and *James Coor*, Esquires, or either of them, the sum of five hundred pounds, for purchasing Arms and Ammunition, to be accounted for at the next Provincial Congress, and that the said Treasurer be allowed in his accounts with the publick.

Resolved, That *Samuel Johnston*, Esquire, Treasurer of the Northern District, pay into the hands of *Whitmill Hill*, Esquire, the sum of five hundred pounds, for purchasing Arms and Ammunition, to be accounted for at the next Provincial Congress, and that the said Treasurer be allowed in his accounts with the publick.

Resolved, That the Treasurers, or either of them, pay into the hands of Mr. President, and *Richard Quince*, Sen., and *John Forster*, Esquires, or either of them, the sum of five hundred pounds, for purchasing Arms and Ammunition, to be accounted for at the next Provincial Congress, and that the said Treasurers be allowed in their accounts with the publick.

Resolved, That the Treasurers, or either of them, pay to Doctor *William Pastuer*, the sum of seventy-five pounds, for Medicines furnished the Second Regiment of Continental Troops in this Province, and that the said *William Pastuer* account with the next Provincial Congress for the said sum, and that they be allowed in their accounts with the publick.

It appearing to this Council, that *John Simpson*, *Edward Salter*, and *Robert Salter*, Esquires, in behalf of the Committee of *Pitt* County, had agreed and executed bonds with a certain *Paul White*, for a quantity of Powder and Lead, and at the same time undertook to indemnify the said *Paul White*, in his vessel, during the completion of the voyage:

And whereas the said vessel on her arrival at *Occacock Bar*, was taken by a cutter belonging to some of His Majesty's ships-of-war, and detained as a prize, but the Ammunition saved by taking out the same at sea:

Resolved, That *John Simpson*, *Edward Salter*, and *Robert Salter*, be allowed the sum of eight hundred and sixty-five pounds, four shillings and eight pence, to enable them to comply with their contract with the said *Paul White*; and that the Treasurers, or either of them, pay them the same, and be allowed in their accounts with the publick.

Resolved, That the next Provincial Council shall be held at the Court-House in the County of *Johnston*, the seventeenth day of *March* next; but that the President may call a Council sooner, if he should find it necessary.

Whereas it appears probable this Province may soon be invaded by the *British* Troops, and the inhabitants be destitute of sufficient Arms for defence of their lives, liberties, and properties:

It is therefore resolved, That Mr. *Thomas Jones*, Mr. *Whitmill Hill*, and Mr. *Luke Sumner*, for *Edenton*; Mr. *Abner Nash*, Mr. *James Coor*, and Mr. *David Baron*, for *Newbern*; Mr. *John Kinchen*, Mr. *John Butler*, and Mr. *Memucan Hunt*, for *Hillsborough*; Mr. *President*, Mr. *Samuel Ashe*, Mr. *William Campbell*, and Mr. *James Kenan*, for *Wilmington*; Mr. *Samuel Spencer*, Mr. *Waightstill Avery*, Mr. *Griffith Rutherford*, Mr. *Christopher Beekman*, and Mr. *Ralph Garrill*, for *Salisbury*; Mr. *Willie Jones*, Mr. *Thomas Eaton*, Mr. *William Alston*, (son of *Philip*,) Mr. *Joseph John Williams*, Mr. *Eaton Haynes*, and Mr. *Duncan Laman*, for the District of *Halifax*, or any of them, be, and they are hereby, empowered and required to purchase materials and employ proper persons to make and mend Guns and Bayonets, and also to purchase good serviceable Guns, Gun-barrels, Stocks, and Locks, Lead, and Flints, and have them repaired for the use of this Province; for which purpose, the Treasurers or the Paymasters, or either of them, are directed to furnish any of the above persons with money out of the Publick Treasury, as occasion may require: *Provided*, The amount to be paid to the persons in either of the Districts does not exceed the sum of three hundred pounds; for which they are respectively to account with the next Provincial Congress.

Resolved, That two Battalions of Minute-men be immediately embodied in the District of *Salisbury*, in the same manner as directed by the Congress, and that the following persons shall be, and are hereby appointed Field-Officers of said Battalions, viz:

Of the First Battalion: *Griffith Rutherford*, Colonel; *John Pfifer*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *John Paisly*, Major.

Of the Second Battalion: *Thomas Polk*, Colonel; *Adam Alexander*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Charles Maclaine*, Major.

And that Commissions issue accordingly.

The Petition of *William Gibbs* being read, praying leave to ship a quantity of Naval Stores, which suffered in the late hurricane, and the same being taken under consideration was rejected, it being incompatible with the Resolves of the Continental Congress.

Resolved, That *William Hooper*, *Joseph Hewes*, and *John Penn*, Esquires, Delegates for this Province at the Continental Congress in *Philadelphia*, do purchase one Wagon and four good Horses in the Province of *Pennsylvania*, and hire a careful person to bring the same to *Edenton*, in this Province, with the Gunpowder, Drums, Colours, and Fifes, procured by them for the use of the Continental Troops stationed in this Province; and that the said Delegates are empowered to call upon the Continental Treasurer for the amount of the purchase of the Wagon and Horses, and paying the person to be employed by them to bring the same; to be charged to the Account of this Province.

The Council adjourned till to-morrow morning, nine o'clock.

—

Friday, December 22, 1775.

The Council met, according to adjournment.

It having been made to appear to this Council, that the late Election for Delegates and Committee-men for the County of *Onslow* was unduly made, and that the Committee so unduly elected have refused to subscribe the Test,

Resolved, That the said Elections be set aside, and that the Election for Delegates and Committee-men for the said County of *Onslow* be held on the third *Saturday* in *January* next; and that *Thomas Johnston*, Esq., give at least twenty days notice of this order previous to the said Election, and that he take the poll and make the proper returns.

Whereas the County of *Surry* have failed to elect Delegates and Committee-men on the day appointed by Congress for that purpose,

Resolved, That *William Sheppard*, Esq., be commanded to notify the Freeholders and Householders to meet at the Court-House on the second *Tuesday* in *February* next, then and there to elect any number of Freeholders or Householders, not more than five, to represent them in the next Congress; and any number of Freeholders or Householders, not less than twenty-one, to serve as Committee-men; it being, in the opinion of this Council, agreeable to the intention of the last Congress.

Resolved, That the Treasurers, or either of them, pay to *Adam Boyd* the sum of twenty pounds, for two hundred Pamphlets, delivered to the Congress at *Hillsborough*, and be allowed in their accounts with the publick.

Resolved, That Mr. *Jeremiah McCaffety* be allowed the sum of seventy-four pounds, eight shillings and nine pence, Proclamation money, for two hundred and ninety-seven pounds and three-quarters of a pound of Gunpowder, taken and received by Colonel *Thomas Polk* and Major *John Pfifer*, to be accounted for by them to the next Congress, and by them served out to the Troops who lately marched from the Western Counties of this Province against the insurgents near *Ninety-Six*, in *South-Carolina*; and that the Treasurers, or either of them, pay the same, and be allowed in their accounts with the publick.

Resolved, That *James Mansfield* be allowed the sum of five pounds, eleven shillings and six pence, Proclamation money, for taking care of the sick Soldiers at *Cape-Fear*, and that the Treasurers, or either of them, pay him the same, and be allowed in their accounts with the publick.

Resolved, That the Treasurers, or either of them, pay

into the hands of Colonel *Henry Rhodes* the sum of twenty-one pounds and nine shillings, for Gunpowder and Lead purchased in *Onslow* County, for the use of this Province; and that the said *Henry Rhodes* do deposite the said Powder and Lead in some secure place until further orders from this Council or the Provincial Congress.

It appearing to this Council that *James Kebble*, of *Onslow* County, at present is inimical to the cause of Liberty,

Resolved, That it is the opinion of this Council that the said *Kebble* is an improper person to hold any commission in the Militia of the said County.

Whereas it appears to this Council, that, from the natural situation of *Pasquotank* County, being divided by a very wide river, that the calling of General Musters at the Court-House of that County is burdensome and troublesome to the inhabitants of the same, and that a division of the *Pasquotank* Regiment would ease the inhabitants and encourage military discipline:

Therefore, resolved, That the Regiment of Militia in the said County of *Pasquotank* shall be divided by *Pasquotank* River, and that all the Militia of said County on the northeast side of said river shall be, and is hereby, made and established a new and distinct Regiment, and shall be known and distinguished by the name of the Second Regiment of *Pasquotank* Militia; and that Commissions issue accordingly.

Resolved, That Colonel *Henry Rhodes* be, and he is hereby, appointed to pay for and receive into his custody all the Powder in the County of *Onslow* secured in the hands of individuals for the use of the publick, and keep the same till further orders.

Resolved, That the dividing line between the First and Second Regiment of *Rowan* Militia shall hereafter be continued from the mouth of the lower *Little* River, a due north course, to the line of the County of *Surry*, it appearing to the Council to be more convenient to the inhabitants.

Resolved, That *Richard Quince* be allowed the sum of two hundred and one pounds, three shillings and six pence, Proclamation money, for four hundred and sixteen pounds and one-half of a pound of Gunpowder, two thousand five hundred and thirty-one pounds of Lead, and one hundred and ninety-three pounds of Saltpetre, for the use of the publick; and that the Treasurers, or either of them, pay him the same, and be allowed in their accounts with the publick.

Resolved, That *William Hill* be allowed the sum of thirty-seven pounds, two shillings and eight pence, Proclamation money, for fifty weight of Gunpowder, and eight hundred and fourteen pounds of Buckshot, for the use of the publick, and delivered to Colonel *Nash;* and that the Treasurers, or either of them, pay him the same, and be allowed in their accounts with the publick.

Resolved, That the Committee of *Wilmington* be allowed the sum of eighty-three pounds, fifteen shillings and ten pence, Proclamation money, for thirty-one Guns, stocking four Guns, and repairing three Guns and twelve Gun Locks, for the use of the First Regiment, under the command of Colonel *Moore;* and that the Treasurers, or either of them, pay him the same, and be allowed in their accounts with the publick.

Resolved, That the Committee of *Wilmington* be allowed the sum of one hundred and fifteen pounds, three shillings and three pence, for seven hundred and thirty-three pounds and one-half pound of Powder, and seventy-three pounds of Lead and Ball, for the use of the publick; and that the Treasurers, or either of them, pay them the same, and be allowed in their accounts with the publick.

Resolved, That the Committee of *Wilmington* be allowed the sum of seven pounds, one shilling, Proclamation money, for two Muskets, repairing one Gun and two Gun Locks, for the First Regiment, on account of the publick; and that the Treasurers, or either of them, pay the same, and be allowed in their accounts with the publick.

The Council adjourned till to-morrow morning, nine o'clock.

—

Saturday, December 23, 1775.

The Council met, according to adjournment.

Resolved, That the Treasurers, or either of them, pay to Doctor *James Geekie* the sum of fifty pounds, to enable him to purchase Medicines for the use of the First Regiment of the Continental Troops in this Province; and that the said *James Geekie* account with the next Provincial Congress for the said sum, and that they be allowed in their accounts with the publick.

Resolved, That each of the Publick Treasurers be empowered to draw on the Continental Treasury for any sum, not exceeding ten thousand dollars each, towards defraying the expense of the Troops on the Continental establishment in this Province.

Sundry Resolves of the Continental Congress, respecting regulations and arrangements of the two Battalions of the Continental Army raised in this Province, being communicated to this Council by the Delegates of this Province in the said Congress,

Resolved, That copies of the said Resolves be delivered to the Colonels of the respective Battalions, and that it be recommended to them that they, with all convenient speed, call General Courts-Martial to form their respective Regiments, agreeably to the said Resolves.

And as the number of Captains, agreeably to the said Resolutions, must necessarily be reduced, this Council will recommend it to the Provincial Congress that, in case any of the said reduced Captains will act as Lieutenants in the service, an allowance be made them, out of the publick Treasury of this Province, sufficient to make their pay equal to a Captain's, and to retain their rank. And, as on the said new arrangement there will be several vacancies of Ensigns, this Council recommend it to the Courts-Martial to encourage proper persons to fill such vacancies, to assist in recruiting their respective Regiments, which services will be considered by this Council, in filling up the said vacancies, in proportion to the number they shall respectively recruit.

It is further recommended to the Commanding Officers of the said Battalions, that they, as soon as may be, despatch proper officers on recruiting parties to the Western Counties of this Province, in order that their full complement of men may be completed with all despatch.

Resolved, That a sum not exceeding eighty pounds, Proclamation money, be applied by *Samuel Johnston*, Esq., Treasurer of the Northern District, for the purpose of erecting a Breastwork in the Town of *Edenton*, for the defence of the said Town; and that the said Treasurer be allowed the same on settling his accounts with the publick.

Resolved, That it be recommended to all friends to *American* freedom to purchase all the Powder, Saltpetre, and Sulphur in their power, for the use of the publick, and lodge the same with the several Town and County Committees in this Province; and that the said Committees appoint a proper person in each Town and County to take care of the above-mentioned articles, and taking receipts for the same, and to be paid for by the publick; and that a sum not exceeding half a dollar be given for Saltpetre.

The Council adjourned till to-morrow morning, nine o'clock.

—

Sunday, December 24, 1775.

The Council met, according to adjournment.

Resolved, That the Paymasters be directed to furnish a sum, not exceeding sixty pounds, to the Captain of each Company, to be by him paid to such persons as may be sent out on recruiting parties, as advance money for the new recruits, at forty shillings a man.

Whereas Governour *Martin* hath distributed great numbers of Tory Pamphlets in the Western part of this Province, where the People are not well informed,

Resolved, That the Continental Delegates from this Province be immediately informed thereof, and desired to procure the best Pamphlets that can be had, for the true information of the People, to counteract and frustrate the wicked and diabolical stratagems of Governour *Martin* and other tools of a corrupt Ministry.

Resolved, That one-fourth part of the Powder and Lead, lodged in the hands of Mr. *William Johnston*, of *Hillsborough*, by resolve of this Council, be delivered to Mr. *Thomas Person*, in order for the use of the publick, and that the said *Johnston* take his receipt for the same.

Resolved, That the Commanding Officer of the First Regiment send an officer, with twenty-five privates, to *Georgetown*, as an escort to protect the Ammunition to be purchased by a resolve of this Council, for conveying the same from thence to *Cape-Fear*.

Resolved, That the Paymasters in the several Districts where the Continental Troops are stationed, do immediately purchase Cloth and have the same made up into Clothes, to wit: Coats, Waistcoats, and Breeches, for such of the men in the two Battalions of Continental Troops not already provided with Clothing, and that the amount thereof be discounted out of each man's pay, at the rate of ten shillings per month.

Resolved, That the sum of two thousand pounds be paid into the hands of *Samuel Ashe*, Esq., Paymaster of the Troops stationed at *Cape-Fear*, by the Southern Treasurer, for the purpose of purchasing Cloth, &c., for said Troops, and that he account for the same to the next Congress, and be allowed in his accounts with the publick.

Resolved, That the sum of one thousand pounds be paid into the hands of *Robert Smith*, Esq., Paymaster of the Troops stationed at *Edenton*, by the Northern Treasurer, for the purpose of purchasing Cloth, &c., for said Troops; and that he account for the same to the next Congress, and be allowed in his accounts with the publick.

Resolved, That the sum of one thousand pounds be paid into the hands of *Richard Caswell*, Esq., Paymaster of the Troops stationed at *Newbern*, by the Southern Treasurer, for the purpose of purchasing Cloth, &c., for said Troops; and that he account for the same to Congress at its next meeting, and be allowed in his accounts with the publick.

Resolved, That the Northern Treasurer pay into the hands of *Matthew Locke*, Paymaster of the Regulars and Minute-men in the District of *Salisbury*, the further sum of two thousand pounds, to enable him to pay off and clothe the Continental Troops, and pay the Minute-men; to be accounted for at the next meeting of the Congress, and be allowed in his accounts with the publick.

Resolved, That *Matthew Locke*, Paymaster of *Salisbury* District, be directed to purchase all the Ammunition he can procure; and for all sums advanced in this service he shall be allowed in his settlements with the publick.

Resolved, That the Paymaster of the Continental Troops stationed in this Province do immediately procure Cartridge-boxes and Haversacks, for the use of such of the Troops as are not already supplied with them; and that the Paymasters be allowed for the same in the settlement of their respective accounts with the publick.

The Continental Congress having recommended to the Council additional Rations for the Troops stationed in this Province, viz: three pints of Peas or Beans per week, or Vegetables equivalent, rating the Peas or Beans at a dollar per bushel; one pint of Milk per day, at the rate of 1-72 of a dollar per pint; half a pint of Rice or one pint of Indian Meal per man per week; one quart of Spruce Beer or Cider per man, or nine gallons of Molasses per company of one hundred men per week; three pounds of Candles to one hundred men per week, for guards; twenty-four pounds of Soft or eight pounds of Hard Soap for one hundred men per week:

The Council having taken the same into consideration, resolve that the several Commissaries to the Continental Troops do supply them with the above-mentioned Rations, and that they respectively be allowed for each man so to be supplied, per day, the additional sum of two pence; and that the said Commissaries be allowed for the same in the settlement of their respective accounts with the publick.

Resolved, That the Treasurers, or either of them, pay to *William Chew* the sum of forty pounds and eight pence, Proclamation money, for conveying a packet from the Continental Congress to this Board, and carrying back answers to the same; and be allowed in their accounts with the publick.

Resolved, That the several Members of the Committee of Safety for the District of *Salisbury*, be required to meet on the first *Tuesday* in *February* next, for the despatch of publick business.

Resolved, That the Northern Treasurer, or the Paymaster of *Salisbury* District, pay Mr. *Waightstill Avery* the sum of twenty-five pounds towards defraying his expenses to *South-Carolina*, on the business of this Province.

Resolved, That, in case any of the Continental Troops should be stationed in either of the Towns in this Province, the Committee of such Town is hereby empowered and required to provide for them suitable Barracks during their stay in such Town, and report to the next Congress the time such Barracks shall have been occupied, that the Members thereof may make such allowances as they shall judge necessary.

Resolved, That it be recommended to the several Town and County Committees in this Province immediately to furnish the Captains of each Minute and Militia Company, in their respective Counties, with copies of the Test signed and recommended by the late Provincial Congress, and present the same to the men under their command, for their approbation; and also to return a list of all those who neglect or refuse signing the same, to the said Committee, to be by them transmitted to the Provincial Council at their next meeting.

Resolved, That it is the opinion of this Council that no person or persons shall be entitled to any benefit or relief against any debtor, as directed by the Provincial Congress, unless such person or persons so applying shall, at least ten days previous to such application, have subscribed the Continental Association and the Test, as signed and recommended by the late Provincial Congress, held at *Hillsborough*.

CORNELIUS HARNETT, *President*.

By order:

JAMES GREEN, JR., *Clerk*.

COLONEL HASBROUCK TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

Newburgh, December 18, 1775.

Pursuant to the orders of the Congress to the Regiment under my command, to be in readiness upon any proper alarm, I have appointed the place of general rendezvous to be at Mr. *Martin Wygant's*, in *Newburgh* Precinct.

I am, with due obedience to the honourable Congress, sir, your humble servant,

JONATHAN HASBROUCK.

To the Honourable *Nathaniel Woodhull*, President of the Provincial Congress of the Colony of *New-York*.

GOVERNOUR TRYON TO THE MAYOR OF NEW-YORK.

Ship Dutchess of Gordon, off New-York, December 18, 1775.

SIR: I lose no time in transmitting to you, herewith, a letter I this morning received from Captain *Parker*, of His Majesty's ship *Phœnix*, communicating certain instructions he has received from Admiral *Graves*, for the rule of his conduct on this station, which letter you will forthwith make known to the Corporation and citizens of *New-York*; and I request that you will insert it in the publick papers, to the end that the inhabitants of this Province may have the comfort of knowing the protection that is afforded to the friends of order and good government, and warned to aaoid a continuation of measures that will involve the country in misery, and bring destruction upon their families and on their own heads.

I am, sir, your very humble servant,

WILLIAM TRYON.

To *Whitehead Hicks*, Esq., Mayor of the City of *New York*.

CAPTAIN PARKER TO GOVERNOUR TRYON.

Ship Phœnix, at New-York, December 18, 1775.

SIR: Being ordered by my instructions from Vice-Admiral *Graves*, Commander-in-chief of His Majesty's ships and vessels in *North-America*, publickly to signify to all towns accessible to His Majesty's ships, that in case any violences shall hereafter be offered to any of the officers

of the Crown, or other peaceably disposed subjects of His Majesty; or, if any bodies of men shall be raised and armed in the said towns, or any military works erected, otherwise than by order of His Majesty, or those acting under his authority; or, if any attempts shall be made to seize or destroy any publick magazine of arms, ammunition, or stores, in all or either of those cases, it will be my duty to treat the said town as in open rebellion against the King.

I am to request that your Excellency will be pleased to let the above instructions be publickly made known in the town of *New-York*. At the same time, you will assure them that I shall be happy in granting the town every protection in the power of His Majesty's ships under my command. I am, sir, your most obedient and most humble servant,

H. Parker.

To His Excellency Governour *Tryon*.

SAMUEL STEVENS TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

Charlestown, Cumberland County, N. Y., December 18, 1775.

Sir: I am requested by some of the people of the County of *Cumberland*, to acquaint you, as Secretary of the Congress of the Colony of *New-York*, that the major part of the inhabitants of that County are desirous that the Congress do not make out commissions to any person or persons in either of the regiments of militia in that County, until a candid representation be made of the minds of the people with respect to the several nominations and appointments made by their County Congress and Committee of Safety, except it be to those persons who were chosen by the people of the several towns in *June* last, by order of the County Congress when upwards of forty members were present. They recommended that the County be formed into two regiments of militia, for which purpose, order that the inhabitants of the respective towns in each regiment meet, and make choice of one captain, one lieutenant, and one ensign, in each town; that the said officers should afterwards meet and make choice of proper persons for field-officers of each regiment, which was accordingly done; and the people in general are as well satisfied as the nature of such a proceeding will admit of. I suppose there may be a few disaffected persons, who expected to have been chosen to office. The persons made choice of in the lower regiment for field-officers were, viz: *James Rogers*, Colonel; *Eleazer Pattison*, Lieutenant-Colonel; and one Mr. *Lovejoy*, Major. Upper regiment: *Simon Stevens*, of *Springfield*, Colonel; *Joseph Marsh*, of *Hartford*, Lieutenant-Colonel; and *Benjamin Wait*, of *Windsor*, Major. A return of the proceeding was delivered to Major *William Williams*, and by him to be delivered to the Congress at *New-York*, that the commissions may accordingly issue, if the choice were approved of by the Congress. I understand that about fourteen or fifteen of the said Congress met some time in *September*, and made a new choice of field-officers, and left out the most of those chosen first; at which time they made choice of a standing Committee of Safety, and then dissolved themselves as a Congress.

I am informed, that at a meeting of the said Committee of Safety, about three weeks ago, consisting of fourteen members, amongst other things, nominated another set of gentlemen to be field-officers of the militia and minute-regiment; so that if they are all commissioned, above one-third of the men in the County will be officers. The two last choices have created a great deal of uneasiness in the County. I intend shortly to pay you a visit.

I am, sir, in haste, your humble servant,

Samuel Stevens.

GENERAL MONTGOMERY TO GENERAL SCHUYLER.

Head-Quarters, December 18, 1775.

My dear General: I have been near a fortnight before *Quebeck*, at the head of upwards of eight hundred men; a force you will say not very adequate to the business in hand, but we must make the best of it. It is all I could get. I have been so used to struggle with difficulties, that I expect them of course.

I hope the troops will be sent down as soon as possible, for should we fail in our first attempt, a second or a third may do the business before relief can arrive to the garrison. Possession of the town, and that speedily, I hold of the highest consequence. The enemy are expending the ammunition most liberally, and I fear the *Canadians* will not relish a union with the Colonies till they see the whole country in our hands, and defended by such a force as may relieve them from the apprehensions of again falling under the Ministerial lash. Were it not for these reasons, I should have been inclined to a blockade till towards the first of *April*, by which time the garrison would probably be much distressed for provisions and wood.

With anxious wishes for the recovery of your health, and best respects to your family if you be returned home, I am, my dear sir, your very affectionate and obliged humble servant,

Richard Montgomery.

To Major-General *Schuyler*.

GENERAL WOOSTER TO GENERAL SCHUYLER.

Head-Quarters, Montreal, December 18, 1775.

Dear General: General *Montgomery* informs me that you desired me to send you an account of the number of men that I discharged between *Albany* and *Ticonderoga*. Therefore I would inform you that I did not discharge any men, but only gave them a furlough—and that to the *Connecticut* troops only—to pass to *New-England*, as the term of their inlistments were not expired, and I imagined they might be very serviceable there; and as the Captains are Paymasters to their own companies, by act of Assembly of the Colony of *Connecticut*, they are all returned home, and without doubt have settled their pay-rolls with the Committee of the Pay-Table appointed for that purpose.

Sir, I must beg leave to enforce General *Montgomery's* request, for the Paymaster or money to be sent forward, or we shall be overwhelmed with mutiny and disorder.

I am, dear General, your most obedient, humble servant,

David Wooster.

To General *Schuyler*.

GOVERNOUR COOKE TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

Providence, December 18, 1775.

Sir: I am favoured with your Honour's letter enclosing the resolutions of the Congress relating to the Continental army, and beg leave to assure you that every assistance in my power shall be given to re-establish it. The militia of the Province of the *Massachusetts-Bay* and *New-Hampshire* have cheerfully supplied greater numbers of men than were required of them for the defence of the lines, and I think it probable that three-quarters of the old soldiers will reinlist before the militia are discharged.

I gave orders some time ago for the delivery of Mr. *Smith's* trunk to Mr. *Simon Pease*, and am informed by him that he shipped it to *Philadelphia* by Capt. *Anthony*, who sailed about eleven or twelve days ago.

This letter will be handed to you by Messrs. *Penet* and *Pliarne*, who arrived here about ten days ago from *Cape-François*, in a vessel sent by the Colony for powder; they were well recommended to us, and I gave them a letter to General *Washington*, who hath prevailed upon them to lay their proposals before the Congress. I hope their visit to *North-America* will be an introduction to such measures as may be attended with happy consequences to the *United Colonies*.

I am, with great esteem, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

Nicholas Cooke.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GENERAL HOWE.

Cambridge, December 18, 1775.

Sir: We have just been informed of a circumstance which, were it not so well authenticated, I should scarcely think credible. It is, that Colonel *Allen*, who (with his small party) was defeated and taken prisoner near *Montreal*, has been treated without regard to decency, humanity, or the rules of war; that he has been thrown into irons, and suffers all the hardships inflicted upon common felons. I think it my duty, sir, to demand, and do expect from you an eclaircissement on this subject; at the same time, I flatter myself, from the character which Mr. *Howe* bears, as a man of honour, gentleman, and soldier, that my demand will meet with his approbation. I must take the

*

liberty, also, of informing you, that I shall consider your silence as a confirmation of the truth of the report, and further assuring you, that whatever treatment Colonel *Allen* receives, whatever fate he undergoes, such exactly shall be the treatment and fate of Brigadier *Prescott*, now in our hands. The law of retaliation is not only justifiable in the eyes of *God* and man, but absolutely a duty which, in our present circumstances, we owe to our relatives, friends, and fellow-citizens. Permit me to add, sir, that we have all here the highest regard and reverence for your great personal qualities and attainments, and that the *Americans* in general esteem it not as the least of their misfortunes, that the name of *Howe*—a name so dear to them, should appear at the head of the catalogue of the instruments employed by a wicked Ministry for their destruction.

With due respect, I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To General *Howe*.

P. S. If an exchange of prisoners, taken on each side in this unnatural contest, is agreeable to General *Howe*, he will please to signify as much to his most obedient servant,

G. W.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GENERAL SCHUYLER.

Cambridge, December 18, 1775.

DEAR SIR: Your favours, the first of the 28th ultimo, and the two last of the 9th instant, with their enclosures, I received. I am happy to hear of your being better, and heartily wish that you may soon be perfectly recovered from your indisposition.

I should have been very glad if Mr. *Carleton* had not made his escape. I trust, ere long, he will be in our hands, as I think we shall get possession of *Quebeck*, from whence he will not easily get away. I am much concerned for Mr. *Allen*, and that he should be treated with such severity. I beg that you will have the matter and manner of his treatment strictly inquired into, and transmit me an account of the same; and whether General *Prescott* was active and instrumental in occasioning it. From your letter, and General *Montgomery's* to you, I am led to think he was. If so, he is deserving of our particular notice, and should experience some marks of our resentment for his cruelty to these gentlemen, and his violation of the rights of humanity. As some of the prisoners have attempted to escape, I doubt not of your giving necessary orders that they may be prevented. It is a matter that should be attended to.

In a letter from the Rev. Doctor *Wheelock*, of *Dartmouth* College, of the second instant, I had the following intelligence:

"That the day before, two soldiers returning from *Montreal*, informed him that our officers were assured by a *Frenchman* (a Captain of the artillery whom they had taken captive) that Major *Rogers* was second in command under General *Carleton*, and that he had been in an *Indian* habit through our encampment at *St. John's;* and had given a plan of them to the Generals, and supposed that he made his escape with the *Indians* that were at *St. John's*."

You will be pleased to have this report examined into, and acquaint me as to the authenticity or probability of the truth of it. If any circumstances can be discovered to induce a belief that he was there, he should be apprehended. He is now in this Government.

The Congress have sent me several accounts against the rifle companies, one of which is against Captain *Morgan*, which I enclose you, and desire that it may be transmitted to Colonel *Arnold*, who will have proper steps taken for the payment of it, as Captain *Morgan* is with him.

I flatter myself that your next favour will give me an account of General *Montgomery's* joining Colonel *Arnold*, and that *Quebeck* is, or soon will be, reduced to our possession. Should our arms be crowned with much success, to me it appears that Administration will be much embarrassed, and stand in a very disagreeable predicament.

I am, &c.,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To Major-General *Schuyler*.

GENERAL GREENE TO HENRY WARD.

Prospect-Hill, December 18, 1775.

The army is filling up slowly; I think the prospect is better than it has been. Recruits come in out of the country plentifully, and the soldiers in the army begin to show a better disposition, and to recruit cheerfully.

Your observation is exceedingly just. This is no time for disgusting the soldiery, when their aid is so essential to the preservation of the rights of human nature, and the liberties of *America*. His Excellency is a great and good man; I feel the highest degree of respect for him. I wish him immortal honour. I think myself happy in an opportunity to serve under so good a General. My happiness will be still greater if fortune gives me an opportunity in some signal instance to contribute to his glory and my country's good.

But his Excellency, as you observe, has not had time to make himself acquainted with the genius of this people; they are naturally as brave and spirited as the peasantry of any other country, but you cannot expect veterans of a raw militia from only a few months' service. The common people are exceedingly avaricious; the genius of the people is commercial, from their long intercourse with trade. The sentiment of honour, the true characteristick of a soldier, has not yet got the better of interest. His Excellency has been taught to believe the people here a superior race of mortals; and finding them of the same temper and dispositions, passions and prejudices, virtues and vices of the common people of other Governments, they sink in his esteem. The country round here set no bounds to their demand for hay, wood, and teaming. It has given his Excellency a great deal of uneasiness that they should take this opportunity to extort from the necessities of the army such enormous prices. The General has often expressed to me his uneasiness about the expenses; they so far exceed the expectations of Congress. He is afraid they will sink under the weight of such charges. Economy is undoubtedly essential in this dispute; there should be no wanton waste of publick property; but if you starve the cause, you protract the dispute.

If the Congress wish to put the finishing stroke to this war, they must exert their whole force at once—give every measure an air of decision. I pray *God* we may not lose the critical moment. Human affairs are ever like the tide, constantly on the ebb and flow. Our preparations in in all parts of the *United Colonies* ought to be so great as to leave no room to doubt our intentions to support the cause and obtain our conditions. This will draw in the weak and wavering, and give such a turn to the minds of people, that small shocks shall not be seriously felt in the general plan of operations. Your proclamation, in answer to that of the King's of *August* last, is glorious, is noble; was it unanimous, or only the voice of a small majority? The papers announce to you the much greater part of the military operations here.

From the best accounts we can get out of *Boston*, they are prodigiously distressed. It begins to be very sickly; the scurvy discovers itself; the small-pox prevails; and General *Howe* is inoculating all the soldiery who have never had it. I think they cannot hold out the winter through, though we were to leave them unmolested, which *God* grant we may not.

It is reported that *Quebeck* is taken. General *Montgomery* and Colonel *Arnold* will acquire immortal honour. Oh, that we had plenty of powder; I should then hope to see something done here for the honour of *America*.

Our barracks are almost completed. Blankets and clothing will be very much wanted, notwithstanding your supply from Congress. The *Connecticut* troops are gone home; the militia from this Province and *New-Hampshire* are come in to take their places. Upon this occasion, they have discovered a zeal that does them the highest honour. *New-Hampshire* behaves nobly.

LAND BOUNTY TO HIGHLAND EMIGRANTS.

Head-Quarters, Boston, December 18, 1775.

The bearer hereof, *Duncan McArthur*, having voluntarily engaged to serve His Majesty in the Royal Regiment of *Highland* Emigrants, (raised and established for the just and loyal purpose of opposing, quelling, and suppressing the present most unnatural, unprovoked, and wanton rebellion,) conformable to the orders and directions of his Excellency the Commander-in-chief, and agreeable to His Majesty's most gracious intentions, signified by the Earl of

Dartmouth, (Secretary of State for *America*,) "that such emigrants from *North-Britain*, as well as other loyal subjects, that should engage to serve in the before-mentioned corps, should be considered in the most favourable light; and after the conclusion of the present unhappy civil war, (to which period only they are obliged to serve,) be entitled to a proportion of two hundred acres vacant (or forfeited) lands for every man or head of a family, together with fifty acres more in addition for every person the family may consist of; the whole to be granted and patented without any expense to the said grantees. And, moreover, to be free of any quit-rent to the Crown for twenty years." I do therefore, with the consent and approbation of his Excellency the Commander-in-chief, certify and declare, that the said *Duncan McArthur* is, at the expiration of the present troubles, (and when peace, order, and due obedience to the laws are re-established in the *British* Colonies on the Continent and Islands of *North-America*,) to be at liberty, and entitled to a final discharge from said regiment and from his Majesty's military service; and likewise to receive as a just reward for his spirited loyalty the beforementioned grant of lands, in consequence of the orders and directions His Majesty has been pleased to issue for that purpose.

Given under my hand and seal, time and place, as first above mentioned.

To all whom it may concern.

MURDOCH MACLEAN, *Copt. R. H. Emigrants.*

To Major *John Small.*

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM CAMBRIDGE, DATED DECEMBER 18, 1775.

Yesterday being dark and cloudy, General *Putnam* broke ground, with four hundred men, on *Lechmere's Point*, at ten o'clock in the morning. The mist was so great as to prevent the enemy from discovering what he was about, until twelve, when it cleared up, and opened to their view our whole party at the point, and another at the causeway, throwing a new bridge over the creek that forms the Island at high water. The *Scarborough* ship-of-war, which lay off the point, immediately poured in upon our men a broadside. The enemy, from *Boston*, threw many shells, and obliged us to decamp from the point, with two men badly wounded. The bridge, however, was ordered to be raised by the brave old General, and was completed last night. The garrison of *Cobble-Hill* were ordered to return the ship's fire; which they did, and soon obliged her to heave tight upon her springs, and to cease firing. But the battery in *New-Boston* kept up the fire of shells till twelve o'clock last night. Our party at the point renewed their work in the evening, and continued it all night. This morning, at day-light, by a signal of two rockets from *Boston*, the *Scarborough* weighed anchor, and has left the point clear. She is now anchored at *Charlestown* ferry, out of harm's way. The work at the point is well secured, and will be completed this night.

The *Scarborough's* flight is a proof of the enemy's weakness, and of the strength of our two last posts, *Cobble-Hill* and *Lechmere's Point.*

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM BEVERLY, DATED DECEMBER 18, 1775.

You no doubt have heard of Captain *Manly*, who goes in a privateer out of this harbour; because his name is famous, and as many towns contend for the honour of his birth as they did for that of *Homer's*. Captain *Manly* has brought into this harbour in the course of a fortnight, two large brigs, of two hundred and twenty tons each, laden with military stores and provisions, and two ships, of three hundred tons each, laden with *English* goods, porter, live hogs, &c., to the amount of forty thousand pounds sterling the whole. A sloop is just brought in here from *Virginia*, laden with corn, oats, potatoes, &c. The Captain was a midshipman belonging to the *Otter* sloop-of-war there; she was bound to *Boston*, and has been out fourteen days. Of the people on board is a member of their Provincial Congress, two other persons of note, whom Lord *Dunmore* had taken prisoners, and ordered to *Boston* to be tried, it is supposed, for their lives. There is likewise a tory Colonel, who had inlisted three hundred slaves and convicts, but was defeated and obliged to fly to Lord *Dunmore*; who advised him to go to *Boston*, and recommended him to General *Howe* for a commission.

The prisoners, with all the letters and papers, (some of which are of great consequence,) are just gone off to Headquarters.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read December 30, 1775.]

Cambridge, December 18, 1775.

SIR: Captain *Manly*, of the *Lee*, armed schooner, took and sent into *Beverly* the sloop *Betsy*, *A. Atkinson* master. She is an armed vessel, despatched by Lord *Dunmore*, with *Indian* corn, potatoes, and oats, for the army in *Boston*. The packets of letters found on board I have the honour to send you with this, by Captain *James Chambers*, they being of so much importance that I do not think it would be prudent to trust them by a common express. As Lord *Dunmore's* schemes are fully laid open in these letters, I need not point out to the Congress the necessity there is of a vigorous exertion being adopted by them, to dispossess his Lordship of the strong hold he has got in *Virginia*. I do not mean to dictate, but I am sure they will pardon me for giving them, freely, my opinion, which is, that the fate of *America* a good deal depends on his being obliged to evacuate *Norfolk* this winter, or not. I have *Kirkland* well secured, and think I will send him to you for examination. By most of the letters relative to him, he is a dangerous fellow. *John Stuart's* letters and papers are of a very interesting nature. Governour *Tonyn's*, and many other letters from *Augustine*, show the weakness of the place, at the same time of what vast consequence it would be for us to possesss ourselves of it, and the great quantity of ammunition contained in the forts. Indeed, these papers are of so great consequence that I think this but little inferior to any prize our famous *Manly* has taken.

We now work at our ease on *Lechmere's Hill*. On discovering our party there yesterday morning, the ship which lay opposite began a cannonade, to which *Mount-Horam* added some shells. One of our men was wounded. We fired a few shot from two eighteen-pounders which are placed on *Cobble-Hill*, and soon obliged the ship to shift her station. She now lies in the ferry-way, and, except a few shells from the Mount in *Boston*, which do no execution, we have no interruption in prosecuting our works, which will in a very short time be completed. When that is done, when we have powder to sport with, I think if the Congress resolve on the execution of the proposal made relative to the town of *Boston*, it can be done.

I have sent a letter in this day to General *Howe*, of which a copy goes herewith. My reason for pointing out Brigadier-General *Prescott* as the object who is to suffer Mr. *Allen's* fate, is, that by letters from General *Schuyler*, and copies of letters from General *Montgomery* to *Schuyler*, I am given to understand that *Prescott* is the cause of *Allen's* sufferings. I thought it best to be decisive on the occasion, as did the Generals whom I consulted thereon.

The return for men inlisted, since my last, amount to about eighteen hundred; making in the whole, seven thousand one hundred. The militia that are come in, both from this Province and *New-Hampshire*, are very fine-looking men, and go through their duty with great alacrity. The despatch made, both by the people in marching, and by the legislative powers in complying with my requisition, has given me infinite satisfaction.

Your letter of the 8th instant, with the explanatory resolve respecting my calling forth the militia and minute-men, is come to hand, to which I shall pay all due attention. You have removed all the difficulties which I laboured under about the two battalions of marines. I shall obey the orders of Congress in looking out for proper officers to command that corps. I make no doubt but when the money arrives to pay off the arrears, and the month's advance, that it will be a great encouragement for the men to inlist.

Enclosed is a letter I lately received from Mr. *James Lovell*. His case is truly pitiable. I wish some mode could be fallen upon to relieve him from the cruel situation he is now in. I am sensible of the impropriety of ex-

changing a soldier for a citizen; but there is something so cruelly distressing in regard to this gentleman, that I dare say you will take it under your consideration.

I am, with great respect, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq.

—

JAMES LOVELL TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Provost Prison, Boston, November 19, 1775.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY: I wish at this time to waive the expression of my veneration of your character, in a still lively hope that Providence will bless me with the opportunity of attempting it by the united sincere language of my eyes and lips, though even that must prove inadequate. Personally a stranger to you, my sufferings have yet affected your benevolent mind, and your exertions in my favour have made so deep an impression upon my grateful heart as will remain till the period of my latest breath.

Your Excellency is already informed that the powers of the military government established in this town have been wantonly and cruelly exercised against me, from the 29th of *June* last. I have in vain repeatedly solicited to be brought to some kind of trial for my pretended crime. In answer to a petition of that sort, presented on the 16th of *October*, I am directed, by Captain *Balfour*, Aid-de-camp to General *Howe*, to seek the release of Colonel *Skene* and his son, as the sole means of my own enlargement. This proposition appears to me extremely disgraceful to the party from which it comes, and a compliance with it would be pregnant with dangerous consequences to my fellow-citizens. But while my own spirit prompts me to reject it directly with the keenest disdain, the importunity of my distressed wife, and the advice of some whom I esteem, have checked me down to a consent to give your Excellency this information. I have the fullest confidence in your wisdom, and I shall be perfectly resigned to your determination, whatever it may be. I must not, however, omit to say, that, should you condescend to stigmatize this proceeding of my enemies by letter, the correction might work some change in favour of myself, or at least of my family, which must, I think, perish through want of fuel and provision, in the approaching winter, if it continues to be deprived of my assistance.

I have the honour to be, your Excellency's devoted friend and servant,

JAMES LOVELL.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

—

JAMES LOVELL TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Boston Prison, December 6, 1775.

SIR: I address your Excellency upon a matter greatly important in its consequences to more than myself. And though I am personally unknown to you, I shall proceed without any other ceremony, than just to beg you would not attribute my abruptness to the consideration of the channel by which my letter will be conveyed, but to my embarrassment in an aim to express, by words, my real veneration of your publick character.

Charged with being a "spy, and giving intelligence to the Rebels," I have been suffering the pains and indignities of imprisonment, from the 29th of *June* last, without any sort of trial.

Captain *Balfour*, Aid-de-camp to General *Howe*, some time ago, directed Mrs. *Lovell* to tell me, from the Commander-in-chief, that I must obtain the exchange of Colonel *Skene* and his son, as the only condition of my enlargement; and I have waited weeks from that, in a vain hope of being enabled to write with more precision to your Excellency.

I have no argument, but of a private nature, to make use of upon this occasion, and it is addressed to your Excellency's humanity, which I am well satisfied will attend the decisions of your wisdom. I myself am reduced to such a risk of life, and my family to such miseries, by my imprisonment, as to make both the objects of compassion to all who are not learnedly barbarous and cruel.

I am, your Excellency's devoted servant,

JAMES LOVELL.

To General *Washington*.

Intercepted Letters transmitted to Congress by General *Washington*, with his Letter dated *December* 18, 1775.

GOVERNOUR TONYN TO GENERAL GAGE.

St. Augustine, September 30, 1775.

SIR: I have this moment the honour of your Excellency's letter of 29th April last, with a circumstantial account of the unhappy affair that happened on the 19th *April*, between His Majesty's troops and the people of the Province under your Excellency's Government.

Had the account arrived in any reasonable time, it would have prevented a great deal of anxiety and uneasiness here, but so many things have happened since, to the astonishment of all mankind, that one is actually bewildered in the madness of the times.

Your Excellency's account of the attack on the heights of *Charlestown* will probably be as long on the road here as the last; but I hope some system of a more quick communication will soon take place. I must confess I do not think that has been sufficiently attended to; I am sure it was a matter of more importance than in general it seemed to be imagined.

Wishing your Excellency all imaginable success, with a share of good health and spirits, in proportion to the great fatigues you must necessarily undergo and the most arduous command His Majesty has been pleased to entrust to your Excellency's conduct, I have the honour to be, with very great esteem and regard, sir, your Excellency's most obedient and most humble servant,

PATRICK TONYN.

—

GOVERNOUR TONYN TO ADMIRAL GRAVES.

St. Augustine, October 3, 1775.

SIR: On the 14th of last month I had the honour to write to you; which letter is now on board the transport, with troops for *Virginia*, and this will go by the same opportunity.

Yesterday the *St. Lawrence*, schooner, arrived in this harbour. She will be of great use to this Province. I am very thankful to you for this mark of your attention to His Majesty's service in this Province. I shall endeavour to make the service here as agreeable to Captain *Graves* as possible.

I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient and most humble servant,

PATRICK TONYN.

—

JOHN STUART TO GENERAL THOMAS GAGE.

St. Augustine, September 30, 1775.

SIR: I have by this opportunity written to your Excellency, and fully communicated what I know of *Indian* affairs. I have not as yet received any answer to my letters and messages, sent to the *Indian* nations by expresses upon my first arrival here. I take the liberty of troubling your Excellency with this, by Colonel *Moses Kirkland*, of the *South-Carolina* militia, who, for his attachment to Government, is obliged to fly; he visits your Excellency to communicate the situation of affairs in the back parts of the Southern Provinces, where he is well acquainted and very popular. I know him to be an enterprising, active man, and may possibly be useful in bringing back the people of *Carolina* to their duty, or keeping up a party for Government. Lord *William Campbell* has desired me to furnish him with some money to defray his expenses; which I have done accordingly, and have given him a small bill on my agent at *New-York*.

I most cordially congratulate your Excellency on the signal advantage obtained over the Rebels by the troops under your command at *Bunker's Hill*, and wish it may have been followed by such further success as may facilitate the restoration of publick tranquillity, upon terms glorious to your Excellency, and honourable to the nation.

I am, with the utmost respect and truth, sir, your Excellency's most obedient and most humble servant,

JOHN STUART.

P. S. The last letter which I have had the honour of receiving from your Excellency is dated 11th of *March*.

—

JOHN STUART TO GENERAL THOMAS GAGE.

St. Augustine, October 3, 1775.

SIR: Last night I had the honour of receiving your Ex-

cellency's letter of 12th *September*, and I shall pay the strictest attention to your commands contained in it; nothing in my power shall be neglected to forward the interests of Government and your Excellency's views.

Since writing my last letter, by Colonel *Kirkland*, I have received, by the way of *Savannah*, a copy of a talk from the *Cherokees*, to Mr. *Cameron*, which I now enclose. It shows their disposition, which I shall, by all means, cultivate; for which purpose my brother is preparing to set off for the *Creek*, and afterwards for the *Cherokee* nation.

It occurs to me that it will no longer be good policy to foment the difference between the *Choctaws* and *Creeks;* for while they continue at war it will be difficult or even impossible to get the *Creeks* to act in His Majesty's service, by which they must expose their women and children to the attacks of their enemies. I shall impatiently wait for your Excellency's ideas upon this subject, which I humbly submit. In the mean time I shall send the necessary instructions throughout the District.

I shall immediately take steps to get some *Indians* here, which will be an acquisition to this place, in its present weak state; and I have been for some time past using all possible means of supplying myself with necessaries for engaging the *Indians* firmly in His Majesty's interest. I am apprehensive I shall find difficulty in getting a supply of provisions.

I have the honour of being, with the utmost respect, sir, your Excellency's most obedient and most humble servant,

JOHN STUART.

—

JOHN STUART TO GENERAL GAGE.

October 3, 1775.

SIR: Colonel *Kirkland* will acquaint your Excellency that a great majority of the frontier and back inhabitants of *Carolina* are attached to and inclined to support Government. In such circumstances I conceive that an indiscriminate attack by *Indians* would be contrary to your Excellency's idea, and might do much harm; but I shall dispose them to join in executing any concerted plan, and to act with and assist their well-disposed neighbours. The *Allatchaway Indians* are now here; and I now look with impatience for answers to my despatches to the different nations, which I have reason to expect every hour.

I have the honour of being, most respectfully, sir, your Excellency's most obedient and most humble servant,

JOHN STUART.

—

JOHN STUART TO MAJOR SMALL.

St. Augustine, October 2, 1775.

DEAR SIR: I was extremely glad to learn, by our old friend, Captain *Barker*, of the 16th, who arrived here yesterday, that you was well when he left *Boston*. I congratulate you upon a very narrow escape, where so many fell. The *St. Lawrence*, armed schooner, is safe moored in this harbour; she sailed in, at half flood, without touching. This I mention because I understand that it was apprehended her coming in would be attended with much difficulty; on the contrary, there was not one thing taken out of her, and she did not want the assistance of a boat. I have again been disappointed in a supply of ammunition. I had twenty-five hundred pounds of powder on board a ship bound from *London* to *Georgia;* about fourteen days ago she arrived, and the Rebels seized her powder, as they had before that in Captain *Maitland's* ship. However, I borrowed from the ordnance stores about four thousand pounds; which, with some I have purchased, will be a supply.

This will be delivered by an unfortunate gentleman named *Cameron*, who has been obliged to leave his country on account of an affair of honour, in which his antagonist fell; he is desirous of becoming a volunteer, and begged of me to mention him to some officer in the army. I have, therefore, taken the liberty of troubling you upon the occasion, to beg your good offices, so far as you can with conveniency; and you must blame yourself for this, for if you had not made your own character remarkable by benevolent and good-natured actions, I should not now have applied to you, as I do with hopes of being pardoned by you for taking a liberty which nothing else could warrant. I have no particular news of any sort. Our communication with all parts of *America* is difficult, and dangerous to any person residing in any of the disaffected Colonies. Our *Carolina* neighbours have threatened to pay us a visit; however, I doubt much of their putting their threats in execution. By the detachments sent from the Fourteenth Regiment this garrison is much weakened. Before the arrival of the *St. Lawrence*, the second detachment of troops to *Virginia* embarked, and left only thirty-five men fit for duty. I shall bring down some of my friends to stay with us here also. I shall find it extremely difficult to find provisions.

I most sincerely wish you success and safety in all your enterprises; and am, with sincere regard, dear sir, your most obedient humble servant,

JOHN STUART.

—

DANIEL CHAMIER, JUN., TO DANIEL CHAMIER.

St. Augustine, September 18, 1775.

MY DEAR SIR: I embraced an opportunity some time ago, which I hope has proved a safe one, of writing to you from this place, so shall not repeat the cause of changing my situation.

This climate, though almost constantly refreshed with sea-breezes, is still very hot, and subject (especially this year) to a violent and dangerous fever, which I, among others, have had the misfortune to be afflicted with. It has weakened me much; but I am recovering by degrees. This is the third fever I have had in these hot climates; and what is worst of all, they render me the more incapable of returning to colder ones.

Another detachment is now ordered from this garrison, which may shortly be the cause of my being obliged at last, however against my will, to retire to *England*. *Je crois que vous entendez bien ce que je voudrais dire.* I am now at the end of the continent, and no possibility of a conveyance to the *West-Indies*. This may, however, not be the case hereafter, if by exchange or otherwise I should be entitled to seek a passage there, or were I ever furnished with proper credentials for my abode there, which I am not. I beg you just to hint this to your brother, to prepare him for it, although nothing but absolute necessity shall induce me to surprise him with a visit.

It is very hard that I should be in this situation, when we had such strong assurances that all our losses, by the removal of the custom-house, were to be made good. By a very moderate calculation I have just now made, on the 5th day of *January* next, I shall have at least two hundred pounds sterling due to me, exclusive of what I am to allow my deputy, but of which sum I shall not dare to draw for a larger portion than thirty pounds, being now to pay my deputy, out of my salary of one hundred pounds, the sum of seventy pounds for doing nothing, which must have been the case for a long time past. I am also driven from those friends in *Charlestown*, who generously advanced me what money I wanted, though I trust I shall not be without resources here until I can hear from you.

I write this also by way of *Virginia;* and should the remainder of this regiment be hereafter ordered away, you will of course know of it, and may take that opportunity of letting me hear from you, which I am very anxious to do after so long a silence, and seeing no other prospects, for we look upon the Southern Colonies as entirely deserted by the Admiral, which has been of infinite prejudice to His Majesty's service in many respects.

I am not very disagreeably situated in this place, although I have been more obliged to some friends, on my first coming, than I ought. Nevertheless, if we are thus forsaken, and our troops drawn away from us, we must, like other Provinces, suffer some distress; and this alone may oblige me to leave it in my present state of health. The last fevers that I have had, and a somewhat freer way of living sometime ago in *Charlestown*, have shown me very evidently, that I have a strong scorbutick taint in my blood, and this was Doctor *Matys's* opinion, which your brother was so kind as to procure for me two years ago, upon a state of my case drawn up by myself; and though my temperance may have hitherto repressed any violent symptoms, yet such a disposition lurking in the blood may well be one cause of retarding my cure, and I have lately made such alterations in my diet as this case would require. Sure I am, it is either that, or a worse disorder, that has manifested itself lately, but I think the symptoms too mild for the latter; and yet, considering my youth, I

can hardly think the weakness I still labour under, (and which is, indeed, my only complaint,) to be altogether the consequence of my *Boston* illness.

I pray my love to Mrs. *Chamier*, when you see her or write to her, and believe me to be ever,

Yours most affectionately,

DANIEL CHAMIER, JUN.

I beg you to make inquiries if there is any prospect of being paid the deficiency of my income, which would enable me at once to remove to the *West-Indies*, for I am now informed a vessel has been long expected here from *Jamaica*, or is there no possibility of procuring letters of credit to that Island, or any other? Mr. *Mills* is at *Barbadoes*, and is well known to our gentlemen, and I believe still acting as Collector there, besides being Surveyor-General. Mr. *John Stuart*, the Superintendent of Indian Affairs, is a fugitive here also; he transacts all his money matters with the General, and might be of service to me in this case, as I have been long acquainted with him, and received many civilities from him. However, all interest out of the question, pray contrive some method of letting me hear from you.

The bearer of this is a Mr. *Cameron*, an acquaintance of Mr. *Stuart's*; he can give you some account of me. He comes to *Boston*, he tells me, for the recovery of his health; I wish I could do the same, that I might once more have the pleasure of seeing you.

—

MAJOR FURLONG TO GENERAL GAGE.

St. Augustine, October 5, 1775.

SIR: Enclosed I have the honour to send your Excellency the returns of the state of this garrison; at the same time must acknowledge the receipt of your orders, in a letter to Captain *Cooper*, at *Boston*, the 9th *July*; in conformity to which I have sent Lord *Dunmore* a detachment of sixty men, under the command of Captain *Fordyce*, which was designed for Sir *James Wright*, but not demanded.

It has left the garrison remarkably weak, at a season when the men are falling sick every day, and great apprehensions of the *Georgians*. His Lordship required the whole regiment; but as the three companies of the Sixteenth are not yet arrived at *St. Augustine*, I could not evacute the garrison by your Excellency's orders, neither would the Governour and Council hear of it by any means, few as we are; have now only left for duty about forty men. Lord *Dunmore* has detained the officers in *Virginia* that were in their way to join the regiment, though they are much wanted here, having only one captain and three subalterns. The detachment is made since the return of *September* the first. I have sent his Lordship, upon his request, provisions, bedding, and ammunition.

The enclosed memorial was sent to me by Lieutenant *Brown*, whom I strongly recommend to your Excellency's patronage, with regard to the Adjutancy of the Fourteenth Regiment; which I hope he will obtain.

I must also acquaint your Excellency that the contractors for supplying this garrison with money do not make the usual remittance, either from *England* or *New-York*, and Mr. *White*, of *New-York*, has wrote Mr. *Alexander* (the agent here) that he must not expect cash from him as usual, bills of exchange not passing.

Captain *Leslie*, who went with the first detachment from this to *Virginia*, writes that no money is to be had there for bills.

Since I wrote the above I am to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's orders of the 12th of *September*, (by His Majesty's armed schooner the *St. Lowrence*,) for the non-commissioned officers of the General's and Captain *Stanton's* companies, to be sent to *Boston*. As I had just embarked a second detachment of sixty for Lord *Dunmore*, I took the opportunity of sending them by the way of *Virginia*, and hope they will arrive safe. The said schooner brought me twenty-three recruits, and ammunition, which was much wanted. I shall incorporate the above companies into the battalion.

Our Surgeon's Mate is in *Virginia*. And I have the honour to be, your Excellency's most obedient and most humble servant,

JONATHAN FURLONG.

LIEUTENANT BROWN TO GOVERNOUR TONYN.

St. Augustine, September 18, 1775.

SIR: The peculiar hardship of a company going over my head, and the Adjutancy given to another, after so long a series of service, having engaged the attention of your Excellency, (desirous of knowing the particulars,) I do myself the pleasure of enclosing the copy of a memorial given in to the commanding officer of the regiment, in order to be transmitted to the Commander-in-chief.

I have the honour to be, sir, your Excellency's most obedient, humble servant,

WILLIAM BROWN,
Lieutenant, Fourteenth Regiment.

To His Excellency *Patrick Tonyn.*

—

To his Excellency THOMAS GAGE, *Commander-in-chief of His Majesty's Forces in* AMERICA, *&c., &c.*

Memorial of Lieutenant BROWN, *of the Fourteenth Regiment, sheweth:*

That in the year 1759 he received a pair of colours in the Eighty-Fourth Regiment, and was in the *East-Indies* during the successful campaigns of General *Coote*, on the *Coromandel* Coast. That he received his lieutenancy at the siege of *Pondicherry*; was in the Province of *Bengal* during the troubles of '62, '63, and '64; the latter end of which year he arrived in *England*, and was put upon the establishment as a reduced Lieutenant. That he exchanged into the Fourteenth, by purchasing the difference, in *June*, 1766. That he embarked from *Europe* with the regiment for *America*, and has never been absent from it since. That he was appointed in *May*, 1774, to act as Adjutant. That his attention to this duty prevented him from requesting leave to look after his private concerns; by which omission, a company has gone over his head, though he is neither destitute of friends nor money. That a very junior officer is appointed to supersede him in a commission, which he has been doing the duty of fifteen months and upwards, without either fee or reward.

Your memorialist, therefore, hopes he is a proper object of your Excellency's attention.

WILLIAM BROWN,
Lieutenant, Fourteenth Regiment.

St. Augustine, September 16, 1775.

—

PATRICK TONYN TO GENERAL THOMAS GAGE.

St. Augustine, September 21, 1775.

SIR: Lieutenant *Brown's* distinguished conduct in his duty cannot fail to draw my particular notice of it. He has a great deal of worth and merit; besides being an excellent officer, he is a modest, fine gentleman.

Some singular, unlucky circumstances have combined to make his case and advancement in his profession rather unfortunate. When such disappointments accompany deserving merit, they awaken the attention of every one to endeavour to give assistance to remove the oppressive weight of them. Therefore, sir, I beg leave to recommend Lieutenant *Brown* in the warmest manner to your Excellency's favour and protection.

Last year, sir, I took the liberty to address your Excellency in favour of my nephew, Mr. *Levitt*, whose inclinations lead him to the profession of a soldier. I was in hopes that should the army under your Excellency be compelled to act, in which case, consequences that are unavoidable, would of course bring on vacancies, your Excellency might drop a thought towards the recommendation of an old acquaintance.

I must beg leave of your Excellency to permit me to renew my solicitation for my nephew, Mr. *Levitt*, requesting on a favourable opportunity that your Excellency will appoint him an ensign, and be pleased to recommend him for His Majesty's approbation.

It most certainly is not necessary to make professions of my warm zeal to serve your Excellency in whatever is in my power, whether in a private or publick capacity.

I have the honour to be, with very great respect, your Excellency's most obedient and most humble servant,

PATRICK TONYN.

To His Excellency the Honourable General *Gage.*

Monthly Return of His Majesty's Forces in the Province of EAST-FLORIDA.

ST. AUGUSTINE, *August* 1, 1775.

	OFFICERS PRESENT. Commission. Colonel.	Lieutenant-Colonel.	Major.	Captain.	Lieutenants.	Ensign.	Staff. Chaplain.	Adjutant.	Quartermaster.	Surgeon.	Mate.	Sergeants present.	Drummers and Fifers present.	Effectives, Rank and File. Present, and fit for duty.	Sick in Quarters.	Sick in Hospital.	On Command.	Recruiting.	On Furlough.	Total.	Wanting to complete to the allowance. Sergeants.	Drummers.	Rank and File.	Alterations since last Return. Inlisted.	Dead.	Discharged and recommended.	Discharged and not recommended.	Deserted.
Total.	-	-	1	1	4	1	-	-	1	1	-	14	10	133	15	-	111	1	8	268	-	-	122	-	-	-	-	-

ABSENT OFFICERS.

Rank and Names.	Since what time.	By whose leave.
Hon. General Keppel	29th June, 1766.	His Majesty's.
Lieut. Colonel Dalrymple.	26th July, 1773.	Without leave; expired 25th January, 1774.
Captain Mason	4th Novem'r, 1773.	Ditto, 3d February, 1774.
Captain Stanton	11th May, 1774.	Ditto, 10th March, 1775.
Captain Cooper	3d May, 1774.	Ditto, 2d November, 1774.
Captain Urquhart	5th August, 1774.	Ditto, 4th February, 1775.
Lieutenant Smelt	15th January, 1774.	Ditto, 14th July, 1774.
Lieutenant Dalrymple	26th July, 1773.	Ditto, 25th January, 1774.
Chaplain Palmer	2d September, 1774.	Ditto, 1st March, 1775.
Mate Weir	17th March, 1773.	Gone to England in the Hospital ship from St. Vincent.
Ensign Elliot	Not yet joined.	
Ensign Boys		
Ensign Ogle		
Ensign Lindsey		

Names and rank of Officers on duty, and on what duty.

On command.
- Captain Blackett,
- Captain Leslie,
- Lieutenant Batut,
- Lieutenant Napier,
- Lieutenant Leslie,
- Ensign Woolls,

Recruiting.
- Captain Gifford,
- Lt. & Adj't Bruere,
- Liuetenant Laurie,
- Ensign Browo,
- Ensign Haviland,

Rev. John Forbes, Acting Chaplain.

Vacant Officers, and by what means.	DISTRIBUTION.	FOURTEENTH REGIMENT. Colonel.	Lieutenant-Colonel.	Major.	Captains.	Lieutenants.	Ensigns.	Chaplain.	Adjutant.	Quartermaster.	Surgeon.	Mate.	Sergeants.	Drummers and Fifers.	Rank and file.	ROYAL ARTILLERY. Lieutenants.	Sergeant.	Bombardier.	Gunners.	Matrosses.
N. B. 20 contingent men not included.	St. Augustine, Fit for duty	-	-	1	1	4	1	-	-	1	1	-	14	10	133	1	1	1	2	4
	St. Augustine, Sick	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	15	-	-	-	-	-
5 Sergeants on command.	On command in the Province	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	30	-	-	-	-	1
	On command at Williamsburgh, Va.	-	-	-	2	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	4	1	81	-	-	-	-	-
1 Drummer on command.	Recruiting	-	-	-	1	2	2	-	1	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-
	Absent with leave	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	8	-	-	-	-	-
1 Sergeant recruiting.	Absent without leave	-	1	-	4	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 Drummer do.	Not yet joined	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Total	1	1	1	8	11	8	1	1	1	1	1	20	12	268	1	1	1	2	5

JONATHAN FURLONG, *Major Fourteenth Regiment.*

Monthly Return of the Staff of the Garrison.

ST. AUGUSTINE, *August* 1, 1775.

Commissary-General of Stores and Provisions, - - - Mr. Thomas Shridley, absent, officiating by deputy.
Fort Adjutant and Barrackmaster, - - - - - Mr. Charles Shirreff.
Chaplain, - - - - - - - - - Rev. Ralph Church, John Forbes officiating.
Surgeon, - - - - - - - - - Robert Catherwood.
Mates, - - - - - - - - - - David Yeats. Robert Barry, absent with leave. George Kemp.

JONATHAN FURLONG, *Major Fourteenth Regiment.*

Monthly Return of His Majesty's Forces, in the Province of EAST-FLORIDA.

ST. AUGUSTINE, *September* 1, 1775.

	OFFICERS PRESENT. Commission. Colonel.	Lieutenant-Colonel.	Major.	Captain.	Lieutenants.	Ensign.	Staff. Chaplain.	Adjutant.	Quartermaster.	Surgeon.	Mate.	Sergeants present.	Drummers and Fifers present.	Effectives, Rank and File. Present and fit for duty.	Sick in Quarters.	Sick in Hospital.	On Command.	Recruiting.	On Furlough.	Total.	Wanting to complete to the allowance. Sergeants.	Drummers and Fifers.	Rank and File.	Alterations since last return. Inlisted.	Dead.	Discharged and recommended.	Discharged and not recommended.	Deserted.
Total.	-	-	1	1	5	1	-	-	1	1	-	13	10	135	22	-	101	1	8	267	-	-	123	-	1	-	-	-

ABSENT OFFICERS.

Rank and Names.	Since what time.	By whose leave.	Names and Rank of Officers on duty, and on what duty.
Hon. Lieut. Gen. Keppel..	29th June, 1766.	His Majesty's.	Captain Blackett,
Lieut. Col. Dalrymple.....	26th July, 1773.	Without leave; expired 25th January, 1774.	Captain Leslie,
Captain Mason.....	4th Novem'r, 1773.	Ditto, 3d February, 1774.	Lieut. Batut,
Captain Stanton.....	11th May, 1774.	Ditto, 10th March, 1775.	Lieut. Leslie,
Captain Cooper.....	3d May, 1774.	Ditto, 2d November, 1774.	Ensign Woolls,
Captain Urquhart.....	5th August, 1774.	Ditto, 4th February, 1775.	Captain Gifford,
Lieutenant Dalrymple.....	26th July, 1773.	Ditto, 25th January, 1774.	Lt. & Adj't Bruere,
Lieutenant Smelt.....	15th January, 1774.	Ditto, 14th July, 1774.	Lieut. Laurie,
Chaplain Palmer.....	2d September, 1774.	Ditto, 1st March, 1775.	Ensign Brown,
Mate Weir.....	17th March, 1773.	Gone to England in the Hospital ship from St. Vincent.	Ensign Haviland,
Ensign Elliot.....	Not yet joined.		Rev. John Forbes, Acting Chaplain.
Ensign Boys.....			
Ensign Ogle			
Ensign Lindsey.....			

On command. Recruiting.

Vacant Officers, and by what means.	DISTRIBUTION.		FOURTEENTH REGIMENT. Colonel.	Lieutenant-Colonel.	Major.	Captains.	Lieutenants.	Ensigns.	Chaplain.	Adjutant.	Quartermaster.	Surgeon.	Mate.	Sergeants.	Drummers.	Rank and File.	ROYAL ARTILLERY. Lieutenant.	Sergeant.	Bombardier.	Gunners.	Matrosses.
N. B. 20 contingent men not included.	St. Augustine,	Fit for duty	-	-	1	1	5	1	-	-	1	1	-	13	10	135	1	-	1	2	3
5 Sergeants on command.		Sick	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	22	-	1	-	-	-
1 Sergeant recruiting.	On command,	At Williamsburgh, Va.	-	-	-	2	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	4	1	81	-	-	-	-	-
1 Sergeant sick.		In the Province	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	20	-	-	-	-	2
1 Drummer on command.	Recruiting		-	-	-	1	2	2	-	1	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-
1 Drummer recruiting.	Absent with leave		1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	8	-	-	-	-	-
	Absent without leave		-	1	-	4	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Not yet joined		-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Total		1	1	1	8	11	8	1	1	1	1	1	20	12	267	1	1	1	2	5

JONATHAN FURLONG, *Major Fourteenth Regiment.*

Monthly Return of the Staff of the Garrison.

ST. AUGUSTINE, *September* 1, 1775.

Commissary-General of Stores and Provisions, - - - Mr. Thomas Shirdley, absent, officiating by deputy
Fort Adjutant and Barrackmaster, - - - - Mr. Charles Shirreff.
Chaplain, - - - - - - - - - - Rev. Ralph Church, John Forbes officiating.
Surgeon, - - - - - - - - - - Robert Catherwood.
Mates, - - - - - - - - - - David Yeats.
Robert Barry, absent with leave.
George Kemp.

JONATHAN FURLONG, *Major Fourteenth Regiment.*

Monthly Return of His Majesty's Forces in the Province of EAST-FLORIDA.

ST. AUGUSTINE, *October* 1, 1775.

	OFFICERS PRESENT. Commission.						OFFICERS PRESENT. Staff.					Sergeants present.	Drummers and Fifers present.	Effectives, Rank and File.							Wanting to complete to the allowance.			Alterations since last Return.				
	Colonel.	Lieutenant-Colonel.	Major.	Captain.	Lieutenants.	Ensign.	Chaplain.	Adjutant.	Quartermaster.	Surgeon.	Mate.			Present, and fit for duty.	Sick in Quarters.	Sick in Hospital.	On Command.	Recruiting.	On Furlough.	Total.	Sergeants.	Drummers.	Rank and File.	Inlisted.	Dead.	Discharged and recommended.	Discharged and not recommended.	Deserted.
Total.	-	-	1	1	3	-	-	-	1	1	-	11	6	79	19	-	160	1	8	267	-	-	123	-	-	-	-	-

ABSENT OFFICERS.

Rank and Names.	Since what time.	By whose leave.	Names and Rank of Officers on duty, and on what duty.
Hon. Lieut. Gen. Keppel..	29th June, 1766.	His Majesty's.	Captain Blackett, } On command.
Lieut. Col. Dalrymple.....	26th July, 1773.	Without leave; expired 25th January, 1774.	Captain Leslie,
Captain Stanton.....	11th May, 1774.	Ditto, 10th March, 1775.	Captain Fordyce,
Captain Cooper.....	3d May, 1774.	Ditto, 2d November, 1774.	Lieut. Batut,
Captain Dalrymple.....	26th July, 1773.	Ditto, 25th January, 1774.	Lieut. Napier,
Captain Urquhart.....	5th August, 1774.	Ditto, 5th February, 1775.	Lieut. Wallace,
Lieutenant Smelt.....	15th January, 1774.	Ditto, 14th July, 1774.	Lieut. Leslie,
Chaplain Palmer.....	2d September, 1774.	Ditto, 1st March, 1775.	Ensign Wools.
Mate Weir.....	17th March, 1773.	Gone to England in the Hospital ship from St. Vincent.	
Ensign Elliot.....	Not yet joined.		Lieut. and Adj't. Laurie, absent without leave.
Ensign Boys.....			Lieut. Brown, recruiting.
Ensign Ogle.....			Lieut. Haviland, do.
Ensign Lindsey.....			
Ensign Haesketh.....			Rev. John Forbes, Acting Chaplain.
Ensign Mackewan.....			
Ensign Grant.....			

Vacant Officers, and by what means.	DISTRIBUTION.	FOURTEENTH REGIMENT. Colonel.	Lieutenant-Colonel.	Major.	Captains.	Lieutenants.	Ensigns.	Chaplain.	Adjutant.	Quartermaster.	Surgeon.	Mate.	Sergeants.	Drummers.	Rank and File.	ROYAL ARTILLERY. Lieutenant.	Sergeant.	Bombardier.	Gunners.	Matrosses.
N. B. 20 contingent men not included.	St. Augustine, Fit for duty	-	-	1	1	3	-	-	-	1	1	-	11	6	79	1	1	-	-	3
17 Sergeants on command.	St. Augustine, Sick	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	19	-	-	1	1	1
1 Sergeant recruiting.	On command, At Virginia	-	-	-	3	4	1	-	-	-	-	-	6	4	138	-	-	-	-	-
1 Sergeant sick.	On command, In the Province	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	22	-	-	-	1	1
4 Drummers on command.	Recruiting	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-
1 Drummer recruiting.	Absent with leave	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	8	-	-	-	-	-
1 Drummer sick.	Absent without leave	-	1	-	4	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Not yet joined	-	-	-	-	-	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Total	1	1	1	8	11	8	1	1	1	1	1	20	12	267	1	1	1	2	5

JONATHAN FURLONG, *Major Fourteenth Regiment.*

Monthly Return of the Staff of the Garrison.

ST. AUGUSTINE, *October* 1, 1775.

Commissary-General of Stores and Provisions, - - - - - Mr. Thomas Shirdley, officiating by deputy.
Fort Adjutant and Barrackmaster, - - - - - - - Mr. Charles Shirreff.
Chaplain, - - - - - - - - - - - Rev. Ralph Church, John Forbes officiating.
Surgeon, - - - - - - - - - - - Mr. Robert Catherwood.
Mates, - - - - - - - - - - - David Yeats. Robert Barry, absent with leave. George Kemp.

JONATHAN FURLONG, *Major Fourteenth Regiment.*

*

State of the Fourteenth Regiment of Infantry, in the Province of East-Florida, St. Augustine, *September* 30, 1775.

		Commission offic's.				Non-commission & privates.			
		Major.	Captain.	Lieutenants.	Ensigns.	Sergeants.	Corporals.	Drummers.	Privates.
	St. Augustine, fit for duty	1	1	3	-	10	15	7	55
	Do. sick	-	-	-	-	2	2	1	25
On command at	Smyrnea	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	8
	Matanzas	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	4
	Cowford	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	3
	Look-out House	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
	St. John's	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
	Total	1	1	3	-	13	21	8	98

Jonathan Furlong,
Major Fourteenth Regiment.

LIEUTENANT JOHN GRAVES TO ADMIRAL SAMUEL GRAVES, AT BOSTON.

On board the St. Lawrence, at St. Augustine, October 3, 1775.

Sir: I send you this by Mr. *Lane*, master of the *Otter* sloop, who is carrying some troops to *Virginia*.

We made the land the eleventh day after our sailing from *Nantasket*, and, considering that neither the master nor myself was ever here before, there could not be any better landfall, as we were steering right for the light-house when we made the shore a few leagues to the northward of the harbour. We got a pilot off that evening, but did not get into the harbour until two next day; and very lucky for us we did, as there came on a blowing, dirty night after we got in.

The bar here is a most shocking one; but eight feet at low water, and twelve at high, and not above the length of twolarge ships across from breaker to breaker. It is all a white flat sand here, yet the different kind of orange trees are loaded with fruit; they are not quite ripe. I wish I could convey some of them to you just as they are, with their fruit on, they look so beautiful.

I cannot help complaining of my midshipman being taken from me at *Boston*, as Captain *Hartwell* had no right to demand him, for he was my proper one. He got himself discharged out of the *Boyne* into this schooner by choice, and was perfectly satisfied until I told him of his neglect of duty at *Annapolis-Royal*, when, by his not turning out in his watch at four in the morning, I lost my boatswain and four men; and at such a time as that, when I did not know when I should fall in with the pirate *O'Brien*, it was enough to vex any officer that had any regard for his character, and I think if every midshipman is indulged to go to what ship they please, when they think themselves aggrieved, it was more than ever I could do when I was in that station.

There is no contractor for the navy, but shall be supplied by the army contractor. There is fresh beef here at three pence per pound, and very good. The Governour as well as myself thinks it will be right to supply the people with fresh beef in the harbour to preserve the salt, as there is not much in store, if the butcher will take bills on the victualling officer, the Contractor at *Boston*.

My old mainsail and foresail is giving way in several places, and if I can replace them here, I think it will be best, as the old will convert into hammocks, that the people are in much want of, and I could not get any at *Boston;* none of the men that came from the *Preston* brought any with them.

If I meet with your approbation in what I do for the best, I am happy.

And am, dear sir, yours most sincerely,

John Graves.

To Admiral *Graves*.

State and Condition of His Majesty's Armed Schooner St. Lawrence, *Lieutenant* John Graves *Commander, at* St. Augustine, *October* 3, 1775.

Heading		Item	Value
Of the Schooner's Company.	Seamen.	Complement.	30
		Born.	27
		Mustered.	24
	Seamen. Checked.	Widows' Man.	1
		Leave.	-
		Without leave.	-
		Lent.	2
	Sick.	On board.	2
		On shore.	-
	Marines.	Complement.	-
		Born.	-
		Mustered.	-
		Checked.	-
	Marines. Sick.	On board.	-
		On shore.	-
		Officers, names and quality.	-
		Sergeants.	-
		Corporals.	-
		Drums.	-
		Privates.	-
	Short of complement.	Seamen.	3
		Marines.	-
	Born since last account.	More.	-
		Less.	-
		Reason of the difference.	Discharged J. R.
Supernumeraries.	No ship.	Born.	10
		Mustered.	10
		Checked.	-
		Sick.	-
	Other ships.	Born.	-
		Mustered.	-
		Checked.	-
		Sick.	-
		Whole number victualled.	34
Of the Seamen.		Officers and Servants.	3
		Petty and able.	24
		Ordinary.	-
		Landsmen.	-
Provisions on board for the complement at whole allowance.	Days.	Bread.	82
		Beer.	3
		Spirits.	35
		Wine.	-
	Weeks.	Beef.	11½
		Pork.	11½
		Pease.	11½
		Oatmeal.	11½
		Flour.	11½
		Butter.	11½
		Cheese.	11½
		Oil.	11½
		Vinegar.	11½
		Tons of Water.	7
Officers.	Stores wanting.	Boatswains.	Pt.
		Gunners.	Pt.
		Carpenters.	Pt.
		Absent.	-
		Occasion.	-
Condition of the Schooner.			The after part of the false keel split, and part of the sole of the rudder off.
When last cleaned.			May 30, 1775.

JOHN GRAVES.

ALEXANDER SKINNER TO BRIGADIER GENERAL GRANT.

St. Augustine, September 21, 1775.

SIR: By a detachment of the Fourteenth Regiment, ordered to *Virginia*, I have the opportunity of acknowledging the receipt of your Excellency's letters of 2d and 23d *May*, and am glad, in some respects, of your coming to *America*, as by that means I shall have an opportunity of seeing you again, which otherwise I hardly ever expected.

Things are going on tolerably at the *Villa*, were it not for the cursed worms, which are getting worse every year. Though this season has been more favourable than several others before it, yet, on account of these destructive insects, I do not imagine we shall be able to make near the quantity of indigo we did last year; but the quality, on an average, will be better. The first cut turned out well, amounting to about two thousand weight; but the worm has laid hold of our second, and destroys it so fast that I am afraid it will be impossible to save much of it. And, to mend the matter, my time is so much taken up in town that I can never get liberty to stay at the plantation above a week, or at most a fortnight, upon a stretch, which may rather be something against your interest. *Sampson* is a pretty good overseer, and *Brumner* becomes more and more attentive; yet I could wish to be more upon the spot myself.

The *Indian* business is become a perfect plague to me, and for which I have not the smallest consideration, so that I am determined, at all events, to shake myself clear of it, though I do not like to withhold any assistance in my power to give, in the present critical situation of the times.

Mr. *Stuart*, the Superintendent, has taken sanctuary here, and we have information the *Carolinians* and *Georgians* design sending an armed force to this place to demand him, and, if not delivered up, to commence hostilities. But I am in hope they will have some other employment nearer home, before it is long.

October 5.

Your Excellency's letter of the 13th ultimo I had the honour to receive by the *St. Lawrence* schooner, which came very well over the bar, without being in the least lightened, as our bar is at present very good. Every body here is extremely glad and thankful that this is to be her station, and only wish she had come a little sooner, to have prevented one hundred and odd barrels of the King's powder being taken out of *Lofthouse* by a *Carolina* pirate, acting under the orders and directions of your old acquaintance Colonel *Laurens*. The garrison, you imagined, were scarce of provisions; but we are pretty well as yet, having about four hundred barrels of pork and above that number of barrels of flour, after sparing a supply of three months' provisions for the detachment at *Virginia*.

I have been a week at the plantation since I wrote you the 21st ultimo, making indigo fast, but this four days past I have been obliged to be in town with the *Allatchaway Indians*, with whom I earnestly wish I had nothing to do, as that business takes up a great deal of my time, and of which I have so little to spare at this season of the year. The people at the plantation are obliged to be upon foot night and day, in order to save as much of the indigo from the worms as possible, and it is not in my power to give them any assistance until these savages are gone from town.

Lofthouse is loaded with lumber at *St. Mary's*, and is expected off this bar in a few days. The vessel does not come into the harbour, but proceeds directly for *England*. I wish I could send what indigo is cured along with her, but am afraid, in the hurry of our cutting, it will be impossible to get it ready. However, I shall do every thing I can for the best.

I shall write your Excellency by *Wallace*, who will sail in about eight or ten days hence; at present I take leave of you, with this earnest prayer, that *God* may preserve to you your health and protect you from your enemies.

I am, with my best wishes, sir, your Excellency's most obliged and most obedient servant,

ALEXANDER SKINNER.

FREDERICK GEORGE MULCASTER TO GENERAL GRANT.

St. Augustine, October 3, 1775.

DEAR SIR: I wrote you about five days ago [29th *September*] by Captain *Fordyce*, who is not yet sailed. The day before yesterday a man-of-war schooner appeared off; the pilot immediately went out and was put on board; it blew fresh, and she stood off and on the remainder of the day and night. Yesterday she came in with the flood-tide, without the least difficulty. The wind being to the eastward, you, sir, very well know, throws a heavy sea upon our bar, but, notwithstanding, she did not even touch; and Lieutenant *Graves*, who commanded her, told me she then drew nine feet water. Had she been in need of assistance, there is here (belonging to Government) a sixteen-oared launch, a decked schooner of about fourteen tons, and a stout open boat, which would have been ready to have lightened her; but for vessels of that burden there is no such need wanting. She rides safe at an anchor opposite the Chief Justice's door. I have also a decked boat, which is always ready, and the pilots have my leave to command her at a moment's warning for the publick use; and you may be assured she would have been out had occasion been necessary. Indeed, I did not dream that such assistance would be even thought of for vessels of that burden, till I got your letter, which makes me imagine that this bar is held to the northward as a bugbear; it was formerly so, only by the jealousy of our two neighbouring Colonies, for fear we should outdo them in their own produce of rice and indigo. I hope now men-of-war's men will have better opinion of it; in truth, it is done great injustice to. The Governour, Lieutenant *Brown*, of the Fourteenth, and myself, not above two months ago, sounded it with the pilots; we had seven feet at low water, the tide runs five, which gives twelve at high. The *St. Lawrence* came in at three-quarters flood. When I write to you I am confident you will believe me, as I wish only to say what your Excellency may assert, in favour of a Province once under your protection, and we find now you have still at heart. The *St. Lawrence's* log-book will prove this. She is infinitely necessary here, for neither provisions, correspondence, or any thing whatever is to be obtained at this place without such assistance.

The *Carolinians* are, or, I should rather say, have, fitted out three vessels in order to attack the *Tamar* at *Charlestown*, which is the reason *Thornborough* has taken the *Cherokee* to support him, for they were to be ready in two days after our last accounts from them. They are also fitting out a stout vessel of ten guns, to give Captain *Lempriere*, (the rascal who took our powder,) for his gallant behaviour off this bar; by this you see that private cruisers are upon this coast as well as the northern.

The guns at Fort *Johnston* were thrown over the parapet by the *Tamar's* people, but what could possess them not to destroy the carriages and knock off a trunnion I cannot conceive; they might at least have thought of spiking them, but *Thornborough* is old, and unfit for service. It is very well to send such men in time of peace to a hot country, for the chance of a vacancy; but in time of rebellion, surely active officers should be employed.

There is a set of five guns, I have been told, at *Providence*, and, if my intelligence is good, (and you know I have not in general any bad,) the *Carolinians* intend soon to have them; should they get them, it will not reflect great honour upon the navy.

The troops going to *Virginia* can certainly be of no use, but you are mistaken in regard to Lord *Dunmore's* sending for them without authority. The first detachment of Captain *Leslie* and sixty men and the *Providence* company, was a positive order from General *Gage;* the detachment of sixty men which goes now was also a positive order of the General's; and the last order says that, if Lord *Dunmore* makes a requisition of the rest of the regiment, it is to go upon the arrival of the three companies of the Sixteenth. These orders I have seen, and there is, at this hour of my writing, nothing contradictory to it, so that, should the companies arrive to-morrow, the regiment must, of course, embark, in consequence of those orders, (Lord *Dunmore* having made the requisition.) However, as the companies are not arrived, the order has undoubtedly miscarried; but the *St. Lawrence* has brought a duplicate of the order to Governour *Tonyn*, who is to forward it to *West-Florida;* but there is no contradiction in regard to the regiment. This last article is hearsay, but I believe I am right, and am positively certain that

Furlong has no orders whatever from General *Gage* to contradict his former, consequently I do not believe that *Tonyn* has; and if he had, I should most likely have heard it.

A provision vessel would have been of great service; the *Pensacola* people will have none, but for their passage; and although the troops are not at present in want, yet the inhabitants begin to be in distress for flour. And what is to become of our boasted asylum, if there is nothing to eat for those who choose to come among us? I hope *Tonyn* will write for a provision vessel by this occasion. I have desired *Moultrie* to give him a hint of it. *Urquhart* writes to his brother officers that General *Grant* lives like a General. He tells them also this Province may thank you for the *St. Lawrence;* by the by, *Tonyn* wanted to make believe she was sent in consequence of a letter from himself. If your Brigade-Major is as good an officer as the generality of the Fourteenth, you are happy with him; I have often heard him spoken well of by them. *Urquhart* writes that he expects the *Virginia* detachments will certainly go to *Boston*, as they can be of no use with Lord *Dunmore*, and that the regiment will undoubtedly remain here. Surely there is some strange jumble and mistake of orders in regard to these people; but observe, that what I have already said in regard to the orders I am exceedingly correct in, for, I repeat to you again, I saw them.

De Brahm is on board the *Cherokee*, as I told you in my last; he has with him a nephew of his own name and the youngest *Row*, the former from *Germany*. Some time before Mrs. *De Brahm* died, when in *England*, she broke open a will of *De Brahm's;* the contents (to her astonishment) were leaving every thing he possessed in the world to his brother in *Germany*. This she wrote to her father, some time before he died; she had sufficient sway with him to make him alter it in her favour, but, as such was his feeling, it is happy for the poor woman she died first. This circumstance I did not know till two days ago, when the person told me had it from old *Row*. I did not expect even my children would get any thing from him, except, possibly, he might have left them his house and lands after her death; but that he should leave her (who had only him to depend upon) destitute, was beyond my belief almost, but it seems it was too true.

The Government takes up lately a great deal of *Skinner's* time; he is not able to visit the plantation so often as necessary, and the crop will not be the better for it; *Skinner* says much the worse, and complains of the prospect; however, he generally grumbles a good deal till he has done making, therefore I do not expect it is so bad as he says he expects; but I shall see the plantation before *Wallace* sails, and will be more particular by him. The furniture business you shall then hear about, but at present it is impossible to speak to a man absorbed in pen, ink, and paper, preparing despatches, &c., although he did not receive three letters, and no news; even his letters from *Donkin*, the General's Aid-de-camp, (who is his particular friend,) I do not hear gave him any intelligence. The furniture is an arduous undertaking; the valuation is highly necessary, but, for the *pecunia*, I am afraid it is *non habet*.

Wallace is to take your advice, and bring oranges, &c. As he is not idle, I suppose he will sail soon; at present he is employed in carrying out part of this detachment to the snow, which could not come in, not because she drew too much water, but because her transom beam was broke, and she was afraid to venture, lest, if she chanced to touch, she should go to pieces.

It is now eleven o'clock at night, therefore I shall leave off till to-morrow, when I shall give you an account of the situation of *Charlestown*. I have finished the plan of the harbour, and the town I shall do in the morning. When it is done, you will have at large the opinions you desired on that subject.

October 4, 1775.

Your black man *Alexander* was with me this instant to inquire after your health, and has loaded me with *beaucoup de complimens*. He wishes much to come to make your bread, for he says he gives no satisfaction to his present master and mistress; the former he says is *assez bon*, but madam, who is always referred to, is the *diable*.

The parson has got the fever, and is really very yellow. I wish he could go to the northward; but if he did, his Excellency would have no one to advise with; and, should counsellors grow scarce, he would not know who to appoint.

The enclosed plans I got done with difficulty, as *Kirkland* was hurrying me, from whom I got the original. I must refer you to him for many particulars. He has with him the last new survey of the Province of *Carolina*, and he can explain to you all you can want to know of the interior parts, the complexion of the people, the prospect of assistance, &c. I did not tell him what I wanted his draft for, so he does not know of its going by this conveyance to you. I have made some remarks upon the plans, should they be for attacking the town. You must also observe, that the buildings upon the wharves are always filled with pitch, tar, and turpentine. The batteries were in very bad order, but I have heard they were busy preparing to mend them. Fort *Johnston* is exceedingly out of repair, but, were it otherwise, the shipping can go to the northward of the *Middle Ground* without danger, as nothing but random shot could hurt them; besides, a frigate could always cover them. Should it be necessary to attack the south side of *Broughton's* bastion by frigates, that d—d Fort *Johnston* must then be silenced, as the south side of the *Middle Ground* will, by much, be the most convenient water for the vessels to go up to their station. Behind *Shute's Folly* transport vessels may easily pass; so Mr. *Kirkland* tells me, which would be a pretty safe way of getting into *Cooper* river; and, should the landing in the town be deemed rash or improper, they may proceed higher up that river, and land at several places within three, four, five, or six miles of the town, which would be the means of forming an army between them and the country, save their town, (which the rascals do not deserve,) and reduce them to compliance. What I call an army is four or five battalions; for that, with their harbour blocked up, would effectually do their business. Their work at the town gate is out of repair, and not thought of, their chief attention being towards the water; and, even with their utmost efforts there, I do not see how they could resist the frigates. Besides, their batteries are *en barbet*, and their men exposed. Their harbour is deep water close to their wharves, so that men-of-war might go as near as they pleased on that side; and in *Ashley* river the frigates marked *d, d*, may lay much nearer than the letters are placed, for the soundings are set down between them and the shore. These people undoubtedly deserve no favour; why not employ a bomb vessel or two at once; they, under the cover of frigates, would completely do the business; or, place a thirteen-inch mortar on *Shute's Folly*, and it will be of infinite service. The enclosed plans will give a clear idea of the situation vessels may be placed in, as you have the shoals and soundings. The town will refresh your memory in regard to the situation of the streets, &c. The plans will also guide you to ask Mr. *Kirkland* questions, which he can, I believe, answer. His general plan will show you the roads and the situation of the *Catawbas*, with Colonel *Thompson's* regiment of Horse, at the fork where the *Congaree* and *Wateree* rivers meet. They remain there, not to move till wanted. The regiment consists of about three hundred men, and live about those parts; they do not choose much to come to *Charlestown*, because of ill health and expense.

I wrote in my last (a few days since) something concerning these back-country people, of their wants and their inclinations to do themselves justice or to join the King's troops. I also mentioned a scheme of *Savannah* river and the back-country people meeting. The man *Kirkland* can inform you well on all these articles, and, as he knows nothing of my earnestness to acquaint you, or your having wishes to be informed, you may get from him any intelligence you want. If *Carolina* is to be attacked, he will be of infinite use; but this you will discover as soon as you have conversed with him. I give this letter also to Captain *Fordyce*, and if *Kirkland* goes by a safe conveyance from *Virginia*, he is to deliver them to his care.

John Stuart told me he had, by this opportunity, some instructions from the General in regard to the *Indians*. Some of them are just now in town; and he told me he intended to keep about forty or fifty encamped near the town for the winter, and he would make up to them in presents

what they would lose by their winter's hunt. He is jealous of *Tonyn*. In a day or two, I dare say, I shall know what he intends to do and what orders he has got, but at present he has not opened. His wife being at *Charlestown* makes him, I fancy, apprehensive for her safety. He thinks she would be massacred should he bring down the red people; he wishes her away, and I wish so too.

Mr. *Chamier* I was already acquainted with. I told him of your recommendation of him. He daily receives instances of people's hospitality in this place, and your mentioning him will not lessen it. The Barrackmaster *Shirreff* I cannot say so much for, for I do not see any one who likes him, not from being a bad person, but from being a fool, talking nonsense, a blundering forwardness, and, although, I believe, wishing to be civil, very rude, by all accounts. He is as unlike his brother at *Boston* as two can well be. I am very well acquainted with him, and I am only pestered by his continually plaguing me to come and drink tea with his wife, who is as stiff and prim as Mrs. *Catherwood*. However, he dines with me to-morrow, and also *Chamier*, Lieutenant *Graves*, and Captain *Barker*, an officer of the Sixteenth, who came in the schooner, expecting to find the companies here. We heard, a few days since, of *Barry's* death, the mate of the hospital you got appointed; he died at sea on his way to *England*, has left a wife and child, and about five hundred pounds, also a will, which gives the use of the money to the wife during her life for her maintenance, and the education of his son, but if she marries, she loses all benefit of the money, and it is then to go to the child upon its coming of age, which is when it arrives at twenty-four years of age. One would think it was five thousand a year he had left, from the pomposity of the will. However, the poor woman, who had five hundred when he married her, has got by the marriage a child, and less money than she had before.

The bars of *Nassau* and *St. Mary's* have been sounded, both of them by Captain *Doren* and *Wallace*. *St. Mary's* I mentioned to you in my last; *Nassau* is as good as *St. Augustine*, and *St. John's* I sounded myself, and had nine foot at low water. When *Wallace* reaches you, he can, as a seaman, give the General, yourself, or the Admiral, a particular account of them. The *Georgians* talked of visiting us. It certainly was only talk, for there would many difficulties intervene to stop the progress of a flying *Yankee* party. But suppose it had been so, and they were capable of undertaking schemes of that sort, the armed schooner is at once a safe protection for this Province; one at *St. Mary's* effectively stops the inland passage by water, and another at *St. John's* would prevent their passing that river, were they to attempt any thing by land, and that would be attended with little or no expense. I say this, if the *Georgians* or *Carolinians* had spirit to make an attempt; but the truth is they are apprehensive at home. They certainly conjecture that it's more than probable an intention may be to arm the troops to the southward in the winter. However your caution of secrecy will be carefully attended to; no one knows of it but *Moultrie*, *Stuart*, and myself. *Urquhart* says engineers are scarce, and a number of officers employed to assist. Should a southern plan take place, as I am next but one to *Montresor* on the list, and of the same rank in the corps and army as he is, the General not being able to spare him, might probably be glad to employ me, and if necessary, have the power to appoint assistants should they be wanted. Besides I am accustomed to the sun, and could escape a fever, when a healthy northern constitution might be laid up. My excursions and lying out for months together for some winters past, makes me not tender or fearful of a wet lodging, or a hungry belly; for I have experienced both. But this I entirely leave to your consideration. Indeed *Boston*, from all accounts, is no tempting place; but should you think it right for me to join a southern expedition, I am ready at an hour's notice; an armed schooner to come off a day before the ships sail, would be here time enough to take me in, and meet you before you reached *Charlestown Bar*, and in case such a scheme should be approved of, and you like it, time might be saved by the schooner hoisting a yellow flag at her main top-gallant mast head, and firing two guns. I will be aboard of him, if the wind and tide permit, in two hours; therefore, should such a signal appear, I shall understand it. Captain *Fordyce* is to forward this by the safest opportunity; but if *Kirkland* goes soonest, he will deliver them. I need not hint to you to give *Kirkland* some soup, for I think you will benefit by it. I have been in such extreme hurry, that I have not been able to keep a copy of the enclosed plans; pray be careful of them, should I not be able to procure others; and for fear of discovery, I durst not trust my young men to copy them.

Adieu, and may you succeed in every thing, is the earnest prayer of your always obliged and sincere humble servant,

FREDERICK GEORGE MULCASTER.

C. SHIRREFF TO GENERAL ROBERTSON.

St. Augustine, October 2, 1775.

SIR: I have only time just to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, by Captain *Barker*, who arrived this day, and the wind not being fair, has detained the troops now on board for *Virginia*, but are now weighing anchor, and I am afraid I shall not be able to get this on board. I have only to acquaint you I have already wrote to you by a Mr. *Cameron*, and shall observe the contents of your letter, and settle about the bills as you desire, and the very first opportunity write you. There are several other articles I much want to know your opinion of, so that I beg leave to refer you to my first letter, and the one now on board; for at present I do not pretend to take in charge any vacant rooms, as the commanding officer thinks he has a right to occupy them as he pleases; but unless something is very speedily done to the barracks, they will be down, and I have frequently spoke to the engineer on this head, and his answer is, he has no orders and so can't act. Candles we much want, and I will do for the best when they are required, and shall endeavour to give all the satisfaction I can in the discharge of my duty. Being in a hurry, I have only time to add that Mrs. *Shirreff* joins with me in compliments to you, and kind remembrance to all friends.

I am, wishing you all success, sir, your most obedient humble servant,

C. SHIRREFF.

Brigadier-General *James Robertson*, Barrackmaster-General.

P. S. In your letter you inform me the Fourteenth were paid bed money, &c., to the last of *June;* but Mr. *Barton* informs me if you will look at his accounts last sent, you will there find the corps are only paid up to the 22d of *April* last. As I shall have money to pay here at times, if you thought proper, it would be necessary to send me a bill to answer any demands, as no one here will take bills payable at the northward. Troops from *Pensacola* not arrived.

GOVERNOUR TONYN TO MAJOR DONKIN.

St. Augustine, October 2, 1775.

DEAR DONKIN: I steal a moment from publick despatches, to thank you for your favour of the 12th *September*. The account you give of the Rebel intrenchments does not surprise me; it was the natural consequence of our post stationed at *Boston*. They only followed our example. I have, however, no great opinion of their prowess. If you could get fairly to an onset with them, your army would beat five times their number. We heard of a letter fallen into your hands from *Lee* to *Washington*, advising to storm *Boston*, to make two places the object of attack, in the general assault; that *Lee* assured the success, with the loss of ten thousand men. Is this true? Will the *Yankees* like to hear ten thousand of them are to be killed, and take *Lee's* assurety for the success? which at best is doubtful, and which, I am sure must be impossible, without a formal siege, and a breach made, or I can't guess at all at what you have been about.

What I am most of all astonished at, is, that they should have cruisers to the northward, and that they should have any success with our powerful fleet. How comes this about? They have had cruisers on this coast too, and have had some success, which you will hear from your General. *Shirreff* and *Chamier*, from your recommendation of them, are entitled to every act of kindness.

Some happy transactions, are, I hope, to be expected from *Guy Johnson* and General *Carleton*. Truly it is high time *Great Britain* should rouse from her state of languor.

I wrote to you, the 25th of last month, by *Virginia*. I shall never forget the names of my very old friend *Rufane*. If it was in my power to make you a Lieutenant-Colonel, I would enclose you the commission. Dear *Donkin* do not distrust my friendship, which shall always be ready and willing to serve you on every opportunity.

That you may all soon triumph over these lawless infernal rebellious villains, are the constant wishes of, dear *Donkin*, yours most faithfully,

PATRICK TONYN.

Major *Donkin*.

—

SPENCER MAN TO GENERAL GRANT.

St. Augustine, October 4, 1775.

SIR: It was with much pleasure that I heard by the *St. Lawrence* armed schooner of your safe arrival at *Boston*, and that you were in good health, which I sincerely wish may long continue, and hope we shall have the pleasure to see you in this country before you return home, as I flatter myself the regard you have shown on all occasions to the welfare of this Colony, never was more wanted to be exercised than at present. You will, I doubt not, be informed of the situation of our politicks by more able hands than mine, and shall only observe that our political body is much diseased, and I know no doctor who could cure it so well as you; and with respect to settlement we are going back every day, and I believe our ruler has neither ability to point out, or interest to procure any good to us; in a word, sir, if you do not stir a little for us, we shall be a nonentity very soon. I hope, therefore, as do many of your friends here, that you will pay us a visit before you return to *England*.

Wishing you health, success, and safety in your present situation, I remain, sir, your much obliged and most humble servant,

SPENCER MAN.

To Brigadier-General *James Grant*.

—

ALEXANDER ROSS TO CAPTAIN STANTON.

St. Augustine, October 4, 1775.

DEAR STANTON: I received yours by favour of Captain *Barker*, enclosing a bill on Messrs. *Cox* and *Mair* for £45 15*s.* sterling. I offered Captain *Fordyce* the twenty pounds you desired me to pay him, but he would not accept of it; have therefore given the agents credit on your account for the balance, which is only £19 0*s.* 10½*d.*, as you will see by the statement adjoining, which you may draw on them for when you think proper, viz:

By credit to Captain *Stanton* for a set of bills on Messrs. *Cox* and *Mair* - - - - -	£45	15	0
By credit for cash received from Captain *Barker*, at 4*s.* 8*d.* to the dollar, - - -	2	9	7
	48	4	7
Captain *Stanton* debtor on account for balance due the recruits, - - - - - - -	29	3	8½
Balance due Captain *Stanton*, credited the agents, - - - - - - - - - - - -	£19	0	10½

The reason of there being a difference, is owing to the dollar passing always here for four shillings and eight pence, the sterling value; so that whether I receive money for bills, or give money for bills, it is all the same.

The recruits you have sent are all good looking lads, but we would have been better pleased to have had you with the whole, rather than a part; it appears very odd to imagine what advantage it can be to the service to have our regiment so much divided, when, were they once again properly united, they surely might be of use.

Captain *Fordyce* has been on board of vessels with his company and a detachment, amounting in all to sixty men, ready to sail for *Virginia* the first fair wind; and had three companies of the Sixteenth arrived from *Pensacola*, as we have been long expecting, the whole regiment would sail at the same time. We have been in anxious expectation of hearing of great feats performed since the 17th of *June*, from your quarter, and we find now the summer far spent without any thing of consequence having happened; but this is a subject too tender to offer free sentiments upon.

You will be so good, as often as you can, to send us here accounts of so very interesting matters as are going on near you; it will in some degree alleviate the distress of being in a manner out of the world in this place, to hear now and then from a friend, in which class I hope to be included by you.

And believe me to be, with regard, dear *Stanton*, yours sincerely,

ALEXANDER ROSS.

To Captain *Stanton*.

—

JOHN MOULTRIE, LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOUR OF EAST-FLORIDA, TO GENERAL GRANT.

St. Augustine, October 4, 1775.

I have the pleasure of yours by the *St. Lawrence*. By sending her you have done your old Government essential service; we wanted such a vessel very much; she appeared off one day, and came over the bar the next with ease and without a rub, and without unlading her guns or provision; our bar is better than ever I knew it.

By our steady attachment to our mother country, we are become an eye-sore to our sister Colonies; particularly so to our foolish young sisters *Georgia* and *Carolina*. They threatened, and have done every thing in their power to starve us, which is not in their power to effect. Their threats were of service, and alarmed the people here at first, but I told them I was glad of it; that it was a shame to trust our existence to others, and give them our money for what we could make as easily as they could; which they now find to be true. Almost every planter has made his provision; many a great deal to spare. I have above eight hundred bushels of corn to spare of the *Bellavista* crop; a fine crop of rice at the *Musquetoe*, already reaped, and in the barn yard; a second cutting of the same rice almost ripe.

I am surprised to find you and the army in the state you have been in. I flatter myself you will move to advantage soon. The southern people are madder than the northern, though I believe not such great rogues; they have got to the highest pitch of raving madness. You will have heard of one hundred and ten barrels of our powder taken out of *Lofthouse*, off our bar, by a vessel fitted out of *Carolina*, with an order from *Laurens* to proceed on that business; which order, by mistake, and through confusion, the pirate Captain left behind him, and is now in our possession. *Laurens* loves popularity; but I think he does not sleep many hours a night, and may perhaps dream. You know the man. Our neighbours talk of visiting us to take our ordnance stores; but this I look upon as mere vapour, and that they will not feel bold enough; if they do, well, we will do our best to dress them. I hope the General will not take any more of the troops from this. I think he has already weakened us too much. Consider the fort and its contents; consider what our neighbours are willing to do; consider, above all, that this is now the best and only immediate communication between *Great Britain* and our red brothers. You judged right; the Rebels have been tampering and endeavouring to get the *Indians* with them. The best friends of *Great Britain* are in the back parts of the *Carolinas* and *Georgia;* if the *Indians* were put in motion these would suffer, and not the Rebels. But this will be delivered to you by Colonel *Moses Kirkland*, who comes express to General *Gage;* to him I refer you; what he tells you, you may depend on. I think he may be made a most powerful instrument in the hands of Government should any thing be done this way, which I think ought immediately to be undertaken. He knows every inch of *Carolina*, every road and by-road, every creek and swamp, every person, and has a most extensive influence; is resolute, active, and enterprising, and I think ought to receive the greatest encouragement. He has not had a liberal education, but possesses clear, strong, and manly sense, and I think him entirely to be depended on.

I have had *Mulcaster* with me; he will send you some papers. Some others shall be done on a larger scale. *Kirkland* can give you good intelligence. *Wallace*, who acts with so much spirit and honour, can also furnish you with rich materials on that head. I remember he was very busy when there in sounding and surveying.

I lament, as you may imagine, the present state of

affairs, and the situation of most of my friends, who have been worked powerfully on, and have, to my great sorrow, taken a wrong way. I need not say any thing further to you on the state of things in these parts of the world, as *Kirkland* will be better than a very long letter. I hope soon to see order drawn out of confusion, and peace restored; that good men may escape, but that every rogue and vile tool, and every wilful and violent opposer and oppressor may meet with their full and just reward.

Pray, dear friend, adieu. I am, most affectionately and sincerely, yours,

MOULTRIE.

Mrs. *Moultrie* begs her best respects to you. We are happy and well. If you see *Wallace*, pray my compliments; I think and hear of him with pleasure.

To Brigadier-General *Grant*.

DANIEL CHAMIER, JUN., TO DANIEL CHAMIER.

St. Augustine, October 3, 1775.

MY DEAR SIR: I had written you a long letter by Mr. *Cameron*, who was to make the best of his way to *Boston*, from *Virginia*, to which place another detachment of the regiment here is now destined, and ready to sail. I shall not recall that letter, notwithstanding the receipt of yours has rendered a great part of it unnecessary, as the rest of it still stands good.

I made my retreat from *Charlestown* in good time, for which my friends have since complimented me on my sagacity, having, it seems, been in more danger than they had imagined, although it was at their repeated informations that I determined at last to retire. Such an unjust persecution as that of mine is hardly to be paralleled, as they had not the shadow of a charge to bring against me. My worthy friend, Captain *Innes*, (Lord *William's* Secretary,) who arrived a few months before his Lordship, and with whom I had formed the strongest intimacy, being acquainted with the Chairman of the Committee, Mr. *Henry Laurens*, made my case known to him, and I had the satisfaction to receive a message from him, assuring me that he himself was fully satisfied of my innocence, and that he would take care that I should have full liberty to remain in *Charlestown*, or go to what part of *America* or *Europe* I thought proper; and, understanding that my first design was to go to *England*, he wrote a letter to the Captain on board whose ship I was, removing all difficulties that lay in my way. Upon this information I immediately altered my route, and wrote as polite a letter as I could dictate to Mr. *Laurens*, for I was much touched with such generous behaviour from a stranger, (for he was but just returned here from *England*,) when many of the gentlemen of the town (as they call themselves) with whom I had been acquainted, were for cutting my throat. I am glad *Harcomb* has escaped; he has the true spirit of loyalty of an old *English* soldier.

I shall not attempt to express the feeling I have for the generous supply which you have sent me; it is fully sufficient for the present, and I hope for some time to come, as my friends in *Charlestown* are not likely to call upon me until it be perfectly convenient. I am much distressed for them. They are all now disarmed, and confined to the limits of the town, for having refused to sign a treasonable association.

But my noble friend *Innes*, although long out of the army, refused to deliver his arms, and told the Committee, "that he had the honour of bearing five commissions under his present Majesty, and his late Royal grandfather, and were he to deliver up his sword to any one not legally entitled to demand it, he should think he deserved to have it broke over his head;" for which soldier-like behaviour he was ordered to quit the town in four-and-twenty hours, and accordingly he retired on board the man-of-war. Lord *William*, not many days after, dissolved the Assembly, and retreated to the same place. Mr. *Irving*, who was formerly Inspector of imports and exports at *Boston*, and is now Receiver-General of the quit-rents at *Charlestown*, and to whose friendship I have been so much indebted, embarked some time after I left *Charlestown* for *Providence* Island, for recovery from a bilious complaint, and he will remain there for some time if he is wise. Please to inform Mr. *Hulton* of this, as he has a great regard for the gentleman of whom I speak. I beg you also to present my compliments to him and his lady.

October 3.

As the transport with the troops luckily cannot sail today, I have set my friends to work to make you a keg of shrub, which I will risk by Mr. *Cameron*, although I have some fear whether he can accomplish it; if he does you will be much obliged to him, as I suppose he will find it difficult enough to carry himself there, but the loss will not be great, and its safety I hope will prove very beneficial to you.

My worthy friend, Mr. *Penman*, is one of the two eminent merchants in this place. I became acquainted with him in *Charlestown* some time ago, and I have been under great obligation to him since my arrival here, indeed for every accommodation, as there are no lodging houses here. I laid a copy of your scheme before him, and I now enclose you a very encouraging answer from him, which I hope and expect will induce you to put it immediately into execution, as the fruit will soon be in its full state of maturity. Address your vessel immediately to Mr. (*James*) *Penman*, and resume your former style and character, and I warrant he will do you justice. I know him to be a man of honour, and he is also well known to Mr. *Hulton*. Write upon the subject immediately, if you cannot send your vessel at once, that the fruit may be gathered and prepared at the proper season.

I will now, if I have time, answer every other paragraph of your letter.

I have already been very kindly treated by the Governour and the rest of the gentlemen here. The recommendations you have procured me will insure me in future all the respect and favour I could wish for. I beg you to express to General *Grant* and Major *Donkin* the high sense I have of their kindness. The fruit here is not yet ripe, nor is it probable, from what I have said above, that any quantity could make its way good from *Virginia*. I heartily wish your shrub itself may meet with that good fortune.

I depend greatly on your intercession with your brother. There can be no vacancy in *Carolina* but from the death or removal of Mr. *Morris*, the Comptroller. He is old, and willing to retire, but he is also hearty; and a resignation, your brother says, is not to be effected in my favour. Besides, I am astonished that your brother should still talk of an office in *Charlestown*, when the proprietors of them do not think them at present worth a farthing; and when I know such true and alarming accounts of the state of that Province have been so long ago transmitted to the Ministry.

I note well what you say concerning the scurvy. You will find by my first letter, which was written and sealed before the receipt of yours, that my own opinion corresponds with yours; but my great temperance and regularity had long concealed that from my own knowledge which my poor father's unhappy course of life rendered but too apparent to every one. I flatter myself that I already feel some benefit from my change of diet, and shall persist in this new regimen, but am afraid I shall soon be without a principal article in it, which is *Madeira* wine. If you could spare me ever so small a quantity, it would be as acceptable as the shrub to you, and full as necessary for me, as I drink no other liquor, the mixture of it with water being as strong an acid as will agree with me, and a few glasses prove an excellent and palatable restorative and strengthener.

I am sorry for my friend *Christie's* ill usage; but he must be content to take neighbour's fare, and should not be sorry at having the opportunity of manifesting his loyalty.

I have written you in my first letter concerning Mr. *Savage*. I cannot send you a power of attorney, having given that authority at my first leaving *Boston* to Mr. *Nathaniel Coffin*, the Deputy Cashier and Receiver-General, who has generously transacted my money matters hitherto free from any charge. I see not how I can help myself at present. If you can, with the assistance of Mr. *Hallowell*, bring him to reason, you will save me a great deal of money. But I apprehend you cannot do much without the influence of the Board. I beg you to con-

sult Mr. *Hallowell*, and present my best compliments to him.

You desire me to have patience, that *Anthony* shall not neglect me. I should make a most ungrateful return for your generosity, and his endeavours to serve me, if I were not perfectly easy. While my leaves of absence are continued, and this garrison not too much weakened, I can remain content for any length of time. But we look upon the great draft of men made from this fort as a very unfortunate measure, that may be attended with very dangerous consequences to the service here; and I am confident if the General or the Ministry knew the true state of these Southern Colonies, that such a measure would never have taken place. The only other difficulty I find here is in point of board and lodging.

I had lately fixed myself very agreeably at a good house, a small distance from town, across *St. Sebastian's Creek*, in a healthy situation, with a worthy old gentleman, Mr. *Cuming*, the Comptroller of the Port, but he, poor man, lately caught the fever, which carried him off in a few days. I still stay at the house, to take care of his property, but it cannot be convenient for me to stay there long. Were you acquainted with the geography of the Southern Colonies, you would know that it was impossible for me to go to *Pensacola*. The only passage by water is via *Jamaica*, in the packet which calls there on her return from that island, not in going to it, from *Charlestown;* and a passage by land is utterly impracticable for any one but an *Indian* or a Cracker; which last term General *Grant* can explain to you. I apprehend also that I could sooner negotiate a change with Sir *Charles Burdett*, the Collector of this Port, to whom this climate is as unfavourable as that of *Boston* is to me; provided he be willing to descend from a collector of a small port to the surveyor of a large one. I understood, from Mr. *Cuming*, that the incomes are pretty near equal. He has been in *Boston*, and the neighbourhood thereof, these three years, and I know is very desirous of remaining there longer than the Board may perhaps think proper. I could wish you to talk to him on the subject, if he be still with you. Mr. *Hallowell*, who knows him well, will inform you about him.

Captain *Barbut* I saw in *Charlestown*, and, as I soon found he was acquainted with our family, we became very intimate. He is a fine old soldier, and very candidly, and in the most friendly manner, made me himself the offer you mention; nay indeed, even to resign in my favour, for a very reasonable satisfaction; but I apprehend it would be very imprudent in me to give up my own certainty for his uncertainty; besides, you will please to observe, that your brother has all along proposed the *West-Indies* to me, and I am myself of opinion that not only the equable climate of the islands would be best for me, but that also the chances of vacancy or promotion are there much greater. Please to observe also that the climate of *Pensacola* is not reckoned comparable to this in any respect.

I think I have now answered your letter; but whether I have or not, I have no more time left. Your cask of shrub is completed; five gallons of rum and seven of juice; which is yet hardly ripe enough, but I hope will do. Adieu, and believe me to be, yours, most affectionately,

DANIEL CHAMIER, Jr.

October 4.

Postscript.—I am come to town again early this morning, to put the finishing hand to this letter, and to see your shrub well taken care of. Remember again that you are not to take this as a specimen of the best we can do, as the fruit is hardly ripe enough. I beg you to see that Mr. *Savage* sends me the clothes and books I wrote to him for a twelve month ago. I am surprised he did not embrace so fine an opportunity as the man-of-war. Several of my things are lost and destroyed in the house where I left them.

I once more beg the favour of you to send me a few dozens of *Madeira* wine, if to be had in *Boston*, at any reasonable price. It is the only article we are much in want of; I mean for the table. If that is not to be had, some good *Fayal*, or other white wine, might do. *Lisbon*, I suppose, is too sweet to be so proper as other wines.

Send an answer to Mr. *Penman* instantly. He would set to work for you, and procure a large quantity of fruit, if he were sure of your vessel.

It is astonishing to me how you manage with your packets and men-of-war. We have now *English* intelligence above a month later than in your paper of the 15th *September*, viz: 10th *July*, by the *July* packet; and I suppose the *August* mail is at *Charlestown* by this time. You desire the things you wanted to be sent by the return of the man-of-war, and the Captain declares he is stationed here until *April* next. How did you make this mistake?

I will not fail to compliment the gentlemen you mention, when the opportunity offers. Should my friend, Captain *Innes*, come to *Boston*, I beg you to treat him as you would myself; I never met with a man in my life with whom I formed so close an intimacy in so short a time. The officers of the Sixty-Third Regiment can tell you who he is. He was last in their regiment.

Adieu again, yours, most affectionately, again,

DANIEL CHAMIER, Jr.

JOHN STUART TO SAMUEL KEMBLE.

St. Augustine, October 4, 1775.

SIR: I herewith transmit you, annexed, a list of bills, which I have drawn upon his Excellency, the Commander-in-chief, for the expenses of my Department; the particulars of which are explained in said list.

I am, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

JOHN STUART.

To *Samuel Kemble*, Esq., Secretary to his Excellency the Commander-in-Chief.

List of Bills drawn by me upon his Excellency General GAGE, *Commander-in-Chief of His Majesty's Forces,* NORTH-AMERICA.

September 20, 1775.—At thirty days sight, in favour of Mr. *Richard Yates*, merchant, *New-York*, £2,625, *York* currency, for extraordinary expenses this current year, (No. 20.)

September 20, 1775.—At thirty days sight, in favour of *George Ancrum*, Jr., attorney, £792 3*s.* 9*d.*, *York* currency, for officers' salaries for the current year, (No. 21.)

October 4, 1775.—At thirty days sight, in favour of *William McKennon*, £262 10*s.*, *York* currency, for expenses incurred on the *Mississippi*, the current year, (No. 22.)

JOHN STUART.

PETER CHESTER, GOVERNOUR OF WEST-FLORIDA, TO GOVERNOUR TRYON.

Pensacola, November 18, 1775.

SIR: The Earl of *Dartmouth* having been pleased to signify to me, in a letter of the 5th of *July* last, His Majesty's royal wishes that I should afford every possible protection to such of his subjects in the Colonies in rebellion, as shall be too weak to resist the violences of the times, and too loyal to concur in the measures of those who have avowed and supported that rebellion, and are desirous of seeking an asylum in this Province; and that I should countenance and protect all such as may be induced, under the circumstances above stated, to retreat hither, and give them grants of land by way of bounty and encouragement, exempt from quit-rent for ten years; and that I should also give every possible encouragement in my power to the exportation of lumber from hence to the *West-India* Islands: I therefore thought proper to direct a Proclamation to issue, notifying and declaring this Royal bounty and encouragement; but I am afraid, from the circumstances of the times, that it will not be in my power to have it so generally dispersed and published as I could wish, we having no printing press in the Colony; and therefore I have taken the liberty to enclose a copy of this Proclamation to your Excellency, and to request that you will be pleased to direct that a number of copies of the same may be printed and published in your Government.

I have further to request, that your Excellency will be pleased to afford every assistance in your power to have these His Majesty's most gracious intentions carried into execution.

I am, with great regard and esteem, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

PETER CHESTER.

His Excellency *William Tryon*, Esq.

West-Florida.

By His Excellency Peter Chester, *Esq., Captain-General, Governour, and Commander-in-Chief, in and over His Majesty's said Province of* West-Florida, *and the Territories depending thereon in* America, *Chancellor, Vice-Admiral, and Ordinary of the same, &c.*

A Proclamation.

Whereas His Majesty, by his royal instructions, dated at *St. James's*, the 3d day of *February*, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and seventy-four, and in the fourteenth year of his reign, did think fit, with the advice of his Privy Council, to revoke and annul all the powers and authorities which, before that time, had been given by His Majesty to the Governours of this Province, for the laying out and passing grants of land within the same, and to direct and appoint certain rules and regulations, to be thenceforth strictly and punctually observed, for the future disposal, by publick sale, of such lands, tenements, and hereditaments as then were, or thereafter should be in His Majesty's power to dispose of, within this Province, in the manner by the said instructions particularly mentioned and directed:

And whereas, His Majesty has lately been most graciously pleased to signify his royal wishes that the Governour of this Province should afford every possible protection to such of his subjects in the Colonies in rebellion, as shall be too weak to resist the violences of the times, and too loyal to concur in the measures of those who have avowed and supported that rebellion, and are desirous of seeking an asylum in *West-Florida*; and to that end His Majesty has been pleased to direct that the execution of the instructions of the third day of *February*, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and seventy-four, hereinbefore mentioned, should be suspended for the present within this Colony:

And whereas His Majesty has also been pleased to signify his further pleasure to the Governour of this Province, to give every possible encouragement to the exportation of lumber from this Colony to his Islands in the *West-Indies:* It is therefore hereby notified to all His Majesty's good and faithful subjects who may be induced, under the circumstances above stated, to seek a retreat in this Province, that the Governour of the said Province will afford them every possible protection and countenance in his power; and that they, upon their arrival in this Province, and applying to the Governour thereof in Council, for grants of land, shall obtain the same, exempt from quit-rents for ten years, under the following regulations, to wit: That one hundred acres of land will be granted to every such person, being master or mistress of a family, for himself and herself; and fifty acres for every white or black man, woman, or child, of which such person's family shall consist at the actual time of making the grant. And in case any such person, well-affected to the Constitution, applying to the said Governour in Council for grants of land, shall be desirous of taking up a larger quantity than the actual number of persons in his or her family would entitle such person to take up, that the said Governour in Council will grant to every such person or persons such further quantity of land as they may desire, not exceeding one thousand acres, over and above what they are entitled to by the number of persons in their respective families: *Provided*, It shall appear to the said Governour that they are in a condition and intention to cultivate the same: *And provided also*, That they, at the time of such application, do give good evidence to the Governour of the said Province of their real attachment to the Constitution, and of their non-concurrence in the rebellious proceedings in the other Colonies.

And it is hereby further notified, that the Governour of this Province will afford every possible encouragement to all His Majesty's good subjects who may think proper to be concerned in the exportation of lumber, and all other produce, from this Province to the *West-Indies*, and that he will grant his license to any such person or persons to cut wood and convert it into lumber, upon any part of His Majesty's lands within this Province: *Provided always*, that proper security be given, upon the exportation of any lumber, that the same shall be landed in some of the *West-India* Islands belonging to the King.

Given under my hand, and the Great Seal of His Majesty's said Province, in the Council Chamber at *Pensacola*, the eleventh day of *November*, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and seventy-five, and in the sixteenth year of His Majesty's reign.

Peter Chester.

By His Excellency's command:

Alexander Macullough, *Dep. Sec'y.*

God *save the King.*

Allan Cameron to Duncan Cameron.

On board the ship William, Norfolk Harbour, in Virginia, November 11, 1775.

Dear Sir: Though I never had the pleasure of being personally acquainted with you, I am very sensible of the connexive narration of our predecessors, which induces me now to take the freedom of troubling you with this epistle. No doubt, sir, you would have heard of an unfortunate accident that had happened between one Mr. *Cameron*, of *Mursirloch*, and I, in the year '72, at which time I believe you was at *Fort-William*, in *Lochaber*.

From the above circumstances, I dare to say you will, and justly, conclude that I am a son of Mr. *Cameron*, of *Erracht*. Since my departure from that part of the world, I have been in both the *French* and *British West-Indies*, and over the most civilized parts of *North-America*, still in the character of a gentleman; so that good or bad luck has ordained a roving life for me hitherto. At the same time, I must beg leave to let you know, that I at last got pretty well settled to the southward; but, as I could not comply with the proposals of some of the demagogues of this unlucky rebellion, was obliged to push along. I arrived here a few days ago from *St. Augustine*, in *East-Florida*, which place I left with a view of proceeding from here, by the first opportunity, to *Boston*; and, as I always had an inclination of getting into the army, and still have, my intention was to have joined some marching regiment as a volunteer, till better would offer, of which I made no doubt, with what recommendation I had to some gentlemen there, in conjunction with your interest, which I flattered myself with. But Lord *Dunmore*, finding that I was upon a plan of this nature, insisted that I would be advised by him, and accept of a lieutenancy in a Provincial regiment that he is about raising, of which he himself is to be Colonel. I could not well but agree to his Lordship's proposals, and am to set out to-morrow morning for *Detroit*, along with one Major *Connolly*, who is made Lieutenant-Colonel of said regiment. We are very apprehensive of being intercepted by some of their d—d Committees. However, if we get out, and this undertaking is properly managed, I dare to say it will be of essential service to this Government, and perhaps to others.

I take the liberty of enclosing to you all the letters I had for different gentlemen there, and I beg you will be kind enough to deliver them to those who they are directed for. As I am mentioned in most of them, I suppose the gentlemen will naturally say something or other about me. In that case, I hope you will make such answers as you shall think proper. I imagine, in case General *Gage* is gone home, as is reported here, that you will deliver the letters directed for his Excellency to Lord *Howe*, who we understand is Commander-in-chief there at present.

I have not heard one word from my relations or friends at home, since my embarkation at *Greenock*, in '73; so that I do not know how the *MacLonies* and my old father make it out. If you should be kind enough to write me, I would esteem it as a particular favour if you would let me know all the *Highland* news you have.

I am, sir, your most assured friend, and humble servant,

Allan Cameron.

In case you do write me, direct as above, and to the care of Lord *Dunmore*, and he will forward it.

Allan Cameron to Daniel Chamier.

On board the ship William, Norfolk Harbour, in Virginia, November 11, 1775.

Sir: Enclosed you will find three letters, from Mr. *Chamier*, in *East-Florida*, which I promised him I would

in person deliver to you, as also a keg of some kind of liquid; but finding it impossible for myself to proceed as I then intended, thought proper to send it by Captain *Elkison*, who I hope will deliver it safe to you.

I am, sir, your humble servant,

ALLAN CAMERON.

CAPTAIN MONTAGU TO ADMIRAL GRAVES.

Kingfisher, off Jamestown, Virginia, November 14, 1775.

SIR: I beg leave to inform you that a tender of mine, cruising off *Ocracoke*, took, about the 1st instant, a brig, from *Jamaica*, laden with salt, rum, sugar, molasses, *Irish* linens, osnaburgs, woollen jackets, and shoes; and a sloop from *Martinique*, the Captain of which started his rum in the hold, and was found pumping it out; he also acknowledges to have thrown overboard a quantity of coffee, and about five hundred and seventy pounds of gunpowder.

Enclosed you have an invoice of the different articles in the brig.

And I am, sir, your very humble servant,

JAMES MONTAGU.

To *Samuel Graves*, Esq.

An Invoice of the brig Adonis's cargo.

2,000 bushels of salt; 46 casks of molasses; 37 casks of rum; 10 barrels of limes; 1 bag ginger; 65 pieces of *Irish* linen; 18 pieces of check linen; 24 bolts of osnaburgs; 53 flannel waistcoats; 93 pairs of shoes; 12 cruppers; 36 girths; 69 round hats.

JAMES MONTAGU.

November 7, 1775.

W. GRIFFIN TO GEORGE GIFFARINA.

Kingfisher, Jamestown, Virginia, November 14, 1775.

DEAR SIR: This moment the *Otter's* tender arrived from *Norfolk* for our despatches for *Boston*, by which I take this opportunity to inform you that I am still in being; I cannot say in the land of the living, for I dare not show my nose here, being surrounded on each shore by Rebels, who narrowly watch our motions; but by the vigilance of our Captain we harass them much.

The day before our arrival in the river, about a thousand Rebels, from *Williamsburgh*, got over opposite to *Jamestown*, where they are now encamped, in order to march down to *Norfolk*, to attack our few troops there, and to punish the *Norfolk* people for declaring for Government. Had we but two complete regiments, I make not the least doubt of their reducing the refractory, and restoring peace and good order to this Province.

If there are any letters for me, or the rest of the officers, in your office, beg you will forward them; and at the same time I should esteem it as a favour if you would send me two tons of essence, with a few quires of writing paper, as I cannot get any here.

I am, with great regard, dear sir, your most obedient humble,

W. GRIFFIN.

To *George Giffarina*, Secretary to Admiral *Graves*.

P. S. Captain *Montagu* desires his compliments to you, and should be glad to know if the sloop he carried to *Boston* with cattle is condemned; if so, should be glad you would forward the money for the ship's company by this opportunity.

NEIL JAMIESON TO MESSRS. GLASSFORD, GORDON AND CO.

Norfolk, Virginia, November 17, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: The annexed is a copy of my last, per the ship *Isabella*, which ship got to sea, I fancy, about the 23d ultimo. Since that time we have been in very great confusion here, very few people remaining in the town. I don't know a man who had any property left here but myself; but seeing every other person securing their effects, and going off themselves, I began to consider that, if any accident happened to your subjects in my hands, I might be censured; therefore, I bought a small vessel, for which I am to give three hundred pounds; I have put all the rum, sugar, &c., on board of her, and I have all my papers and other things of value lying ready packed up, in order to be put on board this vessel in half an hour, with myself, ready to haul off under the protection of the men-of-war, and proceed to sea, to some place of safety. It is a disagreeable situation to be in, to be lying all night in fear, with loaded arms at your bed-side, for fear of being alarmed or set upon.

Three days ago, our Governour received information of a body of men being assembled in arms at *Kemp's Landing*, ten miles from hence. His Excellency set off himself, with the most of the troops that are here, (about one hundred and fifty,) and from twenty to thirty volunteers. They came up with these unfortunate people, about two to three hundred of them. They immediately fired on the King's troops. I must be excused from giving you the particulars, as I had it from his Excellency himself, last night, (for he spent the evening here, with me.) In short, these poor people were immediately dispersed and put to the rout, with the loss of a few lives; not any of the King's troops suffered; a sailor, only, shot in the knee.

His Excellency's humanity appeared in a conspicuous light, as he could easily have surrounded and cut off the most of these poor people; but he was satisfied with taking some prisoners. The King's standard was hoisted immediately, and martial law declared. This brush was in *Princess-Anne*, the neighbouring County.

On the standard being hoisted, many people have come in. There were above five hundred people who came in and declared for Government, and took the oath. If I have time, you may have copy of the oath, &c.

Yesterday, about two o'clock, P. M., his Excellency marched in here, and the King's standard was hoisted, when the principal inhabitants (what few of them were in town) took the oaths to Government, and all in the town signed, to the amount of two hundred.

Several of the principal people concerned in the raising of the poor people in *Princess-Anne* County, have been taken prisoners, and are now on board the guard-ship. The poor people blame these men much for obliging them to take up arms. May the Lord in his infinite mercy put an end to these troubles, and bring relief to this distressed country.

There is no communication with the upper parts of the country just now, so that I cannot get Mr. *Irving's* state to send you; and you may easily judge of our present distressed condition, that I cannot apply to the making out of mine here, just now. It's said the principal part of the people up the country, in low circumstances, are for Government, if they were at liberty to declare their sentiments.

Lord *Dunmore* has applied to me to negotiate some money matters. I am not fond of this business; but if he urges it, and gives the necessary security, I suppose I must comply.

If I had time, I should have made out a scheme for a cargo of goods, to be shipped immediately, on receipt hereof; but, as I am not, at present, very fit to go on such business, I think you could be at no loss in sending out a cargo for this, to the amount of four thousand to five thousand pounds sterling; this is providing you have vessels convenient, of our own, and that you have a prospect of selling your tobacco to advantage, so far as to make you easy in circumstances. I presume there will be open trade at this place soon, although I do not expect tobacco can be shipped home for some considerable time, for the planters have not brought any to the warehouses; and if it was, it could not be brought here; but I think dry-goods will be sold here. What I would propose would be this: providing such a young man could be got that you had a good opinion of, and such as you could take for a partner in this business, in that case the goods might be bought up by him or his friends, and consigned to himself. But recommend him to apply to me, and be under my directions. The sales could go on in his name; and, as a plentiful supply would be ordered, which could come here in safety if the country is brought to order by the time they arrive, then we could supply our upper stores from thence. I could purchase the goods here from the young man that was sent out. I have consulted Lord *Dunmore* on this head, and will have his interest and assistance, if necessary.

From what I have said, you'll know my meaning. The worst that can happen will be ordering the vessel with the goods for the *West-Indies*, providing it is not prudent to open them here; but by the time these goods arrive, I think there will be no danger. Indeed, were our circumstances easy at home, you might go the length of ten thousand pounds sterling value in goods. You would be at no loss for a scheme for a summer cargo; all kinds of linens, none above three shillings sterling per yard; some loaf sugar, value about five hundred pounds sterling of it; nails, from four-penny to twenty-penny; paints; linseed-oil. There ought to be one thousand pounds sterling value of osnaburgs of different kinds.

I think, by the time they arrive, there may be a chance of being able to supply the upper stores. By this, you see, your having the schemes for the upper stores in your hands, you'll not be at any great loss in sending out such goods as are there ordered, especially such as may sell in the *West-Indies*, in case matters are not cleverly settled here. But, by what I have seen already, I have a notion there will be a good chance of selling goods by the time they arrive.

By the enclosed papers you'll easily see what may be expected. There are above one thousand people already signed, in three days, from this and *Princess-Anne* County. I think I shall have no reflections cast on me by any of the country gentlemen, although my not going into violent measures, as many of our countrymen have, I find a party of them here is formed against me. His Excellency knows my reasons, and such as may be deemed prudent, because I informed him I act agreeably to your instructions. I think I stand well with his Lordship, and hope to render good offices to the distressed; this will be my study. His Lordship is a humane, good man, and will use as much lenity as in prudence may be necessary for the unfortunate.

I think you might pretend to order the goods for *Antigua*, for fear others may choose to ship as soon as you. Be pleased to order the vessel that belongs to ourselves, if they get a load of tobacco for *France*, to load great salt, providing you should soon hear of an accommodation being expected. Indeed, if a load of tobacco to any part of the Channel was got, I think you might order, in their return, to call at *Liverpool* and load salt; half of each cargo should be in good sacks.

On the whole, you'll be pleased to judge for yourselves. If we can go through with this scheme, I think it will do. I refer you to the papers enclosed for what may be expected soon.

I am for self & Co., gentlemen, yours, &c.,

NEIL JAMIESON.

P. S. Do not forget an assortment of sail-cloth, and twine; also, a few hogsheads of potatoes, if to be got on tolerable terms. Might fill up tierces with potatoes from *Liverpool*, provided it's not too late in the season.

N. J.

December 2d, 1775.

SIRS: I refer you to the above letter, which I hope will get safe to your hands. This letter goes under cover with some others, to Mr. *James Anderson*, at *Boston*, by a man-of-war's tender. I have sent, by this opportunity, to Mr. *Anderson*, Lord *Dunmore's* draft on the Commander-in-chief, at *Boston*, for five thousand pounds sterling, payable in a bill or tender, at three days sight. Mr. *Anderson* is to present the draft, and to take one bill from the Commander-in-chief, favour of *Edward* and *René Payne*, Esquires, *London*, for four thousand five hundred pounds sterling. As the bill will be at three days sight, it would be a pity to lose any time in having it presented and paid. They will advise you of this so soon as they receive it; so you'll order the disposal of it in such manner as you think proper. The other five hundred pounds sterling is to be laid out in goods for His Majesty, since I'm still of opinion the goods should be ordered out immediately on receipt of the above letter. By the time they receive them they will probably be in great demand, as there must be a number of troops and ships of war here by the time they arrive. But, at any rate, if any thing is to be done, it must be with the greatest despatch possible you can.

Send no strong beer. A few hogsheads porter would do, if good, and warranted sound. I have wrote Messrs. *Paynes* fully, and shall also write you some hereafter. Be pleased to take notice that there should be a quantity of shoes ordered with the goods. By mine of the 13th *August*, I advised you leather work of any kind would not do; but, as I find there will be a number of troops here, I think shoes of all kinds will be a good article. As a regiment of *Negroes* is raising here, coarse shoes, large and good, will be wanted.

I am, for self & Co., your obedient humble servant,

NEIL JAMIESON.

Messrs. *Glassford, Gordon, Monteath & Co., Glasgow.*

WALTER HATTON TO NATHANIEL COFFIN.

Norfolk, November 21, 1775.

DEAR SIR: I herewith transmit my accounts and lists of shipping for the three last quarters, which I would rather have done at the close of each quarter, but had not an opportunity of so doing; and in these lawless times I think it would have been very unsafe to trust letters by indifferent hands, as it is now, and has been some time past, an established rule to break open all letters either going from or directed to any officer in the service of the Crown. It was with difficulty, I will assure you, that I now am able to transmit them, as my going from *Accomack* to this place was opposed by upwards of three hundred people of the County, who will not allow any vessel to come to this place, for fear of supplying the ships of war and other troops with provision; and I will assure you that I am doubtful whether I may not be obliged to take a shelter in some of the ships, or at least on this side the bay, as I expect, during the confused usurpation of power, that an officer of the customs, if he only acts with spirit, or as his duty and oath binds him, that he will immediately fall under the lash of the damned Committees, &c., who, on such occasion, will show them as little mercy as they themselves may expect in the future world; and as I have on sundry occasions opposed their measures, and strove to convince the deluded people of their error, I have, by that means, rendered myself obnoxious to them, and no doubt if ever in their power, shall have their whole weight of vengeance laid on me. But while I am acting in favour of Government and my own steady principles, I make no doubt but I shall be able, with half their number, to meet them in the field; as I hold it to be an established point that those who fight, or take up arms against Government, are always in dread, and fight to great disadvantage, knowing that they are fighting against their sovereign, by whom alone they can hope for assistance against their real enemies, and who, out of his grace and favour, has offered them protection from all their foes, and who would be glad to see them return to their duty, and embrace the proffered grace. They know that the halter is round their necks, and if taken, (which they can do no less than expect,) that they are liable to be trussed up without any delay. Whilst the favourers of Government know the goodness of their cause, and the support that may at any time be given from the friends thereof, to assist them against all enemies, they also, no doubt, are assured that if they fall in so glorious and good cause, that they have done their duty, and may expect their reward in a future life.

You will be glad, no doubt, to hear out of so many enemies to Government that there are some who have courage, even in these hazardous times, to confess the lenient measures used by those in power, and who have sworn allegiance to their lawful sovereign; amongst which the inhabitants of *Norfolk*, Town and County, *Portsmouth*, *Nansemond*, &c., stand recorded to, I believe, three thousand and upwards. The late engagement at *Kemp's*, I believe, has been cause sufficient for numbers who have been constrained, to throw off the yoke and boldly to stand forth and confess themselves friends of Government; numbers having been forced to take up arms against their will, as has been proved since the late action. *God* send a happy conclusion to this bad beginning. How long I may stay among them here is uncertain, as I have a design to remove, and have a promise from those in power for a better place; I have reason to expect somewhat nearer you than this. My letters please direct to the care of Mr. *Sprowle*, *Norfolk*, (or *Gosport* rather,) who will forward them; and

what money you may have of mine in your hands, be pleased to send per bill of exchange. Be pleased to pay Mr. *Hulton* his account herewith transmitted, and let me hear all the news you conveniently can; and believe me to be, dear sir, your very humble servant,

WALTER HATTON.

Nathaniel Coffin, Esq., Receiver-General and Cashier of His Majesty's Customs, *Boston*.

—

LORD DUNMORE TO ADMIRAL GRAVES.

Norfolk, Virginia, November 24, 1775.

SIR: The bearer, Colonel *Kirkland*, begs to be introduced to you, and I do it with great pleasure, as I am sure you will be happy to be acquainted with an *American* so truly well disposed to His Majesty's service. You will find him a man of real worth and spirit; for particulars I refer you to the General. Our little squadron here goes on as well as you can expect; but as Captain *Squire* writes to you by this opportunity, I shall not trouble you any further than returning you thanks for the kind reception you was so good as to give to Major *Connolly*, and to assure you that I am, sir, your most obedient and very humble servant,

DUNMORE.

To Admiral *Graves*.

P. S. I have now only to request you, if possible, to let one of the line-of-battle ships winter here, and to despatch the sloop *Betsey* as soon as possible.

—

NEIL JAMIESON TO JAMES ANDERSON.

Norfolk, Virginia, November 28, 1775.

SIR: Enclosed you will find Lord *Dunmore's* draft, in our favour, on the Commander-in-chief, at *Boston*, payable three days sight, for five thousand pounds sterling. You will be pleased to present the same for payment. You see it is payable in a bill of exchange on *London*, at three days sight. You will be pleased to order one bill to be made out for forty-five hundred pounds sterling. Let there be four copies of it, and let the bills be made payable to *Edward & René Payne*, Esqrs., of *London*. You will find here enclosed two letters for Messrs. *Paynes*, left open; be pleased to enclose the bills, one copy in each of these letters, and to be forwarded by the first ships to *Britain;* but if no immediate opportunity from *Boston* to *Great Britain*, in that case you will be pleased to put the letter for Messrs. *Paynes*, under your own cover, and send the same to *Hugh* and *Alexander Wallace*, Esqs., of *New-York*, and tell them it is by my desire they should forward the same by the packet, or any other opportunity that may soon after offer. You will understand that my wish is, how soon these bills may be forwarded to the gentlemen in *London*. The five hundred pounds sterling remaining, you will be pleased to lay out with you, in such goods as you will find here ordered; on which you will charge your usual commission. One of the copies of the bill, for forty-five hundred pounds, you will be pleased to forward to me, under cover, by the same opportunity.

I am, for self and company, sir, your obedient humble servant,

NEIL JAMIESON.

December 2, 1775.

The vessel that carries this will bring the goods. With this will also be a letter for my partners; which please forward by first opportunity for *Great Britain*. I have drawn on you of this date, in favour of Captain *Kirkland*, at sight, for twenty *Spanish* milled dollars.

Yours, N. J.

Since writing the above I have been considering if there is any immediate opportunity to *Glasgow*. You may take the bills payable to my partners in *Glasgow*, Messrs. *Glassford, Gordon, Monteath & Co.*, and put the bills under your own cover; but if the opportunity offer for *London*, or by the packet, you will send the bills to the Messrs. *Paynes*, of *London*. N. J.

If Mr. *Anderson* is out of the way, Mr. *Nath. Coffin* is desired to do the needful. N. J.

—

Norfolk, Virginia, November 24, 1775.

[Exchange for £5,000 sterling.]

At three days sight, of this my first bill of exchange, second and third of same tenor and date not paid, pay to *Neil Jamieson & Co.*, or order, five thousand pounds sterling, in good bills of exchange on *London*, at three days sight, for value received of them, which place to account of His Majesty's service, as advised by, sir, your humble servant,

DUNMORE.

To His Excellency Gen. *Thomas Gage*, or His Majesty's Commander-in-chief for the time being at *Boston*.

—

Sketch of Goods to be sent from BOSTON *per this vessel.*

Coarse *Irish* linens, from ten pence to eighteen pence per yard, first cost, value	£200
Coarse *Irish* linens, from eighteen pence to two shillings,	100
Yarn, and men's coarse worsted stockings, from sixteen to twenty-five shillings per dozen,	60
Nails; six, eight, and ten-penny, value	25
Twenty-penny nails, value	20
Needles and pins, value	15
Twenty dozen men's coarse shoes, either *English* or country-made, at thirty shillings per dozen,	30
Twenty dozen coarse felt hats, at twenty-four shillings,	24
Five hundred dun codfish,	5
Salmon in kegs, value	3
Two boxes long tobacco pipes,	4
	£486

Let these goods be consigned to *Neilor, McAllister & Co., Norfolk*.

—

NEIL JAMIESON TO EDWARD AND RENE PAYNE.

Norfolk, Virginia, November 28, 1775.

With this you will find the Commander-in-chief at *Boston* (*N. E.*) his draft in your favour, at three days sight, for four thousand five hundred pounds sterling. Immediately on its being accepted, be pleased to advise my partners, Messrs. *Glassford, Gordon, Monteath & Co.*, of the same, and be pleased to dispose of the moneys agreeably to their directions.

I am, for self and company, gentlemen, your obedient, humble servant,

NEIL JAMIESON.

Edward and *René Payne*, Esqrs., *London*.

—

NEIL JAMIESON TO EDWARD AND RENE PAYNE.

Norfolk, Virginia, November 20, 1775.

SIR: I wrote you the 29th *June*, which I make no doubt but you have received. I have not been forgetful in applying to Messrs. *McAllister & Co.*, for the debt due you, but to no purpose. Indeed, the distracted situation we are at present in, has put a stop to all kinds of business, nor is there any collecting of debts; and if there is not an end soon put to this very unfortunate dispute, I am afraid there will be great danger in recovering the subject in debts, in the hands of the people up the country; for many people who were lately in opulent circumstances, I am much afraid will very soon be in a distressed situation, and I am much afraid will not be able to pay any debts for some considerable time to come. It is owing to the above cause that these people have not been able to make any payments at present. You must therefore rest satisfied for the present. They are honest men, and I am well assured they will do every thing in their power to discharge this debt as soon as they possibly can.

I had proposed, some time ago, to have returned to *Great Britain*, and fixed at home; but these troubles render my stay here necessary for some time longer, to see to save as much of our subject as possibly I can. This being the case, and to make up for the great loss we must lay our accounts of meeting with on account of these troubles, as it is likely there will be several ships of war continued here on the station, and that there may be several contracts to make in *London* for the supplying of the navy and army, should any of the contractors be in want of an agent here, to do their business, I would be much

obliged to you if you would recommend them to our house. We have it in our power to do their business on the best terms, as much so as any house in this Colony.

I have only time to give you this hint at this present time. In a few days I will write you more fully.

I am, for self and company, gentlemen, your obedient, humble servant,

NEIL JAMIESON.

Edward and *René Payne*, Esqrs., *London*.

—

CAPTAIN LESLIE TO GENERAL GAGE.

Norfolk, Virginia, December 1, 1775.

SIR: The 28th of last month, the Rebels attacked the wooden fort mentioned in my former letter of the 6th of *November*, built to secure the pass at the *Great-Bridge*, and have continued firing small-arms at it in an irregular way ever since, without any other consequence than that of slightly wounding two or three of our men. The fort is defended by Lieutenant *Wallace*, one sergeant, one corporal, and twenty-five private men of the Fourteenth Regiment, some volunteers, and a good many negroes. Two four-pounders were sent to them yesterday; therefore I take it for granted that the Rebels will not easily get possession of that post unless they bring artillery against it; of which, by all accounts, they have not any at present.

I do myself the honour to enclose your Excellency this month's return of my detachment, as also a letter from Lord *Dunmore*, in answer to an application I made to his Lordship for a passage for the non-commissioned officers of the two companies of the Fourteenth Regiment, now at *Boston*.

The officers here, of the Fourteenth Regiment, having requested that I would apply to your Excellency for their bat and forage money, I beg you will be so good as to give directions for the payment of it as soon as convenient.

As a number of women and children belong to my detachment, and there is no method of providing for them but from the King's stores, I hope you will be pleased to grant them the same indulgence here as I am told they have at *Boston*.

I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

SAMUEL LESLIE,
Captain Fourteenth Regiment Infantry.

—

LORD DUNMORE TO CAPTAIN LESLIE.

On board the Dunmore, off Norfolk, December 2, 1775.

SIR: I have at your request just now made inquiry if there was room for the non-commissioned officers of the Fourteenth to go to *Boston* in the sloop *Betsy;* but am informed it is not possible for them to go in her, as she is already too much crowded; which I hope will be attended with no inconveniency, as I expect General *Howe* will order the remaining part of the regiment to join you here.

I am, sir, your most obedient humble servant,

DUNMORE.

To Captain *Leslie*, of the Fourteenth Regiment.

—

Monthly Return of a Detachment of His Majesty's Fourteenth Regiment of Infantry, GOSPORT, VIRGINIA, *October* 1, 1775.

Commissioned and Staff Officers.					Sergeants.		Corporals.		Drummers and Fifers.		Privates.		Joined since last return.			Total.					
Captains.	Lieutenants.	Ensigns.	Adjutant.	Surgeon's Mate.	Present for duty.	Sick.	Present for duty.	Sick.	Present for duty.	Sick.	Present for duty.	Sick.	Commissioned officers.	Sergeant.	Corporals.	Drummers and Fifers.	Privates.	Commissioned officers.	Adjutant.	Surgeon's Mate.	Sergeants.	Corporals.	Drummer and Fifer.	Privates.
4	3	4	1	1	4	-	4	-	1	4	75	4	2	1	2		16	11	1	1	4	5	1	79

SAMUEL LESLIE,
Captain Fourteenth Regiment Infantry.

Monthly Return of a Detachment of His Majesty's Fourteenth Regiment of Infantry, GOSPORT, VIRGINIA, *November* 1, 1775.

Commissioned and Staff Officers.					Sergeants.		Corporals.		Drummers and Fifers.		Privates.		Joined since last return.			Total.					
Captains.	Lieutenants.	Ensigns.	Adjutant.	Surgeon's Mate.	Present for duty.	Sick.	Present for duty.	Sick.	Present for duty.	Sick.	Present for duty.	Sick.	Commissioned officers.	Sergeants.	Corporals.	Drummers and Fifers.	Privates.	Commissioned officers.	Adjutant.	Surgeon's Mate.	Sergeants.	Corporals.	Drummers and Fifers.	Privates.
4	5	4	1	1	9	12	2	3			127	7	3	5	9	2	55	13	1	1	9	14	3	134

N. B. Captain *Blackett* died 14th *October*, 1775.

SAMUEL LESLIE,
Captain Fourteenth Regiment Infantry.

—

Monthly Return of a Detachment of His Majesty's Fourteenth Regiment of Infantry, NORFOLK, VIRGINIA, *December* 1, 1775.

Commissioned and staff officers.					Sergeants.		Corporals.		Drummers and fifers.		Privates.		Alteration since last return.				Total.					
Captains.	Lieutenants.	Ensigns.	Adjutant.	Surgeon's Mate.	Present for duty.	Sick.	Present for duty.	Sick.	Present for duty.	Sick.	Present for duty.	Sick.	Inlisted.	Dead.	Deserted.	Discharged.	Commissioned officers.	Adjutant.	Surgeon's Mate.	Sergeants.	Corporals.	Drummers and fifers.	Privates.
4	5	4	1	1	9	-	13	1	3	-	123	10	-	1	-	-	13	1	1	9	14	3	133

N. B. Captain *Blackett* died *October* 14, 1775.

SAMUEL LESLIE,
Captain Fourteenth Regiment Infantry.

—

CAPTAIN FORDICE TO CAPTAIN URQUHART.

Norfolk, December 1, 1775.

DEAR URQUHART: Thanks to the bar of *St. Augustine*, for allowing me to receive your last letter, two days before the *St. Lawrence* arrived. I had embarked for this Colony, with all the Grenadiers, and as many men from the battalion as made up a detachment of sixty, including non-commissions. We sailed the 7th of *October*, and got here the 20th. *Jonathan*, with the small remains of the regiment, are to follow when relieved by the three companies of the 16th, from *Pensacola*. From what you wrote me there must most certainly be some unaccountable mistake with respect to our regiment. One would conceive that it never could be intended that we should be divided in the way we have been for some time past. I brought the sergeants and corporals of your two companies with me; and it was intended they should have gone by this sloop, but Lord *Dunmore* has acquainted Captain *Leslie* that he cannot give them a passage; the true cause is that he does not at present choose to part with so many good men.

We have been in great hopes of troops coming here, either from *England* or your army. What a pity it is that this Colony should have been so much neglected; a couple of thousand men would settle every thing here in the course of this winter. There have been no accounts from *England* or *Boston* since I came here. I enclose you a newspaper, which contains some account of our proceedings here. You will see by it that we have had a little brush with the Rebels, who behaved in a most dastardly manner. *Redfern* was the only man hurt; he received a shot in the knee-pan, which will render him unfit for service. A corps of about seven hundred men has been sent from *Williamsburgh*, in order to take possession of this place, which they are most exceedingly desirous of doing. We are throwing up some intrenchments, so that they won't find it quite so easy

as they expected. They have been for some days within about ten miles of us, but their farther progress has been hitherto stopped by a fort constructed by *Batut*, at a bridge where they must pass. Their riflemen keep up an almost constant fire, but hitherto without much success, having only wounded *Gardner*, of the General's company. *Wallace* commands the fort; he has twenty-five of our regiment, a few militia, and some negroes. The negroes who had deserted from the Rebels to the fort, say that many of them have been killed and wounded by our people. Would to *God* we had a few more men, and I think we should give a very good account of these rascals; but we are at present a very handful. The place is entirely deserted by the natives; only a few *Scotch* remain, who to a man are well-affected to Government, and are now all embodied, as the town of *Norfolk* militia, and do their duty with great spirit; one of them you may recollect at *Boston* some years ago, his name *John Hunter*, an active man, and aid-de-camp to Lord *Dunmore*.

I have forgot all this time to condole with you on the death of your good friend, and quondam Captain, *Blackett*, who drank his last dram, and resigned his breath on the 12th of *October*. They say he was a most miserable object before he died. I think you have been in tolerable good fortune this year to get quit of him, and *Patoon* so soon. I have wrote to *Stanton* to apply for our bat and forage money. We are most certainly entitled to it, as well as the other troops. Lend a helping hand in this business; a few joes would by no means be inconvenient for some of your friends. I have likewise desired from him particular information concerning the provisions for men, women, and children.

I see by the *Williamsburgh* papers that the Thirty-Second and some other regiments have been drafted, and the officers sent home. It must really be a most distressing matter to be robbed of all the men that one knows, and has been at so much pains with. I am very thankful that we have been so fortunate as to avoid that dreadful fate. I hope my very worthy friend *Symes* was well when he left you. Did *Brown* go home with the regiment, or remain with General *Grant?* If he is with you, remember me to him.

We have a report that General *Gage* is gone home, and that General *Howe* succeeds him. If that is true, it will make a terrible change in your staff; though I hope it may not by any means affect you. I have enclosed in a packet to you a great many letters which I brought from *St. Augustine*, which I will be obliged to you if you will take the trouble of sending. All your friends in *East-Florida* desired to be remembered to you. The parson had some thoughts of coming with me in his way to *Boston*, but Governour *Tonyn* would not give him leave. My best wishes attend Mrs. *Urquhart*. By what I have heard, you have, I presume, by this time, a pledge of your mutual love. I beg my compliments to Colonel *Leslie*, Major *Musgrave*, and my other friends of the Sixty-Fourth. All here join in compliments and best wishes to you. And I remain with great truth, dear *Urquhart*, your sincere friend, &c.,

C. Fordice.

Captain *Urquhart*.

CAPTAIN SQUIRE TO ADMIRAL GRAVES.

Otter sloop, off Norfolk, December 2, 1775.

Sir: My Lord *Dunmore* having a quantity of corn, which he understands would be of great service to, and was much wanted for, the cavalry to the northward, and begged I would send some men in a sloop to carry it to *Boston*, I have, therefore, for the good of the service, sent a petty officer and six of my people in the *Betsey* sloop for that purpose. In my last to you of the 13th *September*, by the *Mercury*, I informed you that the people of this part of *Virginia* seemed to be peaceably inclined, but am sorry to say, that for these two months past, they have taken every method to annoy the King's ships, boats, and troops, wherever they see them, firing on them on all occasions. I some time since went in a tender, with three other tenders in company, in order to prevent their sinking vessels in the mouth of *Hampton* harbour, when they fired on me, and killed two of my people, and wounded two more; and from the imprudence of the officer on board, a small tender running too near the town, their musketry was so great, that several of my people swam from her to me, and the Rebels took the vessel with four men, which men they have since returned. On the 14th of last month, His Excellency Lord *Dunmore*, and the detachment of the Fourteenth Regiment, embarked in boats from *Portsmouth*, and went up a river near a place called the *Great-Bridge*, intending to dislodge some men that he heard were there, whose intention was to stop provisions coming to *Norfolk*. His Lordship from thence, in his march to *Norfolk*, was attacked and fired on by some Rebels, whom he soon drove off, after killing one, and taking seven or eight prisoners, with a Colonel *Lawson* and Colonel *Hutchins*, men who have been very busy in corrupting the minds of the poor deluded people of this Colony. His Lordship then issued his proclamation, (a copy of which I send you.) As Mr. *John Atkinson*, the petty officer that brings you this, was a volunteer with Lord *Dunmore*, on the expedition, I refer you to him for more particulars. We have now a small fort at the *Great-Bridge*, which the Rebels must pass to come to *Norfolk*. We have destroyed the bridge, and for these ten days past, have kept a body of near nine hundred Rebels from passing. We have likewise intrenched the town of *Norfolk*, and I have great reason to suppose, and hope from their being such cowards, and cold weather coming on, that they will return to their respective homes, and we shall be quiet the remainder of the winter. I am securing all the provisions I can for the King's ships, and I hope to get a sufficient quantity until we can have a supply from the northward. I must hope, sir, when in your power to spare a victualler, you will send one.

I, by desire, have sent two prisoners taken by his Lordship; no doubt but his Lordship has sent their accusations. Two other prisoners taken by Captain *Montagu*, the one Captain *Dean*, whose accusation I here enclose, the other a Captain *Porter*, for bringing powder and shot for the Rebels, and in sight of the King's tenders throwing it overboard. Enclosed I send you the state and condition of His Majesty's sloops *Otter* and *Kingfisher*, with the demands for stores from the officers of the said sloops.

I am well convinced that had we a few more troops, and one or two more ships, that the Rebels in these parts would be very soon quieted.

Am also to acquaint you, that from the boatswain of the *Otter's* frequently behaving in a tyrannical manner to the ship's company, often insolent to the officers, as well as neglecting his duty, I have thought proper to suspend him, and have given an acting order to one of my seamen. Enclosed I send you three letters, which I received from *St. Augustine*, to be forwarded to you; and am, sir, with assurances that all that can be done for the good of the King's service shall be done by, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

W. C. Squire.

DOCTOR FRANKLIN TO M. DUMAS.

Philadelphia, December 19, 1775.

Dear Sir: I received your several favours of *May* 18th, *June* 30th, and *July* 8th, by Messrs. *Vuillant* and *Pochard*, whom if I could serve upon your recommendation, it would give me great pleasure. Their total want of *English* is at present an obstruction to their getting any employment among us, but I hope they will soon obtain some knowledge of it. This is a good country for artificers or farmers, but gentlemen of mere science in *les belles lettres*, cannot so easily subsist here, there being little demand for their assistance among an industrious people, who, as yet, have not much leisure for studies of that kind.

I am much obliged by the kind present you have made us of your edition of *Vattel*. It came to us in good season, when the circumstances of a rising State make it necessary frequently to consult the law of nations. Accordingly, that copy which I kept (after depositing one in our own publick library here, and sending the other to the College of *Massachusetts-Bay*, as you directed) has been continually in the hands of the members of our Congress now sitting, who are much pleased with your notes and preface, and have entertained a high and just esteem for their author. Your manuscript "*Idée sur le Gouvernement et la Royauté*," is also well relished, and may, in time, have its effect. I thank you, likewise, for the other smaller

pieces, which accompanied *Vattel*. "*Le Court Expose de ce qui est passé entre la Cour Britanique et les Colonies*," &c., being a very concise and clear statement of facts, will be reprinted here, for the use of our new friends in *Canada*. The translations of the proceedings of our Congress are very acceptable. I send you herewith what of them has been further published here, together with a few newspapers, containing accounts of some of the successes Providence has favoured us with.

We are threatened from *England* with a very powerful force, to come next year against us. We are making all the provision in our power here to prevent that force, and we hope we shall be able to defend ourselves. But as the events of war are always uncertain, possibly after another campaign, we may find it necessary to ask aid of some foreign power. It gives us great pleasure to learn from you, that "all *Europe* wishes us the best success in the maintenance of our liberty." But we wish to know whether any one of them, from principles of humanity, is disposed magnanimously to step in for the relief of an oppressed people; or whether if, as it seems likely to happen, we should be obliged to break off all connection with *Britain*, and declare ourselves an independent people, there is any state or power in *Europe*, who would be willing to enter into an alliance with us for the benefit of our commerce, which amounted, before the war, to nearly seven millions sterling per annum, and must continually increase, as our people increase most rapidly. Confiding, my dear friend, in your good will to us, and our cause, and in your sagacity and abilities for business, the Committee of Congress appointed for the purpose of establishing and conducting a correspondence with our friends in *Europe*, of which Committee I have the honour to be a member, have directed me to request of you, that as you are situated at the *Hague*, where ambassadors from all the courts reside, you would make use of the opportunity, which that situation affords you, of discovering if possible, the disposition of the several courts with respect to such assistance or alliance, if we should apply for the one, or propose for the other. As it may possibly be necessary, in particular instances, that you should, for this purpose, confer directly with some great Ministers, and show them this letter, as your credential, we only recommend it to your discretion, that you proceed therein with such caution, as to keep the same from the knowledge of the *English* Ambassador, and prevent any publick appearance, at present, of your being employed in any such business, as thereby, we imagine, many inconveniences may be avoided, and your means of rendering us service increased.

That you may be better able to answer some questions, which will probably be put to you, concerning our present situation, we inform you, that the whole Continent is very firmly united, the party for the measures of the *British* Ministry, being very small, and much dispersed; that we have had on foot the last campaign an army of near twenty-five thousand men, wherewith we have been able, not only to block up the King's army in *Boston*, but to spare considerable detachments for the invasion of *Canada*, where we have met with great success, as the printed papers sent herewith will inform you, and have now reason to expect that whole Province may be soon in our possession; that we purpose greatly to increase our force for the ensuing year, and thereby, we hope, with the assistance of well disciplined militia, to be able to defend our coast, notwithstanding its great extent; that we have already a small squadron of armed vessels to protect our coasting trade, which have had some success in taking several of the enemy's cruisers, and some of their transport vessels and store-ships. This little naval force we are about to augment, and expect it may be more considerable in the next summer.

We have hitherto applied to no foreign power. We are using the utmost industry in endeavouring to made saltpetre, and with daily increasing success. Our artificers are also every where busy in fabricating small arms, casting cannon, &c. Yet both arms and ammunition are much wanted. Any merchants who would venture to send ships laden with those articles, might make great profit, such is the demand in every Colony, and such generous prices are and will be given; of which, and of the manner of conducting such a voyage, the bearer, Mr. *Story*, can more fully inform you. And whoever brings in those articles is allowed to carry off the value in provisions to our *West-Indies*, where they will fetch a very high price, the general exportation from *North-America* being stopped. This you will see more particularly in a printed resolution of the Congress.

We are in great want of good engineers, and wish you could engage and send us two able ones, in time for the next campaign, one acquainted with field service, sieges, &c., and the other with fortifying sea-ports. They will, if well recommended, be made very welcome, and have honourable appointments, besides the expenses of their voyage hither, in which Mr. *Story* can also advise them. As what we now request of you, besides taking up your time, may put you to some expense, we send you, for the present, enclosed, a bill for one hundred pounds sterling, to defray such expenses, and desire you to be assured, that your services will be considered, and honourably rewarded by the Congress.

We desire, also, that you would take the trouble of receiving from *Arthur Lee*, agent for the Congress in *England*, such letters as may be sent by him to your care, and of forwarding them to us with your despatches. When you have occasion to write to him, to inform him of any thing, which it may be of importance our friends there should be acquainted with, please to send your letters to him under cover, directed to Mr. *Alderman Lee*, merchant on *Tower-Hill*, *London*, and do not send it by post, but by some trusty shipper, or other prudent person, who will deliver it with his own hands. And when you send to us, if you have not a direct safe opportunity, we recommend sending by way of *St. Eustatia*, to the care of Messrs. *Robert* and *Cornelius Stephens*, merchants there, who will forward your despatches to me.

With sincere and great esteem, and respect, I am, &c.,

B. Franklin.

WILLIAM LIVINGSTON TO LORD STIRLING.

Philadelphia, December 19, 1775.

My Lord: I enclose you Dr. *Barnet's* commission, as Surgeon of the First *Jersey* Battalion. The pay is twenty-five dollars per month; and I am satisfied the Congress mean to allow for the chest of medicine; but I intend to reduce it to a certainty, as there is an opening to-day on such a subject.

Mr. *Halsted* is unanimously voted Quartermaster of your battalion, by the Committee for receiving the recommendations to offices, and reported this day; but he must first be confirmed by Congress, which I will push as soon as possible, and then transmit you his commission.

I cannot imagine that Congress would give any directions respecting the arms you mention, though I really believe if they be got without much disturbance, it would be concurred in by that Assembly, from the principle of necessity; and last night I took the opinion of the above Committee, who were unanimous in that sentiment. But I would not choose to be mentioned in the case, nor to have it done under colour of that Committee, unless you should be complained of to Congress for the trespass; and then, as far as this letter would be your instructor, I give you free liberty to make use of it for that purpose.

I am, my lord, your most humble servant,

William Livingston.

LORD STIRLING TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read December 23, 1775.]

Elizabethtown, December 19, 1775.

Sir: In consequence of the new orders published by Captain *Parker*, of the *Phœnix*, since his arrival at *New-York*, all vessels coming from foreign countries to that port receive, on the coast, orders to come into this Province, and if possible to this place; several are already arrived in *Prince's* Bay, and in the Sound between this and *Amboy*. Some of the owners of them being apprehensive that the men-of-war at *New-York* may send their cutters and boats to seize and carry them off, have applied to me for protection. The saving a vast useful property from falling

into the hands of our enemies must be right. And, although I have no orders for it, I shall give them every protection in my power, until I receive orders to the contrary from the Congress.

His Honour will most probably draw some of the tenders and smallest ships of war to the avenues of *New-Jersey*, on this side. It will therefore be highly necessary to have an immediate supply of ammunition at this place, and, if possible, half a dozen field-pieces, with some round, grape, and canister shot; we might then hope to make them quit any station in harbour, and the season of the year will soon make them quit every other station.

This new order of Captain *Parker's* is in direct violation of act of Parliament, alarms and rouses the moderate, and sorely vexes the Tories of *New-York*; their being obliged to seek protection here, and in proportion as their property will be lodged among us, their pulses will beat, and their conduct will be regulated. If this circumstance be properly managed, I am in hopes it will turn out a very fortunate one.

It just occurs to me that it may be very proper that there be an order of Congress to receive, for the Continental use, all the ammunition imported in the vessels that may arrive in this Province, on paying a moderate price for it; some small quantity may be in each, and every little helps.

This moment the party I sent out at the request of the Committee of this County, are, after a march of above fifty miles, returned with their prisoners, whom I shall keep for the examination of the Committee.

With the highest regard and esteem, I have the honour to be your very humble servant,

STIRLING.

To the Hon. *John Hancock*.

NEW-YORK COMMITTEE.

At a meeting of the General Committee for the City and County of *New-York*, on *Tuesday*, *December* 19, 1775, Present: *John Broome*, Chairman,

Mr. P.P. Van Zandt,	Mr. Abrahams,	Mr. Totten,
Colonel Lasher,	Mr. Bleeker,	Mr. Brinkerhoff,
Mr. Moore,	Mr. Van Voorhies,	Mr. Berrien,
Mr. Abeel,	Mr. Denning,	Mr. Phenix,
Captain Pell,	Colonel Lott,	Mr. Anthony,
Mr. Burling,	Captain Johnson,	Mr. Dennis,
Mr. Ramsay.	Colonel Hyer,	Mr. Robert Ray,
Mr. Sharpe,	Mr. Ray, Jun.,	Mr. Bassett,
Mr. Roosevelt,	Maj. Stoutenburgh,	Mr. Banker,
Mr. Breasted,	Mr. Clopper,	Mr. Mulligan,
Mr. Gilbert,	Mr. Duyckinck,	Mr. Roome.
Captain Anthony,	Captain Janeway,	

The Chairman having informed the Committee that there were several demands upon this Board, which have been due some considerable time, requesting they would take them under consideration, and concert some means for discharging the same,

Ordered, That the Chairman be authorized to apply to the Provincial Congress for the loan of one thousand Pounds, subject to no interest, and to give a receipt for the same, and to engage that the same shall be repaid out of the first moneys that shall be raised by way of a tax in this City and County, for defraying the necessary charges incurred for the publick services, in defending our rights and privileges.

Resolved, That Mr. *Robert Ray* be, and hereby is appointed Treasurer to this Board.

Resolved, That *Daniel Phenix*, *Anthony L. Bleeker*, and *William Denning*, or any two of them, be, and they are hereby appointed Auditors, for the adjusting and settling such accounts as now are, or hereafter may become due from this Board; and that the Treasurer pay no accounts but such as are allowed of by the said Auditors, or any two of them.

It being suggested to the Committee that a sloop, the property of Messrs. *Mercer & Schenck*, was loading with Provisions, &c.,

Ordered, That Mr. *Brinkerhoff* and Mr. *Dennis* be a sub-Committee to wait on Messrs. *Mercer & Schenck*, and know the purpose for which the said sloop is loading, and report the same immediately.

The sub-Committee appointed for the above purpose returned, and reported, that Mr. *Mercer*, one of the owners of the said sloop, informed them that she was bound to *Brunswick*, and from thence to sea; and that he had obtained a Permit from the *New-Jersey* Provincial Congress for that purpose.

Ordered, That Mr. *Mercer*, within a convenient time, produce to this Committee a Certificate from the *New-Jersey* Provincial Congress, of his having exported the said Provisions by virtue of a Permit from the said Congress.

Whereas sundry persons have been taken and confined for a considerable time, for want of an immediate hearing: To the intent, therefore, that no person may be taken and detained in custody without a just cause,

Ordered, That Mr. *Totten*, Mr. *Gilbert*, *John Anthony*, Captain *Pell*, and *Theophilus Anthony*, or any two of them, be a sub-Committee to inquire into the offence of such person or persons that may hereafter be taken and confined, who are hereby authorized to discharge him or them, unless such circumstances shall appear as may render their further confinement necessary.

Michael Albert, being charged before this Committee of having inlisted men for the Ministerial army, was brought before the Committee; and upon his examination, says he was intoxicated when he made the declaration for which he was apprehended.

Edward White and *John Moore*, charged of the like offence, were also brought before the Committee, who declared their innocence in the facts alledged against them.

No sufficient proof appearing to the Committee to convict the above persons of the facts laid to their charge,

Ordered, That they be discharged.

John Blackler having been confined for some time at the Upper Barracks, was this evening examined before this Board. It appeared, by his confession, that he had been several weeks on board the *Asia*, man-of-war; that his intention was to procure a passage to *Boston*, and from thence to *England*, and for that purpose requested the assistance of Governour *Tryon*; that he did not intend to enter into the Ministerial army, unless he could get the office he formerly had, (a Lieutenant,) which was a thousand to one against him; that, upon the whole, it was his intention to go to *England* by the way of *Boston*, as he could not readily get a passage from this place; that he did not desire a commission in the army, (meaning the Ministerial army;) that he took refuge on board the man-of-war to avoid being taken and confined for debt.

The Committee, taking into consideration Mr. *Blackler's* case, are of opinion that the law passed by the late Provincial Congress for this Colony, does not authorize this Board to determine thereon.

The question being then put, whether *Blackler* be remanded to the Guard-House, and a state of his case be represented to the Provincial Congress? carried unanimously in the affirmative.

Ordered, *therefore*, That the Chairman represent a state of Mr. *Blackler's* case to the Provincial Congress.

Ordered, That this Committee, for the future, be warned to meet at five o'clock.

GOVERNOUR COOKE TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Providence, December 19, 1775.

SIR: I have your Excellency's letter of the 17th, which I have laid before the General Committee. Should the force sailed from *Boston* be destined for *Rhode-Island*, I tremble for the consequences, as the Colony, in its present exhausted state, cannot, without assistance, defend the island. At their unanimous request, I apply to your Excellency for a detachment from the Continental Army of one regiment, to be stationed upon *Rhode-Island*, and that you would please to appoint a General officer to take the command of the whole force there. They also desired me to inform you that General *Lee* will be very acceptable to the Colony, and to request that the General officer who may be appointed, may set out immediately to take the command of the troops upon the island, and put it in the best posture of defence. We have at Head-quarters about two hundred and fifty men, and shall immediately place on there about four hundred more, and hold as many more in

readiness as possible. I need not point out to you the importance of the island, and the inability of the Colony.

I am, in great haste, your very humble servant,

NICHOLAS COOKE.

His Excellency General *Washington.*

Captain *Wallace* hath hinted to some of his friends that he expects a reinforcement daily.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

Cambridge, December 19, 1775.

SIR: Since writing you of this date, the letter herewith enclosed was put into my hands by Mr. *Eustace*, who is in part the subject of it. Thinking it necessary that you should be acquainted with the contents, and a safe opportunity offering by Mr. *Irwin*, I do myself the honour of enclosing it, to show more fully to Congress the views of Lord *Dunmore*.

I am, sir, your most obedient servant,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To the President of Congress.

LORD DUNMORE TO GENERAL HOWE.

On board the Dunmore, off Norfolk, Virginia, December 2, 1775.

DEAR GENERAL: The bearer of this, whose name is *John Eustace*, is the son of an unfortunate widow gentlewoman in this country. I have had the charge of him for these three years past, and have given him the best education this country could afford. He is a very good *Latin* scholar; of exceeding good spirit and quick parts; of excellent temper and good disposition; has conceived a great desire to go into the army. I have therefore to entreat you when an opportunity offers, to give him a commission, and I think he will do me no discredit, and you much service. If you are kind enough to employ him, I should be much obliged to you if you would recommend him to some prudent officer, who would take the trouble now and then to give him a little good advice; for the only fault I know in him (if fault it can be called in a boy) is that he is a little too volatile.

Pray spare us some troops, if you can possibly do it consistent with your orders; even the recruits of the Fourteenth Regiment would be of service to us. Those ordered from *St. Augustine* are not yet arrived, though hourly expected. Was the whole regiment here, I think we should be able to do some good. I have sent you a sloop with some *Indian* corn, oats, and a few *Irish* potatoes, all of which he told me (I mean Major *Connolly*) were much wanted. I could have sent you any quantity of oats, such as they are, if I could have got a larger vessel. I wish to *God* I had some of your Light-Horse here. This is a fine country for them to act in, and food of all kinds in great abundance, for both men and horses. A winter campaign would reduce, without the smallest doubt, the whole of this Southern Continent to a perfect state of obedience. One essential service it would render you, which is, that I could supply your army and navy with every necessary of life, and that in the greatest abundance, which is more than any other Colony on the Continent could do.

I ever am, dear General, most sincerely yours,

DUNMORE.

To General *Howe, Boston.*

MEMORANDUM BY GENERAL WASHINGTON'S SECRETARY.

Cambridge, December 19, 1775.

To *Jonathan Glover*, Esq., *Marblehead:*

Ordered to deliver up the vessels sent into *Marblehead* by *Broughton* and *Selman* to their owners.

MAJOR-GENERAL HOWE TO THE EARL OF DARTMOUTH.

Boston, December 19, 1775.

MY LORD: I embrace the opportunity of an officer who has my leave to go to *Britain* in a private ship, suddenly ordered there, to acquaint your Lordship that I have advice of Colonel *Eyre Massey* being arrived at *Halifax* with his regiment, and that I have been induced, on this occasion, to countermand my orders for six companies of the Sixty-Fifth Regiment, now lying in *Nantasket-Road*, to proceed to that place.

There have not arrived any troops since my last by the *Tartar* frigate, leaving this the 16th instant; but the store-ships, (*Thames, Laird; Friendship, Miller; Britannia, White; Generous Planter, Calse,*) as per margin, have got in with most seasonable supplies, although the live stock met with worse fate than could have been suspected, from the great care that had been taken. As their cargoes are not yet landed, I cannot render a more particular account; but from all the reports received, the merchants employed have been most attentive to their engagements. I am concerned to inform your Lordship that I have the authority of the Rebel commander to believe Brigadier *Prescott* has fallen into the hands of the enemy; and report says that General *Carleton*, with the whole Province of *Canada*, has shared the same fate. Having no communication with *Canada* at present, I cannot determine upon the degree of credit this intelligence deserves, but am hopeful that the latter is not true. However, Mr. *Washington*, commanding the Rebel army, presuming upon the number and rank of the prisoners in his possession, has threatened retaliation in point of treatment to any prisoners of theirs in our power, and proposes an exchange, which is a circumstance I shall not answer in positive terms, nor shall I enter upon such a measure without the King's orders. Your Lordship has enclosed a publication, extracted from the minutes of the Continental Congress, in reference to His Majesty's Proclamation of 23d *August* last, on the principles of which Mr. *Washington* seems to have founded his threats.

The small quantity of salt provisions in store here has induced me to send an armed transport to *St. Eustatia*, for a supply of that article, understanding the markets there are glutted with provisions; by which means I flatter myself, should the victuallers ordered here be disappointed in making their voyages in time, that we shall secure a sufficient resource until some of them do arrive.

I have also, on consultation with the Admiral, ordered two transports to be fitted out with the utmost despatch, to sail under convoy of the *Scarborough*, man-of-war, and two armed schooners, with directions to have them loaded with rice at *Savannah*, by the assistance of Sir *James Wright;* and if, in going or returning, they should fall in with any ships having a quantity of this article on board, the Captain of the *Scarborough* will have orders to seize and send them here for the use of the garrison, navy, and inhabitants. In these ships I propose sending two hundred marines, under the command of a field-officer; and in the whole of this proceeding, I trust I shall have your Lordship's sanction, being guided by motives arising from my regard to the interest and necessity of His Majesty's service. I have communicated to the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury, in a letter of this date, an exact account of all the steps I have taken relative to the aforementioned purposes.

I have the honour to be, &c., W. HOWE.

To Lord *Dunmore.*

TO THE EARL OF DARTMOUTH.

Maryland, December 20, 1775.

MY LORD: If constitutional allegiance to my King, a warm attachment to my country,* and the most sanguine emotions for peace and permanent union between the parent State and her Colonies, will sufficiently expiate for epistolatory freedom, permit a Minister of the King of Kings to address a Minister of the King of *Great Britain, France, Ireland,* and *North-America;* for it is the language of my soul, that the precious *American* jewel may speedily and immoveably be set in the most effulgent diadem.

Your Lordship sustains a two-fold character: a soldier of the Lord of Lords, and Secretary of State for the Northern Department, under our rightful Sovereign. High and honourable offices, indeed. But every soldier is not an intrepid warrior; or, as a noble lord once expressed it, "there are many professors, but few possessors;" nor is every servant of the Crown infallible. In both these, every man at best is but a fallible being. This doctrine your Lordship once loved, being then a real follower of the Lamb; for I well remember several opportunities, and the happy and precious moments of each, when we bowed together at the

* Born in the city of *Oxford.*

*

sacred altar;* at which, when I beheld a right honourable communicant, with his livery servants on his right hand and left, my soul was raised almost to the third heaven, and my spirits filled with evangelical love; for not many mighty, not many noble, are truly godly. As your Lordship's condescension was so laudable, honourable, and scriptural, as to appear a professor of christianity, a witness for *God*, and the truly humble soul, I trust and firmly believe that "the most fine gold is not yet become dim." To whom, then, shall I write or speak, in behalf of the miserable convulsed empire; for your Lordship, hath, I trust, eternal life at heart, and everlasting felicity, by faith, in full view.

The Parliament of *Great Britain* say, that they have a right to tax or bind the *Americans* in all cases whatsoever; to which they answer, "As they were born free, free they will be or die." And upon many of their hats there is this motto: "Freedom or death;" upon others, "*God* and our rights."

Since the battle of *Lexington*, I have been twice in eight of the thirteen *United Colonies*, namely: *Massachusetts-Bay, Rhode-Island, Connecticut, New-York, New-Jersey, Pennsylvania, Newcastle*, &c.,† and *Maryland;* all which, except *New-York*, are almost unanimous in the voice of liberty. Indeed, none (save a few officers under the Crown) are willing to be bound by the *British* Parliament in all cases whatsoever. The *Americans* declare, a master can lay no greater burden on a slave than to bind him in all cases whatsoever. These things the *United Colonies* have imbibed, and before this can reach your Lordship, *Canada* will, in all human probability, be added to the thirteen; for *St. John's* and *Montreal* have, upon capitulation, surrendered, and the rest of the Province, in every other respect, bids fair for a general surrender, or subjection to the *American* side. In *New-York* City and Province, although there are, I verily believe, more friends to Government, as they call themselves, than all the rest of the Colonies together can produce, yet in the City and Province there is on the other side of the question a majority large enough to subdue them at any time; for instance, a few weeks ago, some of these friends appeared in the Province in opposition to the *American* voice, whereon a small party went out immediately, who subdued and disarmed them. These friends, my Lord, are not worthy of the appellation; they are only sycophants. They flatter with their lips and pens, and deceive, I fear, your Lordship and others in Administration, from packet to packet. They have repeatedly insinuated that the *New-England* Governments have nothing else in view but independence. It is totally repugnant to truth. Before the sword was drawn, there could not possibly be greater loyalists. In the year 1769, I arrived first in *America*, and they daily manifested what loving subjects they were; and the dissenting clergy, also, in every opportunity, were particularly anxious to invoke the great *Jehovah* in behalf of their dread sovereign, of whom they speak in terms the most pathetick; also for all Governours and officers, as well as for others, that peace and happiness, truth and justice, religion and piety, might still be and flourish under his sceptre. Add to this, I justly may, the several conversations I have had with, and the private prayers I have heard by those gentlemen, concerning His Majesty, his crown and dignity; with all which every loyalist could but be perfectly well pleased. To these facts, my Lord, I have not only been an ear-witness in one Colony, but in many; nay, even in *Massachusetts-Bay* and her capital.

Now, my Lord, for *Christ's* sake attend faithfully.

About two months ago, I viewed the camps, *Roxbury* and *Cambridge*. The lines of both are impregnable; with forts (many of which are bomb-proof) and redoubts, supposing them to be all in a direction, are about twenty miles; the breastworks of a proper height, and in many places seventeen feet in thickness; the trenches wide and deep in proportion, before which lay forked impediments; and many of the forts, in every respect, are perfectly ready for battle. The whole, in a word, an admiration to every spectator; for verily their fortifications appear to be the works of seven years, instead of about as many months. At these camps are about twenty thousand men, well disciplined. The Generals and other officers, in all their military undertakings, solid, discreet, and courageous; the men daily raving for action, and seemingly void of fear. There are many floating batteries, and also batteaus in abundance; besides this strength, ten thousand militia are ordered in that Government to appear on the first summons. Provisions and money there are very plenty, and the soldiers faithfully paid. The army in great order, and very healthy, and about six weeks ago lodged in comfortable barracks. Chaplains constantly attend the camps, morning and night; prayers as often offered up for peace and reconciliation, and the soldiers very attentive. The roads, at the time I viewed the camps, were almost lined with spectators, and thousands with me can declare the above, respecting the camps, to be a just description. But, my Lord, I have more facts to mention.

A Continental and Provincial currencies, to facilitate this great undertaking, are emitted, which circulate freely, and are daily exchanged for silver and gold. Their harbours by the spring will swarm with privateers. An Admiral is appointed, a court established, and the 3d instant, the Continental flag on board the *Black Prince*, opposite *Philadelphia*, was hoisted. Many of the Captains of those vessels, in the last war, proved their intrepidity to the world by their prizes, and some of them have already taken many valuable prizes which Government had ordered to *Boston*, and thereby must have much distressed the troops; all which the prints will particularize.

The appointment of the Continental and Provincial Congresses and Committees, your Lordship, without doubt, before now must be fully acquainted with. These sets of gentlemen, by virtue of the great privileges with which the Colonies have entrusted them, claim now the following prerogatives over the *United Colonies:* The Continental Congress is over all, under the King; the Provincials over the Committees, and the Committees over the Counties. The Congresses and Committees have so raised and regulated the militia and minute-men, whom they have raised almost in every County, that they make in every city and town the most warlike appearance. Saltpetre is made in abundance, and powder-mills constantly employed in many Provinces, and many believe that there is now in the possession of the *Americans* powder enough for three years. This, to me, is very obvious. Soon after General *Gage* collected the troops from the several Provinces into one body at *Boston*, the Congresses ordered all the shopkeepers not to sell their powder to fowlers and hunters, but to keep the same for the use of the Colonies; which, in general, was faithfully observed. Before this, a person might get a large quantity of powder almost at every large store or merchant's shop, in every city, town, and county, on the Continent. Now, all this collected together, and what the mills have made, together with the great quantities taken at *St. John's, Montreal*, other forts, and on the seas, must make an immense quantity; add to this, the constant employment of the mills, and a great number of privateers faithfully looking out for yours. And, my Lord, how is it possible for all store-ships to escape a fleet so large, which at this time, I firmly believe, is composed of fifty sail, and by next spring I shall not marvel if their fleet be doubled.

Iron guns of the best quality have been made in *America;* and as they have plenty of iron and lead mines, they can make what quantity of cannon, shot, and bullets they please. But Administration have lately supplied them with a very valuable assortment of such stores.* Rifles, infinitely better than those imported, are daily made in many places in *Pennsylvania*, and all the gunsmiths every where constantly employed. In this country, my Lord, the boys, as soon as they can discharge a gun, frequently exercise themselves therewith, some a fowling, and others a hunting. The great quantities of game, the many kinds, and the great privileges of killing, make the *Americans* the best marksmen in the world, and thousands support their families principally by the same, particularly riflemen on the frontiers, whose objects are deer and turkies. In marching through woods, one thousand of these riflemen would cut to pieces ten thousand of your best troops. I don't, my Lord, speak at random, or write partially. I have travelled too much among these men to be insensible of their abili-

* Of the *Lock-Chapel*.

† Although *Newcastle*, &c., belong to *Pennsylvania*, yet as they in Assembly are distinctly represented, and also in the Congress, those Counties therefore are viewed as and called one of the *United Colonies*.

* Store-vessels bound to *Boston*, taken by the Continental Captains.

ties. O, my Lord! if your Lordship knew but one half what I know of *America*, your Lordship would not persist, but be instantly for peace, or resign. But, my Lord, construe this epistle as you please; nevertheless, my meaning is that it should not in the least convey, or even hint any thing about the legality or illegality of the unhappy dispute. Many great and celebrated writers have moved every nerve, but hitherto in vain. What then can I do, who am but a babe? Not much, truly. But when a house is in flames, all run without distinction, some with buckets, some with grapplings, and others with engines, wishing they providentially may extinguish the fire. Now, my Lord, the *British* empire is really in flames. I cannot, therefore, be inactive. Suffer, then, the insignificant with the most significant, to help forward with something. I present, therefore, for your Lordship's acceptance, an engine of facts. The carved works are but homely; but the essential parts are sound and substantial. Try them lawfully and faithfully, and I, by *God's* permission, will pledge my life they will stand the test. Facts are at all times proof against the most inveterate foes. By way of appurtenances, I must add: Up the *North* river, in the Province of *New-York*, there is erected an impregnable fort, against which vessels cannot possibly, many minutes, survive. In the *New-England* Governments, batteries are already made before most of the sea-ports. The minute-men before mentioned, like firemen, have all things proper and ready to attend on the first alarm. The *American* coast, long as it is, both by land and sea, is faithfully watched, and posts are every where established. Whether, therefore, Administration have in view the east or west of the continent, it matters not. Set but a foot ashore to execute their plan, and the same will instantly find enemies. Nay, let thousands be landed, and they will immediately find swarms of foes; for the electrical posts, riding day and night, will soon make them sensible thereof. My Lord, Administration have not one friend they can call theirs, in every respect, that is a resident among the *Americans*. They have several, it is true, who for sordid gain act under the rose; but wo to them if they should be discovered. Many examples have been already made, and this may be relied on, that in a few months, as ways and means are now under consideration, Administration will, in every respect, in *America*, be friendless. The destroying of *Falmouth*, and Lord *Dunmore's* Proclamation, proclaiming a jubilee to the slaves and convicts in *Virginia*, provided they repair to the royal standard in due time, have exasperated the *Americans* beyond description, and made the breach infinitely wider. A few days ago, his Lordship's party was repulsed with great loss. His Lordship, my Lord, can do nothing but cause the men and treasure, now under his command, to be sacrificed and expended in vain; for he is surrounded by hundreds of the best riflemen, who have driven his troops out of their intrenchments, &c. Most, if not all, by this time, of His Majesty's Governours are afloat, and rendered incapable of fulfilling your Lordship's commands.*

The most celebrated military authors are reprinted for the use of the young officers, that they may be furnished with every prerequisite against spring. The ship-carpenters are very busy in getting the rest of the privateers ready, and also other hands to equip them wholly for sailing.

Now, right honourable sir, what will you do? Where will your Lordship look? Where can Administration fix their ideas with the least view of success? Say, my Lord, that their troops are good; the *Americans* have again and again repulsed them. Not one plan of Administration hath had the wished-for success; in general they have turned out abortive. Say, further, that twenty or thirty thousand, nay, double the numbers, shall be sent to subdue the *Americans*. Twenty thousand (descending to the camp phrase) may nearly serve for a breakfast, or rather do for a relish, and so from time to time *British* troops may be transported for the *American* sacrifice. But Administration can destroy all their sea-ports. I reply, a few months ago they might have wrought such devastation, but now they will find it impracticable. Some harbours are blocked up, batteries before others erected as above-mentioned, and when the icy impediments are dissolved in their harbours, no marvel, my Lord, if some of the *British* armament, as well as transports or store-ships, be taken. About an hundred privateers, with the most intrepid marines, and those persons who last natural war immortalized their names, again chosen for captains, are, touching their schemes, no contemptible enemy by sea. Convinced I am fully, that an hundred thousand of the best troops *Europe* can raise will not subdue the *Americans*, nor make them acquiesce in the Parliamentary claims. Let Government say what they please in favour of their forces, remember, my Lord, the *Americans* have just such blood, the like courage, the same spirits, and are equal in colour and stature, and as well disciplined. Some of their fathers, grandfathers, and great-grandfathers, are to *British* dust returned, and in silent repose, while their sons and grandsons are struggling for their birth-rights; for they traditionally or constitutionally retain the idea of liberty, and with him of old say, "*God* forbid that we should sell the inheritance of our fathers."

Whether this will be believed or not, I don't know; but one thing I know, albeit the King requesteth, nevertheless, like *Naboth*, they will resist even unto death. Blessed be *God*, we have no *Jezebel* to stir up His Majesty; for his consort is the best of queens, and as such the *Americans* extol Her Majesty daily. Perhaps, my Lord, this may be viewed as partiality; but I can assure your Lordship I write from conviction, and not from a partial spirit. If I am charged any where herein with partiality, (as it is most natural and also very fashionable now to act the sycophant, where one's interest is,) I certainly flatter your Lordship, as I fear too many have; for I have no interest nor kindred here, nor hopes of interest for, or reward for any thing of this nature that I have done or can do. But I have immense hopes and views. My time here is very short; and ere long I shall be in a world of spirits, where the most noble, the right honourable, and reverend, persons must all appear. I know not, therefore, how to give flattering titles unto man; for in so doing, my Maker would soon take me away.

If figuratively two persons may represent both parties in dispute, there is a striking similarity in sacred writ, with which your Lordship is perfectly acquainted, and by which I beg permission to mention the following things:

I view both sides, as to their precious blood, as good old *Jacob* viewed his sons, *Joseph* and *Benjamin*, and am equally with him unwilling that either should be slain. If the *British* troops must be represented by the elder brother, grieved to my very heart I must be to hear that he is sacrificed; and if the *American* forces may be compared to the younger, I shall equally lament his death. May *God* of his infinite mercy save both by a speedy accommodation. *Benjamin* hath repeatedly petitioned *Joseph* for redress of grievances; but *Joseph* would not receive his petitions, but made himself strange, and spake roughly unto him, charging him with having and holding unjustly *Pharaoh's* cup,* of which the poor lad is perfectly innocent. O! that *Joseph* would take *Benjamin* in his arms, and embrace him, for they are brothers. If *Benjamin* have erred, let the age and wisdom of *Joseph* overlook and obliterate all. Let him no longer refrain, but fall on his neck and kiss him, and let love and virtue reunite them. As *Joseph* embraced and owned *Benjamin* as his brother, and returned his money, so let the parent State embrace and own the Colonies without fee or reward, and instantly the sword on both sides will be sheathed; and then *Benjamin* as usual will go and carry corn and money to *Joseph*, and take his superb clothing in exchange. But if *Joseph* will yet refrain, and not be reconciled, *Benjamin* is determined to clothe himself with his own wool, and keep his money, and send his corn to other merchantmen. Let facts, my Lord, apologize for prolixity. I will conclude now with a few lines.

The *Americans* may be led with a hair; but they have too much *English* blood in them, are too well disciplined and too numerous, to be driven even by an hundred thousand of the best forces Government can raise. Where Government can produce one thousand on the Continent, *America*, with as much ease and expense, can produce ten thousand in opposition; for men, women, and children, are against the proceedings of Administration throughout the

*Each riding at anchor before his Government, or as near as convenience will admit.

*Not rendering unto *Cæsar* the things which be *Cæsar's*.

United Colonies, to a wonderful majority. The women, both old and young, being greatly irritated at the inflexibility of Administration, are not only willing their sons and brothers should turn out in the field, but also declare that they will give them up, and themselves likewise, as a sacrifice, before they will bow to *Pharaoh's* task-masters. This makes the raising of troops on the Continent very easy. Let a person go into any province, city, town, or county, and ask the females, "Are you willing your sons or brothers should go for soldiers, and defend their liberties?" they would severally answer, "Yes, with all my soul; and if they won't go, I won't own them as my sons or brothers; for I'll help myself, if there should be any need of mine. If I can't stand in the ranks, I can help forward with powder, balls, and provisions;" and presently this will appear more pellucid. Last summer, I saw in *Philadelphia* a company of school-boys called the Academy Company, in their uniforms, with real arms and colours. Upon this I asked how many such companies were in the city, and for what they were designed; to which I was answered by a gentlewoman, the mother of two of this company, "There are three companies; and as to the design, they are to learn the art or theory of war; and if there should be any occasion for them in the field of battle, they will go, for they are all volunteers. But I, for my part, am, I do aver, sir, heartily willing to sacrifice my sons, believing that with such sacrifice *God* is well pleased; for he has hitherto marvellously blessed our arms, and conquered our enemies for us; and he who, in the days of his flesh, spoiled principalities and powers, and made a show of them openly, will in the end, I doubt not, evince the world that he is conqueror." This, my Lord, is the language of the *American* women. Your Lordship knows it is generally the reverse with the *English*; the mothers' and sisters' lives are bound up in the boys.

But I am afraid I shall trespass on your Lordship's patience; therefore, in the great name, and for the sake of the ever-blessed *Trinity*, I now beseech your Lordship to weigh thoroughly, and with patience, impartiality, and love, this narrative of facts; and may that ever-blessed, adorable person, *Jesus Christ*, the wonderful counsellor and prince of peace, give your Lordship a right judgment and understanding in all things, and counsel and influence Administration to act wisely, and repeal the acts in dispute, and so make peace.

I am, my Lord, your Lordship's ready and willing servant, for *Christ's* sake. B. P.

P. S. Some months ago I fully intended to see your Lordship before now, but the prohibition of exportation taking place before I could finish my business here, hath rendered it very difficult for me to embark at present. The first eligible opportunity in the spring, if any should offer, I intend to embrace and embark for *Europe*.

CORTLANDT SKINNER TO LIEUTENANT-COLONEL WILLIAM SKINNER.

December, 1775.

DEAR BROTHER: I have not had the pleasure of receiving a letter from you for a long time; whether you have written and they have miscarried, or what has happened, I know not; only this I know, that I have not had the happiness of a line from you this troublesome summer. I have always fondly, I may say foolishly hoped, that the unnatural dispute now subsisting, would have an amicable conclusion. I find myself sadly disappointed. The tea duty began the controversy; it has branched out into divers others, and now the contest is for dominion. For the rise of the dispute we are indebted to smugglers; for the present state of it, to the pride, ambition, and interest of those who, enemies to the ecclesiastical establishment of their country, have long plotted, and to others who have become of consequence in the struggle. They who began had their interest in view, and feared the ruin of their smuggling; here they, I believe, were willing to leave the dispute. The others, with deeper views, keep it up, and building on the foundation, are attempting a superstructure (a republick) that will deluge this country in blood. This is not new. All history, as well as our own, shows great convulsions, rebellions, and revolutions from mad enthusiasm and designing men; and the last spring up like mushrooms. We are now upon the eve, I may say, have actually begun a revolution. The Congress are our King, Lords, and Commons. They have taken *Canada*, with the consent of its grateful inhabitants; they block up the Royal army in *Boston*; they say they have secured the *Indians*; have appointed an Admiral, are fitting out a fleet, and are universally obeyed. Is this, or is it not independency? They say it is not; and we must believe even against our senses. An edict, manifesto, or what you please to call it, has been issued from the Congress; in which they say, WE have taken into consideration a proclamation issued by the Court of *St. James's*; meaning the late Royal Proclamation. You will soon see it. I fear bad consequences will attend the mistaken people who are so obstinately loyal as to favour the Royal cause. Where or what will be the end, I know not. The mistakes of Generals and Admirals, and the strange security in sending succours, ammunition, &c., to this country, amazes me, while success here in every mad measure vexes me.* The saints say Heaven is on their side; I rather think the old saying more applicable, "The devil is kind to young beginners." We must have in every war a campaign, at least, of blunders. This may be called so, from the ill-timed march to *Lexington* to the losing of *Canada*. Another year may set us right; but not, if we only succour *Boston*. A few regiments and fleets to different Provinces will set us right; at least bring us to our senses, and support the friends of Government. But I have said enough on this disagreeable subject; you will know every thing from the papers; though now *Rivington* is suppressed, you can hear only one side of the question.

I informed you in my last that I had another son, and that I had called him *James*. I can now only tell you that all my family, with your other friends and connexions, are well, except my wife, whose present weakness alarms me. She is now tolerably well, but so often otherwise, that I cannot say she has any thing like established health. She presents her love to you and your little girl, with the warmest wishes for both your happiness. I have not received a letter for a long time from *Will*, though I have heard of him, and that very pleasingly. I beg you will direct him to write to me, but caution him against political matters; few letters come to us unopened, and it may be of fatal consequence to me. †. . . . . wrote lately; it came safe, but had it fallen into the hands of the Committee, I should, as well as his brother, have felt, before we heard of it. Give my love and their mother's to them both, and as much as I long to hear from them and you, write cautiously, and in a way that can do me no harm. I fear a letter from Captain *Kearny*; I know how he will write; if, therefore, you see him, tell him of my fears. I wish to hear from you and all my friends, but they must avoid politicks, unless some very safe person, not an officer, or in the least connected with Government, and above all a man of honour should be the bearer. Make my compliments to Mr. *Watts*, to whom I am much obliged for his kind mentioning of my children. Remember me to Captain *Skinner*, who I think writes to nobody here, but now and then to his wife. Give my love to my children.

I am, with the greatest affection, your brother,
CORTLANDT SKINNER.

To Lieut. Colonel *William Skinner, Westbury, Hants.*

* MORRIS COUNTY, NEW-JERSEY, *September* 28, 1775.—The Committee met by notice from the Chairman. Present, all but Doctor *James Campfield* and *Ebenezer Condict*.

A complaint exhibited against *Cortlandt Skinner*, for speaking disrespectfully of the Continental Congress, reproaching the minute-men, and charging them and the County with protecting a supposed criminal from justice.

Said *Skinner* attended the Board, and the evidences, viz: *Paul Day, Joseph Wood, Stephen Conklin, Isaac Cary*, and *George Bachoven*, were sworn and heard; and after said *Skinner* had made his defence, the question being put, "Whether said *Skinner* be guilty or not?" it was voted unanimously that he is guilty of the charge brought against him.

Said *Skinner* again appeared before the Committee, and acknowledged he was very sorry he had spoken that which was accepted to be unfriendly to his country, and declared that he would conduct himself as a sincere friend to the liberties of his country, and that it ever had been his intention and wish, &c., which, with several other like declarations of his being a sincere friend to the LIBERTY of his country, the Committee accepted as satisfactory, &c.

A true copy from the minutes,
SILAS CONDICT, *Clerk.*

[† The name in the original is illegible.]

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

New-Haven, December 20, 1775.

SIR: It is absolutely necessary that the treasury of this Colony receive an immediate supply of money for the purpose of paying off our troops, and the other expenses incurred by this Colony in the general service of the *United Colonies*. The forty-eight thousand pounds received by this Colony in Continental bills, have been long since expended; not in discharge of any former debt, but by much the greatest part thereof in payment of the troops raised by this Colony under the direction of the General, to facilitate their future inlistment, and of expenses incurred in the common cause, since it was received.

I am therefore directed by the General Assembly of this Colony to entreat the honourable Continental Congress to be so good, as soon as possible, to order a further sum to be issued out of the Continental treasury on account of this Colony, and paid into the hands of our Delegates, to the amount, if possible, of sixty thousand pounds, or at least such part thereof as can, by any means, at present, be spared. It is of the greatest consequence to us that the utmost despatch be made in this affair; I, therefore, in behalf of the Colony, beg the favour of you to lay this request immediately before the Congress, and to give it all the facilities in your power.

And am, with the greatest respect and esteem, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

JONATHAN TRUMBULL.

To the Honourable President *Hancock*.

At a General Assembly of the Governour and Company of the *English* Colony of Connecticut, in *America*, holden at *New-Haven*, by special order of the Governour, on the 14th day of *December*, A. D. 1775:

Resolved by this Assembly, That his Honour the Governour be, and he is hereby desired forthwith to make application to the honourable Continental Congress for the sum of sixty thousand Pounds, or such part thereof as can, at present, be obtained for the supply of the treasury of this Colony; and that his Honour take the necessary steps to receive and lodge the same with the Treasurer of the Colony, with all convenient despatch.

A true copy of record, examined by

GEORGE WYLLYS, *Sec'y*.

THOMAS GREENOUGH TO MESSRS. DEANE, ADAMS, AND WYTHE.

New-Haven, December 22, 1775.

GENTLEMAN: I was an inhabitant of *Boston*, and by the oppressive measures exercised there, was obliged to leave my pleasant habitation with all my furniture, (excepting my plate and one bed,) and came here for refuge, and since being here, have been informed that the Provincials burnt all the houses, stores, and barns on *Noddle-Island*, and seeing an advertisement in the newspapers that persons who sustained any losses were desired to send to you, gentlemen, the particulars, with the valuation, I having had the more immediate care of said island, many years before it came into our possession, therefore am more knowing as to the buildings and their value than my brethren; accordingly I have enclosed an estimate of what I think and believe to be as just a one as any person can give of the premises. All the stock, household furniture, &c., belonging unto the tenant, Mr. *Henry Howell Williams*, ...* said island on a lease,) who I suppose has, or will send you . . . ..* thereof. You may inquire of my character, if you please, of the Honourable *John Hancock*, *Thomas Cushing*, and *Samuel Adams*, Esquires.

I am, gentlemen, your obedient, humble servant,

THOMAS GREENOUGH.

To Messrs. *Deane*, *Wythe*, and *Adams*, a Committee of the Congress, in *Philadelphia*.

New-Haven, December 20, 1775.

An account of the loss we sustained in *June* last, viz:

On *Noddle-Island*, burnt by the Provincials, the large mansion-house, cost about nine hundred pounds sterling, about twenty years old,	£750
One large barn, for which I paid about,	130
One barn, cost about one hundred pounds, about twenty-five years old, new shingled, oak sills, all good,	65
One large warehouse or store, cost about two hundred pounds sterling, chambers ceiled,	150
Three frame houses, one story, gambrel roof, with lutheran lights, cost about three hundred pounds,	225
Three large barns, one for each house, will cost about three hundred pounds,	200
The whole value, sterling,	£1,520

Besides fences, corn-houses, &c., one year's rent, one hundred and thirty pounds sterling. The island contains about seven hundred acres. Every article to build with must be boated over, being an island.

Gentlemen, I believe the above valuation is about the truth. I have talked with the tenant, Mr. *Henry Howell Williams*, and he says it will cost two thousand pounds sterling to replace the buildings, &c., on the island. The above was owned by Doctor *Charles Chauncy*, *William Hystop*, and your very humble servant,

THOMAS GREENOUGH.

Connecticut, ss. *New-Haven*, in the County of *New-Haven*, on the twenty-first day of *December*, A. D. 1775:

Personally appeared Mr. *Thomas Greenough*, late of *Boston*, now resident in said *New-Haven*, and made oath to the truth of the within estimate. Before me,

JOHN WHITING, *Justice of Peace*,
For the County of New-Haven.

[* Original manuscript torn.]

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GOVERNOUR COOKE.

Cambridge, December 20, 1775.

SIR: The letter accompanying this was written before your favour of the 19th, per express, came to hand. Under my present instructions, and in my present situation, I could not justify the sending a regiment from these lines to you, unless there was an apparent design of landing a body of Ministerial troops on *Rhode-Island*. At present, I do not think this is to be apprehended, as a deserter out of *Boston*, since my last, is particular in declaring that only four companies, amounting to little more than four hundred men, embarked, as was said, for *Halifax;* agreeing with others that invalids, and the officers of the Eighteenth and Fifty-Ninth Regiments, who are going home to recruit, had sailed for *England*.

The intention of my last, containing the information as it was received, was only designed to put you upon your guard, not that I expected a visit was intended you. If any small body of troops move from hence southerly I have no expectation of their stopping short of *Virginia*, unless it should be on a pillaging party. To conclude, sir, when I inform you that I have been obliged to call in five thousand militia to supply the deficiency of the *Connecticut* regiments and those absent upon furlough, you will do me the justice to believe that not a want of inclination but of ability, prevents me from complying with your request; unless, as is before observed, I had some obvious reasons to believe the visit of more men than we are well assured are embarked, was intended for your Government.

I am, with very great esteem and regard, sir, &c.,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To Governour *Cooke*, *Rhode-Island*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON'S SECRETARY TO COLONEL BALDWIN.

Cambridge, December 20, 1775.

SIR: I am commanded by his Excellency to inform you that from the letter and proceedings of the Committee at *Point-Shirley*, respecting Mr. *Wiber*, he stands in a suspicious and unfriendly light. However, as he does not wish to put any one under rigorous confinement who does not deserve it, you and the Committee may consult together, and if it shall appear that he is a friend and can be trusted, you may permit his return to bring his family and others.

To Colonel *Loammi Baldwin*, *Chelsea*.

WILLIAM BARTLETT TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Beverly, December 20, 1775.

Sir: I hereby acknowledge the receipt of yours, per Colonel *Glover*, together with the two thousand dollars; also sundry letters since, concerning giving to the prisoners their private property; which orders, your Excellency may depend on, shall be punctually obeyed, with pleasure, for it always has been very disagreeable to me that any thing should be taken from them, and have done my utmost to prevent it; but it has been impracticable; which I hope your Excellency has heard, from different hands, to your satisfaction. Also your order with regard to the corn and oats on board the sloop *Betsy*, together with *Thomas Mifflin*, Esquire's, order for the same. Colonel *Glover* has since arrived here; who informs me that Mr. *Mifflin* will not give so much as the cargo will sell for here; and that your Excellency is willing I should dispose of it at this place. I shall therefore wait your Excellency's orders.

I have unloaded the brigantine *Hannah*, and stowed her cargo at *Salem* bridge. The coals out of the *Concord* go off very slow, on account of the price of teams. The butter taken out of her would sell exceeding well here, if your Excellency would think proper to give me orders to dispose of it. The porter on board the ship *Jenny* is of an inferior quality. I desire your Excellency's orders concerning it.

Am in haste, with the greatest respect, your Excellency's most obedient humble servant,

William Bartlett.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

GENERAL GREENE TO JACOB GREENE.

Prospect-Hill, December 20, 1775.

Wallace, I hear, continues a thorn in your side; burning and destroying wherever he can get an opportunity. It is to me a most astonishing thing that the Committee of *Newport* are desirous of nourishing such a serpent in the bosom of the country. If his depredations were to cease in all parts of the country, there might be some small reason for listening to his propositions. But, for him to obtain his supplies, and grant an indemnity only to the town of *Newport*, is sacrificing the rest of the Province to the benefit of that town only; for he will be continually committing piracies upon all the islands and shores that he can get footing upon. I think *Wallace's* conduct has been such, from the insults and abuses he has offered to Government, that it is highly dishonourable to have any further intercourse or commerce with him. Besides, these separate treaties weaken the chain of connection and injure the general interests of the Continent. We must expect to make partial sacrifices for the publick good. I love the Colony of *Rhode-Island*, and have ever had a very great affection for the town of *Newport;* but I am not so attached to either as to be willing to injure the common cause for their particular benefit.

It is a very great unhappiness that such a division of sentiment in political matters prevails in the Colony; it distracts her councils and weakens her exertions. The Committee in the town of *Newport*, you say, seem inclined to counteract the prevailing sentiment in the Government. It is astonishing that ancient prejudices and selfish motives should prevail, at a time when every thing that is dear and valuable is at stake. I hear some of the inhabitants of *Newport* are very jealous of the views of the town of *Providence;* fearing that the latter has in view the destruction of *Newport*, for their own private advantage. I cannot harbour a thought so derogatory to the patriotism of the people of *Newport*, as to suppose that such a fear can have any real existence. Can the inhabitants of *Newport* suppose that the Legislature of the Colony acts upon such absurd principles as to make a sacrifice of one town for the benefit of another?

George the Third's last speech has shut the door of hope for reconciliation between the Colonies and *Great Britain*. There are great preparations going on in *England*, to prosecute the war in the spring. We have no reason to doubt the King's intentions. We must submit unconditionally, or defend ourselves. The calamities of war are very distressing, but slavery is dreadful. I have no reason to doubt the success of the Colonies, when I consider their union, strength, and resources. But we must expect to feel the common calamities which attend even a successful war. We are now driven to the necessity of making a declaration of independence. We can no longer preserve our freedom and continue the connection with her. With safety we can appeal to Heaven for the necessity, propriety, and rectitude of such a measure.

I flatter myself the King's speech will induce the Congress to raise one large Continental army proportionable to the extent of our undertaking; to be under one command, and by him directed to the security and preservation of the several united Governments. This will unite and cement the whole strength of the several Colonies. If this method is not adopted, some Governments, from their natural situation, will be subject to fourfold the expense of others, for their own particular security. As we have one common interest in the opposition, and it is merely accidental and uncertain where the enemy may exert their greatest force, I think the Continent ought to provide for the security of every Colony.

Letters were received this day from General *Montgomery*, near *Quebeck*. He says he expects to be master of the place in a very little time. He has powder and all kinds of military stores to facilitate the reduction. He and his troops are in good health, and he speaks very highly of Colonel *Arnold* and his party. Many officers, and a large number of the privates, belong to our Government.

The regiments fill up very slowly here. It is really discouraging. I fear the advantages proposed from so large an armament as our establishment was to consist of, will be defeated by the length of time it takes to fill the army. However, I still hope for better things, and pray *God* my expectations may not be defeated. If the Congress had given a large bounty, and engaged the soldiery during the war, the Continent would be much securer, and the measures cheaper in the end. The wisest may sometimes err. To profit rightly by past evils is the only right use that can be made of former misfortunes. *God* grant that our future measures may be so taken as to render our success equal to our wishes.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER TO A GENTLEMAN IN VIRGINIA, DATED LONDON, DECEMBER 21, 1775.

I have always been of opinion that our connection with this country ought not to be dissolved. It made me happy to see, by the proceedings of the General Congress, that it was their sentiment; but the bill which has now passed both Houses of Parliament, and will, in a few days, receive the Royal assent, has, by treating the Colonies as enemies, put an end to that question. They cannot be enemies and subjects at the same time. The moment that bill passes, it puts the two countries asunder. It is better so unnatural a measure should move from those Ministers who have been the cause of all the calamities we lament.

America has nothing now to do but to provide for herself. The hostilities the same Ministers are meditating against her, you know, I conceive, will be as ineffectual as they are unwise. If the Ministry can collect twenty thousand men, for the next campaign, they will perform wonders. If they succeed with that number, it will be still more miraculous. If they do not succeed, they will not be able to attempt another campaign.

During the whole of last summer they have offered as high premiums as in the utmost exigency of the last war, and without the least success. The few boys they obtained were a ridicule upon recruiting. It is certain *Russia* will not furnish them the assistance they solicited; nor the *Irish* Roman Catholicks be tempted into the service.

Without a miracle, then, they have no chance of ever seeing such an army as that which has found such difficulty in acquiring a single hill in *America*. Under such difficulties, and with such an army, they are to contend against a numerous *American* army, trained in one campaign of uncommon activity and vigilance, and against the whole Continent in arms, and actuated by every motive that can make the timorous terrible, and the brave irresistible. Besides this, the scene of war must be in a country impracticable to those who do not know it, and abounding with such advantages to the natives, that, with common prudence, it is impossible for an enemy to advance fifty miles. It is unnecessary to enumerate the thousand other obvious and insuperable difficulties they must encounter. What I have

already mentioned is enough to brand their measures with madness. In my opinion the mischief of them will be felt here within half a year, so as to produce the most dangerous internal commotions. An attack from *France*, too, is exceedingly probable. It is certain that her interposition, by the means of *Sweden*, prevented the *Russian* auxiliaries.

The ostensible reason, on the part of *Russia*, was, that there was no cartel settled between *Great Britain* and *America*. The want of this will certainly make every power reluctant in lending their troops; especially for a service so distant and desperate. So that I think there is not the least probability of their obtaining foreign troops, now or hereafter. Upon this view of things, you will think, with me, that our countrymen have the game in their own hands. I trust they will play it so as to establish the dignity and renown of the *American* name, and the constitutional liberties of *America*, upon an immortal basis. The addresses which were moved by the Ministry, against the advice of Lord *Mansfield*, have decided the popular opinion to be against the measures. With the immense influence of a Government that has more than fifty thousand places and pensions in its disposal, with all *Scotland* at its heels, and all the Jacobites and Tories, supporting it as the old cause, they have not been able to enrol a tenth part of the nation in the list of addresses. In *London*, *Middlesex*, *Southwark*, *Coventry*, *Leeds*, *Newcastle*, *Bristol*, *Bradford*, *Berkshire*, or wherever it has come to a decided question, the petitioners have out-numbered the addressers. In this situation, they trust to the chapter of accidents; they hope that some dissension in *America* will give them an opportunity of exerting the influence of corruption, which they find so essential at *Westminster*. Lord *Bute's* pupil bids them go on, and they do it more willingly, because, by furnishing a pretence for increasing taxes, it augments the means of plunder, and they hold themselves secure at least of his protection. They will, however, be fortunate if they escape the effects of a treachery that has hitherto known no exceptions. Such is the sum of our political situation, than which nothing can be more desperate.

The publick begins to conceive that these measures will sever *America* forever from this country. The Ministry are so conscious of it, that they have hired Dean *Tucker* to soften the business, by persuading the people that it will be no loss. A piratical war they think they can maintain with decided advantage, from the superiority of their navy; and even in this I believe they are governed more by the hopes of plunder than of conquest. Upon this principle Lord *North's* last bill is founded, to render all *American* property and vessels confiscate and prize. *Spain* tried exactly the same experiment with the *Dutch*; and it ended then, as I hope it will now, in the prosperity and independency of the commerce of the States. Upon the whole, I think we may be satisfied that neither the evil spirit of Lord *Bute* and his pupil, nor the machinations of their Ministers, will ever prevail against the unanimity and spirit of our countrymen.

The piratical war they are planning must operate against them, exactly in proportion as their commerce exceeds that of *America*. Their bill authorizes, and must necessarily produce, retaliation. They have much at stake upon the seas, and *America* little. The consequence is inevitable. In this line, therefore, they are as little likely to succeed, or persevere. Happily for the rights of mankind, experience does not teach them wisdom, and the weakness of their heads defeats the wickedness of their hearts. As little do I conceive will they succeed in corrupting of the Congress, and dividing the Colonies. A people who have every thing at stake will be too watchful. A Congress so highly trusted, and so conspicuous, will be too wise and too virtuous to be seduced. When I think of the men who are thus attempting to reduce near three millions of brave, wise, united freemen, to the most abject slavery, the means with which they are to accomplish it, the distance, the disadvantages under which they are to act, I do not know in what words to express my contempt. But knowing too, as I do, that *France* will certainly interfere, I am much more inclined to think that they will reduce *Great Britain* under the dominion of *France*, than *America* under that of *Great Britain*. It is, indeed, highly probable that the ultimate object of Lord *Bute*, Lord *Mansfield*, and the *Scotch*, who are the sole and secret movers of all these measures, is to restore the expelled race, and what Dr. *Johnson*, in the definition of a tory, calls the ancient constitution in Church and State. Once more I wish you happy; and, cut off as we shall be from all accidental communication, I shall rest satisfied that the union, firmness, and spirit of our countrymen, will preserve our liberties against all invaders.

HENRY WISNER TO B. TOWNE.

Philadelphia, December 21, 1775.

Having for many months been sensibly affected with the great disadvantage the Colonies labour under for want of ammunition, I thought it my duty to apply myself to the attainment of those necessary arts of making saltpetre and gunpowder; and having far exceeded my expectations in both manufactures, I think myself still further obliged to communicate the so much needed knowledge to my country at large. My first trial was on saltpetre, two pounds of which my son has extracted from about six bushels of stable dirt, perfectly fit for making gunpowder. This was done by the method of Doctor *Young* and Mr. *Rubsaman*, lately published by the former, for which, and many other useful informations, I take this opportunity to return those gentlemen my publick thanks.

I have lately erected a powder-mill in the south end of *Ulster* County, in the Colony of *New-York*, at which I have made as good powder as I ever have seen, and will bear the inspection of good judges, in the following manner: Gunpowder is composed of nothing more than the four plain simple articles, saltpetre, brimstone, charcoal, and water. The three first of which are to be made as fine as possible, so as to be sifted through a gauze sieve, or fine bolt, as fine as for common flour. But it being difficult to make the saltpetre all fine, those parts that will not be easily got through the sieve, must be dissolved in soft warm water, then let the sulphur, saltpetre, and charcoal, be each separately weighed. Take of the saltpetre an hundred weight, of the sulphur fifteen pounds, and charcoal eighteen pounds, and in that proportion for any greater or smaller quantity. This being done, mix them all well together in some large vessel, such as a potash or any other kettle, and when well mixed, moisten the whole with the aforesaid nitrous water till it is as moist as dough for making bread. Then put an equal quantity in each mortar, and pound it well for at least twenty hours; and if the mill runs slowly, let it run twenty-four hours; and as the paste, by pounding, will naturally grow dry, it must be kept moist by putting in a little of said water, and when pounded sufficiently take it out of the mortar, and put it in some tub or any other proper vessel. As to the graining, it must be done in the following manner, viz: have a box made about five feet square, the sides eighteen inches deep, the bottom tight, and top entirely open; fix across the box two rods or laths near the middle, about four inches below the top, and about ten inches apart, then have six sieves made of wooden splits in the same manner as a wheat riddle, but much finer, the coarsest should be about as fine as a cockle sieve, or a little finer, and so each sieve to increase in fineness till the last is as fine as possible; I believe it were best to make the two coarsest of wire. Then take about a quart of the paste, put it into the coarsest sieve, set the sieves on the two rods that are fixed across the box, then work the sieve with a circular motion, which will press the paste through the sieve in large and unshapely grains; and when a considerable quantity is passed through, then sift it over again in the next coarsest sieve, and so till the grains are fine enough; the last sieve must be so fine that whatever passes through it will be too fine for powder, and is to be worked over the next batch. As the paste will naturally roll together in large round balls, when worked in the sieve, a board must be made near as large in circumference as a common pewter plate, and about one inch thick, on the centre, declining to the edge, of some hard wood turned in a lathe, and made as smooth as possible. This board must be put into the sieve among the paste, which breaks the lumps in pieces, and forces the paste through the sieve.

When the powder is well grained in the manner directed, it must be rolled in a barrel, the inside of which is to be made as smooth as conveniently may be, with a small

door cut in one side capable of being shut tight, and the barrel to be fixed so as to be turned by the shaft of the mill. Put in a few pounds at a time, and let it be rolled as above, which will make the powder smooth; then sift it in the finest sieve, till the fine parts that work off in the barrel pass through the sieve, which is to be returned again into the mortars. The powder must be put in flat trays or dishes, and set by to dry either in a small room kept warm with a large stove, or, if the weather be dry, in the shining of the sun.

I, therefore, most heartily recommend to the good people of this Continent to enter into these necessary businesses with spirit, being well assured that a greater quantity may, with ease, be made than will be needed for our consumption, even admitting the times to be worse than the threats of the *British* Administration would lead us to expect.

Any person inclining to build a powder-mill will be shown a plan, with directions for the construction of all its parts and utensils, by applying to their very humble servant,

HENRY WISNER.

LANCASTER (PENNSYLVANIA) COMMITTEE TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read December 27, 1775.]

Lancaster, December 21, 1775.

SIR: The Committee of Correspondence of this County have received your letter of the 18th instant, enclosing certain resolutions of the honourable Congress, respecting the disposition of the officers and privates, who are prisoners here.

We beg leave to mention to you, that in consequence of the directions transmitted to us, the officers met us this morning, and having perused your resolve, requesting some time to determine on their respective places of residence, this indulgence we thought ourselves bound to grant upon their entreaty. We have taken their parole for the present, and now enclose the same to you.

They complain greatly of a separation from their soldiers, as a breach of General *Schuyler's* solemn engagement, and that they cannot remove from hence until their baggage, with the men's clothing, and the pay of the troops, come up. They say that justice cannot be done to the privates, with respect to their pay in arrear, unless the officers are upon the spot to make the proper settlements. The soldiers also express great uneasiness about their clothing and pay, if their officers are removed from them. Of these matters we conceive it our duty not to judge, but strictly to conform to your orders. The want of warm clothing for the soldiers (of which they are in great need) is still one of the objects of their complaint, but on this head we referred them to Major *Preston*. The gentlemen of the Seventh Regiment tell us, they have reason to believe that the Major is to furnish clothing for the Twenty-Sixth Regiment alone.

The letter we had the favour of receiving from Messrs. *Lynch* and *Lewis* informed us, that Mr. *David Franks* had engaged to supply the troops with provisions. We are at a loss to know to what fund our barrackmaster must apply for the payment of the articles of wood, candles, bedding, and blankets, and the implements of the cooking, absolutely necessary for the prisoners here.

We request your directions, whether in case any of the officers should incline to draw bills for any money necessary for their accommodation and subsistence, the inhabitants shall be at liberty to advance their cash, and take their bills; or whether this shall be considered as an infraction of the former resolution of Congress. The officers have requested to be informed by us, whether any provision is to be made for their future subsistence. We look up to you for an answer.

The general outlines of the duties of our department being made known unto us, we shall endeavour to conform minutely to them. In such matters, wherein circumstances may make it necessary to exercise our own judgment, we hoped in no instance to deviate essentially from the system of the honourable Congress.

By order of the Committee:

EDWARD SHIPPEN, *Chairman*.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq.

DISAFFECTED PERSONS IN QUEEN'S COUNTY, NEW-YORK.

In Provincial Congress, New-York, December 21, 1775.

Whereas on the 13th instant, on information that a number of disaffected persons in *Queen's* County, had been supplied with Arms and Ammunition from on board the *Asia* ship-of-war, and had been arraying themselves in military manner, to oppose the measures taking by the *United Colonies* for the defence of their just rights and privileges, and thrown out many threatening expressions against sundry persons residing in that and the neighbouring Counties,

It was resolved by this Congress as their opinion, That such conduct is inimical to the common cause of the *United Colonies*, and ought not by any means to be suffered; but that measures should be immediately taken to put a stop to it.

And it was therefore ordered, That the inhabitants of the said County should appear by a Committee before this Congress, on *Wednesday* then next, at ten o'clock in the morning, to give satisfaction in the premises; with which order the said inhabitants of *Queen's* County have not complied. And whereas the persons above-mentioned and their adherents have opposed the election of Representatives for that County in this Congress, on a poll opened for that purpose, whereby that County remains unrepresented in this Congress: And whereas a prevailing party prevented the election of Delegates for the County of *Richmond*, at a late poll there opened for that purpose; by means whereof the said County is not represented in this Congress: And whereas the poll list for *Queen's* County has been returned to this Congress, whereby the persons opposing such representation as aforesaid, and appearing to this Congress to be inimical to the interest of the *United Colonies*, may be ascertained:

Resolved, first, That such inimical persons as aforesaid have been guilty of a breach of the General Association, and of an open contempt of the authority of this Congress, as effectually representing the majority of the inhabitants of this Colony.

Resolved, secondly, That the inhabitants of the County of *Richmond*, by neglecting to elect Representatives in this Congress, have been guilty of a breach of the General Association.

Resolved, thirdly, That the Committee of the said County of *Richmond*, do and shall, within fifteen days after the publication hereof, return to this Congress, or the Committee of Safety, a list of the names of those who oppose a representation of the said County in this Congress, to the end that the delinquents against the common cause in that County may be ascertained, and that in default thereof the whole County of *Richmond* be deemed delinquent.

Resolved, fourthly, That the said delinquents, in the said Counties respectively, and each and every of them, be and hereby are entirely put out of the protection of this Congress.

Resolved, fifthly, That all friendly and commercial intercourse between the said persons so put respectively out of the protection of this Congress, and the other inhabitants of this Colony, ought to be, and the same, as far as can be effected by the recommendation of this Congress, hereby is and shall continue to be totally interdicted, until further orders of this Congress, or the Committee of Publick Safety.

And to the end that no persons may plead ignorance of the aforesaid Resolves and this Order,

It is ordered, That the same, together with a list of such delinquents as aforesaid, in each of the said Counties respectively, be, without delay, printed and dispersed in handbills, and inserted in all the newspapers of this Colony.

A true copy from the minutes:

ROBERT BENSON, *Secretary*.

List of the Delinquents in QUEEN'S *County, mentioned in the foregoing Resolutions of the Provincial Congress of New-York:*

Powell Amberman,	Elias Allen, *Oyster-bay*,	John Abrams,
Daniel Allan,	John Allen,	Samuel Abrams,
Robert Allen,	Baruck Allen,	Jonas Abrams,
Andrew Allen,	Henry Abrams,	Charles Abrams,

Henry Abrams,
William Abrams,
Daniel Abrams,
Isaac Amberman,
Daniel Albertson,
Joseph Abrams,
John Amberman,
Elbert Adriancc,
Jacob Adriance,
Dr. Charles Ardin,
Van Goort Brunt,
Aric Boerum,
Thomas Balden,
Aaron Burtis,
Michael Butler,
Joseph Berzley,
Jacob Bedal,
Benjamin Bedal,
Thomas Birdsdall,
Benjamin Burtis,
Daniel Brinckerhoff,
Stephen Baldwin,
William Burtis,
David Battine,
James Birdsall,
Samuel Birdsall,
Oliver Birdsall,
Joseph Bedal, 3d,
Jonathan Bedal,
Peter Bond,
Silvanus Bedal, Esq.,
Elijah Barton,
Joseph Birdsall,
Henry Balden,
Cornelius Bogart,
Richard Brewer,
Jonathan Baldwin,
Tunis Bergin,
Joseph Bedall,
Jeremiah Bedell,
Peter Bond,
David Bedell,
Joshua Birdsall,
John Bennet,
Cornelius Bennet,
Teunis Brinckerhooff,
Barnabae Bloom,
Richard Burgaw,
Luke Bergen,
Jacob Bond,
Elias Burtis,
Silvanus Bedell, Esq.,
John Brewer,
Peter Burgaw,
Dr. David Brooke,
Barrick Bergen,
Timothy Bedell,
George Brinckerhooff,
Elbert Brinckerhooff,
Capt. Richard Betts,
James Burtis, Jr.,
William Burns,
Abr. Brinckerhooff, Jr.
Aster Burtis,
James Balden,
George Balden,
Abraham Balden,
Jacob Bedell,
Abijah Bedell,
James Burtis,
John Miller Burtis,
Michael Burns,
Jonathan Cornelius,
Timothy Cornwell,
Tunis Covert, Jun.,
Penn J. Cock,
Thomas Cornel,
Joseph Cadle,
Stephen Cock,
Samuel Clowes, Esq.,
John Cock,
Samuel Carman,
John O. Coomes,
James Carpenter,
Gerardus Clowes,
William Cornwell,
Samuel Cornwell, (son of Joseph,)
Adam Carman,
Stephen Callas,
Samuel Carman, 3d,
Stephen Clement,
Samuel Mott Cornell,
Nathaniel Coombes,
Honce Covert,
David Cossibome,
Tunis Covert,
Edward Cornel,
John Cornel,
Stephen Carman,
Samuel Carman, Jr.,
John Carman,
Luke Cummins,
Thomas Coombes,
William Cornell,
James Cornell,
Elijah Cornell,
Charles Cornell,

Samuel Carman, 3d,
William Cock,
William Cornell, 3d,
Benjamin Carman,
Capt. Samuel Carman,
Johannis Cushow,
Tunis Covert, Jr.,
Levi Cock,
Harvey Colvell,
Thomas Cornell,
Robert Coles,
William Covert,
Gabriel Cott,
Watt Covert,
Thomas Cock,
Daniel Cock,
Teunis Covert,
Nicholas Cott, Jr.,
Thomas Clowes,
David Colden, Esq.,
Whitehead Cornell,
Timothy Clowes,
Moses Cornelius,
William Coomes,
Joseph Dunbar,
John Dailey,
Douwe Ditmars,
Joseph Dunbar, Jr.,
Benjamin Daronen,
John Duryee,
Joseph Dodge,
Isaac Denton,
Thomas Durling,
John Demott,
David Demott,
Gabriel Doxy,
Michael Demott,
Solomon Docy,
Anthony Demott,
Samuel Denton,
Michael Demott,
Jacobus Demott,
Benjamin Durlin,
Joseph Durlin,
Samuel Doty,
Charles Doughty,
Isaac Denton,
Thomas Durlin,
Abraham Demott,
Isaac Denton, Jr,
Isaiah Doughty,
John Durling,
Samuel Durling,
Benj. Durling, Jr.,
Lewis Davenport,
George Durye,
Elias Durlin, 3d,
Francis Davenport,
Robert Doughty,
Daniel Durlin,
Ruleff Durye,
George Doughty,
Jacob Dean,
Garrot Dorland,
Samuel Davenport,
Benjamin Durlin,
Elias Durlin,
Isaac Ditmars,
Archibald Doxe,
James Denton,
John Doughty,
Hendrick Emmons,
Luke Eldert,
John Elseworth,
Israel Eldert,
James Eldert,
Joseph Field,
John Featherby,
William Featherby,
Abraham Furman, Jr.,
Harman Flower,
John Flower,
Whitehead Field,
Thomas Fleet,
Samuel Foster,
John Flcet,
Thomas Featherby,
Samuel Forsdyke,
Abraham Furman,
Abraham Flower,
John Fowler,
Benjamin Fish,
Thomas Frost,
Nathaniel Frost,
Felix Fowler,
John Foster,
William Frost,
Jonathan Fish,
Timothy Flower,
Joseph Gaulder,
William Golder,
Garret Golder,
Richard Gilderleave,
Jonathan Gildersleave,
William Gritman,
Michael Golder,
Samuel Green,
Richard Green,

William Golder,
Jonathan Gorham,
John Golden,
Obadiah Hinchman,
Benjamin Haviland,
Capt. John Hewlet,
Cornelius Hogeland,
John Hewlet, Jr.,
Jacob Hicks, Jr.,
Silas Hicke,
Thomas Hutchings,
Stephen Hendrickson,
Daniel Hewlet,
Charles Hewlet,
John Hewlet, Esq.,
Thomas Hicks,
John Hulse,
Townsend Hewlet,
John Hughes,
John Holmes,
John Hageman,
T. Hendrickson, Jr.,
Cornelius Hart,
Benjamin Hewlet,
John Hewlet,
Benjamin Hageman,
Joseph Haviland,
John Hewlet, Sen., *N. side*,
Jacamiah Hutchins,
Joseph Hewlet,
Lawrence Hewlet,
Reuben Hall,
Daniel Hall,
Flower Hulse,
Harman Hendrickson,
Thomas Hallet,
Simeon Hawxhurst,
James Hicks,
Hendrick Hendrickson,
Daniel Hendrickson,
Richard Hallet,
James Hallet,
Joseph Hall,
John Hall,
George Hewlet,
Joseph Hall,
William Hall,
John Haviland,
William Hogland,
Archibald Hamilton,
Capt. Samuel Hallet,
Luke Haviland,
Austin Hicks,
John Hageman,
Stephen Hewlet,
Benj. Hewlet, Jr.,
Nathaniel Higley,
Stephen Hicks,
Richard Hewlet, Esq.,
Capt. Charles Hicks,
Richard Hewlet,
John Higby,
Thomas Hendrickson,
Daniel Hewlet, Jr.,
John Hauxhurst,
William Hewlet,
Albert Hogland,
Stephen Higby,
Jacob Hicks,
Hendrick Hagner,
Thomas Hewlet,
Hugh Hoomes,
Robert Jackson,
David Jackson,
John Jackson, Jr.,
William Johnson,
Henry Jackson,
Samuel Johnson,
Cornelius Jackson,
Samuel Jackson,
Townsend Jackson,
Peter Jones,
Parmenus Jackson,
Jacob Jackson,
Thomas Jackson,
Thomas Jackson,
Daniel Kissam,
Joseph Kissam,
John Kissam,
Benjamin Kissam,
Thomas Kip,
Daniel Kerby,
Morris Lott,
Isaac Lattin,
Nicholas Lambertson,
John Lambertson,
Matthias Lambertson,
Simon Lambertson,
Joseph Ludlam,
Samuel Langdon,
Joseph Langdon,
Pearson Langdon,
William Langdon,
Henry Ludlam, Jr.,
William Ludlam,
John Linington,
Jacob Lambertson,

Peter Losee,
Leffert Lefferts,
William Langdon,
John Lagross,
Archibald Langdon,
Simon Losee,
Jos. Langdon, hatter,
Benjamin Lester,
David Ludlam,
Gabriel G. Ludlow,
James Langdon,
Henry Ludlam,
Tice Lane,
Richard Langdon,
Samuel Langdon,
Nicholas Ludlam,
Thomas Ludlam,
Jacobus Lawrence,
Abraham Lawrence,
James Lewis,
Garret Latting,
Obadiah Lawrence,
Adam Lawrence,
Sias Lattin,
Dr. Daniel Lawrence,
Nathaniel Mills,
Samuel Moore, 3d,
Joshua Mille,
Ezekiel Matthews,
Daniel Murray,
Henry Miller,
Adam Mott,
Abraham Mannercc,
Gilbert McCown,
John Mott,
Cornelius Miller,
John Martin,
John McIntosh,
Richard Matthews,
Samuel Mott,
James Man,
Obadiah Mills,
Samuel Moore,
Thomas Merrel,
John Moore, Jr.,
John Moore, Sen.,
John Marvin,
Jacob Mott,
Richard Mott,
Nathaniel Moore,
John Mitchel,
Jackson Mott,
Caleb Morrill,
John Mott,
Hope Mills,
John Morril,
William Miller,
William Monfort,
Cornelius Monfort,
Richard Mason,
Hendrick Munsee,
Richard McCoun,
Luke Norstrant,
Abraham Norstrant,
Garret Norstrant,
Garret O. Norstrant,
Daniel Norstrant,
John Norstrant,
Fred. Norstrant, Jr.,
Garret Norstrant,
Daniel Norstraat,
Peter Norstrant,
Jacob Norstrant,
Frederick Norstrant,
Peter Norstrant,
Joseph Oldfield,
John Oakley,
John Green Oak,
John Polhemus,
William Pettit,
Jacob Peterson,
Benjamin Pettit,
John Pettit,
Hezekiah Pearsall,
Samuel Pettit,
Stephen Powell,
Pearse Poole,
James Place,
James Pettit, Jr.,
James Pine,
Amos Powell,
Jonathan Pratt,
Solomon Powell,
Richard Pine,
James Pine,
William Pearson,
Adam Pettit,
William Pettit,
Joseph Pearsall,
Philip Palmer,
Henry Pearson,
William Pidgeon,
Daniel Pine,
David Peterson,
Solomon Powell,
Joseph Pettit,
Increase Pettit,
John Peters,

Michael Pettit,
Samuel Pettit,
Philip Platt,
John Pratt,
Richard Place,
John Pearson,
Thomas Place,
Uriah Platt,
Hew. V. Peters, Esq.,
Isaac Pettit,
Jacobus Riker,
Stephen Rapilje,
Richard Robbins,
Jeromus Rapilje,
Christopher Remsen,
Richard Roades,
George Roades,
Jonathan Rowlin,
Cornelius Rapilje,
Isaac Rapilje,
Jeremiah Robbins,
Cornelius Rearson,
John Rainer,
Martin Rapilje,
Abraham Rapilje,
Isaac Remsen,
Daniel Rapilje,
Rem Remsen, Sen., of *Jamaica*,
Daniel Remsen,
Amos Rhodes,
Elijah Rainer,
Joseph Rainer,
John Rainer,
Henry Rainer,
Joseph Rainer,
Joel Rainer,
George Rapilje,
George Rierson,
Benjamin Rainer,
Jacob Rainer,
Ezekiel Rainer,
Israel Rodgers,
John Rushmore,
John Remsen,
Carmar Rushmore,
Michael Rodgers,
William Rushmore,
Rem H. Remsen,
Anthony H. Roades,
Amos Rainer,
Stephen Robbine,
Martin Rierson,
Isaac Rainer,
Peter Rierson,
Auris Remsen,
Jacob Rinehart,
Timothy Roades,
John I. Remsen,
James Robbins,
George Rapilje,
Abraham Remsen,
Cornelius Rapilje,
Christopher Remsen,
Charles Remsen,
John Smith, sp's.,
Joshua Snedicker,
William Spragg,
S. Smith, *Rockaway*,
Jonathan Smith,
Rock Smith, *Nanus' Rock*,
Henry Shaw,
Annanias Southard,
Robert Sutton,
Thomas Seaman,
Edward Spragg,
Barent Snedicker,
Richard Smith,
Solomon Seaman,
Zebulon Seaman,
William Smith,
Joseph R. Smith,
Jonathan R. Smith, Jr.
Elijah R. Smith,
Amos Smith,
James Smith,
Joshua Smith,
Zebulon R. Smith,
Peter R. Scott,
Thomas Smith, Jr.,
Nathan O. Skidmore,
Silvanus Southard,
Amos Shaw,
Obadiah Smith,
Nathaniel Smith,
John Seaman,
Charles Smalling,
Benjamin Smith,
David R. Salmons,
Cornel Smith,
Joseph R. Smith, Jr.,
Richard R. Southard,
Thomas Southard,
Daniel Smith,
Isaac Smith, Jr.,
Pelham Sands,
Richard Smith,

James Smith, *Rock.*,
John Smith,
Isaac Smith, Esq.,
Harman Shaw,
Israel Seaman,
James Southard,
Ambrose Seaman,
Samuel T. Seaman,
Benjamin Smith,
Israel Smith, *Rock.*,
Elijah Smith,
Johannes Scott,
William Stites,
Elijah Spragg,
James Smith,
Daniel Smith,
John Sand, Jr.,
Samuel Stringham,
Samuel Smith,
William Smith,
Elias Smith,
Benjamin Stivers,
Christian Snedeker,
Adrian Schenck,
Elijah Smith,
Morris Simondson,
Abr. Simondson,
Charles Simondson,
Henry Suydam,
Nicholas Schenck,
Cornelius Suydam,
Adam Seabury,
Thomas Stockford,
Samuel Smith,
John T. Stephens,
Thomas Smith, *Oysterbay*,
Casper Spring Steen,
Israel Sealy,
Joseph Smith,
Ludlam Smith,
John Schenck,
Nehemiah Sammons,
Jacob Stringham,
Jonathan Smith,
John Snedeker, Jr.,
John Shoal, *Newtown*,
Jonathan Searing,
Stephen Smith,
Thomas Seaman,
John Simondson,
John Sprag,
John R. Smith,
John Southard,
John Suydham,
Isaac Seamen,
J. Stocker, *Cow-neck*,
John R. Smith, son of Samuel,
Nicholas Townsend,
Peter Titus, Jr.,
John Townsend,
Daniel Thurston,
John H. Townsend,
Richard Townsend,
Thomas Tredwell,
John Titus,
Richard Townsend, Jr.
Richard Titus,
Peter Thomas,
Joseph Thorne,
Philip Thorne,
William Tillet,
Abraham Townsend,
Edmund Titus,
Timothy Titus,
Benj. Treadwell, Jr.,
John Townsend, Esq.,
William Thetford,
Benj. Treadwell,
John Toffy,
Samuel Treadwell,
Joseph Totten,
John Talman,
Joseph Townsend,
Nathaniel Townsend,
William Thurston,
John Troup,
Thomas Thorne,
John Treadwell,
James Turner,
Richard Tattersall,
Timothy Townsend,
John Thurston,
Hewlitt Townsend,
Thomas Townsend,
Peter Underhill,
Caleb Underhill,
Daniel Underhill,
John Underhill,
Nicholas Vanarsdalon,
Theo. Van Wyck,
Jacob Van Norstrant,
Tunie Van Cott,
Seemans Verity,
John Vetito,
William Valeer,
Cor. Van Norstrant,

*

John Van Norstrant,	John Willet,	James Waters,
Aaron Van Norstraot,	Johannis Williamson,	Henry Wamser,
William Valentine,	Daniel Whitehead,	Michael Weekes,
Aaron Van Norstrant,	Benj. Whitehead,	Thomas Wooley,
Robert H. Valentine,	John Williamson,	Abraham Warner,
Samuel Van Wyck,	John Weeks,	Thomas Willet,
Obadiah Valentine,	Joseph Weeks,	William Welling,
James Verity,	George O. Watts,	Jacob Williams,
Wm. Van Norstrant,	Benjamin Waters,	Jabez Woodruff,
Jacobus Valser,	James Wood,	John Weekes,
William Verity,	Thomas Wiggins,	Charles Willet,
Barnt Van Wyck,	Benjamin Wiggins,	James Whaley,
Albert Van Norstrant,	Richard Wiggins,	William Weyman,
MartinVan Norstrant,	Isaac Weeks,	Simeon Watts,
John Vaucott,	Samuel Wood,	Henry Wooley,
Gilbert Van Wyck,	John Walters,	William Williams,
John H. Vanlean,	Benajah Wiggins,	John Wiggins,
Eldert Van Wyck,	Townsend Weeks,	Nathaniel Woodruff,
Thomas Van Wyck,	John Watts,	John Wooley,
Abraham Van Wyck,	Philip Woolley,	Capt. Edmund Weekes,
Aaron Van Norstrant,	Thos. Williams, Sen.,	George Weekes,
Nicholas Van Cott,	Henry Waters,	Seaman Weekes,
John Voorhies,	George Weekes,	Joseph Willis,
Jonas Valentine,	Elijah Wood,	Nathaniel Woodruff,
Jacamiah Valentine,	Pen Weekes,	Thomas Youngs,
Dow Vandyne,	George O. Weekes,	Daniel Youngs,
Capt. Wm. Velser,	Stephen Willis,	Daniel Youngs, Jr.
Daniel Velser,		

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read December 30, 1775.]

Albany, December 21, 1775.

Sir: I do myself the honour to enclose you a return of the military stores that were at *Ticonderoga Landing* and *Crown-Point* on the 2d instant. The cannon, mortars, and other stores sent for by General *Washington*, are happily arrived at *Fort George*, from whence they will be moved to the place of their destination as soon as we are favoured with a fall of snow, and that the ice in the river will be strong enough to bear the heavy cannon.

A post, which arrived here on the 18th, and who left *Montreal* on the 4th, brought me no letters, either from General *Montgomery* or General *Wooster*. I inquired of the man, who could inform me nothing of the former, but that he was gone towards *Quebeck*. The frost here is so intense, that the river is frozen over, and I expect will be passable with horses in a day or two.

A quantity of baggage belonging to the prisoners, and which was embarked in a sloop, is caught in the ice, about five miles below this. The greatest part of it belongs to those who are now in *Pennsylvania*, and how to get it to them I do not know.

Should there be a necessity in the ensuing campaign to keep up a force to the eastward, equal to what there has been in this, I fear there will be a scarcity of flour in that quarter. Should my apprehension be well founded, would it not be prudent to transport a quantity of flour from the eastern parts of this Colony, to the eastern side of the *Green Mountains?* which, though passable in winter with sleds, are scarcely so at any other season of the year for any kind of carriages.

I have not yet received any pay-rolls from the Colony of *Connecticut*. I fear that unless great attention is paid, the publick will suffer considerably by overcharges. What measures shall I pursue with such officers as return me false pay-rolls? The time for which they were engaged is expired, and no military punishment can be inflicted on them.

The conference with the *Six Nations* has had a happy issue; they have delivered up the war-belt which was given them with much ceremony by Colonel *Johnson*, at *Montreal*. The proceedings will be transmitted to the Congress in a few days.

The Commissary-General has this moment waited upon me, with a letter from Mr. *Lewis*, containing in substance an order that the clothing sent here for the army in this department should, if not moved from *Albany*, be sent to *Cambridge*. As I have ordered four companies to be raised in this quarter, of which I acquainted Congress some time ago, and promised that they should be supplied with clothing, I have ordered the Commissary-General to detain as much here as will be sufficient for these men; and as the remainder cannot be immediately sent, it is more than probable that before it can leave this, Congress will, in consequence of my last letters, countermand Mr. *Lewis's* orders.

I am, sir, with much respect, your most obedient, and very humble servant,

Philip Schuyler.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq.

[GENERAL WASHINGTON] TO GENERAL WARD.

Cambridge, December 21, 1775.

Sir: His Excellency has commanded me to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of this date, and to inform you that if the persons mentioned in Mr. *Champion's* letter, are enlisted to serve in the new army, that they must not be permitted to go to him, but if they are not, that you may grant them a discharge.

I wrote you the 11th inst., respecting the prisoners to be sent to *Simsbury*, and enclosed a letter for the Committee of that place; to these I beg leave to refer you. In case you did not receive them, his Excellency desires that you will send them off under a proper guard, unless there should be any of the *Connecticut* troops going home, who will take the charge of them to the Committee. You will please certify the Committee of the atrociousness of their crime, and of the court's sentence.

I am, &c.

To Major-General *Ward, Roxbury*.

[GENERAL WASHINGTON] TO GENERAL SPENCER.

Cambridge, December 21, 1775.

Sir: I am commanded by his Excellency to acknowledge yours of the 18th instant, and to inform you that he has no objection to Mr. *Peck's* being appointed Adjutant to Colonel *Huntington's* regiment.

I am, &c.

To Brigadier-General *Spencer, Roxbury*.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER RECEIVED IN ENGLAND, FROM AN OFFICER AT BOSTON, DATED DECEMBER 21, 1775.

The Rebels, for some days past, have been erecting a battery at *Phipp's Farm*, which, it is said, will be soon opened. The new constructed mortar, taken on board the ordnance brig, we are told, will be mounted upon it; and we expect a warm salute from the shells, another part of that vessel's cargo; so that, in spite of her capture, we are likely to be complimented with the contents of her lading: for all this we will be indebted to our worthy Admiral. This vigilant officer, instead of sending his squadron to protect the store-ships and transports from *England*, has, with the utmost prudence, ordered the ships-of-war in this harbour to be secured with booms all round, to prevent their being boarded and taken by the rebel whale-boats; and for some time past he has never sent a single ship to cruise off *Cape-Ann*, because the Rebels have had some cannon mounted upon it. No doubt the Parliament will thank him on his glorious return for so effectually preserving His Majesty's ships. In town, the General acts in quite a different manner; he seems to think it his duty to annoy the enemy. When we discovered the Rebels at work on their new battery, another was immediately raised against them of twenty-four pounders and some mortars, at *Barton's Point*. From this battery we have fired upon them for some days incessantly, apparently with good effect, though not sufficiently to make them discontinue their work. The news with us is not propitious. *Quebeck* is taken, and General *Carleton*, and all the King's troops under him, prisoners of war. You may guess the truth of all this from the person who has favoured us with the information. Mr. *George Erving* is the man; he had it from his brother-in-law, Mr. *Bowdoin*, one of the Rebel Counsellors. By this you may discover that the Rebels without, and the nominal friends of Government within, have a very good understanding together. This may be no news to you, though it may be to many in *England*. We know that till General *Howe* had the command, all our former Governours and commanders were gulled by Government. These good friends were always grasping at profitable places, and we are certain many obtained them; but still they had a warm feeling for *American* independency, and we have invariably found them, after their large salaries were fixed, taking

every method to convince their Rebel countrymen that they were their best friends; I need only mention a Postmaster-General, a Surveyor-General, and our Admiralty Judges.

If the Rebels can complete their battery, this town will be on fire about our ears a few hours after; all our buildings being of wood, or a mixture of brick and wood-work. Had the Rebels erected their battery on the other side of the town, at *Dorchester*, the Admiral and all his booms would have made the first blaze, and the burning of the town would have followed. If we cannot destroy the Rebel battery by our guns, we must march out and take it sword in hand.

By the King.—A Proclamation,

Appointing the distribution of Prizes taken during the continuance of the Rebellion now subsisting in divers parts of the Continent of North-America.

George R.

Whereas by an act made in this present session of Parliament, intituled "An act to prohibit all trade and intercourse with the Colonies of *New-Hampshire*, *Massachusetts-Bay*, *Rhode-Island*, *Connecticut*, *New-York*, *New-Jersey*, *Pennsylvania*, the three lower Counties on *Delaware*, *Maryland*, *Virginia*, *North-Carolina*, *South-Carolina*, and *Georgia*, during the continuance of the present rebellion within the said Colonies respectively; for repealing an act made in the fourteenth year of the reign of His present Majesty, to discontinue the landing and discharging, lading or shipping of goods, wares and merchandise, at the town and within the harbour of *Boston*, in the Province of *Massachusetts-Bay;* and also two acts made in the last session of Parliament, for restraining the trade and commerce of the Colonies in the said acts respectively mentioned; and to enable any person or persons appointed and authorized by His Majesty to grant pardons, and to issue proclamations, in the cases and for the purposes therein mentioned;" it is, amongst other things, enacted, that all ships and vessels of or belonging to the inhabitants of the said Colonies, together with their cargoes, apparel, and furniture, except as in the said act are excepted, and all other ships and vessels whatsoever, together with their cargoes, apparel, and furniture, which shall be found trading in any port or place of the said Colonies, or going to trade, or coming from trading in any such port or place, except as are therein also excepted, shall become forfeited to His Majesty, as if the same were the ships and effects of open enemies, and shall be so adjudged, deemed, and taken, in all courts of admiralty, and all other courts whatsoever: And, for the encouragement of the officers and seamen of His Majesty's ships-of-war, it is thereby also further enacted, That the flag-officers, captains, commanders, and other commissioned officers in His Majesty's pay, and also the seamen, marines, and soldiers on board, shall have the sole interest and property of and in all and every such ship, vessel, goods, and merchandise, which they shall seize and take (being first adjudged lawful prize in any of His Majesty's courts of admiralty) to be divided in such proportions, and after such manner, as His Majesty shall think fit to order and direct by proclamation or proclamations, hereafter to be issued for those purposes:

We, taking the premises into consideration, do, pursuant to the said act of Parliament, (with the advice of our Privy Council,) by this our proclamation, order, direct, and appoint, that the nett produce of all prizes taken, in pursuance of the said act, by our ships-of-war, be divided into eight equal parts, and be distributed in manner following, that is to say: To the captain or captains of any of our ships-of-war who shall be actually on board at the taking of any prize, three-eighths parts; but in case any such prize shall be taken by any of our ship or ships-of-war under the command of a flag or flags, the flag-officer or officers being actually on board, or directing and assisting in the capture, shall have one of the said three-eighth parts, the said one-eighth part to be paid to such flag or flag-officers, in such proportions, and subject to such regulations as are hereinafter for that purpose mentioned: To the captains of marines and land forces, sea lieutenants and master on board any such ships, one-eighth part, to be equally divided amongst them: To the lieutenants and quartermasters of marines, and lieutenants, ensigns, and quartermasters, of land forces, boatswain, gunner, purser, carpenter, master's mate, chirurgeon, pilot, and chaplain, on board any such ship, one-eighth part, to be equally divided amongst them: To the midshipmen, secretary to flag-officers, captain's clerk, master sailmaker, carpenter's mates, master-at-arms, corporals, yeomen of the sheets, coxswain, quartermasters, quartermaster's mates, chirurgeon's mates, yeomen of the powder-room, and sergeants of marines or land forces, on any such ships, one-eighth part, to be equally divided amongst them: To the trumpeters, quarter-gunners, carpenter's crew, steward, cook, armourer, steward's mate, cook's mate, gunsmith, cooper, swabber, ordinary trumpeter, barber, able seamen, ordinary seamen, and marine or other soldiers, and all other persons doing duty or assisting on board any such ships, two-eighths parts, to be equally divided amongst them. And in case any sea-captain, inferior commission, or warrant sea-officers, belonging to any ship-of-war, for whom any shares of prizes are hereby allowed, be absent at the time of the capture of any prize, the share of such sea-captain, inferior commission, or warrant sea-officer, shall be cast into the share hereby allowed to the trumpeters, quarter-gunners, carpenter's crew, steward, cook, armourer, steward's mate, cook's mate, gunsmith, cooper, swabber, ordinary trumpeter, barber, able seamen, ordinary seamen, and marine or other soldiers, and other persons doing duty or assisting on board any such ships, to be equally divided amongst them. *Provided*, That if any officer or officers on board any of our ships-of-war, at the time of taking any such prizes, shall have more commissions or offices than one, he or they shall be entitled only to the share or shares of the said prizes, which, according to the above mentioned distribution, shall belong to his or their respective superior commissions or offices. And we do hereby strictly enjoin all and every commander and commanders of any ships-of-war, taking any prize, as soon as may be, to transmit or cause to be transmitted to the commissioners of our navy, a true list of the names of all the officers, seamen, marines, soldiers or others who were actually on board our ships-of-war, under his or their command, at the taking such prize; which list shall contain the quality of the service of each person on board, and be subscribed by the captain or commanding officer, and three or more of the chief officers on board. And we do hereby require and direct the Commissioners of our navy, or any three or more of them, to examine or cause to be examined such lists by the muster-books of such ships-of-war, and lists annexed thereto, to see that such lists do agree with the said muster-book, and annexed lists, as to the names, qualities, or ratings of the officers, seamen, marines, soldiers, and others belonging to such ships-of-war; and, upon request, forthwith to grant a certificate of the truth of any list transmitted to them, to the agents nominated and appointed by the captors, pursuant to the said act, to take care or dispose of such prize; and also upon application to them, to give, or cause to be given, unto the agents, who shall at any time or times be appointed as aforesaid by the captors, all such lists from the muster-books of any such ships-of-war, and annexed lists, as the said agents shall find requisite for their direction in paying the produce of such prizes, and to be otherwise aiding and assisting to the said agents, as shall be necessary.

And as touching the said one-eighth part, herein before mentioned to be granted to the flag-officer or officers, who shall be actually on board at the taking of any prize, or shall be directing and assisting therein, we have thought fit, and do by these presents publish, order, and declare, that the following regulations be observed:

First. That a flag-officer commanding in chief, where there is but one flag-officer upon service, shall have to his own use the said one-eighth part of the prizes taken by ships under his command.

Secondly. That a flag-officer sent to command at *Jamaica*, or elsewhere, shall have no right to any share of the prizes at the place to which he is sent, and actually takes upon him the command.

Thirdly. That when an inferior flag-officer is sent out to reinforce a superior flag-officer at *Jamaica*, or elsewhere, the said superior flag-officer shall have no right to any share in the prizes taken by them before they arrive within the limits of his command, and actually receive some orders from him.

Fourthly. That a chief flag-officer returning home from *Jamaica*, or elsewhere, shall have no share of the prizes taken by the ships left behind to act under another command.

Fifthly. That if a flag-officer is sent to command in the out-ports of this Kingdom, he shall have no share of the prizes taken by ships that sailed from that port by order from the Admiralty.

Sixthly. That when more flag-officers than one serve together, the eighth part of the prizes taken by any ships of the fleet, or squadron, shall be divided in the following proportions, *videlicet:* If there be but two flag-officers, the chief shall have two-third parts of the said one-eighth part, and the other shall have the remaining third part; but if the number of flag-officers be more than two, the chief shall have only one-half, and the other half shall be divided equally among the other flag-officers.

Seventhly. That Commodores, with Captains under them, shall be esteemed as flag-officers, with respect to their right to an eighth part of prizes taken, whether commanding in chief or serving under command.

Given at our Court, at *St. James's*, the twenty-second day of *December*, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-five, in the sixteenth year of our reign.

God *save the King*.

JOHN HANCOCK TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Philadelphia, December 22, 1775.

Sir: Your letters of the 30th of *November*, and of the 4th, 7th, and 11th of *December*, being duly received, were laid before Congress. To prevent the ill consequences that might ensue from the backwardness of the men, in the present service, to reinlist, the Congress, as I informed you in my last, have written to the Governours of *Connecticut* and *Rhode-Island*, the Council of *Massachusetts-Bay*, and the President of the Convention of *New-Hampshire*. In consequence of which letters they have strong hopes and confidence that measures will be taken to complete your army. As to the article of butter, the Congress, desirous to obviate whatever may have a "tendency to give the soldiery room for complaint," have instructed me to inform you that the same may be continued until further order.

The Congress receive, with great satisfaction, your congratulations on the success of Captain *Manly*. By the enclosed resolves, you will perceive their determination on the captures already made, as well as those which may be made hereafter. It is expected the several Colonies will erect courts of admiralty, and that the judges in those courts will regulate their decisions by the law of nations, except where it is relaxed by the enclosed resolutions.

I am further directed to inform you that the Congress approve your taking such of the articles, found on board the *Concord*, as are necessary for the army. The necessity of the case will, they apprehend, justify the measure, even though the vessel upon trial should, contrary to their expectation, be acquitted.

I am authorized to inform you that it is the pleasure of Congress that Mr. *Mifflin*, the Quartermaster-General, hold the rank of Colonel in the army of the *United Colonies*, and that you establish his rank accordingly.

I must beg leave to refer you to the enclosed resolutions of Congress for your future proceedings, which I am directed to transmit to you. You will notice the last resolution relative to an attack upon *Boston*. This passed after a most serious debate in a committee of the whole House, and the execution referred to you; and may *God* crown your attempt with success. I most heartily wish it, though individually I may be the greatest sufferer.

I have paid Mr. *Fessenden*, the express, in full for his three journeys as express to *Philadelphia*, deducting only sixty dollars, which he says you ordered him; so that there will be no pay due to him for services performed heretofore, only for his expenses now from this place to you. If this adjustment be not right, please to inform me.

I have the honour to be, with sincere sentiments of esteem, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

John Hancock, *President*.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

P. S. *Fessenden* being indisposed, I have sent a special express, as Congress were anxious their resolves should reach you as quick as possible.

In Congress, December 22, 1775.

Agreeably to the Order of the Day, the Congress resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into consideration the report of the Committee of Conference relative to an attack on *Boston;* and after debate, the President resumed the chair, and Mr. *Ward* reported, that the Committee had taken into their further consideration the matter to them referred, and come to a Resolution, which he was ready to report.

The report of the Committee being read, the same was agreed to, and is as follows:

Resolved, That if General *Washington* and his Council of War should be of opinion that a successful attack may be made on the troops in *Boston*, he do it in any manner he may think expedient, notwithstanding the town and the property in it may thereby be destroyed.

Extract from the minutes.

Charles Thomson, *Secretary*.

By order of the Congress.

John Hancock, *President*.

CAPTAIN LIVINGSTON TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read December 22, 1775.]

December, 1775.

Sir: The polite letter you was yesterday pleased to honour me with, I received from Mr. *Duane*. The compliment paid me by the Congress does me great honour. Their present is amazingly genteel, and their promise very flattering to a young man who wishes to acquire reputation.

These distinguished marks of their approbation deserve my warmest acknowledgments and most cordial thanks. These I would beg leave to present in person, did not my affection for my late father render me unfit to appear before them. This lays me under the necessity of requesting you, sir, to increase the obligation I already owe you for the part you have taken in my favour, by presenting my most unfeigned thanks to that august assembly for the unexpected honour done.

Your most obedient, humble servant,

Henry R. Livingston, *Captain*.

The Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq.

NEW-YORK COMMITTEE.

Committee Chamber, Friday, December 22, 1775.

The following members met, viz: *John Broome*, Chairman,

Mr. P. P. Van Zandt,	Mr. Theop. Anthony,	Colonel Lasher.
Mr. Stoutenburgh,	Mr. Duyckinck,	Colonel Lott,
Mr. De Peyster,	Mr. Phenix,	Mr. Burling,
Mr. Abeel,	Mr. Templeton,	Mr. Low,
Captain Johnson,	Mr. Bancker,	Mr. Denning,
Mr. Ramsey,	Mr. Totten,	Mr Miller,
Mr. Dunscomb,	Mr. Wickham,	Mr. Brinckerhoff—23.
Mr. Ray,		

Committee Chamber, Tuesday, December 26, 1775.

Thirteen members met.

At a meeting of the General Committee for the City and County of *New-York*, on *Friday, December* 29, 1775. Present: *John Broome*, Chairman pro tem.,

Mr. J. Ray, Sen.,	Captain Dennis,	Mr. Denning,
Mr. Duyckinck,	Mr. J. Anthony,	Mr. Bleeker,
Captain Pell,	Mr. T. Anthony,	Mr. Sands,
Mr. Roome,	Mr. Dunscomb,	Mr. Janeway,
Mr. Bancker,	Mr. Ramsey,	Mr. Ivers,
Mr. Van Cortlandt,	Mr. Stoutenburgh,	Mr. Low,
Mr. Templeton,	Mr. Breasted,	Mr. Brinckerhoff,
Mr. Beekman,	Mr. Abrahams,	Mr. Norwood,
Mr. Burling,	Mr. Berrien,	Mr. De Peyster,
Captain Johnson,	Mr. Bassett,	Colonel Lott,
Mr. Abeel,	Mr. J. Ray, Jun.,	Mr. Phenix.
Colonel Hyer,	Mr. Totten,	

Moses Taylor applied for leave to hire a person to enter on board the *Asia* as a seaman, in the place of *James Bowen*, who was impressed on board the said ship.

Ordered, That leave be given accordingly.

Benjamin Garretson requesting a Certificate from this

Committee, that he has hitherto acted friendly to the *American* cause; the matter being debated,

Ordered, That Mr. *Garretson* be called in, and the two following questions proposed to him, viz:

1. Whether he professes himself a friend to the *American* cause?

2. Whether he approved of the measures pursued by the *American* Colonies, in the present contest with the *British* Administration?

The first question was answered in the affirmative.

The second, Mr. *Garretson* begged to be excused from answering.

The question then being put, whether Mr. *Garretson* should receive a Certificate from this Committee, carried in the negative.

John Warner, Captain of the Twenty-Fourth Beat, informed the Committee that one *Joseph Brady* had abused and damned the Congress and Committee; denied their authority; said they were a pack of damned traitors, and that he would pay no regard to any of them.

Isaac Piper's evidence corresponds with the above.

The question being put, whether *Joseph Brady* be apprehended immediately by an order from this Committee; carried in the affirmative.

Ordered, That the Chairman issue his order to the officer on guard, directing him to cause the said *Joseph Brady* to be taken and kept in custody, until further orders from this Committee.

Committee adjourned until *Thursday, January* 4, 1776

COMMITTEE OF MAMACOTING PRECINCT TO THE DELEGATES IN PROVINCIAL CONGRESS.

Mamacoting Precinct, December 22, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: Whereas there have been commissions granted by the Committee of Safety for the Province of *New-York*, for officers for the northeast division of the Precinct of *Mamacoting*, which officers were not legally chosen; and in order to have that affair rectified, we apply to you, being both of our delegates in Provincial Congress.

In a letter directed to us by Colonel *Jacob Hornbeck*, dated *October* the 19th, 1775, we were informed that there was a return made to Congress the 19th of *August* last, signed *John Young*, Chairman, of *John Crage*, Captain, *John Graham*, First Lieutenant, *John McKinster*, Second Lieutenant, and *John McCrery*, Ensign; which return we testify to be a counterfeit, and was countermanded in a letter by us directed to Colonel *Hornbeck*, who was then one of our delegates, dated *October* the 26th, 1775; and the officers legally elected or chosen were returned in said letter, viz: *John Crage*, Captain, *Manuel Gunsalis*, First Lieutenant, *William Rose*, Second Lieutenant, and *Isaac Rosa*, Ensign.

Whereas this mistake creates a great uneasiness in the company, we request the favour of you, or either of you, to explain the affair to Congress, and have it rectified.

As for *John Crage*, as he was legally chosen Captain, he has signed the Declaration; so we conclude there will be no need of another commission for him; but refer it entirely to your better judgment.

Gentlemen, your speedy compliance with our request will greatly oblige your humble servant.

By order of the Committee:

JOHN YOUNG, *Chairman*.

To *Andreas De Witt*, Esq., and Mr. *Samuel Brewster*, Delegates in Provincial Congress.

P. S. Whereas there is a return made to us of the officers elected for the *Coshocton* Company, we return them to you, in order to grant them commissions, viz: *Bezaleel Tyler*, Jun., Captain; *Nathaniel Reves*, First Lieutenant; *Moses Thomas*, Second Lieutenant; *Nathan Mitchell*, Ensign.

TO GENERAL MONTGOMERY.

Montreal, December 22, 1775.

SIR: Although we have not the honour to be known to you, we find it very necessary to acquaint you with what passes here, to the end that you may not in future fall a victim to the humanity which has been your chief guide since your arrival at this city. Humanity and generosity are qualities inestimable to men, but in certain circumstances the situation of the person ought to be considered, to the end that care may be taken that such generosity may not be used to serve other purposes. Many of the citizens are surprised that all the place-men that were made prisoners in the eleven vessels near *Sorel*, have not been sent down to the neighbouring Colonies, as these persons go in and out of almost every house in the city, holding conversations big with the most inhuman sentiments, and the most disadvantageous to the cause of liberty. There are also in town those who hold commissions under Government, who hold very indecent and very indiscreet conversations, and who grow insolent and insupportable. It is therefore to be hoped that as soon as the rivers are frozen, and that the roads are passable, that you will send all those who were taken in the eleven vessels, down to the other Colonies on the Continent. It is the only method to silence those who have any bad designs, and to procure peace and tranquillity to those who have nothing more at heart than your welfare and success; and who desire to assure you that they are, with true sincerity and respect, sir, your most humble and most obedient servant.

THE FAITHFUL UNION WITH LIBERTY.

The above is a translation of an original letter sent from *Montreal* to General *Montgomery*, at the camp before *Quebeck*, by some friends to the cause.

CONNECTICUT COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

At a meeting of the Governour, &c., at *New-Haven, Friday, December* 22, 1775, present:

His Honour the Governour, Hon. Deputy-Governour *Griswold*, *Jabez Huntington*, *Samuel Huntington*, *William Williams*, *Nathaniel Wales*, and *Benjamin Huntington*, Esquires.

On motion, &c., *Voted*, That an order be drawn on the Pay-Table in favour of Captain *Robert Niles*, of the armed schooner *Spy*, for the sum of one hundred Pounds, to be by him accounted for on settlement of his accounts, and in so far payment of the wages, &c., of his hands on board said schooner.

An Order drawn and delivered him next morning.

Messrs. *Greenough*, *Fitch*, and *Austin*, Committee for building field and other carriages for the cannon at *New-Haven*, by order laid in their account to be adjusted, and there is on examination allowed thereon the sum of one hundred and fifteen Pounds, eight Shillings, six and three-quarter Pence, for carriages, &c., built by order, and exclusive of the expense of building several of their own notion, before they had any directions about it.

An Order for the sum allowed, drawn, and delivered to Colonel *Jonathan Fitch*.

Captain *Joseph Thompson*, of the Company raised for the defence of *New-Haven*, moves that the season is so far advanced, and the weather so severe, that they can be little or no service in carrying on the works of defence at *Black-Rock*, or for any other purpose, &c.

And on consideration, *Voted*, That said Captain *Thompson* and Company be discharged from further service on their present establishment; said dismission to take place on the morrow, being the 23d.

On motion, *Voted and granted*, That Captain *Thompson* be allowed for extra service while on the works at *Black-Rock*, in cold, severe weather, &c., the sum of forty Shillings per month, for one and a half months; is three Pounds in the whole.

Allowed several small bills and accounts laid in by *Benjamin Huntington*, Esq., for Captain *John Lester*, for building ship-carriages, &c., the sum of eight Pounds, fifteen Shillings, and five Pence, in the whole; and 3d of *January*, 1776, gave Captain *Lester* an order, and dismissed.

Met again at *New-Haven* next evening, and did several things; consulted Captain *Sears*, &c., about *Todd's* brig, &c.; and desired him to take care of the brig bought of Captain *Grigg*, and coming into *New-Haven*, &c., and prepare an estimate of stores, &c., for the same, &c.

NEW-YORK PROVINCIAL CONGRESS.

At a Provincial Congress held for the Colony of *New-York*, on *Wednesday* morning, *December* 6, 1775:

The Deputies chosen to represent the Counties of *New-York*, *Albany*, *Dutchess*, *Westchester*, and *Suffolk*, in Provincial Congress for the Colony of *New-York*, having met frequently since the 14th day of *November* last past, that being the day appointed by the dissolution of the late Provincial Congress for the meeting of this Congress, but a representation of a majority of the Counties not having sooner attended, they could not proceed to business until this day, when the Deputies from a majority of the Counties appeared, and the gentlemen hereafter named were present, to wit:

For the City and County of NEW-YORK: *Alexander McDougall, James Beekman, Abraham Brasher, John Van Cortlandt, John Ray, Anthony Rutgers, Comfort Sands, Jacobus Van Zandt, Isaac Roosevelt.*

For the City and County of ALBANY: *Robert Van Rensselaer, Jacob Cuyler, Francis Nicoll, Leonard Gansevoort, John I. Bleecker.*

DUTCHESS *County: Gilbert Livingston, Cornelius Humphreys, Jun., Henry Schenck.*

For the County of ULSTER: *Thomas Palmer, Matthew Cantine.*

WESTCHESTER *County: Lewis Graham, Gilbert Drake, Joseph Drake.*

SUFFOLK *County: Nathaniel Woodhull, John Sloss Hobart, Ezra L'Hommedieu.*

KING'S *County: John Leffertse.*

GOSHEN *Precinct, in* ORANGE *County: Peter Clowes.*

The Congress then proceeded to the choice of the following Officers, who were unanimously elected, viz:

Colonel *Nathaniel Woodhull*, President.

John McKesson, Esq., Mr. *Robert Benson*, Secretaries.

Thomas Pettit, Doorkeeper and Messenger.

The Deputies for the City and County of *New-York* produced a Certificate from the General Committee of the said City and County, dated *November* 10, 1775, and signed by *John Broome*, Chairman pro tempore,* whereby it appears that *Peter Van Brugh Livingston, Cornelius Clopper, Alexander McDougall, Joseph Hallett, Thomas Smith, Abraham Brasher, Isaac Roosevelt, James Beekman, Benjamin Kissam, John Morin Scott, John Van Cortlandt, Jacobus Van Zandt, John Morton, Isaac Sears, John Ray, Theodorus Van Wyck, Anthony Rutgers, John Imlay, Gabriel W. Ludlow, Benjamin Helme, and Comfort Sands*, were, by a great majority of voices, elected Deputies for the City and County of *New-York;* and that they, or any seven of them, do represent the City and County of *New-York*, in Provincial Congress for the Colony of *New-York*.

The Deputies for the City and County of *Albany* produced a Certificate from the Committee of the County of *Albany*, dated *November* 11*th*, 1775, signed *Matthew Visscher*, Secretary,† certifying that *Abraham Ten Broeck, Abraham Yates, Jun., Jacob Cuyler, Francis Nicoll, Robert Yates, Henry Glen, Peter Silvester, Peter R. Livingston, John James Bleecker, Leonard Gansevoort, Henry Oothoudt*, and *Robert Van Rensselaer*, were, by a majority of votes, elected Deputies for the said City and County; and that they, or any five of them, represent the said City and County in Provincial Congress. And, by another Certificate from the said Committee, dated *November* 23, 1775, and signed by *Matthew Visscher*, Secretary,* a Resolution appears that the above-mentioned gentlemen, or any four of them, do attend and represent the said City and County in Provincial Congress for the Colony of *New-York*.

The Deputies of the County of *Dutchess* produced a Certificate from the Committee of the said County, dated *November* 8, 1775, and signed by *Egbert Benson*, Chairman,† whereby it appears that *Petrus Ten Broeck, Beverly Robinson, Cornelius Humphreys, Henry Schenck, Gilbert Livingston, John Kaine, Jacob Everson, Morris Graham*, and *Robert G. Livingston*, Esquires, were elected Deputies for the said County, with power to them, or any three of them, to represent the said County in Provincial Congress for the Colony of *New-York*.

The Deputies for the County of *Ulster* produced a Certificate from the Committee of the said County, dated the 7th *November*, 1775, and signed by *Johannes Sleght*, Chairman pro tempore,‡ whereby it appears that *Henry*

* Pursuant to an order of the General Committee, we, the subscribers, superintended the poll taken to-day, at the City Hall, for the election of Deputies to represent this City and County in the ensuing Provincial Congress, and do hereby certify that the following twenty-one gentlemen were chosen by a great majority, viz:

Peter V. B. Livingston, Joseph Hallett, Isaac Roosevelt, John M. Scott, John Morton, Theodorus Van Wyck, Gabriel W. Ludlow, Cornelius Clopper, Thomas Smith, James Beekman, John Van Cortlandt, Isaac Sears, Anthony Rutgers, Benjamin Helme, Alexander McDougall, Abraham Brasher, Benjamin Kissam, Jacobus Van Zandt, John Ray, John Imlay, Comfort Sands.

And we do further certify, that the electors at the same time did constitute any seven of the forementioned persons to be a quorum.

JOHN IMLAY, DANIEL PHENIX,
ROBERT RAY, JOHN BROOME.
EV. BANCKER,

NEW-YORK, *November* 7, 1775.

At a meeting of the General Committee of the City and County of *New-York*, on *Friday* evening, *November* 10, 1775: Present, *John Broome*, Esq., Chairman pro tempore, and thirty-five members.

The sub-Committee appointed to superintend the election for Deputies to represent the City and County of *New-York*, in Provincial Congress for the Colony of *New-York*, delivered in their Report, which being read, was unanimously approved of.

Ordered, That the Chairman of this Committee deliver a certified copy of the foregoing Report to one of the Deputies chosen to represent this City and County in the ensuing Provincial Congress.

JOHN BROOME, *Chair'n pro tem.*

† ALBANY COMMITTEE CHAMBER, *November* 11, 1775.—Pursuant to the resolves of this Committee entered into on the 30th ultimo, yesterday the polls of the several elections held in the respective Districts in this County, for Deputies to represent this City and County in Provincial Congress, and the names of the several voters, and the Deputies they had voted for, being carefully counted, a majority of votes appeared for *Abraham Ten Broeck, Abraham Yates*, Jun., *Jacob Cuyler, Francis Nicoll, Robert Yates, Henry Glen, Peter Silvester, Peter R. Livingston, John James Bleecker, Leonard Gansevoort, Henry Oothoudt*, and *Robert Van Rensselaer*.

This Committee do thereupon hereby declare the said persons to be duly elected; and that they, or any five of them, represent this City and County in Provincial Congress during the time mentioned in the resolves of the Provincial Congress.

A true copy from the minutes. MATTHEW VISSCHER, *Sec'y.*

* ALBANY COMMITTEE CHAMBER, *November* 23, 1775.—Whereas this Committee, on the 11th instant, from the return of the polls of the several elections held in the respective Districts in this County, for Deputies to represent this City and County in Provincial Congress, did declare *Abraham Ten Broeck, Abraham Yates*, Jun., *Jacob Cuyler, Francis Nicoll, Robert Yates, Henry Glen, Peter Silvester, Peter R. Livingston, John James Bleecker, Leonard Gansevoort, Henry Oothoudt*, and *Robert Van Rensselaer*, to be duly elected; and that they, or any five of them, represent this City and County in Provincial Congress during the time mentioned in the resolves of the Provincial Congress. But, by reason of the inconvenience attending the attendance of that number, it is

Resolved, That the said persons, or any four of them, attend said Congress, and represent this City and County during the time aforesaid. A true copy from the minutes. MATTHEW VISSCHER, *Sec'y.*

† This is to certify, that at an election held at *Poughkeepsie*, in the County of *Dutchess*, in pursuance of a resolution of the Provincial Congress of this Colony, of the 27th of *October* last, under the inspection of the General Committee of the said County, on the 7th and 8th days of *November*, 1775, *Petrus Ten Broeck, Beverly Robinson, Cornelius Humphreys, Henry Schenck, Gilbert Livingston, John Kaine, Jacob Everson, Morris Graham*, and *Robert G. Livingston*, Jun., Esqs., were elected Delegates for the County of *Dutchess*, with power to them, or any three of them, to represent the said County in a Provincial Congress for the Colony of *New-York*, appointed to meet at the City of *New-York* on the 14th instant.

By order of the Committee: EGBERT BENSON, *Chair'n.*

DUTCHESS COUNTY COMMITTEE, *November* 8, 1775.

‡ At a meeting of the Committee for the County of *Ulster*, on *Tuesday*, the 7th of *November*, 1775, at the house of Mr. *Roelof Eltinge*, in the *New-Paltz*, the following persons appeared:

FOR KINGSTON: *Johannes Sleght*, Esq., *Johannes Beekman, Tobias Van Buren.*
FOR HURLY: *Charles De Witt, Adrian Wynkoop*, Esquires.
FOR MARBLETOWN: *David Bevier.*
ROCHESTER: *Andreas De Witt*, Esq., *Hendricus Hornbeck.*
NEW-PALTZ: *Johannes A. Hardenbergh, Joseph Hasbroeck.*
SHAWENGONK: *Johannes Janse*, Esq.
NEWBURGH: *Abel Belknap.*
NEW-WINDSOR: *Samuel Brewster.*
NEW-MARLBOROUGH: *Bordewyn Teerpenning.*
WALLKILL: *Philip Swartwout, John McInster, Andrew McCord.*
HANOVER: *James McBride, Alexander Trimble.*

The Committee then appointed *Johannes Sleght*, Esq., to sit as Chairman pro tem., and *Johannes Bruin* and *Israel Smith* to serve as clerks. A considerable number of freeholders of the County of *Ulster* being then assembled, pursuant to the resolves of the Congress, in order to choose eight Deputies to represent this County; and then, under the inspection of the above Committee, did, by the major voice, choose and elect *Henry Wisner, Matthew Rea, Dirck Wynkoop, Matthew Cantine, Andreas De Witt* and *Andreas Lefever*, Esquires, Messrs. *Thomas Palmer* and *Samuel Brewster*, for the purpose aforesaid.

The Committee then resolved, that three of the above Deputies appearing in Congress at one time, shall be entitled to act and give their votes for said County. A true copy from the minutes.

By order of the Committee:

JOHANNES SLEGHT, *Chair'n pro tem.*

Wisner, *Matthew Rea*, *Dirk Wynkoop*, Jun., *Matthew Cantine*, *Andreas Dewitt*, and *Andreas Lefever*, Esqrs., Messrs. *Thomas Palmer* and *Samuel Brewster*, were elected Deputies to represent the said County; and by a resolution of the said Committee, that they, or any three of them, be entitled to act and give their votes for the said County.

The Deputies of the County of *Westchester* produced a Certificate from the Committee of the said County, dated 7th *November* 1775, and signed by *Gilbert Drake*, Chairman,* whereby it appears that Colonel *Lewis Graham*, *Stephen Ward*, Esq., Colonel *Joseph Drake*, *Robert Graham*, Esq., *John Thomas*, Jun., Esq., *Mr. William Paulding*, Major *Ebenezer Lockwood*, Colonel *Pierre Van Cortlandt*, and Colonel *Gilbert Drake*, were duly elected Delegates to represent the said County in Provincial Congress, with power to any three of them to act for the said County.

The Deputies for the County of *Suffolk*, produced a Certificate from the Committee of the said County, dated *November* 7, 1775, and signed by *William Smith*, Chairman,† whereby it appears that *John Sloss Hobart*, *Thomas Tredwell*, *Selah Strong*, *Nathaniel Woodhull*, *Ezra L'Hommedieu*, *David Gelston*, *Thomas Wickham*, and *Daniel Brown*, Esquires, were unanimously elected Deputies to represent the said County in Provincial Congress, with power for any three of them to be a quorum, and give the vote of the said County.

Peter Clowes, Esq., a Deputy for *Orange* County, produced a Certificate of *Benjamin Tusteen*, *Benjamin Gale*, and *Daniel Everett*, Esquires,‡ three of the Committee of *Goshen* Precinct, who inspected the election, and also a Certificate from the said Committee of *Goshen* Precinct, signed by *Daniel Everett*, Chairman,§ each dated 27th *November* last, whereby it appeared, that a meeting of the freeholders and tenants in *Goshen* Precinct, entitled to vote for Deputies, *Peter Clowes* and *William Allison*, Esquires, were unanimously elected Deputies for the said Precinct, as their proportion of the representation of the said County, and to complete the number of Deputies allotted to the said County of *Orange;* and that at the same meeting it was unanimously agreed, that any two of the Deputies for said County, represent them in said Congress, viz: one on the south, and one on the north side of the mountains.

The same two Certificates were approved, and ordered to be filed with the Secretaries;

But it is agreed and understood, That Mr. *Clowes* cannot have a vote for *Orange* County, until one or more Deputies arrive from *Orange* County.

Agreed and Ordered, That the sense of this Congress upon every Question be taken and determined by a majority of the Counties then having Deputies in Congress. And that for the present the City and County of *New-York* be considered as four, the City and County of *Albany* as three, and that of each of the other Counties respectively as two; but that this arrangement shall continue only till some other arrangement shall be made and agreed on by this Congress.

The following Rules are agreed to, and resolved to be the Rules of this Congress, viz:

1st. That the President, and in his absence, a President to be appointed *pro tem.*, shall preside at every meeting, and keep order and decorum, and that it shall be his duty to sign all letters from this Congress.

2d. That all motions and addresses be made to the Chair, and standing.

3d. That if more than one shall rise to speak at the same time, the President shall determine who shall first be heard.

4th. That the substance of every motion made and seconded, shall be entered on the minutes.

5th. That no interruption shall be suffered while a Member is delivering his sentiments.

6th. That every question shall be determined by a majority of voices; and after the determination of any matter or thing, the same question shall not be reassumed, but with the consent of a majority of this Congress, at a subsequent meeting, and that upon notice having been given of the motion for reassuming such matter, at least one day before such motion be made, and notice thereof given to the Members representing each County, who shall then be in the City of *New-York*.

7th. That when any question shall be determined upon a division, the names of the respective Counties shall be entered as they shall vote on each side; but any Member for any County may be at liberty to have his name and dissent from the vote of his County entered on the Minutes.

8th. That this Congress shall from time to time, meet on their own adjournments for the present.

9th. That for the despatch of business, and to prevent interruptions, the doors at our meetings shall be shut, and that none but Members be permitted to take copies of the proceedings of this Congress.

10th. That no Question shall be determined on the day that it is agitated, if three Counties shall request that it be deferred to the next day.

11th. That no Member shall be at liberty to speak more than twice to the same point, without leave of the President for the time then being.

12th. That no Member shall absent himself from the Congress; that no Member shall depart from the Chamber until the Congress be adjourned; and that no Member shall depart from the City of *New-York* during an adjournment of this Congress, without leave first obtained.

13th. That every Member of this Congress shall keep secret all such matters, proceedings, and things in this Congress, as shall be enjoined from the Chair to be kept secret.

14th. That whenever the proceedings of this Congress shall be published at the close of this session, all the Minutes shall be published, and no part concealed, unless such as the unanimous voice of the Counties shall declare to be of a secret or unimportant nature; but that extracts of the proceedings may nevertheless be published from time to time as the Congress shall think fit.

Resolved, That this Congress will meet every morning,

---

* *To the Honourable the Provincial Congress of the Colony of* NEW-YORK: We the Committee for the County of *Westchester*, do humbly certify, that at the election for Delegates to represent the said County in the next Provincial Congress, to be held at *New-York*, the 14th instant, which was this day held at the Court-House of the said County, Colonel *Lewis Graham*, *Stephen Ward*, Esq., Colonel *Joseph Drake*, *Robert Graham*, Esq., *John Thomas*, Jun., Esq., Mr. *William Paulding*, Major *Ebenezer Lockwood*, Colonel *Pierre Van Cortlandt*, and Colonel *Gilbert Drake*, were duly elected, agreeably to the resolves of the Provincial Congress, to represent this County until the second *Tuesday* in *May* next; and that it was voted by the people that any three of the said Deputies should act for this County.

By order of the Committee: GILBERT DRAKE, *Chair'n.*

Dated the 7th day of *November*, 1775.

A true copy from the Minutes, taken by *Micah Townsend*, Clerk of the Committee.

† At a meeting of the freeholders of *Suffolk* County, in the Colony of *New-York*, held at the County Hall, on the 7th day of *November*, 1775, duly warned for the purpose of electing Deputies to represent this County in Provincial Congress, until the second *Tuesday* in *May* next:

Voted, unanimously, That *John Sloss Hobart*, *Thomas Tredwell*, *Selah Strong*, *Nathaniel Woodhull*, *Ezra L'Hommedieu*, *David Gelston*, *Thomas Wickham*, and *Daniel Brown*, Esquires, be the Deputies to represent this County at the ensuing Provincial Congress, to meet at *New-York*, the fourteenth day of this instant, and that any three of them be a quorum, and empowered to give the vote of this County in the said Congress. By order of the County Committee:

Attest: EZRA L'HOMMEDIEU, *Clerk.* WILLIAM SMITH, *Chairman.*

‡ GENTLEMEN: We received your favour of the 23d inst., and, agreeably to your request, have immediately summoned our Precinct together, which, through some unhappy mistake of the County Committee, has not been notified to meet before, and have unanimously elected *Peter Clowes* and *William Allison*, Esqrs., as part of the Deputies for this County, and which was left by the other Precincts as our proportion of representation. We hope, gentlemen, that you will not refuse the gentlemen above-mentioned, their seats, since our County has fallen into the method of choosing their Deputies in the respective Precincts. Signed by the Inspectors of the election. By order of the Committee:

BENJAMIN TUSTEN,
BENJAMIN GALE,
DANIEL EVERETT.

To Mr. *Robert Benson*.

GOSHEN, *November* 27, 1775.

§ These are to certify, that at a meeting of the freeholders and tenants of *Goshen* Precinct, entitled to vote for Deputies to represent them in Provincial Congress,

Voted, unanimously, That *Peter Clowes* and *William Allison*, Esqrs., be Deputies for said Precinct, in order to complete the number allotted to the County of *Orange*. And at the same meeting, unanimously agreed, that any two of the Deputies for said County, represent them in said Congress, viz: one on the south, and one on the north side of the mountains. Signed by order:

DANIEL EVERETT, *Clerk.*

GOSHEN, *November* 27, 1775.

Sundays excepted, at ten o'clock; that the Congress shall adjourn at one o'clock, and meet again at three o'clock.

Ordered, That Mr. *Hobart*, Mr. *Palmer*, and Mr. *Bleecker*, be a Committee to examine and liquidate the Accounts of the Treasurer of this Congress, and prepare a state of them to be laid before the Continental Congress, and that they report thereon with all convenient speed.

Ordered, That Mr. *L'Hommedieu*, Mr. *Brasher*, Mr. *Gansevoort*, and Mr. *Schenck*, be a Committee to examine all the Letters and Papers received since the dissolution of the last Provincial Congress, and to report the steps necessary to be taken thereon.

Resolved and Ordered, That Messrs. *Jacobus Van Zandt, James Beekman, Abraham Brasher, John Ray*, and *Comfort Sands*, or any majority of them, be a Committee to audit all Accounts which are or shall be payable, or produced for payment, in this Colony, for any charges or disbursements accrued, or that may accrue on account of the *United Colonies*, or by means, or on account of, any order of this Congress, and that they, or a majority of them, do certify on every Account by them audited, how much shall be paid on, or for such Account; and

Resolved and Ordered, further, That the Treasurer appointed by this Congress be authorized to pay and discharge on all such Accounts so audited, such sum or sums as shall be certified by the said Committee, or a major part of them, to be due and payable on or for such Accounts.

Resolved and Ordered, That *Peter Van Brugh Livingston*, Esq., be Treasurer for this Congress, of all money received, or to be received, or that shall be issued in this Colony, for the general defence of *America*, or the Continental service, or the particular defence or service of this Colony.

The Congress then adjourned till three o'clock, this afternoon.

—

Wednesday, December 6, P. M.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Colonel *Woodhull*, President.

For the City and County of New-York.—Mr. Cortlandt, Mr. Ray, Captain Rutgers, Mr. Van Zandt, Mr. Beekman, Mr. Sands, Colonel Brasher, Colonel McDougall.
Suffolk.—Mr. L'Hommedieu, Mr. Hobart.
Albany.—Mr. Gansevoort, Colonel Nicoll, Captain Cuyler, Mr. Bleecker, Colonel Rensselaer.
Westchester.—Colonel Graham, Colonel Joseph Drake, Colonel Gilbert Drake.
King's.—Mr. Leffertse.
Dutchess.—Mr. Humphreys, Mr. Gilbert Livingston, Mr. Schenck.
Ulster.—Mr. Palmer, Mr. Cantine, Mr. Wynkoop.
For Goshen Precinct, Orange County.—Mr. Clowes.

Mr. *Palmer* delivered in the Returns of the Officers of three Companies of Minute-Men in *Ulster* County, which were read, approved of, and ordered to be filed.

Ordered, That the Commissions issue to the Officers of the said three Companies as elected and returned.

Agreed, unanimously, That Captain *John Grenell* be recommended to the Continental Congress to be released from his present duty, and recommended for Captain of a Company of Matrosses, and that a Letter be wrote to the Continental Congress for that purpose.

Ordered, That Mr. *Palmer* and Mr. *Schenck* be a Committee to view the Arms at *Allen's*, the Gunsmith's, wanted to be purchased for Lord *Sterling*, and that they agree for them, or such of them as they think proper, and at such price as they think reasonable.

Resolved, That it is the opinion of this Congress, that additional Barracks be immediately built at the Fortifications on the banks of the *Hudson's* river, in the *Highlands*, which, with those already built, will be capable of quartering one thousand men; and also a Magazine sufficient to contain provisions for the like number of men for one month.

Ordered, That the Commissioners appointed to superintend the building of the said Fortifications do provide the materials necessary for building the said Barracks and Magazine, and they do cause the same to be built and completely finished as soon as possible.

The Congress then proceeded to hear all the Papers and Letters between the Commissioners at the Fortifications and *Bernard Romans*, Engineer; and thereupon

Ordered, That Messrs. *Nicoll, Palmer*, and *Joseph Drake*, be a Committee to repair to the Fortifications in the *Highlands*, and endeavour to accommodate the difference subsisting between the Commissioners for erecting the said Fortifications and the Engineer; and in case they shall not be able to accommodate the said difference, to give such directions as they may think necessary for expediting the work of the said Fortifications, in such manner as they shall judge best for the publick service; and make report as well of the true causes of such difference, with all necessary facts relating to the same, as of such directions as they shall have given for expediting the said work.

Ordered, That *Peter Van Brugh Livingston*, Esq., as Treasurer of this Congress, do advance and pay to Mr. *John Berrien*, as Commissary for the Commissioners for erecting the Fortifications on the banks of *Hudson's* River, in the *Highlands*, and one of the said Commissioners, the sum of one thousand Pounds on account, to enable him to discharge the like sum lately borrowed in the recess of the Provincial Congress of this Colony, by Mr. *Berrien* and two other gentlemen, to discharge debts necessarily contracted for necessaries for the said Fortifications.

Whereas, great inconveniences may arise if any Sutlers or Retailers of Liquor should be permitted to suttle or retail Liquors among the Artificers and Labourers at the Fortifications in the *Highlands*,

Resolved and Ordered, That the Commissioners at the Fortifications in the *Highlands* do not permit or suffer any Sutler or Retailer of Liquor of any kind, or under any denomination whatever, to remain at or near the said Fortifications, amongst the Mechanicks, Labourers, or other persons at or about the said Fortifications, except such as are specially appointed by the commanding Officer of the Continental Troops, for the time being, among his own Troops only, under his direction, and subject to military law.

The Congress adjourned till ten o'clock, to-morrow morning.

—

Thursday A. M., December 7, 1775.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Colonel *Nathaniel Woodhull*, President.

For New-York.—Mr. Roosevelt, Mr. Brasher, Captain Rutgers, Mr. Ray, Mr. Beekman Mr. Sands, Colonel McDougall, Mr. Cortlandt, Mr. Van Zandt, Mr. Scott.
Albany.—Colonel Rensselaer, Captain Cuyler, Colonel Nicoll, Mr. Bleecker, Mr. Gansevoort.
Dutchess.—Mr. Humphreys, Mr. Gilbert Livingston, Mr. Schenck.
Ulster.—Mr. Cantine, Mr. Wynkoop, Mr. Palmer.
Suffolk.—Mr. Hobart, Mr. L'Hommedieu, Mr. Strong.
King's.—Mr. Vanderbilt, Mr. Leffertse.
Westchester.—Colonel Joseph Drake, Colonel Graham, Colonel Gilbert Drake.
For Goshen Precinct, Orange County.—Mr. Clowes.

A Letter from *Egbert Benson*, Esq., Chairman of the Committee of *Dutchess* County, informing the Congress of a new Committee's being chosen for the said County; that they had again honoured him with the Chair; that, as he resides in the extreme part of the County, many inconveniences might arise, if all matters respecting the said County should be directed to him, and therefore, at a meeting of the said Committee, they had appointed Col. *Freer*, Capt. *Platt*, and Messrs. *John Child, Paul Schenck*, and *Peter Tappan*, (all residing at *Poughkeepsie*,) a Committee of Correspondence, and requesting that all Letters, &c., from this Congress respecting their County, be directed in future to those gentlemen, was read and filed.

Another Letter from *Egbert Benson*, Esq., Chairman of the Committee of *Dutchess* County, dated *November* 28, 1775, was read and filed, and is in the words following:

"Red Hook, Dutchess County, November 28, 1775.

"Sir: I am now to acknowledge the receipt of a letter from some individual members of our late Congress, enclosing copies of certain resolutions of the Continental Congress, of the 8th inst., respecting a number of men to be furnished by this County for the use of the fortress in the *Highlands*.

"The letter came to hand the 18th inst., and I would immediately have called the County Committee together, but found it would be the saving only of a few days, the stated meeting being the 27th, and therefore, with the unanimous advice of the friends of the cause in the neighbourhood, I thought proper to defer the matter till that time, especially as the calling a special meeting, the members being dispersed through the County, is attended with considerable expense. There was a circumstance, also, of which I supposed the Congress ignorant, that induced me to think that the business did not require such immediate despatch, namely, that Captain *Havens* with fifty men, belonging to the Continental forces (the party that escorted the *Chambly* garrison to *Connecticut*) were on their march to garrison the fortification.

"I laid the letter before our General Committee on *Monday* last, who ordered me to write to the Colonels of the two Minute regiments in the County, desiring them each to hold a company in readiness to march at a minute's warning, with a request also, that those gentlemen would immediately write to the commanding officer at the fortress, informing him of the places of rendezvous of their respective regiments.

"This measure was advised by three members of the Continental Congress, whom I saw as they passed through this County in their way to the northward. They informed me that they had been at the fort where they had left part of two companies, and that when Mr. *Havens* arrived with his party there would be men sufficient for its present defence, or at least as many as could conveniently be accommodated, and therefore proposed that we should only hold a company or two ready to march upon an emergency.

"I have the pleasure to inform the Congress, that several companies have not only turned out as volunteers, but have, both men and officers, solicited the service.

"I remain, by order of the Committee, your very humble servant, "EGBERT BENSON, *Chairman.*

"*Nathaniel Woodhull*, Esq., President of the Provincial Congress, *New-York.*"

Ordered, That Messrs. *Roosevelt* and *John Van Cortlandt* wait on the Speaker of the General Assembly of this Colony, and inform him that the Provincial Congress, finding it inconvenient to meet in the Exchange, intend to remove to the Assembly Chamber, and request him to direct the Clerks of the Assembly to take proper care of the Books and Papers of the General Assembly in such manner as he shall direct.

Messrs. *Roosevelt* and *Van Cortlandt* returned, and informed the Congress that the Speaker of the General Assembly has ordered Mr. *Bancker* to take care of the Books and Papers of the General Assembly, and that the Congress may use the said room immediately.

The Letter or Note of Lieutenants *Borough* and *Richardson* of yesterday was read, and is in the words following, viz:

"New-York, December 6, 1775.

"Lieutenants *Borough* and *Richardson*, of the Twenty-Sixth Regiment, now upon their parole in this town, request to be informed by the Provincial Congress of *New-York* what route the garrison of *St. John's* has taken, and also request that they would lengthen the enclosed papers fourteen days, with permission to remain a few days at *Perth-Amboy*. Their answer to the above, sent to Mrs. *Airy's*, will much oblige those gentlemen."

The Certificates of General *Schuyler* of the parole of those gentlemen, enclosed in the note or card above copied, were also read.

An answer to Lieutenants *Borough* and *Richardson* was read and approved, and is in the words following, to wit:

The Provincial Congress informs Lieutenants *Borough* and *Richardson*, that they are not apprized of the route the garrison of *St. John's* have taken; that they conceive it out of their province to lengthen the parole of General *Schuyler*, and that the Congress conceive Colonel *McDougall*, as commanding officer in this city, to be the proper person to be applied to with respect to their going to the westward.

Ordered, That the said answer, with the Certificates of the General, be sent to Lieutenants *Borough* and *Richardson*, by the Doorkeeper.

Colonel *McDougall* moved (seconded by Captain *Cuyler*) in the words following, viz:

I move that *Jacobus Oostrum*, *Johannes Medlar*, and *Barnt Lewis*, be kept in close confinement in the jail of *Dutchess* County, at their respective expense, until the further order of this or some future Congress; and that such of them who have not means to support themselves, be maintained at the publick expense; provided the want of such means shall appear to the satisfaction of the Committee of that County.

Debates arose on the said motion; and the question being put thereon, it was carried in the affirmative, in manner following, to wit:

For the Affirmative.	*For the Negative.*
3 Albany.	2 King's.
2 Suffolk.	—
2 Westchester.	2 votes.
2 Ulster.	
4 New-York.	
2 Dutchess.	
—	
15 votes.	

Resolved, therefore, That *Jacobus Oostrum*, *Johannes Medlar*, and *Barnt Lewis*, be kept in close confinement in the Jail of *Dutchess* County, at their respective expense, until the further order of this or some future Congress; and that such of them who have not means to support themselves, be maintained at the publick expense; provided the want of such means shall appear to the satisfaction of the Committee of that County.

Ordered, That a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to the Committee of that County.

Messrs. *Palmer* and *Schenck*, the Committee appointed for purchasing one hundred stand of Arms for the *Jersey* Forces, reported that they have agreed with *Jacamiah Allen* for sixty three-quarter bore, and forty of five-eighth bore Muskets, with double-bridle Locks, Bayonets, and Scabbards, complete, at four pounds each; to be complete in ten days.

Mr. *Hobart*, from the Committee appointed to examine the Accounts of the Treasurer, delivered in their Report, which was read, and is in the words following, to wit:

Your Committee report, that they have examined the Treasurer's Account, and find that the money has been regularly paid in consequence of orders from the Committee of Accounts, but that no separation has been made between the Continental charges and those which are merely Provincial, which your Committee are of opinion ought to be done.

Ordered, That Mr. *Pettit*, the Doorkeeper of this Congress, do wait upon Messrs. *Peter Van Brugh Livingston*, *Joseph Hallett*, *Thomas Smith*, *Benjamin Kissam*, *John Morton*, *Isaac Sears*, *Gabriel W. Ludlow*, and *Benjamin Helme*, Deputies with others chosen to represent the City and County of *New-York*, in this Congress, and desire them to take their seats in Congress, or assign their reasons for their non-attendance, without delay; and that the Secretaries do furnish the said Deputies with a copy of this order.

The Congress adjourned till three o'clock, this afternoon.

—

Thursday, P. M., December 7, 1775.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Colonel *Woodhull*, President.

For New-York.—Col. Brasher, Mr. Beekman, Mr. Ray, Colonel McDougall, Captain Rutgers, Mr. Scott, Mr. Sands.

Albany.—Captain Bleecker, Mr. Gansevoort, Mr. Nicoll, Captain Cuyler, Colonel Rensselaer.

Dutchess.—Mr. Humphreys, Mr. Gilbert Livingston, Mr. Schenck.

Ulster.—Mr. Cantine, Mr. Palmer.

Westchester.—Colonel Joseph Drake, Colonel Graham, Colonel Gilbert Drake.

Suffolk.—Mr. Hobart, Mr. Strong, Mr. L'Hommedieu.

King's.—Mr. Vanderbilt, Mr. Leffertse.

Ordered, That *Peter Van Brugh Livingston*, Esq., as Treasurer of this Congress, do advance to *John Berrien*, as Commissary of the Commissioners for erecting the Fortifications on the banks of *Hudson's* river, in the *Highlands*, and one of the said Commissioners, the sum of one

thousand pounds, for the necessary purposes of erecting the said Fortifications, and defraying the debts contracted on account thereof; that Mr. *Berrien* send up such part thereof to the other Commissioners as he may think proper or necessary, and retain the residue thereof in his own hands, to discharge the debts already contracted, or that may necessarily be contracted by him as Commissary for the said Commissioners, and one of the said Commissioners.

Friday Morning, December 8, 1775.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Colonel *Woodhull*, President.

For New-York.—Captain Rutgers, Mr. Smith, Colonel Brasher, Colonel McDougall, Mr. Sands, Mr. Beekman, Mr. Ray, Mr. Roosevelt, Mr. Van Zandt.

Albany.—Colonel Rensselaer, Colonel Nicoll, Mr. Ganesevoort, Mr. Bleecker, Captain Cuyler.

Dutchess.—Mr. Gilbert Livingston, Mr. Humphreys, Mr. Schenck.

Ulster.—Mr. Cantine, Mr. Palmer.

Goshen Precinct, Orange County.—Mr. Clowes.

Westchester.—Colonel Graham, Colonel Gilbert Drake, Colonel Joseph Drake.

Suffolk.—Mr. Strong, Mr. Hobart.

King's.—Mr. Vanderbilt, Mr. Leffertse.

A draft of a Letter to the Hon. *John Hancock*, Esq., President of the Continental Congress, was read and approved of, and is in the words following, to wit:

In Provincial Congress, New-York, December 8, 1775.

SIR: We are honoured with your favour of *November* the 3d, enclosing resolves of Congress respecting the exportation of the produce of the *United Colonies;* the conduct to be observed by the Colonies, which are not included in the Restraining Act, &c.; of the 9th, by express, enclosing resolves of Congress touching the fortresses on *Hudson's* river, in the *Highlands;* of the 10th, concerning the clothing of the army in the Northern department; and of the 27th, requesting us to furnish Lord *Stirling* with what fire-arms we could conveniently spare.

It gives us pain that letters of such great importance should remain so long unanswered; but the late Provincial Congress having broke up without appointing a Committee of Safety, and the present Congress not meeting till yesterday, has prevented their being properly noticed. However, a considerable number of the members who were in town, took upon themselves to give directions for the executing such parts of the resolves, respecting the fortresses in the *Highlands*, as would not admit of delay, and for expediting the clothing of the army, which we hope is, before this, safely arrived in *Albany*.

Not having any fire-arms belonging to the Colony which could be spared, a Committee has been appointed to purchase them in the city, who have engaged one hundred stand, to be ready in ten days.

We shall use the utmost despatch to complete every thing committed to our care respecting the fortifications on *Hudson's* river. The delay in our meeting has prevented the raising the artillery company directed by Congress. We have nominated Captain *John Grenell*, of Colonel *Clinton's* regiment, as the most proper person we can meet with for the command of an artillery company. He now commands a detachment of that regiment at the post in the *Highlands*, from whence we cannot call him without leave of the Congress. As his company is at present incomplete, and the time of inlistment is nearly expired, we beg leave to suggest whether it would not be proper to leave the company under the command of his first lieutenant for the present.

We pray the sense of Congress on this matter as soon as possible; and at the same time to be informed what is the establishment of the artillery with respect to pay, clothing, and arms.

We doubt not but the resolves of Congress, of *November* 1, will be most religiously observed by the inhabitants of this Colony.

It gives us the highest satisfaction to find that our conduct, respecting the commerce of this Colony, meets with the approbation of the Congress; and the polite manner in which you are pleased to communicate their vote of thanks, demands our most grateful acknowledgments.

We have the honour to be, with the highest respect and esteem, sir, your most obedient, humble servants.

To the Hon. *John Hancock*, President of the Congress.

P. S. We beg leave to inform the Congress, that in obedience to their order, three companies of minute-men they directed, with their proper officers, are stationed in the *Highlands*, near the fortifications, and under the command of Captain *John Grenell*, the present commanding officer of the Continental forces at the fortress.

Ordered, That a copy thereof be engrossed, and signed by the President, and transmitted.

A draft of a Letter to the Delegates of this Colony at Continental Congress, was read and approved of, and is in the words following, to wit:

In Provincial Congress, New-York, December 8, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: At this late date we acknowledge the receipt of your favours of 3d, 9th, and 28th *November* last, having been, till the 6th inst., in the unhappy predicament of not having members sufficient to make a Congress.

We are much obliged to you for putting it in our power to recommend, through you, an officer to command at the fortress in the *Highlands*. We are fully of opinion with you, gentlemen, that the person to fill that important office should be not only of the strictest honesty and fidelity, but also well acquainted with the pass he must defend. We therefore recommend *Gilbert Livingston*, Esq., Mr. *William Bedlow*, Mr. *Thomas Grenell*, and Mr. *Jonathan Lawrence*, as persons qualified for that service.

We are pleased to find there has been an order passed in our favour for fifty thousand dollars, and heartily wish the money here, as we have many pressing calls, and not a farthing to satisfy them. We earnestly entreat your utmost endeavours to have it forwarded to us as soon as possible.

The five hundred pounds of powder sent to the fort in the *Highlands*, was a very seasonable supply, as that pass would have remained in an almost defenceless state without it. This Colony is so destitute of powder, that we are obliged to take the liberty of desiring you to be extremely pressing in Congress for the repayment of the debt due to us in that article.

Yours of the 3d instant we shall duly notice as soon as we have expedited the many very pressing matters which have grown on our hands by occasion of our not being a body sufficient to do business for so long a time.

We are, gentlemen, your most obedient servants.

To the *New-York* Delegates in Continental Congress.

Ordered, That a copy thereof be engrossed, and signed by the President, and transmitted.

Captain *John McNachten*, who arrived last evening from *London*, being requested by Congress to attend, and attending at the door, was called in and examined; and his examination being reduced to writing, and read to him, he declared it was truly taken, and was thereupon filed.

A Certificate from the Committee of the City of *New-York*, was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"Committee Chamber, New-York, December 5, 1775.

"The General Committee hereby recommend *William Leary* as a suitable person for a Town-Major, and request he may be commissioned accordingly.

"JOHN BROOME, *Chairman pro tem.*

"To the Honourable the Provincial Congress, in *New-York.*"

Ordered, That a Commission be issued to the said *William Leary*, as Town-Major of the City of *New-York*, agreeably to the said recommendation.

A Certificate from the Committee of the City of *New-York*, was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"Committee Chamber, New-York, December 5, 1775.

"The General Committee hereby recommend *Peter Pra Van Zandt* for first Major, and *Patrick Welsch* Adjutant to the said regiment of militia, and request they may be commissioned accordingly.

"JOHN BROOME, *Chairman pro tem.*

"To the Honourable the Provincial Congress in *New-York.*"

Ordered, That Commissions be issued to those gentlemen accordingly.

Colonel *McDougall* informed the Congress that one *Speight*, a druggist, who formerly lived in this city, and returned here last evening from *London*, and had in many instances shown himself inimical to the interest and liberties of the *American* Colonies, was last evening apprehended by some of the militia officers; that he had thought it his duty to have him confined at the Guard-house, until he should have the orders of this Congress; that a number of letters which had been taken in custody of the said *Speight*, had been sealed up in a wrapper in presence of the said *Speight*, and were now delivered into the Congress for their order.

Thereupon, *Ordered*, That Mr. *Scott*, Mr. *Roosevelt*, and Mr. *Gilbert Livingston*, be a Committee to open, examine, and inspect all the said Letters, and report such of them to this Congress as they shall find relating to publick matters, or necessary to be read by this Congress.

A Petition of the General Committee of the City and County of *New-York*, was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"*To the Honourable the Provincial Congress for the Province of* New-York.

"*The Petition of the General Committee for the City and County of* New-York *humbly showeth:*

"That your Petitioners having been informed that a body of troops, from a neighbouring Colony, did lately make their publick entry into this city at noon-day, and did seize and carry off the types belonging to one of the publick printers* of this Colony, without any authority from the Continental or this Congress, your Petitioners, or any other body having power to grant such authority; and being apprehensive that such incursions, should they be repeated, will be productive of many great and evil consequences to the inhabitants of such place into which they may be hereafter made, do therefore conceive it highly necessary, in the present situation of publick affairs, as well for the sake of the internal peace and harmony of each Colony, as for the maintenance of the general union of the Continent, now happily subsisting and so essential at this juncture, that each of the associated Colonies on the Continent should have the sole management and regulation of its publick matters by its Congress or Committee, unless otherwise directed by the honourable the Continental Congress.

"Your Petitioners therefore do most humbly pray that this honourable House of Delegates would be pleased to take the premises into their consideration, and devise some expedient to prevent, for the future, the inhabitants of any of the neighbouring Colonies coming into this, to direct the publick affairs of it, or to destroy the property or invade the liberty of its inhabitants, without the direction of the Continental or this Congress, or the Committee of Safety, or the Committee of the County into which such inhabitants may come, or of the Continental Generals, unless there should be an invasion made into this Colony.

"And your Petitioners shall forever pray, &c.

"By order of the Committee:

"John Broome, *Chairman pro tem.*"

The said Petition was taken into consideration, and debates arose thereon; and after some time spent thereon,

Ordered, That Mr. *Scott*, Mr. *Hobart*, Mr. *Thomas Smith*, Mr. *Gansevoort*, and Mr. *Brasher*, be a Committee to take the said Petition into consideration, and report thereon with all convenient speed.

It being represented to the Congress that Mr. *John Berrien*, Commissary for the Commissioners for erecting the Fortifications in the *Highlands*, and one of the said Commissioners, is entirely disinterested in any controversies or difficulties that have arisen or subsisted between the other Commissioners and the Engineer, and at the same time well acquainted therewith; that the said *John Berrien* has also some influence with the other Commissioners, and with the Engineer, and is properly qualified to assist the Committee appointed to go up to the said Fortifications, to take examinations, and reduce them to writing if necessary. Therefore,

[* James Rivington.]

Ordered, That Mr. *John Berrien* be requested to proceed with the Committee of this Congress, appointed for that purpose, to the said Fortifications in the *Highlands*, to assist the said Committee in taking examinations, and in every other matter relating to the said Fortifications, in which they may need his aid and assistance, or find it useful.

Colonel *McDougall* informed the Congress, that Mr. *Bernard Romans* is in want of cash, and requests an order for a month's pay.

Ordered, That *Peter V. B. Livingston*, Esq., as Treasurer of this Congress, advance to *Bernard Romans*, the sum of fifty dollars, on account of his pay, and take his receipt for the same.

The Congress then adjourned to three o'clock, this afternoon.

—

Die Veneris, 3 ho. P. M., December 8, 1775.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *Nathaniel Woodhull*, Esq., *President*.

For New-York.—Col. McDougall, Mr. Thomas Smith, Colonel Brasher, Mr. Beekman, Mr. Scott, Mr. John Van Cortlandt, Mr. Van Zandt, Mr. Ray, Captain Rutgers, Mr. Sands.

Albany.—Colonel Van Rensselaer, Colonel Nicoll, Capt. Cuyler, Mr. Gansevoort, Mr. Bleecker.

Dutchess County.—Mr. Livingston, Mr. Humphreys, Mr. Schenck.

Ulster.—Mr. Cantine.

Goshen Precinct, in Orange County.—Mr. Clowes.

Suffolk County.—Mr. L'Hommedieu, Mr. Strong, Mr. Hobart.

Westchester.—Colonel L. Graham, Colonel Joseph Drake, Colonel Gilbert Drake.

King's County.—Mr. Leffertse, Mr. Vanderbilt.

Ordered, That Doctor *John Jones* and Doctor *Treat* be requested to make out with all convenient speed, a list or estimate of Instruments and Medicines necessary for the Colony in its present alarming state, and report the same to this Congress.

Mr. *Hobart*, from the Committee to examine the Treasurer's Accounts, and to state the sums paid to the Continental Troops by this Congress, that the Account may be sent to General *Schuyler*, proceeded to report the sums paid by this Congress to the Continental Troops. After having proceeded through a considerable part of the said Accounts,

Ordered, That they be recommitted to the same Committee to state, and finish the same, and prepare a draft of a Letter to General *Schuyler* to attend the said Accounts.

Mr. *Thomas Smith* moved, and was seconded by Mr. *James Beekman*, that this Congress immediately take into consideration his Excellency Governour *Tryon's* Letter of the 4th instant, addressed to the inhabitants of this Colony, and express the sense of their constituents by the following Resolves, viz:

Resolved, first, That the disturbed state of this Colony owes its origin to the misconduct of the Commander-in-chief of His Majesty's Forces in *America*, in proceeding to acts of open hostility against the inhabitants of the *Massachusetts-Bay*, at a time when he and all the other Governours on the Continent were possessed of the Parliamentary Resolution of the 20th *February* last, and before the same had been tendered for the consideration of the Colonies; that as that resolution was designed "to compose the present ferments in the Provinces, and intended for the basis of an accomodation," it was but reasonable to expect that all hostilities would cease, till the result of their determinations were known; that the news of the attack at *Lexington* immediately threw this Colony into convulsions, inflamed the minds of the inhabitants, led them to distrust the justice and candour of Government, and filled them with alarming apprehensions, that it was the design of Administration to force their assent to a requisition of the last importance to them and their posterity, with the point of the bayonet; that the inhabitants of this Colony considered General *Gage's* conduct in this instance as not only reflecting the highest dishonour on Government, and injurious to the character of the *British* nation, but highly insulting and disgraceful to a free people, and, therefore,

justly alarmed and incensed by the slaughter of their fellow-subjects, they naturally fled to arms for their defence.

Resolved, secondly, That the inhabitants of this Colony justly boast the most unshaken loyalty to their Sovereign, the warmest attachment to the succession of the Crown in the illustrious House of *Hanover*, the highest veneration for the principles of the Revolution, the most tender affection for their brethren in *Great Britain* and *Ireland*, and an ardent desire to maintain the ancient union of the two countries on constitutional principles, notwithstanding the unexampled severities of the present Administration; that, retaining the principle of their ancestors, that allegiance and protection are so inseparably connected that the former cannot exist where the latter is withheld, if any thing has appeared in the conduct of any that would countenance a charge of withholding their allegiance from their Sovereign, it must be attributed to an apprehension that all protection was withdrawn from them; that when the present unhappy controversy is settled on equitable principles, which is the sincere wish of every good man, His Majesty will find his *American* subjects as ready to afford him every mark of their affection and loyalty as they manifested before the commencement of the present troubles, unless, by the long continuance of this unnatural war, their affection should be stifled by acts of oppression, and drowned in blood.

Resolved, thirdly, That this Congress conceive it highly necessary and expedient that His Majesty should know the sense of this Colony on the Parliamentary Resolution of the 24th *February*, in such a way as his Excellency may conceive to be most constitutional, and they cannot but consider the Governour's address to the inhabitants, as a mark of his affection to them, and as proceeding from an anxious desire for a re-establishment of that harmony that has been so long interrupted by the misrepresentations and artifices of evil and designing men.

Resolved, fourthly, That this Congress cannot but express their concern that his Excellency has thought it expedient for his personal safety to withdraw for some time past from the usual place of his residence; that should he think proper to return to this city, which is the sincere wish of the people, this Congress conceive it to be the bounden duty of the inhabitants to protect him both in his person and property.

After many debates on the said motion, and the Resolutions thereto annexed, in pursuance of one of the rules of this Congress, at the request of the Members of *Albany*, *Ulster*, and *Dutchess* Counties,

Ordered, That the further consideration thereof be postponed till next *Monday*.

The Committee appointed to open and examine all the Letters taken from *Speight*, reported, that they had opened and examined all the said Letters; that they are of opinion, that only two of the said Letters contain any such publick intelligence as that they should be read in Congress, to wit: A Letter from Colonel *Maunsell* to *Peter Van Schaack*, and a Letter from *Miles Cooper* to Doctor *Auchmuty*. Each of the said Letters were accordingly read.

Ordered, That the Secretaries take a copy of the said Letter from Colonel *Maunsell* to Mr. *Van Schaack*, and a copy of the Letter from *Miles Cooper* to Doctor *Auchmuty*; and that all the other Letters be sealed by the said Committee who examined them, and put them in such way that they may be forwarded agreeably to their respective directions.

The Congress adjourned until to-morrow morning.

—

Die Sabbati, 10 ho. A. M., December 9, 1775.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *Nathaniel Woodhull*, Esq., President.

For New-York.—Colonel McDougall, Mr. Thomas Smith, Colonel Brasher, Mr. Beekman, Mr. Van Zandt, Mr. Roosevelt, Mr. Ray, Captain Rutgers, Mr. Sands, Mr. Scott.

Albany.—Colonel Nicoll, Colonel Rensselaer, Captain Cuyler, Mr. Bleecker, Mr. Gansevoort.

Dutchess.—Mr. Humphreys, Mr. Schenck, Mr. Gilbert Livingston.

Ulster.—Mr. Cantine.

Goshen, Orange County.—Mr. Clowes.

Suffolk.—Mr. Woodhull, Mr. Hobart, Mr. Strong.

Westchester.—Colonel L. Graham, Colonel Joseph Drake, Colonel Gilbert Drake.

King's.—Mr. Leffertse, Mr. Vanderbilt.

Ordered, That Mr. *Vanderbilt* be added to the Committee for examining the Accounts of the Treasurer of this Congress, instead of Mr. *Palmer*, who is one of the Committee ordered to go up to the new Fortifications in the *Highlands*.

A draft of a Letter to General *Schuyler* was read, and approved of, and is in the words following, to wit:

"In Provincial Congress, New-York, December 9, 1775.

SIR: Your favours of the 7th, 18th, and 20th *November*, came duly to hand, but our not being able to form a Congress till the 6th inst., has occasioned their remaining so long unanswered.

Herewith you have enclosed an account of the moneys advanced by us for the payment of the Continental troops. We have frequent applications from discharged soldiers for arrears of pay. As nothing is mentioned about it in their discharges, we are at a loss how to conduct towards them. We beg you will please to give directions to the proper officers to prevent this inconvenience for the future.

We receive with very great satisfaction your congratulations on the glorious success of the Continental Army in *Canada;* and we can assure you, that it is much heightened by the consideration, that we recommended the Generals who have with so much activity and success conducted an expedition which was attended with difficulties thought to be insuperable by those who were acquainted with them.

We have the honour to be, with very great respect, sir, your most obedient, humble servants.

Ordered, That a copy thereof be engrossed, and signed by the President, and transmitted.

The Account of the Moneys advanced to the Troops raised in this Colony, enclosed in the said Letter, is in the words and figures following:

1775. *July* 5,	Colonel *McDougall*, subsistence for the First Regiment,	£300	0	0
Aug't. 7,	Colonel *Clinton*, subsistence for his Regiment,	1500	0	0
"	Colonel *McDougall*, subsistence for his Regiment,	500	0	0
"	Col. *Van Cortlandt*, subsistence of Colonel *Holmes's* Regiment,	200	0	0
"	Colonel *Van Schaack*, subsistence for his Regiment,	1000	0	0
" 12,	Colonel *Holmes*, subsistence for his Regiment,	700	0	0
" 29,	*Robert Johnson*, of Colonel *Clinton's* Regiment, subsistence for his Company,	100	0	0
" 30,	Colonel *Holmes*, subsistence for his Regiment,	600	0	0
" 31,	Colonel *McDougall*, subsistence of Captain *Lamb's* Company of Artillery,	250	0	0
Sep't. 2,	Major *Tuthill*, of the Fourth Regiment, two months' subsistence for himself, and *Job Mulford*, Adjutant of said Reg't,	41	6	8
"	Colonel *McDougall*, subsistence for his Regiment,	500	0	0
" 4,	Colonel *McDougall*, subsistence for his Regiment,	1006	11	1
" 8,	Lieutenant *William Crane*, of Col. *Holmes's* Regiment, subsistence for his Regiment,	30	0	0
" 23,	Captain *John Hulbert*, subsistence for his Company,	192	15	11
" 23,	Capt. *John Hulbert*, two months' subsistence for him and two Subalterns,	37	6	8
" 23,	Capt. *Daniel Griffin*, two months' subsistence for him, and two Subalterns,	37	6	8
" 23,	Captain *Griffin*, subsistence for his Company,	217	0	1½

*Sept.*30, Captain *John Grenell*, subsistence for his Company, - - - -	31	1	3¾
Oct. 2, *Andrew Moodie*, Adjutant of the Third Regiment, subsistence for his Company, - - - -	10	0	0
" 2, Colonel *McDougall*, subsistence of First Regiment, - - - -	377	1	9
" 13, Capt. *John Grenell*, subsistence for his Company, - - - -	177	13	9
Nov. 2, Colonel *McDougall*, subsistence for his Regiment, - - - -	600	0	0
	£8,508	3	11¼

Mr. *Thomas Smith* moved, and was seconded by Mr. *Lefferts*e, in the words following to wit:

I move that a Committee be appointed to draft a Letter to our Delegates, stating the present situation of this Colony, and the sense of this Congress on the measures necessary to be taken in the present alarming state of our publick affairs.

And the same being agreed, *nem. con.*,

Ordered, That Mr. *Scott*, Mr. *Hobart*, Mr. *Thomas Smith*, Mr. *Gansevoort*, Mr. *Brasher*, and Mr. *Gilbert Livingston*, be a Committee for that purpose, and that they report with all convenient speed.

Mr. *James Beekman* has leave of absence for the residue of this day.

A draft of a Letter to the Delegates of this Colony at Continental Congress was read, and approved of, and is in the words following, to wit:

New-York, Decemb*e*r 9, 1775.

Gentlemen: It must appear very obvious to you, that this Colony will require a fund to defray such expenses as have arisen, or may be incurred on its particular account. The last Congress, attentive to this, resolved to emit the sum of forty-five thousand pounds for that purpose. The bills are now ready for signing, but this Congress are apprehensive that the great variety of paper emissions now in circulation with the addition of such others as may be emitted, may endanger a depreciation, or prevent so extensive a circulation as may be necessary to answer the ends for which they were intended.

Those evils, they think, will be prevented by making all paper money to be issued for the defence of *America*, whether general or particular, Continental currency. They, therefore, request you to take the sense of Congress, whether they will lend this Colony the sum above-mentioned, for the sinking of which they are ready to engage the Colony. As this money is immediately wanted, and as our bills are ready for signing, we beg you to obtain the determination of the Congress on this matter as speedily as possible, and transmit it to us.

We are, with great truth and regard, your very humble servants. By order of the Congress.

To the Delegates for the Colony of *New-York* in Congress, at *Philadelphia*.

Ordered, That a copy thereof be engrossed, and signed by the President, and transmitted.

Resolved, That *Peter Van Brugh Livingston*, Esq., as Treasurer of the Congress of this Colony, be requested to enter in Bond to *Nathaniel Woodhull*, *John Vanderbilt*, *Isaac Roosevelt*, *Jacob Cuyler*, and *Robert Van Rensselaer*, Esqrs., in the sum of twenty thousand Pounds, *New-York* money, with such security as those gentleman shall approve of, with a condition faithfully to execute the said office of Treasurer, and to render accounts of all moneys by him received, when thereunto required.

And *Resolved*, That one hundred and fifty Pounds per annum, and at the same rate for any longer or shorter time, be allowed to him as a Salary for his trouble in executing the office of Treasurer, to be computed from the 8th day of *July* last, on which he was first appointed Treasurer.

A draft of a Letter to the Committee of *Tryon* County was read and approved of, and is in the words following, to wit:

In Provincial Congress, New-York, December 9, 1775.

Gentlemen: The Congress have this day entered into the consideration of your letter of 28th *October*, and are of opinion that your application to Sir *John Johnson*, requesting an answer from him whether he would allow his tenants to form themselves into companies and associate with their brethren of your County, according to the resolves of the Continental Congress, for the defence of our liberties, was improper with respect to him, and too condescending on your parts, as it was a matter that came properly within your province, and to which we doubt not but you are competent, as you have a line of conduct prescribed to you by Congress. With respect to your second question to him, whether he would take any active part in the controversy at present subsisting between *Great Britain* and her Colonies, we conceive to be very proper, and thank you for your information on that head. As to the third question, we conceive that he can claim no title to the Court-house and Jail in your County, as we are credibly told that his father, Sir *William Johnson*, did, in his life time, convey the same to two gentlemen in trust for the use of your County; however, as an attempt to use the same for the purpose of confining persons inimical to our country may be productive of bad consequences, we beg leave to recommend to you to procure some other place which may answer the end of a Jail, and give you our advice not to molest Sir *John* as long as he shall continue inactive, and not impede the measures necessary to be carried into execution from being completed.

We are extremely sorry that Mr. *White* has, by his imprudent conduct, rendered himself justly obnoxious to you. The best advice we can give you in this unhappy affair is, that if you are of opinion that his exercising his office will be dangerous to your liberties and security, that you permit the office to be exercised by his Deputy, and that you draw up a petition, get as many persons of your County to sign it as possible, and present it to the Governour of this Colony, setting forth that it is very disagreeable to the people in general that he should execute that office, and praying that he may be displaced, and his place supplied by a person who would be acceptable to the people of your County.

We are, most respectfully, gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servants,

To *Nicholas Herkimer*, Esqr., Chairman of the Committee of *Tryon* County.

P. S. The credentials from your County for Mr. *Moore* are not yet arrived, though several letters have been forwarded to you for that purpose.

Ordered, That a copy thereof be engrossed, and signed by the President, and transmitted.

Resolved and ordered, That Messrs. *Jacobus Van Zandt*, *John Vanderbilt*, and *Comfort Sands*, be a Committee to plan a voyage or voyages for at least two or more Vessels, to be laded and sent out on account of the Congress of this Colony, and for the benefit of this Colony, to procure Ammunition, Arms, and such other articles as will be necessary for the general defence of this Colony, and to procure proper Vessels for that purpose; and that the said Committee report such plan or plans as they shall think proper or propose, with all convenient speed.

The day being far advanced, the Congress adjourned till *Monday* next, at ten o'clock, A. M.

Die Lunæ, 10 ho. A. M., December 11, 1775.

The following gentlemen met pursuant to adjournment:

Nathaniel Woodhull, Esq., President.

For New-York.—Colonel McDougall, Colonel Brasher, Mr. Beekman, Mr. Van Zandt, Mr. Roosevelt, Mr. Hallett, Mr. Scott, Mr. Ray, Mr. Sands.

Albany.—Colonel Rensselaer, Mr. Cuyler, Mr. Ganse-voort, Mr. Bleecker.

Dutchess.—Mr. G. Livingston.

Ulster.—Mr. Wynkoop, Mr. Cantine.

Westchester.—Colonel L. Graham, Colonel G. Drake.

Suffolk.—Colonel Woodhull, Mr. Hobart, Mr. Wickham, Mr. David Gilston.

Tryon.—Mr. John Moore.

Benjamin Lindsay, attending at the door, in obedience to the Order of the late Provincial Congress, when he obtained permission to lade his last Cargo for *Rhode-Island*, sent in a Certificate of Governour *Cooke*, in the words and figures following, to wit:

"Providence, December 4, 1775.

"This may certify that Captain *Benjamin Lindsay* has imported and landed in *Providence*, one hundred and twelve barrels of Flour, it being the whole quantity that he brought from *New-York* in the sloop *Fly*.

"NICHOLAS COOKE, *Governour*."

Benjamin Lindsay also produced a Certificate from Governour *Cooke*, under the seal of the Colony of *Rhode-Island*, requesting a further supply of Provisions; and he was directed to apply therewith to the General Committee of the City of *New-York*.

The Members of *King's* County, and two Members of *Dutchess* County, being, by the violence of the wind, detained on *Long-Island*, and without them, or some of them, there is not a sufficient number of Members to form a Congress,

The Members present adjourned to three o'clock.

—

3 ho. P. M., December 11, 1775.

The gentlemen above named, who attended this morning, attended again this afternoon, together with Mr. *Schenck*, for *Dutchess* County; but for want of another Member for *Dutchess*, or a Representation for *King's* County, they could not proceed to any material business which required a full representation.

Mr. *Elias Nixon*, lately returned from *Boston*, by request attending at the door, was called in, and his information reduced to writing, and filed.

The gentlemen present then adjourned till ten o'clock to-morrow morning.

—

Die Martis, 10 ho. A. M., December 12, 1775.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *Nathaniel Woodhull*, Esq., President.

For New-York.—Thomas Smith, Colonel Brasher, Mr. Van Zandt, Mr. Roosevelt, Mr. Ray, Mr. Rutgers, Mr. Sands, Mr. Scott, Colonel McDougall.

Albany.—Col. Rensselaer, Captain Cuyler, Mr. Bleecker, Mr. Gansevoort.

Dutchess.—Mr. Humphreys, Mr. Schenck, Mr. G. Livingston.

Ulster.—Mr. Cantine, Mr. Wynkoop.

Orange.—Mr. Clowes, Mr. Herring.

Suffolk.—Mr. Woodhull, Mr. Hobart, Mr. Strong, Mr. Wickham.

Westchester.—Colonel L. Graham, Colonel G. Drake, Mr. Stephen Ward.

King's.—Mr. Leffertse, Mr. Vanderbilt.

Tryon.—Mr. Moore.

John Herring, Esq., one of the Deputies for *Orange* County, produced a Certificate of *Thomas Outwater*, Esqr., Chairman of the County Committee;* whereby it is certified that at a meeting of the freeholders of the Town of *Orange*, in *Orange* County, at the house of Mr. *Jost Mabee*, on the 9th day of *December*, 1775, it was resolved, that *John Herring*, *Peter Clowes*, *William Allison*, *Ann Hawke Hay*, *Theunis Cuyper*, and *Jeremiah Clarke*, Esquires, or any two or more of them be, and are fully authorized to represent the said County of *Orange* in Provincial Congress of this Colony, now convened in the City of *New-York*.

The same being read and approved, was ordered to be filed; and ordered that Mr. *Herring* take his seat.

And the Congress being well informed that the two other Precincts in *Orange* County have elected the same Members, and agreed that any two Members shall represent the County, and that the returns will speedily be sent into Congress,

Ordered and agreed, That Mr. *Clowes* and Mr. *Herring* represent *Orange* County, and be received to give the vote of the County.

Mr. *John Moore*, the Deputy for *Tryon* County, produced a Letter from the Committee of *Tryon* County, bearing date the 7th *November* last, and signed by *Ebenezer Cox*, Chairman pro tempore,* whereby it appears that they had elected two Delegates to represent their County in this Congress; that by a majority of the votes of the freeholders assembled, the said *John Moore* and *Isaac Paris* were elected; and the said Letter also directs him to lay sundry matters before this Congress, whereby it appears to Congress that it is the design of the County that Mr. *Moore* should represent that County until another Member arrives.

Ordered, That the said Letter be filed, and that Mr. *Moore* take his seat and be received to represent *Tryon* County.

The Committee to whom was referred the Petition of the General Committee of the City and County of *New-York*, reported it as their opinion, that a Letter should be written to the Governour of the Colony of *Connecticut* on the subject-matter of the said Petition, and they reported a draft of such Letter; which was read.

And the question being asked, whether the Congress will receive the said report, in was agreed to be received, and by order was read a second time.

And many debates arose thereon, and amendments made and debated on, until the morning is so far elapsed, that the further consideration thereof is ordered to be deferred till the afternoon.

Mr. *Van Zandt*, from the Committee appointed to plan a voyage or voyages for two or more Vessels, in order to procure Ammunition and other necessaries, reported a plan of a voyage for three Vessels to *Europe*.

The same was read, and after some debates thereon, the same was recommitted to the same Committee for recon sideration and amendments.

The Congress then adjourned to three o'clock, P. M.

—

Die Martis, 3 ho. P. M., December 12, 1775.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Colonel Nathaniel *Woodhull*, Esq., President.

For New-York.—Colonel McDougall, Colonel Brasher, Mr. Scott, Mr. Thomas Smith, Mr. Roosevelt, Mr. Ray, Mr. Sands, Captain Rutgers, Mr. Van Zandt.

Albany.—Colonel Rensselaer, Captain Cuyler, Mr. Gansevoort, Mr. Bleecker.

Dutchess.—Mr. Humphreys, Mr. Schenck, Mr. Gilbert Livingston.

Suffolk.—Colonel Woodhull, Mr. Strong, Mr. Hobart, Mr. Wickham, Mr. Gilston.

Ulster.—Mr. Wynkoop, Mr. Cantine.

Westchester.—Colonel Gilbert Drake, Colonel Lewis Graham, Mr. Ward.

Orange.—Mr. Clowes, Mr. Herring.

Tryon.—Mr. John Moore.

King's.—Mr. Leffertse, Mr. Vanderbilt.

The Congress resumed the consideration of the draft of the Letter to the Governour of the Colony of *Connecticut*, which was reported in the morning by the Committee appointed to consider the Petition from the City of *New-York*.

* These are to certify, that at a meeting of the freeholders of the Town of *Orange*, in *Orange* County, at the house of Mr. *Joseph Maber*, the 9th day of *December*, 1775, it was resolved that *John Herring*, *Peter Clowes*, *William Allison*, *Ann Hawke Hay*, *Theunis Cuyper*, and *Jeremy Clarke*, Esquires, or any two or more of them, be and are fully authorized and empowered to represent the said County of *Orange* in Provincial Congress of this Colony now convened in the City of *New-York*. By order:

THOMAS OUTWATER, *Chairman*.

* TRYON COUNTY COMMITTEE CHAMBER, *November* 7, 1775.—SIR: In conformity to your last letters, of the 18th and 19th of *October* last, we voted at this, our Assembly, two new Delegates for our Provincial Congress, thinking them sufficient in number to represent there our County; but by majority of the votes of the freeholders assembled, the choice fell again upon your person to remain in that office, being hitherto well contented with your service. And with you, *Isaac Paris* was chosen as another member on that purpose. We shall be not oblivious to satisfy your request in regard to your stay at *New-York*. Please to despatch us the commissions for our Militia, and to procure us answers from the Congress concerning our voting of a sheriff, and the dangerous crew in and about *Johnstown*, who, under the authority of Sir *John Johnson*, increase and behave actually in opposition, to make use of our County Jail for our wants. The Indian, *William Johnson*, is again here, in the *Canajoharie* castle, and brags very boldly of his hostile acts; publickly damneth the Committee, and threatened them to kill every member, and also to burn and destroy the settlements along the *Mohawk* river and its neighbourhood, yet before the fall. Pray lay these before the honourable Congress, and procure us with speed their opinions or orders about these dangerous circumstances. You will thereby oblige the whole County, and in particular, sir, your friends and humble servants. By order of the Committee:

EBENEZER COX, *Chairman, P. T.*

Mr *John Moore*.

P. S. As the Congress is dissolved, we shall have soon a new election of Committees for our County. Please, therefore, immediately to send up your account of your demand against the Committee, if you have any, to settle and examine the same before our dissolution.

After some time spent therein, and many amendments made thereto, the same was again read, and is in the words following, to wit:

In Provincial Congress, New-York, Dec. 12, 1775.

Sir: It gives us concern that we are under the necessity of addressing you, on a subject that has given great discontent to the inhabitants of the City and County of *New-York*. We are informed by a petition from the General Committee, that a body of troops from your Colony, lately made a publick entry into this city at noonday, and seized and carried off the types belonging to one of the publick printers, without any authority from the Continental or this Congress, or their Committee. While we consider this conduct as an insult offered to this Colony, we are disposed to attribute it to an imprudent, though well intended, zeal for the publick cause, and cannot entertain the most distant thought that your Colony will approve of the measure. It is unnecessary to use arguments to show the impropriety of a proceeding that has a manifest tendency to interrupt that harmony and union which at present happily subsists throughout, and is so essential to the interest of the whole, Continent. It is our earnest desire, that you would take the most effectual steps to prevent any of the people of your Colony from entering into this for the like purposes, unless invited by our Provincial Congress, a Committee of Safety, or the General Committee of one of our Counties, as we cannot but consider such intrusions as an invasion of our essential rights as a distinct Colony; and common justice obliges us to request that you would give orders that all the types be returned to the Chairman of the General Committee of the City and County of *New-York*. We believe you will not consider this requisition as an attempt to justify the man from whom the types were taken. We are fully sensible of his demerits; but we earnestly wish that the glory of the present contest for liberty may not be sullied by an attempt to restrain the freedom of the Press.

The same body of troops, we are informed, seized the Mayor of the Burough of *Westchester*, the Rector of that Parish, and one of the Justices of the County, and carried them to your Colony. Mr. *Seabury*, we are informed, is still detained. If such should be the case, we must entreat your friendly interposition for his immediate discharge; the more especially as, considering his ecclesiastick character, (which, perhaps, is venerated by many friends to liberty,) the severity that has been used towards him may be subject to misconstructions prejudicial to the common cause.

And the more effectually to restrain such incursions, which, if repeated, may be productive of mischief of the most serious consequence, and as we would be exceedingly sorry to give room for jealousies among individuals in your Colony that we are desirous to damp the spirit of liberty, or countenance any of its enemies among us, we propose to apply to the Continental Congress, not by way of complaint, but for such a general regulation on this subject as may as well prevent such jealousies as any future incursions by the inhabitants of either Colony into the other for the apprehending or punishing any enemy or supposed enemy to the cause of liberty, without application to the Congress, the Committee of Safety, or the Committee of the County, within the jurisdiction of which such person shall reside, or command of the Continental Congress.

We are sir, with the utmost respect and esteem, your most obedient servants.

To the Honourable *Jonathan Trumbull*, Esq., Governour of the Colony of *Connecticut*.

And debates arising on the said Letter, as now amended, and the question being asked, whether the said Letter is approved of, and shall be ordered to be engrossed and sent, it was carried in the affirmative, in manner following:

For the Letter's being engrossed and sent to Governour Trumbull.	*Against the Letter.*
4 New-York.	2 Tryon.
2 King's.	2 Westchester.
3 Albany.	—
2 Ulster.	4 votes.
2 Dutchess.	Dissentients, Colonel *Graham*, from Westchester; Colonel *McDougall*, Mr. *Sands*, from New-York.
2 Suffolk.	
—	
15 votes.	

Ordered therefore, That the said Letter be engrossed and signed by the President, so as to be ready to be transmitted when directed.

Mr. *Hobart* informed the Congress, that the Chairman of the Committee of *Huntington* reported, that the Captain of the Second Company of the First Regiment, was promoted to a Majority, and that the following gentlemen were thereupon elected Officers of that Company, to wit: *Jonathan Titus*, Captain; *Joshua Rogers*, First Lieutenant; and *Thomas Brush*, Second Lieutenant: And that the Chairman of the said Committee of *Huntington*, reported, that the Captain of the Third Company of the said Third Regiment had resigned, and that the following gentlemen were elected, to wit: *Joel Scudder*, Captain; *Nathaniel Buffett*, First Lieutenant; *Epenetus Smith*, Second Lieutenant; *John Hart*, Ensign.

Ordered, That Commissions be issued to those gentlemen, in the order above named.

Colonel *Hay*, from *Haverstraw* Precinct, in *Orange* County, produced a Certificate of the Joint Committee of *Orangetown* and *Haverstraw*, signed by *Thomas Outwater*, their Chairman, and dated the 7th instant; which being read, is to the following effect:

"Orange County.

"At a meeting of the freeholders and inhabitants of the Precinct of *Haverstraw*, the 7th day of *November*, ultimo; and also at a meeting of the freeholders and inhabitants of *Orangetown* the same day, and by several adjournments after in *Orangetown*, the following persons were chosen to represent the South part of the said County in particular, and the said County in general, in Provincial Congress of this Colony: In the Precinct of *Hoverstraw*, Colonel *A. Hawkes Hay* and *Thewis Cuyper*, Esqrs., and in *Orange town*, *John Herring*, Esq., and that any one of the said Deputies shall represent the south side of the mountains in the said County in particular; and that any two of the six Deputies chosen in the said County, to represent the said County in general. That in pursuance thereof, the Joint Committee of the towns of *Orange* and *Haverstraw*, do certify that Return to be a sufficient voucher for the said Deputies as they may severally attend at this Provincial Congress."

The same was read and approved of, and ordered to be filed; and ordered that Colonel *Hay* take his seat.

Resolved, unanimously, That the Thanks of this Congress be, and they are hereby given, to those of the inhabitants of the Colony of *Connecticut?* who so cheerfully gave their aid at the request of the Committee of *Westchester* County, in the late suppression of the Insurgents in that County, against the cause of liberty.

Mr. *Scott* then moved, and was seconded by Mr. *Hobart*, that the Congress enter into, and add a Resolution, in the words following, to wit:

And whereas, considering the situation of some of the Counties in this Colony, aid for the like purposes may often be most conveniently had from a neighbouring Colony, or a distant County within this Colony; that the power heretofore given to Committees, for calling in the assistance of a neighbouring County, be extended so far as to enable the County Committees respectively to apply for assistance from a neighbouring Colony, or any County within this Colony.

Debates arose on the said motion, and the question being put, whether the Congress will add such Resolution to the next preceding, it was carried in the affirmative, in the manner following, to wit:

For the Affirmative.	*For the Negative.*
2 Westchester.	2 King's County.
2 Dutchess.	
3 Albany.	
2 Suffolk.	
2 Tryon.	
4 New-York.—Mr. *Thos. Smith* and	
2 Orange. *Roosevelt*, dissenting.	
2 Ulster.	
—	
19 votes.	

Ordered, therefore, That a Resolution be entered, in the words following, to wit: And whereas, considering the situation of some of the Counties in this Colony, aid for the like purposes may often most conveniently be had from a neighbouring Colony, or a distant County within this Colony:

Resolved, That the power heretofore given to Commit-

tees for calling in the assistance of a neighbouring County, be extended so far as to enable the County Committees, respectively, to apply for assistance to a neighbouring Colony, or any County within this Colony.

Major *Brush*, from *Huntington*, was admitted, and gave some information of reports of the disaffection of sundry people in *Queen's* County, and of a suspicion that they had about inlisting *Negroes*.

A Letter from the Committee of *Dutchess* County, dated the 5th instant, was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

Poughkeepsie, December 5, 1775.

"Gentlemen: Some few days past three men were committed to jail, in consequence of an order from the General Committee of *Dutchess* County, on a charge of having aided and assisted *Peter Harris* in inlisting men for the Ministerial army. The Committee of *Poughkeepsie* Precinct having reason to believe that some further discovery might be made of the pernicious scheme carrying on in this County against the friends of *American* liberty, as well to procure further evidences against said prisoners, the Chairman issued citations for a number of persons to appear before said Committee the 4th instant, on which day most of them appeared, and Mr. Justice *Ellis* being called in to qualify them, three persons, whom the Committee deemed the most material witnesses, refused to be sworn, and contemned the authority of the Committee, saying they had taken good counsel so to do.

"And the Committee being of opinion that there are several very officious Ministerial agents in this County, who have corrupted the minds of many of the ignorant and baser sort of men among us, maliciously telling them the Whigs were in rebellion, the King would conquer them, and their estates be forfeited; and, if they take up arms against them, the King, for their services, will give them the Whigs' possessions: The Committee taking these matters into consideration, and being of opinion that the denial of their authority is of the last importance, and it not being clear that any particular rule is pointed out by Congress, think it expedient to solicit their advice in the premises.

"We are, gentlemen, your most obedient and very humble servants.

"By order of the Committee:

"Samuel Dodge, *Chairman*.

"Provincial Congress, *New-York*."

The same being read and considered, thereupon

Resolved, That if any person or persons, being brought before the Committee of any County, Town, Manor, Precinct, or District, within this Colony, to give in his, her, or their evidence on oath, or by affirmation, according to the best of his, her, or their knowledge, in any matter or charge, within the authority or jurisdiction of such Committee, brought against any other person or persons, shall refuse to give his, her, or their evidence, respectively, on oath or affirmation, he, she, or they so refusing shall be immediately committed to safe custody, at his, her, or their own private expense; there to remain until he, she, or they consent to be qualified, and give in his, her, or their evidence or testimony as aforesaid.

Mr. *Clowes* obtained leave of absence to go to *Queen's* County.

The Congress adjourned till to-morrow morning, at ten o'clock.

—

Die Mercurii, 10 ho. A. M., December 13, 1775.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *Nathaniel Woodhull*, Esq., President.

For New-York.—Mr. Scott, Mr. Thomas Smith, Colonel McDougall, Mr. Roosevelt, Colonel Brasher, Mr. Beekman, Mr. Ray, Mr. Sands, Captain Rutgers.

Albany.—Colonel Rensselaer, Capt. Cuyler, Mr. Ganseroort.

Ulster.—Mr. Cantine, Mr Wynkoop.

King's.—Mr. Leffertse, Mr. Vanderbilt.

Dutchess.—Mr. Humphreys, Mr. Schenck, Mr. Gilbert Livingston.

Westchester.—Colonel Gilbert Drake, Colonel Lewis Graham, Mr. Ward.

Orange.—Mr. Herring.

Tryon.—Mr. John Moore.

Suffolk.—Colonel Woodhull, Mr. Strong, Mr. Hobart, Mr. Wickham, Mr. Gelston.

A Letter from *Gilbert Potter*, of *Huntington*, of the 10th instant, which was read yesterday, was again read, and is in the words following, to wit:

"Huntington, December 10, 1775.

"Sir: This you will receive by Major *Brush*, who is appointed by the Committee of this town to lay before the Congress the state of the town; and, as there is a number of commissions wanted, should be glad they may be sent up by the Major, for the following gentlemen, viz: For the Second Company: *Jonathan Titus*, Captain; *Joshua Rogers*, First-Lieutenant; *Thomas Brush*, Second-Lieutenant. For the Third Company: *Joel Scudder*, Captain; *Nathaniel Buffett*, First-Lieutenant; *Epinetus Smith*, Second-Lieutenant; *John Heart*, Ensign.

"And as Mr. *Brush* is acquainted with the state of the town, as to their slackness in military preparations, as also that we have great reason to believe all methods are used by our neighbours to make them indifferent in this great contest, we not only beg your advice, but assistance; for it is my opinion if there is not a sufficient number of men immediately sent to effectually subdue *Queen's* County, and to intimidate the people amongst us, a great many from here will be in a little better *ruffell* than the Rebels of *Queen's* County, which we have great reason to believe is making interest with our slaves and other servants.

"Sir, I should have wrote to the President, but hearing of your not making a House. You will be pleased to communicate this to Congress.

"I would further add, I have exerted myself in my station; but if nothing is done by your House, I must be obliged to desist. But as to myself, as an individual, I am determined to live and die free.

"I am, sir, your most humble servant,

"Gilbert Potter.

"To *John S. Hobart*, Esq., in Provincial Congress."

The Affidavit of *Samuel Nostran* and *Isaac Loosie*, of the 3d instant, was also again read, and is in the words following, to wit:

"*Samuel Nostran* and *Isaac Loosie* deposeth, That, on the 30th day of *November* last they were at *Hempstead*, at the house of *John Nostran*, who told them, the said deponents, that there was a great quantity of powder at Captain *Richard Hulate's*, at *Rockaway*, and that he, the said *John Nostran*, was one that mounted guard over the powder the night before.

"The said deponents further saith, that they saw *Jacob Nostran*, who told them, the said deponents, that there was a great quantity of powder, ball, small-arms, and some cannon, which came from the *Asia*, man-of-war, with the Lieutenant of the man-of-war and some other officers, and landed at *Rockaway;* and that it was carried to Captain *Hulate's*, who came from on board the *Asia* with the said stores, and that he, the said *Jacob Nostran*, mounted guard over the said military stores the night before.

"And the said deponents further saith, that they were at the house of *Isaac Denton*, Sen., at *Rockaway*, who told them, the said deponents, that there was a vast quantity of powder and ball, and a plenty of small-arms, and some cannon at Captain *Hulate's*, which came from on board the *Asia*, man-of-war, and that Captain *Hulate* and the Lieutenant of the man-of-war came with it; and that he, the said *Denton*, had some of the powder, which cost him nothing, and that whenever they wanted more they could have it by making application for it; and that he, the said *Isaac Denton*, mounted guard over the said military stores the night before; and that he, the said *Denton*, would fight against the country while he could see a damned Whig left.

"And the said deponents further saith, that they saw *Benjamin Eldred*, and a number of others, who told them much to the same effect.

"The said deponents further saith, that on the 2d instant they saw *William Nostran*, of *Hempstead*, who told them, the said deponents, that the Captains of the several Companies met at Captain *Hulate's* on *Thursday* last, to take, each of them, a quantity of powder to distribute in their several Companies, and that they expected a number of

people from *Connecticut* to land at *Huntington* and march amongst them; and that upon the arrival of the *Connecticut* people, they expected intelligence would be given by some person from *Huntington* to *John Hulate*, Esq., and that he, the said *John Hulate*, would carry intelligence immediately to *Hempstead*, and that there they would fire a cannon to alarm the country in general to oppose them.

"The said deponents further saith, that they saw *William Nostran* and *John Smith*, of *Hempstead*, who told them that there was a man who belonged on board the *Asia*, called a Gunner, left amongst them to work the cannon. On *Monday* next they were to meet, to agree where to place their cannon. And further saith not.

"SAMUEL NOSTRAN,
"ISAAC LOOSIE.

"Sworn to before me, in *Huntington*, this 3d day of *December*, 1775.

"ZOPHAR PLATT, *Justice of the Peace.*"

The Affidavit of *Samuel Nostran*, of the 11th instant, was also read, and is in the words following, to wit:

"Suffolk County, Huntington, December 11, 1775.

"Then *Samuel Nostron*, yeoman, appearing before me, *Jesse Brush*, one of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace for said County, and declaring on oath as follows: that is, Mr. *Nostran* says that he was at *Hempstead* on *Thursday*, the 30th day of *November*; that *John Smith*, *Isaac Denton*, and *Benjamin Eldert*, told him that they were informed by the Lieutenant of the man-of-war, that there were five thousand of the Regular troops expected either from *Boston* or from home, and that they were to land at *Rockaway*; and that *John Smith* further told him that they kept their fat cattle on that account, and did not sell any, expecting a market there at home; and that the said *John Smith* had then a considerable quantity of fat cattle by him.

"SAMUEL NOSTRAN.

"Sworn to before me, "JESSE BRUSH."

The Congress then went into the consideration of the said Letter and Affidavits, and the information of Major *Brush*, on the state of *Queen's* County; and thereupon a motion was made by Mr. *Hobart*, and seconded, that the Congress come to a determination in the following words, to wit:

Whereas this Congress has received information, that a number of disaffected persons in *Queen's* County have been supplied with Arms and Ammunition, from on board the *Asia* ship-of-war, and are arraying themselves in a military manner to oppose the measures taken by the *United Colonies*, for the defence of their just rights and privileges, and have thrown out many threatening expressions against sundry persons in that and the neighbouring Counties:

Resolved, That it is the opinion of this Congress, that such conduct is inimical to the common cause of the *United Colonies*, and ought not by any means to be suffered, but that measures should be immediately taken to put a stop to it.

Therefore, *Ordered*, That the inhabitants of said County do appear, by a Committee, before this Congress, on *Wednesday* next, at ten of the o'clock in the morning, to give satisfaction in the premises.

And Ordered, That sundry copies of the above Resolution and Order be delivered to some of the principal inhabitants in *Queen's* County.

Mr. *Thomas Smith* moved, and was seconded by Mr. *Leffertse*, the said Resolve and Orders relating to *Queen's* County, be turned into a Letter. And the question being put thereon, it was determined in the negative, in manner following, to wit:

For the Negative.	*For the Affirmative.*
2 Westchester,	2 Tryon County.
2 Dutchess.	
3 Albany.	
2 Suffolk.	
2 Ulster.	
4 New-York.—*T. Smith* dissenting.	

15 votes.

Ordered, thereupon, That the said determination be made a part of the Minutes, and that the Secretaries get one hundred copies thereof printed, with all possible despatch.

The following is one of the printed Notices sent pursuant to the order of Congress, viz:

"In Provincial Congress, New-York, December 12, 1775.

"Whereas this Congress has received undoubted information, that a number of disaffected persons in *Queen's* County have been supplied with Arms and Ammunition from on board the *Asia* ship-of-war, and are arraying themselves in military manner, to oppose the measures taking by the *United Colonies*, for the defence of their just rights and privileges:

"*Ordered*, That of *Jamaica* Township: Captain *Benjamin Whitehead*, *Charles Ardin*, *Joseph French*, Esq., *Johannes Polhemus*;—*Newtown*: *Nath. Moor*, *John Moor*, Sen., Captain *Samuel Hallet*, *John Moor*, Jun., *William Weyman*, *John Shoals*, *Jeromus Rapalye*;—*Flushing* Township: *John Willet*;—*Hempstead* Township: Justice *Gilbert Van Wyck*, *Daniel Kissam*, Esq., of *Cow-Neck*, Captain *Jacob Mott*, *Thomas Cornell*, of *Rockaway*, *Gabriel C. Ludlow*, *Richard Hewlet*, Capt. *Charles Hicks*, Doctor *Martin*, Justice *Samuel Clowes*;—*Oyster-Bay*: Justice *Thomas Smith*, Justice *John Hewlet*, of *Hog-Island*, Capt. *George Weeks*, Doctor *David Brooks*, Justice *John Townsend*; being charged as principal men among the disaffected in said County, do attend this Congress, at ten o'clock, *Tuesday* morning next, the 19th instant, to give satisfaction to this Congress in the premises, and that they be protected from any injury or insult during their coming to, and returning from this Congress."

Agreed, That Mr. *Van Zandt*, Mr. *Vanderbilt*, and Mr. *Sands*, while absent on the business of planning a voyage, and fitting out and lading one or more Vessels, be considered in the service of this Congress, and as attending.

Ordered, That those Members returned to represent the City and County of *New-York* in this Congress, who have not as yet taken their seats, be desired to take their seats on *Friday* next, or that their seats be declared vacant; and

Ordered, That a copy of the above Order be served on *Peter V. B. Livingston*, *Benjamin Kissam*, Esquires, Messrs. *John Morton*, *Isaac Sears*, and *Gabriel W. Ludlow*; and that if any of them cannot be found in town, that a copy of the said Order be left at the last usual place of abode in this city of any of those gentlemen who are absent from the city.

The Congress adjourned to three o'clock, P. M.

—

Die Mercurii, 3 ho. P. M., December 13, 1775.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *Nathaniel Woodhull*, President.

For New-York.—Mr. Scott, Mr. Van Zandt, Colonel Brasher, Colonel McDougall, Mr. Roosevelt, Mr. Beekman, Mr. Helme, Mr. Sands, Capt. Rutgers, Mr. Ray.

Albany.—Colonel Rensselaer, Capt. Cuyler, Mr. Bleecker, Mr. Gansevoort.

Dutchess.—Mr. Gilbert Livingston, Mr. Humphreys, Mr. Schenck.

Ulster.—Mr. Cantine.

Orange.—Mr. Herring, Colonel Hay.

Suffolk.—Colonel Woodhull, Mr. Strong, Colonel Hobart, Mr. Wickham, Mr. Gelston, Mr. Tredwell.

Westchester.—Colonel Gilbert Drake, Colonel L. Graham, Mr. Ward.

King's.—Mr. Leffertse.

Tryon.—Mr. John Moore.

Ordered, That no person whatsoever do inoculate for the Small-Pox within this Colony, until the further order of this Congress; and that the several Committees in this Colony, within their respective Districts, carefully observe that there be a punctual compliance with this order.

The Congress then resumed the consideration of Mr. *Thomas Smith's* motion, on the 8th instant, and the Resolves thereunto annexed, and the same were read through. And on reading the motion, or introduction, a second time, Mr. *Hobart* moved, and was seconded by Mr. *Gilbert Livingston*, in the words following, to wit:

I move for the following amendment to Mr. *Smith's* motion, viz: that after the words "Governour *Tryon*," the remainder be struck out, and the following be substituted in its stead:

*

"Paper of the 4th instant, containing his sentiments on the present convulsed state of this country, and addressed to the inhabitants of *New-York*, and express the sense of the Colony upon the same, in the following Resolves:

"*Resolved*, That it is the opinion of this Congress, that none of the people of this Colony have withdrawn their allegiance from His Majesty, *or desire to become independent of the Crown of* Great Britain, *or to change the ancient form of Government, under which this Colony hath grown up from its infancy to its present state.*

"*Resolved, secondly*, That this Colony has, in conjunction with the other *United Colonies*, taken up arms, not to oppose that just and equal rule to which, by the *British* Constitution, and their respective established forms of Government, they were subject, but solely for the defence of their most undoubted rights and privileges, against the arbitrary and tyrannical encroachments of His Majesty's Ministers.

"*Resolved, thirdly*, That though, for the same valuable purpose, this Colony in conjunction with the other *United Colonies*, had recourse to the appointment of Committees and Congresses, for the more orderly and effectual redress of their numerous and heavy grievances, yet it is by no means the desire or design of its inhabitants to disuse, much less to oppose or obstruct the ordinary course of Government or legislation; but that, on the contrary, they highly esteem, and will not willingly cede their right of being represented in General Assembly.

"*Resolved, fourthly, That this Congress are of opinion, that the neglect to convene the Legislature of the Colony, since the last winter session, and the probability that the ordinary season for their sitting will pass without a session, furnishes, at this critical juncture, ground of uneasiness to the good people of this Colony.*

"*Resolved, fifthly*, That it is the opinion of this Congress, that there is not the least danger of insult or interruption to either of the branches of the Legislature, should an Assembly be called, but that, on the contrary, it would be extremely agreeable to the inhabitants of this Colony, to the end, not only that the ordinary business of the country may be despatched, but also that their sense may be expressed, as well by their Representatives in Assembly as in Congress, on the present unhappy controversy between *Great Britain* and the *United Colonies*."

Debates arose on the said motion for an amendment, and after long arguments thereon, and the question put on Mr. *Hobart's* motion, it was carried in the affirmative, in manner following, to wit:

For the Affirmative.	*For the Negative.*
2 Dutchess.	2 King's.
2 Tryon.	—
2 Westchester.	2 votes.
4 New-York,	
2 Suffolk.	Orange divided.
3 Albany.—Captain Cuyler dissenting.	
2 Ulster.	
—	
17 votes.	

Resolved and agreed, That the amendment moved by Mr. *Hobart*, be made to Mr. *Smith's* motion; and that the amendment moved for by Mr. *Hobart*, remain for further consideration.

The Congress adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow morning.

—

Die Jovis, 10 ho. A. M., December 14, 1775.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Colonel *Nathaniel Woodhull*, Esq., President.
For New-York.—Mr. Roosevelt, Mr. Beekman, Mr. Ray, Mr. Sands, Col. McDougall, Mr. Scott, Col. Brasher.
Albany.—Colonel Rensselaer, Capt. Cuyler, Mr. Ganse-voort, Mr. Bleecker.
Dutchess.—Mr. Gilbert Livingston, Mr. Humphreys, Mr. Schenck.
Ulster.—Mr. Cantine.
Orange.—Colonel Hay, Mr. Herring.
Suffolk.—Colonel Woodhull, Mr. Hobart, Mr. Strong, Mr. Wickham, Mr. Tredwell, Mr. Gelston.
Westchester.—Colonel Gilbert Drake, Colonel Lewis Graham, Mr. Ward.
Tryon.—Mr. John Moore.
King's.—Mr. Vanderbilt.

Colonel *McDougall* informed the Congress that Captain *Ledyard*, with his Company, (which is incomplete,) is in *New-York*, and has been of use in sundry duties here since he came down from the Fort in the *Highlands*, and requested the opinion of this Congress, whether he should send him with his Company up to the Fort, or detain him here. Thereupon,

Ordered, That Colonel *McDougall* detain Captain *Ledyard* here, or give him such other directions as he shall think proper.

Mr. *Hobart*, on application, obtained leave of absence, the County of *Suffolk* having a representation without him.

A Letter from Colonel *Mulford*, dated the 9th instant, mentioning the places appointed for the rendezvous of his Regiment, was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"Easthampton, December 9, 1775.

"Gentlemen: Your letter of 28th *October* have received, and according to your order shall give orders to my regiment to be equipped and ready to march to the place of rendezvous on any alarm. As the situation of the regiment is such that it will be ill-convenient to have the rendezvous at one place, think it best to have it at two places, namely: *Southampton* town, and at Captain *John Hulbert's*, in *Bridgehampton*.

"I am, gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servant, "David Mulford.

"To Colonel *Nathaniel Woodhull*, President of the Provincial Congress, in *New-York*."

The Congress then resumed the consideration of the amendments to Mr. *Smith's* motion of the 8th inst., which were moved for and are contained in Mr. *Hobart's* motion of yesterday, and the same were read; and being read paragraph by paragraph, the first paragraph being read, is in the words following, to wit:

Resolved, That it is the opinion of this Congress, that none of the people of this Colony have withdrawn their allegiance from His Majesty, *or desire to become independent of the Crown of* Great Britain, *or to change the ancient form of Government, under which this Colony hath grown up from its infancy to its present state.*

The second paragraph being read, is in the words following, to wit:

Resolved, secondly, That this Colony has, in conjunction with the other United Colonies, *taken up arms, not to oppose that just and equal rule to which, by the* British *Constitution, and their respective established forms of Government, they were subject, but solely for the defence of their most undoubted rights and privileges, against the arbitrary and tyrannical encroachments of His Majesty's Ministers.*

Mr. *Roosevelt* then moved, and was seconded, for the following amendment, to wit:

That all that part of the first proposed Resolution, which is from the word "Majesty" to the end, and also the whole of the proposed second Resolution, be obliterated, and the following substituted in its stead, to wit:

"*Resolved, secondly*, That the supposed present "turbulent state" of this Colony arises not from the want of a proper attachment to our Prince, and the establishment in the illustrious House of *Hanover*, nor from a desire to become independent of the *British* Crown, "or a spirit of opposition" to that just and equal rule to which, by the *British* Constitution and our ancient and established form of Government, we are subject, but solely from the inroads made on both by oppressive acts of the *British* Parliament, devised for enslaving His Majesty's liege subjects in the *American* Colonies, and the hostile attempts of the Ministry to carry those acts into execution."

And the same being read a second time, was unanimously agreed to, and ordered accordingly; therefore,

Resolved, unanimously, That it is the opinion of this Congress that none of the good people of this Colony have withdrawn their allegiance from His Majesty.

Resolved, secondly, That the supposed present "turbulent state" of this Colony arises not from the want of a proper attachment to our Prince, and the establishment in the illustrious House of *Hanover*, nor from a desire to be-

come independent of the *British* Crown, or "a spirit of opposition" to that just and equal rule to which, by the *British* Constitution and our ancient and established form of Government, we are subject, but solely from the inroads made on both by oppressive acts of the *British* Parliament, devised for enslaving His Majesty's liege subjects in the *American* Colonies, and the hostile attempts of the Ministry to carry those acts into execution.

The third paragraph being read, is in the words following, to wit:

Resolved, thirdly, That though, *for the same valuable purposes*, this Colony, in conjunction with the other *United Colonies*, had recourse to the appointment of *Committees* and *Congresses* for the more orderly and effectual redress of their numerous grievances, yet it is by no means the desire or design of its inhabitants to disuse, much less to oppose or obstruct the ordinary course of *Government or* legislation, but that, *on the contrary*, they highly esteem *and will not willingly cede* their right of being represented in General Assembly.

Mr. *Scott* moved, and was seconded, that the words "for the same valuable purposes," and the words "Government or," be obliterated, and the words "and Congresses" transposed and placed before the word "Committees;" and the same was unanimously agreed to, and ordered accordingly.

Colonel *McDougall* then moved, and was seconded by Mr. *Sands*, that the words "on the contrary," and the words "and will not willingly cede," be obliterated; and the same was unanimously agreed to, and ordered accordingly.

The said third proposed Resolution, as thus amended, was again read, and agreed to, *nem. con.;* therefore,

Resolved, thirdly, That though this Colony, in conjunction with the other *United Colonies*, has had recourse to the appointment of Congresses and Committees, for the more orderly and effectual redress of their numerous and heavy grievances, yet it is by no means the desire or design of its inhabitants to disuse, much less to oppose or obstruct the ordinary course of legislation, but that they highly esteem their right of being represented in General Assembly.

The fourth proposed Resolution being read, Mr. *Hobart* moved, and was seconded, that the whole fourth paragraph be expunged, The same was unanimously agreed to, and ordered accordingly.

The fifth proposed Resolution being read, is in the words following, to wit:

Resolved, fifthly, That it is the opinion of this Congress, that there is not the least danger of insult or interruption to either of the branches of the Legislature, should an Assembly be called, but that, on the contrary, it would be extremely agreeable to the inhabitants of this Colony, to the end, not only that the ordinary business of the country may be despatched, but also that their sense may be expressed, as well by their Representatives in Assembly as in Congress, on the present unhappy controversy between *Great Britain* and the *United Colonies*.

Mr. *Herring* moved, and was seconded by Mr. *Sands*, for the following amendment, to wit: That all that part of the fifth paragraph, which follows the word "called," be obliterated.

Debates arose on the amendment moved by Mr. *Herring;* and the question being put thereon, it was carried in the affirmative, in the manner following, to wit:

For the Affirmative.	*For the Negative.*
2 Ulster.	2 King's County.
4 New-York.—Mr. *Roosevelt* dissenting.	
2 Westchester.	
2 Orange.	
2 Tryon.	
2 Dutchess.	
2 Suffolk.	
3 Albany.	
19 votes.	

Ordered, therefore, That that part of the fifth paragraph which follows the word "called" be obliterated.

Mr. *Sands* then moved, and was seconded, that the remainder of the said fifth Resolution, to wit: From the beginning thereof to the end of the word "called" be obliterated; and debates arising thereon, and the question put thereon, it was carried in the affirmative, in manner following, to wit:

For the Affirmative.	*For the Negative.*
2 Dutchess.	2 King's County.
2 Orange.	
2 Westchester.	
2 Ulster.	
2 Tryon.	
2 Suffolk.	
4 New-York.	
3 Albany.	
19 votes.	

Ordered, therefore, That the remainder of the said fifth paragraph, to wit: From the beginning thereof to the end of the word "called," be obliterated.

The Congress then adjourned till three o'clock, P. M.

Die Jovis, 3 ho. P. M., December 14, 1775.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *Nathaniel Woodhull*, Esq., President.

For New-York.—Colonel Brasher, Mr. Beekman, Mr. Roosevelt, Mr. Scott, Colonel McDougall, Mr. Ray, Mr. Sands.

Albany.—Colonel Rensselaer, Capt. Cuyler, Mr. Bleecker, Mr. Gansevoort.

Dutchess.—Mr. Gilbert Livingston, Mr. Humphreys, Mr. Schenck.

Ulster.—Mr. Wynkoop, Mr. Cantine.

Orange.—Colonel Hay, Mr. Herring.

Suffolk.—Colonel Woodhull, Mr. Wickham, Mr. Hobart, Mr. Strong, Mr. Tredwell, Mr. Gelston.

Westchester.—Colonel Gilbert Drake, Colonel Lewis Graham, Mr. Ward.

Tryon.—Mr. J. Moore.

King's.—Mr. Vanderbilt.

A Letter from *John Jay*, Esq., dated the 26th *November* last, was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"Philadelphia, November 26, 1775.

"Sir: I have the honour of transmitting to you the enclosed Resolutions of Congress, relative to the Island of *Bermuda*.

"We have not yet had the pleasure of hearing that you had made a House, and are not without some anxiety on that head. In a few days we shall write you collectively, and should be glad frequently to be informed of the state of the Province.

"The *New-England* exploit is much talked of, and conjectures are numerous as to the part the Convention will take relative to it. Some consider it as an ill compliment to the Government of the Province, and prophesy that you have too much Christian meekness to take any notice of it. For my own part, I do not approve of the feat, and think it neither argues much wisdom nor much bravery; at any rate, if it was to have been done, I wish our own people, and not strangers, had taken the liberty of doing it. I confess I am not a little jealous of the honour of the Province, and am persuaded that its reputation cannot be maintained without some little spirit being mingled with its prudence.

"I am, sir, with respect and esteem, your most obedient servant,

"John Jay.

"To Colonel *Nathaniel Woodhull*, at *New-York*."

The Resolutions of the Continental Congress of the 22d of *November*, relative to the Island of *Bermuda*, and therein enclosed, were also read and filed, and are in the words following, to wit:

"In Congress, November 22, 1775.

"The Congress resumed the consideration of the Report from the Committee of the Whole, which was agreed to as follows:

"The Committee of the Whole, to whom were referred the several Petitions from the Island of *Bermuda*, representing the distress to which they were exposed by the Non-exportation Agreement, and praying to be relieved in such manner as the Congress may deem consistent with the safety of *America*, report that they have considered the same, and thereupon came to the following Resolutions:

"That the inhabitants of the Island of *Bermuda* appear

friendly to the cause of *America*, and ought to be supplied with such and so great a quantity of the produce of these Colonies as may be necessary for their subsistence and home consumption; that, in the opinion of this Committee, they will annually require, for the purposes aforesaid, 72,000 bushels of *Indian* Corn, 2,000 barrels of Bread or Flour, 1,000 barrels of Beef or Pork, 2,100 bushels of Peas or Beans, and 300 tierces of Rice, and that they be permitted to export the same yearly.

"That the said inhabitants ought to pay for the above annual allowance in Salt; but it is not the design of this Resolution to exclude them from the privilege of receiving *American* produce, to any amount, in exchange for Arms, Ammunition, Saltpetre, Sulphur, and Field-Pieces, agreeably to a Resolution of Congress, passed the 15th of *July* last.

"That, to enable such of these Colonies, as can conveniently furnish the Island of *Bermuda* with the above-mentioned allowance, to divide whatever advantages may result therefrom, in proportion to their respective shares of the general expense, it is further the opinion of this Committee:

"That the Colony of *South-Carolina* supply them with 300 tierces of Rice.

"That the Colony of *North-Carolina* supply them with 16,000 bushels of *Indian* Corn, and 468 bushels of Peas or Beans.

"That the Colony of *Virginia* supply them with 36,000 bushels of *Indian* Corn, and 1,050 bushels of Peas or Beans.

"That the Colony of *Maryland* supply them with 20,000 bushels of *Indian* Corn, and 582 bushels of Peas or Beans.

"That the Colony of *Pennsylvania* supply them with 1,200 barrels of Flour or Bread, and 600 barrels of Beef or Pork.

"That the Colony of *New-York* supply them with 800 barrels of Flour or Bread, and 400 barrels of Beef or Pork.

"That the Conventions or Committees of Safety of the above-mentioned Colonies ought to superintend the said exportation, provide against frauds, and take care that, in exchanging the said commodities of Salt and Provisions, no undue advantage be taken by either party of their mutual wants. And, further, that no Vessel employed in this business ought to load without their permission; and that when they shall, in pursuance of these Resolutions, permit any of the said Vessels to load, they do give notice thereof to the Committee of Inspection of the County, City, or Town, where such Vessel shall load, and inform them that the same is done under the authority and by order of this Congress.

"*Ordered*, That a copy of the foregoing Resolutions be transmitted to the several Conventions, Assemblies, or Committees of Safety of the *United Colonies*, and to the Island of *Bermuda*; and that the inhabitants of the latter be informed that the Congress will afford them other necessaries, such as Lumber, Soap, and Candles, whenever the quality and quantity of each of those articles, used in the Island, shall be ascertained.

"That *Edward Stiles* be permitted, under the direction of the Committee of Safety of the Colony of *Pennsylvania*, to send the Brig *Sea-Nymph*, *Samuel Stobel*, Master, with 4,000 bushels of *Indian* Corn, 300 barrels of Flour, 100 barrels of Bread, 20 barrels of Pork, 8 barrels of Beef, 30 boxes of Soap, and 15 barrels of Apples, to *Bermuda*, for the immediate supply of the inhabitants; and that the said cargo be considered as part of the annual allowance aforesaid, for the year ensuing.

"Extract from the Minutes:

"CHARLES THOMSON, *Secretary*."

Mr. *Scott* moved, and was seconded, that a Resolution be entered into, in the words following, and added to those agreed on this forenoon, to wit:

Resolved, nevertheless, That it is the opinion of this Congress that nothing of a salutary nature can be expected from the separate declaration of the sense of this Colony on the Resolution of the House of Commons on the 20th *February* last; and that as the motion whereon the scheme was grounded was confessedly framed to *disunite the Colonies*, it would be highly dangerous to, and totally inconsistent with the glorious plan of *American* Union, should this Colony express their separate sense on the above-mentioned supposed conciliatory proposal on the part of *Great Britain*.

Debates arose on the said motion, and the question put thereon, it was carried in the affirmative, in manner following, to wit:

For the Affirmative.

2	Dutchess.	Orange divided—Mr. *Herring* for the affirmative, Colonel *Hay* for the negative.
4	New-York.—Mr. *Roosevelt* dissenting.	
2	Ulster.	
2	Westchester.	
2	Tryon.	
3	Albany.—Captain *Cuyler* dissenting.	
2	Suffolk.	
17		

Therefore, Resolved, nevertheless, That it is the opinion of this Congress that nothing of a salutary nature can be expected from a separate declaration of the sense of this Colony on the Resolution of the House of Commons of the 20th *February* last, and that as the motion whereon the same was grounded, was confessedly framed to *disuinte the Colonies*, it would be highly dangerous to, and totally inconsistent with the glorious plan of *American* Union, should this Colony express their separate sense on the above-mentioned supposed conciliatory proposal on the part of *Great Britain*.

Colonel *McDougall* moved, and was seconded, that a Resolution be entered into in the words following, to wit:

Resolved, That it is the opinion of this Congress, that this Colony is fully and effectually represented in the Continental Congress for the purpose of expressing the sense of its inhabitants on any overtures for a reconciliation, and that the Continental Congress has fully and dispassionately expressed the sense of the inhabitants of this Colony on the above-mentioned Resolution of the 20th of *February* last.

Debates arose on the said motion; and the question being put thereon, it was carried in the affirmative by all the Counties present, Mr. *Roosevelt* dissenting against the vote of *New-York*, and Captain *Cuyler* against the County of *Albany*.

Therefore, Resolved, That it is the opinion of this Congress that this Colony is fully and effectually represented in the Continental Congress for the purpose of expressing the sense of its inhabitants on any overtures for a reconciliation, and that the Continental Congress has fully and dispassionately expressed the sense of the inhabitants of this Colony on the above-mentioned Resolution of the 20th of *February* last.

Several citizens at the door, to give information of sundry matters to the Congress, were admitted. They informed the Congress that they had discovered a parcel of Sheep, Swine, and Poultry, at *Myford's* Tavern, at one of the Ferries, which they have reason to believe is intended for His Majesty's ship *Asia*, or for being shipped and exported contrary to the Resolutions of the Continental and of this Provincial Congress; and that they had apprehended there, three very suspicious persons, with many memorandums about them relating to their being on board the ship *Asia*. Thereupon, a warrant was made to Major *Malcom*, in the words following, to wit:

Whereas, information has been given to this Congress that a number of Sheep, Hogs, and Poultry, are in the house, barn, and enclosures of *John Myford*, Innkeeper, at one of the Ferries in *Brooklyn*, and intended to be shipped and exported contrary to the Resolutions of the Continental and of this Congress:

Ordered, That Major *Malcom*, with such guard as he may think necessary, proceed to the said *John Myford's*, and take and secure the said Stock in such manner as he may think most safe, and that he apprehend the said *John Myford* and keep him in safe custody, and report his proceedings in the premises to Congress to-morrow morning.

Ordered, That the five Resolutions of this Congress, made and entered into as amendments to Mr. *Smith's* motion, and on the consideration of Governour *Tryon's* paper of the 4th instant, be fairly engrossed together, and brought to the Congress to-morrow morning.

The Congress then adjourned till ten o'clock, to-morrow morning.

Die Veneris, 10 ho. A. M., December 15, 1775.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *Nathaniel Woodhull*, President.

For New-York.—Mr. Beekman, Mr. Van Zandt, Mr. Imlay, Colonel McDougall, Mr. Sands, Mr. Ray, Colonel Brasher, Mr. Roosevelt, Mr. Scott.

Albany.—Colonel Rensselaer, Captain Cuyler, Captain Bleecker, Mr. Gansevoort.

Dutchess.—Mr. Gilbert Livingston, Mr. Humphreys, Mr. Schenck.

Ulster.—Mr. Wynkoop, Mr. Cantine.

Orange.—Mr. Herring.

Suffolk.—Colonel Woodhull, Mr. Hobart, Mr. Tredwell, Captain Wickham, Mr. Gelston.

Westchester.—Colonel G. Drake, Colonel L. Graham, Mr. Ward.

King's.—Mr. Vanderbilt, Mr. Covenhoven.

Tryon.—Mr. John Moore.

The engrossed copy of the five Resolutions of yesterday, made and entered into as amendments of Mr. *Smith's* motion, and on the consideration of Mr. *Tryon's* publication of the 4th instant, were read; and

Ordered, That they be published.*

Mr. *Van Zandt*, Mr. *Roosevelt*, Mr. *Vanderbilt*, Mr. *Beekman*, Mr. *Covenhoven*, and Captain *Cuyler*, dissent to the two last Resolutions, and dissent to the publication of any of the said Resolutions.

Major *Malcom*, attending at the door, was admitted. Major *Malcom* delivered in his Report in writing of his proceedings on the Warrant issued to him yesterday evening; which was read and filed, and is the words following, to wit:

"In obedience to the order of Congress last night, I went with a party of men, in two boats, to the house of *John Myford*, for whom we made a strict search, but found him not. I found eight sheep, which, as it was difficult to bring over the river, I gave in charge to Captain *Sebring*, of the Light-Horse, and herewith deliver his receipt for them. There were two men, *Hunt* and *Oakly*, from *East-Chester*, in the house, who refused giving any account of themselves, and being in a suspicious house, I brought them to town prisoners. The Delegates from *Westchester*, Messrs. *Drake* and *Ward*, answered for their appearance at five o'clock this afternoon, when, if the Congress think proper, they shall be brought up for examination. "WILLIAM MALCOM.

"To the Honourable the Provincial Congress of the Colony of *New-York*."

He also delivered in the receipt of *Isaac I. Sebring*, an officer of the Light-Horse, which was read and filed.

Ordered, That the Deputies of *Westchester* County be a Committee to examine the persons taken by Major *Malcom* on oath, and to liberate them, or order them into confinement, as they may think proper.

The Memorial of *John Norberg*, Esq.,* together with the several Certificates attending the same, were read; and the Memorial and Certificate of *B. Romans* were filed. It appearing thereby to this Congress that Captain *Norberg* is in such a state of health as that tenderness and humanity to him demand our consent to his going to *Great Britain*, for the restoration of his impaired constitution; and it also appearing to the Congress that Captain *Norberg* has with the strictest honour behaved towards the inhabitants of the *American* Colonies, as a soldier and a gentleman,

Resolved, That Captain *Norberg* be permitted to go to *Great Britain*, with all or any such of his effects as he may choose to remove; and it is hereby recommended to all persons in this Colony not to interrupt Captain *Norberg* in his removal with his said effects.

Colonel *McDougall* moved, and was seconded by Captain *Cuyler*, that each of the Delegates who have represented this Colony, and now represent it in Continental Congress, be allowed for his services, in his quality of Delegate, five dollars per day, for each day he shall have been, or may be, from his place of abode, on the publick service.

Mr. *Hobart* moved, and was seconded by Mr. *Strong*, for the following amendment to Colonel *McDougall's* motion, to wit: That the words "five dollars" be obliterated, and the words "three dollars" inserted.

Debates arose on the said proposed amendment, and the question being put thereon, it was carried in the negative, in manner following, to wit:

For the Affirmative or Amendment.	*For the Negative or against the Amendment.*
2 Suffolk.	2 Dutchess.
2 Ulster.	3 Albany.
2 King's.	4 New-York.
2 Tryon.	2 Westchester.
2 Orange.	—
—	11 votes.
10 votes.	

Ordered, therefore, That the said proposed amendment be rejected.

Mr. *John Moore* then moved, and was seconded by Mr.

* IN PROVINCIAL CONGRESS, NEW-YORK, *December* 14, 1775.

On motion, the Congress, taking into consideration his Excellency Governour *Tryon's* paper of the 4th instant, directed to the inhabitants of *New-York*, came into the following Resolutions:

Resolved, That it is the opinion of this Congress, that none of the people of this Colony have withdrawn their allegiance from His Majesty.

Resolved, That the supposed present "turbulent state" of this Colony arises, not from the want of a proper attachment to our Prince, and the establishment in the illustrious House of *Hanover*, nor from a desire to become independent of the *British* Crown, or a spirit of opposition to that just and equal rule to which, by the *British* Constitution, and our ancient and established form of Government, we are subject; but solely from the inroads made on both by the oppressive acts of the *British* Parliament, devised for enslaving His Majesty's liege subjects in the *American* Colonies, and the hostile attempts of the Ministry to carry these acts into execution.

Resolved, That though this Colony, in conjunction with the other *United Colonies*, has had recourse to the appointment of Congresses and Committees for the more orderly and effectual redress of their numerous and heavy grievances, yet it is by no means the desire or design of its inhabitants to disuse, much less to oppose or obstruct the ordinary course of legislation, but that they highly esteem their right of being represented in General Assembly.

Resolved, nevertheless, That it is the opinion of this Congress that nothing of a salutary nature can be expected from a separate declaration of the sense of this Colony on the Resolution of the House of Commons on the 20th of *February* last, and that, as the motion whereon the same was grounded, was confessedly framed to disunite the Colonies, it would be highly dangerous to, and totally inconsistent with the glorious plan of *American* Union, should this Colony express their separate sense on the above-mentioned supposed conciliatory proposal on the part of *Great Britain*.

Resolved, That it is the opinion of this Congress, that this Colony is fully and effectually represented in the Continental Congress, for the purpose of expressing the sense of its inhabitants on any overture for a reconciliation, and that the Continental Congress has fully and dispassionately expressed the sense of the inhabitants of this Colony on the above-mentioned Resolution of the 20th of *February* last.

A true copy from the minutes:

ROBERT BENSON, *Secretary*.

* *To the most respectable Gentlemen of the Provincial Congress*, NEW-YORK:—I beg leave to present to the most respectable Congress this circumstance: I am a native of *Sweden*, and have been persecuted for that. I have been against the *French* faction there. I have been in His *Britanick* Majesty's service since *January*, 1758. I have been twice shot through my body here last war in *America*, and I am now sixty-five years old, reduced by age, wounds, and gravel, which may be seen by Doctor *Jones's* certificate. In 1773 I got permission in *Jamaica* to go to *London*, where I petitioned to be an invalid officer, but, as a foreigner, I could not enjoy a commission in *England* or *Ireland*. His Majesty was graciously pleased to give me the allowance for *Fort-George*, (seven shillings sterling per day,) with liberty to live where I please in *America*, because the fort has been abandoned this eight years, and only two men remain there, to assist any express going between *New-York* and *Canada*.

I arrived here in *New-York* last year, in *September*, with intention to live in *New-York*. As I heard nothing else than disharmony amongst gentlemen, which was not agreeable to my age, I resolved to go to *Fort-George*, and live there in a little cottage as an hermit, where I was very happy for six months.

The 12th of *May* last Mr. *Romans* came and took possession of *Fort-George*. Mr. *Romans* behaved very genteel and civil to me. I told him that I did not belong to the army, and I may be considered as a half-pay officer or invalid, and convinced him that I was plagued with gravel. Mr. *Romans* gave me his passport to go to *New-Lebanon* to recover my health; and he told me that, in regard to my age, I may go where I please.

As I can't sell any bill for my subsistence, and I can't live upon wind and weather, I therefore beg and implore the most respectable Congress's permission to go to *England;* and I intend to go to my native country. I could have gone away, surely, as well as some others have done; but I will not, upon any account, do such a thing. I hope the most respectable Congress will not do partially, to refuse me; because Major *Etherington*, Captain *Brown* and Captain *Kelly*, who are in the army, have been permitted to go to *England;* and it may happen they return here again on actual service, which old age and infirmities render me incapable of.

As it is the custom amongst the Christian nations and the *Turks*, that they give subsistence to every prisoner according to their rank, should the most respectable Congress have any claim upon me to be a prisoner here, I hope they will give me my subsistence from the 12th of *May* last, according to my rank as Captain. I implore the favour of the most respectable Congress's answer.

I have the honour to remain, with great respect, gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servant, JOHN NORBERG.

NEW-YORK, *December* 21, 1775.

Humphreys, for the following amendment to Colonel *McDougall's* motion, to wit: That the words "five dollars" be obliterated, and the words "four dollars" inserted in its stead.

Debates arose on the said last proposed amendment, and the question being put thereon, it carried in the affirmative in the manner following, to wit:

For the Affirmative.	*For the Negative.*
2 King's.	4 New-York.
2 Westchester.	3 Albany.
2 Dutchess.	—
2 Ulster.	7 votes.
2 Suffolk.	
2 Orange.	
2 Tryon.	
—	
14 votes.	

Resolved, therefore, That each of the Delegates who have represented this Colony, and now represent it in Continental Congress, be allowed for his services, in his quality of Delegate, four dollars per day, for each day he shall have been, or may be, from his usual place of abode on that service; and

Ordered, That *Peter Van Brugh Livingston*, Esq., as Treasurer of this Congress, or the Treasurer for the time being, be directed, and he is hereby directed and authorized, to pay unto each of the Delegates who represented this Colony at the late Continental Congress, and to each of the Delegates of this Colony for the time being, or his legal representatives, four dollars per day, for every day that he hath been, or shall be, from his usual place of abode on that service.

—

Die Veneris, 3 ho. P. M., December 15, 1775.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *Nathaniel Woodhull*, Esq., President.

For New-York.—Colonel McDougall, Mr. Beekman, Colonel Brasher, Mr. Ray, Mr. Sands, Mr. Scott, Mr. Van Zandt, Mr. Imlay.

Albany.—Captain Bleecker, Mr. Gansevoort, Colonel Rensselaer, Captain Cuyler.

Dutchess.—Mr. Gilbert Livingston, Mr. Humphrey, Mr. Schenck.

Ulster.—Mr. Cantine, Mr. Wynkoop.

Westchester.—Colonel Gilbert Drake, Colonel Graham, Mr. Ward.

Tryon.—Mr. Moore.

Suffolk.—Colonel Woodhull, Mr. Hobart, Captain Wickham, Mr. Tredwell, Mr. Gelston.

Orange.—Mr. Herring, Colonel Hay.

King's.—Mr. Covenhoven.

A Letter from Mr. *John Dennis*, of the City of *New-Brunswick*, dated *November* 28, 1775, was read, and is in the words following, to wit:

"City of New-Brunswick, November 28, 1775.

"Sir: By your orders received by *Abraham Clark*, I sent you six quarter-casks of powder, which was all I could collect. The persons I had it from are impatient, and beg the powder may be returned, as our inhabitants are destitute of that article.

"Your assistance will be duly acknowledged by your obedient, humble servant, John Dennis.

"To *Peter Van Brugh Livingston*, Esq., at *New-York*."

William Sutton, Esq., of *Westchester*, attending at the door, was admitted, and informed the Congress that he has been obliged, for fear of injuries, to leave his place of abode, and made the requests and engagements contained in a Protection given to him, which is in the words following, to wit:

"*William Sutton*, Esq., of *Westchester* County now appears before this Congress, and requests protection to return to his house, and engages to apply to, and deliver himself up to the Committee of the County of *Westchester*, at their next meeting, and at any other time when they shall send for him, to answer all such charges as may be made against him, and abide the judgment and determination of the said Committee; and Mr. *Joseph Bull*, now present, engages that the said *William Sutton* shall go to *Westchester* County and deliver himself up to the said Committee, at their next meeting. Therefore,

"*Ordered*, That the said *William Sutton* be permitted to return to his house in safety, and submit himself to the Committee of *Westchester* County, and that in the interim his boat be considered as under the protection of this Congress."

The Agreement made and entered into between Colonel *Alexander McDougall* and *Peter T. Curtenius*, on behalf of the Provincial Congress of the one part, and *Cornelius Atherton* of the other part, on the 3d of *November* last, for the making of Muskets and Bayonets, was read, and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"November 23, 1775.

"Articles of Agreement made, agreed to, and concluded by and between Colonel *Alexander McDougall* and *Peter T. Curtenius*, of the City of *New-York*, by and on behalf of the Provincial Congress of the Colony of *New-York* of the one part, and *Cornelius Atherton*, of *Amenia* Precinct, in *Dutchess* County, Gunsmith, of the other part: Witnesseth, That the said parties, for the considerations hereinafter mentioned, have covenanted and agreed together in manner following, that is to say: First, The said *Cornelius Atherton*, in consideration of the sum of sixty pounds, lawful money of *New-York*, now advanced to him, and in further consideration of the covenants and agreements of the said parties of the second part herein contained, doth, for himself, his executors, and administrators, covenant, grant and agree to, and with the said *Alexander McDougall* and *Peter T. Curtenius*, jointly and severally, and to and with the survivor of them, and the executors and administrators of such survivor, that he, the said *Cornelius Atherton*, his executors or administrators, shall and will with the utmost diligence make, finish, and deliver to the said *Alexander McDougall* and *Peter T. Curtenius*, or their order, as many good muskets and bayonets as he shall be able to make and finish on or before the 1st day of *May* next. And that he the said *Cornelius Atherton*, his executors or administrators, shall and will, on or before the 1st day of *April* next, deliver to the said *Alexander McDougall* and *Peter T. Curtenius*, at least two hundred good and well finished muskets and bayonets; that the barrel of each of the said muskets shall be three feet six inches in length, and the bore three-fourth parts of an inch in diameter; and that each of the said barrels shall be made of the best iron for that purpose, and of full proof, and be well and fully proved before they shall be stocked; that the stocks shall be made of good wood, and finished in a neat and workmanlike manner; that the locks shall be of the best quality; the muskets brass mounted and furnished with good steel ramrods, and the muskets finished like the pattern delivered to the said *Cornelius;* that the blade of each bayonet shall be eighteen inches in length from the shoulder; the bayonet to be made in the best manner, with a good bayonet-sheath. That each of the said muskets shall be marked, as follows: "Co. *New-York*," and delivered at the price of three pounds fourteen shillings, current money of *New-York*, for each musket and bayonet, steel ramrod and bayonet-sheath, mounted, finished and delivered as aforesaid.

"And the said *Alexander McDougall* and *Peter T. Curtenius* for themselves, their executors and administrators, do covenant, grant, and agree, to and with the said *Cornelius Atherton*, his executors and administrators, that as soon as the said *Cornelius* shall deliver or cause to be delivered to them, good securities for the sum of three hundred and fifty pounds, to be repaid in such muskets and bayonets as aforesaid, at the price before-mentioned, or on failure of the delivery of the said muskets and bayonets before the 1st day of *April* next, then the sum in arrear to be repaid in money; that they the said *Alexander McDougall* and *Peter T. Curtenius*, will advance to the said *Cornelius Atherton* the further sum of two hundred and ninety pounds in addition to the sum of sixty pounds now advanced to him, to enable him to carry on the business of making and finishing the said muskets and bayonets. And also that they, the said parties of the second part, will allow to the said *Cornelius Atherton*, his executors or administrators the price of three pounds and fourteen shillings, for each such musket and bayonet, with a steel ramrod and sheath, finished in manner aforesaid, as he shall deliver to them on or before the first day of *May* next, and pay him for the same whatever sum the price of such

muskets and bayonets shall exceed the sum of three hundred and fifty pounds.

"In witness whereof, the said parties to these presents have to these presents interchangeably set their hands and seals, the day and year on this indenture first written. And the said *Cornelius Atherton* agrees to put swivels to the said muskets. "CORNELIUS ATHERTON.

"Sealed and delivered in the presence of us, on this 23d day of *November*, 1775: the eighteenth line of this page being mostly struck out with a pen, and left an entire blank line. "ROBERT BENSON,
"JOHN MCKESSON."

"Received of *Comfort Sands*, of the City of *New-York*, Merchant, by order of, and on account of the Provincial Congress, and on account, and at the request of *Alexander McDougall* and *Peter T. Curtenius*, the sum of sixty pounds, mentioned in the preceding indenture.
"CORNELIUS ATHERTON."

"November 23, 1775."

Thereupon, *Resolved*, That this Congress fully approves of the said Contract made on their account, and declare they think it a beneficial Contract, made and in pursuance of the order of the Continental Congress, and that they take the Contract on account and risk of the Congress of this Colony; and

Ordered, That the Treasurer of this Congress advance and pay to Colonel *McDougall* and *Peter T. Curtenius*, or their order, the sum of three hundred and fifty Pounds, agreed to be advanced to the said *Cornelius Atherton*, as soon as the said *Cornelius* shall have given such security as is mentioned in the said Contract.

The Congress proceeded to the business appointed for this afternoon, to wit: The appointing a Committee of Safety for this Colony, and limiting their powers. And Mr. *Scott* and Mr. *Hobart*, who were named a Committee for that purpose, reported a draft of powers for a Committee of Safety, which were read, amended, and approved of, and many additional powers to the said Committee of Safety were moved for, and approved of, agreed to, and added thereto.

The Congress then proceeded to name and appoint the Members of the said Committee of Safety.

Thereupon Mr. *Gansevoort* moved, and was seconded by Mr. *Rensselaer*, for the sense of Congress, whether one of the Deputies of the County of *Albany* now present, may be permitted to serve as a member in the Committee of Safety, until one other Deputy of the said County shall relieve him; the said Deputy who shall come to relieve the other to continue as the member of said Committee until the Congress shall meet again.

The question being put on said motion, it was carried in the negative.

The Congress then named and appointed Colonel *Alexander McDougall*, *John Morin Scott*, *William Allison*, *Peter R. Livingston*, *Morris Graham*, *Abraham Brasher*, *John Leffertse*, *Comfort Sands*, *James Beekman*, *John Imlay*, *Pierre Van Cortlandt*, and *Samuel Brewster*, to be a Committee of Safety, and any seven or more of them to be a quorum.

Ordered, That the said powers of the Committee of Safety, as now agreed to, and resolved on, be considered as perfect powers to the said Committee, so far as they are agreed to, and that they be engrossed, and taken up for further additional powers, if necessary, to-morrow morning.

Ordered, That this Congress, to-morrow morning, take into consideration the state of the Provincial currency, ordered to be issued by the late Provincial Congress.

Colonel *Woodhull* obtained leave of absence, the County of *Suffolk* being represented without him.

The Congress adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow morning.

—

Die Sabbati, 10 ho. A. M., December 16, 1775.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment. Present:

For New-York.—Colonel McDougall, Colonel Brasher, Mr. Beekman, Mr. Van Zandt, Mr. Roosevelt, Mr. Ray, Mr. Sands, Mr. Imlay.

Albany.—Colonel Rensselaer, Capt. Cuyler, Mr. Gansevoort, Captain Bleecker.

Dutchess.—Mr. Gilbert Livingston, Mr. Humphreys, Mr. Schenck.

Ulster.—Mr. Wynkoop, Mr. Cantine.

Orange.—Mr. Herring, Colonel Hay.

Suffolk.—Mr. Tredwell, Mr. Wickham, Mr. Gelston.

Westchester.—Col. Graham, Col. G. Drake, Mr. Ward.

Tryon.—Mr. Moore.

John Herring, Esq., was unanimously elected President *pro tem.*

The Members of *Westchester* County reported, that they had examined *Benjamin Hunt* on oath, and had his Deposition taken before *Alderman Blagge*, which was read,

Ordered, That the said Deposition be delivered to the Deputies of *Westchester* County, to be delivered to the Committee of *Westchester* County.

The Congress then resumed the consideration of the powers to the Committee of Safety. The same was read, and amended, with some additions thereto, and fully agreed to, and resolved on, are ordered to be entered, and are in the words following, to wit:

Resolved, That the following members of this Congress, to wit: Colonel *Alexander McDougall*, *John Morin Scott*, *Jeremiah Clarke*, *Peter R. Livingston*, *Morris Graham*, *Abraham Brasher*, *John Leffertse*, *Comfort Sands*, *Thomas Tredwell*, *John Imlay*, *Pierre Van Cortlandt*, and *Samuel Brewster*, be and hereby are constituted and appointed a Committee of Safety, whereof seven shall be a sufficient quorum, with the following power and authority, and under the following regulations, to wit:

1st. A standing power to grant all commissions in the Militia of this Colony, subject to the regulations thereof, as established by the Provincial Congress.

2d. Power during the recess of this Congress, in case of any alarm, insurrection, or invasion, or where any matter or thing, for the executing whereof military force shall or may be necessary, to order and direct the Militia of the Colony, or any part thereof, subject nevertheless to the control of this and the Continental Congress.

3d. The like power during such recess, from time to time, in such cases as are last mentioned, to order and direct any of the Continental Forces that shall be within this Colony, and be put by appointment of the Continental Congress under the order and direction of this Congress, subject nevertheless to such control as afore-mentioned.

4th. A standing power, by drafts on the Treasury, to apply all such moneys as shall be appropriated to uses, but not actually applied by this Congress.

5th. A standing power, by like drafts, to appropriate and apply any such moneys as shall from time to time be by them judged necessary for contingent and secret services; provided the same do not in the whole exceed five thousand Pounds.

6th. A standing power to execute, or cause to be executed, orders, resolves, and recommendations, as well of the Continental as of this Congress.

7th. A standing power for the care, direction, and disposition of the magazines, arms, ammunition, and other military stores and implements belonging to this Colony, or which shall be committed by the Continental Congress to the care and direction of this Congress.

8th. A power, in the recess of this Congress, to call a meeting of the same when and where, in the judgment of the Committee, any emergency shall require it; and on every such call to give at least fourteen days notice of the meeting.

9th. A power to enjoin secrecy on their members, and others under their direction, as to all matters in the execution of their trust, wherein they shall judge it necessary; and as the due execution of many things for the publick safety may require the utmost secrecy, that in all cases wherein they shall esteem such secrecy is required, they shall have the power of withholding the discovery of their proceedings from this Congress, until one month after the danger which may attend such discovery is past.

10th. To keep an exact journal of their proceedings, subject to the inspection of this Congress, in certified copies thereof, with power to withhold out of such copies matters of secrecy as above directed.

11th. A power, during the recess of this Congress, to open and answer all letters directed to this Congress, or the President thereof.

12th. A power to comply as far and as often as they shall think proper, with any requisition by the Generals of the Continental forces, or any or either of them.

A power to take up and examine persons suspected to have broken the resolutions of the Continental or this Congress, and, according to their discretion, to discharge or send such persons to the General Committee of the County, to whom it belongs to determine the matter.

A power to carry into execution a settlement of accounts with the Continental Congress.

A power to carry into execution, if necessary, the resolutions of the late Congress for the emission of paper currency, subject however to such alterations as this Congress shall think proper to make.

A discretionary power to purchase arms and ammunition, and apply the same to the publick service.

A power, in case of deficiency of the Provincial Treasury, to answer the appropriations and applications hereby intrusted to the Committee; to supply such deficiency, as often as it may happen, by a vote of credit, to be made good by provision hereafter to be made by Congress.

A power to settle and determine all questions to be put to them by the Committee of Accounts, arising in their department.

Resolved, That the Committee of Safety, hereby appointed, do continue to be invested as a body, distinct from Congress, with all the powers above-mentioned, until the said Committee shall be dissolved by order of this Congress, or until the second *Tuesday* of *June* next, unless a future Congress of this Colony shall be sooner convened.

Dissentients to that part of the last Resolution contained in the words "or until the second *Tuesday* of *June* next:" Colonel *Rensselaer*, Mr. *Gansevoort*, Captain *Cuyler*, Colonel *Brasher*, Colonel *Graham*, Mr. *Schenck*.

Mr. *Gansevoort*, seconded by Mr. *Rensselaer*, moved in the words following, to wit:

That if it should so happen that any member, appointed as one of the Committee of Safety, should be prevented, either by sickness or other unforeseen accident, from attending the said Committee, whereby the publick business may be delayed, that his place may be supplied by one other of the Deputies of the County where such member of the Committee of Safety resides, to be appointed by the General Committee of the same County.

Debates arose on the said motion; and the question being put thereon, it was carried in the negative, in the manner following, to wit:

For the Negative.

Suffolk,	Westchester,
Dutchess,	New-York,
Orange,	Tryon.
Ulster,	

Albany equally divided.

Ordered, therefore, That the said motion be rejected.

Resolved, That the Committee of Safety be, and hereby are fully empowered to issue orders to the respective Counties in this Colony, to elect Deputies for a Provincial Congress of this Colony, to meet on the second *Tuesday* in *May* next; the said Committee, by their order, appointing the day of election in each County to be at least twenty-one days before the said second *Tuesday* in *May* next.

The Congress then proceeded to take into consideration the emission of the Paper currency agreed to be issued by the late Congress; and after a considerable time spent therein, the following Resolutions were unanimously agreed to, to wit:

Resolved, That the periods of sinking of one hundred and twelve thousand five hundred Dollars, by two payments—the first of fifty-six thousand two hundred and fifty Dollars on the first day of *March*, 1776, and the remaining fifty-six thousand two hundred and fifty Dollars the first day of *March*, 1777, agreeably to the Resolve of the late Provincial Congress of the second day of *September* last past—be altered; and that the said first sum of fifty-six thousand two hundred and fifty Dollars be sunk on the first day of *March*, 1777, and the remaining fifty-six thousand two hundred and fifty Dollars on the first day of *March*, 1778.

And whereas, the late Provincial Congress directed that the Bills, by them ordered to be emitted, should be signed by at least three persons, and it appears that there is not room sufficient on each of the said Bills for three signers; therefore,

Resolved, That any two of the said signers be sufficient to sign each of the said Bills.

And whereas, this Congress have applied to the Continental Congress to lend this Colony the sum of one hundred and twelve thousand five hundred Dollars; if the Continental Congress shall make that loan to this Colony,

Resolved, That in such case the Committtee of Safety are not to take any measure towards issuing the Money above-mentioned; and that the sum so lent shall be sunk in equal moieties at the respective periods last above-mentioned.

—

Die Lunæ, 10 ho. A. M., December 18, 1775.

Present: *John Herring*, Esq., President, *pro tem.*
For New-York.—Colonel McDougall, Mr. Beekman, Mr. Brasher, Mr. Roosevelt, Mr. Scott, Mr. Ray, Mr. Sands, Mr. Rutgers.
Albany.—Colonel Rensselaer, Capt. Cuyler, Mr. Gansevoort, Mr. Bleecker.
Dutchess.—Mr. Humphreys, Mr. Schenck.
Suffolk.—Mr. Tredwell, Mr. Wickham, Mr. Gelston.
Orange.—Mr. Hay, Mr. Herring, Mr. Clowes.
Ulster.—Mr. Wynkoop, Mr. Cantine, Mr. Palmer.
Westchester.—Mr. Graham, Mr. Lockwood.
Tryon.—Mr. J. Moore.

No other Members appearing, and *Dutchess* and *Westchester* not being a quorum, the Congress could not proceed to business, and adjourned till three o'clock this afternoon.

—

Die Lunæ, 3 ho. P. M., December 18, 1775.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *John Herring*, Esq., President, *pro tem.*
For New-York.— Mr. Sands, Colonel McDougall, Mr. Ray, Mr. Rutgers, Mr. Imlay, Mr. Scott, Colonel Brasher.
Albany.—Colonel Rensselaer, Capt. Cuyler, Mr. Gansevoort, Mr. Bleecker.
Dutchess.—Mr. Humphreys, Mr. Schenck.
Suffolk.—Mr. Wickham, Mr. Tredwell, Mr. Gelston.
Orange.—Mr. Herring, Colonel Hay, Mr. Clowes.
Ulster.—Mr. Wynkoop, Mr. Cantine, Mr. Palmer.
Westchester.—Dr. Graham, Mr. Lockwood, Mr. Paulding.
Tryon.—Mr. J. Moore.
King's.—Mr. Vanderbilt.

Mr. *Palmer*, from the Committee who went up to the Fortifications in the *Highlands*, delivered in the Report of the said Committee, together with a Draft or Plan to explain the same.

The said Report was read; and being read a second time, is in the words following, to wit:

"Fort-Constitution, December 14, 1775.

"The Committee appointed by an order of the Provincial Congress, bearing date the 7th instant, to repair to the fortifications in the *Highlands*, and endeavour to accommodate the difference subsisting between the Commissioners for erecting said fortifications and the Engineer—and in case they should not be able to accommodate the said difference, to give such directions as they should think necessary for expediting the works of the said fortifications, in such manner as they should judge best for the publick service, and make report as well of the true cause of such difference as of all necessary facts relating to the same, and of such directions as they shall have given for expediting the said work—do Report:

"That after examining into the matters of complaint from both parties, they are of opinion that Mr. *Romans* must either have mistaken the charge committed to him by the honourable Committee of Safety, by request of the Commissioners, or, as appears from his conduct, has assumed powers with which he knew he was not intrusted; as it appears that the Commissioners objected to the manner of erecting some works that are nearly finished, and refused

their consent to the erecting of others begun, especially that called the Grand Bastion, in which we think they judged right; which, nevertheless, he was determined to carry on, declaring that they had no vote nor authority in any matters at the Post more than to furnish stores and workmen, and pay them. On the other hand, the Commissioners, from the authority with which they conceive the honourable the Provincial Congress had invested in them to erect fortifications, thought themselves responsible, in a great degree, for the misapplication of the publick moneys appropriated for that use; in which we also think they judged right; and, therefore, that Mr. *Romans* was to blame in refusing to consult the Commissioners on every matter of importance, before he attempted to carry it into execution. For further particulars, relative to this report, we refer the honourable House to the copies of the directions given to the Commissioners and Engineer.

"2d. That on observing the situation of the works erected and planned by the Engineer, we do further report, that with respect to the battery nearly finished with marling, &c., we find that none of the cannon can be pointed so as to obstruct any vessel in her passage up, until she passes the *West-Point*, one hundred or one hundred and fifty yards; and when she has passed the aforesaid battery, none can be brought to bear on her any distance up the river, especially should she border on the east shore. Upon the whole, we are of opinion no vessel would be under the command of the battery more than half the reach from the *West-Point* to the point of *Martelaer's Rock*.

"With respect to the Grand Bastion, (so called,) we do further report, that on examination of the work still to be erected to finish the same, we find two lines which, together, will consist of a wall of three hundred feet in length, thirty feet on an average in height and in breadth, and eighteen feet high, together with another wall of like dimensions as to height and breadth, and will consist of two hundred feet in length, which is to encircle the block-house and join the former, which in its area is to contain bomb-proof arches of brick, and a grand magazine, which is to cover men in time of engagement, as the Engineer informed us; all which we conceive will be impracticable to complete in season, even should the expense be approved of, which in our opinion would not amount to less than eight or ten thousand pounds, and, when completed, would not affect any vessel until she came abreast with the *West-Point*.

"The Committee do further report, that they are of opinion, that instead of erecting the above described work, it would better answer the use and safety of the post for the present, to throw up a breastwork in the hollow of the above-mentioned area, facing the *West-Point*, sufficient to contain four or six cannon, and also, to erect a *Barbet* battery on a gravel hill, marked on the late draft of Mr. *Romans*, (H,) sufficient to mount eight large cannon, eighteen pounders, two of which, to be mounted on a short curtain facing the reach above the *West-Point;* the breastwork to be composed of timber, filled in with earth, with a good platform; the advantage of which will fully appear by the river draft. When this is completed, we would recommend, that a low constructed block-house be erected on an eminence abreast of the *West-Point*, which will serve to keep up a line of communication between the last mentioned battery and the other works.

"3d. With respect to the state of the barracks, the Committee do further report, that they find one of eighty by twenty feet, of one story, and one of one hundred by twenty feet, one-and-a-half story high, both which when cleared of workmen and labourers, will contain about three hundred men. The foundation of another barrack, eighty by twenty feet, two story high, and when completed, will contain one hundred and sixty men; this latter barrack we find will be well covered by the eminence on which stands the block-house; the former stands much exposed to the fire of the enemy, as soon as they open the *West-Point*, especially the one of one hundred feet, nor would it be fully covered, in our opinion, was the expensive Grand Bastion aforesaid completely finished, agreeably to Mr. *Romans's* plan.

"After going through with the business above reported, we went down the river in the barge as far as *Pooploop's Kill;* on our way, about three and a half miles below the fortress on the west side of the river, a landing place of easy access from the river to the height of the land above, which may be occupied by an enemy to our damage. We then proceeded, and took a view of the height and situation of the ground forming the north chop of *Pooploop's Kill*, which projects itself so far into the river that the distance across to the other shore does not exceed one hundred perches. We are clearly of opinion, that this is by far the most advantageous situation in the *Highlands* for a fortification, as one erected on this point would command the reach of the river downwards to the point of the *Dunderbarragh*, being the distance of nearly three miles, and from the same point the reach upwards may be commanded as far, and is environed in its adjacent and contiguous situations with marshes and inaccessible mountains, which renders it impracticable for the enemy to land. We are, therefore, of opinion, that a battery of sixteen or eighteen guns ought to be erected on this point, and that barracks be erected there to make it a post of about one hundred and fifty or two hundred men.

"Francis Nicoll,
"Joseph Drake,
"Thomas Palmer."

The same Report being read, and the question being put thereon,

Resolved, That the Congress does agree with their Committee in the said Report; and ordered that Mr. *Palmer* draw up such further directions relating to the Fortifications necessary to be made in the *Highlands*, as may be necessary to be directed and resolved on by this Congress, and report the same with all convenient speed.

Whereas, by a Letter of the twenty-eighth ultimo, from *James Duane*, Esq., one of the Delegates of this Colony at the honourable the Continental Congress, this Congress is informed that an order had passed in their favour for fifty thousand Dollars; and by a paragraph of a Letter from *Philip Livingston*, Esq., another of the Delegates of this Colony, the President is informed that the said money is ready to be paid to an order of this Congress on the Delegates of the Colony of *Pennsylvania;* and that to send some proper persons for the said money will prevent the expense of a guard to conduct it; therefore,

Ordered, That Messrs. *Abraham Brasher* and *Thomas Palmer*, two of the members of this Congress, proceed to *Philadelphia* to receive the said sum of fifty thousand Dollars from the *Pennsylvania* Delegates, and to bring or remit the same to this Congress; and

Resolved, That a copy of this Entry, Order, and Resolve, signed by the President, *pro tem.*, and attested by the Secretaries, be a draft or voucher from this Congress to the *Pennsylvania* Delegates for payment thereof; and that the receipt of the said *Abraham Brasher* and *Thomas Palmer* be a sufficient discharge from this Congress to the *Pennsylvania* Delegates for the same.

"In Provincial Congress, New-York, December 18, 1775.

"Gentlemen: We take the liberty to enclose you the copy of a letter we thought proper to write to Governour *Trumbull*, [on the 12th inst.] on the subject of a late inroad made by some of the inhabitants of *Connecticut* into this Colony, and also a resolve of thanks for the friendly assistance given by them on another occasion, at the request of the Committee of *Westchester*. By the first of these, we conceive we have done what was necessary to support, in a friendly manner, that honour and independency, with respect to every particular Colony, which we think necessary, not only for our internal security, but also for maintaining our proper weight, as a Colony, in the scale of Continental Union. By the other, we show our readiness to receive any assistance from our neighbours, when properly afforded on requisition, and suitably to acknowledge such assistance.

"You will observe, gentlemen, that to prevent those jealousies which the introduction of parties of armed men from any neighbouring Colony, unless properly requested, will naturally beget, we give his Honour, the Governour of *Connecticut*, notice, that we intend to apply to the Continental Congress for a regulation on that head. Such a regulation we think necessary for supporting the cause of liberty, and to prevent its enemies from improving the want

of security arising from inroads by our neighbours, to the prejudice of the common interest.

"We therefore request your endeavours to procure such a regulation, by authority of the Continental Congress, and are, gentlemen, with great respect, your most obedient servants. By order.

"To the *New-York* Delegates in Continental Congress."

Ordered, That Major *Malcom* be requested to authorize and desire Captain *Waldron* to sell the Sheep taken at *Brooklyn Ferry* for the best price he can, and to retain the expense of keeping them in his hands, and pay the balance to the Treasurer of this Congress.

Ordered, That Colonel *Rensselaer*, Major *Lockwood*, Mr. *Tredwell*, and Mr. *Scott*, be a Committee to revise and amend the Militia Law, or Regulations for the Militia of this Colony, made and published by this Congress, and they report thereon with all convenient speed.

A Return from *Lewis Dubois* and *Michael Wygant*, two of the Committee of *New-Marlborough* Precinct, in *Ulster* County, dated the 6th instant, was read. They certify, that there was chosen on that day, agreeably to the rules of the honourable Congress, the following Officers for the South-east District of *New-Marlborough*: *Stephen Case*, Captain; *Matthew Wygant*, First Lieutenant; *John Bond*, Second Lieutenant; *Alexander Cropsey*, Ensign. And Mr. *Palmer* informed the Congress that *Stephen Case*, who had been First Lieutenant, was elected in the place of *Caleb Merrit*, who had resigned; that *Matthew Wygant* and *John Bond* were promoted by election; and *Alexander Cropsey*, elected in the stead of the Ensign, promoted; and the Commission of *Caleb Merrit*, who resigned, was returned to the Secretaries.

Ordered, That Commissions be issued to those gentlemen accordingly.

Ordered, That Colonel *McDougall* be authorized, and he is hereby authorized, to purchase such a quantity of Cartouch Paper as he may think necessary for the use of this Colony, and to lodge the same with *Peter T. Curtenius*, the Commissary, to be distributed to the Counties.

Whereas, Mr. *Isaac Belknop*, of *Newburgh*, in *Ulster* County, on the 2d day of *September* last past, was, upon sufficient information of his merit, nominated in Congress to the office of Quartermaster of the Regiment whereof *Jonathan Hasbrouck*, Esq., is Colonel, and ordered to be put into commission in that office, but by some mistake the name of another gentleman was inserted in the said Commission,

Resolved, That it is the opinion of this Congress that the said Mr. *Isaac Belknap* is fully qualified to fill the said office; and, to testify a proper sense of his merit, that it is the sense of this Congress that he be preferred to the first suitable vacancy that may offer in the Militia or Minute-Men of the southern part of that County.

—

Die Martis, 10 ho. A. M., December 19, 1775.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *John Herring*, Esq., President, *pro tem.*

For New-York.—Colonel McDougall, Mr. Van Zandt, Mr. Roosevelt, Mr. Ray, Mr. Sands, Mr. Imlay, Capt. Rutgers.

Albany.—Colonel Rensselaer, Captain Cuyler, Mr. Gansevoort, Mr. Bleecker.

Ulster.—Mr. Cantine, Mr. Wynkoop, Mr. Palmer.

Dutchess.—Mr. Schenck, Mr. Humphreys.

Westchester.—Doctor Graham, Mr. Paulding, Mr. Lockwood.

Suffolk.—Mr. Wickham, Mr. Tredwell, Mr. Gelston.

Orange.—Colonel Hay, Mr. Herring, Mr. Clowes, Mr. Clarke.

King's—Mr. Vanderbilt.

Tryon.—Mr. John Moore.

The Committee appointed to plan a voyage or voyages for one or more vessels, delivered in a Report, which was read, and after some time spent therein, and some advices given thereon, it was returned to the said Committee for their further consideration.

The Return of the Committee of *Cornwall* Precinct, in *Orange* County, signed by *Thomas Outwater*, Chairman of the County Committee, was brought into Congress by *Jeremiah Clarke*, Esq., and read. It is thereby certified, that at a meeting of the Freeholders and Tenants of the Precinct of *Cornwall*, in the County of *Orange*, held at the house of *John Brewster*, in *Blooming-Grove*, on *Tuesday, November* 7, 1775, agreeably to certain Resolves of the honourable Provincial Congress of the Colony of *New-York*, for the purpose of dissolving the Congress then sitting, and also for electing a new Congress, to serve until the 10th day of *May* next coming, at which time the Freeholders and Tenants legally qualified, did unanimously choose the bearer, the said *Jeremiah Clarke*, for one of the Deputies to represent the County of *Orange* in Provincial Congress, agreeably to the Resolves aforesaid; and did also, at the same time, unanimously agree, that any two of the Deputies chosen to represent the said County for the purposes aforesaid, should be a quorum to represent the said County in Congress.

The same being read and approved of, by order was filed; and

Ordered, That Mr. *Clarke* take his seat.

Agreed and Ordered, That Mr. *Jeremiah Clarke* be appointed, and he is hereby appointed, a member of the Committee of Safety, in the stead of *William Allison*, Esq., and that Mr. *Allison's* name be struck out of the said Committee, and Mr. *Clarke's* there inserted.

Ordered, That the Secretaries purchase five hundred copies of the Proceedings of the Continental Congress, in *Low Dutch*, and that Colonel *Brasher* purchase five hundred copies thereof, printed in the *German* tongue, to be distributed gratis in the different parts of this Colony; and if there are not any copies of the Proceedings of the Continental Congress in the *German* language, that Colonel *Brasher* purchase five hundred copies of any other publication in the *German* tongue, which are instructive on the present controversy between *Great Britain* and the Colonies, that they may be distributed gratis.

Resolved, That the Committee of Safety appointed by this Congress be authorized, and the said Committee hereby is authorized, to cause such a collection to be made of the sundry acts of Parliament complained of as grievances to the Colonies, with remarks thereon, as they may think useful, to inform the people of this Colony; and to have such a number thereof as they may think proper published and dispersed through the Colony gratis.

Mr. *Clowes* obtained leave of absence, *Orange* County being fully represented without his attendance.

—

Die Martis, 3 ho. P. M., December 19, 1775.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *John Herring*, Esq., President, *pro tem.*

For New-York.—Mr. John Van Cortlandt, Mr. Van Zandt, Colonel McDougall, Captain Rutgers, Mr. Scott, Mr. Ray, Mr. Sands, Colonel Brasher, Mr. Beekman, Mr. Imlay.

Albany.—Colonel Rensselaer, Capt. Cuyler, Mr. Bleecker, Mr. Gansevoort.

Ulster.—Mr. Wynkoop, Mr. Cantine, Mr. Palmer.

Westchester.—Doctor Graham, Mr. Paulding, Mr. Lockwood.

Suffolk.—Captain Wickham, Mr. Tredwell, Mr. Gelston.

Tryon.—Mr. Moore.

Dutchess.—Mr. Schenck, Mr. Humphreys.

Orange.—Mr. Herring, Colonel Hay, Mr. Clarke.

The Committee appointed to employ two or more vessels for a voyage to *Europe*, reported that they think it necessary to load two vessels with wheat, on account and risk of this Congress, for some port or ports in *Europe*, on the customary freight; that the owners run the risk of the vessels out, and be allowed three pence sterling per bushel extraordinary for such risk. That the common freights of such vessels are as follows, to wit:

For any port without the Straits, as far as *Gibraltar*, thirteen pence sterling per bushel; to *Malaga*, fourteen pence; to *Allicant*, fifteen pence; to *Barcelona*, sixteen pence; to *Marseilles*, seventeen pence.

That the said Committee had agreed to let one of the two vessels return with the return cargo to *St. Eustatius*, or *St. Martius*, for one hundred pounds currency; and that

the said Committee would give directions that the said goods brought in return, as soon as they arrived in the *West-Indies*, be shipped on board of different vessels, to bring them to the Continent, which the Committee conceive to be the most advantageous method. That the Committee have proposed to direct the whole property adventured to be invested in Gunpowder; and if Gunpowder is not to be purchased, to be invested in Saltpetre; if neither Saltpetre nor Gunpowder is to be had, then to be laid out in good Muskets. And if none of the before-mentioned articles are to be got, or not sufficient to expend the value of the cargoes adventured, then the property, or so much thereof as shall remain unexpended in those articles, to be laid out in goods of the following kinds, viz:

Russia Drilling; Raven's Duck; Osnaburgs; Coarse Linens, from twelve to fifteen pence sterling per yard; Sheetings, from ten to twelve pence sterling per yard; Coarse Thread Hose, from twenty to twenty-five shillings sterling per dozen; Coarse Tandem Silesias, from seventeen to twenty shillings per piece; Vittery, fit for soldiers' shirting, or any other articles they may think will be wanting.

The said Report being read a second time, and approved of, the Congress unanimously agreed that the said Report stand confirmed, and that the Committee carry the said Report into execution; and

Resolved, That *John Vanderbilt*, *Comfort Sands*, and *Jacobus Van Zandt*, and each and every of them, shall be fully indemnified by this Congress, or the Committee of Safety, or the Congress of this Colony for the time being, against any bonds which they, or either of them, will be under the necessity to enter into at the Custom-House in *New-York*, for the said vessels and cargoes; and that in case any costs or damages shall accrue, by means of entering into such bonds, that all such costs and damages as may arise, happen, or accrue, by means thereof, shall be borne by this Colony; and

Ordered, That the Treasurer of this Congress pay to *Jacobus Van Zandt*, *Comfort Sands*, and *John Vanderbilt*, the sum of five thousand Pounds, in part to enable them to load the said vessels.

Mr. *Palmer*, in pursuance of the direction of this Congress of yesterday, delivered a further Report respecting the Fortifications in the *Highlands;* which was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

That after the Committee had finished their Report in writing, which has been delivered in, it was agreed by Colonel *Nicoll* and Colonel *Drake*, that Mr. *Palmer* should deliver in their said Report; and that after the same should be read, Mr. *Palmer* should further report to this Congress, as their unanimous opinion with him, that the Fortifications erected, and those pointed out by them to be erected on *Martelaer's Point*, will not be sufficient for the security of the post, because of two large eminences overlooking the works, situate, the one within less, and the other not more than, half a mile from the works, and so situated that an enemy might improve them much to our damage. That they were, therefore, jointly of opinion that a Redoubt ought to be erected at each of those places for the security of the garrison. And that the Committee were further agreed in opinion, that it was the indispensable duty of Mr. *Romans* accurately to have observed those matters in his first report to the Continental and Provincial Congresses, which the Committee told him when there on the places, to which Mr. *Romans* answered, he had pointed out the necessity of the one, and the other he had but lately thought of.

The said Report being read, this Congress agrees thereto, as to the Redoubts necessary to be erected on the said two eminences.

Ordered, That a copy of this Report, with a certified copy of the Report of the same Committee made yesterday, be transmitted to the honourable the Continental Congress for their perusal, and that their directions may be obtained thereon; and

Ordered, That Colonel *Brasher* and Mr. *Palmer* carry those copies to the Continental Congress.

And, as Captain *John Grenell* has for some time past been on duty, and commanding on the said Fortifications, and may for the present be spared, an older officer being now there, and it is conceived he may also be able to give useful information relating to the places necessary to be fortified, in order to obstruct the navigation of *Hudson's* river,

Ordered, That Captain *Grenell* do attend the other two gentlemen to *Philadelphia* for that purpose.

Ordered, That *George Clinton*, Esq., be appointed Brigadier-General of the Militia of *Ulster* and *Orange* Counties, formed into one Brigade, and that a Commission be issued to him accordingly.

The Congress adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow morning.

—

Die Mercurii, 10 ho. A. M., December 20, 1775.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *John Herring*, Esq., President, *pro tem.*

For New-York.—Mr. Beekman, Mr. Roosevelt, Colonel McDougall, Captain Rutgers, Mr. Ray, Mr. Sands, Mr. Imlay.

Albany.—Colonel Rensselaer, Capt. Cuyler, Mr. Ganse-voort, Mr. Bleecker.

Dutchess.—Mr. Humphreys, Mr. Schenck.

Ulster.—Mr. Wynkoop, Mr. Cantine, Mr. Palmer.

Orange.—Mr. Herring, Colonel Hay, Mr. Clarke.

Suffolk.—Captain Wickham, Mr. Gelston, Mr. Tredwell.

Westchester.—Doctor Graham, Mr. Lockwood, William Paulding.

Tryon.—Mr. J. Moore.

Cumberland.—Doctor Spooner.

Doctor *Paul Spooner*, from *Cumberland* County, appeared in Congress, and produced the following credentials, to wit: First, a Certificate from the Committee of that County, dated at *Westminster*, on the 1st day of *December* last, and signed by *John Barrett*, the Clerk,* whereby it is certified that the Committee of the said County had proceeded in the election of Deputies, pursuant to the Resolves of the Congress, for the Colony of *New-York*, of the 18th *October* last; and it is thereby further certified, that Major *William Williams* and Doctor *Paul Spooner*, are chosen by the County to represent the people thereof, in this Provincial Congress, at the City of *New-York*. The said Committee thereby also recommend a Brigadier-General, and their other Field and Staff Officers, for the Militia of the said County.

Mr. *Spooner* also produced another Certificate of the County Committee, bearing date on the 30th of *November* last, and signed by *John Barrett*, their Clerk, whereby it is certified that the Deputies chosen to represent the County of *Cumberland*, at this Provincial Congress, in the City of *New-York*, are thereby qualified, and have full power to act in the said Congress singly, in as ample and full a manner, when but one is present, as both, when both are present at the said Congress.

The said Certificates being read, and approved, were ordered to be filed; and

Ordered, That Mr. *Spooner* take his seat.

* May it please your Honour: We, the Committee of Safety for this County, have proceeded in the election of Deputies, pursuant to the resolves of the honourable Congress for the Colony of *New-York*, of *October* 18, 1775: And this certifies, that Major *William Williams* and Doctor *Paul Spooner*, are chosen by this County, to represent the people thereof, in the honourable Provincial Congress, at the city of *New-York*. Also, we, the Committee of Safety for this County, have presumed to nominate Colonel *James Rogers* to be the Brigadier for *Cumberland*, *Gloucester*, and *Charlotte* Brigade.

Moreover, according to the directions of the honourable Provincial Congress of *New-York*, (as are transmitted to us,) per our Delegate, Major *Williams*, we have recommended that the following gentlemen, belonging to this County, be speedily commissioned by said Congress, viz: Lower Regiment in the County: Major *William Williams*, first Colonel; Major *Jonathan Hunt*, second Colonel; Lieutenant *John Norton*, first Major; *Oliver Lovell*, second Major; *Arad Hunt*, Adjutant; and *Samuel Fletcher*, Quartermaster.

Upper Regiment: Captain *Joseph Marsh*, first Colonel; Capt. *John Barrett*, second Colonel; Lieutenant *Hilkiah Grout*, first Major; Captain *Joel Matthews*, second Major; *Timothy Spencer*, Adjutant; *Amos Robinson*, Quartermaster.

Regiment of Minute-Men: Captain *Job Hoisington*, first Colonel; *Seth Smith*, second Colonel; *Joseph Tyler*, first Major; *Joel Morsh*, second Major; *Timothy Phelps*, Adjutant; *Elisha Hawley*, Quartermaster.

The honourable Provincial Congress complying with our request, as speedily as possible, will much oblige your most obedient, humble servant. Signed by order of the Committee of Safety:

John Barrett, *Clerk.*

To the Honourable the President of the Provincial Congress, at the City of *New-York.*

Cumberland County, Westminster, *December* 1, 1775.

A Letter from Mr. *William Bedlow*, dated at *Fort Constitution*, on the 14th *December* instant, on the subject of the pay of the Commissioners, was read, and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"Fort Constitution, December 14, 1775.

"Sir: About the latter end of *October*, Mr. *Richard Yates*, delivered into the honourable Provincial Congress, a letter requesting they would be so kind as to fix what they should judge, I with my brother Commissioners on service here should merit per day; as that was at the very latter end of the last session, I suppose through the hurry of business was not thought on.

"Permit me now to request the favour of you to make this application known to this honourable Provincial Congress, in hopes they will let the Commissioners here know what they are to have. This will lay us under grateful obligations to you and them; in particular him, who is with respect, sir, your humble servant, William Bedlow.

"To *Nathaniel Woodhull*, Esq."

The Congress took into consideration the subject-matter of the said Letter, and after some time spent thereon,

Resolved, That there be allowed to each of the Commissioners employed in erecting the said Fortifications on the banks of *Hudson's* river, in the *Highlands*, ten shillings per day, for every day that he has been or shall be employed in that service.

And to prevent any expense that may by any means be avoided:

Agreed, That only three Commissioners for the present be continued in that service, to wit: Mr. *John Berrien*, in *New-York*, and two at the Fortifications.

And as Messrs. *William Bedlow* and *Thomas Grenell* were first employed in that service,

Ordered, That they be continued; and if Mr. *Grenell's* state of health should become such as to prevent his attendance on that service, that, in his absence, his place be supplied by Mr. *Jonathan Lawrence*.

Mr. *John Broome*, Chairman, *pro tem.*, of the Committee of the City of *New-York*, attending at the door, was admitted. He delivered in the several Papers hereafter mentioned, which were read, and Mr. *Broome* withdrew.

The first matter delivered in by the said Chairman of the Committee, is an application for the loan of Money, which being read and filed, is in the words following, to wit:

"New-York Committee Chamber, December 19, 1775.

"The Chairman having informed the Committee that there were several demands upon this Board, which have been due some considerable time, requested they would take them under consideration, and concert some means for discharging them:

"*Ordered*, That the Chairman be authorized to apply to the Provincial Congress, for the loan of one thousand Pounds, (subject to no interest,) and to give a receipt for the same, and to engage that the same shall be repaid out of the first moneys that shall be raised by way of a tax in this City and County, for defraying the necessary charges incurred for the publick service in defending our rights and privileges. John Broome, *Chairman, pro tem.*"

The Congress took the said application of the City Committee in consideration, and are unanimously of opinion, that the small supply of Money expected speedily to be received in the Treasury of this Congress, and their present heavy debts, will not admit of making a loan of one thousand Pounds; but that to relieve the necessities of the Committee, an Order be made on the Treasurer of this Congress, for the sum of five hundred Pounds, payable to the Chairman.

Therefore, Ordered, That *Peter V. B. Livingston*, Esq., as Treasurer of this Congress, send to Mr. *John Broome*, as Chairman, *pro tem*, of the Committee of the City of *New-York*, or to the Chairman for the time then being, the sum of five hundred Pounds, and take such receipt and engagement for the same as proposed by the said Committee in their application to this Congress for a loan.

Mr. *Broome* also delivered in a list and arrangement of the Officers of Colonel *Heyer's* Regiment, which was read and approved of, and filed; and,

Ordered, That Commissions be issued accordingly.

Mr. *Broome* also delivered in a list of Officers of three beats of the Militia of the City of *New-York*.

Ordered, That Commissions be issued accordingly.

The case of *John Blackler*, referred to this Congress from the Committee of the City of *New-York*, and a Letter from the said *John Blackler* to Governour *Tryon*, which were this morning delivered by Mr. *Broome*, as Chairman, *pro tempore*, were read.*

A Letter from the Committee of *Richmond* County, was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"Richmond County, December 15, 1775.

"Mr. President, Sir: Your favour of the 2d of *December*, we hereby acknowledge came safe to our hand, and with the majority of the Committee considered the contents. We agreeably to your request, have caused by advertisement the freeholders and inhabitants in our County to be convened on this day, in order that their sense might be taken, whether they would choose Deputies to represent them in Provincial Congress or not; accordingly, a number of the said freeholders and inhabitants did appear; a regular poll was opened, and continued till six o'clock, at the conclusion of which it appeared that a majority was for the present for sending no Deputies.

"Our former conduct in sending of Deputies, to represent us in Provincial Congress, was elevated with encouraging hopes of having, ere this, obtained the so much desired point in our view, namely, a reconciliation with *Great Britain*. But with anxiety, we express it, that the hopes of obtaining so desirable an event is now almost vanished out of our sight, and instead of which, we behold with horrour every appearance of destruction that a war with *Great Britain* will bring upon us. Under these apprehensions, and in our particular situation, we hope you will view us, and when candidly considered, we trust will furnish you with sufficient reasons for the present to forbear with us.

"We wish and pray that if yet any hopes of reconciliation is left, that measures might be adopted, if possible, to obtain that desirable end, in wishing of which we conclude ourselves, your most obedient and humble servants,

"John Tysen,
"Christian Jacobson,
"Daniel Corsen,
"Peter Mersereau,
"Joseph Christopher,
"Lambert Merrell,
"John Poillon.

"To *Nathaniel Woodhull*, President of the Provincial Congress, *New-York*."

"P. S. Should the Congress think it necessary for further information of the state of our Committee to appear before them for that purpose."

* Committee Chamber, New-York, *December* 19, 1775.

John Blackler having been confined for some time at the upper barracks, was, this evening, examined before this Board. It appeared by his confession that he had been several weeks on board the *Asia*, man-of-war; that his intention was to procure a passage to *Boston*, and from there to *England*, and for that purpose requested the assistance of Governour *Tryon;* that he did not intend to enter in the Ministerial army, unless he could get the office he formerly had, (a Lieutenant,) which was a thousand to one against him; that upon the whole, his intention was to go to *England*, by the way of *Boston*, as he could not readily get one from this place; that he did not desire a commission in the army, (meaning the Ministerial army;) that he took refuge on board the *Asia* to avoid being taken and confined for debt.

The Committee taking into consideration Mr. *Blackler's* case, are of opinion, that the law passed by the late Provincial Congress for this Colony does not authorize this Board to determine thereon. The question being then put, whether *Blackler* be remanded to the guard-house, and a state of his case be represented to the Provincial Congress? Carried unanimously in the affirmative. By order of the Committee:

John Broome, *Chairman, pro tem.*

May it please your Excellency: Accept of my most grateful acknowledgments for those favours conferred on me, and rest assured I shall endeavour to make it my study to convince your Excellency, your kind recommendation was bestowed, though on an unfortunate, yet a deserving object. Since I have been on shore, I have, through the interest of my friends, been furnished with necessaries for my passage to *Boston*, with some letters of recommendation to gentlemen there. I now, as the last request, which I am almost afraid to make, beg your Excellency would assist me with some small pittance, only to serve me a few days after my arrival. Indeed, sir, I would not solicit it, but dire necessity obliges me. May every happiness attend your Excellency, is the most ardent wish of your Excellency's very obedient, humble servant, John Blackler.

To His Excellency Governour *Tryon*.

After sundry proposals mentioned, relating to the people of *Richmond* County, the further consideration thereof is deferred until the state of *Queen's* County is taken into consideration.

Captain *Skidmore*, of *Queen's* County, attending at the door for an Order for the Arms of such men in his Company as have not been sent into the Continental service,

Ordered, That *Peter T. Curtenius* deliver to Captain *Skidmore* such Arms of the people of *Queen's* County as remain in his custody, and were received from the men belonging to Captain *Skidmore's* Company, to wit: From *William Mills*, *Dirck Amerman*, *John Stanson*, alias *John Stiene;* and that Mr. *Curtenius* pay to *Jonah Roades*, *Cornelius Loosie*, *Mary Mills*, *Peter Fredericks*, and *Frederick Amerman*, respectively, the appraised value of the Arms received of them respectively, and sent into the publick service.

A draft of a Letter to the Delegates of this Colony at the Continental Congress, was read and approved of, and is in the words following, to wit:

In Provincial Congress, New-York, December 20, 1775.

Gentlemen: A dispute having unhappily taken place between the Commissioners appointed to superintend the work at the Fortifications in the *Highlands* and the Engineer, which we apprehended might retard the works necessary to be done, we thought proper to depute a Committee of three of our body to repair to the said Fortifications, and endeavour to accommodate the said difference; and in case they should not be able to effect that, to give such directions for expediting the necessary work as they should judge best for the publick service. In consequence whereof, Messrs. *Palmer*, *Nicoll*, and *Drake*, who were appointed the Committee, went to the place, and have reported their proceedings and sentiments in the premises, a copy of which we now enclose you for the consideration of Congress. We beg leave to suggest to you that the report of the Committee respecting the expediency of erecting a Fortification on the eminence at *Pooploop's Kill*, demands your most serious attention.

The bearers hereof, Colonel *Brasher*, Mr. *Palmer*, and Captain *Grenell*, are appointed by this Congress to lay a state of the above matter before the Continental Congress; and if it should be approved of, we are of opinion that no time ought to be lost in carrying it into execution.

We have drawn on the *Pennsylvania* Delegates for fifty thousand dollars, (you have procured an order for,) in favour of Colonel *Brasher* and Mr. *Palmer*.

Ordered, That a copy thereof be engrossed, and signed by the President, *pro tempore*, and transmitted.

Doctor *Spooner* delivered in sundry Letters and Papers, which were read and filed, and are as follows, to wit:

A Letter from Colonel *James Rogers*, of *Cumberland* County, of the 14th *September* last, whereby, for political reasons, he declines the office of Brigadier-General of the Militia.

A Paper, signed by the inhabitants of the Township of *Putney*, in *Cumberland* County, dated the 6th of *December* instant,* stating objections against the gentlemen named and recommended by the County Committee for Field-Officers of the Militia of that County.

A Paper, signed by a number of the inhabitants of *Westminster*, dated 7th of *December* instant,† setting forth similar objections to the same gentlemen as Field-Officers of the Militia of that County.

A Paper signed by the inhabitants of *Fulham*, dated the 13th *December* instant,‡ setting forth similar objections to the same gentlemen, as Field-Officers of the Militia of that County.

A Paper, subscribed, containing the Association of all the males in *Townshend*, in *Cumberland* County.

Resolved, That the Committee of Safety consist of thirteen members; and that Doctor *Paul Spooner* be added, to be a member of the Committee of Safety.

The Congress being informed that *John Abeel* had declared, that *William Boyard* had informed him and others that the Deputies who compose this Congress had agreed to pay themselves four dollars per day each, while they attend the Congress:

Ordered, That *John Abeel* attend this Congress at four o'clock this afternoon.

The Congress adjourned till 3 o'clock, P. M.

—

Die Mercurii, 3 ho. P. M., December 20, 1775.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *John Herring*, Esq., President, *pro tem.*
For New-York.—Colonel McDougall, Captain Rutgers, Mr. Ray, Mr. Sands, Mr. Beekman, Mr. Imlay.
Albany.—Colonel Rensselaer, Captain Cuyler, Mr. Ganse-voort, Mr. Bleecker.
Dutchess.—Mr. Humphreys, Mr. Schenck.
Ulster.—Mr. Wynkoop, Mr. Cantine, Mr. Palmer.
Orange.—Colonel Hay, Mr. Herring, Mr. Clarke.
Suffolk.—Captain Wickham, Mr. Tredwell, Mr. Gelston.
Westchester.—Doctor Graham, Major Lockwood, Mr. Paulding.
Cumberland.—Doctor Spooner.
Tryon.—Mr. John Moore.

We trust you will exert yourself to heal this breach; and, putting confidence in your goodness, we, with esteem, subscribe ourselves your humble servants,

John French,	James Hail,	Jonas More,
Cyrus Helighton,	Grandol Kenneled,	Benjamin Huckens,
James B. Winandt,	Simon Smeed,	Daniel Gates,
Elisha Eyers,	Jonathan Lockling,	Philip Alexander,
Amos Hail,	Mical Law,	Giddon Bagger,
John McWain,	Elpha Hubard,	Daniel Jewet,
Jonathan Houghton,	Abijah More,	Abijah Whitney,
Rufus More,	John Perry,	Solomon Perry,
Ebenezer Perce,	Joseph Guther,	Moses Perry,
Aaron Eilee,	Caleb Greene,	Cyrus Witcomb.

Cyrus Witcomb, Jr.,

To Colonel *Williams*, of *Dryer*, and Mr. *Paul Spooner*, to be communicated to the honourable Provincial Congress at the City of *New-York*.

* Putney, *December* 6, 1775.—Sir: We, the inhabitants of *Putney*, beg leave to signify to you, that the proceedings of the late County Convention, first the Congress, secondly as a Committee of Safety for the County, sir, we humbly conceive, have discovered such a spirit of ignorance or tyranny, that we are apprehensive that our liberties, which we are contending for, are in danger, and like to be wrung out of our hands by nine or ten arbitrary men, who seem to be engaged in counteracting these our Resolves, in irritating the minds of the people with their inconsistent and impolitick proceedings, discovering that they are set upon making such a choice as will be disagreeable to the body of the people; and in particular in the last choice, in choosing men that could by no means be recommended by the body of the people; and, particularly, some whom large objections were made against; and good evidence could be procured against them, that they ever have discovered an inimical spirit to the liberties of *America*—now, all this doth sufficiently prove, that our liberties are, or near, at an end, unless we exert ourselves for our defence. We, therefore, pray that the sense of the people may be had before the choice of Field-Officers go to *New-York;* for why should we be deprived of our rights, and have men imposed upon us that we have reason to fear are not friends, and to have in the County concerned, a multiplicity of inconsistent Resolves, which they themselves have made void; and have never had the goodness to consult their constituents, for the peace of the County. Now, sir, this we esteem as an infringement on our rights, and are determined never to submit to tyranny, for which our country now bleeds. We pray, therefore, that you would not make return of this choice, if you have regard for the peace of the County. We must let you know, that if this plan stands good, we will join with our brethren, and send our Protest to *New-York*.

† Westminster, *December* 7, 1775.—Sir: We, the subscribers, inhabitants of *Westminster*, beg leave to inform you that the late choice of Field-Officers is esteemed very unhappy by us, as the manner in which they were chosen was an infringement on the rights of the people, as there was not but a part of the Committee there, and those that were there had no instructions from the body. To proceed as they did, and for this town in particular, in choosing *John Norton*, who could not have had a majority of votes in this town, or in any town where he is known, as his language hath always discovered a spirit of disapprobation of the proceedings of the Colonies, as could have been proved, if the Committee had not deprived the complainants of the right of an *Englishman*, to have time to collect evidence. This, with the election of others, who we have reason to fear . . . . . .* determined, get into office without the vote of the people, depriving us of the privileges that we are now contending for. We, therefore, pray that this choice may not be sent to *York*, for why should we have men imposed on us by nine or ten arbitrary men? Sir, we deal plainly, that we cannot submit to be governed by such men as we have reason to fear would betray us into the hands of the enemy. And if the County cannot have their rights, we must join with our neighbours in sending a protest against all the illegal proceedings, to *York*. We hope you will consider of the sad nature of division, and exert yourself to heal the breach in the County.

We shall depend on your goodness, and with esteem, subscribe ourselves, your humble servants.

[Here follows a list of names, mostly illegible.]

Sir, we are sorry to trouble you in this manner. Necessity calls for it, as tyranny appears so evident in the late County Convention, that unless a stop is put to it, the County is ruined.

To Colonel *Williams* and Mr. *Paul Spooner*, to be communicated to the Provincial Congress, at the City of *New-York*.

‡ Fulham, *December* 13, 1775.—Honoured Sir: We, the inhabitants of *Fulham*, beg leave to inform you that the late choice of Field-Officers we esteem such an infringement on the rights of the people, and not

[* Illegible in original manuscript.]

The Congress took into consideration the case of *John Blackler*, and thereupon,

Ordered, That he be kept in confinement until the further order of this Congress.

The Congress then took into consideration the necessity and advantage of a small Armed Vessel, to be maintained in the *East* River or Sound, to prevent persons inimical to the liberties of the *American* Colonies supplying the Ministerial Army and Navy with Provisions:

Ordered, That Colonel *McDougall* and Captain *Rutgers* be, and hereby are appointed a Committee to purchase a proper Vessel for that purpose, and to have her properly armed and fitted out; and ordered that those gentlemen do not expend on the purchase and outfit of such Vessel more than the sum of six hundred Pounds.

The Committee appointed to prepare amendments to the Resolves for regulating the Militia of this Colony, brought in their Report, which was read; and according to order, being read a second time, and many amendments made thereto, was agreed to, and resolved on, and is in the words following, to wit:

Appendix to the Rules and Orders for regulating the Militia of the Colony of NEW-YORK.

1st. As the desire of promotion in the publick service is extremely laudable, and therefore should be so far encouraged, as may be consistent with the safety of the publick, and at the same time may not be construed into a design of countenancing promotions, of course it is earnestly recommended to every Company to have a regard in elections, to promote to offices according to rank, so far as may be consistent with true merit and ability to serve the publick.

2d. That wherever a sufficient number of Minute-Men do not voluntarily turn out of any Regiment of the Militia of this Colony, to complete the proportion in the aforesaid Rules and Orders required, the deficiency be made up by lot from those companies in which such deficiency shall happen.

3d. That the Militia of the Counties of *Dutchess* and *Westchester* be two separate Brigades.

4th. That when any person shall think himself aggrieved with respect to his being fined in consequence of the above-mentioned Regulations, the Committee of the City, Town, Manor, Precinct, or District, where the cause of complaint ariseth, upon complaint made to them, shall have power to hear and determine the matter; and if said complaint shall appear to be groundless and vexatious, the complainant shall forfeit a sum equal to the fine in dispute, to be levied upon his goods and chattels by warrant from the Chairman, directed to a Sergeant of the company; the said forfeiture to be applied in the same manner as the fines in the before-said Regulations are applied; and that no man shall be fined for want of powder and ball who shall produce a receipt from his Captain of his having deposited in his hands six shillings and nine pence for the purchase of those articles.

5th. That beside the stated meetings of the companies of the Militia, it be recommended to the commissioned and non-commissioned officers to use all possible diligence to perfect their companies in the military art, by inviting them together in small parties as often as they conveniently can meet.

6th. That although persons above fifty years of age are not required to be enrolled in the Militia, yet it is most earnestly recommended to them that they be respectively provided with arms, accoutrements, and ammunition, as though they were required to be enrolled.

7th. That it be earnestly recommended to every man in the Militia to provide himself with a bayonet, properly fitted to his musket or fire-lock.

8th. That no new troops of Horse be formed, unless an augmentation be recommended by Congress or the Committee of Safety.

9th. That all persons incurring the penalties for non-attendance and disobedience of orders, specified in the twelfth clause, shall for every default incur the forfeitures therein annexed to the first default, notwithstanding their being held up as enemies of their country.

10th. That the Minute-Men meet in their respective companies on the first and third *Mondays* in every month, and pass through the necessary military exercise, under their proper officers; and that for the second meeting in every month, the officers and privates be respectively allowed the pay of the Continental troops, agreeably to the new establishment; provided that the commanding officer of each Minute company, who shall be present at the muster and exercise of each respective Minute company, do deliver to the Committee of the City, Town, Precinct, or District, in which they shall so meet to exercise, a muster-roll of the commissioned and non-commissioned officers and privates of their respective companies, who did actually appear and exercise until they were dismissed by the commanding officer, sworn to by the officer who was present and commanded for the day; and that beside these regulations, it be recommended to them to meet in such subdivisions of each company, under a proper officer, as will be most convenient for their frequent meeting.

11th. That if any officer should omit to meet and exercise his men upon the days appointed, or shall, through favour or affection, neglect to levy any fines in the said Rules and Orders for regulating the Militia required to be levied, he shall forfeit for every such neglect the sum of forty shillings, to be levied and applied as is directed in the twelfth clause of the before referred-to Regulations.

12th. *Resolved*, That the officers of the Minute companies, that are already chosen, do continue their offices till the further orders of this or some future Congress.

A Letter from Colonel *Levi Pawling*, of *Marbletown*, was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"Marbletown, December 14, 1775.

"GENTLEMEN: Yours of the 17th *October* I have received. In answer to which I have given orders to the regiment I have the honour to command, that whenever the alarm shall be given, they muster, according to desire, equipped and with provision, in *Marbletown*, the place of my residence; which is, gentlemen, from your assured friend and humble servant, LEVI PAWLING.

"To the President of the Honourable Provincial Congress."

A Letter from *Jacobus Swartwout*, Chairman of the Committee at *Fishkill*, was read and filed. It contains a Return of the following Officers, to wit: *George G. Brinck-*

being the vote of the body of the people, nor yet the vote of the Committee as a body, and several of the men being much suspected of being unfriendly to the liberties of *America*, and, in particular, *John Norton*, who is universally known to be in opposition to the plan of liberty, sir, we think the precedent to be bad in having men chosen by individuals; and much more to have men to lead us to the place of action whose goodness is suspected. We, therefore, in duty to our country, ourselves, and posterity, do humbly pray that those men in nomination may not be in nomination, and may not be recommended for commissions till the sense of the body of the County be known. For why should nine or ten men presume to personate the body, without any instructions from the body of the people of this County. Sir, we pray that you would not carry the choice, which we esteem so illegal, to *New-York*, as we have a value for your honour. Sir, we must be plain in our relation to you, and tell you, that unless the inconsistent and impolitick proceedings of the last County Convention can be looked into, and redress had for the many infringements which we have received from them, we must send our protest, by way of remonstrance, to *New-York*, to the Provincial Congress. Sir, we are unwilling to enter on this, but for our future safety must do it; and hope that you, by your timely interposition, will prevent so unhappy a task. Sir, we look upon the whole nomination as illegal, and we must enter our protest against the whole; for there was but nine out of twenty-one, and seven out of that body were in nomination.

Sir, trusting in your goodness, we hope you will give a true representation to our brethren, the honourable Provincial Congress at *New-York*.

Sir, we remain your most sincere and true friends, the true Sons of Liberty,

Jonathan Knight,	Ebenezer Haven,	Thomas Clark,
Hosea Miller,	Berzille Rice,	John Hooker,
Enoch Cook,	Samuel Dutton,	Benjamin Jones, Jr.,
Elias Wilder,	Samuel Wilder,	Ezra Robinson,
Benjamin Jones,	Cornelius Jones,	Aaron Jones,
Samuel Smith,	Richard Kelly,	Andrew Graham,
Samuel Knight, Jr.,	Lemuel Spaulding,	John Wilder,
Nathaniel Frenit,	Joshua Walton,	Joseph Heldreth, Jr.,
Aaron Brooks, Jr.,	Benjamin Putnam,	Daniel Gates,
Rufus Sergeants,	James Hadley,	Joseph Temple,
Parmelas Temple,	Samuel Temple,	Daniel Temple,
Joseph Temple, Jr.,	Abel Houghton,	William Boyden,
Elijah Town,	Elijah Town, Jr.,	Thomas Holton,
Aaron Holton,	John Butler,	Shepard Gates,
Ashbel Johnson,	James Nichols,	John Scott,
Joseph Covey,	Daniel Kathan,	John Millar,
Isaiah Millar,	Israel Hooker,	Ebenezer Brooks,
Samuel Layton,	Aaron Brooks,	Daniel Sergeants.
Joseph Hildreth,	Daniel Sargeants, Jr.,	

To Mr. *Paul Spooner*, to be communicated to the honourable Provincial Congress, sitting at the City of *New-York*.

erhoof First Lieutenant, *Stephen Osborne* and *Benjamin Rosekrans*, Ensigns, of Captain *Stephen Brinckerhoof's* Company.

Ordered, That Commissions be issued accordingly.

The Congress adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow morning.

—

Die Jovis, 10 ho. A. M., December 21, 1775.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *John Herring*, Esq., President, *pro tem.*

For New-York.—Colonel McDougall, Mr. Roosevelt, Captain Rutgers, Mr. Ray, Mr. Sands, Mr. Scott; Mr. Van Zandt and Colonel Brasher absent on duty.

Albany.—Colonel Rensselaer, Capt. Cuyler, Mr. Ganse-voort, Mr. Bleecker.

Dutchess.—Mr. Humphreys, Mr. Schenck.

Suffolk.—Captain Wickham, Mr. Tredwell, Mr. Gelston.

Orange.—Mr. Herring, Colonel Hay, Mr. Clarke.

Ulster.—Mr. Wynkoop, Mr. Cantine; Mr. Palmer absent on duty.

Westchester.—Dr. Graham, Major Lockwood.

Tryon.—Mr. J. Moore.

Cumberland.—Mr. Spooner.

The Congress took into consideration the state of *Queen's* County; and after some considerable time spent thereon, it was postponed till the afternoon.

The Congress then proceeded to fix and determine the rank of the Militia Officers of the several Counties in this Colony, in order to enable the Committee, appointed for that purpose, to form and report a General Regulation for the Militia of the Colony; and after some time spent thereon, the Congress determined the Officers of the respective Counties to have rank in the following order, to wit: 1st. *New-York;* 2d. *Albany;* 3d. *Suffolk;* 4th. *Ulster;* 5th. *Westchester;* 6th. *Orange;* 7th. *Dutchess;* 8th. *King's;* 9th. *Queen's;* 10th. *Richmond;* 11th. *Tryon;* 12th. *Cumberland;* 13th. *Charlotte;* 14th. *Gloucester.*

The Congress then proceeded for the same purpose to fix and ascertain the rank of the respective Brigadier-Generals of the several Brigades in this Colony; and, therefore,

Resolved, That the Brigadier-General of the Brigade which consists of the Militia of *New-York, King's*, and *Richmond* Counties, be considered as the first Brigadier-General of this Colony, and take rank accordingly.

That the Brigadier-General of the Brigade which consists of the Militia of *Albany* and *Tryon* Counties, be considered as the second Brigadier-General of this Colony, and take rank accordingly.

That the Brigadier-General of the Brigade which consists of the Militia of *Suffolk* and *Queen's* Counties, be considered as the third Brigadier-General of this Colony, and take rank accordingly.

That the Brigadier-General of the Brigade which consists of the Militia of *Ulster* and *Orange* Counties, be considered as the fourth Brigadier-General of this Colony, and take rank accordingly.

That the Brigadier-General of the Militia of *Westchester* County be considered as the fifth Brigadier-General of this Colony, and take rank accordingly.

That the Brigadier-General of the Militia of *Dutchess* County be considered as the sixth Brigadier-General of this Colony, and take rank accordingly.

That the Brigadier-General of the Militia of the Counties of *Cumberland, Gloucester*, and *Charlotte*, be considered as the seventh Brigadier-General of this Colony, and take rank accordingly.

The Congress adjourned to three o'clock, P. M.

—

Die Jovis, 3 ho. P. M., December 21, 1775.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *John Herring*, Esq., President, *pro tem.*

For New-York.—Mr. Scott, Colonel McDougall, Mr. Imlay, Mr. Ray, Mr. Sands, Mr. Rutgers; Mr. Van Zandt and Colonel Brasher absent on business.

Albany.—Colonel Rensselaer, Capt. Cuyler, Mr. Ganse-voort, Mr. Bleecker.

Dutchess.—Mr. Humphreys, Mr. Schenck.

Orange.—Mr. Herring, Colonel Hay, Mr. Clarke.

Suffolk.—Captain Wickham, Mr. Tredwell, Mr. Gelston.

Ulster.—Mr. Wynkoop, Mr. Cantine; Mr. Palmer absent on duty.

Westchester.—Dr. Graham, Major Lockwood.

Tryon.—Mr. Moore.

Cumberland.—Dr. Spooner.

On application of the members of *Ulster* County, now present,

Ordered, That *Thomas Palmer*, Esquire, be appointed Colonel, *Thomas Johnson*, Jun., Lieutenant-Colonel, *Arthur Parks*, first Major, and *Samuel Logan*, second Major, *Severyn Bruyn*, Adjutant, and *Isaac Belknap*, Quartermaster, of the Southern Regiment of Minute-Men in *Ulster* County, and that Commissions be issued to those gentlemen accordingly.

And on application of the same Members,

Ordered, That *Charles Dewitt*, Esquire, be appointed Col. *Andreas Dewitt*, Jun., Lieutenant-Colonel, *Christopher Tappen*, first Major, *Cornelius E. Wynkoop*, second Major, *Oake Sudam*, Adjutant, and *Cornelius S. Elmendorph*, Quartermaster, of the Northern Regiment of Minute-Men in *Ulster* County, and that Commissions be issued to those gentlemen accordingly.

The Congress then resumed the consideration of the state of *Queen's* County and of *Richmond* County; and after some considerable time spent thereon, came to a determination and Resolutions, in the words following, to wit:

Whereas, on the 13th inst., on information that a number of disaffected persons in *Queen's* County had been supplied with Arms and Ammunition from on board the *Asia*, ship-of-war, and had been arraying themselves in military manner to oppose the measures taken by the *United Colonies* for the defence of their just rights and privileges, and thrown out many threatening expressions against sundry persons residing in that and the neighbouring Counties, it was resolved by this Congress, as their opinion, that such conduct is inimical to the common cause of the *United Colonies*, and ought not by any means to be suffered, but that measures should be immediately taken to put a stop to it; and it was therefore ordered, that the inhabitants of the said County should appear by a Committee before this Congress on *Wednesday* then next, at ten o'clock in the morning, to give satisfaction in the premises; with which order the said inhabitants of *Queen's* County have not complied: And whereas, the persons above-mentioned, and their adherents, have opposed the election of Representatives for that County in this Congress, on a poll opened for that purpose, whereby that County remains unrepresented in this Congress: And whereas, a prevailing party prevented the election of Delegates for the County of *Richmond*, at a late poll there opened for that purpose, by means whereof the said County is not represented in this Congress: And whereas, the poll-list for *Queen's* County has been returned to this Congress, whereby the persons opposing such representation as aforesaid, and appearing to this Congress to be inimical to the interest of the *United Colonies*, may be ascertained:

Resolved, first, That such inimical persons as aforesaid, have been guilty of a breach of the General Association, and of an open contempt of the authority of this Congress, as effectually representing the majority of the inhabitants of this Colony.

Resolved, secondly, That the inhabitants of the County of *Richmond*, by neglecting to elect Representatives in this Congress, have been guilty of a breach of the General Association.

Resolved, thirdly, That the Committee of the said County of *Richmond* do, and shall, within fifteen days after the publication hereof, return to this Congress, or the Committee of Safety, a list of the names of those who oppose a representation of the said County in this Congress, to the end that the delinquents against the common cause in that County may be ascertained; and that in default thereof the whole County of *Richmond* be deemed delinquent.

Resolved, fourthly, That the said delinquents in the said two Counties respectively, and each and every of them,

be, and hereby are, entirely put out of the protection of this Congress.

Resolved, fifthly, That all friendly and commercial intercourse between the said persons, so put respectively out of the protection of this Congress, and the other inhabitants of this Colony, ought to be, and the same, as far as can be effected by the recommendation of this Congress, hereby is, and shall continue to be, totally interdicted until further order of this Congress or the Committee of Safety.

And to the end that no persons may plead ignorance of the aforegoing Resolves, and this Order,

It is Ordered, The same, together with a list of such delinquents as aforesaid, in each of the said Counties, be, without delay, respectively printed and dispersed in Handbills, and inserted in all the publick Newspapers of this Colony.

A draft of a Letter to the Delegates of this Colony at Continental Congress was read, and approved of, and is in the words following, to wit:

In Provincial Congress, New-York, December 21, 1775.

Ordered, That copies of the aforegoing Resolves and Orders be enclosed in the following Letter to the Delegates of this Colony in Continental Congress.

GENTLEMEN: We take the liberty to enclose to you a copy of our proceedings respecting the delinquents in *Queen's* and *Richmond* Counties. We apprehend we have proceeded against them as far as a prudent regard to the present circumstances of the capital of this Colony, and the safety of the Colony in general, as far as it depends upon the security of its capital, will permit; and for this assertion we beg leave to suggest the following reasons, to wit:

1st. The power which the King's ships have for destroying the property in this city.

2d. Our being almost utterly destitute of powder for a defence of the city, were it in other respects defensible against naval force.

3d. The great probability that an array of troops against the above-mentioned delinquents, by authority of this Congress, even were we sufficiently provided for the purpose with powder, would bring on a firing upon the city.

4th. We are now expediting vessels for the importation of powder, &c. This object, should it be known, would necessarily incense the Navy; we may lose, as well, the opportunity of supplying the inhabitants of this city with the necessaries of life, in a severe season, which necessaries it is well known, we are almost entirely supplied with by water.

If, in the judgment of the Continental Congress, the delinquents in the above-mentioned Counties ought to be further dealt with, we flatter ourselves, that, however ready we are to sacrifice the property of this capital in the defence of the common rights of *America,* the above reasons, and such others as may occur to you, will have their weight with Congress, to shew the impropriety of employing any of the inhabitants of this Colony, and particularly of this city, in active service against the said delinquents, if others can be employed for the purpose. Their opposition to the common cause is of dangerous example, and therefore, ought, in our opinion, to be quelled, if by prudent means it can be done; for we have little reason to believe, that should they by any means be induced to send delegates to this Congress, their true characters would be no other than that of spies of our conduct.

We desire you to communicate this and the enclosed without delay, to the Continental Congress; and are, gentlemen, with great respect, their and your most obedient servants. By order.

To the Gentlemen in delegation for the Colony of *New-York,* in Continental Congress.

Ordered, That a copy thereof be engrossed, and signed by the President, *pro tem.*, and transmitted.

Ordered, That in case the Continental Congress shall rise without having made any determination on the above subject, that the Committee of Safety be empowered, and in such case hereby is empowered, to write to the Committees of the neighbouring Colonies respectively, as the case may require, informing them of the inimical conduct of the inhabitants of the aforesaid Counties, to the security of the *United Colonies,* whereby they have forfeited the protection of this Congress, and therefore, that the Committees aforesaid, be at liberty to take such measures with the enemies of *America* in those Counties, as they shall judge necessary to put it out of their power to assist our common enemy; provided, the innocent and helpless be not injured in life or property, nor the lives or property of the guilty unnecessarily or wantonly destroyed; and to this end that they enclose in said letter or letters a list of the delinquents.

The Committee appointed to form a Regulation or Arrangement for the Militia of this Colony, delivered in their Report, which was read; and the same being read a second time, paragraph by paragraph, and many amendments and additions made thereto, and finally agreed to and resolved on, is in the words following, to wit:

Rules and Orders for arranging the Rank of the Officers of the Militia of the Colony of NEW-YORK.

1st. The Major-General to be Commander-in-chief of all the Militia now embodied and hereafter to be embodied within this Colony.

2d. The Brigadier-General for the Brigade of the City and County of *New-York,* the County of *King's,* and *Richmond,* to be the second in command.

3d. The Brigadier-General of the Brigade of the City and County of *Albany,* and County of *Tryon,* to be the third in command.

4th. The Brigadier-General of the Brigade of the Counties of *Suffolk* and *Queen's,* to be the fourth in command.

5th The Brigadier-General of the Brigade of the Counties of *Ulster* and *Orange,* to be the fifth in command.

6th. The Brigadier-General of the Brigade of the County of *Westchester,* to be the sixth in command.

7th. The Brigadier-General of the Brigade of the County of *Dutchess,* to be the seventh in command.

8th. The Brigadier-General of the Counties of *Charlotte, Cumberland* and *Gloucester,* to be the eighth in command.

9th. The Majors of Brigade to take rank in the manner above-mentioned, according to the priority of the Brigade they shall respectively belong to.

10th. That the Commissioned Officers of equal dignity of the several Regiments of Militia, in the different Counties, shall take rank and precedence according to the following arrangement: Of the City and County of *New-York,* 1; *Albany,* 2; *Suffolk,* 3; *Ulster,* 4; *Westchester,* 5; *Orange,* 6; *Dutchess,* 7; *King's,* 8; *Queen's,* 9; *Richmond,* 10; *Tryon,* 11; *Cumberland,* 12; *Charlotte,* 13; *Gloucester,* 14.

11th. The rank of some of the Battalions or Regiments and Companies in some of the Counties being settled either by the Colonel already chosen or appointed, or by the General Committee of the County, it is recommended that the several Committees in this Colony, where such arrangements are not already made, do follow the example in arranging the Battalions and Companies within their respective Counties, and transmit a copy of such arrangements to the Secretary of the Provincial Congress, or Committee of Safety, for the time being.

12th. That the Colonel of the First Regiment in any County in this Colony, shall take rank of a Colonel of any Second Regiment of any other County, nothwithstanding the seniority of said County, and so on with respect to second, third, &c., Regiments, and that the same rule be observed with respect to the rank of inferior Officers.

13th. That the Officers of the Minute-Men, when in actual service, do take rank of the Officers of the Militia.

Ordered, That a copy thereof be engrossed, and given to a Printer, to be published in the same size with the other Regulations for the Militia.

Resolved, That the present Delegates of this Colony in Continental Congress, be requested to make such an arrangement among themselves, as that five of them only continue at Congress, and represent this Colony at any one time; and that in case of the necessary absence of any one or two of the Delegates so attending, according to such arrangement, that three or four of them be a quorum, and enabled to represent the Colony during such absence.

Resolved, That the Militia of *Orangetown* and Precinct of *Orange,* be formed into, and constitute one Regiment; and that the Militia of *Haverstraw* Precinct be formed into, and constitute another Regiment, any thing in the

former Resolutions of the Provincial Congress of this Colony to the contrary notwithstanding.

Resolved, (with the consent of the Members of *Ulster* County now present,) That *Ulster* County Jail, or such part thereof as may be necessary, be used and taken as the Jail of this Congress, and for the confinement of any such prisoners as may be ordered to be confined by this Congress or their Committee of Safety; that such prisoners as shall be there confined, shall be confined at their own expense, respectively; but if they are unable to pay the expense, then that they be confined at the publick expense of this Colony.

And Ordered, further, That *John Blackler* be sent to *Ulster* County Jail, and there confined until the further order of this Congress, or their Committee of Safety.

—

Die Veneris, 9 ho. A. M., December 22, 1775.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *John Herring*, Esq., President, *pro tem.*

For New-York.—Mr. Scott, Colonel McDougall, Mr. Sands, Captain Rutgers, Mr. Imlay, Mr. Ray, Mr. Beekman; Colonel Brasher and Mr. Van Zandt absent on duty, by order.

Albany.—Colonel Rensselaer, Captain Cuyler, Mr. Ganse-voort, Mr. Bleecker.

Dutchess.—Mr. Humphreys.

Orange.—Mr. Herring, Colonel Hay, Mr. Clarke.

Ulster.—Mr. Wynkoop, Mr. Cantine; Mr. Palmer absent on duty, by order.

Westchester.—Doctor Graham, Major Lockwood, Mr. Paulding.

Suffolk.—Captain Wickham, Mr. Tredwell, Mr. Gelston.

Tryon.—Mr. Moore.

Cumberland.—Mr. Spooner.

A Letter from *General Washington*, of the 17th *December*, instant, was read, and is in the words following, to wit:

"Cambridge, December 17, 1775.

"Sir: I yesterday received the enclosed information from several persons who lately came out of *Boston*, which I thought it my duty to transmit to you.

"Whether these troops are embarked, I cannot undertake to say; but if they are, it is more than probable that their destination may be very different from what they gave out in *Boston*, and that they were only used as a feint. It is certain that several ships sailed from thence yesterday morning.

"I am, sir, your humble servant,

"George Washington.

"To the President of the Honourable Convention at *New-York*."

The information therein enclosed was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"Chelsea, December 16, 1775.

"Last evening eight men came in a boat from *Boston* to our guard at the ferry. They say that one regiment of Foot and three companies of Light-Horse were to sail for *Halifax* this day, and that the troops were putting water on board the transports."

"Dorchester, December 16, 1775.

"This morning eight large and two small vessels, taken for tenders, sailed out of *Boston* harbour. By their firing they appeared to be going a voyage to sea.

"Mr. *Joshua Pies* came out of *Boston* last night, and informs that a regiment of Foot and some companies of Light-Horse were preparing to embark for *Halifax*."

Resolved, That the Committee of Safety of this Colony, appointed by this Congress, be empowered to apply one thousand Pounds to the relief of such indigent poor of the City of *New-York* for whom the Corporation may not have made provision, and that it be determined by this, or some future Congress, to what account this sum shall be placed.

Whereas, discontents have arisen in the minds of many of the citizens of *New-York*, by a practice of some of the inhabitants to visit the King's Ships of War, which, if continued, may be productive of disorder among the citizens, and disputes between them and the officers and men belonging to such ships, which this Congress wish to prevent, therefore,

Resolved, That it be recommended to the inhabitants of this Colony to refrain from going on board of any of the King's Ships or Vessels of War, without leave of a Committee of a County in this Colony, or the Committee of Safety, or their respective Chairman, until the further order of this or some future Congress.

Whereas, sundry persons, whose conduct in the neighbouring Colonies, of which they were respectively inhabitants, has been unfriendly to liberty, and occasioned their removal into this Colony; and should such removals continue, the number of disaffected persons in this Colony will be increased, and the same be disreputably considered as an asylum for enemies to the liberties of *America*,

Resolved, That every person, not an inhabitant, entering into this Colony, shall be furnished with a Certificate from the Committee of the jurisdiction wherein he last resided, that he is friendly to the liberties of *America*, or be subject to be dealt with as a person inimical thereto.

Resolved, That the Committee of Safety be empowered, and hereby is empowered, to purchase and secure, and lodge in places of safety at the publick expense, as much Pitch, Tar, and Turpentine, as the said Committee may think necessary for the publick use and publick safety.

A Return from *William Smith* and *Josiah Smith*, two of the Committee of *Suffolk* County, and members of the sub-Committees of *St. George's* and *Meritches*, which was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"Manor St. George, December 15, 1775.

"Gentlemen: There has inlisted, as Minute-Men, seventy able-bodied men, within the bounds of *Brookhaven*, *Smithtown*, Manor *St. George*, and the Patentship of *Meritches*, who have chosen *Daniel Roe*, of *Brookhaven*, their Captain; *Hugh Smith*, of *Meritches*, their First Lieutenant; *Caleb Brewster*, their Second, of *Brookhaven*; and their Ensign *Ebenezer Phillips*, of *Smithtown*. And, as *Hugh Smith* and *David Fanning*, the First and Second Lieutenants of the Third Company in *Brookhaven*, whereof *Nathan Rose* is Captain, have inlisted in the Minute service, the Company have chosen *John Smith*, of the Manor *St. George*, their First Lieutenant; *William Baker*, of *Brookhaven*, their Second Lieutenant; and *Doxey Lane*, of the Manor of *St. George*, their Ensign.

"The choice of each of the above companies was made in presence of us, the subscribers, who are of the Committee.

"The Minute-Men, (who there appears to be great need of to still intestine disaffection to our common cause,) want powder, balls, guns, drum, colours, and other necessaries, which here are not to be had; and, if to be bought, a great part of the company are not able to purchase. Your supply or direction in these points will be agreeable to your humble servants,

William Smith,
Josiah Smith.

"P. S. Pray let the commissions be handed down soon."

"The President of the Provincial Congress now sitting in *New-York*."

Ordered, That Commissions be issued to those gentlemen accordingly.

The first paragraph of the powers of the Committee of Safety, relating to Militia Commissions, was read and explained, and sundry debates thereon; and, thereupon

Resolved and agreed, That the Committee of Safety have the same powers, as to the nomination and election of Officers, and the granting and refusing of Commissions to Officers of every rank, as this Provincial Congress while sitting.

Mr. *Sands*, from the Committee appointed to plan and report a voyage to the *West-Indies* to obtain Ammunition, delivered in a Report of such voyage, which was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

The sub-Committee appointed to employ a sloop for the Island of *Martinico*, *Guadaloupe*, or *St. Eustatia*, report, that they think it necessary to load her with Provisions, on account and risk of this Congress, and proceed first to said *French* Islands, in order to get permission to sell her cargo there. If no permission should be granted at any of the *French* Islands, he proposes to dispose of said cargo at

St. Eustatia, or any other *Dutch*, *Danish*, or *French* port. We also report, that a vessel can be had on the following conditions, viz:

A vessel that will carry about forty tons provisions, is entitled, for common freight - - - - - - -	£150
Insurance on a vessel valued at £700, at ten per cent., including allowance for common risk, - -	70
One month's hire, in going from Island to Island to dispose of her cargo, and to obtain the Powder,	60
	£280

We further report, in case this Powder is to be had, and this vessel is to return with the same, that she be allowed for her common freight home, the sum of - - - £100

Insurance on said vessel to run all risks of vessel, valued at £700, at twenty per cent., - - - -	140
	£240

We further propose, in case there should be opportunity to ship the said Powder in any other fast-sailing vessel, that privilege be granted for the same, and the above vessel be discharged. This plan we conceive will be much to the Congress's advantage, as it may be freighted home for less than half what must be paid this vessel; but in case there should not be an opportunity to ship it home in another vessel, that then this vessel agree to bring it for the above sum of two hundred and forty pounds.

Resolved, That this Congress does agree to the above Report, and direct the said Committee to carry the same into execution, at the risk and on the behalf of the Congress of this Colony; and the Congress agrees to allow the sum of two hundred and eighty pounds for the outward bound voyage of the said vessel, or so much thereof as shall become due, and two hundred and forty pounds for her freight and insurance back to this Colony, if she should return with Arms and Ammunition.

A Letter from *Johannes Hardenbergh*, Esq., of the 15th instant, directed to this Congress, was read. He therein mentions that he had had a meeting with sundry gentlemen therein mentioned, and requests commissions for Colonel *Abraham Hasbrouck*, as Colonel; *Johannes Snyder*, Lieutenant-Colonel; and *Jonathan Elmendorph* and *Adrian Wynkoop*, Majors.

A Letter from the Committee of *Kingston*, dated on the said 15th day of *December*, instant, was also read. The said Committee thereby request, that the Committees of *Kingston* and *Hurly* may be permitted to nominate and recommend proper gentlemen for Field-Officers for the said regiment.

The Congress took the said Letters into consideration, and, thereupon,

Ordered, That the said Letters be referred to the County Committee of *Ulster* County. That the Chairman of the said Committee be directed by written notices to the members, to summon, or cause to be summoned, the whole County Committee, at some proper time and place, for that purpose, giving full notice of such meeting at least one week before the time of such meeting. And it is recommended to the said County Committee, to use their best endeavours to settle all disputes and difficulties about the Field-Officers in the most amicable manner, and to recommend such gentlemen to this Congress, or their Committee of Safety, for Field-Officers of that Regiment, as will be most fit to do the duty to each of them, respectively, belonging, and be most acceptable to the inhabitants and to the Militia to be under their command.

On motion,

Resolved, That besides the powers heretofore vested in the Committee of Safety, for appropriating and applying Moneys, they be authorized to appropriate and apply any sum, not exceeding fifty thousand Pounds, to be laid out in such manner as they shall think proper, for the defence and security of this Colony, and to be raised by drafts on the Treasurer of the Provincial Congress of this Colony; and in case of a deficiency of the said Treasury to answer the said purpose, such deficiency to be supplied by a vote or votes of the said Committee, on the credit of this Colony, to be made good by this or some future Provincial Congress.

Dissentients: Mr. *Gansevoort*, Colonel *Rensselaer*, and Mr. *Paulding*.

Resolved unanimously, and ordered, That if *John Lefferts*, Esq., should refuse to act as a member of the Committee of Safety, in such case *Joseph Hallett* be a member of the said Committee in his stead; and that, on the refusal of Mr. *Leffertse*, the Committee shall be, and hereby is, empowered to call on Mr. *Hallett* to take his seat; and,

Resolved and ordered, unanimously, That in case of the inability or refusal of *Peter R. Livingston* to attend the said Committee of Safety, and to take his seat as a member, Mr. *Henry Oothoudt* be a member of the said Committee instead of *Peter R. Livingston*; and the first of those two gentlemen who attends and acts as a member, shall continue the member of the said Committee, and not be changed for either of them.

ADVICES FROM AMERICA.

(London Gazette,) Whitehall, December 23, 1775.

This morning *Brook Watson*, Esq., arrived at Lord *George Germain's* office, from *Quebeck*, with despatches from Major-General *Carleton*, dated *Montreal*, the 5th of *November*, containing intelligence that General *Carleton*, not being able to collect a force that might be depended upon for the relief of *St. John's*, the Rebels had taken advantage of the defection of the lower class of *Canadians* to press forward their enterprise; and that the forts of *Chambly* and *St. John's*, upon *Richlieu* river, the latter of which had stopped the progress of the Rebels for above two months, had surrendered, and the garrisons were made prisoners upon capitulation.

By a letter from Lieutenant-Governour *Cramahé*, dated *Quebeck*, *November* 9, it appears, that a party of Rebels, under the command of one *Arnold*, had invaded the Province by the way of the river *Chaudiere*; and that part of them were actually arrived, and had taken post at *Point-Levi*, opposite to *Quebeck*.

LORD GEORGE GERMAIN TO GOVERNOUR EDEN.

[Circular.] Whitehall, December 23, 1775.

Sir: The King being determined, in concurrence with his Parliament, to pursue the most vigorous measures for reducing his rebellious subjects in *North-America* to obedience, and for restoring legal Government, has given the royal assent to the enclosed act, which I am commanded by His Majesty to transmit to you, and at the same time to signify to you His Majesty's pleasure, that you do exhort all persons upon whom the execution of this law shall depend, to pay a due attention thereto, and to use their best endeavours for carrying the provision of it into effect; and I trust, that when His Majesty's deluded subjects in the associated Colonies are better apprized of the fatal consequences to the conduct they have adopted, and see the determined spirit of the nation to maintain its constitutional rights, they will avail themselves of the means which the justice and benevolence of the supreme Legislature have held out to them, of being restored to the King's grace and peace, and that a happy and lasting reconciliation and union will be effected. And I have the satisfaction to acquaint you, that, in order to accelerate this desirable object, the proper steps have been taken for passing a commission, under the great seal, in conformity to the last section but one of that act; and that the Commissioner, or Commissioners, to be appointed for that purpose, will have full power to inquire into the state and condition of the Colonies, and to confer with proper persons upon such points as may be necessary for effecting a restoration of the publick tranquillity.

I am, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

George Germain.

To Deputy-Governour *Eden*.

Whitehall, December 23, 1775.

Sir: It was not till the 27th of *November* that your despatch to Lord *Dartmouth*, of the 27th of *August*, was received here, when I had the honour of laying it before the King; and I have it in command from His Majesty to

express to you His Majesty's approbation of your zeal for the publick service, and of the unalterable attachment you have shown to his person and Government, from the first commencement of the unhappy disputes, which have involved His Majesty's faithful servants in the Colonies in difficulties and distress that are only to be equalled by the fortitude with which they are borne.

Your letter contains a great deal of very useful information, and your confidential communication of the characters of individuals, more especially such as come over into *England*, is of great advantage; and you may rest assured that every possible precaution will be used that no part of your letter shall transpire.

An armament consisting of seven regiments, with a fleet of frigates and small ships, is now in readiness to proceed to the Southern Colonies, in order to attempt the restoration of legal Government in that part of *America*. It will proceed, in the first place, to *North-Carolina*, and from thence either to *South-Carolina* or *Virginia*, as circumstances of greater or less advantage shall point out. If to the latter, it may have very important consequences to the Colony under your government; and, therefore, you will do well to consider of every means by which you may, in conjunction with Lord *Dunmore*, give facility and assistance to its operations.

I am, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

GEORGE GERMAIN.

To Deputy-Governour *Eden*.

The clause in the Act of Parliament, passed the 19th of December last, which ascertains the powers of the Commissioners, is in these words:

"*Provided*, That in order to encourage all well-affected persons in any of the said Colonies, to exert themselves in suppressing the rebellion therein, and to afford a speedy protection to those who are disposed to return to their duty, it shall and may be lawful to and for any person or persons, appointed and authorized by His Majesty, to grant a pardon or pardons to any number or description of persons, with such exceptions therefrom as shall seem fit and reasonable, by proclamation in His Majesty's name, to declare any Colony or Province, Colonies or Provinces, or any County, Town, Port, District, or place, in any Colony or Province, to be at the peace of His Majesty; and from and after the issuing of any such proclamation, in any of the aforesaid Colonies or Provinces, or if His Majesty shall be graciously pleased to signify the same by his royal proclamation, then, from and after the issuing of such proclamation, this act, with respect to such Colony or Province, Colonies or Provinces, County, Town, Port, District, or place, shall cease, determine, and be utterly void. And if any captures shall be made after the date and issuing of such proclamations, of any ships or vessels, and their cargoes, belonging to the inhabitants of any such Colony or Province, Colonies or Provinces, County, Town, Port, District, or place, or of any ships trading to or from such Colony or Province, Colonies or Provinces, respectively, the same shall be restored to the owners of such ships or vessels, upon claim being entered, and due proof made of their property therein; and the captors shall not be liable to any actions for seizing or detaining the said ships or vessels, or their cargoes, without proof being made that they had actual notice of such proclamation having been issued."

RECANTATION OF EZEKIEL BEACH.

Morristown, New-Jersey, December 23, 1775.

I, *Ezekiel Beach*, of the Township of *Mendham*, in the County of *Morris*, have heretofore by my words and conduct, been guilty of opposing the good people of this County in the measures by them adopted for preserving *American* freedom, particularly saying, "I had rather the Ministerial troops would conquer the Continental; and further declared, that the Parliament of *Great Britain* had a right to levy the oppressive taxes and acts upon *America*, particularly the act for changing the Government of *Massachusetts-Bay*; and further declared, that I would assist the Ministerial troops with provisions and other necessaries, provided they would pay for the same;" and having, on the most mature deliberation, considered of such my conduct, do most heartily disapprove of the same, and do hereby promise, that for the future, I will observe as far as in me lies, the rules and regulations of the honourable Continental Congress, and the Provincial Congress of *New-Jersey*; and will use my best endeavours to promote and carry into execution every measure adopted already, or that may hereafter be adopted by said Congresses, for preserving the rights and liberties of this country, and will most cheerfully sign the Association adopted by said Provincial Congress when thereunto required; and do hereby desire, that in future the good people of this country would consider me as a friend to the same, which I hope to manifest by my conduct.

EZEKIEL BEACH.

Signed at *Morristown*, this 23d day of *December*, 1775.

Witnesses present,

THOMAS MILLEDGE,
CORNELIUS LUDLOW,
PETER LAYTEN.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE APPOINTED TO CONFER WITH GENERAL SCHUYLER.

[Read December 23, 1775. Referred to Mr. *Dickinson*, Mr. *McKean*, Mr. *Wythe*, Mr. *Hooper*, Mr. *Jefferson*, Mr. *Langdon*.]

Report of the Committee directed to repair to TICONDEROGA *and confer with General* SCHUYLER *about several matters relative to the publick service, to take survey of and Report the state of the Fortification in the Highlands, and to use their endeavours to procure an accession of the* CANADIANS *to an union with these Colonies.*

Your Committee beg leave to Report, that agreeable to the directions of Congress, they repaired to the fortress in the *Highlands* on the 17th day of *November*. For the state in which they found it, and their observations thereupon, they refer the Congress to their letter of the 22d day of the same month; but they cannot help again recommending, with the utmost earnestness, the sending some persons, well acquainted with fortification, to take a survey not only of the works but of the whole river, from *Teller's Point* to the north end of the *Highlands*, as your Committee are persuaded that the fortress now erecting will by no means be sufficient to secure *Hudson's* river, if it should be attacked by any considerable force. Your Committee beg leave, further, to hint at the propriety of obstructing the channel, at least lessening the depth of water; since they have been credibly informed that the river carries twenty-five feet of water to within twelve miles of *Albany*; and, although it is out of their department, they cannot but wish to turn the attention of Congress to such obstructions in the *Narrows* during the winter season, (when our enemies' ships will be out of our ports,) as will effectually secure the whole Province of *New-York*. Though they are by no means satisfied of its practicability, yet they would submit it to the Congress, whether it may not be worth their inquiry.

Your Committee further report that they met with General *Schuyler* on the 28th day of *November*, at *Ticonderoga*, and spent some days with him, in conferring on the subjects about which they were directed to inquire; that they learned from him the following facts: That General *Montgomery*, in order to overcome the scruples of the troops, and to induce them to follow him to *Montreal*, about which they hesitated, on account of the advanced season, was under the necessity of engaging that, after the reduction of that place, those who chose it should be at liberty to return; that, in consequence of this promise, Colonel *Warner*, with his *Green-Mountain Boys*, returned, though the term of their inlistment did not expire till the first of *January*; that about one regiment of the *York* troops have been, and are still, employed at *Crown-Point*, *Ticonderoga*, at the different posts between that and *New-York*, and as batteaus-men on the lakes; that the remaining three regiments, together with Captain *Lamb's* company of artillery, did not, at the beginning of the campaign, exceed eighteen hundred men; that their numbers had been considerably lessened by death, sickness, desertion, and escorts for prisoners; and that, though few of the remainder had accepted of the permission to return, yet there were not left above one thousand men in *Canada*, who, from the best information your Committee could receive from the General, or otherwise, have, for the most part, reinlisted; that of the troops from the several *New-*

England Governments who went into *Canada*, all had returned before your Committee arrived at *Ticonderoga*, except about two hundred, who had reinlisted. Their departure, before the expiration of their term, was occasioned by their fear of being detained in *Canada* by the severity of the weather, and the reasonableness of allowing them to return to their respective homes before they were discharged. That Colonel *Arnold* had with him about five hundred and fifty men, the rest of his party having left him on his way into *Canada*, so that the whole number of troops now in that Province may be about seventeen hundred men, without making any deduction for non-effectives. But of these facts we are by no means fully certified, as General *Schuyler* has no returns of the numbers; we offer them as reports, collected from such officers who have returned; and we hope, however, shortly to have a more accurate account, as the General has wrote for it to General *Montgomery*.

As absolute necessity had obliged General *Schuyler* to direct the reinlistment of the troops in *Canada* before he received any other direction on this head than what was contained in your General Orders, your Committee found that work in a great measure concluded by General *Montgomery*, though not in such a manner as to be strictly conformable to the intentions of the Congress, the Generals having construed your promise in your first letter on that subject, "that you would see the troops furnished with clothing," in its literal sense, procured clothing at *Montreal*, which they delivered as a bounty, without making any deduction for it from their wages. Whether, without this, they could have been reinlisted, your Committee have not been able to learn, but are convinced of the impossibility of their remaining any longer in that country in the situation they then were, some of them being half naked; and those of the *New-York* troops who were best clad having only a coat nearly worn out and linen underclothes.

Your Committee would also further submit it to the Congress, whether it would be quite equitable that, in a country where the soldiers require a double quantity of clothing, they should be obliged to pay for it, especially when we consider that their duty has been, and still is, inconceivably more severe than the rest of the Continental army have experienced. Your Committee have, however, endeavoured, as far as lay in their power, to remedy this mistake, though they fear their endeavours will prove ineffectual; they have directed General *Montgomery* not to publish the resolution of the Congress relative to the two months' pay, which was proposed as a bounty to those soldiers who reinlisted, but to apply the same towards clothing the troops. Your Committee are apprehensive, however, that their direction will come too late, as General *Schuyler* had sent a copy of that part of the instructions to General *Montgomery* some time before your Committee arrived. If this should unhappily be the case, your Committee are of opinion that the promise made to the troops by the General should be literally complied with, with which opinion they have taken the liberty to acquaint General *Montgomery* by letter, the copy of which is enclosed.

Your directions with respect to raising a *Canadian* Regiment had been complied with before the arrival of your Committee, and the command given to Colonel *James Livingston*. It is, however, much doubted whether he will be able to complete early, as the bulk of the *Canadians* are farmers, and, though prompt at a short desultory war, yet have some reluctance to more permanent engagements.

Your Committee have endeavoured to learn the inclinations of those troops who are employed upon the Lakes, at *Ticonderoga* and *Fort-George*, with respect to their reinlistment, and, from what they can learn of their sentiments, few of them will enter into the Army again, at least not immediately, and express a disgust at the service; which arises chiefly from their having been employed rather as labourers than soldiers. Your Committee cannot but observe, that a number of batteaus-men, hired for that purpose, and consisting of persons acquainted with the service, would have saved the Continent a considerable sum of money, and greatly expedited business, and would recommend, if our operations in *Canada* continue another year, the empowering the General or Quartermaster to hire so many as they may deem necessary.

Your Committee found that the directions of Congress with respect to provisions were already complied with, and have the pleasure of assuring them that the quantity taken in *Canada* will be sufficient for the subsistence of our troops there till Spring, after which they must be supplied from the Province of *New-York*, or the adjacent Colonies, with every article except bread, which can be procured in *Canada*.

Your Committee have directed the immediate transportation of the cannon from *St. John's* and *Ticonderoga*, which are not wanted for the defence of those places; and the boats on *Lake-George* are now employed in bringing over those that lay at the landing, it being impracticable to move the rest till there is snow enough to admit of their being carried on sleighs. Mr. *Knox* is gone to *Ticonderoga* to choose such cannon as will be wanted at *Cambridge*, and your Committee have directed those that remain to be transported to *Albany* as soon as the snow shall render it practicable. There are a number of iron wheels for carriages at *Ticonderoga;* such as are not wanted there your Committee have directed to be sent to *Albany*.

Though General *Schuyler* had, before he received the direction of Congress, endeavoured to purchase the arms of such as quitted the service, yet he has been able to procure but few; those obtained of the *New-York* force are the property of that Province, and must be accounted for to them; such as are at *Ticonderoga*, which may be between four and five hundred, are ordered down to *Albany* in order to be refitted. Your Committee beg leave to observe, that much would be saved to the Continent by the appointment of some person in each army, who should have the inspection of the arms, take a list of them when sent to Armourers, and see that no more was charged as done than what they really wanted; and have, accordingly, recommended the nomination of a Conductor of Artillery to the General, till the pleasure of the Congress was known.

Your Committee would further observe, that their inspection of the barracks, and the complaints of the men, have convinced them that they have suffered greatly for want of bedding, the small blankets they have received being insufficient to keep them warm in this severe climate. They have, therefore, recommended that the damaged tents at *Ticonderoga* should be cut up, and sacks made for the cribs in the barracks, one for every two men. And would further propose to the Congress, that all the rest of the tents, which are nearly worn out, which is the case of most of those used at *St. John's*, where the soldiers were under a necessity of slitting and making fires in them, be immediately made up into sacks for the different garrisons, and canvass purchased in *Canada* for replacing the tents. Your Committee and the General see in a strong point of view the necessity of a Barrackmaster and Storekeeper to each garrison, and would recommend their appointment.

Your Committee observe with concern, that infinite mischief has arisen from the want of regimental Paymasters, which has induced a necessity of trusting large sums of money with Captains and other officers, some of whom are incapable of keeping accounts, and some others ought not, perhaps, to be trusted; and it frequently happens that, though the Colonies are in advance to the Captains, yet they are greatly in arrears to the men, who are from hence disgusted with the service, and clamourous against their superior officers, besides that it confuses the accounts and imposes a duty on the Captains for which no allowance is made them. Your Committee, therefore, recommend the immediate appointment of a gentleman properly qualified for this office in every regiment, with a salary which will induce men of character to undertake it.

Your Committee, upon conferring with General *Schuyler*, are inclined to believe that the repairing of the fortification of *Crown-Point* would be very expensive, and, at the same time, of very little use; they would, therefore, recommend, that the whole labour which can be afforded be employed on *Ticonderoga*, but imagine very little can be done this Winter, unless a part of the new levies should be stationed there, in which case they might prepare the wood and have it ready against the Spring. But, as the preservation of that post will depend more upon its receiving early reinforcements than on any strength of its own, and as supplies by the way of *Lake-George* may be

very easily intercepted, if the army of the enemy is much superior to the garrison, your Committee would recommend that a communication be opened between *Skenesborough* and *Fort-Ann*, which last is distant from *Fort-Edward* about twelve miles. This, we are informed, may be done without any considerable expense, by clearing *Wood Creek*, that empties itself into the Lake at *Skenesborough*, in which case the earliest assistance may be received from *New-York* and the adjacent Colonies, and that, too, in a way which the enemy cannot easily prevent. Your Committee have given no directions on this head, as there is sufficient time to take the sense of the Congress before any thing need be done.

General *Schuyler* is of opinion that four companies are necessary to garrison the posts of *Ticonderoga* and *Fort-George*, and that not less than three thousand men be kept up in *Canada* during the Winter, as well in order to be prepared for a Spring campaign, as to erect such works as may be necessary for the defence of that Province. In this opinion your Committee concur, and would recommend the immediate raising three regiments, including four companies, (for which warrants are already granted,) and sending them up in different detachments when they are properly equipped, in order to be forwarded over the ice as soon as the Lake [freezes,] which may be about the beginning of *February*.

Your Committee, finding that all matters relative to the Army in *Canada* had been settled before their arrival, and concluding, from the hurry of military operations in that Province, and the little assistance they could receive from General *Montgomery* while he was employed in a siege, that their journey there would be of little use to the publick, declined going into *Canada*, especially as, at this season, they could not have proceeded without the greatest difficulty and hazard. They, therefore, concluded, by a letter to General *Montgomery*, to inform the *Canadians* of the sentiments of Congress, when he should find a proper opportunity to communicate them, and to pave the way for the reception of any Committee that the Congress might think proper to send, when the ice should render the journey more practicable, and when it may probably be attended with salutary effects. A copy of which letter, marked No. 1, is annexed.

General *Schuyler* informs your Committee that he has made a return to Congress of the cannon and other stores at *St. John's*, *Crown-Point*, *Ticonderoga*, and *Fort-George*. They think it, therefore, unnecessary to trouble the Congress with them.

ROBERT TREAT PAINE,
JOHN LANGDON.

[No. 1.] Ticonderoga, November 30, 1775.

SIR: The Congress having done us the honour to appoint us as a Committee to confer with the General and yourself, on the measures necessary to be taken for the reinlistment of the Army, as also to conciliate the affections of the *Canadians*, and to remove as far as in us lay, every objection that the good people of that Province might have to a union with the thirteen Colonies, who are struggling in the glorious cause of freedom; we arrived here a few days since in prosecution of that design, but are extremely happy to find, that General *Schuyler* and yourself have, in a great measure, by your prudence and foresight anticipated our business, and rendered a journey into *Canada*, in some measure, unnecessary at present, which indeed we rather decline, on account of the advanced season of the year, and the improbability of your being able to lend us any assistance, while the enemies of the natural rights of man continue their hostilities against our fellow-subjects in that Province, and confine your attention to those military operations which are necessary to procure their relief. We cannot help, however, expressing the ardent wishes of the Congress, that you would cherish the first dawnings of liberty among a people who have early testified their sense of its value, if we may be admitted to judge from the assistance they afforded you in repelling its enemies; that you would assure them that the honourable the Congress have, through us, declared, that they hold their rights as dear as their own, and that on their uniting with them they will exert their utmost endeavours to procure for them and their posterity the blessing of free Government, and that security of their property which is derived from the *British* Constitution; that they hold sacred the rights of conscience, and will never disturb them in the free enjoyment of their religion. The honourable Congress recommend it to you to use your utmost endeavours to procure a free meeting of the people in their several Parishes, out of whom to choose a Provincial Convention, who will form such rules and regulations as the present exigencies may render necessary for their Province; from this body they hope that Delegates will be chosen to meet and co-operate with them in such measures as they shall think necessary for their mutual security, against the unjust violences of an arbitrary Ministry; if the unsettled state of the Province should prevent a free and full representation of the whole Colony, yet the honourable the Congress will acquiesce in the choice of such Towns, Parishes, and Districts, as may think it proper to send Deputies. Or if, previous to their meeting in Congress, they should have any difficulties which it is out of your power to remove, a Committee of Congress will, at any time, when the communication is more open, be ready to meet and confer with them on the subject, at *Albany*, *Montreal*, or any other place, which they may think proper to appoint. We need not mention to you the propriety of punishing, in the severest manner, any of our troops who should so far forget the duty that they owe to us and our worthy allies, as to offer the least injury, either to their property or persons. We know not your arrangement of the Army, but presume you have not in the distribution of commissions overlooked the merit of those who deserve well of their country, or suffered those to be advanced who have merited its censure. General *Schuyler* has enclosed our last instructions, which will show you the design of the Congress with respect to *Quebeck*, but which from your letter we find you have already in some measure anticipated. We also give you our sense with respect to the clothing and bounty to the troops; in the management of which, we must rely upon your prudence, and doubt not that the Congress will make good any engagements into which you may have found it necessary to enter. The other subjects of our conference with the General, some of which are mentioned to you in his letter, and others wanting the sanction of Congress, we think it unnecessary at present to trouble you with. The post being just about to depart, we cannot enlarge; if any other opportunity should offer, we may write you again before we leave this. We congratulate you upon the happy success of our arms, and hope shortly to hear that your prosperous endeavours has left no footing to our enemies in that country, from which they hoped to draw the most effectual supplies.

We remain with the greatest respect, your most humble servants,

ROBERT R. LIVINGSTON,
ROBERT TREAT PAINE,
JOHN LANGDON.

To General *Montgomery*.

In Congress, December 23, 1775.

The Committee appointed to inquire what articles are necessary for the Army, beg leave to report that, in their opinion, the following goods and stores are absolutely necessary, and ought to be imported as soon as possible, viz:

	Sterling.
60,000 striped blankets, suppose 5*s*. -	£15,000 00
120,000 yards 6-4 broadcloth, the colours to be brown and blue, from 3*s*. to 6*s*., average 4*s*. - - - -	24,000 00
10,000 yards ditto, of different colours, for facing, at 4*s*. - - - - -	2,000 00
3,000 pieces duffield, or some such cloth, at 90*s*. per piece, - -	13,500 00
100,000 sorted needles, 5*s*. - - - -	25 00
50,000 ditto, none very fine, 5*s*. - -	12 10
10,000 ditto, for sail cloth, 10*s*. - -	5 00
3,000 pieces raven's duck, 25*s*. - -	3,750 00
3,000 pieces ticklenburgs, 65*s*. - -	9,750 00
1,500 pieces osnaburgs, at 55*s*. - -	4,125 00
1,000 pieces vittery, (a *French* manufacture,) 55*s*. - - - - -	2,750 00
4,000 pieces *Hamburgh* dowlass, 20*s*.	4,000 00
20,000 stand of arms, 25*s*. - - - -	25,000 00

300 tons of lead, £18, - - - -	£5,400 00
1,000,000 flints, 5*s.* per 1,000, - - -	250 00
1,500 boxes tin, 40*s.* - - - - -	3,000 00
Iron wire, properly sorted for it, - - -	500 00
Medicines, surgeon's instruments, lints, and bandages, - - - - - - - - -	2,000 00
500 sheets copper, of different sizes, average at 36*s.* - - - - - - - -	900 00
	£116,467 10

Your Committee having also taken into consideration the best ways and means for supplying the Continental Treasury with silver and gold, beg leave to Report, that the sum of $160,000 be laid out in the produce of these Colonies and exported, agreeable to the Resolves of this Congress, to proper ports in *Europe* and the *West-Indies*, and there disposed of for gold and silver, to be imported into the Continental Treasury as soon as may be.

By His Excellency, WILLIAM TRYON, *Esq., Captain-General and Governour-in-chief in and over the Province of* NEW-YORK *and the Territories depending thereon in* AMERICA, *Chancellor and Vice-Admiral of the same.*

A PROCLAMATION.

Whereas, the General Assembly of this Province stands prorogued to the first day of *January* next. I have thought fit, for His Majesty's service, to prorogue, and I do, by and with the advice of His Majesty's Council, further prorogue the said General Assembly to the first day of *February* next ensuing; of which all His Majesty's subjects concerned therein are required to take notice, and govern themselves accordingly.

Given under my hand and seal-at-arms, in the City of *New-York*, on the 23d day of *December*, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-five, in the sixteenth year of the reign of our Sovereign Lord, *George* the Third, by the grace of *God*, of *Great Britain*, *France*, and *Ireland*, King, Defender of the Faith, and so forth.

WILLIAM TRYON.

By His Excellency's command:
SAMUEL BAYARD, Jun., *Deputy Secretary.*

GOD *save the King.*

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read January 1, 1776.]

New-Haven, December 23, 1775.

SIR: I received this evening General *Washington's* favour of the 14th instant, by the hands of Monsieurs *Penet* and *De Pliarne*, two *French* gentlemen, who laid before him a plan for furnishing the Continent with military stores, which seems to promise success; but not thinking himself authorized to make a contract with them, hath prevailed upon them to go to *Philadelphia*, to lay their proposals before the Continental Congress, for their consideration and final determination.

The General requests me to supply them with such necessaries as they may want, and to have carriages provided for expediting their journey as much as possible; which is complied with, proper carriages and assistance is afforded them without delay, and hope their plan and services may be such as will meet with the approbation of your body, according to what, on consideration, the same may appear to merit.

I have received your favours of the 2d and 8th of *December*, instant. Apprehend men for the Continental service, to fill the regiments from this Colony, will be soon inlisted. The zeal and ardor of this people to promote the common cause is not abated. Our Assembly remains sitting.

There are no officers from *St. John's* arrived here, except Captain *Hunter*, of the sloop, Lieutenant *Smith*, of the Artillery, Dr. *Sandon*, with some of their dependants and servants, about a fortnight ago; and yesterday, Captain *McKay*, who is very desirous to be sent to the place where the rest are destined. If that be elsewhere, is it not best to send him to be with them, rather than to remain here? The prisoners from *Canada*, of whom *Roger Sherman*, Esq., can inform, are extremely desirous of liberty to return to *Montreal* on their parole, to submit to the direction and orders of the commanding officer of the army there. Is it not best to grant the request to them who are with us?

Monsieur *Jean Orillat*, the merchant, is escaped from us, with design, as is supposed, to get on board the *Asia*. The pursuers have not found him. He is likely, at present, to lie concealed not far from this place.

I am, with great truth and regard, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

JONATHAN TRUMBULL.

The Honourable President *Hancock.*

ROBERT H. HARRISON TO COLONEL CHURCH.

Cambridge, December 23, 1775.

SIR: I am commanded by his Excellency to inform you that you may include Dr. *Richmond* in your Abstract as Surgeon, from the 21st of *September*, the date you mention. I am, &c.,

ROBERT H. HARRISON.

To Colonel *Thomas Church.*

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO THE GENERAL COURT OF MASSACHUSETTS-BAY.

Cambridge, December 23, 1775.

SIR: Notwithstanding the great pains taken by the Quartermaster-General to procure blankets for the army, he finds it impossible to procure a number sufficient. He has tried the different places to the southward without success, as what were there are engaged to supply the troops in each place.

Our soldiers are in great distress, and I know of no other way to remedy the evil than applying to you. Cannot some be got from the different towns? Most houses could spare one; some of them many. If your honourable House will please to take this affair under your immediate consideration, and by some means or other procure as many as can be spared from the house-keepers, you will do infinite service to this Army, and very much oblige your humble servant,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

The same to the *New-Hampshire* Convention; the same to Governour *Trumbull*, *Connecticut*; the same to Governour *Cooke*, *Rhode-Island.*

WILLIAM WATSON TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Plymouth, December 23, 1775.

SIR: The bearer, Captain *Samuel Jackson*, comes with six prisoners, (a midshipman and five sailors,) put by Captain *Talbot*, of the *Niger* frigate, on board the brigantine *Peton*; which brigantine was taken by said frigate about eighteen days ago, near the Island of *Bermuda*, and ordered into *Boston*. This brigantine was retaken last *Wednesday*, by our people, and was brought into this port. Captain *Jackson*, the bearer of this, will acquaint your Excellency with the particulars, as he had a principal hand in retaking her. This Mr. *Jackson* is a zealous, active, worthy friend to his country, and has been principal in taking all the prizes which have been brought into this port by private vessels. *Jacob Taylor*, a friend and relative of this Mr. *Jackson*, was mate on board Captain *Martindale*, (who was taken by the enemy some time since, for which I am sincerely sorry,) has a large family, and in poor circumstances, which must suffer much unless some way can be devised for his redemption. I am very unwilling to give your Excellency trouble, and must ask your pardon when I, at the very earnest request of *Taylor's* friends and unhappy family, ask your Excellency whether it is not possible to exchange Mr. *Curtis*, the Midshipman, for *Taylor*, and when I entreat your Excellency to interpose in behalf of this miserable family, and of an unhappy man, who has conducted with dignity, and has been very active in the noble cause in which we are engaged, from the beginning.

I am your Excellency's much obliged, most humble servant,

WILLIAM WATSON.

To His Excellency *George Washington*, Esq.

COLONEL HOBART TO NEW-HAMPSHIRE CONGRESS.

Medford, December 23, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: Agreeable to the order of the late honourable Congress, Colonel *Walker* and I proceeded to this place, to pay our troops to the 1st of *August*. We were not particularly instructed how to pay them, but were directed to pay them in the same way that the Colony of the *Massachusetts-Bay* pay their troops. In order to know their establishment, we waited upon the honourable Council, who favoured us with a copy, here enclosed, which is different from what we expected. Instead of paying billeting, they pay one penny per mile to the camp. The number of miles each man travelled is ascertained in their pay-rolls, and the sum due carried off against each man's name, and added to the whole amount of his wages. This, together with paying by lunar months, gives all our Captains the trouble of making new rolls, and our Colony the disagreeable necessity of paying more money than we expected.

They are very explicit in the Colony of the *Massachusetts-Bay*, in putting all their stoppages into their rolls, guns, blankets, &c., in order, as they say, that duplicates may be sent to the Continent to refund the money. If we are to be as explicit in our rolls, I am afraid they will be imperfect; for the amount of guns, blankets, &c., supplied by so many hands, and some of them so intricate, that it is almost impossible to find out the true state of the matter. However, I shall lose no time, nor spare no pains in my power, to put every thing in as clear and true a light as possible; and shall cheerfully observe your commands, and obey your instructions, as far as I am capable. Colonel *Walker* will give you any information about these matters, and in particular how much money it will take to complete our business. The great despatch with which the recruits were lately raised in our Colony, and the eager speed of their march to guard the lines against our unnatural enemies, has done great honour to *New-Hampshire*.

Gentlemen, I most heartily wish you the Divine influence and direction in the important matters before you; and am, gentlemen, your most obedient and humble servant,

SAMUEL HOBART.

To the Honourable Congress at *Exeter*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GENERAL SCHUYLER.

Cambridge, December 24, 1775.

DEAR SIR: Your favour of the 15th instant, came yesterday to hand, with copies and extracts of your late letters to Congress. I have with great attention perused them. I am very sorry to find, by several paragraphs, that both you and General *Montgomery* incline to quit the service. Let me ask you, sir, when is the time for brave men to exert themelves in the cause of liberty and their country, if this is not? Should any difficulties that they may have to encounter, at this important crisis, deter them? *God* knows there is not a difficulty that you both very justly complain of, that I have not, in an eminent degree, experienced—that I am not every day experiencing. But we must bear up against them, and make the best of mankind as they are, since we cannot have them as we wish. Let me, therefore, conjure you and Mr. *Montgomery* to lay aside such thoughts; thoughts injurious to yourselves, excessively so to your country, which calls aloud for gentlemen of your abilities.

You mention in your letter to Congress, of the 20th ult., that the clothing was to remain at *Albany*, as General *Montgomery* would provide the troops in *Canada*. I wish they could be spared for this Army, for we cannot get clothing for half of our troops. Let me hear from you on this subject as soon as possible.

The proofs you have of the Ministry's intention to engage the Savages against us are incontrovertible. We have other confirmations of it by several despatches from *John Stuart*, the Superintendent of the Southern District, which luckily fell into my hands, being found on board a sloop sent by Lord *Dunmore*, bound to *Boston*. She was taken by one of our armed vessels. These, with many letters of consequence from his Lordship, I have lately sent to Congress.

I hope soon to hear that Colonel *Knox* has made good progress in forwarding the artillery. It is much wanting for the works we have lately thrown up. I have wrote a letter, the 10th instant, to General *Howe*, respecting Mr. *Allen*, of which, and the answer, you have copies enclosed.

I am, with great regard, sir, yours, &c.,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

Major-General *Schuyler*, Northern Department.

GENERAL GATES TO GENERAL SULLIVAN.

Head-Quarters, December 24, 1775.

SIR: In obedience to his Excellency the General's directions, I am to desire that you will acquaint him, if you do not think, from the weather, (the information of the deserter you sent this morning to *Cambridge*, and all other circumstances,) that this night will be likely to prove favourable to the enterprise you mentioned yesterday to the General. If that is your opinion, it will be previously necessary for you to come and communicate the whole of your plan to the General, and receive his orders thereupon.

At gun-firing, it will be necessary to acquaint the Generals, *Putnam*, *Heath*, and *Greene*, with your intention, that no unnecessary alarm may create confusion, but that every thing may be conducted in a soldier-like manner, to succour, sustain, and, if necessary, cover the retreat of your party.

I am, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

HORATIO GATES, *Adj't General*.

To Brigadier-General *Sullivan*, *Winter-Hill*.

P. S. It is not necessary for you to come to Head-Quarters, unless you choose it; but be careful to acquaint the other Generals with your intention.

GENERAL SULLIVAN TO NEW-HAMPSHIRE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Camp, near Winter-Hill, December 24, 1775.

MUCH ESTEEMED GENTLEMEN: I do myself the honour of transmitting you, by Colonel *Burnham*, a Return of the Militia sent by you from *New-Hampshire*. The troops are exceeding good, their spirit much applauded, and your vigorous exertions in procuring and sending them so seasonably meets with just reward; namely, the thanks of the Army.

Colonel *Burnham* would have returned some time since, but one company did not arrive till yesterday, and he could not return till he had mustered them. He has been much engaged in taking care of the troops, and has been of singular service to them and me. I wish you to make him up in your bill, and forward the same for payment before the time of inlistment is expired.

Gentlemen, I am, with much respect, your most obedient servant,

JOHN SULLIVAN.

To the Honourable Committee of Safety.

PHILIP CALLBECK TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Province of Massachusetts-Bay, Winter-Harbour, December 24, 1775.

SIR: I should but ill deserve the generous treatment your Excellency has been pleased to show me, had I not gratitude to acknowledge so great a favour. I cannot ascribe any part of it to my own merit, but must impute the whole to the philanthropy and humane disposition that so truly characterizes General *Washington*. Be so obliging, therefore, to accept of the only return in my power, that of my most grateful thanks; and be assured my conduct shall bear so strictly in unison with that of the gentleman, so as at all times to secure to myself the honour I now embrace, of subscribing myself, with great respect, your Excellency's most obedient, humble, and much obliged servant,

PHILIP CALLBECK.

His Excellency General *Washington*.

Fearful I should encroach on your Excellency's time, I have declined giving you a detail of the continued distress and persecution that has attended me since I had the honour of taking my leave. I have made my friend, Major *Frazer*, partly acquainted with it, and requested him to watch a convenient opportunity.

The Case of PHILIP CALLBECK, *late Commander-in-chief of the Island of* ST. JOHN'S, *and* THOMAS WRIGHT, *one of the Council, Justice of the Peace, and Surveyor-General of said Island, addressed to General* WASHINGTON.

That on *Friday*, the 17th *November*, two privateers arrived at *Charlottetown*, the capital of said Island; and immediately after, Captains *Broughton* and *Selman*, who commanded said vessels, landed with two parties under their command. That Mr. *Callbeck* met *Selman* on his landing, who, notwithstanding a very civil reception, instantly ordered him on board one of the vessels, without permitting him to return to his house, though requested so to do; and, as he was going on board, one of the party insolently, without any provocation, struck him.

That as soon as Mr. *Callbeck* was conveyed on board, he received a message from *Selman* to send the keys of his house, stores, &c., otherwise he would break the doors open. On receipt of the message, Mr. *Callbeck* sent the keys with one of his clerks, (who was detained a prisoner,) that he might attend and open the doors of such places as should be required to be inspected into. Upon the clerk's informing *Selman* of Mr. *Callbeck's* directions, he told him he did not want his assistance, and desired him to deliver the keys, which he accordingly did.

That *Broughton* and *Selman*, with their party, immediately proceeded to a store in which there was a very large and valuable assortment of goods, all of which, except some very insignificant articles, they sent on board *Selman's* vessel. After which, although they had the keys of the doors, they broke open two other stores, out of which they took the most valuable articles, together with the entire stock of provisions that Mr. *Callbeck* had provided for his family's Winter support and the inhabitants immediately about him. That they next went into Mr. *Callbeck's* dwelling-house, where they examined all his private papers, broke the bed-chambers, closets, and cellar doors open. In Mrs. *Callbeck's* bed-room they broke open her drawers and trunks, scattered her clothes about, read her letters from her mother and sisters, took the bed and window curtains, bed and bedding, Mrs. *Callbeck's* rings, bracelets, and trinkets, also some of her clothes. They then took the parlour window curtains, looking-glasses, carpets, and several articles of plate and household furniture, &c., &c.; also, all the porter, rum, Geneva, and wine, (except one cask, which they stove the head into and drank the whole out.) At the same time they plundered the whole of Mrs. *Callbeck's* little stores of vinegar, oil, candles, fruit, sweetmeats, bacon, hams, &c. Not yet satiated with wanton depredations, they next went to Mr. *Callbeck's* office, from which they took some of his clothes, &c., the Province silver seal, Governour *Patterson's* commission, two trunks full of goods, his clerk's desk and wearing apparel; opened Mr. *Callbeck's* bureau and desks, read all his papers, some of which were of great importance in his private connections.

That after they had ravaged Mr. *Callbeck's* house and out-houses, they broke into Governour *Patterson's* house, (in which no person resided,) out of which they took the window curtains, carpets, looking-glasses, cases of knives and forks, silver spoons, table linen, sheets, bedding, his wearing apparel, and the church furniture, which was deposited in his house, &c., &c., broke a quantity of his china, and drank what liquors were in the house.

That after they had accomplished thus far of their cruelty, they made Mr. *Wright* a prisoner, and, with insulting language, laughed at the tears of his wife and sister, who were in the greatest agony of distress at so cruel a separation from their husband and brother.

That after Mr. *Wright* came on board where Mr. *Callbeck* was confined, they represented the treatment they had received, and the confidence they had that *Broughton* and *Selman* had no orders to commit such outrages, they, for the purpose of justifying themselves, read their orders, by which it appeared they were no way directed to go to the Island, and that they were particularly cautioned not to abuse private property; upon which Mr. *Callbeck* and *Wright* laboured all in their power to convince them of their not having, in any respect, conformed to their instructions or orders. They urged the cruelty of taking them away, and, though it was probable they would be immediately dismissed, yet it would be almost impossible for them to get back to the Island before the Winter set in, the season being so far advanced. Notwithstanding the reiteration of every argument that could be offered, they were deaf to every feeling or sensation, and determined to take away Mr. *Callbeck* with his effects, and Mr. *Wright*.

That Mr. *Callbeck* supposes they have in their custody, of his property, to the amount of two thousand pounds sterling. To exaggerate the cruel treatment he has received, is impossible; and it is equally so even to give an exact detail of the injuries that have been offered to him and his property. All his papers read, some of which were of a very private nature. Although they had all his keys, his doors broken open; his effects, and the provision and necessaries he had provided for his family's support, taken away and wantonly destroyed; his wife left destitute of every support; not so much as a candle to burn. Also, between seventy and eighty people, who were lately arrived on the Island, and depended on him for their support during the Winter, are left without any sort of provisions, some of whom, if not all, will inevitably perish for want, which would have been prevented had Mr. *Callbeck* been permitted to stay; of this both *Broughton* and *Selman* were informed by him, as well as other persons. Not to add the further disadvantages that Mr. *Callbeck* suffers by being taken away, he is debarred from assisting Mrs. *Callbeck* in her distressed situation, and taking the necessary care of what remains of a shattered fortune. What has been left of his property on the Island, is in the hands of servants, who doubtless will be neglectful, and, perhaps, avail themselves, under the depredations that have been committed on his property, by alleging several of his effects, which they will choose to plunder, were taken away by *Broughton* and *Selman*, and party. They, by their conduct, have left Mrs. *Callbeck* open to these apprehensions; for, although it was urged and requested by his clerks, that an inventory should be taken of the effects they took away, they would not permit it, nor would they suffer the clerks to stand by while they were sending the things away, which were sent in the utmost disorder.

To make it still more doubtful, and to give the inhabitants an opportunity to plunder, *Broughton* and *Selman*, after they made a prisoner of Mr. *Wright*, suffered some of their people to remain on shore, (without an officer,) who broke the doors and windows of Governour *Patterson's* and Mr. *Callbeck's* houses, and a second time lawlessly entered and took out what they pleased, and finished what liquors had been left in both houses.

That during their voyage some articles of plate, and other of Mr. *Callbeck's* property, were found hidden, and in the custody of the common people. So that, even upon a supposition that Mr. *Callbeck* will be ordered his property, he will doubtless be a very considerable loser.

That Mr. *Callbeck* and *Wright*, wantonly torn from their families, have been brought, in a state of captivity, upwards of six hundred miles, by sea, to this Province. During their passage they have suffered many inconveniences, and since their landing they have travelled one hundred and twenty miles.

That Mr. *Callbeck* and *Wright* have taken the liberty to trouble, &c., &c., and so concludes.

COLONEL HOWE TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE VIRGINIA CONVENTION.

Norfolk, December 25, 1775.

Yesterday, by a flag of truce, I received a letter from Captain *Bellew*, a copy of which I have the honour to transmit you, with a copy of those I have written to him. Though Colonel *Woodford* and myself were sensible it was our duty to withhold from him, as much as in our power lay, those supplies he wishes to obtain, yet the moderate conduct he has pursued, and the sentiments of humanity by which he seems to be actuated, induced us to delay an answer till to-day, and to couch it in terms which cannot but show him, that occasion, not inclination, had influence upon our conduct. Captain *Bellew's* letter was brought us by one of his Lieutenants; he expressed for himself and every officer on board, the reluctance they should feel, if compelled by necessity, they should be obliged, by marauding parties, to snatch from the indigent farmers of this

Colony those provisions they were so willing to purchase. I thought proper, sir, to give you this information; and through you, Colonel *Woodford* and myself beg leave to submit it to the consideration of your honourable Board, whether we are to show any indulgence to those people, and, if we are, to what bounds we are to extend it.

Major *Ruffin*, and about one hundred and eighty Minute-Men, arrived last night; it was a seasonable relief to our soldiers, almost worn out with duty this very bad weather.

I was honoured with your letter yesterday, and are made happy to find our proceedings are approved of. The orders it conveys, and all others which we may receive, we shall endeavour to execute with the greatest punctuality.

POST-OFFICES UNDER THE CROWN DISCONTINUED.

General Post-Office, New-York, December 25, 1775.

Whereas, the Provincial Convention at *Annapolis* has passed a Resolve, "That the Parliamentary Post (as they are pleased to term it) shall not be permitted to suffer or travel in, or pass through that Province with any mail, packages, or letters;" and, in consequence of that Resolve, have taken His Majesty's mail from the Post-Office at *Baltimore*, with the letters contained therein. The Committee at *Philadelphia* having also taken the mail containing all the last packet letters to the Southward, opened many of them, to the great hurt of individuals; and signified to the Postmaster their intention of stopping all others for the future; and other of His Majesty's mails having been taken and obstructed, notice is hereby given to the publick, that the Deputy Postmaster-General is obliged, for the present, to stop all the Posts. They are also hereby desired to take notice, that for the safety of the letters coming by the next or any future packet, they will be kept on board, and the names of those who shall have letters will be advertised, that they may either apply themselves, or write to their friends in this city to take them up. An order in writing from the person to whom any letters may be directed will be necessary.

FRANCIS DASHWOOD, *Secretary*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

Cambridge, December 25, 1775.

SIR: I had the honour to address myself to you the 19th instant, since which I have received undoubted information, that the genuine instructions give to *Connolly* have not reached your hands, that they are very artfully concealed in the tree of his saddle, and covered with canvass so nicely, that they are scarcely discernable; that those which were found upon him are intended to deceive, if he were caught. You will most certainly have his saddle taken to pieces in order to discover this deep laid plot.

Enclosed is a copy of General *Howe's* letter in answer to the one I wrote him the 18th instant; the conduct I am to observe towards Brigadier *Prescott*, in consequence of these letters, the Congress will oblige me by determining for me.

The gentlemen by whom you sent the money are arrived; the sum they brought, though large, is not sufficient to answer the demands of the Army, which at this time are remarkably heavy. There are three months' pay due, one month's advance, two dollars for each blanket, the arms which are left by those who are dismissed to be paid for, besides the demands which are on the Commissary and Quartermaster-Generals. You will, therefore, see the necessity of another remittance, which I beg may be as soon as you conveniently can. I will take the opportunity of the return of those gentlemen, to send Colonel *Kirkland* to you for examination, and that you may dispose of him as to you may seem proper.

A Committee from the General Court of this Province called on me the other day, informing me that they were in great want of ordnance for defence of the Colony; that if what belonged to them, now in use here, was kept for the Continent, they will be under the necessity of providing themselves with others; of course what is kept must be paid for. There are many of the cannon of very little use; such of them as are good I cannot at present part with. Perhaps when I receive the supply from *New-York* and *Canada*, it may be in my power to spare them.

Mr. *Wadsworth* has sent in his report respecting *Cape-Cod* harbour, a copy of which you will receive herewith; also a letter received from a Mr. *Jacob Bayley*, put into my hands by Colonel *Little*; it contains some things that may not be unworthy the consideration of Congress.

We have made good progress in the works on *Lechmere's Point*; they would have been finished ere this, but for the severity of the weather, which prevents our people from working.

I received a letter from Governour *Cooke*, which expresses the fears of the people of *Rhode-Island*, lest the ships, which we had information were sailed, with some troops on board, were destined for *Newport*; I sent Major-General *Lee* there, to point out to them such defence as he may think the place capable of. I sincerely wish he may be able to do it with effect, as that place, in its present state, is an asylum for such as are disaffected to *American* liberty.

Our returns of inlistments to this day amount to eight thousand five hundred men.

I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq.

P. S. Enclosed is an estimate of the demands of the Army.

PELEG WADSWORTH TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

December 16, 1775.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY: Agreeable to your orders of the 5th instant, I have examined the harbour of *Cape-Cod*, and give it as my opinion that *Cape-Cod* makes a very extensive harbour with any winds from the west to north and northeast, and shipping may conveniently ride out of the reach of cannon, although the whole shore was lined with them. But the *Cove*, which may be strictly called the harbour, might be pretty well commanded from an eminence on the shore. This might deprive an enemy of the most commodious part of the harbour, prevent their watering, rendezvous, &c., &c.

I am, with due respect, your Excellency's humble servant,

PELEG WADSWORTH.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

GENERAL HOWE TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Boston, December 21, 1775.

SIR: In answer to your letter of the 18th instant, I am to acquaint you that my command does not extend to *Canada*; nor having received any accounts wherein the name of *Allen* is mentioned, I cannot give you the smallest satisfaction upon the subject of your letter; but trusting Major-General *Carleton's* conduct will never incur censure upon any occasion, I am to conclude in the instance of your inquiry, that he has not forfeited his past pretensions to decency and humanity. It is with regret, considering the character you have always maintained among your friends, as a gentleman of the strictest honour and delicacy, that I find cause to resent a sentence in the conclusion of your letter, big with invective against my superiors, and insulting to myself, which should obstruct any further intercourse between us.

I am, sir, with due respect, your most obedient servant,

WILLIAM HOWE.

To *George Washington*, Esq.

COLONEL JACOB BAYLEY TO COLONEL LITTLE.

Newbury, November 24, 1775.

SIR: Means have been taken, I do not doubt, to secure the conquest at *Canada*, and also to connect the Colony with ours; yet as I am nigh to it, and somewhat acquainted with that country, would beg leave to let you know my thoughts of the matter. I say to you as I need some one of my acquaintance who may be able to assert my sincerity; I am not able any other way to improve the one talent I have, being settled in so remote a part of the country, and since the war, applying myself wholly in carrying on the settlement of this country, so that of late, I have had

but little acquaintance with gentlemen who are now at the head of Colony affairs. I must suppose that it will be needful that a body of men are the next Spring stationed in *Canada*, for if the whole is not subdued this season, it must be done. If taken must be kept from *France* as well as *England*. It would not surprise me, if after the *French* had assisted us to drive off the Regulars, they should take it out of our hands for *France*. Of what vast importance to us is the country, and how easy it is defended. But one fortress commands the whole from any foreign power, and whatever nation, or people, holds the fortress, commands all the back settlements of the *United Colonies*, and the most extensive fur and skin trade in the universe. I cannot but be thankful that the councils of our adversaries are turned into foolishness in respect to *Canada*, for if they had taken possession of *Quebeck* and *New-York*, with what strength they brought to *Boston*, how would the matter have been by this time with the Colonies; but Providence has interfered in our behalf.

I would not lose so precious a jewel as *Canada;* the great difficulty we have, or shall have to keep it, is for want of a communication by land into that country, altogether by land, which we may have from this to *St. John's*, which will not exceed ninety miles, by which quick intelligence, and an army may be thrown into that country from this in six days; no danger then of a fleet and army from *Britain* or *France*. We can provide here for any number on their march, and when in *Canada*, there is no want; a road also, will connect these people with ours; trade might be carried on, or proposed, which will secure the trading part; our people doubtless are amongst them, which will wear out their Popish bigotry; until that is the case, no great trust to the *French*. Supposing we set up for independency, how much value is the fur and skin trade of that vast extensive river, lakes and country, (doubtless a million a year.) On the whole, considering every circumstance, convenience and situation, I could heartily urge that you use your endeavour that such a road be thought upon and done early, as early as *April;* I would do all in my power to forward it. The course from this is nearly forty degrees northwest to *Montreal*. We are sixty miles east of *Crown-Point;* nearly north from *Hartford;* northwest from *Boston*, one hundred and forty miles; from *Newbury* northwesterly one hundred and twenty-five miles; about the same distance from *Portsmouth;* but the maps will inform; Dr. *Langlon's* is a very good one. If you remember, it is but two years last *October*, that you, Esquire *Stevens* and myself, sent a surveyor, chain-man, &c., who measured and marked a road to *Missisque Bay*, and it is, undoubtedly, good for a road so far, which is two-thirds of the way; indeed, our line terminated forty-five degrees north latitude. I had thoughts that the road be carried to the east of *Missisque Bay*, but there is danger of drowned land; should it be so, a ferry at the mouth of *Missisque* river, which will be but three-quarters of a mile; cross *Wind-Mill Point*, another ferry of the same width, then a good road may be had to *Conaga*, at thirty miles distance, about six miles above *Montreal*. But I would, if practicable, make a road without being troubled with water; water carriage is good, and answers an excellent end; but what I would, is, that if we have a sudden call from *Canada*, we may repair thither without any hindrance. For suppose *Canada* to be in our hands next *May* or *June*, we are certain a fleet and army are in the mouth of *St. Lawrence*, destined to reduce *Quebeck*, an army sufficient to repel might be sent this way seasonably, and I must think, that in the hands of the Ministry, it is their greatest advantage against, and in our hands as much, and more, if can be, and I have always wondered that the wise heads against us, if any there be, had not struck on *New-York* and *Quebeck*, which would have cut off the communication between the North and South Colonies, and harassed our frontiers, which are of a great extent. The *Indians* would have been in their favour. We could not have stood out till now; therefore, let us make by the advantage they have given us.

I do not know the situation of the entrance into *York*, but I should think, if possible, that harbour ought to be secured for divers reasons. *York* is of more consequence to us, than all the harbours to the east. How easy would it have been for the King's troops and shipping, to have cut off the communication between the North and South Colonies, by taking possession of *New-York* and the *North* river, and would not numbers have joined them at *York*, and will not the King take possession there this winter? I trow not. I believe yet, if the King had possession of *Canada*, before next *June* there would be a communication open for them by *Albany*. Even now, in the Winter, fortifications ought to be built at *Sandy-Hook*, to keep out, &c. I only speak of this as it comes in my way. I have sent to Colonel *Bedel*, to see to the road on that side, but I am afraid the post will not get there, it is so bad crossing the lakes at this season. If this road was done, four days would come tidings. The affair of this road must be soon concluded upon, as provisions should be provided in the Winter, and it is much easier got now, than in *April* or *May*. I should be glad to have a return from you as soon as possible; how your publick affairs stand. I would be willing to do any thing that might contribute to so glorious a cause that we are now engaged in.

I have wrote in a broken manner my thoughts; you may pick out what of mine you like, and add to your own; perhaps you will, in so much, find something. When you go to *Boston* save your and our *Scotch* people, if they are friends. I would recommend that you continue in the service, if you are like to be of service. I don't say that I will not join the army in the Spring, if health remain. I am now in good health. All are well here.

My best regards to the honourable gentlemen in the Army. From your humble servant,

JACOB BAYLEY.

GENERAL ORDERS.

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, December 14, 1775.

(Parole, *St. Domingo.*) (Countersign, *France.*)

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, December 15, 1775.

(Parole, *Rockingham.*) (Countersign, *Richmond.*)

The Quartermasters of all the Regiments are, as soon as possible, to deliver to the Deputy Commissary-General, Mr. *Elisha Avery*, all the Cider-barrels, Butter-firkins and Candle-boxes, in the possession of their respective Corps, as those articles are very much wanted for the publick service.

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, December 16, 1775.

(Parole, *Raleigh.*) (Countersign, *Drake.*)

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, December 17, 1775.

(Parole, *Thanet.*) (Countersign, *Dorset.*)

When fresh Recruits from the country join the new established Regiments, the Colonels, or commanding officers of those Regiments, are to discharge the like number of old soldiers, who have not engaged for the next campaign, taking care to part with the most indifferent first.

A General Court-Martial to sit to-morrow morning in *Cambridge*, at ten in the forenoon, to try such persons as shall be brought before them. All evidences and persons concerned, to attend the Court.

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, December 18, 1775.

(Parole, *Lechmere.*) (Countersign, *Sears.*)

The Colonels and commanding officers of Regiments and Corps are to deliver to the Adjutant-General, at orderly time next *Saturday*, their pay abstracts for the months of *October, November* and *December;* also, an abstract for the month of *January* next, for each of the new established Corps, the honourable the Continental Congress, having been pleased to order all those who have bravely resolved to serve this country another year, shall be rewarded with one month's pay advance.

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, December 19, 1775.

(Parole, *Daver's.*) (Countersign, *Hall.*)

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, December 20, 1775.

(Parole, *Fairfax.*) (Countersign, *Woodford.*)

In consequence of a complaint, exhibited by the Colonels and commanding-officers of corps, in the Brigade upon *Winter-Hill*, on the 20th *October* last, against Commissary-General *Trumbull*, his Excellency is pleased to order a Court of Inquiry, to sit to-morrow, at eleven, in the forenoon, to examine into the cause thereof. Major-General

Putnam, with the Brigadiers *Sullivon*, *Green*, and *Heath*, to compose the Court of Inquiry. All evidences and persons concerned to attend the Court.

The Court will sit at General *Putnam's* house; the Judge Advocate to attend.

Head-Quarters, December 21, 1775.

(Parole, *Lancaster.*) (Countersign, *Carlisle.*)

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, December 22, 1775.

(Parole, *Wilkes.*) (Countersign, *Newnham.*)

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, December 23, 1775.

(Parole, *London.*) (Countersign, *Livery.*)

The Colonels and commanding officers of the new established Regiments, will each of them receive, on *Monday* next, from the Adjutant-General, a warrant for eight hundred dollars, to pay their men for their blankets. An exact account of the distribution of this money is to be kept, and rendered when called for, particularizing the men's names, the companies they belong to, and the towns they come from.

The Captains of the Militia companies, are again called upon to make out exact return-rolls of their men, specifying the towns they come from, and the regiments they are joined to.

The General expects from the officers and soldiers a strict obedience to the general standing orders, forbidding rambling from camp without leave, and hopes every person will exert himself in his particular station to preserve order, and that alertness so necessary in an army within cannon shot of their enemy.

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, December 24, 1775.

(Parole, *Alfred.*) (Countersign, *Hopkins.*)

By order of his Excellency General *Washington*, a Board of General Officers sat yesterday in *Cambridge*, and unanimously recommended the following rations to be delivered in the manner hereby directed, viz:

Corned Beef and Pork, four days in a week.

Salt Fish one day, and fresh Beef two days.

As Milk cannot be procured during the winter season, the men are to have one pound and a half of Beef, or eighteen ounces of Pork per day.

Half pint of Rice, or a pint of *Indian* Meal per week.

One quart of Spruce Beer per day, or nine gallons of Molasses to one hundred men per week.

Six pounds of Candles to one hundred men per week, for guards.

Six ounces of Butter, or nine ounces of Hog's Lard per week.

Three pints of Peas or Beans per man per week, or vegetables equivalent, allowing six shillings per bushel for Beans or Peas, two and eight pence per bushel for Onions, one and four pence per bushel for Potatoes and Turnips.

One pound of Flour per man, each day; hard Bread to be dealt out one day in a week, in lieu of Flour.

The above allowance is ordered to be issued by the Commissary-General to all the troops of the *United Colonies* serving in this Department, until the honourable the Continental Congress, or the Commander-in-chief, thinks proper to alter it.

Captain *Wentworth Stewart*, of Colonel *Phinney's* Regiment, tried at a General Court-Martial, whereof Colonel *Bricket* was President, for "disobedience of orders, and gross abuse to Lieutenant-Colonel *March*, of the said regiment." The Court are unanimously of opinion that Captain *Stewart* is guilty of repeated abuse to Lieutenant-Colonel *March*, and, therefore, adjudge that he ask pardon of Colonel *March*, before all the officers of the regiment, and at the same time receive a severe reprimand from Colonel *Phinney*.

John Wales, in Captain *Williams's* Company, Colonel *Greaton's* Regiment, tried at the above Court-Martial for "robbing the Quartermaster-General's store." The Court find the prisoner guilty of a breach of the forty-ninth Article for regulating the *Massachusetts* Army; and, therefore, adjudge him to receive ten lashes upon the bare back with a cat-o'-nine-tails.

The General approves the above sentences, and orders them to be executed the first fair day.

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, December 25, 1775.

(Parole, *Yorkshire.*) (Countersign, *Savile.*)

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO JOSEPH REED.

Cambridge, December 25, 1775.

Dear Sir: At the same time that I thank you for stopping visiters in search of preferment, it will give me pleasure to show civilities to others of your recommendation. Indeed, no gentleman that is not well known, ought to come here without letters of introduction, as it puts me in an awkward situation with respect to my conduct towards them.

I do not very much understand a paragraph in your letter, which seems to be taken from mine to Colonel *Hancock*, expressive of the unwillingness of the *Connecticut* troops to be deemed Continental. There is no expression in any of my letters, that I can either recollect or find, that has a tendency that way; further than their unwillingness to have officers of other Governments mixed in their corps; in which they are not singular, as the same partiality runs through the whole. I have, in some measure, anticipated the desires of the *Connecticut* Delegates, by a kind of representation to each of the *New-England* Governments of the impracticability of raising our complement of men by voluntary inlistments, and submitting to their consideration whether, if the powers of Government are sufficiently coercive, each town should not be called upon for a proportionate number of recruits. What they will do in the matter remains to be known. The militia, who have supplied the places of the *Connecticut* Regiments, behave much better than I expected they would under our want of wood, barracks, and blankets. With these men, and such as are reinlisted, I shall hope, if they will be vigilant and spirited, to give the enemy a warm reception, if they think proper to come out. Our want of powder is inconceivable. A daily waste, and no supply, presents a gloomy prospect. I fear the detention of the vessels from your port is so generally known, as to defeat the end. Two men-of-war, it is said, put into *New-York* the other day, and were immediately ordered out, supposed to *Virginia*.

I am so much indebted for the civilities shown to Mrs. *Washington* on her journey hither, that I hardly know how to acknowledge them. Some of the enclosed (all of which I beg the favour of you to put into the post-office) are directed to that end, and I shall be obliged to you for presenting my thanks to the commanding-officers of the two battalions of *Philadelphia*, for the honour done to her and me, as also to any others equally entitled.

I very sincerely offer you the compliments of the season, and wish you and Mrs. *Reed*, and your fireside, the happy return of many of them, being, dear sir, yours, &c.

George Washington.

To *Joseph Reed*, Esq.

ROBERT H. HARRISON TO GENERAL WARD.

Cambridge, December 25, 1775.

Sir: I am commanded by his Excellency to inform you that he is very apprehensive that the troops in *Boston*, when the bay is frozen sufficiently hard for them to pass, will take the hay that is on the marsh unless it is removed. You will, therefore, be pleased to have notice given to the persons owning it to take it away and secure it immediately, or his Excellency will be under the necessity of having it burnt.

I am, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

Robert H. Harrison.

To Major-General *Ward*.

COLONEL MOYLAN TO WILLIAM BARTLETT.

Cambridge, December 25, 1775.

Sir: Your letter of the 20th instant, is come to hand. As the corn and oats are wanting for the use of the army, Colonel *Mifflin* must have them. He will give the price you mention for the one-third belonging to the captors. As to the other two-thirds, it is of little consequence what price is fixed thereon. Colonel *Glover* must certainly have been mistaken when he informed you that his Excellency was willing that the corn and oats should be disposed of at your place. It could not be his meaning, as he knew the want the Quartermaster was in for them. I wish you

would send up immediately the baggage belonging to Captain *Foster's* people, for they are in a very dirty condition; also for such of Captain *Adams's* men as are here. I do not know what directions to give you relative to the porter. We must order a survey on it, and judge by the report of its value. I think some butts would sell well at camp.

I am, &c., STEPHEN MOYLAN.

To *William Bartlett*, Esq., *Beverly*.

INSTRUCTIONS TO THE REPRESENTATIVES OF PORTSMOUTH, NEW-HAMPSHIRE.

Portsmouth, N. H., December 25, 1775.

Last *Monday*, at a publick town meeting, the following gentlemen were chosen Delegates to represent this town in Provincial Congress now convened at *Exeter;* and, by a Committee appointed to draw up Instructions for them, they were the next day unanimously voted by the Town.

To *Samuel Cutts* and *Samuel Sherburne*, Esqs., and Captain *Pierce Long*.

GENTLEMEN: As the approaching session of the Congress will be attended with the consideration of matters of more importance than ever came before any body of men in this Colony, your constituents desire your strict attention to these their instructions, supposing your motives in accepting our choice of you to be those, alone, of promoting the publick good.

The precept sent to this town for the choice of Delegates, mentions our taking up a form of Government in this Colony. This we conceive to be a measure to be entered on with the greatest caution, calmness, and deliberation. We are of opinion that the present times are too unsettled to admit of perfecting a form, stable and permanent; and that to attempt it now would injure us, by furnishing our enemies in *Great Britain* with arguments to persuade the good people there that we are aiming at independency, which we totally disavow. We should, therefore, prefer the government of the Congress, till *God*, in his providence, shall afford us quieter times.

If, however, the Congress shall think proper to establish a new form of Government, we enjoin you, that no private pique or prejudice may seclude from the appointment to any place of honour or profit men of approved honour and integrity; whether members likely to be appointed to such places, who you have every reason to think sought an election, that you do every thing in your power to prevent their appointment.

The courts of justice in this Colony, you are sensible, have long slept. We earnestly require you that you use your influence in the Congress that the law may have its course, not only for the punishment of offenders but to enforce the payment of just debts, under such regulations as the Congress, in their wisdom, shall think proper.

As the dastardly and inhuman behaviour of the persons hitherto intrusted by the *British* Ministry to execute their designs against *America*, convince us that they will take all advantages of the weakness of any post, while they artfully avoid all such as are in a situation to make a resistance, we desire you will pay proper attention to the further fortifying and guarding the port of *Piscataqua*, now the frontier of the Colony; and that, in general, you spare no pains to have every part of this Colony in a state of defence. At the same time, however, that we give you this instruction, we recommend it to you that, if a plan of accommodation be proposed, the completion of which will terminate in an honourable settlement of the present disputes, you give your assent thereto; and we the more readily advise this, because we are by no means of opinion that the present measures are countenanced by the *British* nation in general, (ever remarked for their true valour and love of freedom, and who, when they are fully acquainted with the dispute, will undoubtedly approve the conduct of their sons, so like that of their ancestors at the Revolution,) but rather that they are the schemes of a set of men lost to every sentiment of true honour, and sunk into a state of dissipation and luxury, which they are endeavouring to support by subjugating the most loyal subjects their master could boast of.

As we are firmly persuaded the measures we are taking for the preservation of our freedom are highly justifiable in the sight of *God* and man, we are determined to hazard our lives and fortunes in the prosecution of them, convinced that our brethren in every part of the Colony are actuated by the same motives, and will readily pay their proportion of the publick expense; you will, therefore, be careful to see that the proportion be equitably adjusted with respect to this town, which has already greatly suffered by the loss of its trade, almost its only support, and of the revival of which there is at present no prospect.

We particularly recommend, that you strictly guard against every measure that may have a tendency to cause disunion; and that, at all times, you keep sight of this recommendation, as a disagreement among ourselves is what our enemies are earnestly wishing for, and, consequently, what we should be more particularly careful to see them disappointed in.

You will use your endeavours that any Committees of Safety, which may be appointed by the Colony Congress, may be directed, in their recess, to sit in this town, which, in all probability, will be the seat of action, and may want the readiest assistance; and that the said Committee be kept under short adjournments.

We entertain the highest and most grateful sense of the merit and bravery of such of our brethren as, at this time, are called forth to "jeopard their lives in the high places of the field," and hope this Colony will be behindhand in none, to see that they are properly rewarded, taking due care, at the same time, to keep up the very just and necessary line of distinction between the civil and military powers.

You will, from time to time, inform the Town Committee of Safety of such matters of importance as are proposed to be transacted in Congress, and take their advice and instruction thereon, or that of our constituents in town meeting assembled, if the said Committee shall think proper.

REMONSTRANCE FROM THE TOWN OF PORTSMOUTH.

To the Honourable Congress of the Colony of NEW-HAMPSHIRE, *now convened at* EXETER *for the preservation of the lives, liberties, and property, of said Colony.*

The Memorial and Remonstrance of the inhabitants of the town of *Portsmouth*, in town meeting assembled, humbly shows: That the great rise of goods has given much uneasiness, not only to the inhabitants of this town, already being much distressed by being the frontier, and the total loss of its trade, but also to those of the Colony in general. Although the honourable Continental Congress have recommended that the Committees of the several towns should regulate this matter, yet, inasmuch as we have been informed that goods, although high, are higher at *Newbury* and *Salem*, and higher at *Cambridge*, we are of opinion that it is too extensive, as well as too delicate, an affair to be in the power of any Town Committee to rectify.

We, therefore, look up to the superior wisdom of Congress, entreating that they will take up the matter on a general plan, and afford such relief as the nature of the case requires.

And your Memorialists will ever pray, &c.

JOHN PENHALLOW, *Town Clerk.*

Portsmouth, December 25, 1775.

JAMES LYON TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Machias, December 25, 1775.

SIR: You doubtless remember to have seen an application from the Committee of Safety in this place, for leave to go against *Nova-Scotia*, which might probably have been taken then with very little difficulty. But we were informed that such an expedition could not be carried on at that time with proper secrecy, and that there was imminent danger from the King's ships. The same difficulties may, possibly, lie in the way now, if any troops are collected and sent from any part near the Head-Quarters. I apprehend that secrecy is as necessary now as ever it was; and, if only one proper person, at a suitable place, be ordered to conduct the whole affair, it will probably succeed.

There have been many applications, I dare say, from many persons and places; but, were I to point out a suit-

able place, I should mention this, as it is near to *Nova-Scotia*. I should be more at a loss for a proper person to conduct the enterprise. I know of fitter persons than myself, in many respects, but they are strangers to the Province and people. But I have dwelt there for years, and have a personal acquaintance with almost all the principal men, and know the country well. I should rejoice, therefore, in the appointment to this necessary business; and, if your Excellency, together with those only who must necessarily be acquainted with the appointment, (for I choose none but they should know any thing of the matter,) in your great wisdom should see fit to appoint me, I will conduct the expedition with the utmost secrecy, and (*Deo adj.*) will add to the dominions of the Continental Congress another Province, before our enemies are able to defend it. All I require is sufficient authority to collect as many troops as I see fit in this Eastern country, not exceeding one thousand men, and vessels to convey them to the place of action, and blank commissions for the necessary officers of a thousand more, to be filled up as I shall find expedient, in *Nova-Scotia*, where the men are to be raised, put into the Continental pay, and left there to defend the country when taken. And further, that a sufficient quantity of provisions, ammunition, arms, &c., be sent here about the middle of *March*.

Your Excellency may inquire about me as much as you please, of *Benjamin Foster*, Esq., Captain *Stephen Smith*, Captain *O'Brian*, and Mr. *Shannon*, for these gentlemen I should choose to have as companions, but do not choose that they, or any other persons living, should know any thing of the design (if this petition is granted) until it is time to embark, except those persons only who have authority to appoint. The above-mentioned gentlemen know nothing of this application.

The reduction of *Nova-Scotia* is a matter of great importance, and lies near my heart, on account of my many suffering friends in that Province, and on account of the many advantages that would arise from it to this Colony, and to this place in particular. But, should the Government appoint another person to conduct the expedition, I shall cordially acquiesce, and pray for his success, as I ever do that *God* may smile on all the *American* arms, till all our enemies are subdued before us.

Your Excellency will not take amiss what my zeal for the honour and safety of my country constrained me to write.

I am, most respectfully, your Excellency's very humble and obedient servant,

JAMES LYON.

His Excellency *George Washington*, Esq., Commander-in-chief of the Army of the *United Colonies*.

ADVICES FROM AMERICA.

(London Gazette,) Secretary of State's Office, Whitehall, December 26, 1775.

By the last advices received from *Quebeck*, of the 26th of *October*, it appears that General *Carleton*, who was then at *Montreal*, and formed a considerable corps of *Canadians* and *English*, that he and Lieut. Colonel *Maclean*, who commanded another corps on *Sorel* river, were preparing to proceed, by separate routes, to the relief of *St. John's*, which had been for some time invested by the Rebels, without their being able to make an impression upon it; and that there was the greatest probability that the country would be soon cleared of those invaders, whose force was considerably diminished by sickness and desertion, and in great want of necessary supplies.

There are no advices from *Boston* later than the 12th of *October*, when General *Gage* left it, invested, as before, by the Rebel army, which had, however, attempted nothing since the affair of *Bunker's Hill*.

The Earl of *Dunmore*, Governour of *Virginia*, acquaints the Secretary of State, in a letter dated the 22d of *October*, on board the ship *William*, off *Norfolk*, that on the 15th, his Lordship had landed with a party of between seventy and eighty men, in the neighbourhood of the town of *Norfolk*, and destroyed seventeen pieces of ordnance, and brought off two more, which had been carried away from that town by the Rebels, and concealed in the country; that on the 17th he had landed again, at about eight miles from the town, and marched between two and three miles into the country, where about two hundred Shirtmen were collected to oppose him, but who fled into the woods upon the appearance of the party, leaving behind them some small-arms and ammunition, which his Lordship carried off. That on the 19th he had again landed, and destroyed ten guns, and brought off six, at a distance of two miles from the coast; and on the 20th brought off six more. And on the 21st, the day before his Lordship's letter is dated, he had landed again, and brought off ten guns and two cohorns, and about sixty small-arms, and a great quantity of ball of different sizes; and his Lordship imagines there are not any military stores remaining in the possession of the Rebels in that part of the Province.

In these several landings, his Lordship made seven prisoners, among whom is one *Robinson*, a Deputy to the Provincial Convention, andone *Mathews*, a captain of the Minute-Men.

CHESTER COUNTY, (PENNSYLVANIA,) COMMITTEE.

In Committee, December 26, 1775.

Extract from the Votes of Assembly.—"All Battalions now formed, as well as those hereafter to be formed, are desired to make the necessary returns of their officers, with their respective ranks, to the Committee of their County; and the Committees are desired to certify such returns, with their respective ranks, to the Committee of their County; and the Committees are desired to certify such returns, with the respective rank of each Battalion in their County, to the Committee of Safety, that commissions may be issued immediately for every officer, in conformity with these Rules."—[Article 24.]

This Committee, taking the foregoing Regulation into consideration,

Resolved, That the respective Colonels of the Militia of this County be, and they are, hereby requested to make the necessary Returns of their Officers, with their respective ranks, to Colonel *Anthony Wayne*, Chairman of this Committee; and he is hereby empowered and desired to certify such Returns, with the respective Rank of each Battalion in this County, to the Committee of Safety, by the 20th day of *January* next. And it is further recommended, that each Township, or sufficient number of Associators to form a Company, (after the Companies already formed are full,) that hath not already chosen their Officers, do immediately proceed to elect them, that Returns may be made as above directed. And it is further earnestly recommended to the Associators of this County, to acquiesce under, and subscribe their names to, the Rules and Regulations for the better government of the Military Associators, as formed by the honourable House of Assembly of this Province, until there may be an opportunity of an amendment. And they are desired to pay a strict regard and attention to the 23d Article, which is in these words: "No Commissioned, Non-commissioned Officer, or Private, shall withdraw himself from the Company to which he belongs, without a discharge from the Commanding Officer of the Battalion; nor shall such person be received in any other Company without such discharge."

Resolved, That *Anthony Wayne*, *James Moore*, *Francis Johnston*, Esquires, Doctor *Samuel Kennedy*, *Caleb Davis*, *William Montgomery*, *Persifor Frazer*, and *Richard Thomas*, gentlemen, or any five, or more, of them, be appointed, and they are hereby appointed, to represent this County (if occasion be) in Provincial Convention for the ensuing year.—[Extract from the Minutes.]

By order of the Committee:

FRANCIS JOHNSTON, *Secretary*.

BUCKS COUNTY, (PENNSYLVANIA,) COMMITTEE.

In Committee, Bucks County, December 26, 1775.

This Committee, desirous as much as possible to prevent every species of imposition and extortion, which designing person, prompted by a sordid attachment to self-interest, and the present scarcity of sundry articles of goods, may be tempted to commit, have directed the republication of the Ninth Article of the Continental Association; and all shop-keepers, and other retailers of goods, are requested to be particularly attentive thereto, as a wilful violation thereof will necessarily incur the penalties recommended in this and the Eleventh Article of said Association.

Ninth Article. "Such as are venders of goods or merchandise, will not take advantage of the scarcity of goods that may be occasioned by this Association, but will sell the same at the rates we have been respectively accustomed to do for twelve months last past. And if any vender of goods or merchandise shall sell any such goods on higher terms, or shall, in any manner, or by any device whatsoever, violate or depart from this agreement, no person ought, nor will any of us deal with any such person, or his or her factor or agent, at any time thereafter, for any commodity whatsoever."

By order of the Committee:

HENRY WYNKOOP, *Clerk.*

COLONEL MAXWELL TO LORD STIRLING.

Trenton, December 26, 1775.

MY LORD: I have begun to write, though I know of no opportunity to send it, as the communication this way is not passable for carriages at present.

I have received two bundles, one of breeches and the other of boots, from Mr. *White*, which I will forward as soon as possible.

I was in company with Mr. *Lewis*, one of the Congress, on his way home. He said your letter, concerning the Government troops, came to hand the evening before he set off, and it was the subject of discourse of a number of the Delegates for a considerable time, though in a private capacity; and he said it was acknowledged, by all present, that this was not a proper place for them.

The people of this place and *Burlington*, on proper application made to them, were complacent enough to order the barracks repaired, and provide every other necessary in their powers. I find, when I get them in repair, they will be large enough to hold my regiment; and it will be very handy to exercise them.

I hope you will send me one of your best frocks for a pattern, by the first of the stage carriages, and I will send it back again.

I am, my Lord, your Lordship's very humble servant,

WILLIAM MAXWELL.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read January 8, 1776.]

Albany, December 26, 1775.

SIR: I do myself the honour to enclose you the extract of a letter which I yesterday had the pleasure to receive from General *Montgomery*. It has relieved me from a most distressing anxiety, occasioned by a report which prevailed here, that General *Montgomery* was killed, Colonel *Arnold* taken prisoner, and our Army totally defeated. I find that this lie was contrived by some here, inimical to us, and so industriously circulated, that it will probably reach Congress before this letter.

Not one of the recruiting officers is as yet returned, and I fear that in four days more *Ticonderoga*, *Fort George*, and this place, will be left without any troops; and at all these places there are so many stores, that it gives me great uneasiness that they should be left without proper guards to protect them.

As I have no troops it will not be in my power to send a garrison to the fort in the *Highlands*. A post of so much importance ought not to be left without a strong one. I have sent Captain *Billings*, of Colonel *Clinton's* Regiment, to raise a company; he thinks he can speedily effect it. I propose to send him to the *Highlands*, unless Congress should direct otherwise.

The officers, prisoners, are making daily applications to me for money to subsist themselves with, and I find myself under a necessity of supplying them, which I do as sparingly as possible. They make no doubt but that General *Howe* will order their subsistence to be paid whenever he is applied to.

I am informed that General *Carleton* has sent home all the pilots from *Quebeck*, probably with an intention to have their services early in the Spring.

Congress will perceive that General *Montgomery* is in sentiment with me on the necessity of sending a reinforcement into *Canada*. If any preparations are to be made for it, no time is to be lost, as the boards, &c., &c., must be carried to the spot where the boats are to be constructed, before the Winter breaks up, as it will be utterly impossible after that to procure them.

The expense of expresses from here to *Cambridge* rises so high that I believe it would save money to appoint a post to go from hence to *Springfield*, where the post from *New-York* might take the letters to *Cambridge*, and on his return leave those for this place.

Enclose a list of the military stores intended for General *Washington;* they are now at *Fort-George*, and as we have a fine fall of snow, and the weather extremely cold, I hope to see them here on their way to *Cambridge* in a few days.

Mr. *Macpherson*, my Aid-de-camp, has behaved during the whole campaign with so much propriety that General *Montgomery* has entreated me to recommend him to Congress, and beg that he may be rewarded with a Majority. I most sincerely join in the request, and I believe Congress never will have occasion to repent, should they be so good as to confer the favour.

As I have not been honoured with a line from Congress acknowledging the receipt of any of my several letters of the 11th, 18th, 20th, 22d, and 27th ultimo, and 8th instant, I begin to be apprehensive that they have miscarried. Be so good as to let me know by the *New-York* post if they are come to hand or not.

I am, sir, with respect and esteem, your most obedient, very humble servant,

PHILIP SCHUYLER.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq., &c.

GENERAL MONTGOMERY TO GENERAL SCHUYLER.

[Read January 17, 1776.]

Head-Quarters before Quebeck, December 26, 1775.

MY DEAR GENERAL: When last I had the honour to write, I hoped, before now, to have had it in my power to give you some good news. I then had reason to believe the troops well inclined for a *coup-de-main*. I have since discovered, to my great mortification, that three companies of Colonel *Arnold's* detachment are very averse from the measure. There is strong reason to believe their difference of sentiments from the rest of the troops arises from the influence of their officers. Captain . . . .*, who has incurred Colonel *Arnold's* displeasure by some misconduct, and thereby given room for harsh language, is at the bottom of it, and has made some declarations which I think must draw upon him the censure of his country, if brought to trial. Captain . . . . *, and Captain . . . . *, seem to espouse his quarrel. A field-officer is concerned in it, who wishes, I suppose, to have the separate command of those companies, as the above-mentioned Captains have made application for that purpose. This dangerous party threatens the ruin of our affairs. I shall, at any rate, be obliged to change my plan of attack, being too weak to put that in execution I had formerly determined on. I am much afraid my friend . . . . * is deeply concerned in this business. I will have an eclaircissement with him on the subject. I will, hereafter, acquaint you more particularly with this matter. In the mean time, I wish you would not mention names; for I know not whether the situation of affairs will admit of doing the publick the justice I could wish.

Strain every nerve to send a large corps of troops down the instant the Lake is passable. It is of the utmost importance we should be possessed of *Quebeck* before succours can arrive; and I must here again give it to you as my opinion, and that of several sensible men acquainted with this Province, that we are not to expect a union with *Canada*, till we have a force in the country sufficient to ensure it against any attempts that may be made for its recovery. I believe I have mentioned this in my last, but I cannot help repeating it again.

One difficulty occurs to me: How are those troops to be paid here? The Continental money will not be received by the inhabitants. I had distributed part of it to the troops at *Montreal;* few would receive it. The consequence was, the soldiers offered it for less than its value, and so it became depreciated. One scheme has occurred to me, which I shall communicate by this opportunity to *Price*, and our other friends at *Montreal*. If they can send down to the army such articles as soldiers choose to lay

[* Names erased in the original.]

out their money upon, employing sutlers for that purpose, who will receive our paper, the troops may then be paid in Continental currency, which will not be depreciated, the soldier will not grumble, as he may be regularly paid, and, by degress, the inhabitants may acquire confidence in it, seeing our merchants take it freely. What hard cash can be mustered, might pay the contingencies of the army, such as transportation of baggage, &c., and purchase provisions.

I am amazed no money is yet arrived. The troops are uneasy, and shall, by-and-by, be at my wit's end to furnish the army with provisions. I am the more surprised, as I am credibly informed cash arrived from *Philadelphia*, at *Ticonderoga*, three weeks since. I have almost exhausted *Price*, having had upwards of five thousand pounds, *York*, from him. I must take this opportunity of acknowledging his service. He has been a faithful friend to the cause indeed. His advice and assistance, upon every occasion, I have been much benefited by; and when I consider that he has been the first mover of those measures, which have been attended with so many and great advantages to the *United Colonies*, I cannot help wishing the Congress to give him an ample testimony of their sense of his generous and spirited exertions in the cause of freedom.

Having so early reported to you my determination to return home, I take it for granted measures are taken to supply my place. Should not any body arrive shortly for that purpose, I must conclude Congress mean to leave the management of affairs in General *Wooster's* hands; and, therefore, if this business should terminate in a blockade, I shall think myself at liberty to return. However, if possible, I shall first make an effort for the reduction of the town.

I will shortly comply with several articles of directions which I have received from you, and which I deferred in hopes of complying with them, before now, in peaceable possession of *Quebeck*. The strange, divided state of the troops, all this campaign, has prevented my sending returns, having never been able to get one with any tolerable exactness. The three discontented companies are within a few days of being free from their engagements. I must try every means to prevent their departure; and in this matter I am much embarrassed. Their officers have offered to stay, provided they may join some other corps. This is resentment against *Arnold*, and will hurt him so much that I do not think I can consent to it.

I am, my dear sir, with great respect and esteem, your most obedient and affectionate humble servant,

RICHARD MONTGOMERY.

To General *Schuyler*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO RICHARD HENRY LEE.

Cambridge, December 26, 1775.

DEAR SIR: Your favour of the 6th instant did not reach this place till *Saturday* afternoon. The money which accompanied it came seasonably, but not, as it was so long delayed, *quantum sufficit*, our demands at this time being peculiarly great for pay and advance to the troops; pay for their arms and blanketing, independent of the demands of the Commissary and Quartermaster-General.

Lord *Dunmore's* letters to General *Howe*, which very fortunately fell into my hands, and were enclosed by me to Congress, will let you pretty fully into his diabolical schemes. If, my dear sir, that man is not crushed before Spring, he will become the most formidable enemy *America* has. His strength will increase as a snow-ball, by rolling, and faster, if some expedient cannot be hit upon to convince the slaves and servants of the impotency of his designs. You will see by his letters what pains he is taking to invite a reinforcement, at all events, there, and to transplant the war to the Southern Colonies. I do not think that forcing his Lordship on ship-board is sufficient. Nothing less than depriving him of life or liberty will secure peace to *Virginia*, as motives of resentment actuate his conduct to a degree equal to the total destruction of the Colony. I fear the destination of the naval armament at *Philadelphia*, is too well known to answer the design. I have heard it spoken of in common conversation, at this place, near a fortnight ago; and the other day was told that two men-of-war, going into the harbour of *New-York*, (supposed to be those intended for the relief of the *Asia*,) were ordered, and accordingly sailed immediately out, as it is imagined, for *Virginia*.

My letters to Congress will give you the occurrences of this place. I need not repeat them; but I must beg of you, my good sir, to use your influence in having a Court of Admiralty, or some power appointed to hear and determine all matters relative to captures. You cannot conceive how I am plagued on this head, and how impossible it is for me to hear and determine upon matters of this sort, when the facts, perhaps, are only to be ascertained at ports, forty, fifty, or more, miles distant, without bringing the parties here at great trouble and expense. At any rate, my time will not allow me to be a competent judge of this business.

I must also beg the favour of you to urge the necessity of appointing a Brigadier-General to the vacant brigade in this army. The inconvenience we daily experience, for want of one, is very great; much more than the want of a Colonel to a regiment, for then the next officer in command does the duty. In a brigade, this may not with propriety happen, and seldom or ever is done with any kind of regularity. Perfectly indifferent is it to me whom the Congress shall please to appoint to these offices. I only want it done, that business may go regularly on.

My best respects to the good family you are in, and to your brothers of the delegation; and be assured that I am, dear sir, your most obedient and affectionate servant,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To *Richard Henry Lee*.

ROBERT H. HARRISON TO GENERAL THOMAS.

Cambridge, December 26, 1775.

SIR: I have it in command from his Excellency to request you to inform him whether the two persons you spoke of and recommended some time ago, have got into any of the regiments. One of them you said had inlisted a company. His Excellency wishes to know, as there are some vacancies here.

I am, &c., ROBERT H. HARRISON.

To Brigadier-General *Thomas*.

[GENERAL WASHINGTON] TO JONATHAN GLOVER, ESQ.

Cambridge, December 26, 1775.

Acknowledged receipt of his of 25th, relative to the sloop *Sally*, retaken by Captain *Adams*, and sent into *Marblehead*. Desired him to get information to whom the vessel and cargo belonged. If in danger, to land the cargo, avoid embezzlement, &c.

[GENERAL WASHINGTON] TO WILLIAM WATSON, ESQ.

Cambridge, December 26, 1775.

Acknowledged receipt of his of 23d instant, and informed him that application had been made to General *Howe* for exchange of prisoners, to which Mr. *Howe* was silent.

[GENERAL WASHINGTON] TO CAPTAIN WILLIAM BARTLETT.

Cambridge, December 28, 1775.

Ordered him to advertise in the *Cambridge* and *Watertown* papers at least eight days before that of the sale of any goods taken by the Continental armed vessels.

MAJOR-GENERAL HOWE TO THE EARL OF DARTMOUTH.

Boston, December 26, 1775.

MY LORD: I am this day informed, by the master of a vessel arrived here a few days past, from *Cape-Nicholas*, in the Island of *Hispaniola*, that the Rebels get supplies of arms and gunpowder from thence in large quantities; one person, by this informant's account, having sold one thousand stand of arms, and one ton of gunpowder, to the master of a privateer, fitted out for that intent from *Providence*, in the Government of *Rhode-Island*. And it was generally said at *Cape-Nicholas*, that the same privateer had sailed with three other vessels under her convoy, having on board two tons of gunpowder, and ten thousand stand of arms, for the use of the Rebels.

It has lately been discovered that persons in the coun-

try, suspected of disaffection to Government, having effects and merchandise in this town, have used and are practising various artifices, by a separation and conveyance of their property to those of the town who pass for being well disposed subjects, to secure the same. As they must be indebted to merchants in *Britain* for the greater part of such goods, and certainly mean to defraud them in payment, I shall do every thing in my power to stop these proceedings, until I receive your Lordship's particular instructions on this head.

With most perfect respect, I have the honour to be, &c.,

W. Howe.

To the Earl of *Dartmouth*.

TO THE PEOPLE OF NORTH-AMERICA.

Philadelphia, December 27, 1775.

Those who have the general welfare of the *United English Colonies*, in *North-America*, sincerely at heart, who wish to see peace restored and her liberties established on a solid foundation, may, at present, be divided into two classes, viz: Those who look forward to an independency as the only state in which they can perceive any security for our liberties and privileges, as every measure of the *British* Government indicates a vigorous prosecution of their unlimited claims—and those who, overlooking the possibility of Lord *North's* motion being a political manœuvre, to lull us to rest until he had sufficient time to prepare for an effectual execution of the measures recommended in the address of both Houses of Parliament, believe that it was sincerely intended as a foundation on which a true constitutional union could be re-established, and our liberties remain unimpaired, and, therefore, think it not impossible that *Britain* and *America* may yet be united. Though I am far from believing that every man, in both classes, is a sincere well-wisher to *American* liberty, yet I firmly persuade myself, she has many zealous friends in each, and shall give equal credit to their sincerity. My present design will, I trust, interfere with neither, as I mean only to point out a matter which to me appears, if not absolutely necessary, at least highly expedient; in either case, to throw out some hints which I think important, but which have not been held out to publick consideration.

If the present struggle should end in the total independence of *America*, which is not impossible, every one will acknowledge the necessity of framing a general plan of connection between the Provinces, or what may be called the Constitution of the *United English Colonies*. We know of no other way to prevent the many feuds and animosities which may naturally be expected to arise in a country circumstanced like *America*. If, on the other hand, it should terminate in a reunion with *Great Britain*, there yet appears so great a necessity of such a constitution, that every good man must desire it; for, draw what line you please, for the present, as long as it shall remain possible for the throne of *Great Britain* to be filled with an ambitious monarch, and an Administration to be found which will pay no regard to the faith of compacts, and, by having the treasury in its hands, as at this day, can command the force of the nation, there will be no absolute safety for *America*, but in a union of the Colonies.

We have reason to thank the Divine Ruler of the Universe, that such a union, as has heretofore answered the exigencies of the times, has taken place on every emergency; and we may, without superstition, believe that the Divine counsel to the *United Colonies* is, "Now is your time to form one general plan of an *American* Union and Constitution, which shall only dissolve with the last breath of your expiring liberty; which, under my protection, will prove an everlasting barrier against tyrannical encroachments."

And if we will, with hearts sincerely attached to the welfare of mankind, in preference to every thing else, studiously endeavour to ascertain that plan which will most effectually secure the enjoyment of the blessings of heaven to all alike, I doubt not but wisdom from above will enlighten our minds, and enable us to secure ourselves against those latent defects in the constitution of empires, to which they have generally owed their destruction; so that the *American* empire of liberty may, like the temperate sons of religion and virtue, remain unattacked by the disorders, which bring on a too early dissolution, and after having enjoyed the blessing of perfect health to the last, like them, die of old age. I have often indulged myself with the pleasure of believing, that the part of that admirable statesman's, and divine politician's, the Bishop of *St. Asaph's* Sermon, delivered before the Incorporated Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts, on the 19th of *February*, 1773, which refers to *America*, was prophetick of what would hereafter happen. And should we lay aside all selfish, interested views, mutual jealousies, and distrust, and pursue the plan of divine and Christian politicks there inculcated, I make no doubt of our being able to correct those errors and defects which are to be found in the most perfect constitution of government which ever the world has yet been blessed with. Conscious of my own inabilities, and earnestly solicitous to see matters, which to me appear of the utmost importance, I long withstood the earnest solicitations of my own mind, and declined offering any thing to the publick; but seeing no prospect of what I so ardently wished for, I at last resolved to throw out a few hints in the best manner I could; and as my only view is to set you a thinking on some points which have not been generally attended to, and if possible, to excite men of abilities and virtue to devote some part of their time to a consideration of what may be the most certain and effectual means of securing to all ranks in society, and to the latest posterity, those blessings and privileges which *America* in her days of peace and prosperity enjoyed, I should be well pleased to find, that the printers of publick papers throughout the Colonies might hold them up to the publick view of the people. *Solomon* says, "Where no council is, the people fall; but in the multitude of counsellors there in safety."

Salus Populi.

Philadelphia, December 27, 1775.

I observed on one of the drums belonging to the Marines now raising, there was painted a *Rattlesnake*, with this modest motto under it, "Don't tread on me." As I know it is the custom to have some device on the arms of every country, I supposed this may have been intended for the arms of *America;* and as I have nothing to do with publick affairs, and as my time is perfectly my own, in order to divert an idle hour, I sat down to guess what could have been intended by this uncommon device. I took care, however, to consult on this occasion a person who is acquainted with heraldry, from whom I learned, that it is a rule among the learned in that science, "that the worthy properties of the animal, in the crest-born, shall be considered," and, "that the base ones cannot have been intended;" he likewise informed me that the ancients considered the serpent as an emblem of wisdom, and, in a certain attitude, of endless duration—both which circumstances, I suppose, may have been had in view. Having gained this intelligence, and recollecting that countries are sometimes represented by animals peculiar to them, it occurred to me that the *Rattlesnake* is found in no other quarter of the world besides *America*, and may, therefore, have been chosen on that account to represent her.

But then "the worthy properties" of a snake I judged would be hard to point out. This rather raised than suppressed my curiosity, and having frequently seen the *Rattlesnake*, I ran over in my mind every property by which she was distinguished, not only from other animals, but from those of the same genus or class of animals, endeavouring to fix some meaning to each, not wholly inconsistent with common sense.

I recollected that her eye excelled in brightness that of any other animal, and that she has no eye-lids. She may, therefore, be esteemed an emblem of vigilance. She never begins an attack, nor, when once engaged, ever surrenders. She is, therefore, an emblem of magnanimity and true courage. As if anxious to prevent all pretensions of quarrelling with her, the weapons with which nature has furnished her, she conceals in the roof of her mouth, so that, to those who are unacquainted with her, she appears to be a most defenceless animal; and even when those weapons are shown and extended for her defence, they appear weak and contemptible; but their wounds, however small, are decisive and fatal: conscious of this, she never

wounds till she has generously given notice, even to her enemy, and cautioned him against the danger of treading on her. Was I wrong, sir, in thinking this a strong picture of the temper and conduct of *America*? The poison of her teeth is the necessary means of digesting her food, and at the same time is certain destruction to her enemies. This may be understood to intimate that those things which are destructive to our enemies, may be to us not only harmless, but absolutely necessary to our existence. I confess I was wholly at a loss what to make of the rattles, till I went back and counted them, and found them just thirteen, exactly the number of the Colonies united in *America;* and I recollected, too, that this was the only part of the snake which increased in numbers. Perhaps it might be only fancy, but, I conceited the painter had shown a half-formed additional rattle, which, I suppose, may have been intended to represent the Province of *Canada*. 'Tis curious and amazing to observe how distinct and independent of each other the rattles of this animal are, and yet how firmly they are united together, so as never to be separated but by breaking them to pieces. One of those rattles singly, is incapable of producing sound, but the ringing of thirteen together is sufficient to alarm the boldest man living. The *Rattlesnake* is solitary, and associates with her kind only when it is necessary for their preservation. In Winter, the warmth of a number together will preserve their lives, while, singly, they would probably perish. The power of fascination attributed to her, by a generous construction may be understood to mean, that those who consider the liberty and blessings which *America* affords, and once came over to her, never afterwards leave her, but spend their lives with her. She strongly resembles *America* in this, that she is beautiful in youth, and her beauty increaseth with her age; "her tongue also is blue, and forked as the lightning, and her abode is among impenetrable rocks."

Having pleased myself with reflections of this kind, I communicated my sentiments to a neighbour of mine, who has a surprising readiness at guessing at every thing which relates to publick affairs; and, indeed, I should be jealous of his reputation in that way, was it not that the event constantly shows that he has guessed wrong. He instantly declared it as his sentiments, that the Congress meant to allude to Lord *North's* declaration in the House of Commons, that he never would relax his measures until he had brought *America* to his feet, and to intimate to his Lordship, that were she brought to his feet, it would be dangerous treading on her. But, I am positive he has guessed wrong, for I am sure the Congress would not condescend, at this time of day, to take the least notice of his Lordship in that or any other way. In which opinion I am determined to remain, your humble servant.

TRYON COUNTY COMMITTEE TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

County Committee Chamber, December 27, 1775.

Gentlemen: In answer of several letters of you received to day, concerning our Delegates wanting at your House, we would immediately, without delay, acquaint you, that in our meeting held on the 25th of *November* last, Mr. *William Wills*, of *Harpersfield*, was voted as a Delegate of our County, to represent us, in company with Mr. *John Moore*, at your House; and we despatched him immediately with his credentials therefor, and we doubted not of his appearance in *New-York* on that purpose some time ago. We have been informed that he went on his journey, and must suppose that he might be arrived by this time. But in case of the delay of such elected second Delegate, we do hereby empower the said *John Moore*, if agreeable to you, to be our sole representative for our County at the Provincial Congress, until we have certain notice of the circumstances of the aforementioned late chosen Mr. *Wills*.

Also, if Mr. *John Moore* should be on his return home in the time when said Mr. *Wills* would arrive in *New-York* at your House, we fully approve that he, then, might act in the same manner, as the only one representative for our County, until we shall receive further notice thereof, and in case of such further want of the one or the other, we will immediately cause a new voting again to supply such want. We may assure you that we are very sorry to be the cause of any delay or disappointment in your House; but we hope to be excused for the true circumstances aforementioned, and besides your letters came very late to our hands.

We remain, with all esteem, gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servants. By order of the Committee:

Isaac Paris, *Chairman.*

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM A GENTLEMAN AT WESTMORELAND, TO HIS FRIEND IN HARTFORD, DATED DECEMBER 27, 1775.

It will not be in my power to be in your parts this Winter, as we have lately had a visitation by a body of Tories, under the command of one *Plunket*, they pretended by orders from *Penn;* be that as it will, the bottom of it is toryism. As we were threatened with death and destruction, we had no other way but to fight. They had six or seven hundred men, two cannons, &c. I marched with about four hundred of my regiment, which I thought enough for seven hundred of such wretches. As soon as they came in sight, they fired without saying a word, and rushed to surround us. Our people met them with as much resolution, and a very heavy fire ensued. We soon drove them, killed a number, and drove one wing of the body into the mountain; the main body retreated. This was on the 21st of *December*.

On the 23d, at night, they attempted to cross the river, to destroy our settlements, where the men were chiefly drawn off; I sent a party to receive them, and just as their boat came to shore, with about one hundred men, our people poured in the shot upon them, at about three rods distance, and obliged them to retreat and make off as well as they could. By the best accounts we can get they had fifty or sixty killed and wounded. We had two killed and three wounded, one of which is since dead. Our enemies are all gone off, I believe for the Winter.

MATTHEW THORNTON TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Exeter, December 27, 1775.

May it please your Excellency: Your favour of the 23d instant, respecting the great want of blankets for the Army, I received this day, and communicated the same to the Congress now sitting, who immediately went into the consideration, and resolved to take the most speedy and effectual method in order to purchase all that can be spared within this Colony. Though we are fearful whether any considerable number can be obtained; yet we do not despair of procuring some, which will be forwarded to your Excellency with all possible despatch.

I am, with great respect, your Excellency's most humble servant,

Matthew Thornton, *Pres't.*

To His Excellency General *Washington.*

TO THE INHABITANTS OF THE UNITED COLONIES.

North-Carolina, December 28, 1775.

The dispute between *Great Britain* and *America* has been so often explained by able writers, that it is needless to say any thing concerning it, than this: If the *British* Parliament have a right to tax *America* in the manner and for the purposes they pretend, and to make laws to bind us in all cases, then it is unlawful for the *Americans* to oppose them. If, on the contrary, which has been proved, they have not that right, the *Americans*, in duty to themselves and their posterity, ought to oppose them. This they have done, and are still doing, notwithstanding the base and cruel measures fallen upon by those in power, in *Britain* and *America*, to prevent their procuring the means of defence; in which, however, they have hitherto been unsuccessful, as the *Americans* have, though at a great expense, been supplied with ammunition sufficient to enable them to maintain a defensive war for many months, during which time they have used every method that could be devised, to prevail with the governing powers in *Britain* to repeal their unjust and cruel acts, and to revive that peace and harmony which formerly subsisted between *Britain* and *America*. Petitions, addresses, &c., have been sent to them, and that repeatedly, in hopes that at last

they would meet with the desired and deserved success. But alas! *Britons* thirst for *American* blood! Regiments after regiments have been sent over to shed it; more we are threatened with, and all the horrors of an unjust, cruel, and unnatural war, are denounced against their fellow-subjects in *America*, whom they brand with the odious and undeserved epithet of rebels, only because they retain too much of their honoured *British* ancestors' spirit to submit to be slaves.

To defray the expenses of this just, necessary, and honourable defensive war, which the *Americans* have been compelled to engage in, they have been obliged to emit large sums in paper bills of credit. The preparations that *Britain* is making to prosecute their enslaving schemes the ensuing year, and (as they term it) to conquer *America*, makes it necessary, not only to keep up the forces that have been employed this year, but to add largely to their number for the service of the next, which will make another emission, and that a large one, absolutely necessary. Now, we know that the value of a paper currency depends upon the funds established to sink the bills in circulation, which, in the present case, is designed to be effected by a capitation or poll tax, to be paid annually by the people of each Province, for a number of years to come. But how the people are to become able to pay this tax is the next thing to be considered, and it cannot be considered too soon; for, should any real or imaginary insufficiency in the fund present itself to the publick, or be presented to it by the enemies of *America*, the credit of our paper currency sinks instantly. Our armies can then no longer be kept up, nor our liberties defended; we must then disband the one and resign the other, and become the abject slaves of those wretches whose mercies are cruel. The grand inquiry is, how these difficulties may be surmounted? And here I must beg leave to say that I was much surprised at the instructions given by the *Pennsylvania* Assembly to their Delegates appointed to represent that Province in the Continental Congress, which runs thus: "Though the oppressive measures of the *British* Parliament and Administration have compelled us to resist their violence by force of arms, yet we strictly enjoin you, that you, in behalf of this Colony, dissent from, and utterly reject, any propositions, should such be made, that may cause or lead to a separation from our mother country, or a change of the form of this Government." They add: "You are directed to make report of your proceedings to this House." That constituents have a right to give instructions to their representatives, and that they ought to exercise that right, will not be denied by any man who is acquainted with the *British* Constitution; but I think these instructions smell strong of Toryism, and I am sure they do not retain so much as the shadow of friendship to the cause of *American* liberty. The literal meaning of them seems to be this: If other petitions, addresses, &c., which we would still have presented, (even while *British* soldiers and fleets are murdering our people and burning our towns,) are, as the former ones have been, rejected and laughed at, we will, rather than not be esteemed *British* subjects, submit to the most abject slavery that our lordly masters will deign to let us live under.

Let us now take a view of the present state of *North-America*. Her ports blocked up, her towns burnt, her coasts watched by ships of war, her rivers and creeks infested with their tenders, commissioned to exercise the honourable employment of stealing sheep, hogs, cattle, and whatever else their vile commanders direct them, or they can force from the unguarded inhabitants. Add to this, the inhabitants of some towns of the first note in our country are drove from their habitations to make room for a vile, mercenary army, consisting of slaves for soldiers, and abandoned Ministerial tools for officers, whose deeds proclaim them incapable of further degeneracy. Let it not pass unnoticed, that the savage *Indians*, the *Negro* slaves, and the refuse of *English* jails, the convict servants, have all been applied to, to assist them in carrying fire and sword to the peaceful abodes of the honest, industrious inhabitants of these once happy Colonies, thereby to compel them to submit to slavery and oppression. Next, let us consider the vile intentions of the fabricators of the Restraining Act, calculated (by preventing the sale of our produce to any but *British* purchasers) to prevent our procuring the means of defence; and, lest this precaution should prove ineffectual, they have applied to several *European* Powers to prevent their subjects furnishing us with arms and ammunition, lest, if we are, we should put them to the noble use of defending ourselves. Mean and cowardly as it is, yet this they have done; they know our courage and fear the effects of our just indignation, when armed for the conflict.

From this view of our present state, which is not exaggerated, how weak, not to say wicked, must those men be who could vote for our suffering one moment longer, such cruel treatment and such vile indignity, even worse than might be expected from an enraged foreign enemy in time of open war! What has *Britain* to complain of, that she ought not to have expected from us if she had only considered us as men. But, condemning us as the descendants of those brave men, who, scorning to be the slaves of a tyrannical Prince and an abandoned Administration, removed from *Britain* (that sink of corruption) to this land of freedom, where, till of late, tyranny and corruption have not dared to show their detested heads, how infatuated must these men be, who think such men will wear the shackles of Ministerial slavery or lay down their liberties but with their lives. Thanks be to Heaven, though our case is bad, (so bad that *Britain* cannot make it worse,) there is yet a way open for us, not only to escape the threatened ruin but to become a happy, wealthy, powerful, and respectable people. If it be asked how this great work is to be effected? I answer,

First. By declaring an immediate Independency.

Secondly. By holding forth, to all the Powers of *Europe*, a general neutrality.

Thirdly. By immediately opening all our ports, and declaring them free to every *European* Power, except *Great Britain*, and inviting foreigners to purchase our commodities, and to furnish us with arms, ammunition, and such manufactures as we cannot, as yet, furnish ourselves with; which we cannot do with any prospect of success, so long as we retain even but the shadow of dependance on, or subjection to, *Great Britain*. We need not doubt, that *Britain* would endeavour to prevent our having a trade after our declaring independency, as well as now; but the case will, if I am not greatly mistaken, be widely different: Now, she says, we are her subjects, and we have not, as yet, informed the world that we disown subjection. She says, other nations have no right to trade with us, and it is at their risk if they do, and they know it; but when we declare ourselves independent, and offer trade, I apprehend the other Powers will look on us, and esteem us as such; as they certainly have nothing to do with the dispute between *Britain* and us, and consequently will not tamely submit to *Britain's* making captures of their vessels. Certain I am, it is the interest of *America* that she have a free trade to all the *European* markets, or that they have with us, which, for some time, will answer our purpose as well; and that the trade to *North-America* should be open, is the interest of every maritime Power in *Europe*; therefore, we need not doubt their encouraging it.

Fourthly. That in each Province, such persons as are able and willing, shall be encouraged to form themselves into companies (having first subscribed such sums as their circumstances will allow) for the erecting manufactories, the most suitable to the present and future real wants of our inhabitants.

Fifthly. That an act be passed in each Province, absolutely to prevent every kind of luxury and unnecessary expense, either in dress, equipage, furniture, eating, drinking, gaming, or any kind of expensive diversions, &c., &c., under heavy penalties.

Sixthly. That, at the expense of each Colony, encouragement be given to manufacturers and artificers of every useful kind to remove from *Europe* to *North-America*, there to set up their several trades; and that the encouragement that each Colony will give to each person, whether in land, money, or indulgences, be caused to be inserted in the newspapers of the different countries in *Europe*, from whence it might be expected such persons would be permitted to remove.

Seventhly. That an act be immediately passed in each Province for an immediate and constant application of the quit-rents of the land in each Province, to the purpose of

fortifying the coasts, rivers, &c., as soon as may be, for the building and fitting for service so many vessels of force as may be found necessary for our domestick defence.

Eighthly. That in the tobacco Colonies large quantities of tobacco shall no longer be permitted to be raised, as it is found to interfere with farming, so necessary now, and always to be encouraged, for the purpose of raising materials for manufacturing, which never can be raised in sufficient quantities for the use of the inhabitants of those Colonies while they employ all their force in raising tobacco.

Ninthly. That the laws of each Province, or so many of them as may be found of publick utility, be continued in force, with such alterations only as may be deemed necessary; that their number be rather lessened than increased; that as much as be ambiguity be expunged, and perspicuity introduced in its stead; that law be no longer a burden and a curse, but a blessing to our country.

Tenthly. That religion in each Province be continued upon the footing it now is, and that no man be despised on account of his religious opinions, provided they do not interfere with the peace and safety of the community; except, that Popery shall not be countenanced, by law, in any of the *United Colonies*.

I have now given the publick my sentiments on the present alarming state of our affairs, showed the necessity of a change, and endeavoured to point out the way to effect it. But I am sensible there are so many individuals that are interested to prevent such measures being pursued, that they will endeavour to frustrate every attempt that the *Americans* may make to provide for themselves those things they have hitherto depended on them for, and deter them, if possible, from making the attempt, by persuading them of the impossibility of succeeding. But surely our countrymen will not be guilty of so gross an absurdity as to take counsel of them, whose interest it is to deceive them. Some say, it is impracticable to manufacture for ourselves. I grant it so, with respect to the tobacco Colonies, without quitting, in some considerable degree, their favourite staple; but I should not despair of success, was I to undertake to prove, that it is their interest to do it now, and that they would have, in general, been in better circumstances as a people, had they fallen upon other methods than planting many years ago. The Northern Colonies are a proof of it, and the Southern ones, from their favourable climate, have greatly the advantage of their Northern neighbours.

It is by some said to be ungrateful in us to desire a separation from what they are fond to call the Parent State, to whom we are so much obliged. I ask for what? Why, say they, for taking off your produce, for furnishing you with what you want in exchange, and for protecting you from invading enemies at a great expense. In answer to which, I say, we have not sought nor desired a separation; that if we do separate, it is of necessity, not of choice. Cruelty and oppression compels us. We must separate, or become the labouring slaves of *Britain*, which we disdain to be. And with respect to trade, I deny that there is any colour of obligation, since we are compelled to sell to them, and them only, who thereby have it in their power to take our produce to themselves at any price they please to allow for it, and have the same advantage in rating whatever we take from them at what price they please. With regard to protection, I allow they assisted us, who were not negligent in opposing enemies, that were so on account of our connection with them. But I further say, that in protecting us, they protected themselves; for had *France*, in the last war, conquered these Colonies, *Britain* would have lost their trade, and *France* have gained it; the certain consequence of which would have been, that, for want of a revenue to support fleets and armies for her defence, against an enemy made so much stronger by such an advantageous acquisition, *Britain* could hardly have escaped becoming a Province of *France* before this day.

These things, I hope, will be duly considered by every inhabitant of *America*, as they are recommended to them to show the absurdity of continuing to petition and address, while our towns are in flames, and our inhabitants murdered, rather than separate from a cruel, blood-thirsty people, the cause of all our woes. If this attempt proves in any respect serviceable to the *American* cause, it will give a secret pleasure to

A British American.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM COLONEL HOWE TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE VIRGINIA CONVENTION, DATED DECEMBER 28, 1775.

I am at present, sir, so indispensably engaged, that I have not time to be so particular as I could wish, had I any thing of importance to communicate; but, except some salutes from the men-of-war, matters remain just as they did when I wrote you last. No effectual steps have been taken in respect to the exchange of prisoners, for which the enclosed copies of letters between Lord *Dunmore* and myself will, I hope, account in such a manner as to leave me, in the opinion of your honourable body, free from blame.

—

Ship Dunmore, December 25, 1775.

Sir: I have this moment received yours of the 24th, and in compliance with your request, have empowered the bearer, Mr. *Laurie*, to agree to any one of your Lieutenants in our custody, being exchanged in place of Mr. *Batut*, Lieutenant of the Fourteenth Regiment, and to an equal number of your privates, in lieu of those of the Fourteenth with you now.

I am, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

To *Robert Howe*, Esquire. Dunmore.

—

Norfolk, December 25, 1775.

My Lord: Desirous as we are to regain our friends in your custody, and to return to the army the officers and men of their corps who have fallen into our hands, we can, by no means, submit to place the officers and soldiers of the army, who have been taken in battle, upon a footing with those officers of militia and the peasants, that you have thought proper to deprive of their liberty. We have, since our march from the *Great-Bridge*, taken a number of those who were in action at that place; among them, some who acted under your commissions as field-officers; those I conceive, may be equitably exchanged for those of the same rank in your hands; and reluctant as I am to continue in confinement either your prisoners or ours, I shall consent to no exchange but such as equity shall warrant. I beg leave to refer you to Mr. *Laurie* for particulars. I should be glad to be favoured with a list of the prisoners you have in your hands, the rank they bear, and the manner in which they were taken.

I am, my Lord, your Lordship's most obedient, humble servant,

Robert Howe.

To His Excellency Lord *Dunmore*.

—

Ship Dunmore, December 26, 1775.

Sir: Yours of last night I received, and really am at a loss to know what your meaning is; you certainly, when you proposed an exchange of prisoners, could never have meant to pay your own people so poor a compliment, as not to look upon those, whom the Convention thought proper to appoint to hold military commissions, in any other light than officers; those you talk of as officers of militia and peasants, whom, you say, I have thought proper to deprive of their liberty, come under that predicament, and were taken armed against their liege Sovereign. If the rank of officers in each army is not to be our guide, I own I am at a loss to know by what rule we are to be governed in exchange of prisoners.

I am, sir, your humble servant, Dunmore.

To *Robert Howe*, Esq., in *Norfolk*.

—

Norfolk, December 27, 1775.

My Lord: I was not understood by your Lordship last night, and it gives me concern. You do me justice, however, when you suppose I could not mean, even by implication, to degrade any commissions issued by Conventions, whose authority I acknowledge, whose appointment I honour, and to whose service I have devoted myself. I am, I find, to inform your Lordship of what I really thought you before acquainted, that Conventions, from the fatal necessities of the times, have been compelled to establish three different military bodies: Militia, Minute Battalions, and Regular Regiments; and that they have made a distinction in the rank of each. What I said, therefore, in respect to

militia officers, was not without its propriety, had my meaning extended no further than as to their rank. You, my Lord, sometimes affect so much to despise any rank derived from Conventions, that courtesy itself cannot induce you, even in the common forms of address, to admit those appellations which they have fixed to particular characters. Circumstances, however, at other times, have so far an influence upon your Lordship as to prevail upon you, not only to admit that rank, but to endeavour to carry it higher than even the Convention intended.

A Colonel in the Minute service ranks only with a Lieutenant-Colonel of the Regulars; a Colonel of Militia, only with a Lieutenant-Colonel of Minute-Men. This must make it plain, that a Militia Lieutenant, though your Lordship had taken him in battle, cannot be deemed an equitable exchange for a Lieutenant of Regulars, much less, my Lord, if a man should have been torn from his farm, and arbitrarily deprived of his liberty, because a Convention had nominated him an officer, without his having done any one act that could warrant his seizure, or continue his confinement longer than despotism prevails over rights and privileges. In this case I might, indeed, compassionate his fate, but should betray the confidence reposed in me by my country, should I attempt to release him by a prisoner of equal rank taken in battle, who it would be my duty to consider as a pledge in my hands, for the redemption of some brave men, that by the chance of war may happen to be captivated.

The Convention, in order to establish a Militia, have appointed Captains in particular districts to train and exercise, in arms, all persons from sixteen to sixty years of age, without instructing or directing them to act against Government; these may meet and go through the manual exercise, and then return home, surely without the least guilt. Six months after, should some or all of these people be taken from their ploughs, made prisoners, and offered in exchange for those that are prisoners of war, could an officer be justified, who admitted of such an exchange? or would you, my Lord, should we seize upon the persons of the peasants, who come into this town every day, and who attend to your Proclamation, and subscribed your Test, admit of them in exchage for our officers and men, who you assert, were taken in arms? Information had given me to think, and till your last letter, I had no reason to doubt, that some of these officers and men you offered us, were such as I have described; and it was to that I alluded when I said, that I could not put those prisoners, taken in battle, upon a footing with the militia officers and peasants, whom you, my Lord, had thought proper to deprive of their liberty. I was explicit, I thought, when I told your Lordship, that I looked upon those officers, who, under your appointment, fought at the *Great-Bridge*, though taken since the action, as prisoners, who would be equitably offered in exchange for those of ours of the same rank taken by you; and when I desired an exact list of the men in your custody, the rank they bore, and the manner in which they were taken, I imagined it would be granted me; I wish now to obtain such a list, my Lord; and if I do, you will find that I shall not degrade those commissions issued by Conventions, the rank of which you seem so desirous I should maintain, but join you heartily, if you choose it, in one measure at least, that of returning to their friends such prisoners as we have of yours, and restoring to the bosom of their country those that you have torn from it.

I have not had it in my power, till within this hour, to answer your favour of last night; the delay you will please to excuse.

I am, my Lord, your Lordship's most obedient humble servant, ROBERT HOWE.

To His Excellency Lord *Dunmore*.

TORIES IN SUSSEX COUNTY, NEW-JERSEY.

Newtown, Sussex County, New-Jersey, December 28, 1775.

Last *Tuesday*, the 26th instant, about four hundred of the militia of this County, under the command of Colonel *Ephraim Martin* and *Mark Thompson*, assembled and proceeded in good order and regularity, in quest of Tories, a considerable number of whom (inhabitants of this County) had entered into a combination and agreement not to comply with any Congress measures; about forty, we hear, are taken, most of whom have recanted, signed the Association, and profess themselves true Sons of Liberty, being fully convinced of their error: and that two or three who remain incorrigible are to be sent to the Congress to be dealt with.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER RECEIVED AT HULL, IN ENGLAND, FROM A GENTLEMAN IN NORTH-CAROLINA, DATED DECEMBER 29, 1775.

Our Provincial Convention, at their last meeting, appointed Committees of Safety, consisting of thirteen members for each of the six districts of the Province; and these Committees, by authority of the Convention, elected a Provincial Council, consisting likewise of thirteen. The Legislative, Judicial, and Executive powers of Government, are now entirely in the hands of the said Council and Committees. Governour *Martin* is still on board the *Cruiser*, sloop-of-war, from which he issued a proclamation, forbiddiug a meeting of the Convention, which they resolved was a false, scandalous, scurrilous, and malicious libel, tending to stir up tumults and insurrections, dangerous to the peace of His Majesty's Government, &c., and ordered it to be burnt by the common hangman, which was accordingly done. They appointed two Treasurers, and ordered them to draw on the Continental Congress at *Philadelphia* for one hundred thousand dollars, for the pay and maintenance of three thousand Minute-Men; and to replace that sum, they have issued paper bills of credit for one hundred and twenty-five thousand dollars, and laid penalties on those who should speak disrespectfully of the bills, or offer them at less than eight shillings for a dollar. The Minute-Men are to be trained every day, *Sundays* not excepted; the uniform is a hunting-shirt, leggings, or spatterdashes, with garters. To encourage the supplying ourselves with what we used to import from *Great Britain*, they have voted large premiums to any person or persons who shall erect furnaces for refining iron, slitting mills, steel furnaces, and also, for the making of cotton cards, needles and pins; the refining of sulphur, and making saltpetre and gunpowder in this Colony.

The following is a copy of a Test drawn up by the Convention, signed by themselves, the Provincial Council, Committees of Safety, &c. &c., viz:

"We, the subscribers, professing our allegiance to the King, and acknowledging the Constitutional Executive power of Government, do solemnly profess, testify, and declare, that we do absolutely believe that neither the Parliament of *Great Britain*, nor any constituent member thereof, have a right to impose taxes on these Colonies to regulate the internal policy thereof; and that all attempts, by fraud or force, to establish and exercise such claims and powers, are violations of the peace and security of the people, and ought to be resisted to the utmost. And, that the people of this Province, singly and collectively, are bound by the acts and resolutions of the Continental and Provincial Congresses; because, in both, they are freely represented by persons chosen by themselves.

"And we do solemnly and sincerely promise and engage, under the sanction of virtue, honour, and the sacred love of liberty and our country, to maintain and support all and every the acts, resolutions, and regulations of the said Continental and Provincial Congresses, to the utmost of our power and abilities.

"In testimony whereof," &c.

The former Convention voted fifty thousand pounds for raising and embodying one thousand men, to be employed in the common cause, which were accordingly raised. A body of five hundred of them are now encamped near *Wilmington*. It is reported that many of them desert.

We have but little communication with the neighbouring Provinces, owing to the distracted state of the whole Continent; and what we hear is not always to be depended upon. The last accounts from *Virginia* say, that Lord *Dunmore* does not lose ground; and since his proclamation, offering freedom to indented servants and slaves, many people have joined him to save their property. He seized a printing press at *Norfolk*, which he employs for his own purposes; and, by the means of *Negroes*, and others,

continues to circulate his proclamations and intelligence through the country. It is said that Colonel *Henry*, with a large body of men, is gone against him; and a General from the *American* camp, at *Cambridge*, in *Massachusetts-Bay*, is expected on the same service.

A gentleman, who lately passed this way from *South-Carolina*, said that Lord *William Campbell*, Governour of that Province, and his Secretary, were still on board the *Tamer*, sloop-of-war. The Governour's lady remained at his house in *Charlestown*. Mr. *Stuart*, Superintendent of *Indian* Affairs, who had fled to *East-Florida* in *May* last, lately held a Congress with a great number of *Indians*, near *St. Augustine*, but they had not learnt, at *Charlestown*, what had been done by him and them. The Government of *South-Carolina* has been, for some time, in the hands of a Council of Safety, consisting of thirteen, and a General Committee of ninety-nine, who permitted several vessels to carry rice to the *West-Indies*, on condition of their bringing arms, ammunition, clothing, and other necessaries in return; and so strictly do they adhere to the General Continental Association, that a quantity of clothing, shipped from a foreign Island, being discovered to be of *British* manufacture, was sent back in the vessel that brought it. Some of the fire-arms, which were *French*, had, on trial, been found good for nothing. They have two regiments of Foot and one of Horse in actual pay, besides a great number of Volunteer Companies daily training, exclusive of the Militia, all which are under the command and direction of the Council of Safety.

An attack on *Charlestown* has been for some time expected, by an armament from *England*, on which account many of the inhabitants have left the town, almost all the merchandise and valuable effects are removed, and the Provincial records are, by order of the Council of Safety, carried to *Dorchester*, about twenty miles up in the country. A scheme was formed, and some vessels purchased, in order to attack and seize the *Tamer*, sloop; but, when the vessels were fitted out and armed, some misapprehension or misunderstanding arose among the several companies destined for the service, and the design was given up or postponed. It was said that the sum of one million pounds, currency, issued by the Congress last Summer, was nearly expended in putting the Colony in a state of defence; cash was very scarce, and many persons were issuing their own notes.

CAPTAIN BELLEW TO COLONEL HOWE.

Ship Liverpool, off Norfolk, December 30, 1775.

SIR: As I hold it incompatible with the honour of my commission to suffer men, in arms against their Sovereign and the laws, to appear before His Majesty's ships, I desire you will cause your sentinels, in the town of *Norfolk*, to avoid being seen, that women and children may not feel the effects of their audacity; and it would not be imprudent if both were to leave the town.

I am, sir, your most humble servant,

HENRY BELLEW.

To *Robert Howe*, Esq.

COLONEL HOWE TO CAPTAIN BELLEW.

Norfolk, December 30, 1775.

I am too much of an officer to wish you to do any thing incompatible with the honour of your commission, or to recede, myself, from any point which I conceive to be my duty. Under the influence of reciprocal feelings, consequences may ensue which either, perhaps, would choose to avoid. Our sentinels have received orders not to fire at your boats, or any other, unless approaching the shore in a hostile manner. If they exceed this order, we would punish them ourselves; or, if you do it, we shall thank you for it. If, however, your resentment extends farther than merely to them, I should wish the inhabitants of the town, who have nothing to do in this matter, may have time to remove with their effects. And, as to the rest, I should be unworthy of the respect of a man of your character, if I consulted any thing but my duty.

I am, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

ROBERT HOWE.

To *Henry Bellew*, Esq.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GENERAL COURT OF MASSACHUSETTS-BAY.

Cambridge, December 29, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: Having never considered the four independent companies which have been doing duty at *Braintree*, *Weymouth*, and *Hingham*, in the same point of view as the rest of the Army, (although some orders may have gone to or for them, through the hurry of business,) nor included them in my Returns to Congress, according to the Brigade-Major's Report from Congress, I do not think myself authorized to direct pay for them without first laying the matter before Congress, which I shall do by enclosing an exact transcript of your representation of the case, with this single remark: that, as they were not regimented, and were doing duty at some distance from these camps, I did not know whether to consider them as part of the Continental Army, and, therefore, had not ordered them payment heretofore.

With respect to the other requisition contained in your Resolve of the 20th, I do not think myself at liberty to extend the guards of this camp beyond *Squantum* and *Chelsea*, both fit places for observation. This was my sentiment of the matter when the Committee did me the honour to call yesterday; but as it appeared to be of some importance to this Government, I did not care to determine upon it without asking the opinion of some of the principal officers in this Army, whose sentiments, I am happy to find, coincide with my own.

This might be assigned as one, among other reasons, to show that I did not consider these four companies as part of the Continental troops; that there were times, in the course of the past Summer, when I should not have suffered them to have remained at the places they were posted, if I had considered myself vested with power to have withdrawn them.

I would not have it inferred, from hence, that I do not think it my duty, and with the greatest cheerfulness shall undertake, to march troops, if these lines are not to be exposed by it, to any place in this or the neighbouring Governments, to oppose an invasion. But, whilst the body of the Ministerial troops continue in *Boston*, and the circumstances of this Army remain as they are, it must be my first object to guard these lines.

I am, with great respect, gentlemen, &c.,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

GENERAL GATES TO GENERAL SULLIVAN.

Head-Quarters, Friday night, 8 o'clock, December 29, 1775.

SIR: I am commanded by his Excellency General *Washington*, to acquaint you that he is just informed that you propose to execute the project to-night, which, by some mischance, was delayed last night. If no intelligence of your intention has already reached the enemy, there is no doubt they were sufficiently informed, by the firing, by the tracks this morning they discovered in the snow, and other circumstances, that they are acquainted with your design. His Excellency, therefore, orders me to say, you had better wait a more favourable opportunity, when the absence of the moon, the light afforded by the snow, and weather more suitable to prevent discovery, correspond to give success to your undertaking.

I am, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

HORATIO GATES, *Adj't General.*

To Brig. Gen. *Sullivan, Winter-Hill.*

WINTHROP SARGENT TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Gloucester, December 29, 1775.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY: At the request of Messrs. *Jacob Green & Co.*, owners of the sloop *Speedwell*, —— *Cory*, Master, lately taken by Captain *Broughton* and sent into this harbour, we have maturely considered the within enclosed account, so far as it is carried out, and are of opinion that the charges are reasonable, and that the losses were sustained; and are further of opinion, that the captors, in justice, should pay it, with the remainder of the account, when the same can be ascertained. And we do recommend to your Excellency the same, hoping

you will order that justice may be done to the sufferers; and beg leave to subscribe ourselves,

Your Excellency's most obedient, humble servants.

WINTHROP SARGENT,
Chairman of the Committee of Safety.

SOUTH-CAROLINA COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO THE CONTINENTAL TREASURERS.

In the Council of Safety, Charlestown, S. C., December 31, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: The Congress, by a Resolution of the 12th *July* last, empowered the Commissioners of *Indian* Affairs in the Southern Department, to receive from the Continental Treasury ten thousand dollars, for defraying the expenses of treaties and presents to *Indians*. The Commissioners met at *Salisbury* on the 13th ultimo, and, among other proceedings, (copies of all which they transmitted to the Congress,) resolved on a meeting with the *Creek* and *Cherokee Indians*, empowered three of their members to purchase goods for presents to the *Indians*, and to draw on us for ten thousand dollars, and required us to advance them, and draw on you for the like sum. We have, accordingly, agreed to do so, acquainted them therewith, and shall pay their draft when presented, which we expect will be soon.

As we have occasion to send a gentleman, Captain *Robert Cochran*, to the *Massachusetts-Bay*, on some particular business of the Colony, in the execution of which he will require money, we have thought proper to draw on you, in his favour, for the sum, to be paid as he may have occasion. We should have procured an order from the Commissioners, which would have been a more formal and proper way of doing the business, but the service on which this gentleman goes requires despatch, money for him will be absolutely necessary. The only Commissioner in this Colony lives at a very great distance, another is in *Georgia*, a third in the *Cherokee* country, another in *North-Carolina*, and the fifth in *Virgina;* so that waiting for a draft from them, or a majority of them, would have occasioned much delay. We have, therefore, only to repeat, that we hope Mr. *Cochran* will meet with no disappointment, as it would frustrate our scheme, and be very detrimental to this Colony in particular, and, perhaps, to *America* in general. We presume the Congress is adjourned, or should have wrote to them on the subject. If they are, and you have any doubts about the propriety of paying this money, be pleased to mention them to the Delegates of *Pennsylvania* and Mr. *Charles Thomson*, who, we think, will remove them.

By order of the Council of Safety:

HENRY LAURENS, *President.*

To *George Clymer* and *Michael Hillegas*, Esquires, Continental Treasurers, at *Philadelphia*.

FREDERICK COUNTY (MARYLAND) COMMITTEE TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

Fredericktown, Frederick County, Md., December 30, 1775.

SIR: I am directed by the Committee to acknowledge the receipt of your favour of the 8th instant, which only came to hand yesterday evening, enclosing a resolve of the Congress respecting the removal of *Connolly*, *Cameron*, and *Smith*, to *Philadelphia*. In obedience thereto, the Committee have sent the prisoners, under guard of an officer (Dr. *Adam Fisher*) and ten privates, and make no doubt of their being safely delivered, agreeably to order. The guard expect to be reimbursed their necessary expenses, which the Committee do, and they hope the Congress will, think reasonable.

I am directed, also, to transmit you an account of the expenses incurred, on account of the prisoners, during their confinement here, amounting to £27 14*s.* 5½*d.*, which sum the Committee request the Congress will be pleased to order to be paid to the bearer, Dr. *Fisher*.

The jail of the County being, in the opinion of the Committee, altogether insecure, they were under the necessity of hiring rooms for the prisoners, and of appointing a guard to prevent their escape. The Militia of this town performed that duty till lately, but, on their refusing to serve any longer without a reasonable satisfaction being made, they were obliged to hire a guard. This has added to the expense, which the Committee would willingly have saved, but which, in our circumstances, could not be avoided.

I am, with respect, sir, your most humble servant,

JOHN HANSON, Jun., *Chairman.*

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq., President of the Congress, *Philadelphia*.

P. S. Since sealing this letter, I am sorry to acquaint you that *Smith* has made his escape.

JOHN HANSON, Jun.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read January 6, 1776.]

Sunday evening, December 31, 1775.

SIR: This moment an express arrived from General *Wooster*. Copy of his letter, with copy of a letter from General *Montgomery* to him, I now enclose you.

I cannot procure any gold or silver here to send to *Canada*. I am afraid it is not to be had at *Philadelphia*, as a considerable time has already elapsed since Congress gave me reason to hope that a supply would be sent.

I cannot, sir, help repeating my wish that a considerable force should be immediately sent into *Canada;* the necessity appears to me indispensable, for I do most sincerely believe that, unless such a measure be adopted, we shall severely repent of it, perhaps when too late to afford a remedy. I beg a thousand pardons of Congress for my importunity on this occasion; and I hope they will have charity enough to impute it to my zeal for the *American* cause.

From what I can learn, the troops that are at *Ticonderoga* will leave it to-morrow, and I have none to send there. The few that are here refuse to remain until *Tuesday*, to escort the provisions, before which I cannot move them, for want of carriages.

I have been so very long without hearing from Congress, that I am exceedingly anxious to have the honour of a line from you.

I am, sir, with sentiments of real esteem and regard, your most obedient and most humble servant,

PHILIP SCHUYLER.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq., &c.

COLONEL DONALD CAMPBELL TO GENERAL WOOSTER.

[Read January 17, 1776.]

At Holland-House, Saturday, December 31, 1775.

DEAR SIR: It is with the greatest distress of mind, that I have the task of communicating to you the event of an unfortunate attempt that was made to storm the town of *Quebeck*, between the hours of two and seven this morning, by four different attacks; unfortunate, indeed, when, with bitterness of soul, I inform you that the gallant and amiable General *Montgomery* was killed the first fire, as, also, his valiant Aid-de-camp, Captain *John Macpherson*, and Captain *Cheeseman*, of the first *New-Yorkers*, with two or three more. All this happened in the attack on the lower town, at *Anse de Meres*, where were the three battalions of *Yorkers*, commanded by the General, whom I attended; and I found myself under the disagreeable necessity of drawing off the troops (too ready to depart) at about seven o'clock, after having passed the first barrier, and just opening to attempt the second.

In the other principal attack, made by Colonel *Arnold*, with the detachment under his command, Captain *Lamb's* company of Artillery and two field-pieces, on sleighs, were at the *Sole de Mattelan*, where he succeeded so far as to force one gate, or barrier, and battery, with the misfortune of having his leg splintered, yet I hope not very dangerous, though, from his gallant conduct, he sustained a considerable loss of blood, and is now in the General Hospital, as, also, Brigadier Major *Ogden*, who was shot (a flesh wound) through the upper part of his shoulder, after a spirited and officer-like conduct, which was distinguishable in the whole of the officers, particularly Lieutenant-Colonel *Green*, Major *Bigelow*, and Major *Meigs*, as, also, Captain *E. Oswald*, Secretary to Colonel *Arnold* and a volunteer in the campaign; yet, after carrying that barrier

and a second one, they now remain in possession of the house from *Limeburner's Wharf*, in the lower town, to the second barrier, where they now maintain themselves, with between three and four hundred men; and it is extremely difficult to support them till dark, when I shall hope to draw them off; for which purpose, I sent Colonel *James Livingston*, with some of his regiment, and Major *Dubois*, of the Third *Yorkers*, with upwards of two hundred men, down to the General Hospital, to endeavour to throw themselves in, between this and night, or get Lieutenant-Colonel *Green* and his party out.

The other attack was with Colonel *Livingston* and his *Canadians*, to endeavour burning *St. John's Gate* with prepared faggots of combustible matter, which was not effected, owing to an early alarm in town. And the last was by another storm attack, from Major *Brown's* detachment, on *Cape-Diamond*, commanded by Capt. *Brown*.

Thus you have the four attacks that were concerted between the dear deceased General *Montgomery* and Colonel *Arnold*, which was, in many respects, hurried, from the circumstance of the inlistment of the troops under Colonel *Arnold*, whose service expires this day. Our whole loss, as far as I can collect without returns, does not exceed fifteen or twenty men, killed and wounded, yet I think a reinforcement of two hundred men, immediately, from *Montreal*, would be very proper; at the same time, I leave it to you to judge of the propriety of disarming the Tories of *Montreal*, and, at the same time, to assure you, it is no pleasure to me to enjoy the command which falls on me from the death of the General, and Colonel *Arnold's* keeping his bed; therefore, I request you will set out for this place as instantly as you can, as your presence is essential, on many accounts. I shall order every care of the troops, and disposition that may occur to me necessary. I must remind you of cash, as there is not above three or four hundred pounds here, from my recollection of what the General said a few days ago; but I have not yet examined any thing, and it is unfortunate, in a particular manner, that both are gone who had the charge of it. The great consumption of powder from the garrison is an object which the General had much at heart, and may be worthy of remark to the Congress, as well as full of force for this country, as you must be convinced the *Canadians* will never be so firmly on our side as when they are convinced we hold the scales. I hope the last affair will not strike them in the light it does me. I shall not make any alterations in commissions or officers, till I have the pleasure of seeing you here, though application has been made. The remaining Aid-de-camp, Mr. *Aaron Burr*, I would gladly recommend to you, for the memory of the deceased General, as well as his own personal bravery and good conduct.

I thought to have sent Mr. *Melchior's* express with this, but the bearer, Mr. *Edward Antill*, appointed by the General as Engineer, (whom I recommend to your favour and attention,) being well acquainted on the road, I prefer him, for sake of despatch, as I consider every moment important, and to whom I refer you to correct this hurried scroll, and give you particulars he was eye-witness to. My love to all friends and acquaintance, that inquire for me, and believe me to be, with love and esteem,

Your most obedient, humble servant,

DONALD CAMPBELL.

To General *Wooster*.

COLONEL ARNOLD TO GENERAL WOOSTER.

General Hospital, December 31, 1775.

DEAR SIR: I make no doubt but General *Montgomery* acquainted you with his intentions of storming *Quebeck*, as soon as a good opportunity offered. As we had several men deserted from us a few days past, the General was induced to alter his plan, (which was, to have attacked the upper and lower town at the same time,) thought it most prudent to make two different attacks upon the lower town; the one at *Cape-Diamond*, the other through *St. Roque's*. For the last attack I was ordered, with my own detachment and Captain *Lamb's* company of Artillery. At five o'clock, the hour appointed for the attack, a false attack was ordered to be made upon the upper town. We, accordingly, began our march. I passed through *St. Roque's*, and approached near a two-gun battery, picketed in, without being discovered, which we attacked; it was bravely defended for about an hour, but, with the loss of a number of men, we carried it. In the attack, I was shot through the leg, and was obliged to be carried to the Hospital, where I soon heard the disagreeable news that the General was defeated at *Cape-Diamond*, himself, Captain *Macpherson*, his Aid-de-camp, and Captain *Cheeseman*, killed on the spot, with a number of others not known. After gaining the battery, my detachment pushed on to a second barrier, which they took possession of; at the same time the enemy sallied out from *Palace-Gate* and attacked them in the rear. A field-piece, which the roughness of the road would not permit our carrying on, fell into the enemy's hands, with a number of prisoners. The last accounts from my detachment, about ten minutes since, they were pushing for the lower town. Their communication with me was cut off. I am exceedingly apprehensive what the event will be; they will either carry the lower town, be made prisoners, or cut to pieces. I thought proper to send an express to let you know the critical situation we are in, and make no doubt you will give us all the assistance in your power. As I am not able to act, I shall give up the command to Colonel *Campbell*. I beg you will immediately send an express to the honourable Continental Congress, and his Excellency General *Washington*. The loss of my detachment, before I left it, was about two hundred men, killed and wounded. Among the latter is Major *Ogden*, who, with Captain *Oswald*, Captain *Burr*, and the other volunteers, behaved extremely well. I have only to add, that I am, with the greatest esteem, your most obedient and very humble servant,

B. ARNOLD.

To General *Wooster*, *Montreal*.

P. S. It is impossible to say what our future operations will be, until we know the fate of my detachment.

GENERAL GREENE TO SAMUEL WARD.

Prospect-Hill, December 31, 1775.

You entreat the General Officers to recommend to the Congress the giving of a bounty. But his Excellency, General *Washington*, has often assured us that the Congress would not give a bounty, and before they would give a bounty they would give up the dispute.

The cement between the Northern and Southern Colonies is not very strong, if forty thousand lawful, will induce the Congress to give us up. Although I do not imagine that the necessity of allowing a bounty would have broken the Union, yet it was a sufficient intimation that the bare mention was disagreeable. Can you think we should hesitate a moment to recommend a bounty, if we thought ourselves at liberty to do so? We should then have an opportunity of picking the best men, filling the Army soon, keeping up a proper discipline, and preserving good order and government in camp; while we are now obliged to relax the very sinews of military government, and give a latitude of indulgence to the soldiery incompatible with security of either camp or country.

What reason have you to think that a proposition of that sort, if it came recommended by General Officers, would be acceded to by the Congress? Most of the Generals belong to the Northern Governments; if the Congress refuse to hear their Delegates, I apprehend they would the Generals also. The Congress cannot suppose that the Generals are better acquainted with the temper and genius of this people than the Delegates are from these Provinces; and why they should refuse to hear you, and not us, I cannot imagine.

A good politician will always have an eye to economy; but, to form an extensive plan, and not provide the means for carrying it into execution, betrays either a defect in counsel, or want of resolution to prosecute.

There is nothing that will encourage our enemies, both external and internal, like the difficulties we meet in raising a new Army. If we had given a good bounty, and raised the troops speedily, it would have struck the Ministry with astonishment to see that four Colonies could raise such an army in so short a time. They could not expect to conquer a people so united, firm, and resolutely determined to

defend their rights and privileges. But, from the difficulties we meet with, the confusion and disorder we are in, the large number of the soldiers who are going home, our enemies will draw a conclusion, that we are like a rope of sand, and that we shall soon break to pieces. *God* grant it may not be the case.

You misunderstand me, my dear sir, or I wrote what I did not mean. It was not the lower class of people that I meant to complain of, but the merchants and wealthy farmers, who, I think, do not exert themselves as they ought. This is no time for getting riches, but to secure what we have got. Every shadow of oppression or extortion ought to disappear; but, instead of this, we find many articles of merchandise enhanced in price four times the first cost, and most of them cent per cent. The farmers are extortionate, whenever their situation furnishes them with an opportunity. These are the people that I complain most of; they are wounding the cause. When people are distressed, it is natural for them to try every thing, and every where, to get relief; and, to find oppression instead of relief from these two orders of men, will go near to driving the poorer sort to desperation. It will be good policy in the *United Colonies* to render the poorer sort of people as easy and happy, under their present circumstances, as possible; for they are creatures of a day, and present gain and gratification, though small, has more weight with them than much greater advantages at a distance. A good politician must, and will, consider the temper of the times, and the prejudices of the people he has to deal with, when he takes his measures to execute any great design.

The current sentiment in the *New-England* Colonies, generally, favours the Opposition; but, if the distresses of the people are multiplied, their opinions may change. They will naturally look back upon their former happy situation, and contrast that with their present worse condition, and conclude that the source of all their misery originates in their dispute with *Great Britain*.

If all the maritime towns throughout the *United Colonies* had a body of troops in continual pay, it would, in a great measure, remedy this evil. Provision must be made for those who are thrown out of employ by the decay of trade. If they are not engaged for us, necessity will oblige them to engage against us; for they cannot live upon the air. What signifies our being frightened at the expense? If we succeed, we gain all; but, if we are conquered, we lose all; not only our present possessions, but all our future labours will be appropriated to the support of a haughty, proud, insolent set of puppies, whose greatest merit with the Crown will be, to render the people as completely humble as possible.

I agree with you, that Congress should embody seventy thousand men; all the troops raised in the different Colonies to be upon Continental pay; and where there any stationed for the protection of any particular Province, to be considered as a detachment from the Grand Army; and all, in every Province, to be subject to the Commander-in-chief, and at his disposal and discretion. A body of troops in each Colony would support the spirited, confirm the weak and wavering, and awe our oppressors into submission; for there are no arguments, however well supported by truth and reason, that carry such conviction with them as those which are enforced from the muzzle of a gun, or the point of a bayonet.

If the Southern and Northern troops were exchanged, it would be serviceable to the cause. It would, in a great measure, cure the itch for going home on furlough, and save the Continent the needless expense of paying a large body of troops that are absent from camp.

You complain, and say the *New-England* Colonies are treated ill. Why are they treated so? You think there ought to have been a bounty given. The Congress always had it in their power to give a bounty, if they pleased. Why were not the *New-England* Delegates sent to establish the plan for the constitution of the new Army? Why were strangers sent at so critical a period? History does not afford so dangerous a measure as that of disbanding an old army and forming a new one, within point blank shot of the enemy. This task was rendered very difficult, by the reduction of eleven regiments, and the discharge of such a number of officers, who have done every thing to obstruct and retard the filling the new Army, in hopes to ruin the establishment and bring themselves into place again.

From whence originates that groundless jealousy of the *New-England* Colonies? I believe there is nothing more remote from their thoughts, than designs unfavourable to the equal rights of the other Colonies. For my own part, I abhor the thoughts, and cannot help thinking it highly injurious to the *New-England* people, who ever have been distinguished for their justice and moderation. I mentioned this subject to Mr. *Lynch* and Colonel *Harrison*, who assured me there was no such sentiment prevailing in Congress, nor among the Southern inhabitants of any respectability. I am sorry to find they were mistaken. It grieves me that such jealousies should prevail. If they are nourished, they will, sooner or later, sap the foundation of the Union, and dissolve the connection. *God* in mercy avert so dreadful an evil. How unhappy is it, for the interests of *America*, that such Colonial prejudices should prevail, and partial motives influence her councils! The interests of one Colony are no ways incompatible with the interests of another. We have all one common interest, and one common wish, to be free from Parliamentary jurisdiction and taxation. The different climates and produce of the Colonies will ever preserve a harmony amongst them, by an active trade and commerce. Each Colony will have the benefit of its own staples, whether they are independent, or connected with *Great Britain*.

Governour *Franklin* of [*New-Jersey*] and the Assembly go on with a high hand. His impudence, and the Congress's silence, astonish all this part of the world. To suffer such presumption to go unpunished, betrays a want of spirit to resent, or power to punish. The dignity of the Congress ought to be held sacred, or else its authority will soon be brought into contempt. His conduct is calculated to breed a mutiny in the State; such budding mischiefs cannot be too early nipped; diseases that might have been easily remedied if seasonably attended to, have often been rendered incurable by being too long neglected. I wish this may not be the case here.

This is the last day of the old inlisted soldiers' service. Nothing but confusion and disorder reign. We are obliged to retain their guns, whether private or publick property. They are prized, and the owners paid; but, as guns, last Spring, ran very high, the Committee that values them sets them much lower than the price they were purchased at. This is looked upon to be both tyrannical and unjust. I am very sorry that necessity forces his Excellency to adopt any measures disagreeable to the people. But the Army cannot be provided for in any other way, and those we detain are very indifferent; generally without bayonets, and of different sized bores. Twenty thousand troops, with such arms, are not equal, in an engagement, to fifteen thousand, with such arms as the King's troops are equipped with. I wish our troops were better furnished. The enemy has a great advantage over us.

We have suffered prodigiously for want of wood. Many regiments have been obliged to eat their provisions raw, for want of fuel to cook it; and, notwithstanding we have burnt up all the fences, and cut down all the trees for a mile round the camp, our sufferings have been inconceivable. The barracks have been greatly delayed for want of stuff. Many of the troops are yet in tents, and will be for some time, especially the officers. The fatigues of the campaign, the suffering for want of wood and clothing, have made a multitude of soldiers heartily sick of service.

The *Connecticut* troops went off, in spite of all that could be done to prevent it; but they met with such an unfavourable reception at home, that many are returning to camp again already. The people upon the road expressed so much abhorrence at their conduct for quitting the Army, that it was with difficulty they got provisions. I wish all the troops now going home may meet with the same contempt. I expect the Army, notwithstanding all the difficulties we meet with, will be full in about six weeks.

We never have been so weak as we shall be to-morrow, when we dismiss the old troops. Our growing weaker, whilst the enemy are growing stronger, renders our situation disagreeable.

General *Lee* has just returned from *Rhode-Island*. He has taken the Tories in hand, and sworn them, by a very

solemn oath, that they would not, for the future, grant any supplies to the enemy, directly or indirectly, nor give them any kind of intelligence, nor suffer it to be done by others without giving information. . . . . and . . . . . were the principals. He gives a very unfavourable account of the spirit and resolution of the people.

I beg leave to congratulate you on the recovery of your health, which may *God* in his providence long preserve, that you may enjoy happiness yourself, and continue a blessing to your country.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read January 15, 1776. Referred to Mr. *Wythe*, Mr. *Adams*, and Mr. *Wilson*.]

Cambridge, December 31, 1775.

SIR: I wrote you on the 25th instant, since which I am not honoured with any of your favours. The estimate I then enclosed you was calculated to pay the troops, &c., up to the 1st of *January*. That cannot be done for want of funds in the Paymaster-General's hands, which causes a great murmuring amongst those who are going off. The monthly expenses of this Army amount to near two hundred and seventy-five thousand dollars, which I take the liberty of recommending to the observation of Congress, that their future remittances may be governed thereby. It sometimes happens that persons would wish to deposite money in the hands of the Paymaster-General, for his bills on the Treasury at *Philadelphia*. He has, hitherto, declined such offers, not having authority from Congress to draw. Would it not be proper to give this power? If it should be approved of, you will please to point out the mode that the Congress would choose to have it done in.

The clothing sent to the Quartermaster-General is not sufficient to put half our Army into regimentals, nor is there a possibility of getting any quantity here. I have wrote to General *Schuyler*, that I wish what was lodged at *Albany*, could be spared for these troops, as General *Montgomery* would clothe the men under his command at *Montreal*. If this can be done, it will be of infinite service; and no time should be lost in forwarding them to this camp.

In forming the regiments for the new establishment, I thought it but justice to appoint the officers, detached under Colonel *Arnold*, to commissions in them. Their absence, at present, is of very great detriment to the service, especially in recruiting. I would, therefore, wish, if the Congress intend raising troops in or for *Canada*, that they could be taken in there. The sooner I have their opinion of this matter, the better; that if they can be commissioned in *Canada*, I may appoint officers here to replace them.

Enclosed you have a copy of a representation sent to me by the Legislative body of this Province, respecting four companies stationed at *Braintree*, *Weymouth*, and *Hingham*. As they were never regimented, and were doing duty at a distance from the rest of the Army, I did not know whether to consider them as a part of it, nor do I think myself authorized to direct payment for them, without the approbation of Congress.

It has been represented to me that the free *Negroes* who have served in this Army are very much dissatisfied at being discarded. As it is to be apprehended that they may seek employment in the Ministerial army, I have presumed to depart from the resolution respecting them, and have given license for their being inlisted. If this is disapproved of by Congress, I will put a stop to it.

I believe Colonel *Gridley* expects to be continued as Chief Engineer in this Army. It is very certain that we have no one here better qualified. He has done very little, hitherto, in that department; but if the Congress choose to appoint him, I will take care that he pays a proper attention to it. Before I quit this subject, I must remark that the pay of the Assistant Engineers is so very small, that we cannot expect men of science will engage in it. Those gentlemen who are in that station, remained under the expectation that an additional allowance would be made them by the respective Provinces in which they were appointed, to that allowed by the Congress.

Captain *Freeman* arrived this day at camp from *Canada*. He left *Quebeck* the 24th ultimo, in consequence of General *Carleton's* proclamation, which I have the honour to send you herewith. He saw Colonel *Arnold* the 26th, and says he was joined at *Point-aux-Tremble* by General *Montgomery*, the 1st instant; that they were about two thousand strong, and were making every preparation for attacking *Quebeck;* that General *Carleton* had with him about twelve hundred men, the majority of whom are sailors; that it was his opinion the *French* would give up the place, if they get the same conditions granted to the inhabitants of *Montreal*.

Captain *Adams*, of the *Warren*, armed schooner, sent into *Marblehead* the sloop *Sally*, bound from *Lisbon* to *New-York*, laden with two pipes and one hundred and twenty-six quarter-casks of wine. The sloop was made a prize of by the *Niger*, man-of-war, somewhere near *Bermudas*, the Captain of whom put his mate and five hands on board, with orders to proceed with her to *Boston*. The sloop and cargo belongs to Mr. *Peter Barberie*, of *Perth-Amboy*, in *New-Jersey*.

Captains *Semple* and *Harbeson* take under their care Mr. *Kirkland*, who appears to be a much more illiterate and simple man than his strong recommendations bespake him. Captain *Matthews* and Mr. *Robinson* will accompany them. The two latter were prisoners taken by Lord *Dunmore*, who was sending them to *Boston*, from whence there is little doubt but that they would be forwarded to *England*, to which place, I am credibly informed, Captain *Martindale*, and the crew of the *Washington*, are sent; also, Colonel *Allen*, and the prisoners taken with him in *Canada*. This may account for General *Howe's* silence on the subject of an exchange of prisoners, mentioned in my letter to him.

General *Lee* is just returned from his excursion to *Rhode-Island*. He has pointed out the best method the Island would admit of for its defence. He has endeavoured, all in his power, to make friends of those that were our enemies. You have, enclosed, a specimen of his abilities, in that way, for your perusal. I am of opinion, that if the same plan was pursued through every Province, it would have a very good effect

I have long had it in my mind to mention to Congress, that frequent applications had been made to me respecting the Chaplains' pay, which is too small to encourage men of abilities. Some of them, who have left their flocks, are obliged to pay the Parson, acting for them, more than they receive. I need not point out the great utility of gentlemen, whose lives and conversation are unexceptionable, being employed in that service in this Army. There are two ways of making it worth the attention of such. One is, an advancement of their pay; the other, that one Chaplain be appointed to two regiments. This last, I think, may be done without inconvenience. I beg leave to recommend this matter to Congress, whose sentiments hereon I shall impatiently expect.

Upon a further conversation with Captain *Freeman*, he is of opinion, that General *Montgomery* has with him near three thousand men, including Colonel *Arnold's*. He says that Lord *Pitt* had received repeated orders from his father to return home, in consequence of which he had embarked some time in *October*, with a Captain *Green*, who was master of a vessel belonging to *Philadelphia*.

By a number of salutes in *Boston* harbour, yesterday, I fancy Admiral *Shaldam* is arrived. Two large ships were seen coming in. Our inlistments now amount to nine thousand six hundred and fifty. Those gentlemen who were made prisoners of by Lord *Dunmore*, being left destitute of money and necessaries, I have advanced them one hundred pounds, lawful money, belonging to the publick, for which I have taken Captain *Matthews's* draft on the Treasury of *Virginia*, which goes enclosed.

I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq.

P. S. You have enclosed the Returns of the Army.

The Committee of both Houses, "appointed to wait on, and represent to, his Excellency General *Washington*, the circumstances of four companies, now doing duty in the towns of *Braintree*, *Weymouth*, and *Hingham*, setting forth by whose order they were raised; that they were then con-

sidered as part of the thirteen thousand six hundred men, agreed to be inlisted by this Colony, where they have done duty, &c.; and to request that his Excellency would order them to be paid by the *United Colonies*," beg leave to represent: That as the propriety of such an order depends on various circumstances, and as many important matters are constantly soliciting his Excellency's attention, the Committee report the following state of facts, to be laid before him, so that he may be the better enabled to answer the request of this Court:

Upon application from the towns aforesaid, as also from those of *Chelsea* and *Malden*, on or about the 1st of *May* last, to the Committee of Safety of this Colony, who then had the direction of raising and stationing the forces within the same, praying that they would (from a consideration of the situation of said towns, and that the enemy could land in any of them, from *Boston* harbour, within an hour after they enter their boats, and in some parts in less than half an hour; and, also, that they could, from thence, easily penetrate into the country,) order a detachment from the camps as a guard, to be stationed in these towns: The said Committee of Safety, with the Council of War, after full inquiry and deliberation, determined that it was necessary that a party should be constantly stationed on the sea-coasts of those towns, to watch the motions of the enemy, and prevent their landing. But as no troops could well be spared, at that time, from either of the camps of *Cambridge* or *Roxbury*, they directed that there should immediately be raised, one company in *Hingham*, one in *Weymouth*, and two in *Braintree*, (also, two at *Chelsea* and *Malden*,) and that these companies should be joined to such regiments, in future, as should be directed.

The men were raised as ordered, and were then, and ever have been, considered as part of the thirteen thousand six hundred men to be raised by this Colony. They were so considered by the General Officers, and have been employed in such services, place and places, as the commanding officer at *Roxbury* hath, from time to time, directed, as will appear by his orders to the several Captains of said companies, some copies of which accompany this representation.

A company from *Roxbury* was, as soon as the state of that camp would admit of it, detached to the assistance of these four companies; and upon their being ordered back in *August* last, two other companies, also part of the Continental Army, were sent to supply their place, and the place of a company drawn from *Cohasset*, a town adjoining to *Hingham*. When these four companies were raised, this Colony had it not in contemplation to raise men for the general defence of the sea-coasts, and they never have been considered by us in any other point of view than as part of our quota for the common defence; and being stationed far within the narrow limits of the harbour of *Boston*, his Excellency will, undoubtedly, from all these considerations, grant the reasonable request of this Court, and order these forces to be paid by the *United Colonies*.

In Council, December 26, 1775.

Read and accepted; and, thereupon,

Resolved, That the Committee who were appointed to wait upon his Excellency General *Washington*, with a representation of the state of the said four Companies, be excused that part of their service; and that the Committee appointed to wait upon his Excellency, to request his informing this Court how far he will extend his guards, &c., present him with the foregoing Report and Representation, with the papers accompanying them, and request his ordering payment to said companies.

Sent down for concurrence.

PEREZ MORTON, *Deputy Secretary*.

In the House of Representatives, December 26, 1775.

Read and concurred. Sent up.

JAMES WARREN, *Speaker*.

A true copy. Attest:

PEREZ MORTON, *Deputy Secretary*.

—

By His Excellency GUY CARLETON, *Captain-General and Governour-in-chief in and over the Province of* QUEBECK, *and the Territories depending thereon, in* AMERICA, *Vice-Admiral of the same, and Major-General of His Majesty's Forces, commanding the Northern District, &c., &c., &c.*

A PROCLAMATION.

Whereas, it has been found expedient to raise and embody a Militia within this city, to co-operate with, and to assist, His Majesty's troops, in this garrison, in the preservation of the city, and of the persons and property of His Majesty's good and faithful subjects, resident therein, against certain rebellious persons who have invaded this Province, a number of whom have lately appeared in arms before the walls of this town: And whereas, information has been given me, that some persons, resident here, have contumaciously refused to enroll their names in the Militia lists, and to take up arms, in conjunction with their fellow-citizens, for the purposes aforesaid; and that others, who had enrolled their names, and had, for some time, carried arms in the defence and preservation of the city, have lately laid them down: And, also, that some persons are busy in endeavouring to draw away, and alienate, the affection of His Majesty's good and faithful subjects, of this city, from His Majesty's person and Government: For these reasons, and in order to rid the town of all useless, disloyal, and treacherous persons, I have thought fit to issue this Proclamation, and I do, hereby, strictly order and enjoin all and every person and persons whatsoever, liable to serve in the Militia, and residing at *Quebeck*, who have refused or declined to enroll their names in the Militia lists, and to take up arms in conjunction with His Majesty's good subjects of this city, and who still refuse or decline so to do, as well as those who having once taken up arms, have afterwards laid them down, and will not take them up again, to quit the town in four days from the date hereof, together with their wives and children, and to withdraw themselves out of the limits of the District of *Quebeck*, before the first day of *December* next, under pain of being treated as Rebels or Spies, if, thereafter, they shall be found within the said limits.

And, inasmuch as the persons, who, in obedience to this Proclamation, are to quit this town and district, may have bought up a considerable quantity of the provisions brought in for the subsistence of the inhabitants of the town, and it would be imprudent to suffer those provisions to be carried out, more especially as the country abounds with the necessaries of life, I do, hereby, further order and enjoin all and every such person and persons, to deliver in, forthwith, to the Hon. *George Allsop*, Esq., Commissary, a true inventory or list of their provisions and stores, in order that they may be fairly and justly valued, and the full price paid to the respective proprietors, before their departure.

Given under my hand and seal of arms, at the Castle of *St. Lewis*, in the City of *Quebeck*, this twenty-second day of *November*, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-five, in the sixteenth year of the reign of our Sovereign Lord, *George* the Third, by the grace of *God*, of *Great Britain*, *France*, and *Ireland*, King, Defender of the Faith, &c.

GUY CARLETON.

By His Excellency's command:

H. T. CRAMAHE.

GOD *save the King*.

—

DEPOSITION OF JOHN BOURS.

I, *John Bours*, here, in the presence of Almighty *God*, as I hope for ease, honour, and comfort, in this world, and happiness in the world to come, most earnestly, devoutly, and religiously swear, neither directly nor indirectly to assist the wicked instruments of Ministerial tyranny and villany, commonly called the King's Troops and Navy, by furnishing them with provisions or refreshments of any kind, unless authorized by the Continental Congress, or the Legislature, as at present established, of this particular Colony of *Rhode-Island*.

I do also swear, by the same tremendous and Almighty *God*, that I will neither, directly nor indirectly, convey any intelligence, nor give any advice to the aforesaid enemies so described; and that I pledge myself, if I should, by any accident, get the knowledge of such treason, to inform immediately the Committee of Safety.

And as it is justly allowed, that when the sacred rights and liberties of a nation or community are invaded, neu-

trality is not less base and criminal than open and avowed hostility, I do further swear and pledge myself, as I hope for eternal salvation, that I will, whenever called upon by the voice of the Continental Congress, or that of the Legislature of this particular Colony under their authority, to take arms and subject myself to military discipline, in defence of the common rights and liberties of *America*. So help me *God*.*

JOHN BOURS.

Sworn at *Newport, December* 25, 1775.

—

GENERAL ORDERS.

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, December 26, 1775.

(Parole, *Baltimore.*) (Countersign, *Lux.*)

A Court of Inquiry, consisting of Major-General *Putnam*, President; and Brigadiers-General, *Heath*, *Sullivan*, and *Greene*, members; held by order of his Excellency the General, to examine into the cause of a complaint exhibited by a number of Field-Officers and others in General *Sullivan's* Brigade, against the Commissary-General, *Joseph Trumbull*, Esq. The articles in the complaint were:

First. For not delivering out the back allowance of peas, or the value thereof in money, to the officers and men.

Second. For taking in onions at two shillings and eight pence, and delivering them out at four shillings; and,

Third. For taking in potatoes at one shilling and four pence, and delivering them out at two shillings.

The Court, on mature consideration, beg leave to report to his Excellency, that the first article of the charge is groundless; that the second and third articles, are confessed by the Commissary-General, and though the Court are fully satisfied there was not the least design of fraud in Mr. *Trumbull*, they are unanimously of opinion that the measure was pernicious and injudicious.

The General approves of the proceedings of the above Court of Inquiry.

At a Court of Inquiry, held at *Roxbury*, to examine into the conduct of Major *Parke*, Deputy Quartermaster-General, whereof Colonel *Jedediah Huntington* was President, for "forcibly quartering troops in the house of Major *Thompson*." The Court were of opinion that Major *Parke* conducted himself in obedience to his orders, and as the necessity of the case required.

Thomas Trefry, of Captain *Glover's* Company, in Colonel *Glover's* Regiment, tried at a General Court-Martial for "desertion," is found guilty, and ordered to pay twenty shillings lawful money, to be appropriated according to the rules and regulations of the *Massachusetts* Army.

The General approves the proceedings of the Court of Inquiry held on Major *Parke*, and of the sentence of the General Court-Martial above-mentioned, and orders it to take place accordingly.

—

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, December 27, 1775.

(Parole, *Annapolis.*) (Countersign, *Chase.*)

The Regimental Quartermasters are forthwith to settle with and give receipts to the Commissary-General, or his Deputies. The day they next draw, they are to take the whole of the provision and weekly allowance then due.

The Colonels who have purchased clothing at the Quartermaster-General's store, for the use of their men, are directed to discharge their respective debts out of the moneys they are about to receive in behalf of their respective corps.

The Colonels of the new established regiments, to order their recruiting officers to send all the recruits they have raised to their respective Regiments at *Roxbury* and *Cambridge*, by the first day of *January* next.

* CAMBRIDGE, *Thursday, January* 4, 1775.—On *Wednesday*, the week before last, Major-General *Lee* set out for *Rhode-Island*. He was attended from hence by his guard, and a party of Riflemen; and from *Providence*, by the Cadet Company of that place, and a number of Minute-Men. He entered the town of *Newport* the *Monday* following, *December* 25, preceded by the Cadets, his guard, and the Riflemen. While there, he called before him a number of obnoxious persons, to whom he tendered an oath of fidelity to the country, which was taken by all of them, excepting Colonel *Joseph Wanton*, Jun., *Nicholas Lechmere*, and *Richard Beale*, two custom-house officers, who refused taking it. Upon which they were put under guard, and brought to *Providence*. The General, after having viewed the Island, and given directions for erecting some fortifications, set out for *Providence* on *Wednesday*, from whence he came to town last *Saturday*.

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, December 28, 1775.

(Parole, *Jamaica.*) (Countersign, *Price.*)

As the time is just at hand when the *Massachusetts*, *New-Hampshire*, and *Rhode-Island* troops (not again inlisted) will be released from their present engagement, the General recommends to them to consider what may be the consequence of their abrupt departure from the lines. Should any accident happen to them before the new Army gets greater strength, they not only fix eternal disgrace upon themselves as soldiers, but inevitable ruin, perhaps, upon their country and families.

It is from no dislike to the conduct of the officers that the General requests the men to stay without them; but, in the first place, because it is unnecessary to burden the Continent with a greater number of officers than are requisite to the men; and in the next, because it retards the forming and the proper government of the new Regiments. Those non-commissioned officers and soldiers, therefore, who have their country's welfare so much at heart as to stay till the last of *January*, if necessary, may join any Company in any of the new established Regiments they please, provided they do not increase the number of rank and file in such Company to more than seventy-six men, more than which no Company is to exceed. All the officers and soldiers at present of other Regiments, but appointed to or inlisted in Colonel *Learned's*, *Parsons's*, *Joseph Read's*, *Huntington's*, *Ward's*, *Wyllys's*, and *Bailey's* Regiments, are to join them to-morrow; at which time any officer or soldier, in either of those Regiments which belongeth to other Regiments under the new establishment, are to join. In like manner all the officers and soldiers (under the new establishment) who belong to Colonels *Prescott's*, *Glover's*, *Patterson's*, *Sergeant's*, *Phinney's*, *Arnold's*, *Greaton's*, and *Baldwin's* Regiments, are to join on *Saturday* next, when any officers or soldiers in either of those Regiments, belonging to other Regiments, are also to remove to them. On *Sunday*, the same change is to take place with respect to Colonels *James Read's*, *Nixon's*, *Stark's*, *Whitcomb's*, *Poor's*, *Varnum's*, *Hitchcock's*, *Little's*, *Webb's*, *Bond's*, and *Hutchinson's* Regiments.

It is recommended to the Colonels of each of the above named Regiments, to send officers at the time appointed, to receive and march the men from the Regiments they are inlisted out of, to those they are to join, that it may be effected with more regularity and ease, and the change made with as little confusion as possible.

It is expected of such men as are determined not to continue in the service another campaign, that they will sell their blankets to those who do, and are in want of them. The same thing is also recommended to the Militia.

In appraising the Arms, the General expects that they be numbered and marked in such manner as the owners of them, and the prices, may, at any time, be ascertained upon the delivery of them by the Commissary of the Stores. All Arms, thus appraised, and taken for the use of the publick, must be delivered into the care of the Commissary of the Ordnance Stores, but may be redrawn immediately, if the Colonel will pass his receipt for them, and account for the delivery to his men.

—

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, December 29, 1775.

(Parole, *Providence.*) (Countersign, *Salem.*)

The Commissary-General having estimated the value of the different species of Provisions which constitute a ration under the Continental allowance, and finding it to amount to seven pence half-penny lawful money; the General having seen the said estimate, approves of it, and orders that they be settled with accordingly.

The General was in great hopes that a sufficient sum of money would have been sent from *Philadelphia*, to have paid the troops for the months of *October*, *November*, and *December*, but is sorry to inform them, that there is no more yet arrived than will allow one month's pay, the advanced pay to the new Army, and blanket money; furnishing, at the same time, the Commissary and Quartermaster-Generals with such sums as are necessary for conducting business. The General has already wrote express to Congress for more money, and hopes speedily to be furnished with a sufficient sum to pay them in full.

Particular care is to be taken by the Colonels and commanding officers of Corps, not to suffer any Ammunition to

be carried off by the discharged men, but that the same be collected and delivered to the new recruits, if necessary, if not, to the Commissary of Stores.

—

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, December 30, 1775.

(Parole, *Marblehead.*) (Countersign, *Manly.*)

As the want of a timely supply of cash, has prevented the discharged men from receiving more than one month's pay at this time, the Quartermaster-General may withhold his accounts until the next payment, when his charges against the several Regiments must be paid.

The Commissary-General is to serve provisions, or the value thereof, to the discharged men to carry them home, allowing one ration for every twenty miles they have to march.

As the General is informed that numbers of free *Negroes* are desirous of inlisting, he gives leave to the Recruiting Officers to entertain them, and promises to lay the matter before the Congress, who, he doubts not, will approve of it.

The *Massachusetts*, *Rhode-Island*, and *New-Hampshire* Regiments upon the old establishment, to parade to-morrow morning, at ten o'clock, upon their respective Regimental parades, where they will hear and receive the Commander-in-chief's directions.

Such of the Non-commissioned Officers and Soldiers, who presume to carry off their Arms, contrary to the express orders of the General, and to the most pressing demand of their country, may depend upon it, they will be mulcted all the pay and ration money now due to them.

—

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, December 31, 1775.

(Parole, *Baker.*) (Countersign, *London.*)

General Return of the Army of the United Colonies, *commanded by his Excellency* George Washington, *Esq., General and Commander-in-chief, Head-Quarters at* Cambridge, December 30, 1775.

REGIMENTS.	OFFICERS PRESENT. Commissioned. Colonels.	Lieut. Colonels.	Majors.	Captains.	Lieutenants.	Ensigns.	Staff. Chaplains.	Adjutants.	Quartermasters.	Surgeons.	Mates.	Non-commissioned. Sergeants.	Drums and Fifes.	RANK AND FILE. Present, fit for duty.	Sick, present.	Sick, absent.	On Command.	On Furlough.	Total.	Wanting to complete. Sergeants.	Drums and Fifes.	Privates.	Since last Return. Inlisted.	Dead.	Discharged.	Deserted.
1. Colonel Frye's	1	1	1	8	14	–	–	1	1	1	1	29	14	313	39	21	63	28	464	–	4	36	–	–	–	–
2. Colonel Thompson's	1	1	1	6	17	–	1	1	1	1	–	24	5	313	45	40	42	5	445	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
3. Colonel Read's	1	1	1	4	8	7	1	1	1	–	1	29	13	321	33	12	72	22	460	–	–	–	–	–	15	–
4. Colonel Learned's	1	1	1	9	19	–	1	1	1	1	1	37	18	300	20	1	24	23	368	–	–	132	–	–	71	–
5. Colonel Nixon's	1	1	1	8	12	–	1	1	1	1	1	31	20	267	39	25	56	32	419	–	–	81	–	–	1	–
6. Colonel Stark's	1	1	1	7	8	8	1	–	1	1	1	28	19	264	32	28	136	50	510	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
7. Colonel J. Brewer's	1	1	1	7	12	–	–	1	1	1	–	24	15	251	61	12	12	17	353	–	–	147	–	–	–	–
8. Colonel Fellows's	1	1	1	10	18	–	1	1	1	1	1	39	20	323	47	8	56	19	453	1	–	47	–	–	5	–
9. Late Colonel D. Brewer's	–	–	1	8	18	–	–	1	1	1	–	39	17	265	25	2	54	28	374	1	2	126	–	3	11	–
10. Colonel Prescott's	1	1	1	6	12	–	–	1	1	1	1	38	19	325	27	15	27	17	411	–	–	89	–	–	10	–
11. Colonel Poor's	1	–	1	6	8	8	1	1	1	1	1	25	12	301	75	7	37	48	468	–	–	–	–	1	–	–
12. Colonel Varnum's	1	–	1	5	6	6	1	1	1	–	–	20	20	307	31	1	58	23	420	–	–	–	–	–	–	1
13. Colonel Parsons's	–	1	1	2	4	2	–	1	–	1	1	8	4	152	1	–	4	–	157	22	12	483	–	–	–	–
14. Colonel Hitchcock's	1	1	1	7	6	8	–	1	1	1	1	19	15	255	39	1	70	18	383	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
15. Colonel Church's	1	1	–	6	3	5	–	1	1	1	–	17	3	247	38	1	58	24	368	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
16. Colonel Cotton's	1	1	1	9	8	10	1	1	1	1	1	40	20	389	12	14	14	50	479	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
17. Colonel Little's	1	1	1	9	13	–	–	1	1	1	1	20	16	284	27	40	106	42	499	–	–	1	–	1	–	–
18. Colonel Danielson's	1	1	1	10	14	–	–	1	1	1	–	36	21	331	26	3	72	21	453	–	–	47	–	1	2	–
19. Late Colonel Mansfield's	–	–	–	7	14	–	1	–	1	1	1	22	14	277	29	17	192	33	548	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
20. Colonel Reed's	–	1	1	9	11	–	–	1	–	–	1	25	13	351	21	11	48	35	466	2	1	34	–	–	6	–
21. Colonel Glover's	–	1	1	5	9	–	–	1	1	1	–	28	8	174	21	8	275	14	492	–	8	8	–	–	–	–
22. Colonel Walker's	1	1	1	9	14	–	1	1	1	1	1	33	16	326	30	9	29	12	406	–	1	94	–	–	–	–
23. Colonel Whitcomb's	1	1	1	10	11	11	1	1	1	1	1	45	15	311	59	12	81	24	487	–	–	–	–	–	1	5
24. Colonel Doolittle's	1	1	1	7	16	–	1	1	1	–	1	24	16	257	29	19	58	15	378	–	–	122	–	–	5	2
25. Colonel Woodbridge's	1	1	1	7	14	–	–	1	1	1	1	29	11	234	31	11	152	10	438	–	4	62	–	–	1	–
26. Colonel Patterson's	1	–	1	11	15	–	1	–	–	1	1	35	14	336	7	30	36	50	459	–	2	91	–	–	2	–
27. Colonel Bridge's	1	–	1	7	16	–	–	–	1	1	1	35	15	282	45	33	73	22	455	–	–	45	–	–	3	–
28. Colonel Sargent's	1	1	1	6	8	–	1	–	1	1	1	19	18	300	59	13	32	21	425	–	–	75	–	–	–	–
29. Colonel Huntingdon's	1	1	–	2	6	1	–	1	1	–	1	8	3	115	1	1	4	18	139	21	13	–	–	–	–	–
30. Colonel Scammons's	1	1	1	9	18	–	1	1	1	1	1	37	20	371	22	6	28	31	458	–	–	42	–	–	–	–
31. Colonel Phinney's	1	1	1	6	14	–	–	1	–	1	1	34	18	349	54	6	24	8	441	–	–	59	–	–	13	–
32. Colonel Ward's	1	1	–	8	16	–	1	1	–	1	1	39	17	322	43	6	43	12	426	1	4	74	–	1	4	–
33. Colonel Wyllys's	1	–	–	4	10	2	–	1	1	1	1	22	9	137	8	50	24	25	244	6	6	396	–	1	–	–
34. Colonel Storrs's	–	1	1	–	3	2	1	1	–	1	1	6	3	62	–	–	15	57	134	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
35. Colonel Bailey's	1	1	1	10	12	–	–	1	1	1	1	31	18	333	9	12	78	32	464	–	–	36	–	–	30	–
36. Colonel Greaton's	1	1	1	10	20	–	–	1	1	1	1	40	20	325	15	20	44	57	461	–	–	39	–	–	1	–
37. Late Colonel Gardner's	–	1	1	7	11	–	–	1	1	1	1	32	15	238	24	32	73	38	405	–	–	–	–	–	1	–
38. Late Colonel Gerrish's	–	1	1	10	19	–	–	1	1	1	1	48	18	464	28	13	3	31	539	–	2	–	–	–	–	–
39. Colonel Webb's	1	–	–	8	16	2	–	1	–	1	–	30	14	371	20	1	–	–	392	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Four Companies Riflemen, from Va. and Md.	–	–	–	3	9	–	–	–	–	–	–	13	4	215	34	1	–	1	251	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Two Companies in Colonel Hinman's Regiment, and four Independent Companies.	–	1	–	6	12	–	–	–	–	–	–	24	12	394	–	–	–	–	394	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Total	31	32	33	288	494	72	19	33	32	33	31	1154	582	11752	1206	542	2273	1013	16786	54	59	2365	–	7	212	8

Horatio Gates, *Adjutant-General.*

Return of the Regiment of Artillery in the service of the United Colonies, *commanded by Col.* Richard Gridley, Cambridge, December 30, 1775.

	Colonel.	Lieutenant-Colonel.	Major.	Commissary.	Captains.	Captain-Lieutenants.	First Lieutenants.	Second Lieutenants.	Adjutant.	Quartermaster.	Surgeon.	Sergeant's Mate.	Clerks.	Conductors.	Sergeants.	Corporals.	Bombardiers.	Gunners.	Drums and Fifes.	Matrosses.	Total.
Fit for duty	1	1	1	1	7	8	6	16	1	1	1	1	2	4	21	23	48	42	15	235	435
Sick, present	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	2	1	2	2	–	7	16
Sick, absent	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	1	1	3	–	8	15
On furlough	–	–	–	–	1	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	2	1	1	2	1	8	17
Total	1	1	1	1	8	9	8	17	1	1	1	1	2	4	26	26	52	49	16	258	483

Two Cadets, exclusive of the above.

Return of a Company of Artillery of the Rhode-Island *Forces in the service of the* United Colonies, *Commanded by Major* John Crane, Roxbury, December 30, 1775.

	Major.	Captain.	Lieutenants.	Conductor.	Bombardiers.	Sergeants.	Gunners.	Corporals.	Drummers.	Fifers.	Matrosses.	Total.
Present, fit for duty	1	1	2	1	2	1	4	4	2	2	64	84
Sick, present	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	3	3
Sick, absent	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	2	2
On furlough	–	–	1	–	–	1	–	–	–	–	4	6
Total	1	1	3	1	2	2	4	4	2	2	73	95

Horatio Gates, *Adjutant-General.*

INVENTORY OF ORDNANCE AND STORES, OCTOBER 20, 1775, ENCLOSED IN THE REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF CONFERENCE.

Inventory of Ordnance and Stores necessary for the present Army, supposing it to consist of twenty thousand Men.

Cannon, viz: 24 and 18 pounders, battering cannon,	36	With carriages and implements, complete.
12 and 9 pounders,	20	
6, 4, and 3 pounders, small cannon and field-pieces,	44	
	100	
Mortars, viz: 10 inches,	6	With beds and carriages, complete.
8 inches,	2	
7 inches,	2	
8 inch howitzers,	3	
	13	
Gins,		6
Platforms complete, for guns,		100
Platforms for mortars,		10
Spare carriages, for guns,		30
Spare beds, for mortars,		6
Spare sponges, ladles, and rammers, (sets,)		10
Shot, round, for battering cannon,		5,000
Shot, round and case, for smaller,		10,000
Shells for mortars, 10-inch,		1,200
Shells for mortars, 8-inch,		1,000
Shells for mortars, 7-inch,		400
Hand-grenades,		2,000

Fuzes for the bombs and hand-grenades.
Port fires.
Tin tubes.

Powder—

For cannon and mortars, 200 rounds,	1,155
For 20,000 men, 120 rounds, or three pounds per man,	600
For compositions and extraordinary,	245
Barrels,	2,000
Lead—for Musketry, tons,	15
Sheet,	3
Tons,	18

Stores, viz: Intrenching tools, spare timber and plank, handspikes, beds and coins, match, flints, saltpetre, brimstone, pitch and tar, turpentine, oil, beeswax, rosin, candles and tallow, sheep skins, canvass and packthread, needles, lanthorns of sorts, powder measures, iron pots and kettles, flannel, tin and copper for ladles, travelling forge complete, bar iron, steel, nails and spikes, files, carpenters' and wheelwrights' tools, cordage of sorts, codline and marline, cotton for quick-match, spirits-of-wine, budge barrels and haversacks, painted canvass, tanned hides, tents, ammunition carts, cartridge paper, writing paper, two pair of large hand bellows, brushes, glue, grindstones, scales and weights, surveying compass and chain, one theodolite, searces of sorts, sieves, one good telescope, one case of instruments, horses and harness complete, forty.

Cambridge, October 20, 1775.

The above inventory of ordnance and stores are what I judge to be absolutely necessary for this Army; many small things are omitted being mentioned, as the company of Artificers can make them, and many things can be supplied by the neighbourhood, if wanted. It is impossible to give an exact list of what may be wanted on all occasions. I have endeavoured as much as the time would permit to collect the essential matters for the Army, which are humbly submitted by your Excellency's most obedient, humble servant,

RICHARD GRIDLEY, *Chief Engineer.*

To His Excellency General *Washington.*

Ordnance and Shot and Shells now in Camp.

Pounders.	Cannons.	Shot.	
24	5	449	Carriages, ladles, rammers, and sponges, &c., complete.
18	6	260	
12	2	149	
9	3	1,175	
8	1		
6	2		
5¼	4	1,135	
4	7	1,475	
3	9	3,079	
2½	2	1,009	
	41	8,730	

Inches.	Mortars.	Shells.	
10	3	374	Beds and carriages, and implements, complete.
8	2		
8 howitzers,	3	452	
7 brass mortars,	2	641	
	10	1,467	

Powder, whole barrels. Lead.

PENNSYLVANIA COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Friday, December 1, 1775.

At a meeting of the Committee of Safety: Present—*John Nixon*, Chairman, *Samuel Howell*, *George Clymer*, *Owen Biddle*, *Daniel Roberdeau*, *James Mease*, *James Biddle.*

Saturday, December 2, 1775.

At a meeting of the Committee of Safety: Present—*James Biddle*, Chairman, *Robert White*, *Samuel Howell*, *George Clymer*, *Owen Biddle*, *Anthony Wayne*, *Daniel Roberdeau*, *James Mease*, *John Cadwallader*, *Joseph Reed*, *Alexander Wilcocks*, *Francis Johnson.*

Resolved, That *Captain Dougherty* be instructed not to permit more than two Captains, and a proportional number of Subaltern Officers, to be absent at any one time from their stations at *Liberty-Island*, without the express order of this Board, or upon some very pressing and urging occasion.

Resolved, That a Letter be wrote and sent to the Committee of the town of *Reading*, respecting the Gunpowder ordered to be purchased from the said Committee, and directing it immediately to be sent down to this City.

Monday, December 4, 1775.

At a meeting of the Committee of Safety: Present—*John Nixon*, Chairman, *Thomas Wharton*, Jun., *Owen Biddle*, *Anthony Wayne*, *Daniel Roberdeau*, *George Clymer*, *John Cadwallader*, *Samuel Howell*, *James Mease.*

Resolved, That Colonel *Roberdeau* request Colonel *Bull*, of the *Pennsylvania* Battalion, to appoint Guards to take proper care of the Powder-Magazine, and of the Cannon and Artillery Stores at the State-House.

Upon application of Captain *Williams*, of the *Pennsylvania* Battalion, in the service of the *United Colonies*, for the payment of fourteen Firelocks, purchased by him for the use of his Company:

By order of the Board, an order was drawn in his favour, of fifty-two pounds, fifteen shillings, and three pence, on Messrs. *Mease* and *Caldwell*, Treasurers to the said Battalion.

The honourable House of Assembly, on the 25th *November* last, having drawn up, and approved of sundry Articles of Association, Rules and Regulations for the better government of said Associations, and Resolutions, directing the mode of levying Taxes on Non-Associators in this Province:

Resolved, That Mr. *Peter Miller* be directed to print in the *German* language, four hundred copies of the abovementioned Rules, Regulations, and Articles of Association, and Resolutions directing the mode of levying Taxes on Non-Associators.

That *William* and *Thomas Bradford* be directed to print in the *English* language, one thousand of the same.

Upon application of Mr. *John Pringle*, by order of the Board, a Certificate was given him, that he had imported, and sold to this Committee, a quantity of Powder, amounting in value to eighty-five pounds, and that he had liberty, by the Resolve of Congress, to export to that amount in the produce of these Colonies.

Tuesday, December 5, 1775.

At a meeting of the Committee of Safety: Present—
John Nixon, Chairman, *Owen Biddle*, *Robert White*, *Daniel Roberdeau*, *James Biddle*, *Thomas Wharton*, Jun., *James Mease*, *George Clymer*.

Resolved, That this Committee engage with *Samuel Wigfal* and *Mormaduke Blackwood*, of this City, Smiths, for two hundred Gunlocks, to be made according to pattern, and to be delivered to, and approved of, by Captains *Shee*, *Wilcocks*, and *Cadwallader*, for the use of this Committee, at the rate of twenty-two shillings and six pence, each Lock, the whole to be delivered within the space of three months.

Resolved, That the sum of one hundred Pounds be advanced to the said *Wigfal & Blackwood*, to enable them to proceed in the said manufacture, with greater vigour; and that an Order be drawn for paying said sum into the hands of Messrs. *Nixon* and *Wharton*, who are to advance the same to the said *Wigfal & Blackwood*; and at the same time, take a contract from the said *Wigfal & Blackwood*, and *Robert Craig*, whom this Committee approve of as their security for fulfilling the same.

Resolved, That Mr. *James Biddle* and Colonel *Roberdeau* be a Committee to propose to the Committee of Inspection and Observation of this city, the taking up the Sea-Coal which that Committee had ordered to be thrown into the river from Mr. *Steward's* ship; that the same may be used at the Air-Furnace intended to be built for the casting of Cannon.

Upon application of Mr. *Thomas Wharton*, and of the Committee for importing and procuring Powder, Arms, &c., for the use of this Province,

Resolved, That they, the said Committee, direct Mr. *John Wilcocks*, to load the Schooner *Polly*, *Thomas Woodhouse*, Master, with the produce of these Colonies, for the purpose of procuring said articles from foreign parts, and that they be furnished with the following Certificate:

In Committee of Safety, Philadelphia, December 5, 1775.

This is to certify, that Mr. *John Wilcocks* has permission to load the Schooner *Polly*, *Thomas Woodhouse*, Master, with the produce of these Colonies, the same being for the account of this Province; which permission is granted, agreeable to a Resolve of the honourable Congress of the 26th *October* last.

By order of the Committee:
JOHN NIXON, *Chairman*.

Robert Towers, Commissary, reports his having delivered five hundred pounds Gunpowder, to Mr. *Francis Lewis*, which *Robert Morris*, Esq., had directions to give an order for, agreeable to a Resolve of the 7th of *November* last; that he had delivered one hundred pounds to Captain *Reed*, for the use of Congress, agreeable to a Resolve of the 28th *November*.

That he had delivered two and a half pounds of Powder to *Christian Ludwick*, and received from him in return for said Powder, four pounds Saltpetre.

Resolved, That Mr. *Owen Biddle*, Mr. *Mease*, Mr. *White*, and Colonel *Roberdeau*, be a Committee for procuring Sea-Coal for account of this Board.

It being represented to the Commitee that Mr. *Fox*, one of the Commissioners of this County, was desirous that this Board would appoint a proper person to receive and examine the Arms now making by order of the said Commissioners,

Resolved, That Mr. *Robert Towers*, Commissary, receive and examine all such Arms, and give receipts for the same to those who deliver them, specifying such as are made agreeable to pattern.

Resolved, That *Robert Towers* fix Racks in a proper place in the State-House, for keeping the Arms of this Province in good order. That he provide a proper Shed for Ammunition Wagons.

—

Wednesday, December 6, 1775.

At a meeting of the Committee of Safety: Present—
John Nixon, Chairman, *Owen Biddle*, *Thomas Wharton*, Jun., *Francis Johnston*, *Robert White*, *James Biddle*, *Geo. Clymer*, *Samuel Howell*, *Daniel Roberdeau*, *James Mease*, *Joseph Reed*, *John Wilcocks*.

Upon application of Mr. *Coleston*, for a quantity of Sail-Cloth for the use of the Province of *Virginia*,

Resolved, That this Board spare what Sail-Cloth Mr. *Moulder* may have, belonging to this Committee, that he may have occasion for, and that Mr. *Moulder* deliver the same.

John Willis and *Benjamin Town*, Gunsmiths, having agreed to make two hundred Firelocks for this Province, at the rate of four pounds five shillings each,

Resolved, That this Committee take the said Arms at the said price, provided they are agreeable to pattern. That this Board will advance them fifty Pounds towards the payment of the Firelocks, on their giving good security for the same.

By order of the Board, *Robert Towers*, Commissary, was directed to deliver *Willis & Town* a pattern Musket.

Application being made to this Board, by *John Chilton*, for a Passport to the Camp of *Cambridge*,

Resolved, That he be referred to the Committee of Inspection and Observation, as falling properly within their jurisdiction.

Major *Bayard*, Mr. *Sharp Delaney*, and Mr. *Benjamin Marshall*, a sub-Committee from the Committee of Inspection and Observation for the City and Liberties, report:

That their Committee having discharged their duty to the publick, in ordering the Sea-Coal from Mr. *Steward's* ship, into the river *Delaware*, disclaim any right to said Coal, or any further measure in the line of their duty. That as the Committee of Safety have occasion for them, for the publick service, Mr. *Thomas Hopkins*, and others, members of their Committee, offer their services in pointing out the several places, in the river, in which the Coal lay. That as to the property of said Coal, they apprehend no person has any claim. That the owners had offered them to the Committee, gratis, which had been refused.

Upon information to this Committee, that Captain *Proctor* and Lieutenant *Proctor* had behaved in a manner unbecoming officers, to Captain *Williams* and Lieutenant *Watson*, of Colonel *Bull's* Battalion; and this Committee have heard the parties and their evidences, and, upon full consideration, unanimously agreed, that the charge was fully proved, and recommended to the said Captain *Proctor* and Lieutenant *Proctor* to make a suitable acknowledgment to the parties injured; which they have peremptorily refused to comply with:

It is, therefore, *Resolved*, That the said Captain *Proctor* and Lieutenant *Proctor* be dismissed from the service.

Resolved, That *Nathan Boyce* be appointed Captain of one of the Armed Boats.

—

Thursday, December 7, 1775.

At a meeting of the Committee of Safety: Present—
John Nixon, Chairman, *Daniel Roberdeau*, *Jas. Mease*, *George Clymer*, *Robert White*, *Owen Biddle*, *Samuel Howell*, *James Biddle*, *Thomas Wharton*, Jun.

Resolved, That an inquiry be made throughout this City of the quantity of Sea-Coal now in the hands of the several inhabitants.

Resolved, That Colonel *Roberdeau* wait on the sub-Committee of the Committee of Inspection and Observation of this City and Liberties, and request that some Members of that body will take the trouble to procure an account of all the Sea-Coal now in possession of the inhabitants of this City above *Market* street, including the north side of that street.

Resolved, That a Committee of this Board make the same inquiry, from *Market* street downwards.

A number of Applications were this day read, for supplying the Officers and Men employed on board the Armed Boats with Provisions and other necessaries, as set forth in an Advertisement from this Board, the 30th *November* last.

And Mr. *Francis Wade* having offered to supply them at the rate of four shillings and eleven pence per man per week, which being the lowest terms,

Resolved, That the said *Francis Wade* be, and he is hereby appointed Victualler to the said Officers and Men employed on board the Armed Boats, and the Officers and Men of the Artillery Company in the service of this Province, at the rate of four shillings and eleven pence per

week per man; and to continue the supply for the space of three months, unless the men are sooner discharged: and provided he furnishes good and wholesome Provisions.

By order of Congress, *Robert Morris*, Esq., made application to this Board, that they would supply with Provisions the Women and Children belonging to the Ministerial forces taken at *St. John's;* and to give the necessary directions for their being conveyed to *Reading*, *York* and *Lancaster*, the places of their destination,

Resolved, That Mr. *Mease* and Colonel *Roberdeau* be a Committee to see the above request of Congress carried into execution.

Resolved, That Mr. *Clement Biddle* be requested to supply them with Provisions while in Town.

—

Friday, December 8, 1775.

At a meeting of the Committee of Safety: Present—

John Nixon, Chairman, *Samuel Howell*, *George Clymer*, *Owen Biddle*, *Francis Johnson*, *Samuel Morris*, Junior, *Thomas Wharton*, Junior.

Captain *Thomas Proctor*, and Lieutenant *Francis Proctor*, this day attended the Board; and, agreeable to a Resolve of the 6th instant, were dismissed the service of this Board.

By order of Congress, *Robert Morris*, Esq., made application to this Board to secure three persons that are on board Captain *Whipple;* in consequence of which the following Commitment was issued:

To Thomas Dewees, *Jailer of the City and County of* Philadelphia:

Receive into your custody the bodies of *William Stuart*, *William Cone*, and *John Reynolds*, and them safely keep till you have the further orders of this Board.

John Nixon, *Chairman.*

—

Saturday, December 9, 1775.

At a meeting of the Committee of Safety: Present—

John Nixon, Chairman, *Daniel Roberdeau*, *George Clymer*, *Robert White*, *Owen Biddle*, *Samuel Morris*, Jun., *Thomas Wharton*, Jun., *James Biddle.*

A sub-Committee of the Committee of the City and Liberties, agreeable to a Resolve of this Board of the 7th instant, made an inquiry into the quantity of Sea-Coal in this City, from the north side of *Market* street to the south side of *Vine* street, and report that there is two thousand six hundred and eighty seven bushels in the hands of a number of inhabitants.

Upon application to this Board in behalf of Captain *Nicholas Biddle*, that he may have liberty to resign his Commission, in order to enter into Continental service,

Resolved, That he have liberty to resign his Commission.

Messrs. *John Pringle* and *Thomas Yorke*, having permission from this Board to load on board their Brigantine a certain quantity of goods, the produce of these Colonies, which being insufficient to complete the loading,

Resolved, That they, the said *Pringle* and *Yorke*, have permission to load on board said Brigantine as much produce of these Colonies as will complete her loading, for the account of this Province, being agreeable to a Resolve of Congress of 26th *October* last.

—

Monday, December 11, 1775.

At a meeting of the Committee of Safety: Present—

John Nixon, Chairman, *Daniel Roberdeau*, *James Mease*, *James Biddle*, *Owen Biddle*, *George Clymer*, *Joseph Reed*, *Alexander Wilcocks*, *Thomas Wharton*, Jun.

Upon application of Captain *Harmar* for the payment of a Firelock, purchased for the use of his Company, in the Continental service, by order of the Board, an Order was drawn in favour of *Richard Ennis*, on Messrs. *Mease* and *Caldwell*, Paymasters to the First *Pennsylvania* Battalion, for two pounds, eleven shillings, the amount of said Firelock.

Upon motion of Mr. *Thomas Wharton*, one of the Committee for importing and procuring Powder, Arms, &c., for the use of this Province,

Resolved, That they, the said Committee, direct Messrs. *Willing* and *Morris & Co.*, to load the ship *Neptune*, *Robert Collins*, master, with the produce of these Colonies, for the purpose of procuring said articles from foreign parts; and that the following Certificate be issued, viz:

This is to certify that Messrs. *Willing* and *Morris & Co.*, have permission to load the ship *Neptune*, *Robert Collins*, master, with the produce of these Colonies, the same being for account of this Province, and the export agreeable to a Resolve of Congress of 26th *October* last.

Resolved, That Captain *Nathaniel Boyce* take the command of the Armed Boat *Franklin*, Captain *Biddle*, the late commander, being promoted in the Continental service.

Upon application to this Board in behalf of Captain *James Josiah*, that he may have leave to resign his Commission to enter the Continental service, liberty was granted him.

Robert Towers reports his having received into store one and one-half barrels Powder, weight one hundred and fifty-one pounds, from *Oswell Eve*, being part of the damaged Powder sent him to repair; also, fifty-five and one-half pounds Saltpetre, from *Peter De Haven.*

—

Tuesday, December 12, 1775.

At a meeting of the Committee of Safety: Present—

John Nixon, *Daniel Roberdeau*, *James Biddle*, *Owen Biddle*, *James Mease*, *George Clymer.*

—

Wednesday, December 13, 1775.

At a meeting of the Committee of Safety: Present—

John Nixon, Chairman, *Thomas Wharton*, Jun., *Samuel Howell*, *Anthony Wayne*, *George Clymer*, *Daniel Roberdeau*, *James Mease*, *Owen Biddle.*

Resolved, That the Barrackmaster furnish the Artillery Company with the usual quantity of Wood and Candles, as supplied to the King's troops.

Upon application of Captain *William Jenkins*, by order of the Board, an Order was drawn in his favour on Messrs. *Mease* and *Caldwell*, for forty-eight pounds, nine shillings and six pence, being for payment of fourteen Firelocks, purchased by him for the use of his Company in the *Pennsylvania* Battalion.

Resolved, That *Robert Towers*, Commissary, examine the Powder on board the Armed Boats in Town, and report the state of it to this Board to-morrow.

Resolved, That three of our Armed Boats, with their Officers and Crews, be constantly at *Liberty-Island*, and that there be a relief of that number of Boats every three days; and that this duty begin with the eldest in command, and the rotation be continued according to seniority, and by equal duty through the Fleet.

Resolved, That *Joseph Fox*, Barrackmaster, do provide for the men employed in the service of this Province, who are to be immediately ordered into the Barracks, two hundred Blankets or Rugs; one hundred Bed-Cases; a sufficient quantity of Straw; one hundred cords Wood; and what other necessaries that may be wanting for the accommodation of four hundred men.

Resolved, That Mr. *Fox* draw on this Board for the amount of what he may purchase for the use aforesaid.

Resolved, That Captain *Dougherty* be ordered up immediately from *Liberty-Island* with his Boat; and that Captain *Hamilton* and Captain *Alexander* inform him of this Resolve.

Resolved, That Mr. *Clement Biddle* be requested to see that the Barracks are in proper order for the reception of the people on board the Armed Boats, and that the necessaries requisite for their accommodation are procured, and make report of his proceedings to this Board.

—

Thursday, December 14, 1775.

At a meeting of the Committee of Safety: Present—

John Nixon, Chairman, *Daniel Roberdeau*, *Samuel Howell*, *Owen Biddle*, *James Mease*, *George Clymer*, *Thomas Wharton*, Jun.

Resolved, That *John Ross*, Mustermaster, be directed to make a return to this Board of the number of Men, and quantity of Bedding, on board the Armed Boats.

David Owen, a person suspected of inlisting *Negroes*, was brought before the Committee, and not giving proper and satisfactory answers to the questions put to him:

Resolved, That he be committed to the Work-House of this City till further orders.

—

Friday, December 15, 1775.

At a meeting of the Committee of Safety: Present—*John Nixon*, Chairman, *Samuel Howell*, *Owen Biddle*, *James Mease*, *George Clymer*, *Thomas Wharton*, Jun., *Daniel Roberdeau*, *Samuel Morris*, Jun.

Robert Towers, Commissary, reports his having received the following articles in store, viz: Six dozen and nine Steel Ramrods, from *Robert Mann*. Twenty-eight pounds Buck-Shot; thirty-five pounds Musket Balls; two thousand Flints, from *Robert Taggart*. Twenty barrels Powder, supposed two thousand pounds; two kegs Powder, supposed fifty pounds, received from Captain *Ord*, on account of this Board.

That he has delivered to Captain *Loxley*, by order of Mr. *Owen Biddle*, seven pounds of Saltpetre.

Mr. *Samuel Howell* informing this Board that he has a considerable quantity of Sea-Coal in the Island of *Jamaica*,

Resolved, That he be requested to write to *Jamaica*, and give orders for a load of Coal to be sent from thence to this place, on account of this Committee, if it can be delivered at three shillings, currency, per bushel, or under.

Upon application of *Daniel Offley* and *William Clifton*, that this Board would advance a sum of money towards searching for a Coal Mine, said to be in *Bucks* County,

Resolved, That this Board pay one-half the sum expended for that purpose, provided the whole expense doth not exceed one hundred pounds, and in case the said Mine is worked, that this Board have the refusal of any quantity they may want for the use of the publick.

Garret Hulscamp having made application for liberty to have his Boat go down the bay, to take him out of Captain *Johnston's* ship, of which he was Pilot,

Resolved, That the liberty he prays for be granted, provided he goes no further than the *Brown*, and that he avoid going, or being taken on board any *British* Ship or other vessel of war.

Upon application of Mr. *Mease*, an Order was directed to Captain *Dougherty*, to discharge from Captain *Henderson's* Boat, *Daniel McMichael*, as he is to be employed in another service.

Resolved, That Colonel *Roberdeau*, Mr. *Biddle*, and Mr. *Mease*, be a Committee to draw up Rules and Regulations for the government of the Officers and Men belonging to the Armed Boats, while they are quartered in the Barracks.

—

Saturday, December 16, 1775.

At a meeting of the Committee of Safety: Present—*John Nixon*, Chairman, *Daniel Roberdeau*, *James Mease*, *George Clymer*, *Samuel Howell*, *Alexander Wilcocks*, *James Biddle*, *Owen Biddle*, *Samuel Morris*, Jun.

By order of the Board, *John M. Nesbitt*, Esq., was desired to deliver Sergeant *Webster* the Watch-Coats made for the Artillery Company.

By order of the Board, an Order was drawn on Messrs. *Mease* and *Caldwell*, in favour of Captain *William Jenkins*, for ten pounds, ten shillings and six pence, being the amount of three Firelocks purchased by him for the use of his Company in the Continental Battalion.

This Board being informed that part of the New Jail is now in order for the reception of prisoners; and the Jailer and Work-House Keeper of this City having informed, that the badness of the Jail and Work-House is dangerous and inconvenient to the prisoners, therefore,

Resolved, That the Prisoners confined by this Board, agreeable to the directions of Congress, be removed to the new Jail; and that the following Orders be delivered:

To Thomas Dewees, *Keeper of the Jail of* Philadelphia *County:*

In Committee of Safety, Philadelphia, December 16, 1775.

You are hereby required to conduct the Soldiers and three Sailors from *Rhode-Island*, now prisoners in your Jail, to the new Jail in this City, and there deliver them into the custody of Mr. *Thomas Apty*.

By order: John Nixon, *Chairman.*

To James Whitehead, *Keeper of the Work-House*, Philadelphia:

You are hereby required to deliver into the custody of Mr. *Thomas Apty* all the Soldiers now in the Work-House, confined by order of this Board.

By order: John Nixon, *Chairman.*

Resolved, That *Thomas Apty* be appointed to take care of the Prisoners in the new Jail until the proper Jailer moves into it.

That the said *Apty* supply the Prisoners with Provisions at the rate of one dollar per week, as allowed by Congress.

—

Monday, December 18, 1775.

At a meeting of the Committee of Safety: Present—*John Nixon*, Chairman, *Thomas Wharton*, Jun., *George Clymer*, *Robert White*, *Samuel Howell*, *Daniel Roberdeau*, *Alexander Wilcocks*, *Anthony Wayne*.

Resolved, That the absent Members, in the City, be notified to attend the Board to-morrow morning, punctually at nine o'clock, to which time the consideration of allowing the makers of Saltpetre part payment in Gunpowder, is deferred, as a matter of great importance.

Robert Towers reports his having received the following quantity of Sail-Cloth:

Twenty-five pieces, containing nine hundred and eighty-seven yards and three-quarters, from *William Will*; six pieces, containing two hundred and twenty yards, part of that bought by *John Moulder* at *Brigantine-Beach*, and of *James Loughead*.

Agreeable to a Resolve of the 14th instant, Mr. *John Ross*, Mustermaster, reports that there is on board the thirteen Armed Boats: Men in pay, four hundred and seventy-seven, fifty-four of whom are sick; Bedding complete, sixty-nine; Beds, seventy-four; Blankets, one hundred and thirty-two; Rugs, two.

Upon application of the Pilots, employed by this Board in piloting vessels between this Port and *Chester*, that their pay might be increased, as they find from the expenses they are obliged to be at, that the allowance of six pounds per month, is not sufficient for their maintenance:

And the Board taking the same into consideration, do

Resolve, That the ten Pilots, employed as aforesaid, be allowed the sum of seven Pounds per month for their services, which pay shall commence the 21st instant.

By order of the Board, the Order drawn agreeable to a Resolve of the 26th of *September*, and dated the 29th, in favour of the Commissioners and Assessors of *Berks* County, for four hundred pounds, was this day delivered to Mr. *Michael Bright*, of that County.

Upon motion, *Ordered*, That Mr. *Towers*, Commissary, furnish this Board to-morrow, with an account of the quantity and sizes of Shot now in the store.

—

Tuesday, December 19, 1775.

At a meeting of the Committee of Safety: Present—*Robert Morris*, Vice President, *John Nixon*, *Samuel Howell*, *Samuel Miles*, *Daniel Roberdeau*, *Joseph Reed*, *Anthony Wayne*, *Samuel Morris*, Jun., *George Clymer*, *Alexander Wilcocks*, *Thomas Wharton*, Jun., *Owen Biddle*.

Agreeable to the Order of yesterday, Mr. *Towers*, Commissary, reports the following quantity and sizes of Shot now in store, viz:

32-pounders,	- - - - - - -	99 shot.
24	ditto, - - - - - - -	255 shot.
18	ditto, - - - - - - -	2,834 shot.
12	ditto, - - - - - - -	90 shot.
9	ditto, - - - - - - -	20 shot.
6	ditto, - - - - - - -	255 shot.
4	ditto, - - - - - - -	248 shot.
3	ditto, - - - - - - -	27 shot.
6	ditto, - - - - - - -	6 cross-bar.
6	ditto, - - - - - - -	1 sliding-bar.
6	ditto, - - - - - - -	3 star.
4	ditto, - - - - - - -	14 double-head.

Grape Shot, in 150 12-pound tin canisters; ditto, in 400 6-pound tin canisters—3,775 pounds.
Musket Balls in 50 4-pound tin canisters; Grape Shot, loose—4,690 pounds.
Musket Balls, 35 pounds, 22 to the pound.
Ditto, 317 do. 17 ditto.
Ditto, 150 do. 15 ditto.
Ditto, 30 do. 17 ditto, in 504 filled cartridges.
Ditto, 30 do. 17 ditto, in 504 unfilled cartridges.
28 pounds of Buck Shot.
34 pounds of Pistol Balls.

Robert Towers, Commissary, reports his having received by Captain *Batbil*, on account of this Board, fifteen barrels of Gunpowder, supposed to weigh fifteen hundred pounds.

Resolved, That any person who shall manufacture any quantity of good Saltpetre, and deliver the same to this Board, or to any person appointed by them, after the 1st day of *January* next, and from that time until the 1st day of *April* next, shall receive one-fourth part of the weight in Gunpowder, and the other three-fourths in money, at the rate of five shillings per pound.

Resolved, That upon any application that may be made to this Board, by the honourable Congress, or any other body, to spare them any part of the Men, Arms or Ammunition belonging to this Province, that this Committee will not consider of, and come to any resolution upon, such application, without sending a written notice to every Member of this Committee, residing in this City, mentioning that such particular business is to come under this deliberation.

Resolved, That *William Green*, a person belonging to one of the Armed Boats, confined by order of this Board, in the Jail of this County, be released from his confinement, provided he enter on board one of the vessels of war, now fitting out by Congress.

Resolved, That Colonel *Roberdeau*, Captain *White*, and Mr. *Morris*, be a Committee to provide the following quantity, and sizes, of Shot:

32-pounders,	150	rounds.
24 ditto,	600	ditto.
18 ditto,	5,550	ditto.
12 ditto,	3,000	ditto.
9 ditto,	3,000	ditto.

Grape Shot, 2 tons; Swivel Shot, 2 tons.

Resolved, That Mr. *Reed*, Mr. *Miles*, Mr. *White*, and Mr. *Clymer*, be a Committee to go to *Fort-Island*, to consider and report to this Board, what further defences may be thrown up on that, or the *Province-Island*, for the security of the Fort, and passage through the *Chevaux-de-Frise*.

Congress this day sent the following Resolve to this Committee, which is ordered to be entered on the Minutes.

"In Congress, December 15, 1775.

"*Resolved*, That the Committee of Safety for the Colony of *Pennsylvania*, be requested to recommend proper persons for Field-Officers of the four Battalions to be raised in the said Colony.

"*Resolved*, That the said Committee appoint proper persons for Officers in the said Battalions, under the rank of Major.

"Extract from the Minutes:

"CHARLES THOMSON, *Secretary*."

Agreed, That the 2d day of *January* be fixed for the purpose of making the above recommendations and appointments, and that the several Members of this Committee be desired to attend at that time, at the Committee Chamber in *Philadelphia*.

Resolved, That the above Resolves of Congress, and Resolutions of this Board, be published in the different Newspapers of this City.

—

Wednesday, December 20, 1775.

At a meeting of the Committee of Safety: Present—*Benjamin Franklin*, President, *Robert Morris*, *Samuel Miles*, *Daniel Roberdeau*, *Joseph Reed*, *George Clymer*, *Thomas Wharton*, Jun., *Samuel Morris*, Jun., *Alexander Wilcocks*, *Anthony Wayne*, *John Nixon*, *Samuel Howell*, *James Mease*, *Robert White*, *Owen Biddle*.

Ordered, That *Robert Towers*, Commissary, examine some Muskets that Captain *Oswald* has for sale, and if found good, that he purchase them.

Governour *Hopkins*, this day, delivered the following Resolve of Congress to the Board:

"In Congress, December 19, 1775.

"*Resolved*, That the Committee of Safety of *Pennsylvania* be requested to supply the Armed Vessels, nearly ready for sailing, with four tons of Gunpowder, at the Continental expense.

"That the said Committee be requested to procure and lend said Vessels, as many stand of Small Arms as they can spare, not exceeding four hundred, to be repaid by the Congress, either in kind or value, as the Committee may desire.

"*Resolved*, That if the Powder and Arms that may be supplied and lent to the Continent, for the use of the said Armed Vessels, shall not be replaced on or before the 1st day of *February* next, the Congress engages that their whole influence and authority shall then be exerted immediately to replace the same by procuring Powder and Arms from some other parts of the Continent.

"Extract from the Minutes:

"CHARLES THOMSON, *Secretary*."

The Board having taken the above Resolves into consideration, and after some time spent therein, do

Resolve, That they spare to Congress all the Powder now in store, except the Battle Powder, and that which is made into Cartridges;

That this Board will immediately collect all the Arms belonging to this Province, and will spare to the Committee of Naval Affairs all that they can, consistent with the safety of this Province;

That this Committee do agree that the Naval Committee may inlist from on board the Armed Boats, any number of Seamen, not exceeding one hundred.

By order of this Board, *Robert Towers*, Commissary, was directed to deliver a gentleman, who produced a small quantity of Saltpetre of his manufacturing, one-fourth the quantity in Powder, and the other three-fourths cash, at the rate of five shillings per pound.

Resolved, That Captain *Dougherty* order all the Armed Boats up to this City, that the Officers and Men may go into barracks, except the three eldest Captains and Crews, who are to continue at the Island till relieved by three other Boats, agreeable to a Resolve of the 13th.

—

Thursday, December 21, 1775.

At a meeting of the Committee of Safety: Present—*John Nixon*, Chairman, *James Mease*, *Owen Biddle*, *Daniel Roberdeau*, *Samuel Howell*, *George Clymer*, *Alexander Wilcocks*, *Joseph Reed*.

Upon application of Captain *Willet*, for the payment of sixteen Firelocks, purchased by him for the use of his Company in the First *Pennsylvania* Battalion, an Order was drawn on Messrs. *Mease* and *Caldwell*, in his favour, for forty-seven pounds, seventen shillings and six pence.

And on application of Captain *Harmar*, one other Order was drawn as aforesaid, for thirteen pounds, being the amount for four Firelocks purchased for his Company.

By order of the Board, an Order was drawn on *Michael Hillegas*, Esquire, Treasurer, in favour of *John Maxwell Nesbitt*, Esq., for fifteen hundred pounds.

Sacherwal Woods's Account for furnishing Provisions to the Prisoners confined in Jail, by order of Congress, was examined, and thirty-four pounds nine shillings, recommended to be paid by Congress.

—

Friday, December 22, 1775.

At a meeting of the Committee of Safety: Present—*Thomas Wharton*, Jun., *Anthony Wayne*, *Samuel Howell*, *Owen Biddle*.

—

Saturday, December 23, 1775.

At a meeting of the Committee of Safety: Present—*Samuel Miles*, Chairman, *Daniel Roberdeau*, *Samuel*

Howell, George Clymer, Thomas Wharton, Jun., *James Mease, Samuel Morris*, Jun., *Joseph Reed.*

Upon application of Captain *Williams*, for the payment of twenty-five Muskets, purchased by him for the use of his Company, in Colonel *Bull's*, or First *Pennsylvania* Battalion in the service of the Colonies, by order of the Board, an Order was drawn for that purpose, on Messrs. *Mease* and *Caldwell*, for seventy-six pounds, twelve shillings and six pence, in his favour.

Robert Towers, Commissary, reports his having received the following Provincial Arms:

From the Officers of First Battalion, fifty-two Muskets, forty-eight Bayonets, forty-six Scabbards; from the Officers of Second Battalion, forty-nine Muskets, forty-three Bayonets, forty Scabbards; from Captain *Willing*, of Third Battalion, two Muskets, and one Bayonet.

Upon application of the Navy Committee of Congress, by order of the Board, *Robert Towers*, Commissary, was directed to deliver thirty-six pounds of Saltpetre, and one hundred Muskets and Bayonets to them, or their order.

Resolved, That Mr. *Towers* take the Powder belonging to the Armed Boats, as they come up to town, and put it into store, and deliver it to those whose tour of duty it is to go to their stations at *Fort-Island*.

Upon application from the Committee of Naval Affairs by Colonel *Gadderden*, that General *Hopkins*, of the *Alfred*, or any other Commander of the Continental ships of war, be permitted to search any outward-bound vessel for seamen, or others, belonging to any of the above vessels,

Resolved, That such permission be cheerfully granted, but this Committee recommend a discreet exercise of this power, so as to occasion as little delay as possible to the outward-bound vessels; and that an Officer, whose prudence may be depended on, may be sent on this service.

By order of the Board, Mr. *Towers*, Commissary, was directed to deliver to *Shawanese John*, an *Indian*, disabled at *Cobble-Hill*, one pound of Gunpowder.

—

Tuesday, December 26, 1775.

At a meeting of the Committee of Safety: Present—*John Nixon*, Chairman, *Daniel Roberdeau, James Mease, Samuel Howell*, Jun., *Robert White, George Clymer, Thomas Wharton*, Jun., *James Biddle.*

By order of the Board, an Order was drawn and signed by the Chairman, on *Michael Hillegas*, Esq., Treasurer to this Board, in favour of *Thomas Wharton*, Jun., *John Nixon*, and *James Mease*, the Committee of Accounts, for the sum of ten thousand Pounds.

Upon application of Captain *Dorsey*, of Colonel *Bull's* Battalion, for the payment of twenty-one Firelocks, purchased by him for the use of his Company, by order of the Board, an Order was drawn on Messrs. *Mease* and *Caldwell* for seventy pounds, fifteen shillings, the amount of the same.

Upon application of Captain *Jones*, of Colonel *Bull's* Battalion, for the payment of seven Firelocks, purchased by him for the use of his Company, an Order was drawn on Messrs. *Mease* and *Caldwell* for twenty-nine pounds, fifteen shillings, the amount of the same.

—

Wednesday, December 27, 1775.

At a meeting of the Committee of Safety: Present—*John Nixon*, Chairman, *Owen Biddle, Robert White, James Mease, George Clymer, Thomas Wharton*, Jun., *Samuel Howell, Daniel Roberdeau, James Biddle.*

Robert Towers, Commissary, reports his having received and delivered the following articles:

Delivered Captain *Samuel Nicholas*, by order of the Navy Committee, one hundred Provincial Muskets, one hundred Bayonets and Scabbards, twelve Iron Ramrods.

Received from Captain *Knox*, thirteen Provincial Muskets, eight Bayonets and eight Scabbards; from Captain *Gurney*, eleven Provincial Muskets, nine Bayonets, twenty-five Scabbards; from *John Scotton*, 2 cwt., 1 qr., 18 lbs., of Shot.

Upon application of Captain *Le Mar*, for the payment of thirteen Firelocks, purchased by him for the use of his Company, in Colonel *Bull's* Battalion, an Order was drawn on Messrs. *Mease* and *Caldwell* for fifty-one pounds, four shillings and three pence, the amount of the same.

Upon application of the Naval Committee, for some Lead for the use of the Congress, by order of the Board, *Robert Towers*, Commissary, was directed to deliver two rolls of Lead to Captain *Nathaniel Falconer*, and report the weight to this Board.

Ordered, That Lieutenant *Symmonds* forthwith take upon him the command of the Artillery Company, and repair, with them, with all possible despatch, to *Liberty-Island*, and there remain for the protection of the Battery, Artillery, and Stores, until further orders of this Board.

Ordered, That the Agent Victualler furnish two weeks' Provisions for the Company, to be taken down with them, and keep them supplied while there.

Ordered, That the Commissary provide a Cart or Wagon for conveying the Baggage of the said Company to said Island, and furnish each man with twelve Rounds of Cartridges, likewise thirty-six Cartridges for the Cannon.

Resolved, That Lieutenant *Hugh Montgomery* take the command of the *Warren*, in the absence of Lieutenant *Symmonds.*

—

Thursday, December 28, 1775.

At a meeting of the Committee of Safety: Present—*John Nixon*, Chairman, *Robert White, James Mease, Samuel Morris*, Jun., *Daniel Roberdeau, George Clymer, Joseph Reed, Owen Biddle, James Biddle.*

Resolved, That Captain *John Hazlewood* be appointed to the command of ten Fire-Rafts, and superintend, at present, over the whole Fleet of Rafts.

Mr. *Whitehead*, Work-House Keeper, produced his account, amounting to twenty-three pounds, nineteen shillings, eleven pence, for the maintenance of the Prisoners confined by this Board, by direction of Congress, which was examined, and recommended to be paid.

Resolved, That, for the further defence of this Province, a Floating Battery be built.

That *Samuel Howell, Robert White*, and *George Clymer*, be a Committee to have the said Battery completed, as soon as possible, and that they purchase the Guns and other necessaries for her.

Resolved, That the Sergeant of the Artillery Company be allowed sixty Shillings per month.

That the Corporal of said Company be allowed fifty-five Shillings per month.

Upon application of Congress, *Robert Towers* was directed to deliver to Captain *Loxley* twelve pounds Saltpetre and six pounds Gunpowder.

Captain *Thomas Proctor* having applied to this Board to be reinstated in his command, and submitting to make the acknowledgments to Captain *Williams* and Lieutenant *Watson*, as formerly recommended by this Board, and Lieutenant *Watson* having declared that he did not expect, or require, such acknowledgments to be made to him, it is

Resolved, That, upon Captain *Proctor's* giving Captain *Williams* the satisfaction, as directed by this Board, he be immediately restored to his command.

—

Friday, December 29, 1775.

At a meeting of the Committee of Safety: Present—*John Nixon*, Chairman, *Samuel Howell, Joseph Reed, Daniel Roberdeau, John Cadwallader, Robert White, James Biddle, Samuel Morris*, Jun., *Thomas Wharton*, Jun., *James Mease.*

Resolved, That Captain *Wilcocks*, Captain *Shee*, and Captain *Cadwallader*, be required to purchase as many Files as may be thought necessary for the use of the Gunsmiths employed in the service of this Province.

The following Order was handed this Committee by Mr. *Mease*, which was endorsed by the Chairman, and delivered Messrs. *Mease* and *Caldwell:*

"Congress-Chamber, December 28, 1775.

"Gentlemen: Please to pay to the Committee of Safety of *Pennsylvania*, eight thousand dollars, for the use of the Battalion of Continental Troops in this city, the said Committee to be accountable for the expenditure of the said

sum. I am, gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servant, JOHN HANCOCK, *President.*

"To *Michael Hillegas* and *George Clymer*, Esqrs., Treasurers."

Colonel *Cadwallader* and Mr. *Howell*, from the Committee appointed to confer with *Morgan Bustead*, on the establishment of a Foundry for casting Cannon, report, that *Bustead* desires further time to consider of the matter.

Therefore, Resolved, That he be desired to attend this Board to-morrow, at eleven o'clock, in order to give his definitive answer, whether he will or will not engage in that service.

—

Saturday, December 30, 1775.

At a meeting of the Committee of Safety: Present—*John Nixon*, Chairman, *Thomas Wharton*, Jun., *George Clymer, Robert White, Owen Biddle, James Mease, John Cadwallader, Daniel Roberdeau, James Biddle, Joseph Reed.*

Morgan Bustead attended, agreeable to a Resolve of yesterday, and promised to deliver in his Proposals for casting Cannon, to this Board, on *Monday* next.

Resolved, That Colonel *Reed*, Mr. *Mease*, and Mr. *Owen Biddle*, wait on the Naval Committee of Congress, and obtain of them an Order for all the Russia Sheeting which is not already appropriated to their particular use.

Resolved, That Mr. *James Biddle* wait on the Committee of Inspection and Observation, and request they would furnish this Board with a particular account of the goods in their possession, the property of *Joshua Fisher & Sons.*

By order of the Board, Mr. *Whitehead* was directed to discharge *David Owen* from his confinement.

The Congress sent the following Resolves, which are directed to be entered on the Minutes of this Board:

"In Congress, December 21, 1775.

"*Resolved*, That forty Iron Pots be provided for the Soldiers while in the Barracks near *Philadelphia.*

"That the Commissioned Officers of each Company be allowed, every week, a quarter of a cord of Hickory Wood, or other Wood in proportion.

"That there be provided, for the Battalion raised in *Pennsylvania*, one hundred Haversacks, a Camp Kettle for every six men, a Tomahawk, a Canteen, Cartouch Box, Knapsack, and two Belts for each man.

"That a Coat of uniform be provided for each Soldier, and that, what the Coat costs, more than the Hunting Shirt (value one dollar thirty-three and a third cents) that was to be given them, be deducted from their wages.

"That the said Battalion be paid one month's pay, as soon as may be; that, afterwards, they receive, monthly, half a month's pay, only, until so much is retained as will amount to the money advanced for their Fire-Arms, Clothing, &c.; after which, they shall receive their full pay, monthly.

"That it be recommended to the Committee of Safety of *Pennsylvania*, to provide Arms for the three Companies that are ordered to march, and, also, to provide the articles ordered above for the use of the said Battalion, with Drums, Colours, and Fifes.

"*December* 26, 1775.—*Resolved*, That the Battalion raised in *Pennsylvania* be supplied with Gun-Brushes, Prickers, Double Worms, Screw Drivers, and Oil; and that it be recommended to the Committee of Safety for the said Colony to provide the same.

"*December* 28, 1775.—That an Order be drawn on the Treasurers, in favour of the Committee of Safety of *Pennsylvania*, for the use of the Battalion raised in said Colony, the said Committee to be accountable. (No sum mentioned.)

"*October* 12.—The men inlisted to be furnished with a Hunting Shirt (not exceeding one dollar thirty-three and a third cents) and a Blanket, provided these can be procured, but not to be made part of the terms of the inlistment.

"*October* 9.—That each of the Privates be allowed instead of a Bounty, a Felt Hat, a pair of Yarn Stockings and a pair of Shoes, the men to find their own Arms.

"Extract from the Minutes:

"CHARLES THOMSON, *Secretary.*"

Resolved, That Messrs. *Mease* and *Caldwell* see the Resolves of Congress, respecting the Battalion therein mentioned, carried into execution.

Colonel *Reed* delivered the Board the following Resolve of the Committee of the City and Liberties, which was this day sent to the Committee of *Northampton* County, when they were desired to send down, as soon as possible, the fourteen quarter-casks of Gunpowder mentioned in said Resolve:

"In Committee, December 19, 1775.

"*Resolved*, That Major *Bayard*, Mr. *Dean*, Mr. *Schlosser*, and Captain *Cowperthwaite*, or any two of them, be a Committee to settle the Powder Accounts of the old Committee, and receive of the Committee of Safety the purchase money of fourteen casks of Powder, to be brought from *Reading.*

"Extract from the Minutes of the Committee for the City and County of *Philadelphia.*

"ROBERT S. JONES, *Secretary.*"

Robert Towers, Commissary, makes the following Report:

That he has received from Captain *George Ord*, six Muskets, value, twenty-one pounds ten shillings; from *John Pringle*, twenty-eight pieces of *Holland* Duck, and sixty-seven pieces of *Russia* Duck. That he has delivered to Congress, agreeable to the orders of this Board, thirteen hundred weight, three quarters, and twenty-seven pounds of Lead—received by Captain *Falconer;* twelve pounds of Saltpetre, and six pounds of Powder—received by Captain *Loxley.* That he has delivered one pound of Powder to the *Pennsylvania* Hospital; delivered thirty pounds of Saltpetre to *William Lush*, to be made into Powder.

By order of the Board, Letters were this day wrote to the Committees of *Lancaster, York, Cumberland, Berks*, and *Northampton* Counties, requesting they would collect the Arms, belonging to the Province, that may be in the hands of the people of their respective Counties, and send them to the Board as fast as collected.

—

Monday, January 1, 1776.

In Committee of Safety: Present—*Alexander Wilcocks*, Chairman, *John Nixon, Owen Biddle, George Clymer, Thomas Wharton*, Jun., *John Cadwallader, Anthony Wayne, Daniel Roberdeau, James Biddle, James Mease.*

Upon application of the Naval Committee of this Congress, this Board grant them permission to engage any three of the Pilots, in the pay of this Province, to conduct the vessels, belonging to the Congress, down to *Reedy-Island*, and immediately afterwards to return to their proper stations.

Mr. *Robert Towers*, Commissary, is directed to deliver fifty stand of Arms to Captain *Samuel Nicholls*, for the use of the Congress.

Upon application of this Board to the Naval Committee of Congress, for *Russia* Sheeting, for the use of Colonel *Bull's* Battalion, this Board was furnished with an Order for forty-five pieces, which was ordered to be delivered to Messrs. *Mease* and *Caldwell*, or order.

Upon application of the Naval Committee of Congress, that this Board would permit a number of men from the Armed Boats to navigate the vessels, belonging to the Congress, down to *Reedy-Island*, this Board gave the following Order to Captain *Dougherty:*

SIR: You are hereby required to order such a number of men to go from on board the armed boats, under your command, as may be necessary to navigate the vessels, belonging to the Congress, down to *Reedy-Island;* appoint some discreet officer or officers to take the*
and to bring them back by such*
be provided for them by the*

To Captain *Henry Dougherty.*

Upon application of Captain *Allen Moore*, that this Board would indulge him with the liberty of resigning his command as Commander of one of the Armed Boats; and having given his reasons why his request should be granted,

[* Original torn.]

Resolved, That the said Capt. *Allen Moore* have permission to resign his command of the Armed Boat *Effingham*.

—

Tuesday, January 2, 1776.

In Committee of Safety: Present—

Benj'n Franklin, Robert Morris, George Gray, James Mease, George Clymer, John Cadwallader, Joseph Reed, John Nixon, Owen Biddle, Andrew Allen, Nicholas Fairlamb, James Biddle, Samuel Miles, Samuel Morris, Robert White, Alexander Wilcocks, Francis Johnson, Henry Wynkoop, Anthony Wayne, Thomas Wharton, Daniel Roberdeau, Samuel Howell, Edward Biddle.

Resolved, That the Board will recommend to the Congress two persons for each Field-Officer, if the appliers will admit, and that the choice be made by ballot.

Pursuant to a Resolution of Congress and this Board, this Committee proceeded to the choice of a number of gentlemen, to be recommended to the Congress as proper persons to be appointed Colonels for the four Battalions as now to be raised, when the following gentlemen were agreed upon, and are now recommended to the honourable Congress as suitable to fill the offices of Colonels, viz:

Anthony Wayne,* - - -	23 votes—4th Battalion.
John Shee, - - - - -	23 votes—3d Battalion.
Arthur St. Clair, - - -	23 votes—2d Battalion.
Robert Magau, - - - -	20 votes—5th Battalion.
John Atlee, - - - - -	17 votes.
Robert Cadwallader, - -	15 votes.
Daniel Broadhead, - -	14 votes.
Francis Johnson, - - -	10 votes.

—

Wednesday, January 3, 1776.

In Committee of Safety: Present—

Benjamin Franklin, Robert Morris, John Nixon, James Mease, Robert White, Alexander Wilcocks, Samuel Morris, Jun., *Owen Biddle, Daniel Roberdeau, Francis Johnson, John Montgomery, Samuel Miles, Samuel Howell, Henry Wynkoop, Anthony Wayne, Joseph Reed, Nicholas Fairlamb, James Biddle, John Cadwallader, George Clymer, George Gray, John Dickinson, Thomas Wharton*, Jun., *Edward Biddle.*

Upon application of the Naval Committee of Congress, an order was directed to *Robert Towers*, Commissary, to deliver to their order eight hundred Swivel-Shot.

Upon application of the Commissioners and Assessors of *Bucks* County, for some Gunpowder to prove the Gun-barrels for the use of that County, an Order was directed to Mr. *Towers*, to deliver four pounds of Powder to the order of *John Vandigriff*.

Mr. *Robert Towers*, Commissary, was directed to apply to Mr. *Dunwick*, Blacksmith, for forty-six Firelocks, made by him for *Chester* County, and forty Firelocks, made by him for this County, and to deliver the same to Captain *Samuel Nicholas*, for the use of the Congress.

Resolved, That Mr. *Reed*, Mr. *Cadwallader*, and Mr. *Wilcocks*, be joined with Mr. *Howell*, Mr. *Clymer*, and Mr. *Owen Biddle*, as a Committee for appointing proper persons to instruct the Inhabitants of the different Counties in the manufacture of Saltpetre, and to do what other matters they may think proper, for the more speedy obtaining the making of that necessary article; and to fix upon the number of Handbills to be printed and distributed in the *English* and *German* languages, setting forth the process of extracting and refining Saltpetre, as published in *Dunlap's* Paper of the 1st instant.

Robert Morris, Esq., by direction of Congress, acquaints this Board, that they received the recommendation of the eight gentlemen, sent up yesterday, as suitable persons to fill the offices of Colonels, and that [they were pleased to appoint *Arthur St. Clair*, Esq., Colonel to the Second Battalion, *John Shee*, Esq., Colonel to the Third Battalion, *Anthony Wayne*, Esq., Colonel to the Fourth Battalion, and *Robert Magau*, Esq., Colonel to the Fifth Battalion of *Pennsylvania* Troops, to be raised*] for the Continental service.

Pursuant to a Resolution [of Congress and this Board, this Committee proceeded to the choice of a number of gentlemen to be recommended to the Congress as persons to be*] appointed Field-Officers for the four Battalions now to be raised, when the following gentlemen were agreed upon, and now recommended to the honourable Congress as suitable to fill the offices of Lieutenant-Colonels, viz:

Lambert Cadwallader,† - - - - - -	21 votes.
William Allen, - - - - - - - - -	20 "
Francis Johnson, - - - - - - - -	20 "
Joseph Penrose, - - - - - - - -	20 "
Thomas Hartley, - - - - - - - -	17 "
William Irvine, - - - - - - - -	15 "
Joseph Wood, - - - - - - - - -	12 "
Daniel Broadhead, - - - - - - -	11 "

—

At a special meeting of the Members of this Board, *January* 3, 1776, in the evening: Present—

John Nixon, Chairman, *Robert Morris, Samuel Howell, Anthony Wayne, Thomas Wharton, Owen Biddle, John Montgomery, Daniel Roberdeau, Joseph Reed, Andrew Allen, James Biddle, Samuel Miles, Robert White, Henry Wynkoop, Samuel Morris*, Jun., *James Mease.*

Robert Morris, Esq., by direction of Congress, delivered the following Resolves to this Board, viz:

"In Congress, January 3, 1776.

"*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the Committee of Safety for *Pennsylvania*, to see the Resolutions of Congress, for confining *Connolly* and his accomplices in safe and close prison, in *Philadelphia*, till the further orders of Congress, be carried into execution.

"*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the said Committee to take the examination of said *Connolly* and his associates.

"Extract from the Minutes:

"CHARLES THOMSON, *Secretary.*

[*John Cennolly* and *Allan Cameron*, and their servants, having been brought to this city as persons inimical to the liberties of *America*, were ordered to be confined in close prison; agreeable thereto the following Commitment was issued:*]

Committee of Safety, January 3, 1776.

[You are required to receive into your custody *John onnolly* and *Allan Cameron*, and ——, ——, their servants,*] charged with treasonable practices against *America*, and keep them safely, without pen, ink, or paper, and from all intercourse with other persons, until discharged by this Board, or the order of the Continental Congress. In which, this shall be your sufficient warrant.

Given under my hand, and by order of the Committee of Safety of the Province of *Pennsylvania*.

JOHN NIXON, *Chairman.*

To the Keeper of the Jail of the City of *Philadelphia*.

—

Thursday, January 4, 1776.

In Committee of Safety: Present—

Benjamin Franklin, Robert Morris, John Nixon, James Mease, John Montgomery, Nicholas Fairlamb, James Biddle, Robert White, Alexander Wilcocks, Owen Biddle, Henry Wynkoop, Anthony Wayne, George Clymer, Joseph Reed, George Gray, Samuel Morris, Jun., *John Cadwallader, Daniel Roberdeau, Samuel Howell, Thomas Wharton, Samuel Miles, Edward Biddle.*

Resolved, That Captain *Henry Dougherty* order a proper Guard, from the Boats' Crews, to be fixed at the State-

[* Original much mutilated.]

* IN COMMITTEE OF SAFETY, PHILADELPHIA, *January* 2, 1775.—Pursuant to the Resolutions of Congress and this Board, this Committee proceeded to the choice of a number of gentlemen, to be recommended to the Congress as proper persons to be appointed Colonels for the four Battalions now to be raised, when the following gentlemen were agreed upon, and are now recommended to the honourable Congress, as suitable persons to fill the offices of Colonels, viz: *Anthony Wayne*, Esq., *Samuel John Atlee*, Esq., *John Shee*, Esq., *Arthur St. Clair*, Esq., *Daniel Broadhead*, Esq., *Robert Magau*, Esq., *Lambert Cadwallader*, Esq., *Francis Johnson*, Esq.

Extract from the Minutes: WILLIAM GOVETT, *Secretary.*

† IN COMMITTEE OF SAFETY, PHILADELPHIA, *January* 3, 1775.—Pursuant to a Resolution of Congress and this Board, this Committee proceeded to the choice of a number of gentlemen, to be recommended to Congress as proper persons to be appointed Field-Officers for the four Battalions now to be raised, when the following gentlemen were agreed upon, and are now recommended to the honourable Congress as suitable to fill the offices of Lieutenant Colonels, viz: *Lambert Cadwallader, Joseph Wood, Francis Johnston, Joseph Penrose, William Allen, Thomas Hartley, William Irvine, Daniel Broadhead,*

Extract from the Minutes: WILLIAM GOVETT, *Secretay.*

House, over the Artillery and Military Stores, and at the Powder House.

Upon application of Captain *Josiah Harmar*, for the payment of five Firelocks, purchased by him for the use of his Company, in Colonel *Bull's* Battalion, an Order was drawn and signed by the Chairman for sixteen pounds, ten shillings, on Messrs. *Mease* and *Caldwell*.

On motion, *Resolved*, That Colonel *Cadwallader*, Mr. *Wilcocks*, and Mr. *Reed*, wait upon *Andrew Elliot*, Esq., and Lord *Drummond*, and take their parole of honour, that they will not give any intelligence of, or correspond with any person whatever, on publick affairs, during their stay in this City; and, when they shall leave this place, they will give no information of any facts, which have come to their knowledge while here, of a publick nature, and be prejudicial to the interests of the *United Colonies*.

Robert Morris, Esq., by direction of Congress, acquaints this Board, that they received the recommeodation from this Board of the eight gentlemen sent up yesterday, as suitable persons to fill the Offices of Colonels; and that they were pleased to appoint *Lambert Cadwallader* Second Lieutenant-Colonel, *William Allen* Third Lieutenant-Colonel, *Francis Johnson* Fourth Lieutenant-Colonel, and *Joseph Penrose* Fifth Lieutenant-Colonel, of the four Battalions of *Pennsylvania* Troops, to be raised for the Continental service.

Pursuant to a Resolution of Congress and this Board, this Committee proceeded to the choice of a number of gentlemen, to be recommended to Congress as proper persons to be appointed Field Officers for the four Battalions now to be raised, when the following gentlemen were agreed upon, and now recommended to the honourable Congress, as suitable to fill the Offices of Majors, viz:

Joseph Wood, - - - - - - - 16 votes, 2, 2.
George Nagle, - - - - - - 20 votes, 3, 3.
Henry Bicker, - - - - - - - 16 votes, 4, 4.
*Nich**
*John McPh**
*John Bea**
*James Roy**

—

Friday, January 5, 1776.

In Committee of Safety: Present—

John Nixon, *Samuel Morris*, Jun., *Thomas Wharton*, Jun., *George Clymer*, *Francis Johnson*, *Robert White*, *George Gray*, *Joseph Reed*, *Daniel Roberdeau*, *Nicholas Fairlamb*, *Samuel Miles*, *James Mease*, *Henry Wynkoop*, *James Biddle*, *Owen Biddle*, *John Cadwollader*, *Samuel Howell*, *Alexander Wilcocks*, *Anthony Wayne*, *John Montgomery*, *Edward Biddle*.

Upon application of Captain *William Allen*, for the payment of twenty-eight Firelocks, purchased by him for the use of his Company, in Colonel *Bull's* Battalion, an Order was drawn on Messrs. *Mease* and *Caldwell*, for one hundred and six pounds, nine shillings and nine pence, the amount of the same.

Robert Morris, Esq., by direction of Congress, acquaints this Board, that they received the recommendation from this Board of the eight gentlemen sent up yesterday as suitable persons to fill the Offices of Majors; and that they were pleased to appoint *Joseph Wood* Second Major, *George Nagle* Third Major, *Nicholas Haussiger*, Fifth Major, and *Henry Bicker* Fourth Major, of the four Battalions of *Pennsylvania* Troops, to be raised for the Continental service.

Pursuant to a Resolution of Congress and this Board, this Committee proceeded to the choice of a number of gentlemen, to be appointed as Captains for the four Battalions now to be raised, when the following gentlemen were agreed upon, and to rank agreeably to the numbers affixed to their names:

John Beatty,	John Lacey,	Thomas Byles,
Thomas Craig,	Peter Scull,	John Reese,
William Butler,	Caleb Noarth,	John Spohn,
John Miller,	Christopher Sheart,	Nathaniel Vansant,
William West,	Alexander Graydon,	James Moore,
John Brisben,	Thomas Church,	Henry Allen,
Samuel Benezet,	Samuel Watson,	James Taylor,
Persifor Frazer,	John Hulings,	Peter Decker,
Thomas Robinson,	Frederick Vernon,	Joseph Hubley,
Walter Sheart,	David Lenox,	Matthew Duncan.
Rudolph Brunner,		

[* Original torn.]

Robert Towers, Commissary, reports his having delivered the following articles, on account of the Continental Congress, viz:

Delivered Captain *Falconer*, 2,400 pounds Grape Shot, 758 pounds Musket Balls, 242 pounds six-pound Cannon Ball, 200 pounds four-pound Cannon Ball, 26 pounds Cross-Bar, Sliding, and Star Shot, 13 pounds Swivel Shot, 1,000 pounds small Swivel Shot, 38 barrels, 18 half barrels, 72 quarter barrels Gunpowder, weight 6,500 pounds.

36 pounds Saltpetre, delivered Dr. *Harrison*.

37 Provincial Muskets and 36 Bayonets, 46 *Chester* County Muskets, with Bayonets, delivered Captain *Craig*.

50 Provincial Muskets, Bayonets, and Scabbards, delivered Captain *Samuel Nicholas*.

216 Musket Cartridges, delivered Captain *Hubley*.

10 new Muskets and Bayonets received from Captain *John Cadwallader*, and delivered to Captain *Samuel Nicholas*.

7 Provincial Muskets, delivered to Captain *Nicholas*.

200 pounds Musket Ball, delivered to Captain *Nicholas*.

7 pounds Saltpetre, delivered to Captain *Loxley*.

4 quarter barrels Gunpowder, 100 pounds, delivered to Captain *Reed*.

—

Saturday, January 6, 1776.

In Committee of Safety: Present—

George Clymer, Chairman, *Samuel Morris*, Jun., *Nicholas Fairlamb*, *John Montgomery*, *James Mease*, *Samuel Miles*, *Thomas Wharton*, Jun., *Robert White*, *Alexander Wilcocks*, *Joseph Reed*, *Daniel Roberdeau*, *Henry Wynkoop*, *George Gray*, *James Biddle*, *Owen Biddle*, *Edward Biddle*, *John Nixon*, *Anthony Wayne*, *Francis Johnson*, *Samuel Howell*, *John Cadwallader*.

Pursuant to a Resolution of Congress and this Board, this Committee proceeded to the choice of a number of gentlemen, to be appointed as Lieutenants to the four Battalions now to be raised, when the following persons were agreed upon, and to rank agreeably to the numbers affixed to their names, viz:

Joseph Potts,	Samuel Moore,	Samuel Smith,
John Richardson,	James Christie,	Andrew Kechlin,
Alexander Johnston,	John Lawrence,	Adam Bettin,
Thos. Lloyd Moore,	John Christie,	William Davidson,
Joseph Davenport,	John Williamson,	William Bird,
John Chilton,	George Tudor,	Michael Kimmle,
Evan Edwards,	John Gross,	John Priestly,
John Bankson,	John David Waelpper,	Charles Phile,
Benj. Bartholomew,	Robert Wilkins,	Michael Hoofnagle,
Matthew Knox,	Dan'l Broadhead, Jr.,	John Helm.
James R. Reid,	John Morgan,	

—

Monday, January 8, 1776.

In Committee of Safety: Present—

John Nixon, Chairman, *Daniel Roberdeau*, *Thomas Wharton*, Jun., *Owen Biddle*, *James Biddle*, *John Montgomery*, *George Clymer*, *Samuel Howell*.

Upon application of *Thomas Willet*, for the payment of twenty-three Firelocks, purchased by him for the use of his Company, in Colonel *Bull's* Battalion, an Order was drawn on Messrs. *Mease* and *Caldwell*, Paymasters to said Battalion, for seventy-two pounds, six pence, for the payment of the same.

Captain *Miles* and Mr. *Wharton* being appointed to wait on Messrs. *Joshua Fisher & Sons* for a list of the goods imported by them, and stored by order of the Committee of Inspection and Observation, report that they called upon those gentlemen, and informed them of the Resolve of this Board, who gave for answer, that they declined giving any such list, having already furnished the Committee of Inspection and Observation with one; and, notwithstanding it was urged to Messrs. *Fishers* that application had been made to the Committee of Inspection and Observation, who said they had mislaid it, yet they persisted in the refusal.

Upon the Petition of Colonel *St. Clair* and Mr. *Richard Butler*, respecting the publick Powder in *Westmoreland* County, this Committee

Resolve, That the Powder now in *Westmoreland* County, belonging to this Province, shall still remain there, as the property of this Province, and be under the care of the Committee of said County, and not be used but in the defence of the County.

Pursuant to a Resolution of Congress and this Board, this Committee proceeded to the choice of a number of gentlemen, to be appointed as Second Lieutenants and Ensigns to the four Battalions now to be raised, when the following persons were agreed upon, and to rank agreeably to the numbers affixed to their names,* viz:

James Montgomery,	John Finley,	Henry Becker,
Ezra Bartleson,	Thomas Jenney,	William Stanley,
Alex. McClintock,	John Craig,	Charles McHenry,
William Tilton,	Richard Collier,	John Woodside,
Walter Becker,	Andrew Forrest,	Charles C. Beatty,
Ross Currie,	Henry Epple,	John Rudulph,
John Budd Dunn,	Robert Conolly,	Charles Seits,
John Duguid,	Isaac Seiley,	Benjamin Armitage,
Robert Gregg,	Thomas Boude,	Andrew Dover,
William Crawford,	Michael Ryon,	Edward Young.
William Chambers,	Thomas Holland,	
	Ensigns.	
Benjamin Miller,	James Hunter,	Alexander Hall,
Job Vernon,	John Savadge,	Samuel Schriver,
John Henry, Jun.,	John Evans,	Abel Morris,
Thomas Park,	Isaac Vanhorn,	John Wallace,
Joel Waistcoat,	Ezekiel Letts,	John Barclay,
James McKee,	Herman Stoud,	James Mulloy,
James O'Harra,	James Black,	Mordecai Davis,
John Gensel,	Thomas McEntire,	John Dover,
William Craig,	Jacob Funk,	Levi Griffith,
William Old,	Edward Hovenden,	James Gibbons.
Thomas Wallace,	James Cloyd,	

"In Congress, January 4, 1776.

"*Resolved*, That a fifth Battalion be raised in *Cumberland* County, in the Colony of *Pennsylvania*. C. T."

Pursuant to a Resolution of Congress and of this Board, this Committee proceeded to the choice of a number of gentlemen, to be recommended as proper persons for Field-Officers to the Fifth Battalion, to be raised in *Cumberland* County, when the following persons were agreed upon and now recommended to the honourable Congress as suitable persons to fill the offices of Colonels, Lieutenant-Colonels, and Majors; and, at the same time, they proceeded to the choice of proper persons to be appointed as Captains, First and Second Lieutenants, and Ensigns, to said Battalion, when the following were agreed upon, and to rank agreeable to the numbers affixed to their names,* viz:

12 votes *William Irvine*, Colonel; 3 votes *James Irvine*.

11 votes *Thomas Hartley*, Lieutenant-Colonel; 3 votes *Patrick Maxwell*.

11 votes *James Dunlap*, Major; 3 votes *Edward Morton*.

Captains.	*Lieutenants.*	*Second Lieutenants.*
Daniel Grier,	William Alexander,	Alexander Parker,
Abraham Smith,	Bernard Eichelberger,	Samuel McPherson,
Samuel Hay,	John McDonnel,	John Alexander,
Jeremiah Tolbert,	Robert White,	—— McClelland,
William Rippee,	William Brutton,	Edward Stille,
Moses McClain,	John McDaniel,	Arch. McAllister, Jr.
James A. Wilson,	Lewis Bush,	John Brooke, Jr.,
Robert Adams,	John Grier,	—— Brown.
	Ensigns.	
Samuel Montgomery,	William Graham,	William Lusk,
William Nicholas,	William Miller,	John Murray,
Robert Hoops,	William Brown.	

Surgeon—Robert Johnson. *Adjutant*—John Brooke.

—

Tuesday, January 9, 1776.

In Committee of Safety: Present—

George Clymer, Chairman, *James Mease*, *Thomas Wharton*, Jun., *Samuel Howell*, *Samuel Miles*, *John Cadwallader*, *Joseph Reed*, *Daniel Roberdeau*, *Owen Biddle*, *James Biddle*, *Samuel Morris*, Jun.

Conformable to a Resolution of Congress, that *Nathaniel Shaw* should have permission to load Flour in this port to the amount of two thousand pounds, this Board requested the Committee of Inspection and Observation to permit *Thomas* and *Isaac Wharton* to export in Flour to the said amount.

Resolved, That Mr. *Reed* and Mr. *Mease* be appointed to wait on the Committee of Inspection and Observation, and request the favour of that Committee to procure, with all possible speed, an invoice or inventory of the goods belonging to Messrs. *Joshua Fisher & Sons*, now in the stores of said Committee, for the use of this Board.

Resolved, That Captain *Proctor* immediately go to *Fort-Island*, and take under command the Artillery Company stationed there.

Resolved, That *Robert Towers*, Commissary, immediately apply to Colonel *Cadwallader* for all the Muskets he has to spare, and deliver them to Captain *Nicholas*, taking his receipt for the same.

Upon application of Captain *Jones*, of Colonel *Bull's* Battalion, for the payment of four Firelocks, purchased by him for the use of his Company in said Battalion, an Order was drawn on Messrs. *Mease* and *Caldwell*, for fourteen pounds fifteen shillings, being the amount of said Firelocks.

Resolved, That every Member of this Board, now in

* The following gentlemen are appointed officers in the four Battalions to be raised in this Province.

Second Battalion: Colonel, Arthur St. Clair; Lieutenant Colonel, William Allen; Major, Joseph Wood.

Third Battalion: Colonel, John Shee; Lieutenant-Colonel, Lambert Cadwallader; Major, Henry Becker.

Fourth Battalion: Colonel, Anthony Wayne; Lieutenant-Colonel, Francis Johnston; Major, Nicholas Haussiger.

Fifth Battalion: Colonel, Robert Magau; Licutenant-Colonel, Joseph Penrose; Major, George Nagel.

Captains, according to rank, who are not yet nominated to particular Battalions:

1. John Beatty,	12. John Lacey,	23. Thomas Byles,
2. Thomas Craig,	13. Peter Scull,	24. John Reese,
3. William Butler,	14. Caleb Noarth,	25. John Spohn,
4. John Miller,	15. Christopher Stuart,	26. Nathaniel Vansant,
5. William West,	16. Alex. Graydon,	27. James Moore,
6. John Brisban,	17. Thomas Church,	28. Henry Allice,
7. Samuel Benezet,	18. Samuel Watson,	29. James Taylor,
8. Persifor Frazer,	19. James Hulings,	30. Peter Decker,
9. Thomas Robinson,	20. Frederick Vernon,	31. Joseph Hublay,
10. Rudolph Bunner,	21. David Lenox,	32. Matthew Duncan.
11 Stephen Bayard,	22. Walter Stuart,	
	First Lieutenants.	
1. Joseph Potts,	12. S. Moore,	23. Samuel Smith,
2. John Richardson,	13. James Christie,	24. Andrew Kechlin,
3. A. Johnson,	14. John Lawrence,	25. Adam Botting,
4. T. Moore,	15. John Christie,	26. William Davidson,
5. Joseph Davenport,	16. John Williamson,	27. William Bird,
6. John Chilton,	17. George Tudor,	28. M. Kimmel,
7. Evan Edwards,	18. John Gross,	29. John Priestly,
8. John Bankson,	19. John D. Wilport,	30. Charles Phile,
9. —— Bartholomew,	20. Robert Wilkins,	31. Michael Hoofnagee,
10. M. Knox,	21. Daniel Broadhead,	32. John Helm.
11. J. R. Reed,	22. John Morgan,	
	Second Lieutenants.	
1. Jas. Montgomery,	12. John Finlay,	23. Henry Bicker, Jr.
2. Ezra Bartleson,	13. Thomas Jennings,	24. William Standley,
3. Alex. McClintock,	14. John Craig,	25. Charles McHenry,
4. William Tilton,	15. Richard Collier,	26. John Woodside,
5. Walter Bicker,	16. Andrew Forrest,	27. Charles Betty,
6. Ross Currie,	17. Henry Epple,	28. John Rudolph,
7. John Budd Dunn,	18. Robert Connelly,	29. Charles Seitz,
8. John Dugard,	19. Isaac Seely,	30. Benj. Armitage,
9. Robert Gregg,	20. Thomas Boude,	31. Andrew Dover.
10. William Crawford,	21. Michael Ryan,	32. Edward Young.
11. William Chambers,	22. Thomas Holland,	
	Ensigns.	
1. Benjamin Miller,	12. William Old,	23. James Cloyd,
2. James Hunter,	13. Thomas Wallace,	24. Samuel Shriver,
3. Alexander Hall,	14. James Savage,	25. Abel Morris,
4. Job Vernon,	15. John Evans,	26. John Wallace,
5. John Henry,	16. Isaac Vanhorn,	27. John Berkley,
6. Thomas Parker,	17. Ezekiel Letts,	28. James Maloy,
7. Joel Wescot,	18. Harman Stout,	29. Mordecai Davis,
8. James McKee,	19. James Black,	30. John Dover,
9. James O'Harra,	20. Thos. McIntire,	31. Levi Griffith,
10. John Gansell,	21. Jacob Funk,	32. James Gibbons.
11. William Craig,	22. Edward Hovendon,	

* RECOMMENDATION OF FIELD-OFFICERS FOR THE PENNSYLVANIA BATTALION.

IN COMMITTEE OF SAFETY, PHILADELPHIA, *January* 9, 1776.

Pursuant to a resolution of Congress and this Board, this Committee proceeded to the choice of a number of gentlemen as proper persons for Field-Officers to the Fifth Battalion to be raised in *Cumberland* County, when the following persons were agreed upon, and now recommended to the honourable Congress, as suitable persons to fill the office of Colonel, Lieutenant-Colonel, and Major. Colonels, *William Irvine*, *James Irvine*. Lieutenant-Colonels, *Thomas Hartley*, *Patrick Maxwell*. Majors, *James Dunlap*, *Edward Morton*.

Extract from the Minutes: WILLIAM GOVETT, *Secretary*.

PHILADELPHIA, *January* 17, 1776.—The following gentlemen are chosen officers of the Sixth Battalion of this Province, which is to be raised in *York* and *Cumberland* Counties, two companies in the former, and six in the latter.

Colonel, *William Irvine*; Lieutenant-Colonel, *Thomas Hartley*; Major, *James Dunlap*; Adjutant, *John Brooks*.

	Captains.	
David Grier,	Jeremiah Tolbert,	James A. Wilson,
Abraham Smith,	William Rippie,	Robert Adams.
Samuel Hay,	Moses McClean,	
	Lieutenants.	
William Alexander,	Robert White,	Lewis Bush,
Bernard Eichleberger,	William Bratton,	John Greer.
John McDonald,	John McDowell,	
	Second Lieutenants.	
Alexander Parker,	—— McClelland,	John Brooks,
Samuel McPherson,	Edward Stille,	—— Brown.
John Alexander,	Arch. McCallister, Jr.	
	Ensigns.	
Samuel Montgomery,	William Miller,	Robert Hoops,
William Nichols,	William Lusk,	William Brown.
William Graham,	John Murray,	

town, be desired to attend a meeting at eight o'clock, precisely, to-morrow morning.

Resolved, That Doctor *Cadwallader*, Doctor *Bond*, Doctor *Kuhn*, Doctor *Rush*, and Doctor *Shippen*, Jun., be requested to examine all candidates who shall offer as Surgeons to the different Battalions, and that no person be appointed by this Board to the office of Surgeon, without first obtaining a Certificate of his abilities from at least three of the above gentlemen, and that they appoint a day for examination as soon as is convenient.

Resolved, That Mr. *Gray*, Chairman of the Committee of *Philadelphia* County, be desired to call together the Members of the said Committee, on *Wednesday*, the 17th instant, and that Mr. *Hart*, Chairman of the Committee of *Bucks* County, be desired to call together the Members of that County, on *Monday*, the 22d instant, at eleven o'clock, on business of the utmost importance, which will be communicated to them by a deputation from this Board, who will attend the meeting; and that they be desired immediately to employ a special Messenger or Messengers, for the purpose, at the expense of this Board, and to notify to the Board the places of each meeting.

—

Wednesday, January 10, 1776.

In Committee of Safety: Present—

Benjamin Franklin, *Thomas Wharton*, Jun., *Daniel Roberdeau*, *George Clymer*, *Samuel Miles*, Chairman, *Samuel Morris*, Jun., *John Montgomery*, *Samuel Howell*, *Anthony Wayne*, *John Nixon*, *John Cadwallader*, *James Biddle*, *James Mease*, *Robert White*.

Resolved, That the Committee will, on *Monday* next, proceed to the appointment of Second Lieutenants in Colonel *Bull's* Battalion; and that this Resolve be made publick.

Resolved, That this Committee will, on the 12th *February* next, proceed to the appointment of Chaplains to the six Battalions raised in this Province by order of Congress.

By order of the Board, an Order was drawn on *Michael Hillegas*, Esq., Treasurer to this Board, in favour of *John Maxwell Nesbitt*, Paymaster to the Boats, or order, for sixteen hundred Pounds.

Resolved, That Colonel *Miles*, Mr. *Mease*, and Mr. *Samuel Morris*, be a Committee to inquire for proper places to erect Powder Magazines in this Province, and to procure plans of the necessary buildings, and make report of the same to this Board.

Resolved, That Colonel *Roberdeau*, and Mr. *Mease*, apply to *Joshua Fisher & Sons*, to know if they will sell what goods this Board may have occasion for, for the use of the publick, that they have in the store of the Committee of Inspection and Observation.

—

Thursday, January 11, 1776.

In Committee of Safety: Present—

John Nixon, Chairman, *Anthony Wayne*, *James Mease*, *John Cadwallader*, *Daniel Roberdeau*, *Samuel Morris*, Jun., *Samuel Howell*, *Thomas Wharton*, Jun., *Nicholas Fairlamb*, *Owen Biddle*.

Resolved, That Mr. *Robert Towers*, Commissary, employ, in the service of this Province, *Thomas Truck* and *John Forrest*; and that they be allowed each forty-five shillings per month, and seven shillings and six pence per week for subsistence.

Pursuant to a Resolution of Congress and of this Board, this Committee proceeded to the choice of a number of gentlemen to be appointed Adjutants to the Second, Third, and Fourth Battalions, now to be raised, when the following gentlemen were made choice of: *George Boss*, *Walter Bicker*, and *Thomas Holland*.

Upon application of Colonel *Wayne*, an Order was drawn on *Michael Hillegas*, Esq., Treasurer to this Board, in favour of the Commissioners and Assessors of *Chester* County, for twenty-seven pounds, being so much towards the payment of Arms, &c., for the use of that County.

Doctor *Franklin* sent to this Board the following Resolve of Congress, which is directed to be entered on the Minutes of this Committee, and a copy thereof to be delivered to Messrs. *Mease* and *Caldwell*, in order to their furnishing Colonel *Bull's* Battalion with such articles, therein set forth, that are not already furnished, agreeable to a former Resolution of Congress:

"In Congress, January 10, 1776.

"The following articles to be provided for the First *Pennsylvania* Battalion, under the command of Colonel *Bull*, now under orders to march for *Canada*, viz: 688 Caps; 688 pairs Mittens; 688 pairs Stockings; 688 pairs Leggings; 688 pairs Shoes; 1200 Shirts; 300 pairs Blankets; 688 Haversacks; 688 Slings, for Firelocks; 688 Waistcoats; 500 pairs Breeches; 64 Pitching-Axes; and nine Baggage-Wagons.

"*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the Committee of Safety of *Pennsylvania*, to supply the *Pennsylvania* Battalion with such of the above articles as they have not already furnished, agreeable to former Resolutions of Congress, and that all the articles furnished the men, more than those allowed in lieu of bounty, be deducted out of their pay.

Extract from the Minutes:

"Charles Thomson, *Secretary*."

Agreeable to a Resolve of yesterday, Colonel *Roberdeau* and Mr. *Mease* waited on Messrs. *Fishers*, and report they positively and absolutely refuse to give any consent to the sale of their goods, or concur in any way to bring about the end proposed.

Resolved, That application be made to the Committee of the City and Liberties, informing them that the articles enumerated at the bottom of the Resolve, are essentially necessary for the public use. That they are not to be procured in this City, but from *Joshua Fisher & Sons*, who have them in the Committee Store, and have refused to dispose of said goods, or concur in any measures by which they be appropriated to the use of the publick. That this Committee, therefore, request the Committee of Inspection and Observation will take such measures to preserve the undermentioned goods, as the publick interest may require, and as they have done in cases of the like nature.

(Two tons Pig Lead, two bales *Russia* Sheeting, two bales Raven's Duck, one case *Irish* Linen, seven bales Sail Cloth.)

—

Friday, January 12, 1776.

In Committee of Safety: Present—

John Nixon, Chairman, *John Montgomery*, *Anthony Wayne*, *James Mease*, *George Gray*, *Robert White*, *Nicholas Fairlamb*, *George Clymer*, *Samuel Howell*, *Daniel Roberdeau*, *Samuel Morris*, Jun., *Alexander Wilcocks*, *John Cadwallader*.

Upon application of Captain *Jones*, for the payment of seven Firelocks, purchased by him for the use of his Company, in Colonel *Bull's* Battalion, an Order was drawn for twenty-two pounds, fifteen shillings, in his favour, on Messrs. *Mease* and *Caldwell*, Paymasters to said Battalion.

The appointment of the Captains, Lieutenants, Ensigns, and Adjutants, were this day sent to Congress, by Colonel *Wayne*.

Thomas Dewees's Account against the Congress for the soldiers, Lieutenant *Symes* and *Duncan Campbell*, confined in Jail by order of Congress, up to the 8th instant, were certified by the Chairman to be just, amounting in the whole to eight pounds seven pence half-penny.

In consequence of the Resolution of Congress of the 2d instant, handed to this Board:

Resolved, That Colonel *Roberdeau* and Mr. *Clymer* be a Committee to procure copies of all the Petitions, Memorials, and Remonstrances, which have been by this Colony presented to the Throne, or either House of Parliament, since the year 1762; and, also, of the Answers, if any were given to them, in order to lay them before Congress, and this Committee are to forward any other business that may be recommended to this Board, in the other Resolutions of Congress accompanying the above, of the 2d instant.

Resolved, That Mr. *Reed*, Mr. *Mease*, and Mr. *Howell*, be a Committee to meet the Committee of Inspection and Observation of *Philadelphia* County, at *Chestnut Hill*, on *Wednesday* next, at 11 o'clock.

Resolved, That *Christopher Carter* be discharged from

imprisonment upon condition that he pays his fees, and immediately departs the Continent; and that *Leonard Snowden* be enlarged on paying fees, and giving his parole that his future conduct shall not be inimical to the *American* cause.

Resolved, That Colonel *Roberdeau*, Mr. *Gray*, and Mr. *Owen Biddle*, be a Committee to procure and get made in the best and most speedy manner, twenty-five Grubbing Hoes, one hundred and fifty Picks, five hundred Shovels, one hundred Spades, one hundred Pitching-Axes, and one thousand Pikes, fifty Wheelbarrows, and one hundred and fifty Handbarrows.

Letters were wrote to the Commissioners and Assessors of each County, respecting the Arms, &c., to be provided by them agreeable to a Resolve of Assembly of the 30th *June* last, and to the Committees of the different Counties, (except those of *Westmoreland*, *Northumberland*, and *Bedford*,) respecting the manufacture of Saltpetre, and the mode of receiving and paying for the same.

Robert Towers, Commissary, reports his having received the following articles into store, &c., viz:

65 pounds Saltpetre, from the manufactory of this City; 56 pounds Saltpetre, from ditto; 36 Steel Ramrods, from *William Brown;* 2 cwt. 3 qr. of small Shot, from *Owen Biddle;* 2½ pounds Saltpetre, from Mr. *Peale*, for which he gave ten ounces of Powder, and nine shillings, four pence half-penny, in cash; 56 pounds Shot, from *John Scotton*, at thirty-eight shillings per hundred weight; his having delivered four pounds of Powder to Mr. *Vandegriff*, for the Commissioners and Assessors of *Bucks* County.

—

Saturday, January 13, 1776.

In Committee of Safety: Present—

Samuel Howell, Chairman, *Daniel Roberdeau*, *James Biddle*, *James Mease*, *George Clymer*, *Samuel Morris*, Jun., *Thomas Wharton*, Jun., *Owen Biddle*, *John Cadwallader*.

Captain *Andrew Caldwell* having been applied to, to take the command of the Fleet in the service of this Province, and consenting thereto, it is

Resolved, That he, the said *Andrew Cadwallader* be, and he is, hereby, appointed Commander-in-chief, or Commander of all the Armed Vessels in the service of this Province.

Resolved, That a person be appointed second in command of the Armed Vessels in the service of this Province.

Thomas Apty produced his Account for furnishing twenty-four men, prisoners confined by Congress, with Provisions to this day, amounting to forty-one pounds, two shillings and three pence, which was certified by the Chairman to be just, and directed to the Committee of Accounts of Congress.

Mr. *Owen Biddle* having produced an Account for sundry articles supplied the Saltpetre Works of this Province, by order of the Board, an Order was drawn in his favour, on the Committee of Accounts of this Board, for seventy-eight pounds, five shillings and six pence, being the amount of said Account.

Resolved, That this Board pay *Thomas Dewees* the Jail expenses of *Leonard Snowden*, he being incapable of doing it.

Mr. *Clymer*, by desire of this Board, applied to Mr. *John McNeal*, to know if it would be agreeable to him to enter into the service of this Province, in the character of an Engineer.

In consequence of which Mr. *McNeal* acquaints this Board, by Letter, that his bad state of health prevents his acceptance of the appointment, but will do every thing in his power from time to time for the service of the Province, without any fee.

—

Monday, January 15, 1776.

In Committee of Safety: Present—

John Nixon, Chairman, *Samuel Howell*, *James Biddle*, *Owen Biddle*, *George Clymer*, *Alexander Wilcocks*, *Joseph Reed*, *John Cadwallader*, *Daniel Roberdeau*, *James Mease*.

Mr. *Mease* having delivered an Order of Congress to this Board, of which the following is a copy, it was, by order of the Board, endorsed by the Chairman, and delivered to Messrs. *Mease* and *Caldwell*, for the uses therein mentioned, viz:

"Philadelphia, January 11, 1776.

"Gentlemen: Please to pay to the Committee of Safety of *Pennsylvania*, six thousand dollars for the use of the Battalion in this City, the said Committee to be accountable for the expenditure of said sum.

"I am gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

"John Hancock, *President.*

"*Michael Hillegas* and *George Clymer*, Esquires, Treasurers."

By order of the Board, an Order was drawn on *Michael Hillegas*, Esq., in favour of *John Nixon*, *Thomas Wharton*, Jun., and *James Mease*, the Committee of Accounts, for five thousand pounds, and signed by the Chairman.

Ordered, That Mr. *John Ross* be directed to furnish, immediately, a return of the number of men now in the service of this Province on board the Armed Boats.

Pursuant to a Resolve of Congress, that the Battalions raised in this Province in the Continental service, should have a Second Lieutenant to each Company; this Board went into the choice of eight gentlemen as proper persons to be appointed Second Lieutenants in Colonel *Bull's* Battalion, when the following gentlemen were made choice of: 1. *Roger Stayner*, 2. *George Jenkins*, 3. *Christian Stadle*, 4. *Amos Wilkinson*, 5. *John Ellis*, 6. *Samuel Tolbert*, 7. *Peter Gosner*, 8. *John Cohey*.

—

Tuesday, January 16, 1776.

In Committee of Safety: Present—

John Nixon, Chairman, *Thomas Wharton*, Jun., *Daniel Roberdeau*, *John Cadwallader*, *Anthony Wayne*, *James Biddle*, *Samuel Howell*, *Owen Biddle*, *James Mease*.

Resolved, That Doctor *Robert Johnson*, recommended by Doctors *Thomas Cadwallader*, *Thomas Bond*, *Adam Kuhn*, and *William Shippen*, Jun., according to a former Resolve of this Board, is hereby appointed Surgeon to the Fifth, or Colonel *William Irwin's* Battalion, to be raised by order of the Congress.

The honourable Continental Congress having recommended Chaplains to be appointed to the Battalions to be raised in this Province, for the service of the *United Colonies*,

Resolved, That the Rev. *Daniel McCalla* be appointed Chaplain to the First, or Colonel *Bull's* Battalion.

Upon application of *Joseph Fox*, Esq., by order of the Board, an Order was drawn on *Michael Hillegas*, Esq., in his favour, for five hundred pounds.

Upon application of Captain *Mar*, for the payment of twenty-two Firelocks, purchased by him for the use of his Company, in Colonel *Bull's* Battalion, an Order was drawn on Messrs. *Mease* and *Caldwell*, in his favour, for seventy-nine pounds, eleven shillings, being the amount of said Firelocks.

Mr. *Morris*, by direction of Congress, delivered the following Resolve of Congress to this Board, a copy of which was delivered to *Robert Towers*, with orders to see the same carried into execution:

"In Congress, January 8, 1776.

"*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the Committee of Safety of *Pennsylvania* to send five hundred pounds of Powder to the Colony of *Virginia*, for the use of the forces to be employed in the Counties of *Accomack* and *Northampton*.

"Extract from the Minutes:

"Charles Thomson, *Secretary.*"

Robert Towers, Commissary, reports his having received the following articles into store:

Two hundred and fifty pounds Powder, from *Oswell Eve;* sixteen new Muskets, from *John Nicholson;* eight new Muskets, from *Lewis Prahl;* nineteen half barrels, and one hundred and ninety-five quarter barrels Gunpowder, weight, five thousand eight hundred and twenty-five pounds, received from *Pelatiah Webster*, for account of the Continental Congress. That he has delivered to Captain *Falconer*, on account of Congress, eighty quarter barrels,

two thousand pounds; he has delivered to the Delegates of *New-Jersey*, by order of Congress, eight quarter barrels, two hundred pounds.

Resolved, That the Powder Committee be empowered to continue their endeavours to import Powder; and that they have power to assure the value of the vessels employed in this service, if they find it necessary, at the risk of the Province.

—

Wednesday, January 17, 1776.

In Committee of Safety: Present—

John Nixon, Chairman, *Henry Wynkoop*, *James Biddle*, *Thomas Wharton*, Jun., *Daniel Roberdeau*, *John Cadwallader*, *Anthony Wayne*, *Francis Johnson*, *James Mease*, *Alexander Wilcocks*.

Upon motion of Mr. *Thomas Wharton*, one of the Committee for importing and procuring of Powder, Arms, &c., for the use of this Province,

Resolved, That they, the said Committee, load the Brig *Dolphin*, Captain *Prole*, with the produce of this Colony, for the purpose of procuring the said articles from foreign ports; and that the following Certificate be issued, viz:

This is to certify, that Messrs. *Robert Morris* and *Thomas Wharton*, Jun., have permission to load the Brig *Dolphin*, Captain *Prole*, with the produce of these Colonies, the same being for account of this Province, agreeable to a resolve of the honourable the Congress, dated the 26th *October*, 1775.

Resolved, That the following Advertisement be published in the different Newspapers of this City, viz:

Such persons as are willing to erect Powder-Mills in this Province, within fifty miles distance of this City, are desired to apply to the Committee of Safety, who will lend them money on security, if required, for that purpose, and give them other encouragements.

Resolved, That Colonel *Wayne*, Colonel *Johnson*, Mr. *Bartholomew*, and Mr. *Reiley*, be a Committee to examine that the Firelocks, Cartridge-Boxes, Knapsacks, &c., as ordered by Assembly to be provided by *Chester* County, are made agreeable to the said order of Assembly, and to the patterns delivered the Commissioners and Assessors of said County, and make return of the same to this Board.

Upon application of Captain *Josiah Harmar*, for the payment of eleven Firelocks, purchased by him for the use of his Company, in Colonel *Bull's* Battalion, an Order was drawn on Messrs. *Mease* and *Caldwell*, for twenty-three pounds, twelve shillings and six pence, being the amount of the same.

Resolved, That *Joseph Fox*, Esq., advance to *Gouger*, *Dunwick & Kinder*, three men employed by him in making Fire-Arms, for the use of this Province, fifty pounds each, for which they are to deliver thirty-five stand of Arms, without receiving any payment; and Mr. *Fox* is directed to take their separate obligations.

Resolved, That Major *Samuel Meredith* and Captain *Richard Peters*, Jun., be appointed in the place of Colonel *Shee* and Colonel *Cadwallader*, who ,with Captain *Wilcocks*, were authorized by this Board to contract for one thousand Firelocks and Bayonets.

—

Thursday, January 18, 1776.

In Committee of Safety: Present—

John Nixon, Chairman, *Robert White*, *John Cadwallader*, *Owen Biddle*, *Thomas Wharton*, *James Biddle*, *Anthony Wayne*, *Samuel Howell*, *Daniel Roberdeau*, *James Mease*, *Francis Johnson*.

Mr. *Alexander Hall*, having delivered his appointment as an Ensign to one of the Companies in the four Battalions now to be raised by order of Congress, this Board proceeded to the choice of another gentleman as a fit person to supply his place, when Mr. *Joseph Standley* was agreed to be appointed.

This Committee being informed by Congress, through *Andrew Allen*, Esq., that there was some dispute about the classing the Field-Officers, upon inquiry, do find that there was some small difference between Colonel *St. Clair* and Colonel *Wayne* respecting the arrangement of their Majors. Therefore,

Resolved, That *Nicholas Haussiger* be appointed Major to Colonel *Wayne's* Battalion, and *Joseph Wood* be Major to Colonel *St. Clair's* Battalion.

Whereas, it appears by a Report from the Committee of Inspection and Observation of the City of *Philadelphia*, that they have, without effect, taken every peaceable measure in their power to obtain certain goods belonging to Messrs. *Joshua Fisher & Sons*, now in the store of the said Committee, and applied for by this Board for the publick service, and it appearing to this Committee that the said goods, consisting of Sail-Cloth, Lead, *Russia* Sheeting, Raven's Duck, Linens, Red Serge, White Lead and *Spanish* Brown, are essentially necessary for the publick service, it is

Resolved, That the said Committee of Inspection and Observation, deliver said goods to *Thomas Lawrence*, vendue master, to be immediately sold at publick vendue, that this Committee may have an opportunity of purchasing them for the publick service, and that this Committee will pay for the same, or be answerable for the payment when required.

Doctor *John Smith* being brought to this City by Captain *Shryock*, as a person inimical to the liberties of *America*, was, by order of the Board, committed to prison, agreeable to the following Commitment, viz:

Whereas, Doctor *John Smith* stands charged before this Board with practices inimical to the liberties of *America*, these are to authorize and require you to receive into your custody the said Doctor *John Smith*, and him safely and closely keep confined, without admitting any person to speak with, or have access to him, unless by special order from the honourable the Continental Congress, or this Board, and without pen, ink, and paper, until he be discharged by the said Congress, or this Committee. And hereof you are not to fail, at your peril.

By order of the Committee:

JOHN NIXON, *Chairman*.

To the Keeper of the Jail of the City and County of *Philadelphia*.

Ordered, That *John Hall* be authorized to purchase half a ton of Bar-Iron, for *Lewis Prahl*, for making Gun-Barrels, and draw upon this Committee for the amount.

Robert Towers reports his having received and delivered the following articles: Seven hundred weight of Shot, received from *Thomas Smith*; one hundred weight received from *Meire Baxter*, cash one pound eighteen shillings; ten half-barrels Powder, weight five hundred pounds, sent to *Virginia*, by order of Congress, which Powder is the property of the Congress: two pounds of powder delivered Mr. *Wynkoop*, of *Bucks County*.

—

Friday, January 19, 1776.

At a meeting of the Committee of Safety: Present—

John Nixon, Chairman, *James Biddle*, *Daniel Roberdeau*, *George Clymer*, *Thomas Wharton*, Jun., *Samuel Howell*, *Nicholas Fairlamb*, *James Mease*.

Resolved, That Mr. *Samuel Howell* purchase the whole quantity of Brass that Mr. *Amos Strettle* may have for sale, and order it into the hands of the Commissary.

Colonel *Roberdeau* and Mr. *Clymer*, a Committee appointed to procure copies of all the Petitions, Memorials, and Remonstrances, which have been by the Colony presented to the Throne, or either House of Parliament, since the year seventeen hundred and sixty-two, and, also, the answers, if any, that were given to them, report three Petitions to the King, viz: One of *June* 6, 1766; one of *September* 22, 1768; and one of *March* 5, 1771; one Petition to the House of Lords, dated *September* 22, 1768; also, two Petitions to the House of Commons, dated *January* 14, 1766, and *September* 22, 1768; and that they are informed by the Clerk of Assembly of this Province, that no answer has been given to either of the above-mentioned Petitions.

Resolved, That Mr. *Clymer* and Colonel *Roberdeau* wait upon the Congress, with the above-mentioned copies of Petitions.*

* IN COMMITTEE OF SAFETY, PHILADELPHIA, *January* 19, 1776.

Colonel *Roberdeau* and Mr. *Clymer*, a Committee appointed to procure copies of all the Petitions, Memorials, and Remonstrances, which have been by this Colony presented to the Throne, or either House of Parliament, since the year 1762, and also the answers, if any, that were

Doctor *Jonathan Potts* having sent to this City twenty Provincial Muskets, accompanied with his account of sundry repairs made by the different people who he collected them from, and which he applies for the payment of,

Resolved, That an order be drawn on the Treasurer of this Board for the same.

Which order was accordingly drawn, in favour of said *Potts*, on *Michael Hillegas*, Esq., Treasurer, for fifty-two pounds, five shillings and three pence.

Resolved, That the Committee appointed to view *Liberty-Island*, repair, as soon as the season will admit, to that place, with Doctor *Rittenhouse*, *Robert Smith*, and *John McNeal*, and determine on, and lay out, such work as they shall think sufficient to defend it; and that those

given to them, report three Petitions to the King, viz: One of *June* 6, 1766; one of *September* 22, 1768; and one of *March* 5, 1771; one Petition to the House of Lords, dated *September* 22, 1768; also, two Petitions to the House of Commons, dated *January* 14, 1766, and *September* 22, 1768; and that they are informed by the Clerk of Assembly of this Province, that no Answer has been given to either of the above-mentioned Petitions.

Resolved, That Mr. *Clymer* and Colonel *Roberdeau* wait upon the Congress with the above-mentioned copies of Petitions.

Extract from the Minutes: WILLIAM GOVETT, *Secretary*.

—

To the King's Most Excellent Majesty.

The Address of the Representatives of the Freemen of the Province of PENNSYLVANIA, *in General Assembly met.*

MOST GRACIOUS SOVEREIGN: We, your Majesty's dutiful, loyal, and faithful subjects, the Representatives of the Freemen of the Province of *Pennsylvania*, in General Assembly met, under a deep sense of your Majesty's great condescension and justice, beg leave to render to your Majesty our unfeigned thanks for your most gracious assent to the act repealing the law granting certain Stamp duties in *America*. The paternal concern for the welfare and prosperity of all your Majesty's subjects, however remote, which your Majesty has demonstrated on this very important occasion, cannot fail of fixing in the hearts of the good people of this Province the most inviolable affection and loyalty to your Royal person and Government, and exciting their sincerest prayers for the long continuance of your Majesty on the Throne of those extensive dominions, whose happiness and glory have been the invariable objects of your care and attention.

The assurance which your Majesty has been pleased to give us, of "your approbation of the dutiful behaviour of the Province of *Pennsylvania*, amidst the too prevailing distractions which have agitated the other Colonies," fills our breasts with sentiments of the most respectful gratitude, and demands our warmest thanks. This instance of your Majesty's condescension and goodness must engage the people we represent to continue to recommend themselves still further, by their dutiful behaviour, to your Royal favour and protection.

We humbly entreat your Majesty will further permit us to embrace this opportunity of expressing the high sense we entertain of the justice and tenderness of your Parliament, who, ready to hear and consider the aggrievances of your Majesty's subjects, have, upon a just representation of the unhappy circumstances of your Colonies, manifested their good dispositions and lenity to us in our late distressed situation.

Fully sensible how much the happiness of your people depends on a perfect harmony and connection between *Great Britain* and her Colonies, we assure your Majesty, that no care or endeavours shall be wanting, on our part, to promote and establish that union of affections and interests so essential to the welfare of both, and to preserve that loyalty and affection to your Majesty's person and Government, which we esteem to be one of their first and most important duties.

Signed, by order of the House, JOSEPH FOX, *Speaker*.

June 6, 1766.

A true copy from the Journals:

CHARLES MOORE, *Clerk of Assembly*.

—

To the King's Most Excellent Majesty.

The Petition of the Representotives of the Freemen of the Province of PENNSYLVANIA, *most humbly showeth:*

That we, your Majesty's faithful subjects, the Representatives of the Freemen of *Pennsylvania*, in General Assembly met, humbly ask permission to offer to your Royal wisdom our dutiful supplications.

In our last Petition to your Majesty, we prayed relief of a grievance which the good people of this Province suffered, by duties being imposed upon them by act of Parliament, for the sole purpose of raising a revenue; and, though that act has been repealed, as to part of these taxes, yet the duties on Tea, and other enumerated goods not made in *Great Britain*, but from thence exported to these Colonies, are still retained, with intent, as we have great reason to fear, of establishing thereby a precedent for repeating such taxations upon us hereafter. Thus we lose the possession of our property, and the title to the remainder becomes extremely precarious; for, as we cannot, from our situation be, in any manner, represented in Parliament, your Royal wisdom will perceive, that we can call nothing our own which others assume a right to take from us without our consent.

The aggrievance still continuing, notwithstanding the late repeal, our confidence in your Majesty's transcendent goodness induces us to hope, that, through your gracious interposition, we may yet obtain redress.

If we attempted to promote innovations, we might deserve censure. We only endeavour to avoid them. We presume not to request the grant of any new right in our favour, nor any diminution of the Royal prerogative, but only to be restored to that which we constantly, till of late, enjoyed: the invaluable, exclusive privilege of demonstrating our affection for our Sovereign, and our duty to his Government, as heretofore, by voluntary gifts of our property to him. This privilege, repeatedly recognised by your Majesty, and former Kings and Parliaments, our ancestors transmitted inviolate to us; we possessed it without abuse, and have lost it without offence; for, we beg leave to assure your Majesty, that none of your subjects are, or can be, more affectionately and firmly attached to your Majesty's person, family, and Government, than your faithful people, the inhabitants of *Pennsylvania*.

Most gracious Sovereign: Fully confiding that your Majesty will always make the preservation of the constitutional rights of your subjects a principal object of your attention, and that your Royal disposition delights in the freedom and happiness of your people, we most humbly and earnestly implore your Majesty, by your Royal authority, influence, and recommendation, to procure us relief from the grievance now most respectfully represented.

Signed, by order of the House, JOSEPH GALLOWAY, *Speaker*.

PHILADELPHIA, *March* 5, 1771.

A true copy from the Journals:

CHARLES MOORE, *Clerk of Assembly*.

—

To the Right Honourable the Lords, Spiritual and Temporal, in Parliament assembled.

The Petition of the Representatives of the Freemen of the Province of PENNSYLVANIA, *in Assembly met, humbly showeth:*

That your petitioners apprehend, whenever measures are pursued inconsistent with the principles of that freedom on which the *British* Constitution is founded, it cannot be thought improper to make application for redress to your Lordships, the hereditary guardians of *British* liberty, and, therefore, they beg leave to represent to your Lordships the following aggrievance, which greatly affects His Majesty's most faithful *American* subjects, and to implore your concurrence with the other branches of the *British* legislature, in relieving them from their present distress.

That the people of this Province, gratefully sensible of your Lordships' wisdom and justice, in the repeal of the late act of Parliament imposing Stamp duties in *America*, were led to hope, that, in all future time, they should enjoy the right of granting aids to the Crown by representatives Constitutionally chosen by themselves. That, greatly disappointed in this expectation, they find another act, passed in the seventh year of his present Majesty's reign, imposing new duties on the people of *America*, for the purpose of raising a revenue, equally subversive of this right, and tending to render their property most precarious and insecure.

Your petitioners humbly conceive, that it is essential to the liberties of *Englishmen* that no laws can be made to take away their property without their consent. Upon this equitable principle, the security of the subject's estate, whether in the mother country or the Colonies, is most justly founded; nor can *British* freedom, or publick happiness, without it, any where exist. Hence, the people of this Province, by their Representatives in Assembly, have ever exercised the power of disposing of their own property; and, whenever requisitions have been made by His Majesty, or his Royal predecessors, for the defence of *America*, they have most cheerfully, and liberally, granted their full proportion of aids for that important purpose. This power being founded on the Constitution of the Government of the Province, and having often received the sanction of the Crown, and full approbation of the *British* Parliament, your petitioners hope your Lordships will not think any reasons sufficient to deprive His Majesty's faithful subjects, in this Colony, of a privilege so essential to their security and happiness. They, therefore, humbly pray your Lordships to take the premises into your serious consideration, and that you will also be pleased to pursue such measures as you shall, in your wisdom, think most proper, to relieve them and the people they represent from the aggrievance complained of.

Signed, by order of the House, JOSEPH GALLOWAY, *Speaker*.

PHILADELPHIA, *September* 22, 1768.

A true copy from the Journals:

CHARLES MOORE, *Clerk of Assembly*.

—

To the Honourable the Knights, Citizens, and Burgesses of GREAT BRITAIN, *in Parliament assembled.*

The Petition of the Representatives of the Freemen of the Province of PENNSYLVANIA, *in General Assembly met, most humbly showeth:*

That, taking into their most serious consideration the statute passed in the fourth year of his present Majesty's reign, prohibiting the further emissions of Bills of Credit from being lawful tender in the Colonies; and attentively weighing the mischiefs which must attend the continuance of the said statute; the obstructions to the growth and increase of this young, and lately flourishing Colony; and the diminution of its commercial intercourse with *Great Britain* which it must necessarily occasion, we find ourselves under the unhappy necessity of making our application to your honourable House for a repeal of the said law.

That it is known, from the most evident experience, that the growth and increase of this Province has been, in a great measure, occasioned by the moderate sums of paper money which from time to time have been emitted, by and under the direction of its legislative authority. That before these emissions were made, the progress of the Colony, in its wealth and settlement, laboured under the greatest difficulty, and proceeded in its course by degrees almost imperceptible. The inhabitants being under a necessity, from the want of a medium of commerce, to negotiate a great part of their business and traffick in the inconvenient mode of barter and commutation; but, that, upon striking the first Bills of Credit, this disadvantageous method of commerce was soon laid aside; contracts multiplied; personal and real estates rose to their proper value; our numbers increased; trade became extended; and the settlement of the country proceeded with more rapidity than the most sanguine expectations could suggest; and that the same happy and fortunate effects have ever flowed from the further emissions of paper Bills of Credit, in proportion to the sums emitted, without the least inconveniency or prejudice to the merchants of *Great Britain* or the people of this Province.

That we apprehend no arguments can be necessary, to prove that commerce cannot be carried to any beneficial extent, without a proper medium of circulating cash, destitute of which, the trade of this Colony must, in a short time, be confined to the restricted limits of

gentlemen employ such persons as may be necessary, to complete said Works, agreeable to the Report of the Committee appointed for that business.

Resolved, That the Commodore be directed to cause four hundred Seamen and Landsmen immediately to be recruited, for the services of the Armed Boats, and other Naval Equipments, on the same terms the other men were raised.

Upon application of Captain *William Jenkins*, for the payment of twenty-six Firelocks, purchased by him for the use of his Company, in Colonel *Bull's* Battalion, by order of the Board, an Order was drawn on Messrs. *Mease* and *Caldwell*, for eighty-eight pounds, four shillings and six pence, in his favour, being the amount of said Firelocks.

Agreeable to a recommendation of Congress, this Board discharged *David Forster* from his confinement, he being a person confined with others taken with Capt. *Campbell*.

barter among ourselves, and the commercial intercourse with *Great Britain* be greatly diminished, to the manifest loss to the mother country, and impoverishment of the Colony.

That the trade to the foreign ports, from whence our merchants formerly imported gold and silver, in part of their returns, is effectually obstructed by the high duties imposed on the produce of those ports, to the great detriment of our commerce with *Britain;* and, even when those duties shall be taken off, the gold and silver imported will be remitted, in discharge of the debts to the mother country; and, therefore, that we can have no permanent medium of commerce, without the liberty of emitting such reasonable quantities of paper Bills of Credit as may be necessary for that purpose.

That, by the policy of the *English* laws, the person of every debtor remains as a security to his creditor, for the performance of the contract and discharge of the debt; and, should the Legislature of this Province be restrained from making paper money a lawful tender to the creditor, in discharge of the body of the debtor, the person of every *American* is liable to duress and imprisonment, at the will and pleasure of his creditor.

Moved by the sincerest desire of promoting and increasing the commerce of our mother country, as well as that of our particular Province, we beg leave further to represent, that upon this liberty of instituting a proper medium of trade, the future importations of *British* manufactures in a great measure depend; that we find, from incontestable vouchers, and experience, that, at all times, the importations from *Great Britain* have increased or diminished, in proportion to the quantity of this medium and the foreign gold and silver current. That, in the year one thousand seven hundred and sixty, when the largest sums of Bills of Credit and foreign specie were circulating, the greatest quantity of *English* merchandise was imported that has ever been known, either before or since that period. That before this time, as the quantity of this medium was increased by the demand of the Crown, the orders of the *Pennsylvania* merchants grew larger, and the importations from *Britain* also increased. That since this period, those importations have lessened, in proportion to the sinking of those Bills of Credit, and the exportation of our gold and silver to *Great Britain;* and that in so great a degree as to be extremely injurious to the mutual commerce between our mother country and this Colony. That in the said year, the Bills of Credit of this Province amounted to more than five hundred thousand pounds, which, by sinking a part annually, is now reduced to about two hundred and ninety-three thousand. That a great part of the bills now current are subserving the purposes of commerce, in the Colonies of *New-Jersey* and *Maryland*, being received by them from a full solidity of the funds upon which they are established. That the commercial interest of the last mentioned Colony must have been greatly distressed, without their having had, for some years past, no sufficient medium of trade of her own. That before the year one thousand seven hundred and seventy-three, all the Bills of Credit now current are directed to be sunk and destroyed, by the laws which emitted them. And, with the greatest concern and uncasiness we assert it, we have reason to fear our commerce with our mother country will languish and expire with them.

That the funds for calling in and sinking these Bills of Credit, have ever been formed on the best security; the real and personal estates of all the people in the Province being subject to a tax for the sinking of them. The quantity emitted, from time to time, has ever been so moderate as to be scarcely sufficient to answer the purposes of trade and the settlement of the country, even when aided by large importations of foreign gold and silver. The merchants of *Great Britain* have never been injured by their emission, but, on the contrary, have been greatly benefited and enriched, as it enabled our merchants to enlarge their importations, and to pay their debts with honour and punctuality, until their late distress, occasioned by the restrictions of their foreign trade, remitting our gold and silver to *England*, and the present diminution of the quantity of the said Bills of Credit. That the unhappy effects of this diminution of our paper currency are, already, most sensibly felt; the price of all kinds of labour is lessened; the numbers of our poor are increased; the value of our estates greatly sunk; our trade and importation from *Britain* evidently decreased; the further settlement of the Province is obstructed, and the people reduced to the greatest distress.

Wherefore, your petitioners, deeply affected with a view of the present and impending calamities which threaten His Majesty's most faithful subjects, the good people of the Province, most ardently entreat your honourable House, that you will be pleased to take the subject of their aggrievances into your serious and candid consideration, and grant them that relief which must arise from a repeal of the said statute, and the liberty thereby afforded the Legislatures of this Province, of emitting Bills of Credit as lawful tender, in all our Colony debts, from time to time, as the purposes of commerce, the settlement of the Colony, and the necessities of the Government shall reasonably require.

Signed, by order of the House, JOSEPH FOX, *Speaker*.

January 14, 1766.

A true copy from the Journals:

CHARLES MOORE, *Clerk of Assembly*.

To the Honourable Knights, Citizens, and Burgesses of GREAT BRITAIN, *in Parliament assembled.*

The Petition of the Representatives of the Freemen of the Province of PENNSYLVANIA, *in Assembly met, humbly showeth:*

That your petitioners, taking into their serious consideration the act of Parliament imposing duties on His Majesty's *American* subjects, for the purpose of raising a Revenue, and conceiving that the said act is injurious to the rights of their constituents, as well as to the trade and commerce of the *British* dominions, beg leave, in the most respectful manner, to represent these aggrievances to the Commons of *Great Britain*, who, they trust, ever will be the faithful guardians and supporters of *British* liberty.

In the latter end of the last century, our ancestors, under permission of the Crown, removed from their mother country and settled in this distant land, then a wilderness. The motives to an enterprise so arduous, expensive, and hazardous, were not only to enlarge the *British* empire, and extend its commerce, but to enjoy that perfect security of liberty to which they were entitled, as *British* subjects, in their native land. And, notwithstanding innumerable dangers and difficultics, they have peopled and improved the country into an extensive Colony, without the least expense to the mother state, whereby the *British* empire has been considerably enlarged, its commerce extended, and its wealth and power greatly increased. In this removal from their native country, the effects whereof have so manifestly promoted the interest and dignity of the *British* Government, your petitioners conceive they brought over with them the natural and constitutional rights of *English* subjects, which have descended to, and are now vested in their posterity, who have, by no act whatever, forfeited or surrendered them: one of which is, that no taxes, for the purpose of revenue, can be legally imposed on them but by representatives chosen by themselves; a right absolutely necessary to the security of their property and estates, and derived to them under the ancient principles of the *English* Government, and which has ever been esteemed the chief pillar and support of all the other privileges, inasmuch as they apprehend they can, with no propriety, be said to enjoy more than the mere shadow of liberty, while others exercise a power, whenever they please, to take such parts and proportions of their property from them as they think proper, without their coosent. In confirmation of this right, a legislative authority, founded on this first and important principle of *English* liberty, so essential to the happiness of the subjects, was early established in this Province, under the approbation of the Crown. This Legislature was vested with full power not only to support the internal Government of the Province, but of giving and granting to their Sovereign the necessary aids, whenever required, for the general security of His Majesty's dominions. To this Legislature requisitions have been always made for that purpose, since the establishment of the present Government, particularly in the times of King *William*, Queen *Anne*, his late most excellent Majesty, and our present most gracious Sovereign, and with the utmost cheerfulness and liberality complied with; a part of which has been, repeatedly, reimbursed by the *British* Parliament.

Under this right, established on the principles of *English* liberty, on the settled form of their own Government, and the uninterrupted usage and custom so often recognised and confirmed by the Sovereigns of the mother state, and even by the Parliament itself, the good people of this Province have settled, and esteemed themselves happy, in the enjoyment of that security of property which they conceive to be most essential to freedom, (and without which their other privileges can never be long supported or maintained,) until the late act of Parliament imposing a Stamp duty on the Colonies, which the late honourable House of Commons, united with the other branches of the *British* Legislature, has been pleased to repeal.

That your petitioners, after the repeal of that act, flattered themselves that His Majesty's most faithful subjects in this Province, yet labouring under a heavy load of debt, occasioned by their excess in granting of aids to the Crown, in the last war, would, in future, be left in the undisturbed possession of this most valuable and important right, which their Legislatures have exercised so perfectly to the satisfaction of the *British* Government, and general benefit of His Majesty's dominions. It, therefore, gave them inexpressible concern to observe another act passed, in a late session of the last Parliament, imposing duties on His Majesty's *American* subjects, for the purpose of revenue, and reducing them to the same unhappy condition from which, by the wisdom and justice of the *British* Legislature, they had been so lately relieved; for, we beg leave to represent, that, should the Parliament of *Great Britain* continue to exercise a power of imposing taxes on His Majesty's subjects who are not, nor can be, represented in your august House, their property and estates must become extremely precarious, as they can have no power to judge of the propriety of these taxes; no constitutional check on the liberality in granting them; no opportunity of pointing out the easiest mode of imposing and levying them, or of explaining their grievance, when they conceive themselves injured or oppressed, without which it appears to your petitioners impossible for the most wise and just Legislature to impose taxes with propriety and equity, or with safety to the people who are to be affected by them.

Your petitioners, confiding in the justice of your honourable House, and your attachment to the principles of liberty, entreat that you would be pleased to take the rights of His Majesty's faithful *American* subjects, together with the said act of Parliament, under your consideration, and grant them, so far as is in your power, relief from an aggrievance from which the people of *Great Britain* are exempted, a continuation whereof, we fear, will create a distinction that must naturally occasion a disunion of interest, sentiments, and affections, between them, which, in its consequence, may be attended with great inconveniences and mischiefs to the trade and commerce of His Majesty's *British*, as well as *American* dominions.

Signed, by order of the House, JOSEPH GALLOWAY, *Speaker*.

PHILADELPHIA, *September* 22, 1768.

A true copy from the Journals:

CHARLES MOORE, *Clerk of Assembly*.

Resolved, That Messrs. *David Rittenhouse*, *Andrew Doz*, *Thomas Cuthbert*, *Daniel Jay*, and *Benjamin Harbison*, or a majority of them, be appointed, for carrying into execution the contract which this Committee have entered into with *Morgan Bustead*, for casting Cannon; and they are, hereby, authorized to employ a sufficient number of Workmen, and to provide every material necessary for that purpose.

All Orders from said Board, on our Committee, of accounts for the above purposes, shall be duly paid.

It is further

Resolved, That the Cannon Committee, appointed from this Board heretofore, be desired to aid and assist the abovementioned gentlemen, as much as they conveniently can, and to explain to them the nature of the contract, the kind of Cannon which are wanted, and of the plan this Committee had in view for prosecuting the said Works.

—

Saturday, January 20, 1776.

In Committee of Safety: Present—

John Nixon, *Daniel Roberdeau*, *Owen Biddle*, *Thomas Wharton*, Jun., *Samuel Howell*, *George Clymer*, *Robert White*, *Anthony Wayne*, *James Mease*, *James Biddle*.

Robert Towers, Commissary, reports his having delivered to Captain *Falconer*, on account of Congress, five hundred pounds Musket Ball, and two hundred pounds of Lead. That he received from Doctor *Potts*, of *Reading*, twenty Provincial Muskets, and one Wall-Piece.

The honourable the Congress, sent the following Resolve to this Board, to be carried into execution:

"In Congress, January 17, 1776.

"*Resolved*, That the Colonels of the several Battalions of *Pennsylvania*, be supplied with money for the Recruiting Service, by the Committee of Safety of *Pennsylvania*, and disburse the same to the several Recruiting Officers. The Colonels, and other officers, to be accountable for what they shall receive; and all arrears they may fall into to be stopped from their pay."

"Extract from the Minutes.

"Charles Thomson."

Resolved, That Messrs. *Mease* and *Caldwell* be appointed to see the above Resolve of Congress carried into execution; and that the following Order from Congress, on their Paymaster, be delivered them:

"Philadelphia, January 20, 1776.

"Gentlemen: Please to pay to the Committee of Safety of *Pennsylvania*, fifteen thousand Dollars, for the use of the Battalions in *Pennsylvania*; the said Committee to account for the expenditure of the same.

"I am, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

"John Hancock, *President*.

"To *Michael Hillegas* and *George Clymer*, Esqrs., Treasurers."

The above Order was this day delivered to Messrs. *Mease* and *Caldwell*, for the purposes therein mentioned.

Upon application of Colonel *Wayne*, by order of the Board, an Order was drawn on Messrs. *Mease* and *Caldwell*, in his favour, for one thousand pounds, being for the use of his Battalion, to be raised in the Continental service.

Upon application of Captain *Dorsey*, for the payment of ten Firelocks by order of the Board, an Order was drawn on Messrs. *Mease* and *Caldwell*, for thirty-seven pounds, seven shillings and six pence, being for the use of his Company, in Colonel *Bull's* Battalion.

Upon application of Captain *Luttar*, for the payment of eleven Firelocks, purchased by him for the use of his Company, in Colonel *Bull's* Battalion, an Order was drawn on Messrs. *Mease* and *Caldwell* for thirty-four pounds, six shillings and three pence.

Upon application of Colonel *Arthur St. Clair*, by order of the Board, an Order was drawn on Messrs. *Mease* and *Caldwell*, in his favour, for one thousand pounds, for the use of his Battalion, to be raised in the service of the Colonies.

Upon application of Lieutenant-Colonel *Joseph Penrose*, for a sum of money for the use of Colonel *Magaw's* Battalion, by order of the Board, an Order was drawn on Messrs. *Mease* and *Caldwell*, for one thousand pounds, for the use of said Battalion.

Agreeable to the desire of the Committee of Congress, this Board proceeded to the choice of six gentlemen, to be recommended to Congress as proper persons to be appointed Ensigns to Colonel *Bull's* Battalion; when the following persons were agreed on: 1. *Nicholas Scull*, 2. *Joseph Grunway*, 3. *John Irvine*, 4. *John Bryce*, 5. *Benjamin Rice*, 6. Major *Walbron*.

Resolved, That the number of the Artillery-Men, in the service of this Province, be augmented to one hundred men, including non-Commissioned Officers, and a suitable number of Commissioned Officers appointed thereto.

Upon application of Colonel *John Shee*, for a sum of money for the use of his Battalion, an Order was drawn on Messrs. *Mease* and *Caldwell*, in his favour, for one thousand pounds.

Resolved, That Mr. *Mease*, Mr. *Reed*, Mr. *James Biddle*, and Mr. *Wharton*, be a Committee to meet the Committee of Inspection and Observation of *Bucks* County, on *Monday* next.

—

Monday, January 22, 1776.

In Committee of Safety: Present—

George Clymer, Chairman, *Daniel Roberdeau*, *Samuel Howell*, *Owen Biddle*, *Samuel Morris*, Jun., *John Cadwallader*, *John Nixon*.

Upon application of Captain *Harmar*, for the payment of nine Firelocks, purchased by him for the use of his Company, in the Battalion late Colonel *Bull's*, an Order was drawn in his favour, on Messrs. *Mease* and *Caldwell*, for thirty-one pounds, four shillings and six pence.

Mr. *Ross*, Mustermaster, agreeable to a Resolve of this Board, made a Return of the men employed on board the Armed Boats, which is as follows, viz: Men in pay, four hundred and ten; of whom are sick, twenty-five; of whom in Jail, one.

Agreeable to a recommendation of Congress, this Board discharged the three following persons from confinement, who were committed to Jail by order of Congress, viz: *Daniel Calahan*, *George Conway*, *John Reynolds*.

Upon application of Colonel *Arthur St. Clair*, for a sum of money for the use of his Battalion, to be raised in the service of the *United Colonies*, by order of the Board, an Order was drawn in his favour, on Messrs. *Mease* and *Caldwell*, for one thousand pounds.

Resolved, That Mr. *Samuel Morris*, of this Board, Mr. *Rittenhouse*, Mr. *McNeal*, and Captain *Joy*, be a Committee to survey the *Jersey* Shore, from *Billingsport* to *Newtown* Creek, to determine what Posts it may be necessary to fortify, against the attempts of an enemy who may endeavour to land; to make an estimate of the expense thereof, and to report to this Board by this day a week.

—

Tuesday, January 23, 1776.

In Committee of Safety: Present—

John Nixon, Chairman, *Daniel Roberdeau*, *George Clymer*, *John Cadwallader*, *Samuel Howell*, *George Gray*, *Robert White*, *James Mease*, *Owen Biddle*.

Whereas, many Officers of the Association have purchased Arms, at their own expense, for the use of such Associators as are unable to supply themselves, for the defence of this Province:

Resolved, That this Committee are willing to purchase all Arms, purchased by Officers of the Association, in this city, that shall be approved as good Arms by the Commissary. And the Committee of Inspection, in the several Counties, are requested to take proper steps to purchase all Arms, purchased as above by any Officers in their respective Counties, and draw Orders on this Board for the payment; and the said Arms shall be put, or remain, in the hands of such Associators, in their respective Counties, as are unable to supply themselves. And the commanding officers of the several Battalions shall certify the number and value of each Firelock to this Committee, and

be accountable for the delivery of such Arms, unless lost in actual service, whenever they shall be called upon by this Committee or Assembly.

—

Wednesday, January 24, 1776.

In Committee of Safety: Present—

John Nixon, Chairman, *Daniel Roberdeau*, *Owen Biddle*, *James Biddle*, *Thomas Wharton*, Jun., *Samuel Howell*, *George Clymer*, *George Gray*.

Upon application of Captain *Davis*, for the payment of five Firelocks, purchased by him for the use of his Company, in the Battalion late Colonel *Bull's*, by order of the Board, an Order was drawn in his favour, on Messrs. *Mease* and *Caldwell*, for sixteen pounds, seventeen shillings and six pence.

The Congress having sent down the following Resolve, this Board drew up a Parole, to be signed by Captain *Campbell*, which is also as follows, viz:

"In Congress, January 22, 1776.

"*Resolved*, That the Committee of Safety for *Pennsylvania* be directed to release Captain *Duncan Campbell* from close confinement, on parole, similar to that taken of other Officers who are prisoners. That Captain *Duncan Campbell* have leave to reside at *Lancaster*.

"Extract from the Minutes:

"Charles Thomson, *Secretary*."

"I, *Duncan Campbell*, Captain in the Regiment of *Royal Highland Emigrants*, now a prisoner in the *United Colonies*, being enlarged from confinement, do hereby promise, upon the honour of a gentleman, to go to *Lancaster*, in this Province; after which, I will not go to, or near, any seaport town, nor farther than six miles from my place of residence, without leave from the Continental Congress. That I will carry on no political correspondence, whatever, on the subject of the dispute between *Great Britain* and these Colonies, so long as I remain a prisoner.

"Duncan Campbell."

Upon application of Captain *Willis*, for the payment of two Firelocks, purchased by him for the use of his Company, in the Battalion late Colonel *Bull's*, by order of the Board, an Order was drawn on Messrs. *Mease* and *Caldwell*, for five pounds ten shillings, being the amount of said Firelocks.

Resolved, That *Leonard Snowdon* be discharged from his confinement, on his paying the Jail fees, from the 16th instant.

Resolved, That Mr. *Peter De Haven* have liberty of drawing on *John Nixon*, and others, the Committee of Accounts, for the sum of one hundred pounds, being towards Firelocks to be made by Mr. *Prahl*.

Upon application of Captain *Harmar*, for the payment of five Firelocks, purchased by him for the use of his Company, in the Battalion late Colonel *Bull's*, by order of the Board, an Order was drawn on Messrs. *Mease* and *Caldwell*, in his favour, for eighteen pounds, twelve shillings and six pence.

—

Thursday, January 25, 1776.

In Committee of Safety: Present—

Samuel Howell, Chairman, *James Mease*, *Owen Biddle*, *Robert White*, *George Clymer*, *John Nixon*, *Thomas Wharton*, Jun., *John Cadwallader*, *Daniel Roberdeau*.

By order of the Board, an Order was drawn on Messrs. *Mease* and *Caldwell*, in favour of Captain *Jenkins*, for twenty-seven pounds, six shillings and six pence, being for Bayonets, repairing Firelocks, &c., for his Company, in the Battalion late Colonel *Bull's*.

The Committee of Safety having resolved to increase the number of men in the pay of, and for the defence of this Province, Captain *Proctor* is hereby directed to inlist seventy Volunteers, who are to be instructed principally in the use and management of Artillery, but to be embodied in such manner, and employed, occasionally, upon such service, as may be hereafter determined by the said Committee.

It being highly expedient in the present exigency of our affairs to employ a number of Powder-Mills, in order to work up into Gunpowder the different materials that may be imported from foreign countries, or be procured at home by the publick encouragement lately offered,

Resolved, That Major *Bayard*, Captain *Cowperthwaite*, *Christopher Ludwig*, *George Schlosser*, and *Joseph Wetherel*, be desired to consider of proper places to erect suitable Works for the purpose, or to engage with owners of any Mill, or Mills, already erected for other purposes, to convert them to the making of Gunpowder, and to make report of their proceedings to this Board.

—

Friday, January 26, 1776.

In Committee of Safety: Present—

John Nixon, Chairman, *Samuel Howell*, *Owen Biddle*, *Thomas Wharton*, Jun., *James Biddle*, *George Clymer*, *John Cadwallader*, *Joseph Reed*, *Samuel Wharton*, Jun., *Daniel Roberdeau*, *Alexander Wilcocks*.

Upon application of Captain *Francis Wade*, an Order was drawn on the Committee of Accounts, for three hundred and fifty pounds in his favour.

Upon application of Captain *Williams*, for the payment of eighteen Firelocks, purchased by him for the use of his Company, in the Battalion late Colonel *Bull's*, an Order was drawn on Messrs. *Mease* and *Caldwell*, in his favour, for sixty-five pounds, two shillings and six pence.

Colin Hamilton, a person taken with Captain *Campbell*, and confined in the Jail of this City, was, by order of the Board, discharged from his confinment.

The following is the form of an Inlistment to be signed by the Volunteers, to be inlisted by Captain *Proctor*, viz:

We, whose names are hereunto subscribed, do voluntarily agree to enter in the service of the Province of *Pennsylvania*, to be instructed in the use and management of Artillery, commanded by such officers as now are, or may be hereafter, appointed by the Assembly of this Province, or Committee of Safety; and to be occasionally employed in such military duty and service in this, or the adjacent Provinces, or the river *Delaware*, as the defence of this Province may hereafter require; and for which they shall receive the orders of either of the above Boards.

Robert Towers reports his having received the following articles into store, viz:

9 cwt. 3 qrs. 24 lbs. of Brass received from *Amos Strettle*; 88 pounds Saltpetre, received from Messrs. *Biddle*, *Rittenhouse*, and *De Haven*; 7 bales and 30 pieces of Sail Cloth, 1 bale of Red Flannel, and 22 pigs of Lead, received from *Thomas Lawrence*, vendue master; 1 barrel, 21 quarter barrels, 19 eighth barrels, weight 862½ lbs., Gunpowder, received from *Matthew Aspden*, on account of Congress. That he has delivered 100 pounds Brass to *Samuel Parker*.

Upon application of *Robert Morris*, Esq., for permission to export the produce of these Colonies to the amount of a quantity of Powder imported by him, the following Certificate was granted, viz:

These may certify, that *Robert Morris*, Esq., has permission to export in the produce of these Colonies, to the amount of two thousand and sixty-five pounds, sixteen shillings and seven pence, which sum is the amount of Gunpowder imported by him, and sold to this Committee.

By order of the Committee:

John Nixon, *Chairman*.

—

Saturday, January 27, 1776.

In Committee of Safety: Present—

John Nixon, Chairman, *Daniel Roberdeau*, *George Clymer*, *Samuel Miles*, *Joseph Reed*, *Owen Biddle*, *Thomas Wharton*, Jun., *Samuel Howell*, *Samuel Morris*, Jun., *John Cadwallader*.

Doctor *Smith* brought to this City, and confined by order of Congress, as a person inimical to the liberties of *America*, was this day brought before the Board, and being examined, and found, from his own confession, to have acted an unfriendly part in the present dispute between *Great Britain* and these Colonies, was remanded to Jail, there to remain till the further orders of this Board, or the Congress.

TO THE PUBLICK.

Massachusetts, January 1, 1776.

There are two or three questions, which I pray the publick would give their attention unto, viz: In what sense it must be taken, that the King can do no wrong? What is rebellion in a State? And whether, all things considered, it is not the indispensable duty of the *United Colonies* of *America*, immediately, to form themselves into an independent Constitution, or a Republick State?

As to the first of these questions, it has been answered by some to this effect, viz: That the King does nothing, as King, but by his Ministers, and, therefore, whatever wrong is done by the Administration of the King, must be attributed to his Ministers, not to him. But, according to this, what does the King do, as King? Why, nothing, neither right nor wrong. And what is the King, but an absolute nothing? But are there not some Royal acts, which are not properly Ministerial? What are the Royal Charters to the *American Colonies*, but such acts, seeing they contain the sacred compact between the King and them, by virtue of which he is their King, and they his subjects; and, also, the King's oath to protect them in the enjoyment of all the rights and privileges of *Englishmen*, and their oath of allegiance to obey him as King? What was the present King's coronation oath, to maintain the *British* Constitution of Government and the Protestant religion inviolate in his empire, but another such act? And what is the King's assent to acts of Parliament, but a Royal act, not Ministerial? And what if the King should give his Royal assent to an act of Parliament to establish the *French* laws and the Popish religion in (a part of) his empire, would he not violate his coronation oath? And would not this be doing wrong? Or, what if he should give his Royal assent to an act to raise a revenue on the Colonies without their consent; to an act claiming supreme authority over the Colonies, to make laws binding on them, in all cases whatsoever; to an act to send ships-of-war to block up our harbours, restrain our trade, put a stop to our fishery, and destroy our seaport towns; and armed men, by fire and sword, to carry into execution a number of acts of Parliament, contrived and framed to deprive the Colonies of their essential and constitutional rights and liberty? Would he not break his compact with, and violate his Royal faith to, the Colonists? And would not this be doing wrong? But, if it be granted (as to Administration) that the King does nothing, but by his servants or Ministers, how does such a distinction between the King and his Ministers, follow from thence, as to infer that, if there is any wrong done, it must not be attributed to the King, but to his Ministers only? In ancient times, some were called good Kings, because they reigned well, did that which was right, ruled in righteousness. Others were called wicked Kings, because they did not do the thing that was right, did evil, made their people sin, cruelly oppressed their subjects; but now, it seems, Kings are neither good nor wicked, neither reign well nor ill, neither do what is right nor what is wrong—because they do all by their Ministers! And why have we ascribed blame to Kings of the *Stuart* race, and pronounced some others of blessed memory?

But the proposition supposes that Kings do something, and what they do, they do by their Ministers; then, it must follow that, whatever they do by their Ministers, is to be ascribed to them as their doing. And, if Kings do nothing but by their Ministers, then Ministers do nothing, as Ministers, but the Royal pleasure; therefore, if Ministers, as Ministers, do wrong, the King does wrong, because he acts by them, and they do his pleasure in doing wrong. The King chooses his own Ministers, and they do all his pleasure; and, by the character of the men he chooses, and by the measures pursued in their administration, we are to judge and determine whether he is a good King or a wicked King. If he chooses none but friends to the *British* Constitution of Government and Protestant religion, men of wisdom and integrity; and, if all the measures they pursue in their administration tend to protect the people in the enjoyment of their laws, rights, and liberty; to discountenance vice; to encourage learning, virtue, and industry; to maintain the Protestant religion; to increase the wealth of the empire, and diffuse happiness to every part of it; such a one is a good King, he rules in righteousness. But, if he chooses such men, only, as are enemies to the *British* Constitution and laws, (and the Protestant religion,) and the measures they pursue in their administration tend to deprive the people of their constitutional rights and liberty; to make the King an absolute despot; to involve the empire in confusion, contention, civil war, and bloodshed; to plunge the nation in debt; to protect murderers; to encourage vice and Popery, and discourage learning, virtue, and industry; such a one is a wicked King. He does wrong with a high hand, even though he does all by his Ministers.

But will it not be a more just answer to the question, to say, that the King, by the Constitution, is a nursing father to the people, a protector of their persons, their rights, their properties, and privileges? Therefore, he cannot, as King, do his subjects wrong; he has no constitutional authority to wrong any of them. As charity worketh no ill, it cannot do it; it is inconsistent with its nature. That is not charity which worketh ill or doeth wrong; so it is inconsistent with the constitutional authority or nature of the King to do wrong; it is not the constitutional King that does wrong—that robs the people of their rights—that destroys their liberty and property, and seeks to make them absolute slaves. No! No! Such a one is a tyrant, a character diametrically opposite to that of a constitutional King. The tyrant always does wrong, by every act of his tyranny, whether performed by himself immediately, or by his Ministers; and he may as really be a tyrant when he does all by his Ministers, as when he makes no use of them. This answer is the sense of the grand Congress, in the following pertinent and comprehensive expressions, as I take it, viz: "We view him (i. e. the King) as the Constitution represents him; that tells us, he can do no wrong. The cruel and illegal attacks which we oppose, have no foundation in the Royal authority."

As to the second question, What is rebellion in a State? Since it is asserted, by persons of the most extensive knowledge, "that rebellion is a term undefined and unknown in the law," I shall only attempt to give that idea of it which I have conceived by my own private reflections upon the nature of things. The being of a State or Kingdom, as a body politick, is founded in the Constitution of that State or Kingdom. By the Constitution, all the constituent parts of the body politick are bound, in their several spheres, like the head and members of the human body, to seek the good of the whole; and, when this is the case with King and subjects, ruler and ruled, magistrates and people, the body politick enjoys a well-being, like a human body in a state of health. To rebel, literally signifies to make or levy war; and, properly, it signifies, that some of the constituent parts of the body politick are becoming inimical to the Constitution, and levy war against the well-being of the State. Like sickness in a human body, which assaults the constitution, to destroy the well-being of the body. If any number of the people oppose the constitutional laws of the State, and levy war against the constitutional authority of the King or magistrate, they declare themselves to be enemies to the well-being of the State, and are guilty of rebellion. So, likewise, if the King or magistrate degenerates into a tyrant, robs the people of their constitutional rights, and levies war against them, or any part of them, he declares himself to be an enemy to the well-being of the State, and is guilty of raising rebellion, tending to destroy, not only the well-being, but essential being of the State, as much as when a gangrene seizes any important member of the human body, it threatens the destruction of the whole body, if the infected member be not immediately amputated. And, in case of such a rebellion, the people are bound, by the Constitution, to take up arms, in defence of the State, against the rebels, and cut them off, and not to spare the crowned head, when found heading a rebellion against the Constitution, for he is an intestine enemy to the State. Will any say, did not *David* spare King *Saul*, his enemy, when he had an opportunity to have cut off his head, and contented himself with acting only on the defensive. Let such remember, that the reason *David* gives for it is, because *Saul* was the *Lord's* anointed. But Protestants allow no King, now on earth, to be the *Lord's* anointed; and we

ought to cut off a crowned head as soon as any other, when it becomes tyrannical, and raises rebellion in the State, tending to destroy its well-being.

As to the third question, Whether, all things considered, it is not the indispensable duty of the *United Colonies* of *America*, immediately to form themselves into an independent Constitution, or a Republick State? I must pray those men of *Issachar*, the Members of the honourable Continental Congress, that they have understanding of the times, to know what these Colonies ought to do; to consider whether the present time is not the proper nick of time for it; whether the concurring circumstances in Divine Providence do not make it a present duty for laying a foundation of the well-being of the Colonies for many generations? Many things must be considered, in order to come to a determination; particularly, whether these Colonies are not broken off from the *British* empire, by the imperious, tyrannical, and usurping claim of the *British* Parliament, with the Royal assent to it, of supreme authority over the Colonies, to make laws binding on them, in all cases whatsoever; and by the grievous laws, and illegal attacks made, and cruel exertions put forth, in consequence of said claim, which stab, to the very heart, the sacred compacts between the King and the Colonies, in which their allegiance to the King, and union to the empire are founded? It must also be considered, whether, whilst the *United Colonies* have been crying and praying to the King, as children to a father, for redress of grievances, asking only for children's bread, the stipulated rights and privileges of *Englishmen*, they have not had in return a stone, a serpent, and a scorpion—their petitions refused, themselves declared rebels—armed ships and troops sent to kill, destroy, lay waste, and spread desolation, by fire and sword, from one end of the Colonies to the other? It must also be considered, whether, there are not grounds to conclude that the King is obstinately set and resolute, and the Parliament determined to pour in troops in battle array against the Colonies next Spring, twenty, thirty, or fifty thousand, or as many as they can procure, of *Russians*, *Hanoverians*, and *Irish* Catholicks, which, if they do, will be followed with much bloodshed, for we will be free, or die? Whether we ought not to prevent the effusion of human blood as much as may be? And, if we should now enter into a Republick State, and declare our ports open for a free trade with every nation but that which is at war with us, whether the other nations will not, especially, such as suffer by the operation of these grievous acts of the *British* Parliament, cheerfully enter into an alliance with us, for the sake of enjoying our trade, which shall put an effectual stop to the hostile proceedings of the *British* Parliament against us? It is true, there are some movings in *England;* the City of *London* speaks well to the electors. But, what if they should proceed to instruct their Representatives, remonstrate, and petition for a repeal of all the grievous acts, &c., &c., and all the towns, cities, &c., in *England* should follow their example; it must be considered whether, in this case, we should have the least reason to expect that the Parliament, or the King, would be moved to do any thing to the purpose, so long as a majority of the Members are under the thumb of the Ministry, by virtue of Ministerial pensions or bribes? Whether the Ministers do not know that they will be immediately impeached, and their heads in danger, if the Parliament should redress the *American* grievances? They know, by experience, that money answers all things, and that they can carry what point they please in the Parliament by the force of it; and nothing there will put a stop to their measures and proceedings, but the rousing of the *British* Lion—the people's rising and betaking themselves to arms; this would do the business! It must, therefore, be considered, whether we have any reasonable grounds to expect such an event will take place in the time of the present session of Parliament? and though the rising of the people is the only probable expedient for preventing the destruction of the Kingdom, have we not more grounds to fear that the Ministry will, by craft, falsehoods, and the force of money, keep the people quiet and easy till the Kingdom is destroyed, and the Colonies too, if they continue to wait on them? What wait ye for? Is not every month's delay to look to ourselves, and to enter into such a state as proposed, dangerous?

But, if we should soon have intelligence of things in *England* taking such an unexpected turn, as to set on foot a negotiation for accommodating matters between *Great Britain* and the Colonies, I would, in that case, earnestly entreat the Colonies to take heed, and beware of every plan that shall be proposed, to see if it be not calculated to weaken or break the present happy union of the Colonies; or to preserve alive, some way, their claim of supreme authority over the Colonies; as the proposal would, of dissolving the *Colony-States*, and uniting them all in one state with *Great Britain*, with liberty to send but an inconsiderable number of Representatives to the Parliament of *Great Britain*. As the King and Parliament have broken us off from the *British* empire—drawn the sword offensively, and shed much blood, destroyed our trade, fishery, and a number of our seaport towns, and put us to infinite trouble and expense; it is hoped these Colonies have wisdom and justice enough, for, and in behalf of themselves, not to sit down satisfied with only a repeal of the grievous acts, but insist upon reparation of the damage they have done us; and if the Colonies should ever think fit to enter into compacts again with the King of *England*, to become his subjects, by receiving Royal charters from him, that they will take care to have the right of choosing all their officers, of making all their laws, and of disposing of all their own property, and taxing themselves only, without being subject to the control of any State or Power on earth, whatsoever, stipulated to them in the most express terms. As they have forced us to draw the sword of defence, and make our appeal to Heaven, *God* forbid that we should sheath it again, but on conditions of enjoying the rights and privileges of men, and of *Englishmen*, free and clear of any control of the *British* Parliament.

JOHANNES IN EREMO.

TO THE RIGHT HONOURABLE LORD DARTMOUTH, SECRETARY OF STATE FOR AMERICA.

Philadelphia, January 1, 1776.

MY LORD: You are the Minister of the *American* Department. You have the character of a religious man, a rare virtue in a modern statesman. It has become my duty and interest to address you on the present circumstances of affairs in *America*. I know the *Americans* well; their strongest and ruling passion was their affection to their mother country; the honour, the glory, of *Great Britain* they esteemed as their greatest happiness; a large portion of the same affection remains; nothing but repeated injuries and injustice could have lessened it. My Lord, from a wanton and avaricious exercise of power, the Ministry of *Great Britain* have heaped injuries on the heads of the *Americans*, that no one period of history can parallel.

The practice of the *Egyptians*, in smothering the children of the *Israelites* in the birth, the swords of *Cortez* and *Pizarro*, who slew millions of innocent *Mexicans* and *Peruvians*, the dreadful famine brought by the *East-India* Company upon the poor *East-Indians*, must all be brought into one scale, to serve as any sort of balance to the system of desolation that you, and your brother Ministers, are meditating, and daily practising, against the unhappy people of *North-America*.

The elements, which the Providence of *God* hath given for all his creatures, you have the presumption to deprive them of. Fire, sword, famine, and desolation, show the vicinity of your fleets and armies; children and servants are animated to rise and slaughter their benefactors. No species of cruelty, which the wit or malice of man or devils could devise, but are practised against the *Americans*.

Do you believe in *God*, my Lord, and direct these things? Do you believe that *God* made *America* as well as *Great Britain*? If you do, ponder, consider well, what answer you will give, if you escape punishment in this world, when you come to be questioned before the Throne of *God*, for the destruction you have made of His creatures, the work of His hands, to whom he granted life and liberty, earth, air and water, equally as to yourself; and yet, presumptuous man, you have dared to counteract His providence! Have you conscience, my Lord? If you have, I would not, for the empire of a thousand worlds, be Lord *Dartmouth!* But, my Lord, it is not to awaken your conscience only, that I write you this letter; the flame of civil war, by

your management, hath extended far and wide in *America;* battles have been fought, numbers have been slain, and prisoners taken on both sides; the *Americans* have in their possession ten for one, and among them many men of rank, *Prescott*, *Preston*, *Stopford*, and others; they are all treated with tenderness and regard, while the prisoners you have taken, are treated with severity, carried to *England* in irons, there, as it is said, to be tried, and, of course, condemned and executed, or, in other words, under form of law, murdered!

My Lord, if there be any thing on earth, or in Heaven, that you respect, avoid that rock. You have Colonel *Allen*, Captain *Martindale*, and some other prisoners; the hour that it is known here that any of those prisoners are executed, the prisoners here will be sacrificed—nay, more, every *English* and *Scotch* adherent; dread, shun, and forever abandon such murderous intentions. The cries and vengeance of all the relations of those whose blood shall be shed in this manner, will surround you; death and horror will be your constant companions, and the torments of the damned, even on earth, will await you.

My Lord, this is but the beginning of sorrows. Take in good part what I write. It is truth, and intended for the benefit of *Britain* and *America*.

An English American.

PETITION OF DOCTOR BENJAMIN CHURCH TO CONTINENTAL CONGRESS.

To the Honourable the Members of Congress in Philadelphia, *Greeting:*

The Petition of Benjamin Church, *Jun.*

May it please your Honours:

Whereas, your petitioner was put under arrest, in *Cambridge*, on the 27th of *September* last, by his Excellency General *Washington*, where he was confined, a close prisoner, till the 16th day of *November;* and your petitioner having inherited from Nature a feeble constitution, with a particular tendency to consumption, from which, with great difficulty, he escaped with life, a few years past, and has been compelled to observe the greatest caution ever since, respecting his diet, air, and exercise; your petitioner being precluded, by his severe confinement, from that attention necessary to his preservation, was there attacked with his constitutional complaints: a straightness of the chest, incessant cough, and spitting of blood.

On the 16th of *November* last, may it please your Honours, your petitioner was removed, by order of your Honours, into the Colony of *Connecticut*, to be further confined, and was committed, by command of his Honour the Governour, and the honourable Committee, to *Norwich* Jail, in a close, narrow, dark, and noisome cell; previous to his being lodged therein, a small grate (to the total exclusion of light and air) was nailed up.

Deplorable, indeed, may it please your Honours, has been the event, to your petitioner. He had not been immured in this receptacle of misery but a few hours, when, from the weak state of his lungs, and the corrupt and stagnant air of his cell, he began to labour for breath. In his insupportable distress, which was so great as repeatedly to force blood from his mouth and nostrils, he earnestly entreated his jailer to open the grate, which he declined doing, as it would be a breach of his orders. The most violent convulsive asthma, with all the unspeakable agonies of instant strangulation, then took place.

The keeper of the prison, being justly alarmed with apprehensions of the immediate death of your petitioner, hastened to his Honour the Governour, giving him an account of the distressed and dangerous situation of your petitioner. His Honour compassionately directed the grate to be opened.

This, though a partial, proved but an ineffectual relief, as your unhappy petitioner, at frequent intervals, by day and by night, still struggles with the apprehensions of immediate death from suffocation. He has applied to Messrs. *Tracey*, *Rogers*, and *Turner*, Physicians, in the town, who concur in sentiment, that nothing but exercise, in a clear, elastic air, will contribute to his recovery.

Your petitioner, to obtain the most speedy relief, which the urgency of his circumstances required, presented a petition to the General Assembly of this Colony, for that purpose; but the honourable Assembly judged it improper to act upon the matter, as the order of Congress for his confinement was absolute.

This, may it please your Honours, is but an imperfect representation of the accumulated distresses of your miserable petitioner. He most humbly beseeches your Honours to have compassion upon him. He considers, with mingled grief and indignation, the precipitate step he has taken; but appeals to the Searcher of all Hearts, that the letter, which has proved the unhappy occasion of his sufferings, is the only letter he ever wrote, to go into *Boston*. That offensive letter was designed as a political decoy for his brother *Fleming;* and, however equivocal or absurd it may appear to your Honours, was, indeed, dictated by an anxious concern for the distresses of his country.

Your petitioner most earnestly entreats your Honours to permit him to retire to his distressed and necessitous family, in *Taunton*, and he will never cease to be grateful for your humanity and clemency; and, should he be so happy as to recover his health, your Honours may be assured, it shall be his constant exertions, as it has ever been the first wish of his heart, to promote the welfare of his country.

Your petitioner, may it please your Honours, would deprecate that any jealousy, respecting the integrity of his designs should possess the minds of your Honours; but, if he should be so greatly unhappy, he would request your Honours' permission, by the first opportunity, to leave the Continent; but begs leave to plead with your Honours, to indulge him with an opportunity, by his future endeavours here, to redeem his injured reputation—to approve himself the same inflexible friend to the common rights, and to conciliate the esteem of his worthy countrymen.

And your petitioner, as in duty bound, shall ever pray, &c. Benjamin Church, Jun.

Norwich Jail, January 1, 1776.

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO GENERAL SCHUYLER.

Lebanon, January 1, 1776.

Sir: I have to acknowledge your two favours of the 12th of last month. Captain *McKay* is, at present, at *Hartford*. He behaves politely. I believe he is more cautious and guarded. The younger *Skene* is fled. Governour *Skene* is still at *Hartford*. I am sorry for Lieutenant *Halsey's* imprudence and misbehaviour.

The Continental Congress desire me to transmit to you the rolls of the companies, in the three *Connecticut* Regiments, that went in the Northern department. I have given the Paymaster-General some few rolls that I had by me. Colonels *Hinman* and *Waterbury* have promised to send me their rolls soon. When received, I will transmit them to you.

President *Hancock* informed me, that the prisoners from *St. John's* were to be sent to this town and *Windham*. I am not desirous of their company, and have heard of but few of them this way.

I am, with proper salutations of this day, your obedient humble servant,

Jonathan Trumbull.

To the Honourable Major-General *Schuyler*.

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Lebanon, January 1, 1776.

Sir: I received, the 20th of last month, your Excellency's favour of the 15th, enclosing a list of the officers and companies, under the new arrangement, with the number of men inlisted; and, at the same time, another of the 17th, with the information, from several persons, who then had lately come out of *Boston*. I return my thanks for both.

By accounts received from the various parts of the Colony, the Recruiting Officers, for the Continental service, have good success in inlisting men.

The Assembly have granted Chaplains the same pay given last campaign, with the addition of forty shillings per month, each, to enable them to supply their pulpits.

Brigadier-General *Prescott* is not arrived. Shall give particular directions to prevent his escape, if he comes into this Colony.

The 23d, yours of the 14th of *December* came to hand, per Monsieurs *Penet* and *De Pliarne*. Every necessary assistance, for expediting their journey, was afforded, without delay; they set out the next morning. You shall be made acquainted with the expense incurred on their account, when the same is known.

The 28th instant, at evening, our General Assembly adjourned. There is great unanimity in our common cause. Among others, they passed an act for raising and equipping one-fourth part of the Militia of this Colony, to be forthwith selected by voluntary inlistment, with as many other able-bodied, effective men, not included in any Militia roll, as are inclined to inlist, to stand in readiness, as Minute-Men, for the defence of this, and the rest of the *United Colonies*, with proper encouragement. Another act, for restraining and punishing persons who are inimical to the liberties of this, and the rest of the *United Colonies*, and for directing proceedings therein.

No person to supply the Ministerial army or navy; to give intelligence; to inlist, or procure others to inlist in their service; to undertake to pilot any of their vessels, or in any other ways to aid or assist them, on the penalty of forfeiting all his estate, and imprisonment in any of the jails in this Colony, not exceeding three years. No one to speak, write, &c., against the doings of the honourable General Congress, or acts of our Assembly, on the penalty of being disarmed, and rendered incapable to hold or serve in any office, civil or military; and be further punished, either by fine, imprisonment, disfranchisement, or to find surety of the peace and good behaviour.

Any person or persons who put, or shall continue to hold, or screen themselves under the protection of the Ministerial army or navy, or aid or assist in carrying into execution the present Ministerial measures against *America*, their estates to be seized for the use of the Colony.

A resolve to provide, so that we shall have two armed vessels, one of sixteen carriage-guns, the other fourteen; with a schooner, called the *Spy*, of four carriage-guns; and four row-gallies.

An act to exempt the polls of soldiers from taxes, for the last, and ensuing campaigns.

Another act, for encouraging the manufactories of saltpetre and gunpowder. Hope to collect saltpetre, and manufacture a considerable quantity of gunpowder early in the Spring.

The furnace, at *Middletown*, is smelting lead, and likely to turn out twenty or thirty tons. Ore is plenty.

Please to favour me with an account of the quantity of lead received from *Crown-Point*. From thence I received one hundred and eighty old gun-barrels, which are fitting up here, and will make one hundred and fifty stands of good arms. We are put to difficulty for gun-locks. Hearing that those stands taken in the ordnance store-ship had each a spare lock, thought proper to mention to you, that if it be so, whether it may not be well to furnish a number for the arms fitting here.

On the 29th, at evening, I met, at *Hartford*, on my returning from the General Assembly, yours of the 23d *December*, and immediately sent to Captain *Wadsworth*, a person employed by the Commissary-General, and much acquainted, to see if any blankets could be purchased, and found there are none. Many of our new inlisted men, I am told, will bring blankets with them, which they get from private families. Those lost at the *Bunker-Hill* fight were furnished in that manner; and our Minute-Men will supply themselves in that way: that I am very doubtful of success, if attempted. Lieutenant-Colonel *Durkee* this day mentioned to me your direction to him on this head. Shall lay the same before the Committee at our next meeting.

Enclosed is copy of an act empowering the Commander-in-chief, &c., to administer an oath. Also, Minutes of the ordnance taken from the Ministerial troops at the several Northern posts, from the 1st of *May* to the 13th *November*, 1775.

I remain, with great truth and regard, and with the proper salutations of this day, your Excellency's most obedient, humble servant,

JONATHAN TRUMBULL.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

P. S. Enclosed is a copy of a letter from President *Wheelock*, at *Dartmouth* College.

At a General Assembly of the Governour and Company of the Colony of *Connecticut*, holden at *New-Haven*, by special order of the Governour, on the 14th day of *December*, 1775,

An Act empowering the Commander-in-chief of the Continental Army, or Officers commanding a detachment, or out-posts, &c., to administer an Oath.

Be it enacted, by the Governour, Council, and Representatives, in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, That the Commander-in-chief of the Army raised, or to be raised, by this, and the rest of the *United Colonies*, or any Officer in the service of the said *United Colonies*, commanding any detachment or out-post, shall have power and authority to administer an oath, and swear any person or persons to the truth of any information or intelligence, or any other matters relative to the publick service.

A true copy of record, examined by

GEORGE WYLLYS, *Secretary*.

Minutes of the Ordnance taken from the Ministerial Troops, at the several Northern Posts, from the 1st of MAY *to the 13th of* NOVEMBER, 1775:

	No.	Size.
At the North and South Landings, at *Lake-George*, are fifty battering cannon, 24, 18, 12, and 9-pounders; among them is one brass 24-pounder,	50	
On the bridge, between *Lake-George* and *Ticonderoga*, are three 24-pounders,	3	24-pounders.
At the same place is one 9-pounder,	1	9-pounder.
On the flankers, bastions, redoubts,	1	24-pounder.
Place of parade,	3	18-pounders.
In and about the streets,	12	12-pounders.
And at the edge of the Lake, at *Ticonderoga*, are	13	9-pounders.
And fifteen 6-pounders,	15	6-pounders.
There are are also eleven small field-pieces, or 4-pounders,	11	4-pounders.
Total,	109	cannon.
On the bridge, between *Lake-George* and *Ticonderoga*, there were three very large iron mortars, one 12-inches, one 13½-inches, and the other 16-inches,	3	mortars.
Just in the edge of the water at *Ticonderoga*, were three smaller mortars, one 6-inches, one 8-inches, and the other 8½, or 9-inches,	3	mortars.
Total,	6	mortars.
There was also at *Ticonderoga*, one 8-inch iron howitzer,	1	howitzer.
There were, also, six small pieces of artillery, some of which were mounted in a sort of frame, called, by some, *French* swivels,	6	swivels.

Artillery employed by Land, and on the Lake, in the siege of ST. JOHN'S.

	No.	Size.
By land, three double-fortified 12-pounders,	3	12-pounders.
Two 9-pounders,	2	9-pounders.
Two double-fortified 6-pounders,	2	6-pounders.
Three 4-pounders,	3	4-pounders.
Total by land,	10	cannon.
Mortars—one 5-inches, one 8-inches, and one 13-inches; and, on the last day of the siege, the three brass royals, taken at *Chambly*, were used. These were excellent mortars, of about 4, 5, and 5½ inches in diameter,	6	mortars.
By water, on board the schooner *Liberty*,	2	4-pounders.

*

Two 2-pounders, - - - -	2	2-pounders.
And ten swivel-guns, - - -	10	swivels.
On board the sloop *Enterprise*, two brass 6-pounders, - - -	2	6-pounders.
Four iron 3-pounders, - - -	4	3-pounders.
And eleven swivel-guns, - -	11	swivels.
On board the gondola *Schuyler*, one double-fortified 12-pounder, -	1	12-pounder.
And twelve swivel-guns, - -	12	swivels.
On board the gondola *Hancock*, one 12-pounder, double-fortified, -	1	12-pounder.
And twelve swivel-guns, - -	12	swivels.

Total, by water—12 cannon, 45 swivels.
Total, by land, and on the Lake—22 cannon, 6 mortars, 45 swivels.

Brass and Iron Ordnance surrendered at St. John's, *on the 2d of* November, 1775.

	No.	Size.
Two brass 24-pounders, - -	2	24-pounders.
One 12-pounder, - - - -	1	12-pounder.
Four 6-pounders, - - -	4	6-pounders.
Five 4-pounders, - - - -	5	4-pounders.
Eight 3-pounders, - - - -	8	3-pounders.
Total, - - - - -	20	brass cannon.
Six iron 9-pounders, - - -	6	9-pounders.
One 8-pounder, - - - -	1	8-pounder.
Eleven 6-pounders, - - -	11	6-pounders.
One 5-pounder, - - - -	1	5-pounder.
One 4-pounder, - - - -	1	4-pounder.
Two 3-pounders, - - - -	2	3-pounders.
Total, - - - - -	22	iron cannon.
Total, cannon, brass and iron, -	42	
Iron mortars, seven, viz: three, five and a half inches in diameter, -	3	mortars.
And four, four and two-third inches in diameter. - - - -	4—7	mortars.
Two 8-inch brass howitzers, - -	2	howitzers.
In the citadel, at *Montreal*, were taken ten neat iron cannon, 12 and 9-pounders, - - - - -	10	12 & 9-pound.

The whole number of cannon, taken at *St. John's* and *Montreal*, is fifty-two.

At *St. John's*, there were, when it was surrendered, probably fifty tons of shot and shells, of all kinds; a vast quantity of smoke-balls, of quick-match and cannon-cartridges, of all sizes. There were three or four large flour-barrels of cannon-cartridges, filled, and there were about forty thousand musket-cartridges.

At *Montreal*, there were about one ton and a half, or two tons, of cannon-balls, 12 and 9-pounders.

The whole of the Artillery, taken at the several posts, is: Total, Cannon, 183; total, Mortars, 19; total, Howitzers, 3; total, Swivel-Guns, 51.

GOVERNOUR COOKE TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

"Providence, January 1, 1776.

Sir: Upon receipt of your Excellency's Letter of the 23d ultimo, I employed two persons to apply to the housekeepers in this town, individually, for blankets for the Army. They have collected about one hundred and eighty, which will be sent forward this day. It is full as large a number as I expected to procure, considering how we have been exhausted by supplies to various parts of the service. I shall immediately take measures for collecting more from the country towns.

I refer your Excellency to General *Lee* for the particulars of his expedition to *Rhode-Island*, which I hope will be attended with beneficial consequences to the Colony.

I received yours upon the subject of reinlisting the Army, but from the distressed state of the Colony, and the multiplicity of business pressing me, was incapable of giving you a satisfactory answer; nor can I, at present, do any thing more than renew my assurances of giving every assistance in my power to the service.

I am, with truth and esteem, sir, your most obedient and most humble servant,

Nicholas Cooke.

To His Excellency *George Washington*, Esq., General of the Armies of the *United Colonies*.

P. S. You will receive by Mr. *Coomes Hale*, who carries the blankets, an account of the cost of them. I shall be obliged to your Excellency for giving orders for the payment of it to him. By the same conveyance I send you a box and basket left for your Excellency by Mr. *Penet*, and the other *French* gentleman who accompanied him.

JOHN SMITH TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Providence, January 1, 1776.

Sir: Agreeable to your desire, to his Honour the Governour, what blankets could be collected in this town, are now sent you by Mr. *Hale*, who will give you the cost of them. The number sent is one hundred and eighty-two. Am sorry the number is so small, though believe that a quantity might be collected in the country towns in some little time. If you think it needful, please to let me know, and I will endeavour to procure them.

I am, sir, your very humble servant,

John Smith.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

DOCTOR MORGAN TO THE PUBLICK.

General Hospital, at Cambridge, January 1, 1776.

Impressed with a lively sense of the spirit of patriotism which so eminently adorns the good people of this country, the subscriber, who is appointed to the chief direction of the sick and wounded, thinks it incumbent on him to make known the seasonable aid he has lately received from the towns of *Concord*, *Bedford*, first and second Parishes of *Sudbury*, *Acton*, *Marlborough*, *Stow* and *Lincoln*. The Hospital having, for some time past, been in great want of old linen for bandages, compresses, and lint, or fine tow for dressing; saddler's or sole leather, and web, or gartering, for tourniquets; of tape, thread, needles, pins, and other articles of a like nature; application was made to the inhabitants of the above-named places for a supply, at such prices as they, themselves, should think reasonable. No sooner were our wants thus made known to them, than with an alacrity and zeal truly characteristick of the people, the business of collecting those things was immediately undertaken by some of their Selectmen, and other proper persons. The Clergy, in particular, engaged warmly in the work. To their pious and animated exhortations, from the sacred desk, may be ascribed much of that Christian charity, and those laudable effusions of philanthropy which were manifested on this occasion, and which cannot fail to secure to them the esteem of the publick, and to reflect a lasting honour on their attachment to the cause of liberty, and the rights of human natur. What they could, they furnished with an unsparing hand; offers of pay they nobly rejected, preferring the conscious pleasure that arises from deeds of charity to every selfish, sordid gratification that interest inspires; an instance of benevolence worthy of admiration! Neither is its importance limited by the intrinsick value of the donation; it holds up a proper example of imitation to others.

Ever since the first establishment of a Military Hospital among us, there has been too great a scarcity of these essential articles; and though the present supply is truly liberal, in respect to the numbers who furnished it, yet its salutary influence cannot be lasting, unless it is still continued from other quarters. May we not, therefore, expect a spirit of emulation will be kindled in every humane breast, and an affectionate concern to yield all possible assistance to the wants and distresses of the sick soldiery? Men who cheerfully, and hourly, expose their lives for their country's welfare, and who amidst the destructive rage of battle, willingly encounter danger, in all its shapes, for its defence, may, surely, challenge the compassion of those who reap the advantage of their courage, without any of that risk which is inseparable from it. Can it be once doubted, then, whether the inhabitants of other places will be backward to contribute what need to cost them so little, towards laying in a sufficient store of those articles, to secure against all future

apprehensions of further scarcity or want of them? But whilst they are of a low price in themselves, yet money cannot always purchase them, and from their exceeding utility, in cases of need, they become of inestimable value.

As it is impracticable for the subscriber to make personal application to people at a distance, to furnish a supply of what is wanted of this sort for the patients in the Hospital, he hopes all printers of the publick news will be pleased to give this address a place in their papers. He also flatters himself, the Committees established in different places, especially, in large towns, will be pleased to set on foot a further collection of such of the articles enumerated, as may be most easy for them to procure, especially, old sheets and soft worn linen; and to forward the same to the camp with all possible despatch. The expense of conveyance, if any, will be cheerfully paid, and the generous donors may rest assured their contributions will be managed with the strictest care to prevent waste, and meet with due acknowledgment from their humble servant,

JOHN MORGAN,
Director General of the Continental Hospital, and the chief Physician to the Army.

N. B. Blankets are greatly wanted for the Hospital; for which a suitable price will be given, if sent to *Cambridge*. Any persons having blankets to dispose of, who live at a distance, if they will be so kind as to send notice thereof by the post, mentioning the quality and price of them, shall have an immediate answer.

INSTRUCTIONS TO WINTHROP SARGENT, AGENT.

Head-Quarters, January 1, 1776.

SIR: You being recommended to his Excellency as a proper person to transact the business of the several armed vessels fitted out, or to be fitted at the Continental expense, will be pleased to consider what follows as your Instructions:

1st. When any of the Continental vessels put into *Cape Ann*, you are to supply them with such necessaries as are absolutely wanting. When any prize is sent in, you are without delay to go on board, receive all the papers on board, and transmit them, by express, to Head-Quarters.

2d. You are to make out an inventory of the cargo, as near as you can from the papers found on board, or information from the Master or Mate of the prize; all possible care that can be taken must be used to prevent any embezzlement of the cargo, or of the captain's, crew's, or passengers', private property, which must be given up to them, except some extraordinary circumstances should arise, to make an alteration of this order necessary.

3d. All sailors belonging to a prize to be detained with you, or sent to neighbouring towns, where you may think them more secure, until you receive orders from Head-Quarters for the further disposal of them.

4th. All prisoners of whatever rank, or denomination, to be treated with the utmost humanity and tenderness.

5th. As you are appointed a Continental agent only, if the officers and men choose to appoint an agent for their one-third of any prize taken, they may do so, in that case you are to permit him to take a copy of all papers relating to the cargo, and when the vessel is discharged, you must give unto said agent a copy of what was on board.

6th. Hulls of all vessels taken, with all their appurtenances, to be carefully laid up in a secure port until further orders.

7th. Whatever advice you at any time have, respecting the armed vessels, or prizes, that is material, you will send up to Head-Quarters by suitable opportunities.

8th. Forasmuch as the port of *Cape Ann* lies convenient for the armed vessels to run into, when in want of provisions, and other necessaries, you will lay in, on the most reasonable terms, twelve barrels of beef, and twelve barrels of pork; twenty barrels of bread, will be ordered to you from *Beverly*, where a quantity is reserved for the use of the armed vessels; and, as you supply any vessels with a part of these articles, you are to replace them, so as always to keep that quantity on hand; you must take the steward's receipt for every thing you supply,

9th. As the harbour of *Cape Ann* is not looked upon as safe to lay up any prizes or their cargoes, you must, as soon as possible, have such as may be brought in there, sent up to *Beverly*, where *William Bartlett*, Esq., is, by his Excellency, appointed an agent. You and Mr. *Bartlett* must agree amongst yourselves about the terms upon which you will do business, for each, of this sort. The commission allowed to all agents, is two and one-half per cent. on sales of any prizes, &c., and the same on the amount of provisions and necessaries supplied the vessels with.

10th. In making up your accounts, you are to remember that the original bills or invoices are to be sent as vouchers; that your own account is to be general, and at the bottom, an affidavit of the justice of your account. This is not done from any jealousy or suspicion, but that the utmost satisfaction may be given the country, and that all agents may be on the same footing.

You will at all times give the utmost despatch, and if any irregularity, misconduct, or negligence in the officers of any vessels, you are desired to give immediate information to the General.

Should any of the vessels unnecessarily remain in port, you are to give orders to the Commander to proceed forthwith to sea; should he refuse, you are to demand his reasons, and transmit them to Head-Quarters.

By his Excellency's command.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM COLONELS HOWE AND WOODFORD TO THE VIRGINIA CONVENTION, DATED NORFOLK, TEN O'CLOCK, P. M., JANUARY 1, 1776.

Between three and four o'clock, a severe cannonade began from all the shipping, under cover of which they landed small parties, and set fire to the houses on the wharves. The wind favoured their design, and we believe the flames will become general. In the confusion which they supposed would ensue, they frequently attempted to land; but this, by the bravery of our officers and men, we have hitherto prevented, with only a few men wounded on our side, and, we persuade ourselves, with a good deal of loss on theirs. Their efforts, and our opposition, still continue. We have stationed ourselves in such a manner as will, we believe, render every thing but burning the houses ineffectual. We wait with impatience your further orders, and are, respectfully, &c.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM COLONEL HOWE TO THE VIRGINIA CONVENTION, DATED NORFOLK, JANUARY 2, 1776.

The cannonade of the town began about a quarter after three, yesterday, from upwards of one hundred pieces of cannon, and continued till near ten, at night, without intermission; it then abated a little, and continued till two, this morning. Under cover of their guns they landed, and set fire to the town in several places near the water, though our men strove to prevent them all in their power; but the houses near the water being chiefly of wood, they took fire immediately, and the fire spread with amazing rapidity. It is now become general, and the whole town will, I doubt not, be consumed in a day or two. Expecting that the fire would throw us into confusion, they frequently landed, and were every time repulsed, I imagine with loss, but with what loss I cannot tell; the burning of the town has made several avenues, which yesterday they had not, so that they may now fire with greater effect; the tide is now rising, and we expect at high water another cannonade.

I have only to wish it may be ineffectual as the last; for we have not one man killed, and but a few wounded. I cannot enter into the melancholy consideration of the women and children running through a crowd of shot to get out of the town, some of them with children at their breasts; a few have, I hear, been killed; does it not call for vengeance, both from *God* and man? It is but justice to inform you, that I had the pleasure to find every officer ready to execute orders at a moment's warning, and that the men behaved with steadiness and spirit. Colonel *Stevens* went down at my command, and headed some men near the water, where he engaged a party who had landed, with a spirit and conduct of a good officer. Of my friend, Colonel *Woodford*, it is almost needless to speak, but I cannot avoid expressing, that I received from him every assistance which conduct and spirit could give me.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM COLONEL ELLIOT TO COLONEL PATRICK HENRY, DATED HAMPTON, JANUARY 5, 1776.

Enclosed you have the copy of a letter from Colonel *Woodford* to me, dated three o'clock yesterday, since which a snow and two small vessels have gone up to *Norfolk*. She appeared to have a great many men on board, but was not a vessel of war. There are three others (one a brig) in the bay this morning coming up, which Captain *Barron* has just gone to look after. Some little time after my express left *Norfolk* with the enclosed, a very heavy firing began, and continued chief part of the night; and a considerable fire was discovered there about dark, which continued burning many hours.

—

Norfolk, January 4, 1776, three o'clock, P. M.

About quarter past three, on *Monday* afternoon, the whole fleet began a heavy cannonade, which lasted seven hours, without any intermission, and, indeed, continued, off and on, till last night, since which we have been tolerably quiet. Under the fire of their ships, they landed in many places, and set fire to the houses on the wharves. In these attempts, many of them, we are certain, were killed, and never failed being repulsed by our people. We had not a man killed, and only five or six wounded, one supposed mortally; and two or three women and children are said to be killed. Providence certainly interfered in our favour, or more lives must have been lost. They once landed and got into the streets with field-pieces, but were beat back with loss, and no execution done by their fire. Nine-tenths of the town are destroyed, but the fire is now out.

—

Williamsburgh, January 5, 1776.

I hope our countrymen will not be at all dispirited at the destruction of *Norfolk*, but rather rejoice that half the mischief our enemies can do us, is done already. They have destroyed one of the first towns in *America;* and the only one, except two or three, in *Virginia*, which carried on any thing like a trade. We are only sharing part of the sufferings of our *American* brethren, and can now glory in having received one of the keenest strokes of the enemy, without flinching. They have done their worst, and to no other purpose than to harden our soldiers, and learn them to bear, without dismay, all the most formidable operations of a war, carried on by a powerful and cruel enemy, to no other purpose than to give the world specimens of *British* cruelty and *American* fortitude, unless it be to force us to lay aside that childish fondness for *Britain*, and that foolish, tame dependance on her. We had borne so long with the oppression of an ungenerous restriction of our trade, of a restriction, in some instances, which seemed calculated merely as badges of our subjection, and had been contented so long with barely refusing to purchase commodities, which they had taxed for the purpose of raising a revenue in *America*, that our patience and moderation served but to encourage them to proceed to greater lengths. To greater lengths they have proceeded, as far as the proudest tyrant's lust of despotism, stimulated by cruelty, a rancorous malice, and an infernal spirit of revenge, could hurry them. How sunk is *Britain!* Could not *Britons* venture to wage war with *Americans*, till they were told that *Americans* were cowards—till they had disarmed them, or had, as they thought, put it out of their power to procure arms; nor even then, without the assistance of *Roman* Catholicks and *Indians*, and endeavouring to raise amongst us a domestick enemy? Was this like a brave and generous nation? If they were lost to all the feelings of *Britons*, for men contending for the support of the *British* Constitution—if they were determined to conquer *America*, why did they not attempt it like *Britons?* Why meanly run about to the different Powers of *Europe*, entreating them not to assist us? Why make use of every base and inhuman stratagem, and wage a savage war, unknown amongst civilized nations? Surely, whoever has heard of *Carleton's*, *Connolly's* and *Dunmore's* plots against us, cannot but allow that they must have been authorized by a higher power; and whoever believes this, cannot but wish to be, instantly and forever, removed from under such a power, and to be guarded most effectually against it. Most freely would I cut the Gordian knot which has hitherto so firmly bound us to *Britain*, and call on *France* and *Spain* for assistance against an enemy who seem bent on our destruction, but who, blessed be the *God* of Hosts, have been baffled in most of their attempts against us, been chastised in all, and have made many attacks upon us, without being able to kill a single man.

AN AMERICAN.

—

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM A MIDSHIPMAN ON BOARD HIS MAJESTY'S SHIP OTTER, COMMANDED BY CAPTAIN SQUIRE, DATED JANUARY 9, 1776.

December 9.—Our troops, with about sixty townsmen from *Norfolk*, and a detachment of sailors from the ships, among whom I had the honour to march, set out from *Norfolk* to attack, once more, the Rebels at the *Great-Bridge*, who had been lodged there some time, and had erected a breastwork opposite to our fort on their side of the river. We arrived at the fort half an hour after three, in the morning, and after refreshing ourselves, prepared to attack the Rebels in their intrenchments.

Captain *Squire*, ever ready to assist my Lord in the publick cause, had sent his gunners and men to manage two pieces of cannon who were in the front, and ordered to begin the attack. But how can it be supposed, that with two hundred men we could force a strong intrenchment, defended by at least two thousand? Yet this was attempted, and we marched up to their works with the intrepidity of lions. But alas! we retreated with much fewer brave fellows than we took out. Their fire was so heavy, that, had we not retreated as we did, we should every one have been cut off. Figure to yourself a strong breastwork built across a causeway, on which six men only could advance abreast; a large swamp almost surrounded them; at the back of which were two small breastworks to flank us in our attack on their intrenchments. Under these disadvantages, it was impossible to succeed; yet our men were so enraged, that all the entreaties, and scarcely the threats of their officers, could prevail on them to retreat, which at last they did. The cannon were secured within the fort. We had sixty killed, wounded, and taken prisoners; among whom were the gallant Captain *Fordice* of the Grenadiers of the Fourteenth Brigade, Lieutenants *Napier* and *Leslie*, and Lieutenant *Batut*, wounded and taken prisoner; men all universally esteemed, and for whom all shed tears. We set out on our return to *Norfolk* about seven o'clock in the evening, at which place we arrived at twelve, and the soldiers were embarked on board vessels prepared for that purpose.

December 14.—The Rebels having now nothing to obstruct their passage, arrived and took possession of *Norfolk*, and in the evening saluted us with a volley of small-arms: which, the next morning, I was sent on shore to their commander to inform him, that, if another shot was fired at the *Otter*, they must expect the town to be knocked about their ears.

January 9.—The detested town of *Norfolk* is no more! Its destruction happened on *New-Year's* day! About four o'clock in the afternoon the signal was given from the *Liverpool*, when a dreadful cannonading began from the three ships, which lasted till it was too hot for the Rebels to stand on their wharves. Our boats now landed and set fire to the town in several places. It burnt fiercely all night, and the next day; nor are the flames yet extinguished; but no more of *Norfolk* remains than about twelve houses, which have escaped the flames.*

—

FROM THE VIRGINIA GAZETTE, PRINTED ON BOARD THE SHIP DUNMORE, LYING OFF NORFOLK.

Norfolk, Ship Dunmore, January 15, 1776.

Soon after the arrival of the *Liverpool* frigate from *England*, Captain *Bellew* sent a flag of truce, and demanded to be informed, whether His Majesty's ships-of-war would be supplied from the shore with provisions. The reply being in the negative, and the ships in the har-

* The town of *Norfolk*, in *Virginia*, which was lately burnt by the *Liverpool*, man-of-war, and her attendants, was the largest town in the whole Province. It contained near four times the number of houses in *Williamsburgh*, the capital, and might be compared to *Reading*, in *Berkshire*, with regard to the extent of its site, and the scale of its population. The Rebels, therefore, have sustained a very severe loss in its destruction; and we are very well assured, that this loss has already not a little cooled the fever of *Virginian* patriotism.

bour being continually annoyed by firing from the Rebels, out of that part of the town next the water, rendered it necessary to destroy it, and dislodge them from the houses they occupied, directly under the muzzles of the ship's guns. Accordingly, previous notice being given to the inhabitants, in order that the women, children, and innocent persons, might have time to remove out of danger, on the 1st instant, about four o'clock in the afternoon, the *Liverpool*, frigate, the *Otter* and *Kingfisher*, sloops-of-war, with the Governour's ship, *Dunmore*, began to cannonade the town, and, in the mean time, a few men were landed in boats, who set fire to the houses next the water.

As the wind was moderate, and from the shore, it was judged with certainty that the destruction would end with that part of the town next the water, which the King's ships meant only should be fired; but the Rebels cruelly and unnecessarily completed the destruction of the whole town, by setting fire to the houses in the streets back, which were before safe from the flames.

The ill-judged and misapplied fury, discharged upon the weak and the innocent, was not confined to the town. The country around, for several days, was illuminated with the fires of the houses they burnt, amongst which is the distillery, about three miles from the town, a work of great value and publick utility, with a large stock of rum and molasses.

The ships continued firing, with intervals, till about ten o'clock next morning, during which the ardour of the men could not be repressed; and, notwithstanding all possible care taken to prevent them, a few boats went on shore, where they exchanged some shot with the enemy's parties, and had three or four men slightly, and one mortally, wounded. Several accounts concur, that the enemy had eighteen killed, and about forty men wounded.

SAMUEL ADAMS TO ELBRIDGE GERRY.

Philadelphia, January 2, 1776.

My dear sir: Your very acceptable letter of the 13th of *December* is now before me. Our opinions of the necessity of keeping the military power under the direction and control of the legislative, I always thought were alike. It was far from my intention, in my letter to you on the subject, to attempt the correcting any imagined error in your judgment, but rather, shortly to express my own apprehensions at this time, when it is become necessary to tolerate that power, which is always formidable, and has so often proved fatal to the liberties of mankind.

It gives me great satisfaction to be informed, that the members of the House of Representatives are possessed of so warm a spirit of patriotism, as that "an enemy to *America* may as well attempt to scale the regions of bliss, as to insinuate himself into their favour." Whatever kind of men may be denominated enemies to their country, certainly he is a very injudicious friend to it, who gives his suffrage for any man to fill a publick office, merely because he is rich; and yet, you tell me, there are recent instances of this in our Government. I confess, it mortifies me greatly. The giving such a preference to riches, is both dishonourable and dangerous to a Government. It is, indeed, equally dangerous, to promote a man to a place of publick trust, only because he wants bread; but I think it is not so dishonourable, for men may be influenced to the latter from the feelings of humanity; but the other argues a base, degenerate, servile temper of mind. I hope our country will never see the time, when either riches, or the want of them, will be the leading considerations in the choice of publick officers. Whenever riches shall be deemed a necessary qualification, ambition, as well as avarice, will prompt men most ardently to thirst for them; and, it will be commonly said, as in ancient times of degeneracy,

> Quærenda pecunia primum est,
> Virtus post nummos.
>
> "Get money, money still,
> And then let Virtue follow, if she will."

I am greatly honoured, if my late letter has been acceptable to the House. I hope the Militia Bill, to which that letter referred, is completed to the satisfaction of both Houses of the Assembly.

The account you give me of the success our people met with in the manufacture of saltpetre, is highly pleasing to me. I procured, of a gentleman in the Colony of *New-York*, the plan of a powder-mill, which I lately sent to Mr. *Revere*. I hope it may be of some use.

I have time, at present, only to request you to write to me by the post, and to assure you that I am your affectionate friend,

Samuel Adams.

To *Elbridge Gerry*, Esq.

PROCLAMATION BY GOVERNOUR TRYON.

By his Excellency William Tryon, *Esq., Captain-General, and Governour-in-chief, in and over the Province of* New-York, *and the Territories thereon depending, in* America, *Chancellor, and Vice-Admiral of the same.*

A Proclamation.*

Whereas, the General Assembly of this Province stands prorogued to the first day of *February*, now next ensuing, I have thought fit for His Majesty's service, and I do, with the advice of His Majesty's Council, and by virtue of the powers and authority unto me granted by His Majesty, dissolve the said General Assembly; and the said General Assembly are hereby dissolved, accordingly.

Given under my hand, and seal at arms, in the City of *New-York*, the second day of *January*, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-six, in the sixteenth year of the reign of our Sovereign Lord, *George* the Third, by the grace of *God*, of *Great Britain*, *France*, and *Ireland*, King, Defender of the Faith, and so forth.

William Tryon.

By his Excellency's command:

Samuel Bayard, Jun., *Dep. Secretary.*

God *save the King.*

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO COLONEL WYNKOOP.

Albany, January 2, 1776.

Sir: Captain *Billings* will deliver you the officers that were made prisoners in *Canada*, I do not hesitate a moment to apply to you, on this occasion, as I have had experience of your attention to promote the service. You will be so good as to forward the officers and their baggage to *Trenton*, together with the baggage of the *St. John's* garrison, the officers' servants, and four or five men to take care of the baggage; all the other men, women, and children, you will please to desire the Committee to canton, agreeable to my request of the 13th ultimo.

Should the snow fall when you arrive at *Delaware*, and the river not be navigable, and no possibility of going down on the ice, you will leave the baggage, and proceed with the officers and their servants, to *Trenton*, from whence you will please to repair to Congress, and report what you have done in prosecution of this request.

The officers are now on their parole of honour; but, when you take them in charge, you will request them to renew their parole, agreeable to my former orders.

The expenses run so high, that the greatest economy is to be used in conveying these troops.

I am, sir, your humble servant,

Philip Schuyler.

To Colonel *Wynkoop*.

[GENERAL WASHINGTON] TO GENERAL WARD.

Cambridge, January 2, 1776.

Sir: In answer to yours of this date, by Mr. *Pope*, I am to inform you, by his Excellency's command, that he desires you to send a captain, two subalterns, and fifty men, to take charge of the military stores, provisions, &c., at *Squantum*, and to remain there till further orders.

I am, sir, &c.

To Major-General *Ward*.

* New-York, *January* 11, 1776.—On the 2d instant the Governour issued a proclamation to dissolve the Assembly of this Colony, and writs were issued for a new election of Representatives of the people, to serve in General Assembly. The Sheriff of this City and County, has published an advertisement, giving notice to the freemen and freeholders of the same, that he has appointed *Thursday*, the first day of *February* next, for them to meet, at ten o'clock in the forenoon, on the green, near the Work-House, in the city, to elect four members to represent them in General Assembly. The advertisement expresses it thus: To the Representatives of the said City and County, to assist the Captain-General, or Commander-in-chief, in a General Assembly.

By the King.

A Proclamation, for encouraging Seamen to enter themselves on board His Majesty's Ships of War.

George R.

Whereas, it is our Royal intention to give all due encouragement to all such Seamen who shall voluntarily enter themselves in our service, we have thought fit, by and with the advice of our Privy Council, to publish this, our Royal Proclamation; and we do hereby promise and declare, that all such able Seamen, not above the age of fifty, nor under the age of eighteen years, fit for our service, who shall, on or before the twenty-ninth day of *February* next, voluntarily enter themselves to serve in our Royal Navy, either with the captains or lieutenants of our ships, or the chief officers on board such tenders as shall be employed for raising men for the service of our Navy, shall receive, as our Royal bounty, the sum of forty shillings, each man; and all such ordinary seamen, fit for our service, who shall so enter themselves, as aforesaid, shall receive the sum of twenty shillings, each man, as our Royal bounty: such respective sums to be paid them by the respective clerks of the Cheque, residing at the ports or places where the ships into which they shall be entered shall be, immediately after the third muster of such seamen.

And we do declare, that the qualifications of the Seamen so entering themselves, as aforesaid, shall be certified by the captain, master, and boatswain of the ship or vessel where they shall enter.

And, for prevention of any abuses, by any persons leaving the vessels to which they shall belong, and entering themselves on board any other ships or vessels, in order to obtain the said bounty money, we do hereby declare and command, that such Seamen, belonging to any of our ships or vessels, as shall absent themselves from any of the said ships or vessels, to which they shall belong, and shall enter themselves on board any other of our said ships or vessels, in order to obtain the said bounty, shall not only lose the wages due to them in the ships or vessels they shall leave, but also be severely punished, according to their demerits.

Given at our Court, at *St. James's*, the third day of *January*, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-six, in the sixteenth year of our reign.

God *save the King*.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM BRISTOL, JANUARY 3, 1776.

The rifleman, who was brought a prisoner here from *Quebeck*, being taken in crossing the river *St. Lawrence*, is confined in Bridewell. He is a *Virginian*, about six feet high, stout, and well proportioned. His behaviour is manly, but very modest. He was drafted from his corps, at *Cambridge*, to go on *Arnold's* expedition. His dress is a loose dress of coarse woollen, adapted to that cold climate, for which his regimentals were exchanged, or rather, taken from him, at *Quebeck*.

He says the pay of his corps was forty shillings currency per month, regularly paid (about twenty-five shillings sterling) in dollars, out of which they found their clothes. He was a fortnight in the camp, where, he says, every thing was in good order, provisions plenty, and exact discipline. He can strike a mark, with the greatest certainty, at two hundred yards distance. He has the heavy, Provincial pronunciation, but otherwise speaks good *English*. The account he gives, is, that the troops, in general, are such kind of men as himself, tall, and well proportioned. He was very clear and explicit in his answers, which he delivered with great modesty, but entirely free from any fear for the consequences of his being brought to *England*.

He was discharged on *Saturday*, as there were no grounds for his commitment.

JAMES HOGG, AGENT FOR TRANSYLVANIA, [TO COLONEL RICHARD HENDERSON.]

Dear Sir: On the 2d of *December*, I returned hither from *Philadelphia;* and I have now set down to give you an account of my embassy, which you will be pleased to communicate to the other gentlemen, our copartners, when you have an opportunity. I waited for Messrs. *Hooper* and *Hewes* a day and a half at *Richmond*, but they were detained by rainy weather for several days, so that they did not overtake me till I was near *Philadelphia*, where I was kept two days by heavy rain, though they had it dry where they were. It was the 22d of *October*, when we arrived at *Philadelphia*. In a few days they introduced me to several of the Congress gentlemen, among the first of whom were, accidentally, the famous *Samuel* and *John Adams;* and as I found their opinion friendly to our new Colony, I showed them our map, explained to them the advantage of our situation, &c., &c. They entered seriously into the matter, and seemed to think favourably of the whole; but the difficulty that occurred to us soon appeared to them. "We have petitioned and addressed the King," said they, "and have entreated him to point out some mode of accommodation. There seems to be an impropriety in embarrassing our reconciliation with any thing new; and the taking under our protection a body of people who have acted in defiance of the King's proclamations, will be looked on as a confirmation of that independent spirit with which we are daily reproached." I then showed them our memorial, to convince them that we did not pretend to throw off our allegiance to the King, but intended to acknowledge his sovereignty whenever he should think us worthy of his regard. They were pleased with our memorial, and thought it very proper; but another difficulty occurred. By looking at the map, they observed that we were within the *Virginia* Charter. I then told them of the fixing their boundaries, what had passed at *Richmond* in *March* last, and that I had reason to believe the *Virginians* would not oppose us; however, they advised me to sound the *Virginians*, as they would not choose to do any thing in it without their consent.

All the Delegates were, at that time, so much engaged in the Congress from morning to night, that it was some days before I got introduced to the *Virginians;* and before then, I was informed that some of them had said, whatever was their own opinion of the matter, they would not consent that *Transylvania* should be admitted as a Colony and represented in Congress, until it originated in their Convention, and should be approved by their constituents. Some days after this, I was told that Messrs. *Jefferson*, *Wythe*, and *Richard Henry Lee*, were desirous of meeting with me, which was accordingly brought about; but, unfortunately, Mr. *Lee* was, by some business, prevented from being with us, though I had some conversation with him afterwards. I told them that the *Transylvania* Company, suspecting that they might be misrepresented, had sent me to make known to the gentlemen of the Congress, our friendly intentions towards the cause of liberty, &c., &c., but said nothing of our memorial, or my pretensions to a seat in Congress. They said nothing in return to me, but seriously examined our map, and asked many questions. They observed that our purchase was within their Charter, and gently hinted, that, by virtue of it, they might claim the whole. This led me to take notice, that a few years ago, as I had been informed, their Assembly had petitioned the Crown for leave to purchase from the *Cherokees*, and to fix their boundaries with them, which was accordingly done, by a line running from six miles east of the long island in *Holston*, to the mouth of the *Great-Kenhawa*, for which they had actually paid twenty-five hundred pounds to the *Cherokees;* by which purchase, both the Crown and their Assembly had acknowledged the property of those lands to be in the *Cherokees*. Besides, said I, our settlement of *Transylvania* will be a great check on the *Indians*, and, consequently, be of service to the *Virginians*.

They seemed to waive the argument concerning the right of property; but Mr. *Jefferson* acknowledged, that, in his opinion, our Colony could be no loss to the *Virginians*, if properly united to them; and said, that if his advice was followed, all the use they should make of their Charter would be, to prevent any arbitrary or oppressive Government to be established within the boundaries of it; and that it was his wish to see a free Government established at the back of theirs, properly united with them; and that it should extend westward to the *Mississippi*, and on each side of the *Ohio*, to their Charter line. But he would not consent that we should be acknowledged by the Congress, until it had the approbation of their constituents in Convention, which he thought might be obtained; and that, for that purpose, we should send one of our Company to their next Convention. Against this proposal, several objections occurred to me, but I made none.

This was the substance of our conference, with which I acquainted our good friends, Messrs. *Hooper* and *Hewes*, who joined me in opinion that I should not push the matter further; and they hinted to me, that, considering the present very critical situation of affairs, they thought it was better for us to be unconnected with them. These gentlemen acted a most friendly part all along, and gave a favourable account of our proceedings. Indeed, I think the Company under great obligations to them, and I hope they will take it under their consideration. I was frequently with parties of the Delegates, who, in general, think favourably of our enterprise. All the wise ones of them, with whom I conversed on the subject, are clear in opinion, that the property of the lands are vested in us by the *Indian* grant; but some of them think, that by the common law of *England*, and by the common usage in *America*, the sovereignty is in the King, agreeable to a famous law opinion, of which I was so fortunate as to procure a copy. The suffering traders, and others, at the end of last war, obtained a large tract of land from the *Six-Nations*, and other *Indians*. They formed themselves into a company, (called, I believe, the *Ohio*,) and petitioned the King for a patent, and desired to be erected into a Government. His Majesty laid their petition before Lord Chancellor *Camden* and Mr. *Charles Yorke*, then Attorney-General, and afterwards Chancellor. Their opinion follows: "In respect to such places as have been, or shall be acquired by treaty or grant from any of the *Indian* Princes or Governments, your Majesty's letters patent are not necessary; the property of the soil vesting in the grantee by the *Indian* grants, subject only to your Majesty's right of sovereignty over the settlements, as *English* settlements, and over the inhabitants as *English* subjects, who carry with them your Majesty's laws wherever they form Colonies, and receive your Majesty's protection by virtue of your Royal charters." After an opinion so favourable for them, it is amazing that this Company never attempted to form a settlement, unless they could have procured a charter, with the hopes of which, it seems, they were flattered, from time to time. However, our example has roused them, I am told, and they are now setting up for our rivals. Depending on this opinion, another company of gentlemen, a few years ago, purchased a tract between the forks of the *Mississippi* and *Ohio*, beginning about a league below *Fort-Chartres*, and running over towards the mouth of the *Wabash*; but whether or not their boundary line is above or below the mouth of the *Wabash*, the gentleman who showed me their deed could not tell, as it is not mentioned, but is said to terminate at the old *Shawanese* town, supposed to be only thirty-five leagues above the mouth of the *Ohio*. And the said company purchased another larger tract, lying on the *Illinois* River. It was from one of this company that I procured a copy of the above opinion, which he assured me was a genuine one, and is the very same which you have heard was in possession of Lord *Dunmore*, as it was their company who sent it to him, expecting he would join them.

I was several times with Mr. *Deane*, of *Connecticut*, the gentleman of whom Mr. *Hooper* told you, when here. He says he will send some people to see our country; and if their report be favourable, he thinks many *Connecticut* people will join us. This gentleman is a scholar, and a man of sense and enterprise, and rich; and, I am apt to believe, has some thoughts of heading a party of *Connecticut* adventurers, providing things can be made agreeable to him. He is reckoned a good man, and much esteemed in Congress; but he is an enthusiast in liberty, and will have nothing to do with us unless he is pleased with our form of Government. He is a great admirer of the *Connecticut* Constitution, which he recommended to our consideration; and was so good as to favour me with a long letter on that subject, a copy of which is enclosed. You would be amazed to see how much in earnest all these speculative gentlemen are about the plan to be adopted by the *Transylvanians*. They entreat, they pray, that we may make it a free Government, and beg that no mercenary or ambitious views in the Proprietors may prevent it. Quit-rents, they say, is a mark of vassalage, and hope they shall not be established in *Transylvania*. They even threaten us with their opposition, if we do not act upon liberal principles when we have it so much in our power to render ourselves immortal. Many of them advised a law against *Negroes*.

Enclosed; I send you a copy of a sketch by *John Adams*, which I had from *Richard Henry Lee*.

—

A Journal of the Proceedings of the House of Delegates or Representatives of the Colony of Transylvania, *begun on* Wednesday, [Tuesday] *the* 23*d of* May, *in the year of our Lord* Christ 1775, *and in the fifteenth year of the reign of His Majesty* George *the Third, King of* Great Britain.

The Proprietors of said Colony having called and required an election of Delegates or Representatives to be made, for the purpose of legislation, or making and ordaining laws and regulations for the future conduct of the inhabitants thereof, that is to say, for the town of *Boonesborough*, six members; for *Harrodsburgh*, four; for the *Boiling-Spring* Settlement, four; for the town of *St. Asaph*, four; and appointed their meeting for the purpose aforesaid, on the aforesaid 23d of *May, Anna Domini*, 1775, and,

It being certified to us here this day by the Secretary, that the following persons were returned as duly elected for the several towns and settlements, to wit:

For Boonesborough: *Squire Boone, Daniel Boone, William Cocke, Samuel Henderson, William Moore*, and *Richard Calloway*.

Harrodsburgh: *Thomas Slaughter, John Lythe, Valentine Harmond*, and *James Douglass*.

Boiling-Spring Settlement: *James Harrod, Nathan Hammond, Isaac* and *Azariah Davis*.

The Town of St. Asaph: *John Todd, Alexander Spotswood Dandridge, John Floyd*, and *Samuel Wood*.

Present: *Squire Boone, Daniel Boone, Samuel Henderson, William Moore, Richard Calloway, Thomas Slaughter, John Lythe, Valentine Harmond, James Douglass, James Harrod, Nathan Hammond, Isaac Hite, Azariah Davis, John Todd, Alexander Spotswood Dandridge, John Floyd*, and *Samuel Wood*, who took their seats at Convention.

The House unanimously chose Colonel *Thomas Slaughter* Chairman, and *Matthew Jewett* Clerk; and after divine service was performed by the Reverend *John Lythe*, the House waited on the Proprietors, and acquainted them that they had chosen Mr. *Thomas Slaughter* Chairman, and *Matthew Jewett* Clerk, of which they approved; and,

Colonel *Richard Henderson*, in behalf of himself and the rest of the Proprietors, opened the Convention with a speech, a copy of which, to prevent mistakes, the Chairman procured.

Ordered, The same Speech be read.

Read the same, which is as follows:

Mr. Chairman, and Gentlemen of the Convention:

You are called and assembled at this time for a noble and an honourable purpose—a purpose, however ridiculous or idle it may appear at first view, to superficial minds, yet is of the most solid consequence; and if prudence, firmness, and wisdom, are suffered to influence your councils and direct your conduct, the peace and harmony of thousands may be expected to result from your deliberations; in short, you are about a work of the utmost importance to the well-being of this country in general, in which the interest and security of each and every individual is inseparably connected; for that State is truly sickly, politically speaking, whose laws or edicts are not careful, equally, of the different members, and most distant branches, which constitute the one united whole. Nay, it is not only a solecism in politics, but an insult to common sense, to attempt the happiness of any community, or composing laws for their benefit, without securing to each individual his full proportion of advantage arising out of the general mass; thereby making his interest (that most powerful incentive to the actions of mankind) the consequence of obedience. This, at once, not only gives force and energy to legislation, but as justice is, and must be eternally the same, so your laws, founded in wisdom, will gather strength by time, and find an advocate in every wise and well disposed person.

You, perhaps, are fixing the palladium, or placing the first corner stone of an edifice, the height and magnificence of whose superstructure is now in the womb of futurity, and can only become great and glorious in proportion to the excellence of its foundation. These considerations, gen-

tlemen, will, no doubt, animate and inspire you with sentiments worthy the grandeur of the subject.

Our peculiar circumstances, in this remote country, surrounded on all sides with difficulties, and equally subject to one common danger, which threatens our common overthrow, must, I think, in their effects, secure to us an union of interests, and, consequently, that harmony in opinion, so essential to the forming good, wise, and wholesome laws.

If any doubt remain amongst you with respect to the force or efficacy of whatever laws you now, or hereafter make, be pleased to consider that all power is originally in the people; therefore, make it their interest, by impartial and beneficial laws, and you may be sure of their inclination to see them enforced. For it is not to be supposed that a people, anxious and desirous of having laws made, who approve of the method of choosing Delegates or Representatives, to meet in General Convention for that purpose, can want the necessary and concomitant virtue to carry them into execution.

Nay, gentlemen, for arguments' sake, let us set virtue, for a moment, out of the question, and see how the matter will then stand. You must admit, that it is, and ever will be, the interest of a large majority, that the laws should be esteemed and held sacred. If so, surely this large majority can never want inclination or power to give sanction and efficacy to those very laws which advance their interest and secure their property. And now, Mr. Chairman, and gentlemen of the Convention, as it is indispensably necessary that laws should be composed for the regulation of our conduct—as we have a right to make such laws without giving offence to *Great Britain*, or any of the *American* Colonies—without disturbing the repose of any society or community under Heaven—if it is probable, nay, certain, that the laws may derive force and efficacy from our mutual consent, and that consent resulting from our own virtue, interest, and convenience, nothing remains but to set about the business immediately, and let the event determine the wisdom of the undertaking.

Among the many objects that must present themselves for your consideration, the first in order must, from its importance, be that of establishing courts of justice or tribunals, for the punishment of such as may offend against the laws you are about to make. As this law will be the chief corner-stone in the groundwork or basis of our Constitution, let us, in a particular manner, recommend the most dispassionate attention, while you take for your guide as much of the spirit and genius of the laws of *England*, as can be interwoven with those of this country. We are all *Englishmen*, or, what amounts to the same, ourselves and our fathers have, for many generations, experienced the invaluable blessings of that most excellent Constitution, and surely we cannot want motives to copy from so noble an original.

Many things, no doubt, crowd upon your minds, and seem equally to demand your attention. But next to that of restraining vice and immorality, surely nothing can be of more importance than establishing some plain and easy method for the recovery of debts, and determining matters of dispute with respect to property, contracts, torts, injuries, &c. These things are so essential, that if not strictly attended to, our name will become odious abroad, and our peace of short and precarious duration. It would give honest and disinterested persons cause to suspect that there was some colourable reason, at least, for the unworthy and scandalous assertions, together with the groundless insinuations contained in an infamous and scurrilous libel lately printed and published, concerning the settlement of this country, the author of which avails himself of his station, and, under the specious pretence of proclamation, pompously dressed up and decorated in the garb of authority, has uttered invectives of the most malignant kind, and endeavours to wound the good name of persons, whose moral character would derive little advantage by being placed in computation with his, charging them, amongst other things equally untrue, with a design of "forming an asylum for debtors, and other persons of desperate circumstances;" placing the proprietors of the soil at the head of a lawless train of abandoned villains, against whom the regal authority ought to be exerted, and every possible measure taken to put an immediate stop to so dangerous an enterprise.

I have not the least doubt, gentlemen, but that your conduct, in this Convention, will manifest the honest and laudable intentions of the present adventurers, whilst a conscious blush confounds the wilful calumniators and officious detractors of our infant, and, as yet, little community.

Next to the establishment of courts or tribunals, as well for the punishment of publick offenders, as the recovering of just debts, that of establishing and regulating a Militia seems of the greatest importance. It is apparent that, without some wise institution, respecting our mutual defence, the different towns or settlements are, every day, exposed to the most imminent danger, and liable to be destroyed at the mere will of the savage *Indians*. Nothing, I am persuaded, but their entire ignorance of our weakness and want of order, has, hitherto, preserved us from the destructive and rapacious hands of cruelty, and given us an opportunity, at this time, of forming secure, defensive plans, to be supported and carried into execution by the authority and sanction of a well-digested law.

There are sundry other things highly worthy your consideration, and demand redress, such as the wanton destruction of our game, the only support of life amongst many of us, and for want of which the country would be abandoned ere to-morrow, and scarcely a probability remain of its ever becoming the habitation of any Christian people. This, together with the practice of many foreigners, who make a business of hunting in our country, killing, driving off, and lessening the number of wild cattle and other game, whilst the value of the skins and furs is appropriated to the benefit of persons not concerned or interested in our settlements. These are evils, I say, that I am convinced cannot escape your notice and attention.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen of the Convention: You may assure yourselves that this new-born country is an object of the most particular attention of the Proprietors here on the spot, as well as those on the other side of the Mountains, and that they will most cheerfully concur in every measure which can, in the most distant and remote degree, promote its happiness or contribute to its grandeur.

RICHARD HENDERSON.

May 23, 1775.

Ordered, That Colonel *Calloway*, Mr. *Lythe*, Mr. *Todd*, Mr. *Dandridge*, and Mr. *Samuel Henderson*, be a Committee to draw up an answer to the Proprietors' Speech.

—

May 25, 1775.

Mr. *Todd* produced to the House an Answer (drawn up by the Committee) to the Proprietor's Speech, and being approved of by the Committee,

Ordered, That Mr. *Todd*, Mr. *Cocke*, and Mr. *Harrod*, wait on the Proprietors with an answer to their Address, which is as follows:

Colonel Richard Henderson and Company:

GENTLEMEN: We received your speech with minds truly thankful for the care and attention you express towards the good people of this infant country, whom we represent. Well aware of the confusion which would ensue the want of rules for our conduct in life, and deeply impressed with a sense of the importance of the trust our constituents have reposed in us, though labouring under a thousand disadvantages, which attend prescribing remedies for disorders which already call for our assistance, as well as those that are lodged in the womb of futurity; yet the task, arduous as it is, we will attempt with vigour, not doubting but unanimity will ensure us success.

That we have an absolute right, as a political body, without giving umbrage to *Great Britain* or any of the Colonies, to frame rules for the government of our little society, cannot be doubted by any sensible, unbiased mind; and, being without the jurisdiction of, and not answerable to, any of His Majesty's courts, the constituting tribunals of justice shall be a matter of our first contemplation; and, as this will be a matter of the greatest importance, we will still keep in the genius and spirit of the *English* laws, which happy pattern it shall be our chief care to copy after.

Next to the restraint of immorality, our attention shall be directed towards the relief of the injured, as well as the

creditor; nor will we put it into the power of calumny and scurrility to say, that our country is an asylum for debtors, or any disorderly persons.

Nor shall we neglect, by regulating a Militia, as well as the infancy of our country will permit, to guard against the hostilities and incursions of our savage enemies, and, at the same time, to be cautious to preserve the game of our country, so essentially necessary for the subsistence of the first adventurers.

Conscious, gentlemen, of your veracity, we cannot express the satisfaction we experience, that the Proprietors of this promising Colony are so ready to concur with us in any measure which may tend to promote its happiness and contribute to its grandeur.

THOMAS SLAUGHTER, *Chairman.*

To which Colonel *Henderson* returned the following Answer:

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen of the Convention:

From the just sense of the nature and importance of the trust reposed in you by your constituents, and your laudable and truly patriotick resolution of exerting your abilities in the service of your country, we derive the most sanguine hopes.

Arduous as the task is, every difficulty must give way to perseverance, whilst your zeal for the publick good is tempered with that moderation and unanimity of opinion so apparent in your conduct.

We, gentlemen, look with infinite satisfaction on this happy presage of the future felicity of our infant country, and hope to merit a continuation of that confidence you are pleased to express in our veracity and good intentions.

While our transactions have credit for the integrity of our desires, we cannot fail uniting with the Delegates of the good people of this country, fully persuaded that the Proprietors are zealously inclined to contribute every thing in their power, which may tend to render it easy, prosperous, and flourishing.

RICHARD HENDERSON.
For himself and the Company.

On motion made, *Ordered*, That Mr. *Todd* have leave to bring in a bill for the establishment of Courts of Judicature, and regulating the practice therein.

Ordered, That Mr. *Todd*, Mr. *Dandridge*, Mr. *Calloway* and Mr. *Henderson*, do bring in a bill for that purpose.

On motion of Mr. *Douglass*, leave is given to bring in a bill for Regulating a Militia.

Ordered, That Mr. *Floyd*, Mr. *Harrod*, Mr. *Cocke*, Mr. *Douglass*, and Mr. *Hite*, be a Committee for that purpose.

On motion of Mr. *Daniel Boone*, leave is given to bring in a bill for Preserving Game, &c.

Ordered, That Mr. *Boone*, Mr. *Davis*, Mr. *Harmon*, Mr. *Hammond*, and Mr. *Moore*, be a Committee for that purpose.

The Bill for establishing Courts of Judicature, and regulating the practice therein, brought in by the Committee, and read by Mr. *Todd*, and passed the first time; ordered to be referred for a second reading.

The Bill for establishing and Regulating a Militia, brought in by the Committee, read by Mr. *Floyd*, ordered to be read by the Clerk, passed the first time; ordered to be referred for a second reading.

The Bill for Preserving Game, brought in by the Committee, ordered to be read by the Clerk, read, and passed the first time, and ordered to be referred for a second reading.

Ordered, That the Convention be adjourned until to-morrow, six o'clock.

—

May 26, 1775.

Met according to adjournment.

Mr. *Robert McAfee* appointed Sergeant-at-Arms.

Ordered, That the Sergeant-at-Arms bring *John Guess* before this Convention, to answer for an insult offered Colonel *Richard Colloway*.

The Bill for Regulating a Militia, read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed.

The Bill for Establishing Courts of Judicature, and regulating the practice therein, read a second time, ordered to be recommitted; and that Mr. *Dandridge*, Mr. *Todd*, Mr. *Henderson*, and Mr. *Calloway*, be a Committee to take it into consideration.

On motion of Mr. *Todd*, leave is given to bring in an Attachment Bill.

Ordered, That Mr. *Todd*, Mr. *Dandridge*, and Mr. *Douglass*, be a Committee for that purpose.

The Bill for Establishing Writs of Attachment, read by the Clerk, and passed the first time; ordered to be referred for a second reading.

On motion of Mr. *Dandridge*, leave is given to bring in a bill to ascertain Clerks' and Sheriffs' Fees.

The said Bill was read, and passed the first time; ordered to be referred for the second reading.

On motion made by Mr. *Todd*, *Ordered*, That Mr. *Todd*, Mr. *Lythe*, Mr. *Douglass*, and Mr. *Hite*, be a Committee to draw up a compact between the Proprietors and the people of this Colony.

On motion of Mr. *Lythe*, leave is given to bring in a bill to Prevent Profane Swearing and Sabbath Breaking. The same was read by the Clerk;

Ordered, That it be recommitted, and that Mr. *Lythe*, Mr. *Todd*, and Mr. *Harrod*, be a Committee to make amendments.

Mr. *Guess* was brought before the Convention, and reprimanded by the Chairman.

Ordered, That Mr. *Todd* and Mr. *Harrod* wait on the Proprietors, to know what name for this Colony would be agreeable.

Mr. *Todd* and Mr. *Harrod* reported, that it was their pleasure that it should be called *Transylvania*.

The Bill for ascertaining Clerks' and Sheriffs' Fees, read a second time, passed, and ordered to be engrossed.

The Attachment Bill read a second time, and ordered to be engrossed.

A Bill for Preserving Game, read the second time, and passed; ordered to be recommitted, and that Mr. *Todd*, Mr. *Boone*, and Mr. *Harrod*, be a Committee to take it into consideration.

The Militia Bill read a third time, and passed.

On motion of Mr. *Todd*, leave is given to bring in a bill for the Punishment of Criminals.

Ordered, That Mr. *Todd*, Mr. *Dandridge*, and Mr. *Lythe*, be a Committee for that purpose.

The Bill for establishing Courts of Judicature, and regulating the practice therein, read a second time, and ordered to be engrossed.

On motion of Mr. *Boone*, leave is given to bring in a bill for Improving the breed of Horses.

Ordered, That Mr. *Boone*, Mr. *Davis*, and Mr. *Hammond*, bring in a bill for that purpose.

The Bill for ascertaining Clerks' and Sheriffs' Fees, read a third time, and passed.

The Bill for establishing Writs of Attachment, read a third time, and passed.

On motion, *Ordered*, That Mr. *Todd* have leave to absent himself from this House.

The Bill for the Punishment of Criminals, brought in by the Committee, read by the Clerk, passed the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

The Bill for establishing Courts of Judicature, and regulating the practice therein, read the third time with amendments, and passed.

The Bill for Improving the breed of Horses, brought in by Captain *Boone*, read the first time, passed, and ordered to be for consideration, &c.

Ordered, That the Convention adjourn until to-morrow, six o'clock.

—

May 27, 1775.

Met according to adjournment.

The Bill to Prevent Profane Swearing and Sabbath Breaking, read the second time, with amendments; ordered to be engrossed.

The Bill for the Punishment of Criminals, brought in and read, passed the second time; ordered to be engrossed.

*

The Bill for the Improvement of the breed of Horses was read a second time, and ordered to be engrossed.

Ordered, That Mr. *Harrod*, Mr. *Boone*, and Mr. *Cocke*, wait on the Proprietors, and beg they will not indulge any person whatever in granting them Lands on the present terms, unless they comply with the former proposals of settling the country, &c.

On motion of *Squire Boone*, leave is given to bring in a bill to Preserve the Range.

Ordered, That he have leave to bring in a bill for that purpose.

The following Message was received from the Proprietors, to wit:

To give every possible satisfaction to the good people, your constituents, we desire to exhibit our title deed from the *Aborigines* and first owners of the soil in *Transylvania*, and hope you will cause an entry to be made of the exhibition in your journals, including the corners and abutments of the lands or country contained therein, so that the boundaries of our Colony may be known and kept on record.

RICHARD HENDERSON.

Transylvania, May 27, 1775.

Ordered, That Mr. *Todd*, Mr. *Douglass*, and Mr. *Hite*, inform the Proprietors that their request will be complied with.

To which Colonel *Henderson*, in behalf of himself and Company, produced his Deed, which is bounded and abutted as follows, viz:

Beginning on the *Ohio* River, at the mouth of the *Cantuckey Chinoa*, or what, by the *English*, is called *Louisa* River; from thence running up the said river, and the most northwardly branch, to the head Spring thereof; thence a southeast course to the top ridge of *Powell's* Mountain; thence westwardly along the ridge of *Powell's* Mountain, unto a point from which a northwest course will strike or hit the head Spring, or the most southwardly branch of *Cumberland* River; thence down the said river, including all its waters, to the *Ohio* River; thence up the said river to the beginning.

A Bill for Preserving the Range, brought in by the Committee and read, passed the first time; ordered to be laid by for second consideration.

The Bill to Prevent Profane Swearing and Sabbath-Breaking, read the third time, and passed.

Ordered, That Mr. *Calloway* and Mr. *Cocke* wait on the Proprietors with the Laws that have passed, for their perusal and approbation.

The Committee appointed to draw up the Compact between the Proprietors and the People, brought in and read it, as follows, viz:

Whereas, it is highly necessary, for the peace of the Proprietors and the security of the People of this Colony, that the powers of the one and the liberties of the other be ascertained, we, *Richard Henderson*, *Nathaniel Hart*, and *J. Luttrell*, on behalf of ourselves, as well as the other Proprietors of the Colony of *Transylvania*, of the one part, and the Representatives of the People of said Colony, in Convention assembled, of the other part, do most solemnly enter into the following contract or agreement, to wit:

1. That the election of Delegates in this Colony be annual.

2. That the Convention may adjourn, and meet again on their own adjournment: *Provided*, That, in cases of great emergency, the Proprietors may call together the Delegates before the time adjourned to; and, if a majority do not attend, they may dissolve them, and call a new one.

3. That, to prevent dissension and delay of business, one Proprietor shall act for the whole, or some one delegated by them for that purpose, who shall always reside in the Colony.

4. That there be perfect religious freedom and general toleration: *Provided*, That the propagators of any doctrine or tenets, evidently tending to the subversion of our laws, shall, for such conduct, be amenable to, and punished by, the civil courts.

5. That the Judges of the Superior or Supreme Courts be appointed by the Proprietors, but be supported by the People, and to them be answerable for their malconduct.

6. That the quit-rents never exceed two shillings, sterling, per hundred acres.

7. That the Proprietors appoint a Sheriff, who shall be one of three persons recommended by the Court.

8. That the Judges of the Superior Courts have, without fee or reward, the appointment of the Clerks of this Colony.

9. That the Judges of the Inferior Courts be recommended by the people, and approved by the Proprietors, and by them commissioned.

10. That all other civil and military officers be within the appointment of the Proprietors.

11. That the office of Surveyor-General belong to no person interested, or a partner, in this purchase.

12. That the legislative authority, after the strength and maturity of the Colony will permit, consist of three branches, to wit: The Delegates, or Representatives, chosen by the people; a Council, not exceeding twelve men, possessed of landed estate, who reside in the Colony; and the Proprietors.

13. That nothing, with respect to the number of Delegates from any town or settlement, shall, hereafter, be drawn into precedent, but that the number of Representatives shall be ascertained by law, when the state of the Colony will admit of amendment.

14. That the Land Office be always open.

15. That commissions without profit, be granted without fee.

16. That the fees and salaries of all officers appointed by the Proprietors, be settled and regulated by the laws of the country.

17. That the Convention have the sole power of raising and appropriating all publick moneys, and electing their Treasurer.

18. That, for a short time, till the state of the Colony will permit to fix some place of holding the Convention, which shall be permanent, the place of meeting shall be agreed upon between the Proprietors and the Convention.

To the faithful, and religious, and perpetual observance of all and every of the above articles, the said Proprietors, on behalf of themselves, as well as those absent, and the Chairman of the Convention, on behalf of them and their constituents, have hereunto interchangeably set their hands, and affixed their seals, the twenty-seventh day of *May*, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-six.

RICHARD HENDERSON, [seal.]
NATHANIEL HART, [seal.]
J. LUTTRELL, [seal.]
T. SLAUGHTER, *Chair'n*, [seal.]

A Bill for Improving the breed of Horses, read the third time, and passed.

The Bill for the Punishment of Criminals, read the third time, and passed.

The Bill to Preserve the Range, read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed.

Ordered, That Mr. *Lythe* wait on Colonel *Henderson*, and the rest of the Proprietors, with the Bill for establishing Courts of Justice, and regulating the practice therein.

The Bill to Preserve the Range, read the third time, and passed.

Ordered, That Colonel *Calloway* wait on the Proprietors, with the Bill for Preserving the Range.

Ordered, That a fair copy of the several Bills, passed into laws, be transmitted to every Settlement in this Colony that is represented.

Ordered, That the Delegates of *Boonesborough* be a Committee, to see that all the Bills that are passed be transcribed, in a fair hand, into a book for that purpose.

Ordered, That the Proprietors be waited on by the Chairman, acquainting them that all the Bills are ready for signing.

The following Bills this day passed and signed by the Proprietors, on behalf of themselves and their partners, and the Chairman of the Convention, on behalf of himself and the other Delegates:

1. An Act for establishing Courts of Jurisdiction, and regulating the practice therein.
2. An Act for regulating a Militia.
3. An Act for the Punishment of Criminals.

4. An Act to Prevent Profane Swearing and Sabbath Breaking.
5. An Act for Writs of Attachment.
6. An Act for ascertaining Clerks' and Sheriffs' Fees.
7. An Act to Preserve the Range.
8. An Act for Improving the breed of Horses.
9. An Act for Preserving Game.

All the above-mentioned Acts were signed by the Chairman and Proprietors, except the Act for ascertaing Clerks' and Sheriffs' Fees, which was omitted, by the Clerk's not giving it with the rest.

Ordered, That, at the next meeting of Delegates, if any member be absent, and doth not attend, that the people choose one to serve in the room of such absent member.

Ordered, That the Convention be adjourned until the first *Thursday* in *September* next, then to meet at *Boonesborough*.

MATTHEW JEWETT, *Clerk*.

—

MEETING OF THE PROPRIETORS OF TRANSYLVANIA.

At a meeting of the Proprietors of *Transylvania*, held at *Oxford*, in the County of *Granville*, on *Monday*, the twenty-fifth day of *September*, *Anno Domini* 1775.

Present: Colonel *Richard Henderson*, Colonel *Thomas Hart*, Colonel *John Williams*, Captain *John Luttrell*, *William Johnston*, *James Hogg*, and *Leonard H. Bullock*.

Colonel *Henderson* being unanimously chosen President, they took into their consideration the present state of the said Colony, and made the following Resolves, viz:

Resolved, That Colonel *John Williams* be appointed Agent for the *Transylvania* Company, to transact their business in the said Colony; and he is accordingly invested with full power, by letter of attorney.

Ordered, That Mr. *Williams* shall proceed to *Boonesborough*, in the said Colony, as soon as possible, and continue there until the twelfth day of *April* next; and to be allowed, for his services, one hundred and fifty pounds, Proclamation money of *North-Carolina*, out of the profits arising from the sale of lands, after discharging the Company's present engagements.

N. B. In case the Settlement should be broken up by attack of *Indians*, or other enemies, so as to render it impossible for Mr. *Williams* to continue there and execute the trust reposed in him, it is agreed by the Company, that he shall still be paid the above salary, at the expiration of three years.

Resolved, That Mr. *Williams* be empowered to appoint one or more Surveyors, and the other officers of the Land Office, for the said Colony, as he may find it necessary. Clerks, Surveyors, and Chain-Carriers, to be sworn before they act.

Resolved, In case of the death or removal of Mr. *Williams*, that Colonel *Richard Henderson*, Captain *Nathaniel Hart*, and Captain *John Luttrell*, or any one of them, be, and are hereby, declared Agents for the said Company, with the same powers as are given to Mr. *Williams*, until a new appointment shall be made by the Proprietors.

Resolved, That the Agent shall not grant any Lands adjoining salt springs, gold, silver, copper, lead, or sulphur mines, knowing them to be such.

Resolved, That a reservation to the Proprietors, of one-half of all gold, silver, copper, lead, and sulphur mines, shall be made by the Agent, at granting deeds.

Resolved, That the Agent shall take a counterpart of all deeds granted by him, and shall transmit them to the Proprietors, residing in the Province of *North-Carolina*, to be audited, with his other proceedings, by the Company.

Resolved, That all surveys shall be made by the four cardinal points, except where rivers or mountains so intervene as to render it too inconvenient; and that, in all cases where one survey comes within the distance of eighty poles from another, their lines shall join, without exception; and that every survey on navigable rivers shall extend two poles out for one pole along the river; and that each survey not on navigable rivers shall not be above one-third longer than its width.

Resolved, That a present of two thousand acres of Land be made to Colonel *Daniel Boone*, with the thanks of the Proprietors, for the signal services he has rendered to the Company.

Resolved, That the thanks of this Company be presented to Colonel *Richard Calloway*, for his spirited and manly behaviour in behalf of the said Colony; and that a present of six hundred and forty acres of Land be made to his youngest son.

Resolved, That *James Hogg*, Esq., be appointed Delegate to represent the said Colony in the Continental Congress, now sitting at *Philadelphia*; and that the following Memorial be presented by him to that august body:

To the Honourable the Continental Congress, now sitting at PHILADELPHIA.

The Memorial for RICHARD HENDERSON, THOMAS HART, JOHN WILLIAMS, NATHANIEL HART, JOHN LUTTRELL, WILLIAM JOHNSTON, JAMES HOGG, DAVID HART, and LEONARD HENLY BULLOCK, *Proprietors of Transylvania, sheweth:*

That, on the seventeenth day of *March* last, for a large and valuable consideration, your Memorialists obtained from the *Cherokee Indians*, assembled at *Watauga*, a grant of a considerable territory, now called *Transylvania*, lying on the south side of the river *Ohio*.

They will not trouble the honourable Congress with a detail of the risks and dangers to which they have been exposed, arising from the nature of the enterprise itself, as well as from the wicked attempts of certain Governours and their emissaries; they beg leave, only, to acquaint them, that, through difficulties and dangers, at a great expense, and with the blood of several of their followers, they have laid the foundation of a Colony, which, however mean in its origin, will, if one may guess from present appearances, be one day considerable in *America*.

The Memorialists, having made this purchase from the *Aborigines* and immemorial possessors, the sole and uncontested owners of the country, in fair and open treaty, and without the violation of any *British* or *American* law whatever, are determined to give it up only with their lives. And, though their country be far removed from the reach of Ministerial usurpation, yet they cannot look with indifference on the late arbitrary proceedings of the *British* Parliament. If the *United Colonies* are reduced, or will tamely submit to be slaves, *Transylvania* will have reason to fear.

The Memorialists by no means forget their allegiance to their Sovereign, whose constitutional rights and pre-eminences they will support, at the risk of their lives. They flatter themselves that the addition of a new Colony, in so fair and equitable a way, and without any expense to the Crown, will be acceptable to His Most Gracious Majesty, and that *Transylvania* will soon be worthy of his Royal regard and protection.

At the same time, having their hearts warmed with the same noble spirit that animates the *United Colonies*, and moved with indignation at the late Ministerial and Parliamentary usurpations, it is the earnest wish of the Proprietors of *Transylvania* to be considered by the Colonies as brethren, engaged in the same great cause of liberty and of mankind. And, as by reason of several circumstances, needless to be here mentioned, it was impossible for the Proprietors to call a convention of the settlers in such time as to have their concurrence laid before this Congress, they here pledge themselves for them, that they will concur in the measure now adopted by the Proprietors.

From the generous plan of liberty adopted by the Congress, and that noble love of mankind which appears in all their proceedings, the Memorialists please themselves that the *United Colonies* will take the infant Colony of *Transylvania* into their protection; and they, in return, will do every thing in their power, and give such assistance in the general cause of *America*, as the Congress shall judge to be suitable to their abilities.

Therefore, the Memorialists hope and earnestly request, that *Transylvania* may be added to the number of the *United Colonies*, and that *James Hogg*, Esq., be received as their delegate, and admitted to a seat in the honourable the Continental Congress.

By order of the Proprietors.

RICHARD HENDERSON, *President*.

Resolved, That Mr. *Hogg* be empowered to treat and contract with any person or persons who may incline to purchase Lands from the Company, and that he be allowed his expenses for transacting the above business.

Resolved, That the united thanks of this Company be presented to Colonel *Richard Henderson*, Captain *Nathaniel Hart*, and Captain *John Luttrell*, for their eminent services and publick spirited conduct, in settling the aforesaid Colony.

Resolved, That from this time to the first day of *June*, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-six, the Lands in the said Colony shall be sold on the following terms:

No survey of Land shall contain more than six hundred and forty acres, (except in particular cases;) and the purchaser shall pay for entry and warrant of survey two dollars; for surveying the same, and a plot thereof, four dollars; and for the deed and plot annexed, two dollars. And also shall pay to the said Proprietors, their Agent, or Receiver for the time being, at the time of receiving a deed, two pounds ten shillings sterling for each hundred acres contained in such deed; also, an annual quit-rent of two shillings, like money, for every hundred acres, commencing in the year one thousand seven hundred and eighty.

And that any person who settles on the said Lands before the first day of *June*, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-six, shall have the privilege, on the aforesaid conditions, of taking up for himself any quantity not above six hundred and forty acres; and for each taxable person he may take with him, and settle there, three hundred and twenty acres, and no more.

Resolved, That Colonel *Richard Henderson* survey and lay off, within the said Colony, in such places and in such quantities as he shall think proper, not less than two hundred thousand acres, hereafter to be equally divided amongst the copartners, or their representatives, according to their rateable part, (as fully set forth in the Articles of Agreement entered into by the copartners;) and that each copartner be permitted, by himself or his deputy, to make choice of, and survey in one or more places, any quantity of vacant Land in the aforesaid Colony, for his or their particular use; but not above two thousand acres, and that agreeable to the aforesaid rateable proportions, unless on the same terms, and under the same regulations and restrictions, as laid down for other purchasers.

Resolved, That not more than five thousand acres shall be sold to any one person who does not immediately settle on the said Land; and that at three pounds ten shillings sterling per hundred, and not more than one hundred thousand acres in the whole on these terms.

Resolved, That the Agent deliver what money he may have received for the sale of Lands to Colonel *Thomas Hart*, when he leaves the said Colony, and that Colonel *Hart* pay what money may be due from the Company to the people at *Watauga* on his return; and that the remainder be applied to the payment of the Company's other debts. Also, that the Agent take the first safe opportunity of remitting what further sums he may receive thereafter to *William Johnston*, Treasurer, to be by him applied towards paying off the Company's debts.

Resolved, That *William Johnston* be impowered to bargain and contract with any persons inclining to purchase Lands in the said Colony.

Ordered, That Mr. *Johnston* do in behalf of the Proprietors, accommodate Mr. *Peter Hay*, merchant, (at *Cross Creek*, *Cumberland* County, *North-Carolina*,) with a present of one thousand acres of Land in the said Colony, for his friendly behaviour towards the Company; or, in lieu thereof, that Mr. *Hay* be permitted to purchase ten thousand acres, without being obliged to settle the same, at two pounds ten shillings, sterling, per hundred acres, subject to office fees and quit-rents.

Resolved, That a present of six hundred and forty acres of Land be made to the Reverend Mr. *Henry Patillo*, on condition that he will settle in the said Colony.

Resolved, That the Agent duly attend to the above Resolves, unless when the interest of the Company makes the contrary necessary.

By order of the Proprietors:

RICHARD HENDERSON, *President*.

SILAS DEANE TO JAMES HOGG, NOVEMBER, 1775.

At the time of granting the *New-England* Charters, the Crown of *Great Britain* had no idea of any real interest or property in the *American* lands. The Pope, as Vicar of *Christ*, pretended, very early, to have an absolute right, in fee simple, to the earth and all that was therein; but more particularly to the countries and persons of hereticks, which he constantly gave away among his favourites. When the Crown of *Great Britain* threw off its submission to the Pope, or, in other words, by setting itself at the head of the Church, became Pope of *Great Britain*, this old, whimsically arrogant nation was, in degree, restrained; and Queen *Elizabeth*, in the year 1579, most graciously gave to Sir *Walter Raleigh* all *North-America*, from the latitude 34°, north to 48°, north; and extending west to the great *Pacifick* Ocean; to which immense territory she had no more right or title than she had to the empire of *China*. On Sir *Walter's* attainder, this was supposed to revert to the Crown, and in 1606, *James* I, in consequence of the same principle, granted the south part of the above, to a company then called the *London Company;* and, in 1620, granted the northernmost part to a company called the *Plymouth Company*, containing within its bounds all the lands from 40° to 45° north latitude, and west to the *South-Seas*. This company granted, 1631, to certain persons, that tract described in this charter, which you will see was very liberal, and rendered them (as in reality they were) independent of the Crown for holding their lands; they having, at their own expense, purchased or conquered them from the natives, the original and sole owners.

The settlement of *Connecticut* began in 1634, when they came into a voluntary compact of government, and governed under it, until their charter, in 1662, without any difficulty. They were never fond of making many laws; nor is it good policy in any State, but the worst of all in a new one. The laws, or similar ones to those which I have turned down to, are necessary in a new Colony, in which the highest wisdom is to increase, as fast as possible, the inhabitants, and at the same time to regulate them well.

The first is to secure the general and inalienable rights of man to the settlers: without this, no inhabitants, worth having, will adventure. This, therefore, requires the closest and earliest attention.

Next to this, is the mode or rule by which civil actions may be brought, or the surest ways and means by which every individual may obtain his right.

Then a provision for the safety of the community against high handed offenders, house breakers, &c.

There are two ways of regulating a community; one by correcting every offender, and the other to prevent the offence itself; to effect the latter, education must be attended to as a matter of more importance than all the laws which can be framed, as it is better to be able to prevent than, after, to correct a disease.

Peace officers will be necessary, and these ought to be chosen by the people, for the people are more engaged to support an officer of their own in the execution of his trust, than they will ever be in supporting one forced upon them.

Some regulation of civil courts ought early to be made; the most simple and least expensive is best; an honest judge will support his dignity without a large salary, and a dishonest one can have no real dignity at any rate. The General Assembly must be the supreme fountain of power in such a state, in constituting which, every free man ought to have his voice. The elections should be frequent, at least annually; and to this body every officer ought to be amenable for his conduct.

Every impediment in the way of increase of people should be removed—of course, marriage must be made easy.

Overgrown estates are generally the consequence of an unequal division of interest, left by a subject at his decease. This is prevented by an equal, or nearly equal right of inheritance. This has taken place in all the *New-England* Colonies, and in *Pennsylvania*, to their great emolument.

All fees of office ought to be stated and known, and they should be stated as low as possible.

Some crimes are so dangerous in their tendency, that capital punishments are necessary; the fewer of these, consistent with the safety of the State, the better.

There ought to be some terms on which a man becomes free of the community. They should be easy and simple; and every one encouraged to qualify himself, in character and interest, to comply with them; and these terms should be calculated to bind the person in the strongest manner, and engage him in its interest.

A new Colony, in the first place, should be divided into small townships or districts, each of which ought to be empowered to regulate their own internal affairs; and to have and enjoy every liberty and privilege not inconsistent with the good of the whole.

Tenure of lands is a capital object, and so is the mode of taking out grants for, and laying them out. If individuals are permitted to engross large tracts, and lay them out as they please, the population of the country will be retarded.

Precarious must be the possession of the finest country in the world, if the inhabitants have not the means and skill of defending it. A militia regulation must, therefore, in all prudent policy, be one of the first.

Though entire liberty of conscience ought every where to be allowed, yet the keeping up among a people, a regular and stated course of Divine worship, has such beneficial effects, that the encouragement thereof deserves the particular attention of the magistrate.

Forms of oaths are ever best, as they are concise, and carry with them a solemn simplicity of appeal to the Divine Being; and to preserve their force, care should be had to avoid too frequent a repetition of them, and on ordinary occasions.

The preservation of the peace, being the capital object of government, no man should be permitted, on any occasion, to be the avenger of the wrongs he has, or conceives he has, received; but, if possible, every one should be brought to submit to the decision of the law of the country in every private, as well as publick injury.

Providing for the poor is an act of humanity; but to prevent their being numerous and burdensome to the society is at once humane, and an act of the highest and soundest policy; and to effect it, the education of children, and the manners of the lower orders are constantly to be attended to.

As, in a well ordered government, every one's person and property should be equally secure, so each should pay equally, or on the same scale, for the expenses in supporting the same.

In a new and wild country, it will be deemed, perhaps, impossible to erect schools; but the consequences are so great and lasting, that every difficulty ought to be encountered rather than give up so necessary, so important an institution. A school will secure the morals and manners, and, at the same time, tend to collect people together in society, and promote and preserve civilization.

The throwing a country into towns, and allowing these towns particular privileges, like corporations in *England* or *America*, tends to unite the people, and, as in the least family there is, generally, the best economy, so these towns will conduct the internal and domestick prudentials better than larger bodies, and give strength, soundness and solidity to the basis of the State.

Sir: You have, in the foregoing, the outlines of the policy of the *Connecticut* Government, in as concise a view as I could; the great and leading principles of which will, I conceive, apply to any new State; and the sooner they are applied the better it will be for the health and prosperity of the rising community.

An equal and certain security of life, liberty and property; an equal share in the rights of legislation, and an equal distribution of the benefits resulting from society; with an early attention to the principles, morals and manners of the whole, are the great first principles of a good government, and these well fixed, lesser matters will easily and advantageously adjust, as I may say, themselves. I am far from thinking our system is entirely fit for you, in every point. It has grown up and enlarged itself, as we have grown. Its principal features are worth your attending to; and, if I had leisure, would point out, more particularly, which part I think you might adopt immediately, what additions are necessary, and why some parts should be rejected. But I will, if possible, give you, after your perusal of this, the general heads of what, from my little reading and observation, I think to be the most simple, and, consequently, the best plan of Government.

I am, sir, yours, S. Deane.

Thursday Morning, November 2, 1775.

Two laws, I see, I have run over without noting upon: the one is, for punishing vagabonds, by setting them to hard labour. The other, for the punishment of theft, which you may think too light, but I think too severe; or, in other words, I would avoid infamous punishments, such as cropping, branding, whipping, &c., and substitute hard labour in their stead.

—

COLONEL WILLIAMS, AT BOONESBOROUGH, TO THE PROPRIETORS.

Boonesborough, January 3, 1775.

Gentlemen: In my last, of the 27th instant, I promised in my next, a more circumstantial account than I was capable then of giving, under the confused situation of mind I was then in, occasioned by the unhappy catastrophe of my brother's death, which happened but a few hours before that. To comply in some measure with that promise, and to discharge a duty incumbent upon me, as well as the promptitude of mind I feel to discharge that duty, I cheerfully enter on the task, and endeavour to render some account of what I have been after since my arrival at this place, now upwards of a month since; and as the primitive intention of sending me to *Transylvania* was to establish a Land Office, appoint the necessary officers to the said office, surveyors, &c., upon the best footing in my power, and to make sale of the lands within the said Colony, upon such terms as might be most advantageous to the Proprietors and satisfactory to the inhabitants thereof; my first step was to fall on some method of appointing a person to the office of surveyor, who should give general satisfaction to the people; I thought none more likely to do so, than calling a convention and taking their recommendation for the person who I would appoint. From the dispersed situation of the people, and the extreme badness of the weather, we failed in convening a majority; however, I took the sense of those who appeared, and who unanimously recommended Colonel *John Floyd*, a gentleman generally esteemed, and I am persuaded, truly worthy, and him I have commissioned surveyor of the Colony at present, though, perhaps, it may be advisable, at a future day, to divide the Colony into two districts, and to appoint another surveyor to one of the districts. The Entering Office I have disposed of to Mr. *Nathaniel Henderson*, and the Secretary's to Mr. *Richard Harrison;* though, upon consideration, I have thought that the numerous incidental expenses were so great that some way ought to be fallen upon to defray them without breaking in upon the moneys arising from the sale of the lands, and that the two dollars for entering, &c., and the other two for filling up the deeds, counterparts, annexing seals and plots, &c., was more money than the services of those offices absolutely required; I, therefore, have reserved out of each office, one dollar, to answer the purpose of defraying those extraordinary expenses; and the offices are left well worth the acceptance of persons capable of filling them with credit. The number of entries on our book is now upwards of nine hundred, great part of which was made before I came to this place, when people could make entries without money, and without price; the country abounded with land-mongers; since there is two dollars exacted on the entry made, people are not quite so keen, though I make no doubt but all who can comply with the terms will endeavour to save their lands; and as many people who have got entry on the book, are now out of the country, and cannot possibly pay up the entry money immediately, I have thought proper to advertise, that every person who has made entry on the book, and paid no money, that they come in and pay up the entrance money by the first of *April*, and take out their warrants of survey, or their several entries will, after that time, be considered as vacated, and liable to be entered by any other person whatever. The surveyors have now began to survey, and some few people have been desirous of getting out their deeds immediately; but they generally complain of a great scarcity of money, and doubt their being able to take their deeds before next *June*, or even before next fall; though in a general way, people seem to

be well reconciled to the terms, and desirous to take upon them, except some few, whom I have been obliged to tamper with, and a small party about *Harrodsburgh*, who, it seems, have been entering into a confederacy not to hold lands on any other terms than those of the first year. As this party is composed of people, in general, of small consequence, and I have taken some steps to remove some of their principal objections, I make no doubt but to do all that away; and for that purpose have formed a design of removing myself, with the office, to *Harradsburgh*, some time in *February* next, unless I should find, from a trip I purpose immediately taken there, that I cannot do it with safety. The principal man, I am told, at the head of this confederacy, is one *Hite;* and him I make no doubt but to convince he is in an error. Among other things, one of the great complaints was, that the Proprietors, and a few gentlemen, had engrossed all the land at and near the *Falls* of the *Ohio*, which circumstance I found roused the attention of a number of people of note; I, therefore, found myself under the necessity of putting a stop to all clamours of that kind, by declaring that I would grant no large bodies of land to any person whatever, which lay contiguous to the *Falls;* which I have done in a solemn manner. This I am far from thinking will be injurious to the Proprietors, but quite the reverse; and a circumstance which will render more general satisfaction, and be of as much utility to the Colony, as any step heretofore taken. You will observe that I am going on to justify the measure, before I inform you what it is. But to be brief, it is this: the *Falls*, it is certain, is a place which, from its situation, must be the most considerable mart in this part of the world; the lands around are generally rich and fertile, and most agreeably situated; which had occasioned many people to fix their affections on that place. Many applications have been made for large grants, at and about that place, and refused. Since which, twenty thousand acres, and upwards, have been entered there for the Company; forty thousand or fifty thousand more, in large tracts, by a few other gentlemen; a partiality was complained of; a general murmuring ensued. Upon considering the matter, I thought it unjust; I thought it a disadvantage to the partners in general; and that some step ought to be taken to pacify the minds of the people. I, therefore, entered into a resolution that I would grant to no one man living, within a certain distance of the *Falls*, more than one thousand acres of land, and that to be settled and improved in a certain space of time, under the penalty of forfeiture; that every person who had more entered than one thousand acres, might retain his one thousand out of which spot he pleased; that the several officers, who have claims there, may each, on application and complying with our terms, be entitled to a one thousand within his survey. That a town be immediately laid out, and a lot reserved to each proprietor, and then the first settlers to take the lots they may choose, enter, and improve; which improvement must be done in a certain limited time, or the lot forfeited, and again to be sold, &c. These proposals seem to have given general satisfaction, and every one who had entered large quantities, within these limits, gives it up with the greatest alacrity; and I am in hopes it will meet the general approbation of the Company; if so, I shall be happy; if not, I shall be very sorry, though the necessity must justify the measure. The *Falls* of *Ohio* is a place, of all others, within the Colony, will admit of a town, which, from its particular situation, will immediately become populous and flourishing; the land contiguous thereto rich and fertile, and where a great number of gentlemen will most certainly settle, and be the support and protection of a town at that place; a place which should meet with every encouragement, to settle and strengthen, inasmuch as it will, most certainly, be the terrour of our savage enemies, the *Kickeboos Indians*, who border more nearly on that place than any other part of the Colony; and as I think it absolutely necessary that the aforesaid proposed town, at the *Falls*, to be laid off the ensuing Spring, if I find it practicable, to raise a party about the 1st of *March*, and go down and lay out the town and stake it off; though this will, in a great measure, depend upon the future tranquillity of our situation, between this and then, for I assure you the little attack made upon us by the *Indians*, the 23d of last month, has made many people, who are ashamed to confess themselves afraid, find out that their affairs on your side the mountains will not dispense with their staying here any longer at present; and I am well convinced, once they get there, that every alarm, instead of precipitating, will procrastinate their return. When I mention the little attack made on the 23d of last month, in this cursory manner, it is because I have, heretofore, sent you a particular account of that massacre, in a letter of the 27th ult. Though as that letter may fail, and not get to hand, I will now endeavour to briefly relate the circumstances.

On *Saturday*, about noon, being the 23d, Colonel *Campbell*, with a couple of lads, (*Sanders* and *McQuinney*,) went across the river. On the opposite bank they parted. *Campbell* went up the river, about two hundred yards, and took up a bottom. The two lads, without a gun, went straight up the hill. About ten minutes after they parted, a gun and a cry of distress was heard, and the alarm given that the *Indians* had shot Colonel *Campbell*. We made to his assistance. He came running to the landing, with one shoe off, and said he was fired on by a couple of *Indians*. A party of men was immediately despatched, under the command of Colonel *Boone*, who went out, but could make no other discovery than two moccasin tracks, whether *Indian's* or not, could not be determined. We had at that time, over the river, hunting, &c., ten or a dozen men, in different parties—part, or all of whom, we expected to be killed, if what Colonel *Campbell* said was true; but that, by many, was doubted. Night came on; several of the hunters returned, but had neither seen nor heard of *Indians*, nor yet of the two lads. We continued in this state of suspense till *Wednesday*, when a party of men sent out to make search for them, found *McQuinney*, killed and scalped, in a corn-field, at about three miles distance from town, on the north side of the river. *Sanders* could not be found, nor has he yet been heard of. On *Thursday*, a ranging party of fifteen men, under the command of *Jesse Benton*, was despatched to scour the woods, twenty or thirty miles round, and see if any further discovery could be made. To those men we gave two shillings per day, and five pounds for every scalp they should produce. After they went out, our hunters returned, one at a time, till they all came in safe, *Sanders* excepted, who no doubt has shared *McQuinney's* fate.

On *Sunday*, the 31st day of the month, our rangers returned, without doing any thing more than convincing themselves that the *Indians* had, immediately on doing the murder, ran off for northward, as they discovered their tracks thirty or forty miles towards the *Ohio* making that way.

On the above massacre being committed, we began to doubt that there was a body of *Indians* about, who intended committing outrage on our inhabitants. However, we are perfectly satisfied since, that their number was only six or seven men, who set off from the *Shawanee* town before the treaty at *Fort-Pitt*, with an intent, as they termed it, to take a look at the white people on *Kentucky;* and King *Cornstalk*, at the treaty, informed the Commissioners on this, and said, for the conduct of these men, before they returned, he could not be responsible, for that he did not know but that they might do some mischief, and that if any of them should get killed by the whites, he should take no notice at all of it. For this, we have undoubted authority, and do not, at present, think ourselves in any greater danger here than if the above massacre had not have been committed.

Another circumstance is, that our ammunition grows scant. I do not think there is enough to supply this place itll the last of *March*, supposing we should we have no occasion of any to repulse an enemy. If we should, *God* only knows how long it will last. If any powder can possibly be procured, it would certainly be advisable to do it; if not, some person who can manufacture the materials we have on the way, for the purpose of making powder. Most part of those are at the block house, or at least within two or three miles of that—the rest in *Powell's Valley*. Those (if we had any person who knew how properly to manufacture them into gunpowder) it would be necessary to have at this place. We have no such person, and of course they would be of but little service here. Notwithstanding, I should have sent for them before now; but people here expect the most exorbitant wages for trivial services. Not less than a dollar a day will do for any

thing, which will prevent my sending till I find the necessity greater, or men to be hired cheaper.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO LORD STIRLING.

Philadelphia, January 3, 1776.

Your several letters of the 3d, 5th, 6th, 14th, 17th, and 19th of *December*, with the enclosures, being duly received, were laid before Congress. The multiplicity of important business which engaged their attention, prevented them from paying an earlier attention to the matters therein contained.

The enclosed resolutions, which I have the honour of transmitting you, will serve to show the sense of Congress in answer to your letters; to which, from your zeal and attachment to the cause of your country, the Congress have the firmest confidence you will pay all due regard.

I am, &c.,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President.*

To the Right Honourable Lord *Stirling.*

LANCASTER (PENNSYLVANIA) COMMITTEE TO PRESIDENT HANCOCK.

Lancaster, January 3, 1776.

SIR: Captain *Livingston*, of the Twenty-Sixth Regiment, and Lieutenant *Anstruther*, of the Seventh Regiment, having come to this town on the evening of the 1st inst., under the conduct of Mr. *Michael Connolly*, the Committee of Correspondence of this County appointed three gentlemen of their body to take their parole, according to the directions received from the honourable Continental Congress, and your letter of the 18th *December* last. We now enclose the same to you.

The Committee are extremely desirous of receiving the orders of Congress, respecting the matters referred to their decision in our letter by Captain *Motte*. It has been found absolutely impossible to preserve the peace and good order of this Borough, unless some regulations were made for the soldiers who are prisoners here. We have accordingly directed some, a copy of which we now transmit to you. Since that time, we have been under the necessity of appointing a Sergeant and twelve Privates, to mount guard at our publick magazine every evening. They patrole the street every two hours in the night, to prevent disorder, and to carry the Committee regulations into execution. We hope, in this instance, our conduct will meet with the approbation of the Congress.

I am, sir, your very obedient and most humble servant.

By order of the Committee:

J. YEATES, *Chairman.*

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq.

RECOMMENDATION OF COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

In Committee of Safety, Philadelphia, January 3, 1776.

Pursuant to a Resolution of Congress, and this Board, this Committee proceeded to the choice of a number of gentlemen, to be recommended to Congress as proper persons to be appointed Field-Officers for the four Battalions now to be raised, when the following gentlemen were agreed upon, and now recommended to the honourable Congress, as suitable to fill the offices of Majors, viz: *George Nagle, Joseph Wood, Henry Bicker, Nicholas Haussiger, Caleb Parry, John Beatty, John Macpherson, James Ross.*

Extract from the Minutes:

WILLIAM GOVETT, *Secretary.*

JOSEPH HALLETT TO JOHN MCKESSON.

Newark, January 3, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I, this afternoon, received your favour of the 30th *December*. I should immediately comply with the request of the gentlemen of the Committee, notwithstanding the circumstances of my family makes it exceedingly difficult for me to leave them, was I well. I have kept house upwards of three weeks, and, at this time, I am not able to wear my shoes. Was I in town, I could not probably attend the Committee. It gives me pain to hear there is so much difficulty in getting a quorum, to do business, in Congress and Committee of Safety.

My account of the flour, shipped for the use of the Continental Army, is made out. I should have delivered it when I was last in town, with the account of the cargo and disbursements of the sloop *Bishop of Landaff*, but was not able to get in all the bills of the latter. I have ordered my clerk, Mr. *John Lawrence*, to deliver the account of the flour to Colonel *McDougall*, or to you. As soon as I am able, I intend to be with you.

I am your obedient, humble servant,

JOSEPH HALLETT.

To *John McKesson*, Esq.

NEW-YORK COMMITTEE OF SAFETY TO JOHN HANCOCK.

New-York, January 3, 1776.

SIR: As it is an object of great moment with us, as well as the Continental Congress, to have the important pass, on *Hudson's* river, properly secured and fortified, we think it our duty to furnish them with all possible information on the subject. For this purpose, we find Mr. *Romans*, the Engineer, employed in that department, who is prepared to lay before the Congress his drafts, with the necessary information.

We beg leave to mention, that the place at which the works are to be erected, was fixed before Mr. *Romans* was employed in the service; and, from his ideas of the matter, that place cannot be rendered sufficiently secure for a lodgment of troops, and to answer the end of a fortified pass, without more expense than our Commissioners, appointed to superintend that business, think prudent; besides which, they observe that his scheme cannot be completely executed, with the despatch the service may require.

Mr. *Palmer*, in conjunction with the resolve of the Commitee, appointed by our Congress to remove the difficulties occasioned by a difference of opinion between the Commissioners and Engineer, has, doubtless, pointed out to Congress certain places on the river which would better answer the purpose of a temporary defence, and at much less expense than will necessarily attend the execution of Mr. *Romans's* scheme. We are fully of opinion, that the places in Mr. *Palmer's* proposal ought, by all means, to be covered with fortifications, that will cost but little, and command two considerable reaches of the river. We, at the same time, submit it to the consideration of Congress, how far the completion of the fortifications, already begun, ought to be carried on, either upon Mr. *Romans's* plan, or that which has, doubtless, been proposed by Mr. *Palmer*, as the sense of our Committee who were sent to view the work.

We hope this application, while Mr. *Palmer* is attending on the Congress, will not be construed to his disadvantage. Had we been possessed of Mr. *Romans's* plan, in its present complete state, and had he been in town at the time of Mr. *Palmer's* departure, we should have required his accompanying that gentleman. As there is some prospect that Mr. *Romans* may reach *Philadelphia* before the plan of fortification is finally determined by Congress, we should think ourselves inexcusable in withholding from them any means for enabling them to determine so important a matter, on the best lights in our power to furnish.

We are, sir, with the greatest respect, your most obedient, humble servants.

By order of the Committee:

PIERRE VAN CORTLANDT, *Chairman.*

To the Honourable the President of the Continental Congress.

PETITION OF GEORGE COFFIN.

To the Honourable the Congress of the Colony of NEW-YORK:

The Petition of GEORGE COFFIN, *of the Island of* NANTUCKET, *humbly showeth:*

That your Petitioner, as well as his neighbours of said Island, being in great want of the common necessaries of life, did, in conjunction with Mr. *Abraham H. Van Vleck*, of the city of *New-York*, load a vessel, in said city, with provisions for the Island above-mentioned, in direct violation of a resolve of the honourable the Continental Congress. And, although the said provisions were, *bona fide*, intended for said Island, and there landed, agreeable to the express orders of the said *Abraham H. Van Vleck*, which

orders were, "to go out by the *Hook*, and carefully avoid all men-of-war and tenders," (and which were punctually complied with by your Petitioner,) yet as loading and carrying the said provisions was contrary to the aforesaid resolve, as also to the intention of your honourable House, and the sentiments of the good people of this Colony, and *America* in general, your Petitioner is truly sensible of his crime in so doing, and sincerely promises not to act, or do any thing, in future, in violation of the said resolve, or any resolves of their or your honourable Houses; and humbly asks the pardon of all his countrymen for this, his first offence, which he hopes may be granted, and that he may be restored to their favour again, and have liberty to pass unmolested about his employments. And your Petitioner will ever pray.

GEORGE COFFIN.

January 3, 1776.

COLONEL TRUMBULL TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Hartford, January 3, 1776.

HONOURED SIR: I am this day informed that several persons, in this State, have, or intend to apply soon to your Honour, for liberty to export rum, &c., to *Carolina*— to purchase and import rice, to get a great price for it from the Army. The rum will certainly be much wanted for the Army; and I have orders from Congress to import rice, which I shall do with cash, and at a reasonable rate, and thereby save the rum. I trust and beg that no liberty may be given for exporting rum; and I wish not to have the one or the other matter known, as it may enhance the price of rum; and the other get known to the enemy, and thereby the risk increased on the importation.

I am, honoured sir, your dutiful son,

JOSEPH TRUMBULL.

To Governour *Trumbull*.

[GENERAL WASHINGTON] TO JONATHAN GLOVER.

Cambridge, January 3, 1776.

SIR: You have annexed a copy of the resolves of the Continental Congress, respecting captures made, or to be made, by armed vessels, fitted out at the charge of the *United Colonies*, and others. In compliance with the resolution of the 20th ultimo, you must, on receipt hereof, libel such vessel as have been taken by the *Lee*, schooner, or any other of the Continental armed vessels, which may be now under your care, in the Court of Admiralty established in the Colony. You must use all your diligence, that the trial be brought to as speedy an issue as possible, in order that a distribution be made to the captors, conformable to the resolution of the 30th of *November*.

I am, sir, yours, &c.

JOHN GLOVER TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Beverly, January 3, 1776.

SIR: I am to inform your Excellency, that *John Thorner*, steward, *William Clark*, *William Wallis*, and *Thomas Gorthrop*, seamen of the ship *Jenny*, Captain *Forster*, made an attempt to desert from said ship, and to go on board His Majesty's ship *Fowey*, (now at anchor before this harbour,) but was discovered and prevented, by information of *Andrew Rogers*, second mate, and *John Roberson*, cabin-boy, of said ship, whom I have sent as evidence against them.

I would observe to your Excellency, that these persons have been treated with great kindness, and permitted to go at large, which, in my opinion, they have much abused in attempting to desert to the enemy. I have therefore sent them to Head-Quarters, to be dealt with as your Excellency shall think proper.

I am now endeavouring to man the armed vessels, which, at present, is very difficult, on account of the men's not being paid off for their past services, which is the only objection they have. Could that be done, I apprehend they would readily engage again. However, hope to man one or two of them in a few days, which nothing on my part shall be wanting to effect.

I am, respectfully, your Excellency's most obedient servant,

JOHN GLOVER.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

DOVER (DELAWARE) COMMITTEE.

In Committee, Dover, January 4, 1776.

Resolved, That the keeping up the credit of the Continental currency is essential to support the *United Colonies* in their virtuous opposition to Ministerial oppression; and that the refusing to take said currency, in payment of debts, &c., will tend to depreciate the value of the same.

Resolved, That it appears to this Committee, by the confession of *John Cowgill*, a resident of *Little Creek* Hundred, in this County, that he has refused, and, from conscience, shall refuse, to take said Continental money in discharge of debts, or for other purposes, when tendered to him.

Therefore, unanimously Resolved, That it is the opinion of this Committee, that the aforesaid *John Cowgill* is, by such his conduct, an enemy to his country, and ought to be treated as such by every friend to *American* liberty; and that they ought to have no further dealings with him.

Signed by order of the Committee of Inspection and Observation for *Kent* County, on *Delaware*.

THOMAS RODNEY, *Chairman*.

THE MONITOR, NO. IX.

There is no opinion more necessary to be universally inculcated and received, than this: That it has been, and still continues to be, the grand aim and intention of the Ministry, to reduce the Colonies to a state of slavery, or, what is, in fact, the same thing, to a state of absolute subjection to the authority of Parliament, in all the plenitude of its imaginary omnipotence. The contrary belief is one great source of the coldness and disaffection which, unhappily, are too prevalent among us at this alarming season. It is this which disinclines numbers to that decisive plan of opposition, which is pursued by *America* in general, and leads them to a pertinacious adherence to what they term pacifick, moderate, and conciliating measures. It is impossible to conceive that any man in his senses can seriously believe that there is any thing unjust, or oppressive, in the real designs of Administration, and can, notwithstanding, imagine they may be withdrawn from them by complaisance, respect, and humility, on our part. There is a manifest incongruity in the supposition, that deliberate injustice and oppression are to be defeated by a calm appeal to the reason, to the equity, and to the generosity of those who are the authors of them. Force, alone, can be depended on, as an effectual barrier against them, and will always be employed by prudent men and discerning politicians.

Nor was there ever any opinion supported by a series of clearer facts, and more unequivocal circumstances, than the one I now recommend, insomuch that I cannot forbear my astonishment at the obstinate blindness and incredulity of many, in spite of the strongest evidence the nature of the case will possibly admit. No man that governs his judgment by any rational principles, can doubt a single moment, that the views of the Cabinet, respecting *America*, have all along been the most arbitrary and ruinous imaginable, and that they have, at length, arrived to such maturity, as to call aloud for every exertion a love of liberty, or a dread of impending slavery, can inspire.

The most undeviating uniformity of principle is evident in all the conduct of Administration, from their first attempt to tax the Colonies to the present instant; and, a repetition of its efforts, during a course of years, has served to render its true nature too conspicuous and notorious to be controverted, without the most barefaced absurdity or effrontery.

The matter of taxation is the most exceptionable part of Parliamentary claims. It is this which effectually overthrows every idea of liberty on the part of the Colonies; and it is this, to the establishment of which, in its fullest latitude, every step taken by the Ministry has been immediately directed.

The Stamp Act is an indisputable evidence, that an intention to enslave us did once exist; but it is supposed, by many, that it has been since laid aside, as it was hastily and inconsiderately taken up, and was found, by experience, to be impracticable. But, on what reasons this supposition is founded, is, to me, utterly inconceivable, since it is in direct contradiction to the whole tenor of subse-

quent events. Had there been no actual revival of the principle, the first attempt might have been ascribed to some transient cause; but, the experiment having been repeated at different times, and in different manners, clearly proves that it was the effect of system, and refutes the contrary presumption. To this, it has been objected, that the several interruptions which have taken place, by repealing the offensive acts, contradict the notion of a system, or of any regular plan of despotism. But, it is a full answer to this, to say, that though a general permanent design might have been formed, to extend the boundless authority of the Parliament over us, yet, it was hard to fix upon any stable, invariable means to accomplish it.

It was to be expected, that the means would remain discretionary, to be diversified as policy, improved by experience, should suggest, conformable to the variety of occasions that might arise. It is, also, extremely probable, that cabals among the Ministry, intestine disturbances, and the rivalship of contending parties, have contributed to produce those relaxations of the general plan which have heretofore happened.

Supposition ought not to be indulged against fact; and, if we adhere closely to this, we must be convinced that the same spirit, which influenced the Stamp Act, has inspired all the succeeding conduct of Administration. This act was repealed, because it was found inexpedient, not because it was built upon an erroneous principle. Our petitions were rejected, because they contained a negation of the right to tax us; and these, together with the resolutions of our Provincial Assemblies, were pronounced derogatory to the just rights of the *British* Legislature. Here, the right of taxation was tenaciously maintained and asserted, at the same time that the exercise of it, in a particular instance, was abolished. Surely this did not imply a renunciation of the design to enslave us, but only indicated that the present attempt was unsuccessful, and that it was necessary to postpone the execution to some more convenient opportunity. The Declaratory Act put this beyond a doubt; for there our slavery is decreed in as strong expressions as language can afford. There, the power of Parliament to bind us by statutes, in all cases whatsoever, is literally declared and recorded, in the most formal manner.

Nothing can be more arbitrary and inadmissible, than to interpret the intentions of men in opposition to their own plain, express declarations. If we will allow the Parliament to know its own designs, and if we will credit its own positive expressions of them, we cannot hesitate a moment, to believe, that it had embraced a solemn, fixed resolution, to usurp an unbounded dominion over the Colonies.

If it should be said, that a mere general declaration of right does not absolutely disclose an intention to practice upon it, I answer, that it strongly implies it, and that the inference from the one to the other is natural and unavoidable.

Should one man publickly assert, that he had a perfect right to the possessions of another, all who heard him would suppose, of course, that he intended to do justice to himself whenever a favourable occasion offered, and to recover his property, unjustly detained by the present possessor. In like manner, when the Parliament assumes a plenary, unlimited sovereignty over the Colonies, it is highly reasonable to conclude, that a full exercise of the sovereign power is intended.

At the first passing of this act, it was generally considered, in *America*, as a punctilious formality, in order to prevent any diminution of the imaginary dignity of Parliament, and to preserve an appearance of consistency in its pretensions. But this was a proof of greater confidence than penetration; for a little reflection would have shown, that every purpose of that kind was sufficiently answered by the method observed in the repeal of the Stamp Act, which entirely precluded every detractory implication, and retained the original principle on which that act was founded; so that any further step was altogether superfluous in that view.

The Declaratory Resolution was plainly the result of an active zeal for the power lately exerted, and was established as a more complete ground-work for future operations. Probably its immediate object was to procure a concurrence of parties in a general principle, in order to silence opposition to such particular exertions of it as should afterwards be made. Had the primitive design upon our liberties been deserted, the policy must have been obvious, of leaving all exorbitant claims untouched and unmentioned, to extinguish those jealousies which had been excited by the preceding attempt.

But, whatever ambiguity there might have been, at first, it was totally banished by the following statute of *George* III,* which demonstrated a continuance of the primary intention to bring us under the yoke, and proved, beyond a doubt, that the Declaratory Act was not simply a matter of form, but had been instituted as a constant rule of practice. In this instance, the most exceptionable branch of the authority claimed, (the power of taxation,) was again exercised, though in a different shape from that in which it before appeared. It was politick to change the mode, because it was more likely it should be complied with, under a new form, than under one in which it had been already rejected.

Though this act, in some respects, was preferable to the former, yet, considered in all its relations, it was far more alarming and injurious. Connected with previous circumstances, it rendered the crime of the Ministry more glaring and inexcusable; for, certainly, two attempts speak more decisively than one, especially when corroborated by an intervenient declaration, so clear and peremptory as that which I have been animadverting upon. A renewal of taxation, after such definitive experience as had been gained from the former trial, excluded every idea of inconsiderateness and precipitation, and denoted a mature, fixed, inveterate scheme of oppression.

This act was combatted with the same spirit and energy which had been employed on the foregoing occasion, and the Ministry again found it necessary to allay the ferment they had raised, by removing the cause. They, however, only repealed a part of the act, reserving the remainder as a test that they did not renounce the principle of taxation, and as the instrument of another attack. This repeal, too, partial as it was, had the same foundation of inexpedience with the other.

The attack has been since made, and has involved all the consequences of a civil war. By returning to the charge, a fresh testimony was supplied, of the badness of the Ministerial intentions, and of their deep-laid, inflexible schemes to overturn the liberties of the Continent. Three attempts are still more explicit than two; and, if three attempts to enforce the same power of taxing us do not convince us that an obstinate design has been maintained, for a series of years, to deprive us of all the rights of a free people, I am unable to conceive that any possible degree of evidence would be sufficient for our conviction.

Every successive step of the Ministry is a link of the same chain. The professed purpose of all the penal statutes is to secure obedience to the laws of Parliament, to say nothing of the unexampled rigour and violence with which they have been conducted. The Port Bill, which restrains the trade of *Boston*, requires these conditions, among others, as essential to its abrogation; full submission to the laws of Parliament, and the payment of His Majesty's duties and customs: that is, the duty upon tea, and, consequently, any other which might be imposed. The pretended authority of the Parliament, in every respect, particularly in that of taxation, is the acknowledged aim and end of all its measures.

The celebrated motion made in the last session, which the Ministry declared was to inform us of the terms we were finally to expect, reserves to the Parliament the exclusive power of taxation, and leaves to our Assemblies only the mode of raising the sums required of us. The *quantum*, or the amount of what we are to give, is to be determined, in the last resort, by the Parliament; and we are plainly told in what manner this power will be used.

The advantages of trade between *Britain* and the Colonies, are said to be nearly equal, on both sides; and, accordingly, after an inconsiderable allowance, for the inconvenience we sustain by a monopoly, we are to be made to pay full as much, in taxes, as the people at home. Did this proposition stand alone, it would be a sufficient testimony that we have been destined to slavery; but, when

* Imposing duties on paper, glass, painters' colours, tea, &c.

it is compared and connected with all the preceding circumstances, and with those striking illustrations of fire and sword which have been since exhibited, it must carry an irresistible evidence to every ingenuous mind.*

New-York, January 4, 1776.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read January 13, 1776.]

Cambridge, January 4, 1776.

Sir: Since my last, of the 31st ultimo, I have been honoured with your favour of the 22d, enclosing sundry resolves, which shall, in matters they respect, be made the rule of my conduct. The resolution relative to the troops in *Boston*, I beg the favour of you, sir, to assure Congress, shall be attempted to be put in execution the first moment I see a probability of success, and in such a way as a council of officers shall think most likely to produce it; but, if this should not happen as soon as you may expect, or my wishes prompt to, I request that Congress will be pleased to advert to my situation, and do me the justice to believe, that circumstances, and not want of inclination, are the cause of delay.

It is not in the pages of history, perhaps, to furnish a case like ours: to maintain a post within musket-shot of the enemy, for six months together, without powder, and, at the same time, to disband one army and recruit another, within that distance of twenty-odd *British* regiments, is more, probably, than ever was attempted. But, if we succeed as well in the last, as we have, heretofore, in the first, I shall think it the most fortunate event of my whole life.

By a very intelligent gentleman, (a Mr. *Hutchenson*,) from *Boston*, I learn, that it was Admiral *Shuldham* that came into the harbour on *Saturday* last; that two, of the five regiments from *Cork*, are arrived at *Halifax;* two others had sailed for *Quebeck*, but, what became of them could not be told; and the other, the Fifty-Fifth, has just got into *Boston*. Certain it is, also, that the greatest part of the Seventeenth Regiment is arrived there. Whether we are to conclude, from hence, that more than five regiments have been sent out, or, that the companies of the Seventeenth, arrived at *Boston*, are part of the regiments destined for *Halifax* and *Quebeck*, I know not.

We also learn, from this gentleman and others, that the troops embarked for *Halifax*, as mentioned in my letter of the 16th, were really designed for that place, but recalled from *Nantasket* Road, upon advice being received of the arrival of the above regiments there.

I am also informed of a fleet now getting ready, under the convoy of the *Scarborough* and *Fowey*, men-of-war, consisting of five transports and two bomb-vessels, with about three hundred marines, and several flat-bottomed boats. It is whispered that they are designed for *Newport*, but generally thought, in *Boston*, that it is meant for *Long-Island;* and, it is probable, it will be followed by more troops, as the other transports are taking in water, to lie (as others say) in *Nantasket* Road, to be out of the ice; a large quantity of biscuit is also baking. As the real design cannot, with certainty, be known, I submit it, with all due deference, to the superior judgment of Congress, whether it would not be consistent with prudence, to have some of the *Jersey* troops thrown into *New-York*, to prevent an evil which may be almost irremediable, should it happen: I mean the landing of troops at that place, or upon *Long-Island*, near it.

As it is possible you may not yet have received His Majesty's most gracious speech, I do myself the honour to enclose one, of many which were sent out of *Boston* yesterday. It is full of rancour and resentment, and explicitly holds forth his Royal will to be, that vigorous measures must be pursued, to deprive us of our constitutional rights and liberties. These measures, whatever they be, I hope will be opposed by more vigorous ones, and rendered unavailing and fruitless, though sanctified and authorized by the name of Majesty, a name which ought to promote the blessings of his people, and not their oppression.

I am, sir, with the greatest respect and regard, your most obedient and most humble servant,

George Washington.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq., President of the Continental Congress.

* As there are some leading points, which it is of the last importance to impress upon the minds of the people, I hope the repetition of the same ideas, which I am obliged to make, will be excused, since utility is the sole aim of these papers.

GENERAL ORDERS.

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, January 1, 1776.

(Parole, *The Congress.*) (Countersign, *America.*)

☞ * * * This day giving commencement to the new Army, which, in every point of view, is entirely Continental, the General flatters himself, that a laudable spirit of emulation will now take place, and pervade the whole of it. Without such a spirit, few officers have ever arrived to any degree of reputation, nor did any army ever become formidable. His Excellency hopes, that the importance of the great cause we are engaged in, will be deeply impressed upon every man's mind; and wishes it to be considered, that an army without order, regularity, and discipline, is no better than a commissioned mob. Let us, therefore, when every thing dear and valuable to freemen is at stake, when our unnatural parent is threatening us with destruction from every quarter, endeavour, by all the skill and discipline in our power, to acquire that knowledge and conduct which is necessary in war. Our men are brave and good; men who, with pleasure it is observed, are addicted to fewer vices than are commonly found in armies. But, it is subordination and discipline, (the life and soul of an army,) which, next under Providence, is to make us formidable to our enemies, honourable in ourselves, and respected in the world; and herein is to be shown the goodness of the officer.

In vain is it for a General to issue orders, if orders are not attended to; equally vain is it, for a few officers to exert themselves, if the same spirit does not animate the whole. It is, therefore, expected, (it is not insisted upon,) that each Brigadier will be attentive to the discipline of his brigade, to the exercise of, and the conduct observed in it, calling the Colonels and Field-Officers of every regiment to severe account for neglect, or disobedience of orders. The same attention is to be paid by the Field-Officers, to the respective companies of their regiments, by the Captains to their Subalterns, and so on. And, that the plea of ignorance, which is no excuse for the neglect of orders, (but rather an aggravation,) may not be offered, it is ordered and directed, that not only every regiment, but every company, do keep an Orderly Book, to which frequent recourse is to be had, it being expected, that all standing orders be rigidly obeyed, until altered or countermanded. It is also expected, that all orders, which are necessary to be communicated to the men, be regularly read, and carefully explained, to them. As it is the first wish of the General to have the business of the Army conducted without punishment, to accomplish which, he assures every officer and soldier that, as far as it is in his power, he will reward such as particularly distinguish themselves; at the same time he declares that he will punish every kind of neglect or misbehaviour in an examplary manner.

As the great variety of occurrences, and the multiplicity of business, in which the General is necessarily engaged, may withdraw his attention from many objects and things which might be improved to advantage, he takes this opportunity of declaring, that he will thank any officer, of whatsoever rank, for any useful hints or profitable informations; but to avoid trivial matters, as his time is very much engrossed, he requires that it may be introduced through the channel of a General Officer, who is to weigh the importance before he communicates it.

All standing orders heretofore issued for the government of the late Army, of which every regiment has, or ought to have, copies, are to be strictly complied with, until changed or countermanded.

Every regiment now upon the new establishment, is to give in, signed by the Colonel, or commanding officer, an exact list of the commissioned officers, in order that they may receive commissions; particular care to be taken, that no person is included as an officer, but such as have been appointed by proper authority; any attempt of that kind, in the new Army, will bring severe punishment upon

the author. The General will, upon any vacancies that may happen, receive recommendations, and give them proper consideration; but the Congress, alone, are competent to the appointment.

An exact return of the strength of each regiment is to be given in as soon as possible, distinguishing the number of Militia, and such of the old regiments as have joined for a month only, from the established men of the regiment.

This being the day of the commencement of the new establishment, the General pardons all the offences of the old, and commands all prisoners (except prisoners of war) to be immediately released.

—

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, January 2, 1776.

(Parole, *Holland.*) (Countersign, *William.*)

That every officer may be perfectly well acquainted with the establishment of the present Army, in order that they may be governed by it, and make the returns agreeable thereto, the General informs them, that each regiment is to consist of a Colonel, a Lieutenant-Colonel, a Major, eight companies, an Adjutant, a Quartermaster, a Surgeon, and a Surgeon's Mate; whether a Chaplain will be allowed to each regiment, or one to two regiments, is yet to be determined. Each company is to consist of a Captain, a First and Second Lieutenant, an Ensign, four Sergeants, four Corporals, a Drummer and Fifer, and seventy-six Privates, and no more, under any pretence or plea whatsoever.

As the weekly returns which are ordered to be given in every *Saturday*, are very irregularly made, oftentimes not before *Monday*, the General desires, that the commanding officer of every corps will be exact in delivering them to the respective Brigade Major, every *Saturday*, at orderly time, who is to be answerable to the Adjutant-General for any neglect, or breach of this order. For the last time, it is strongly recommended to those officers, to examine the returns thoroughly before they sign and deliver them to the Major of Brigade, whether pay-rolls, muster-rolls, weekly returns, or returns of any other kind, that are demanded, as negligences will not be overlooked, and false returns punished with the utmost severity.

The General is apprehensive, that more men are absent upon furlough than are allowed by the General Orders; if so, he desires the Colonels and commanding officers of such regiments to rectify the mistake without loss of time; and, for a due regulation of this matter, in future, no soldier is to be absent without leave in writing, signed by the commanding officer of the regiment he belongs to, and a register thereof made in the Regimental Book; which furlough is to be delivered to the said commanding officer, so soon as he returns, and, if it should appear that any soldier has overstayed his time, without just reason, a note thereof is to be made in said book, and a furlough denied him, upon a future application, besides suffering such punishment as may, by a Regimental Court-Martial, be inflicted.

—

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, January 3, 1776.

(Parole, *Woodford.*) (Countersign, *Norfolk.*)

The Continental Rules and Articles, (as lately amended,) for the better government of the troops of the thirteen *United Colonies*, are now to take place; all trials are, therefore, to be under those articles. And, in compliance with the first, all officers are to subscribe them; each Colonel, or commanding officer of a regiment or corps, is to send to the Adjutant-General for a set for each company, and one for himself and officers to subscribe, which last is to be returned in, when the commissions are given out. These articles are to be read to the men, by an officer of a company, at least once a week. This to be considered as a standing order.

The Commissary of Stores is immediately to make a general return of all the stores under his care, here and at *Roxbury;* in doing which, he is to be very exact. An account of the arms is wanted, without delay. It was with no small degree of surprise that the General, yesterday, saw, after the repeated orders that had been given for having the tents (so soon as the barracks were fit to be entered) returned to the Quartermaster General, several of them standing uninhabited, and in a disgraceful, ruinous situation; and, moreover, hears, that others serve only for bedding. The officers who have suffered this neglect are informed that this is the last admonition that will be given on this head.

It is expected, that the commanding officers of regiments will be exceedingly attentive to the training, exercising, and disciplining their men, bringing them, as soon as possible, acquainted with the different evolutions and manœuvres necessary to be practised. And, as nothing reflects more disgrace upon an officer, or is more pernicious and dangerous in itself, than suffering arms to be in bad order, the General assures the officers and men, that he will never overlook or pardon a neglect of this kind. There are many practices in regular service highly worthy of imitation, but none more essential than this, and keeping soldiers always clean and neat. The first is absolutely necessary for self-preservation; the other for health and appearance: for, if a soldier cannot be induced to take pride in his person he will soon become a sloven, and indifferent to every thing else. Whilst we have men, therefore, who, in every respect, are superior to mercenary troops, that are fighting for two pence or three pence a day, why cannot we, in appearance, also, be superior to them, when we fight for life, liberty, property, and our country?

The companies now stationed in *Cambridge*, belonging to Colonel *Prescott's* Regiment, are to march immediately, and join their respective regiments, at *Sewall's Point*.

The companies now stationed at *Sewall's Point*, under the command of Major *Wesson*, are, forthwith, to march, and take post at Fort No. 1.

—

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, January 4, 1776.

(Parole, *Amsterdam.*) (Countersign, *Desbitt.*)

—

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO JOSEPH REED.

Cambridge, January 4, 1776.

Dear Sir: We are, at length, favoured with a sight of His Majesty's most gracious speech, breathing sentiments of tenderness and compassion for his deluded *American* subjects. The echo is not yet come to hand, but we know what it must be; and, as Lord *North* said, (and we ought to have believed and acted accordingly,) we now know the ultimatum of *British* justice. The speech I send you. A volume of them was sent out by the *Boston* gentry, and, farcical enough, we gave great joy to them, without knowing or intending it;* for, on that day, the day which gave being to the new Army, but before the proclamation came to hand, we had hoisted the Union flag, in compli-

* Philadelphia, *January* 15, 1776.—By authentick advices from the camp, at *Cambridge*, of the 3d and 4th instant, we learn, that the bay and harbour of *Boston* yet continue open, that a man-of-war is so stationed as to command the entrance of *Salem*, *Beverly*, and *Marblehead* harbours; that five hundred fresh troops had arrived from *Ireland;* two regiments had gone to *Halifax;* two regiments had pushed into the river *St. Lawrence*, in hopes of getting up to *Quebeck*, which was very doubtful. That the two regiments arrived at *Boston* were the Fifty-Fifth and Seventeenth; that Admiral *Shuldham* was also arrived. An intelligent person got out of *Boston* on the 3d instant, who informed General *Washington* that a fleet, consisting of nine transports, containing three hundred and sixty men, were ready to sail under convoy of the *Scarborough* and *Fowey*, men-of-war, with two bomb-vessels and some flat-bottomed boats; their avowed destination in *Boston* was to *Newport*, but it was generally supposed to be *Long-Island* or *Virginia*. That a number of other transports are taking in water, and they are baking large quantities of biscuit in *Boston*, some say for the use of the shipping who are to lie in *Nantasket* Road on account of the ice, while others believe a more important movement is in agitation. This person also informs, that they have not the least idea in *Boston* of attacking our lines, but will be very thankful to be permitted to remain quiet. That before General *Burgoyne's* departure it was circulated through the Army, in order to keep the soldiery quiet under their distresses, that the disputes would soon be settled, and that he was going to *England* for that purpose. That they had intelligence at *Boston* of four vessels having sailed from *Hispaniola* for this Continent some time ago, laden with arms and ammunition. Our advices conclude with the following anecdote: That upon the King's speech arriving at *Boston*, a great number of them were reprinted, and sent out to our lines on the 2d of *January*, which being also the day of forming the new Army, the great Union flag was hoisted on *Prospect-Hill* in compliment to the *United Colonies*. This happening soon after the speeches were delivered at *Roxbury*, but before they were received at *Cambridge*, the *Boston* gentry supposed it to be a token of the deep impression the speech had made, and a signal of submission. That they were much disappointed at finding several days elapse without some formal measure leading to a surrender, with which they had begun to flatter themselves. When these accounts came away the Army were all in barracks, in good health and spirits. That five thousand Militia had taken the places of those soldiers who would not stay beyond their time of service; that they were good troops, and the whole Army impatient for an opportunity of action

ment to the *United Colonies*. But, behold, it was received in *Boston* as a token of the deep impression the speech had made upon us, and as a signal of submission. So we hear, by a person out of *Boston* last night. By this time, I presume, they begin to think it strange that we have not made a formal surrender of our lines.

Admiral *Shuldham* is arrived at *Boston*. The Fifty-Fifth, and the greater part, if not all, of the Seventeenth Regiment, are also arrived. The rest of the five regiments from *Ireland*, were intended for *Halifax* and *Quebeck*.

It is easier to conceive than to describe the situation of my mind for some time past, and my feelings under our present circumstances. Search the volumes of history through, and I much question whether a case similar to ours is to be found; namely, to maintain a post, against the flower of the *British* troops, for six months together, without powder, and then to have one army disbanded, and another to be raised, within the same distance of a reinforced enemy. It is too much to attempt. What may be the final issue of the last manœuvre, time only can unfold. I wish this month was well over our heads. The same desire of retiring into a chimney-corner, seized the troops of *New-Hampshire*, *Rhode-Island*, and *Massachusetts*, so soon as their time expired, as had wrought upon those of *Connecticut*, notwithstanding many of them made a tender of their services to continue, till the lines could be sufficiently strengthened. We are now left with a good deal less than half-raised regiments, and about five thousand militia, who only stand engaged to the middle of this month, when, according to custom, they will depart, let the necessity of their stay be ever so urgent. Thus, for more than two months past, I have scarcely emerged from one difficulty, before I have been plunged into another. How it will end, *God*, in His great goodness will direct. I am thankful for his protection to this time. We are told, that we shall soon get the Army completed, but I have been told so many things, which have never come to pass, that I distrust every thing.

I fear your fleet has been so long in fitting, and the destination of it so well known, that the end will be defeated, if the vessels escape. How is the arrival of *French* troops in the *West-Indies*, and the hostile appearance there, to be reconciled with that part of the King's speech, wherein he assures Parliament, "that, as well from the assurances I have received, as from the general appearance of affairs in *Europe*, I see no probability that the measures which you may adopt, will be interrupted by disputes with any foreign Power?" I hope the Congress will not think of adjourning at so important and critical a juncture as this. I wish they would keep a watchful eye to *New-York*; from the account of Captain *Sears*, now here, much is to be apprehended from that quarter.

I am, with sincere and affectionate regard, &c.,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

GENERAL GREENE TO SAMUEL WARD.

Camp on Prospect-Hill, January 4, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Your kind favour of the 23d last, is now before me. I am extremely happy to find your views so affectionately extended to the combined interests of the *United Colonies*. Your apprehensions that *George* III, is determined, at all hazards to carry his plan of despotism into execution, is fully confirmed by his late gracious speech to both Houses of Parliament. In that, you will find, he breathes revenge, and threatens us with destruction. Indeed, it is no more than common sense must have foreseen long since, had we not been blinded by a too fond attachment to the parent state. We have consulted our wishes, rather than our reason, in indulging the idea of accommodation. Heaven has decreed that tottering empire to irretrievable ruin, and, thanks to *God*, since Providence has so determined it, *America* must raise an empire of permanent duration, supported upon the grand pillars of truth, freedom, and religion, based upon justice, and defended by her own patriotick sons.

No doubt a large army must be raised in addition to the forces upon the present establishment. You are acquainted with my sentiments upon that head already. How they must be divided, and where stationed, is a matter at present problematical. However, one thing is certain, the grand body must be superior in number to any force the enemy can send. All the forces in *America* should be under one commander, raised and appointed by the same authority, subjected to the same regulations, and ready to be detached wherever occasion may require. Your observation with regard to the *Canadians* has often struck me; that their attachment to the one party or the other will greatly depend upon the superiority of force. To prevent which in some measure, and fix them to the common interest, let us raise one or more regiments of *Canadians* to serve in *New-England*, and send an equal number into *Canada* from the Colonies, in addition to what you have proposed. With regard to the scanty measure dealt out to the Army upon the new establishment, we are not altogether different in sentiment; yet I am convinced the regiments will fill to their full complement. I believe they are more, upon an average, than half full already. Undoubtedly, the detaining of arms, being private property, is repugnant to many principles of civil and natural law, and hath disgusted many. But the great law of necessity must justify the expedient, till we can be otherwise furnished. The pay of the soldiers is certainly generous, and the officers likewise, except the field officers, whose pay is much below that of any others, considering their rank and experience, and it will operate to excite an opinion derogatory to their merit.

My dear, sir, I am now to open my mind a little more freely. It hath been said that *Canada*, in the late war, was conquered in *Germany*. Who knows but that *Britain* may be, in the present controversy! I take it for granted, that *France* and *Spain* have made overtures to the Congress. Let us embrace them as brothers. We want not their land force in *America;* their navy we do. Their commerce will be mutually beneficial; they will doubtless pay the expense of their fleet, as it will be employed in protecting their own trade. Their military stores we want amazingly. Those will be articles of commerce. The Elector of *Hanover* has ordered his *German* troops to relieve the garrisons of *Gibraltar* and *Port-Mahon*, *France* will, of consequence, attack and subdue *Hanover* with little trouble. This will bring on a very severe war in *Germany*, and turn *Great Britain's* attention that way. This may prevent immense expense, and innumerable calamities in *America*.

Permit me, then, to recommend from the sincerity of my heart, ready at all times to bleed in my country's cause, a declaration of independence; and call upon the world, and the great *God* who governs it, to witness the necessity, propriety, and rectitude thereof.

My worthy friend, the interests of mankind hang upon that truly worthy body of which you are a member. You stand the representatives, not of *America* only, but of the whole world; the friends of liberty, and the supporters of the rights of human nature.

How will posterity, millions yet unborn, bless the memory of those brave patriots who are now hastening the consummation of freedom, truth, and religion! But want of decision renders wisdom in council insignificant, as want of power hath prevented us here from destroying the mercenary troops now in *Boston*. Frugality, a most amiable domestick virtue, becomes a vice, of the most enormous kind, when opposed to the common good. The tyrant, by his last speech, has convinced us, that to be free or not, depends upon ourselves. Nothing, therefore, but the most vigorous exertions on our part, can shelter us from the evils intended us. How can we, then, startle at the idea of expense, when our whole property, our dearest connexions, our liberty, nay! life itself is at stake; let us, therefore, act like men inspired with a resolution that nothing but the frowns of Heaven shall conquer us. It is no time for deliberation; the hour is swiftly rolling on when the plains of *America* will be deluged with human blood. Resolves, declarations, and all the parade of heroism in words, will not obtain a victory. Arms and ammunition are as necessary as men, and must be had at the expense of every thing short of *Britain's* claims.

An army unequipped, will ever feel the want of spirit and courage; but properly furnished, fighting in the best of causes, will bid defiance to the united force of men and devils. When a finishing period will be put to the present dispute, *God* only knows. We have just experienced

the inconveniences of disbanding an army within cannon shot of the enemy, and forming a new one in its stead. An instance never before known. Had the enemy been fully acquainted with our situation, I cannot pretend to say what might have been the consequence. A large body of troops will probably be wanted for a considerable time. It will be infinitely safer, and not more expensive in the end, for the Continent to give a large bounty to any number of troops in addition to what may be ordered on the present establishment, that will engage during the war, than to inlist them from year to year without a bounty. And should the present regiments be inclined to engage for the same term, let them receive the same encouragement. There is not the least prospect of our being able to disband and form a new army again, without the enemy's availing himself of the advantage.

I have taken the liberty to show your last letter to General *Lee*, whose knowledge of *Europe*, and *American* genius and learning, enable him to give you the advice you want. He has written you fully on the subject; it would be mere arrogance in me to say any thing upon the subject, after he has taken up the pen.

I this day manned the lines upon this hill, and feel a degree of pleasure that I have not felt for several days. Our situation has been critical. We have no part of the militia here, and the night after the old troops went away, I could not have mustered seven hundred men, notwithstanding the returns of the new inlisted troops amounted to nineteen hundred and upwards. I am now strong enough to defend myself against all the force in *Boston*. *God* bless you and preserve you. Adieu, &c.

NEW-HAMPSHIRE CONGRESS TO CAPTAIN TITUS SALTER.

January 4, 1776.

You are hereby authorized and empowered to inlist a company, to consist of ninety good able-bodied and effective men, including officers, to serve as matrosses at *Fort-Washington*, for the term of one year, from the 1st of *anuary*, unless dismissed sooner by order of Congress, or General Assembly of this Colony, accepting none but what are well accoutred with good guns, &c. And you are hereby informed that you may assure said men they shall be paid the same wages that men in the like service are paid on the Continental Army. You will likewise have liberty to nominate two persons to serve as subalterns under you, who, if approved of by the General Assembly, will be commissioned, and make return of your inlistments as soon as may be, that the company may be properly mustered, and commissions made out accordingly.

By order of Congress.

To Captain *Titus Salter*.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM LORD GEORGE GERMAIN TO MAJOR GENERAL HOWE, DATED WHITEHALL, JANUARY 5, 1776.

I was preparing to write to you by a ship of war under orders for *Boston*, when Major General *Burgoyne* arrived here on the 27th of *December*, with your despatches, by the *Boyne*, which have been laid before the King.

The reasons you assign for not removing from *Boston*, in consequence of Lord *Dartmouth's* letters of the 5th of *September*, fully justifies your resolution on that head; and from the best judgment I am able to form of things as they now appear, I am inclined to think, that even if you could have procured a sufficient quantity of shipping to have effected an evacuation of the place in the manner you suggest, it would have been for many reasons an unadviseable measure.

Your ideas for the plan of operation for the army under your command in the ensuing campaign, are, in general, approved by the King; but I shall write more fully to you upon that subject in a separate letter, confining myself, at present, to the consideration of those parts of your letters which suggest the means of augmenting your force to what is necessary for that plan, and to an explanation of the arrangements we are making for that purpose, and for supplying, as far as is practicable, the several articles of which you have made requisition.

By your calculation, the number of men wanting to complete the several battalions stated in your paper of distribution, so that each battalion shall have five hundred men for the field, amounts to six thousand one hundred men; but as the plan of augmentation, by incorporating one hundred men into each battalion from the foreign troops in *British* pay, is liable to many objections from the nature and custom of their service—and I cannot yet say, whether it will be practicable to get any assistance from the militia in the manner you propose—you must depend for the augmentation you wish upon the number of levies that will be raised by recruiting, (which I am sorry to say, goes on slowly,) and upon such additional battalions as we shall be able to send you. You are, therefore, to add to the Forty-Second Regiment, which will be one thousand men complete, two other battalions of one thousand each, which will be raised upon a plan proposed by General *Frazer*, and approved by the King, and which it is hoped will be ready to embark for *Boston*, with the Forty-Second Regiment, early in the month of *April*.

You will also be furnished with an additional battalion from the armament going out upon an expedition to the Southern Colonies, which now consists, as you will see by the enclosed copy of my letter of instructions to Major General *Clinton*, of seven regiments; and, therefore, admitting that it should become necessary to leave two regiments to the Southward, (and I trust it will not be necessary to leave more,) there will be one battalion collected from that service more than you have included in your calculation.

The addition of General *Frazer's* corps, and of one battalion from the Southern expedition, and supposing the recruits to amount to two thousand men, will make an augmentation to your force of about four thousand four hundred men; and I speak with some degree of confidence, when I say, that I trust we shall be able to send you a separate corps of foreign troops, not less than ten thousand men, for although our negotiation with *Russia* has failed, we are now in treaty with other States for different corps, amounting in the whole to upwards of seventeen thousand men, and I think those treaties are brought so near to an issue, that they cannot fail.

The additional quantity of tonnage of shipping, which you state to be wanting for the entire evacuation of *Boston*, is very large; but it will in great measure, if not altogether, be supplied by the store-ships already gone out, and by a much greater number that are now preparing to be sent, all which will be at your disposal after they arrive, and have landed their cargoes; but should these not be enough, means will be found to supply the deficiency.

Your demand for wagons and horses, involves a greater difficulty; for, I am sorry to say, I think it is impossible to be complied with in the extent in which it is stated; and, therefore, I could wish to be satisfied in my own mind, that it is not necessary, and that, supposing the worst to happen, the nature of the operations will be such, that a great part of the service for which wagons and horses are demanded, may be performed by water-carriage.

With this hope, I have pressed forward the supply of flat-bottomed boats, of which thirty-two are already sent out, and also ten yawls, and as many cutters; and forty more boats are now in hand, and will be ready to go out by the first ships. Some horses, however, for the use of the artillery, and for the carriage of tents, must be procured, and I shall consult General *Harvey* and General *Burgoyne*, as to the numbers that will be wanted for that purpose.

Upon inquiring at the office of Ordnance, I find that the demand made in *August* last, for intrenching tools, and of those articles that were wanting in the Engineer's Department, had been supplied; directions, however, will be given for a second supply of the same sort, and for double the quantity of those articles of that supply which were on board the *Nancy* brig.

With regard to the supply of provisions, forage, and other stores, stated in the returns you have transmitted to me, the care of that business belongs to the Treasury Department, and I have no doubt that the utmost activity will be used in every step that is necessary to be taken.

It is impossible to turn one's thoughts to *Canada*, without regretting the unfortunate situation of the King's affairs

in that country, and lamenting the obstacles which prevented the execution of the measure you had, with so proper a zeal, proposed for the safety of it, and which, I will venture to say, could not have failed; but, when I say this, I am not to presume that Admiral *Graves* had not good reasons for refusing to adopt it; at the same time, hoping, that, whatever his reasons were, they will be fully inquired into in the proper Department.

My business is to consider the means by which *Quebeck*, if possible, may be relieved; or, if lost, how we may recover it; but, as it can be of no use to explain to you all the steps I have taken for that purpose, I will only say, that, independent of the efforts we shall make very early to relieve the town, I hope, that, by the first or second week in *March*, we shall be able to send General *Carleton* at least ten thousand men.

The King approves the arrangement you propose, in respect to an Adjutant-General and a Quartermaster-General, and also your attention to Major *Rogers*, of whose firmness and fidelity we have received further testimony from Governour *Tryon*, and there is no doubt you will find the means of making him useful.

Lieutenant *Bourmaster's* behaviour does him great credit, and I will not fail to recommend him to Lord *Sandwich;* in the mean time, I have communicated to the Lords of the Admiralty, what you say of that gentleman, in an official letter, and also what you represent of the necessity of sending out seamen to complete the transports to their proper numbers, and your ideas of the propriety of augmenting the number of seamen, on board the King's ships, to a war establishment.

I am to suppose that Admiral *Graves* had good reasons for the step he took to destroy the town of *Falmouth*, and that he did not proceed to that extremity without an absolute refusal on the part of the inhabitants to comply with those requisitions, stated in the orders he received from the Lords of the Admiralty, which, however, does not appear from any account I have seen of that transaction.

In your letter of the 26th *November*, No. 2, you desire more particular directions in regard to the effects and merchandise in the town of *Boston*, on which head, it is the King's pleasure, that, if practicable, the whole should be removed and put into store, either at *Halifax*, or some other place of safety, so that the *British* merchant may have a chance, at least, to recover some of the property for which he can never be paid. At the same time, I am to repeat to you, what was said of Mr. *Pownall's* letter, that you must use your own discretion, according as circumstances shall point out at the time of your removal; for, however desirable it may be, that these goods and merchandise should be secured, it is an object that must not be attended to, if it should be found to be accompanied with such difficulty as to create any embarrassment or hazard in your removal; for, supposing such a case, the destruction of these goods and merchandise will be fully justified.

With regard to the battalion and detachment of artillery, serving in *North-America*, it is to be understood, that you do not fill up any vacancies, but in the rank of second lieutenants, in which rank you may grant commissions, and also, in all other corps below the rank of a field-officer, which commissions will be confirmed by His Majesty.

MATTHEW TILGHMAN TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

Annapolis, January 5, 1776.

Sir: Several vessels being nearly ready to sail for the foreign *West-Indies*, agreeable to the resolutions of Congress, on the account of this Province, our Convention sent two gentlemen express to *Williamsburgh* and *Hampton*, to gain intelligence of the situation of affairs in *Virginia;* they have just returned, and the enclosed copies will inform of the strength of Lord *Dunmore*, and his present situation and circumstances. Our Convention think it imprudent to hazard the probable seizure of their vessels and cargoes by the numerous tenders and cutters employed to make captures; but the loss of property to this Province, from such an incident, appears to them trivial when compared to the consequences in the relief of a distressed enemy. Therefore, the sailing of the vessels is suspended, and the Convention request the orders of Congress, if not incompatible with any destined service, that the *Hornet* and *Wasp*, said now to be ready, may convoy the vessels through the Capes. It is apprehended they will be an overmatch for *Stewart's* sloop, or any of the tenders. Our Convention, likewise, submit it to the consideration of Congress, whether it may not be less dangerous, and more for the general service, that the *Hornet* and *Wasp* should push to *Delaware*, than return again up this bay. The Convention are very desirous of a speedy answer.

I am, sir, with great respect, your very humble servant,

Matthew Tilghman.

To Hon. *John Hancock*, President of Congress.

Williamsburgh, December 29, 1775.

Gentlemen: We are this moment favoured with yours of the 22d, by Captain *Hyde*, to whom we have endeavoured to give the assistance he required in the course of his inquiry, as well as to show him the civility due to a gentleman on the very friendly errand he came. We have, perhaps, been remiss in not communicating to you a full account of our situation, and that of our enemy. We had transmitted to our Delegates in Congress the state of our affairs, from time to time, and imagined it would, from thence, be communicated to our sister Colonies, as far as was necessary, and we saw no occasion to call on our neighbours for assistance, by land, and did not, till late, hope for any by water; however, on the arrival of the *Liverpool*, man-of-war, with a store-ship, we thought it proper to communicate that intelligence to your Committee of Safety, which we did by express, on *Saturday* last, and which we hope has reached you ere now. The disgraceful circumstance, to the Colony, of seizing the Printer's materials and servants, in *Norfolk;* the captivating our friends at *Kemp's Landing*, and the cowardly behaviour of a party of Militia in that neighbourhood, afterwards, proceeded from the defenceless state of that part of the country, and our inability, for sometime, to send them protection, for want of arms and ammunition. As soon as we had despatched a respectable body of men across *James* River, for this purpose, Lord *Dunmore* issued his proclamation, and dispersed his standards and oaths, in *Norfolk* and *Princess Anne*, to which the bulk of the people in those Counties resorted and subscribed, and a number of slaves ran away to *Norfolk* and joined the enemy. Our Army continued their march without interruption till they got to a place called the *Great-Bridge*, between *Suffolk* and *Norfolk;* there the enemy had raised a stockade fort to intercept their passage. After some skirmishing for several days, Lord *Dunmore's* whole regulars, consisting of about two hundred, sallied out, and passed the bridge to attack our party. They met a defeat so complete, and sustained so large a carnage, that they have not yet appeared in action. They retreated on board the ships, and our Army marched into *Norfolk* without opposition, where there are about twelve hundred of *Virginians* and *North-Carolinians*, masters of the land, for Colonel *Howe* being convenient to the place, and hearing of the state of things there, had kindly marched with about five hundred men to our assistance. The notorious Tories, and some blacks, are gone on board the vessels in the harbour, and have embarked effects to the amount of one hundred and fifty thousand pounds, as estimated.

Our Convention have under examination some suspected persons of property; others have come in, and remain neuter; all the slaves, except what are on board the vessels, have surrendered, on promise of pardon, or been taken in arms, out of whom some examples will be made; and the apprehensions of danger, from that quarter, seem to have subsided. Besides the *Liverpool* and store-ship, which are supposed to have about four hundred seamen and marines, the naval force of our enemy consists of the *Otter*, of twelve six, and two four-pounders; the *Kingfisher*, of fourteen six, and four four-pounders; the *Eilbeck*, pierced for twenty-two guns, and, perhaps, now recruited from the store-ship, she had, however, only seven, three and four-pounders, badly mounted; the *William*, of six guns, size unknown; and several tenders, consisting of four schooners, four sloops, with small pilot boats, none of them very considerable, except a sloop belonging to, and commanded by, a Captain *Stewart*, which is said to mount ten carriage guns. The men belonging to all these ships of war and tenders, do not exceed two hundred, and these mostly

pressed. We have at *Hampton*, at present, about two hundred men only, who have so obstructed the navigation up that river, by sinking boats, that none can get up but those well acquainted with it, and have raised some breastworks for defence. A reinforcement to them of two hundred men is ordered, and will be there in a day or two; beside those, there is a Captain *Barron*, a brave, experienced seaman, whose company of Militia, being also stationed there, has been very active in small excursions of vessels, in *Hampton* Roads, from which he has brought in several vessels belonging to Tories, protected others, the property of friends, from falling into the enemy's hands, and has taken two tenders, on their way to the *Eastern-Shore* for provisions, manned with *Americans* and slaves. We have strengthened his hands, by empowering him to fit out three armed vessels, to be employed in this way, and have great confidence in his prudence and valour. We have recommended it to Captain *Hyde*, that, should any vessels of yours be passing through the Road, they give a signal, to be settled by him with Captain *Barron* and the commanding officer at *Hampton*, which may produce some useful pilots, and, perhaps, other assistance from thence. We have, also, about three hundred troops in this city.

We are informed of a considerable cannonade, heard this day towards *Norfolk*, and suppose the gust may have produced some effects of consequence there. If either should occasion any material intelligence from thence, we will endeavour to put it into the way of Captain *Hyde*, on his return from *Hampton*. In the mean time, we have particularly mentioned every thing which occurs to us as material, and are, with regard and esteem, gentlemen, your most obedient servants,

Edmund Pendleton,	P. Carrington,
John Page,	Dudley Diggs,
Richard Bland,	William Cabell,
Thomas Ludwell Lee,	Carter Braxton,
	John Tabb.

To the Honourable *Matthew Tilghman*, *Thomas Johnson*, Jun., and *Samuel Chase*, Esquires.

Williamsburgh, December 29, 1775.

Gentlemen: Mr. *Howard* delivered me your favour of the 22d of *December*. I find the Committee of Safety have seen those gentlemen; who, no doubt, have made them acquainted with the present situation of affairs. We hear the men-of-war are beating down the town of *Norfolk*. I most sincerely wish the speedy arrival of your ships. I believe we have, at *Hampton*, three hundred men.

I am, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

Wilson Miles Cary.

To *Matthew Tilghman*, Esquire.

A List of the Naval Force, now in the Harbour of *Norfolk*, and in *Hampton* Roads, *December* 30, 1775, viz:

Ship *Liverpool*, twenty-eight guns, *Henry Bellew*, commander; sloop *Otter*, sixteen guns, *Matthew Squire*, commander; sloop *Kingfisher*, eighteen guns, *James Montagu*, commander; sloop, eight guns, *Robert Stewart*, commander; Lord *Dunmore's* ship, *Eilbeck*, force unknown; six or seven small tenders of small force.

The force of Lord *Dunmore's*, by account of Colonel *Elliott:* 120 Regulars; 120 Marines; 150 *Negroes;* 250 *Liverpool.*

Memoranda of Vessels, Cargoes, Owners, Masters, &c.:

Sloop *Christian*, Captain *Avery*, belonging to Messrs. *Givens*, from *Norfolk*, bound to *Glasgow*, two thousand five hundred bushels of wheat, two thousand staves; sloop *Agatha*, Captain *Wilson*, belonging to *Shadden & Co.*, from *Grenada*, bound to *Norfolk*, forty-seven hogsheads rum; brig *Cornet*, Captain *Harris*, belonging to Captain *Harris*, from *Glasgow*, bound to *Norfolk*, a few dry goods; schooner *Peggy*, Captain *Haynes*, belonging to *Maximilian Calvert*, from *St. Vincent's*, bound to *Norfolk*, three hogsheads rum, one hogshead and one tierce and four barrels sugar; sloop *Industry*, Captain *Pierce*, belonging to Mr. *Hebb*, from *Turk's Island*, bound to *Maryland*, nine hundred bushels salt; sloop *Molly*, Captain *Servant*, belonging to *Wardroop*, of *Norfolk*, from *Turk's Island*, bound to *Norfolk*, one thousand two hundred and thirty-two bushels salt; sloop *Swallow*, Captain *Burrell*, belonging to *McCallister & Co.*, from *Turk's Island*, bound to *Norfolk* two thousand five hundred bushels of salt; sloop *Snow-Bird*, Captain *Horn*, from *Rhode-Island*, bound to *Maryland*, seven thousand pounds cheese, twenty barrels cider, two hundred and fifty bushels of potatoes, thirty barrels of apples; sloop *Dorothy*, Captain *Goodrick*, belonging to *Goodrick*, from *St. Eustatia*, bound to *Nansemond*, in ballast.

Thomas Elliott.

SAMUEL PURVIANCE TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read January 8, 1776.]

Baltimore, January 5, 1776.

Sir: Enclosed I send you the deposition of a certain Captain *John Horn*, of *Providence*, in *Rhode-Island*, who arrived here this day. By said deposition it appears that there is the greatest reason to believe the ships of war have fired upon and destroyed the town of *Norfolk*, in *Virginia*. I thought it a matter of so much importance that the Congress should have the earliest advice of this important transaction, that I have despatched the bearer express therewith. Mr. *Wall*, of *Providence*, a gentleman of character, owner of Captain *Horn*, who is now here, assures me I may depend on the truth of his deposition.

I am, with the greatest respect, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

Samuel Purviance, Jun.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq.

P. S. This moment a young man is arrived from *Annapolis*, who informs me there was a boat arrived there from *Hampton*, who brings the same advice of the ships being left firing against the town of *Norfolk*.

Baltimore Town, *ss*:

This day came before me, the subscriber, one of the Lord Proprietor's Justices of the Peace for the County of *Baltimore*, *John Horn*, master of the sloop *Snow-Bird*, lately arrived from sea, who did depose as follows: That he, the said *John Horn*, being at *Hampton*, in *Virginia*, on *Monday*, the first instant, did hear a continued firing of great guns the whole day, supposed to be at the town of *Norfolk;* that a boat (as he was informed) was sent the same day from *Hampton* to know the cause of said firing, which, he was informed by Captain *Barron*, commander of a cruiser belonging to *Hampton*, brought advice that the vessels of war were firing upon the town of *Norfolk;* that about four o'clock in the afternoon of the same day, a great flame and smoke was perceived at *Hampton*, supposed to proceed from the town of *Norfolk* being on fire. That this deponent sailed from *Hampton* on *Monday*, the same evening, during which, and the whole night following, he heard a continual firing of great guns, and observed a great flame towards *Norfolk;* that on *Tuesday*, all day till about the middle of the afternoon, he heard a continual firing of great guns, and observed a great smoke ascending from the same quarter, and further this deponent saith not.

John Horn.

Sworn before me at *Baltimore*, *January* 5, 1776.

Her. Courtenay.

ORDERS FROM NAVAL COMMITTEE TO THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF OF THE FLEET OF THE UNITED COLONIES.

In Naval Committee, January 5, 1776.

Orders and directions for the Commander-in-chief of the Fleet of the United Colonies.

You are to take care that proper discipline, good order, and peace, be preserved amongst all the ships, and their companies, under your command.

You are to direct the several Captains to make out and deliver monthly, or oftener, an exact return of the officers, seamen, and marines, on board of each respective vessel, noting their particular condition and circumstance; also, the quantity and quality of provisions and stores of every kind, together with the state of the respective ships; which returns, or copies of them, you are to transmit to Congress, or a Committee appointed by them to receive such returns, as often as opportunity offers.

You are, by every means in your power, to keep up an exact correspondence with the Congress, or Committee of Congress aforesaid, and with the Commander-in-chief of the Continental Forces in *America*.

As, by your instructions, you are empowered to equip such vessels as may fall into your power, and to appoint officers for such vessels: as often as this shall happen, you are, by the very first opportunity, to transmit to Congress, or the Committee aforesaid, the burden, force, and manner of equipment of such vessels, together with an exact list of such officers as you may appoint, in order that their appointment may be confirmed by Congress, or others be appointed in their stead.

You will be particularly careful to give such orders and instructions in writing to the officers under your command, as the good of the service may, in every case, require; to devise or adopt, and give out to the commanding officer of every ship, such signals and other marks and distinctions as may be necessary for their direction.

You are to take very particular care that all the men under your command be properly fed and taken care of, when they are in health, as well as when they are sick or wounded. You will, also, very carefully attend to all the just complaints which may be made by any of the people under your command, and see that they are speedily and effectually redressed, for on a careful attention to these important subjects, the good of the service essentially depends.

You are always to be exceedingly careful that your arms, as well great as small, be kept in the very best condition for service, and that all your cartridges, powder, shot, and every accoutrement whatsoever, belonging to them, be kept in the most exact order, always fit for immediate service.

You will carefully attend to such prisoners as may fall into your hands, and see that they be well and humanely treated. You may also send your prisoners on shore, in such convenient places where they may be delivered to the Conventions, Committees of Safety, or Inspection, in order to their being taken care of and properly provided for.

You will, also, give proper orders and directions to the Captains or Commanders of the ships or vessels under your command, in case they should be separated by stress of weather or any other accident, in what manner, and at what places they shall again join you.

STEPHEN HOPKINS,
CHRISTOPHER GADSDEN,
SILAS DEANE,
JOSEPH HEWES.

ROBERT YATES TO JONATHAN HAMPTON.

New-York, January 5, 1776.

SIR: You have, by Mr. *Christopher Duyckinck*, eighteen quarter casks of powder, containing, large weight, four hundred and fifty pounds, to pay some powder we had last summer of the Committees of *Brunswick* and *Elizabethtown*, and wood for the Continental Army, which I pray you to take in charge, and cause the payment to be made to those Committees, and give Mr. *Duyckinck* a receipt for the powder.

I am, dear sir, in haste, your humble servant,

ROBERT YATES, *Chairman*.

To *Jonathan Hampton*, Esq., Chairman of the Committee for *Elizabethtown*.

PROTEST OF KINDERHOOK (NEW-YORK) COMMITTEE.

After those clear and convincing lights, which we have thrown on the business of the *Kinderhook* election, have been disregarded, we can promise little benefit to ourselves from a further appeal, either to reason or justice. We have shown that the late Committee for our District conformed to the rules of the Congress and of this Board; that a regular poll was held, at which they were appointed to preside, and of which they were, like other returning officers, the only judges in the first instance. We have proved that the rejection of even legal votes, does not absolutely vitiate an election; and we have declared our readiness to conform to the practice of all publick bodies in the case of scrutinies, when it is the invariable usage to strike off from the poll such as have been admitted without the legal qualification, and to add such as, being duly qualified, have been rejected provided they tendered their votes at the election: and to confirm this doctrine, we have alluded to the proceedings of the Common Council of this city, in the scrutiny between *Yates* and *Hun*, within a few years. We have remonstrated against the pernicious tendency of this Board's countenancing individuals who have acted in open and wanton violation of all precedents, and even of the orders of this Board. We are, therefore, constrained by the exigency of our case, solemnly to protest against this proceeding of the Committee, and to declare, that from henceforth, the District of *Kinderhook* is no longer represented at this Board; and in this measure we stand justified to our constituents, as well as our consciences, charging all the mischief upon that decision by which the right of election is taken away from the District and vested in this Committee, and by which the majority of electors is sacrificed to the minority. Such a conduct, too, we conceive, has a manifest tendency to destroy that union which some people pretend such zeal to maintain; and, by lessening the authority of Congresses and Committees, and encouraging a breach of their rules and orders, is subversive of that system of power which the *United Colonies* have thought proper to establish in carrying on their defence.

The above was delivered in to the *Albany* County Committee, the 5th *January*, 1776, by the District Committee of *Kinderhook*, and signed by

ANDREAS WILBECK,
CORNELIUS V. SCHAACK, JUN.,
BARENT VANDERPOEL,
DIRCK GARDINIER,
Committee.

NOTICE FOR ELECTION OF A COMMITTEE FOR KINDERHOOK, NEW-YORK.

Albany, January 6, 1776.

Whereas, the General Committee of the City and County of *Albany*, by their Resolve entered into on the 5th instant, have invalidated the late return of the election for a Committee in the District of *Kinderhook*, and ordered that a new election be held in said District, on *Monday*, the 15th day of *January*, instant, at the house of *Tobias Van Buren*, in said District; and that Messrs. *Peter Von Ness*, *Richard Esselstyn*, *John N. Beekman*, *Jacob Schermerhorn*, and *Matthew Adgate*, or any three of them, be a Committee to hold the election; and that the Chairman of the County Committee give previous notice, by advertisement, to the inhabitants of said District, of the time and place of such election; and that four persons be chosen to represent said District in General Committee:

In pursuance of the said Resolution, it is hereby declared, that the said election will be held on the day, and at the place aforesaid, at ten o'clock in the forenoon, and the inhabitants of said District are hereby notified of said Resolves, and earnestly requested to attend on the day and place aforesaid, for the purpose aforesaid

ABRAHAM YATES, JUN., *Chairman*.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Albany, Friday, January 5, 1776.

I do not hesitate a moment to answer my dear General's question in the affirmative, by declaring that now or never is the time for every virtuous *American* to exert himself in the cause of liberty and his country; and that it is become a duty cheerfully to sacrifice the sweets of domestick felicity, to attain the honest and glorious end *America* has in view; and I can, with a good conscience, declare, that I have devoted myself to the service of my country in the firmest resolution to sink or swim with it, unanxious how I quit the stage of life, provided that I leave to my posterity the happy reflection that their ancestor was an honest *American*.

Here, my dear sir, you will ask, why then do you wish to retire from a publick office? Not because I am deterred by any difficulties I have experienced, or any that might hereafter present themselves; for I have had repeated experience in the course of life, that what the greater part of mankind deem impossibilities, exist only in idea, and are surmountable by a steady perseverance; but because I think I should prejudice my country by continuing any longer in this command. The favourable opinion that you are

pleased to entertain of me, obliges me to an explanation, which I shall give you in confidence. I have already informed you of the disagreeable situation I have been in during the campaign, but I would waive that, were it not that it has chiefly arisen from prejudice and jealousy; for I could point out particular persons of rank in the Army who have frequently declared, that the General commanding in this quarter, ought to be of the Colony from whence the majority of the troops came; but it is not from opinions or principles of individuals that I have drawn the following conclusion: That troops from the Colony of *Connecticut*, will not bear with a General from another Colony; it is from the daily and common conversation of all ranks of people from that Colony, both in and out of the Army, and I assure you, that I sincerely lament that a people of so much publick virtue should be actuated by such an unbecoming jealousy, founded on such a narrow principle—a principle extremely unfriendly to our righteous cause, as it tends to alienate the affections of numbers in this Colony, in spite the most favourable constructions that prudent men, and real *Americans* amongst us, attempt to put upon it; and although I frankly avow that I feel a resentment, yet I shall continue to sacrifice it to a nobler object—the weal of that country in which I have drawn the breath of life—resolved ever to seek, with unwearied assiduity, for opportunities to fulfil my duty to it.

I shall to-morrow write to General *Montgomery* to collect the evidence in support of the charge against *Prescott*, and entreat him to be very particular. As the prisoners taken on board the vessels in the *St. Lawrence* are not yet passed, it is probable that I may, by their means, be able to furnish your Excellency with some accounts of the usage *Allen* received.

Since the receipt of your Excellency's, of the 18th, Major *Rogers* is come to this town. I sent to him, and amongst a variety of passes, he produced a late one from the Committee of *New-Hampshire*, to pass unmolested to *New-York*, for which place he sets out to-day. I believe there is no truth in the intelligence sent by Mr. *Wheelock*, for I find upon inquiry, that *Rogers* arrived at this place after *St. John's* was invested, and that he went from hence to *New-England*. I shall, however, make further inquiries. I shall forward the account against Captain *Morgan* to Colonel *Arnold*, by next post.

You will perceive by the enclosed, that the junction of General *Montgomery* and Col. *Arnold* has taken place, but their force is so small, and the weather has been so severe, that I fear they have not been able to possess themselves of *Quebeck*. Should an attempt have been made to storm it, and have proved fruitless, and accidents have happened to *Montgomery* and *Arnold*, I tremble lest *Canada* should be lost. If I could procure any men, I would send them to *Canada* immediately; but I know not where to get any. Even *Ticonderoga* and *Fort-George* are by this time, I fear, left to the care of the Commissary of Provisions and Conducter of Artillery. The officers to whom I had issued warrants, to raise four companies, meet with no success.

The first of the cannon arrived here on *Wednesday*, and the whole is on its way, but detained by the weakness of the ice in *Hudson's* River, occasioned by the uncommon mildness of the weather for several days past. One frosty night, if not deferred too long, will, however, put every thing in order, and I hope you will soon have the pleasure of seeing all at *Cambridge*.

To-morrow, thirteen of the *Caughnawaga* tribe, under the care of Major *Wolves*, will set out for *Cambridge*, on a visit.

Your letter to General *Howe* gave me great pleasure, and his answer must convince mankind of your superiority. His affectation is trifling, and unbecoming a gentleman. His letter, I believe, will be eventually a censure on General *Carleton*.

I shall immediately forward to your Excellency what clothing can be spared from here; great part of it is not yet made up.

Sunday, January 7, 1776.—Yesterday a frost came on, and this morning I had the satisfaction to see the first division of sleds, with cannon, cross the river. Should there be snow all the way to *Cambridge*, they will probably arrive there about this day week.

A Mr. *Gamble*, who was made prisoner with Brigadier *Prescott*, and who was a Deputy Quartermaster-General in *Canada*, has entreated me to intercede with your Excellency to get him exchanged. He urges that he must be ruined unless he can get back to *Canada*. Although I by no means wish to prejudice an individual, yet I do not think it prudent that he should go to *Quebeck*, unless it is in our possession. When that happens, I can see no inconveniency in exchanging him, or permitting him to go, and shall esteem it as a favour if he can then procure your leave, and if you can get him exchanged, that he may not lose his office. He writes to General *Lee* on the subject. I have expressly informed him that I did not think he could be permitted to go to *Quebeck*, until after its reduction.

Be pleased to accept the compliments of the season, and my best wishes. I have the honour to be, with unfeigned esteem, your Excellency's most obedient, and most humble servant,

PHILIP SCHUYLER.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM MONTREAL, DATED JANUARY 5, 1776.

I came here last night, with despatches to General *Wooster*, having just time to acquaint you, per express, that on the 30th instant two attacks were made by our troops on *Quebeck*, and a feint at *Cape-Diamond*; the one at *St. Roque's*, by Colonel *Arnold's* detachment, consisting of about four hundred men, with sixty of Captain *Lamb's* company of artillery, and a party of *Indians*; the other, at *Drummond's* wharf, under *Cape-Diamond*, by the *New-York* troops, commanded by Gen. *Montgomery*, who was at their head. The attack was commenced between five and six o'clock, in the morning. It is with the greatest concern I inform you, that our brave General, his Aid-de-camp Mr. *Macpherson*, and Captain *Cheeseman*, fell the first fire, in the glorious attempt. I was with the General's party, and near him when he was killed. Mr. *Macpherson* behaved with spirit, and was an honour to his country. We passed the first barrier without opposition. This fatal stroke, of losing our General, threw our troops into confusion, and we received orders from Colonel *Campbell* to retire, with the loss of about fifteen men. Colonel *Arnold's* detachment, on the south side, forced two barriers out of four, and about nine o'clock they were surrounded, and under the necessity of surrendering themselves prisoners of war. They are very well treated. Governour *Carleton* buried General *Montgomery* and Mr. *Macpherson* with all the honours of war. Major *Meigs* is out on parole of honour, for three days, and has leave to carry in all the officers' baggage. Colonel *Arnold* was wounded in the small of his leg, at the first barrier, as was Major *Ogden*, and they both retired; Colonel *Green* had the command afterwards. Colonel *Arnold's* detachment behaved with the greatest bravery, and struck terrour into General *Carleton*, or he would not treat them as he does. Major *Meigs* says General *Carleton* does not expect to hold *Quebeck* long. Captain *Hendericks*, of the *Pennsylvania* riflemen, Lieutenant *Humphries*, of *Morgan's* company, of *Virginia* riflemen, and Lieutenant *Cooper*, of Captain *Manchet's* company, are killed; Captain *Lamb* is slightly wounded, and about one hundred privates are killed and wounded.

GENERAL LEE TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

January 5, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: The consequences of the enemy's possessing themselves of *New-York*, have appeared to me so terrible, that I have scarcely been able to sleep from apprehensions on the subject. These apprehensions daily increase. You have it in your power, at present, to prevent this dreadful event. If I do not mistake, the Congress have given you authority to take any step in that place, as well as here, which you shall think necessary for the publick service; but if they have not given you, expressly and literally, authority with respect to the city of *New-York*, I am confident that any measure you think right to plan, and put in execution, will be approved of. I have the greatest reason to believe, from the most authentick intelligence, that the best members of the Congress expect that you would take much upon yourself, as refer-

*

ring every matter of importance to them is, in fact, defeating the project. We have an instance of this in the fate of the motion for seizing the person of Mr. *Tryon*. To you they look up for decision. By your conduct they are to be inspired with decision. In fact, your situation is such, that the salvation of the whole depends on your striking, at certain crises, vigorous strokes, without previously communicating your intention. On this principle, I venture to propose the following scheme, and to offer myself for the execution:

New-York must be secured; but it will never, I am afraid, be secured by direct order of the Congress, for obvious reasons. They find themselves awkwardly situated on this head. You must step in to their relief. I am sensible that no man can be spared from the lines, in our present circumstances; but I would propose that you should detach me into *Connecticut*, and lend your name for collecting a body of volunteers. I am assured that I shall find no difficulty in assembling a sufficient number for the purposes wanted. This body, in conjunction (if there should appear occasion to summon them) with the *Jersey* regiment, under the command of Lord *Stirling*, now at *Elizabethtown*, will effect the security of *New-York*, and the expulsion or suppression of that dangerous banditti of Tories who have appeared in *Long-Island*, with the professed intention of acting against the authority of the Congress. Not to crush these serpents, before their rattles are grown, would be ruinous. I am assured, likewise, that the *Connecticut* volunteers, who will offer themselves for the service, will expect no pay, but at most the expenses of their provisions, and, perhaps, of carriages for the conveyance of their baggage. When once we have secured the place with street-fortifications, and engaged the friends of liberty so far that they cannot recede, purged the city and *Long-Island* of the leading tories, the residence of those *Connecticut* volunteers will be no longer necessary; for there is no reason to doubt that the Congress will detach troops from *Pennsylvania*, to garrison the place, although, from reasons hinted at, they may not choose to commence the operation. This manœuvre I not only think prudent and right, but absolutely necessary to our salvation; and if it meets, as I ardently hope it will, with your approbation, the sooner it is entered upon the better. Indeed, the delay of a single day may be fatal.

I am, dear General, yours, most respectfully,

CHARLES LEE.

FORM OF GOVERNMENT ASSUMED BY THE COLONY OF NEW-HAMPSHIRE.

In Congress, at Exeter, January 5, 1776.

We, the members of the Congress of the Colony of *New-Hampshire*, chosen and appointed by the free suffrages of the people of said Colony, and authorized and empowered by them to meet together, and use such means, and pursue such measures, as we should judge best for the publick good; and, in particular, to establish some form of Government, provided that measure should be recommended by the Continental Congress: And a recommendation to that purpose having been transmitted to us from the said Congress, have taken into our serious consideration the unhappy circumstances into which this Colony is involved, by means of many grievous and oppressive acts of the *British* Parliament—depriving us of our native and constitutional rights and privileges: To force obedience to which acts, a powerful fleet and army have been sent into this country by the Ministry of *Great Britain*, who have exercised a wanton and cruel abuse of their power, in destroying the lives and properties of the Colonists, in many places, with fire and sword—taking the ships and laden from many of the honest and industrious inhabitants of this Colony, employed in commerce agreeably to the laws and customs a long time used here: The sudden and abrupt departure of his Excellency *John Wentworth*, Esq., our late Governour, and several of the Council, leaving us destitute of legislation; and no Executive courts being open to punish criminal offenders, whereby the lives and properties of the honest people of this Colony are liable to the machinations and evil designs of wicked men:

Therefore, for the preservation of peace and good order, and for the security of the lives and properties of the inhabitants of this Colony, we conceive ourselves reduced to the necessity of establishing a form of Government, to continue during the present unhappy and unnatural contest with *Great Britain*; protesting and declaring, that we never sought to throw off our dependance upon *Great Britain*, but felt ourselves happy under her protection, while we could enjoy our constitutional rights and privileges; and that we shall rejoice if such a reconciliation, between us and our parent state, can be effected, as shall be approved by the Continental Congress, in whose prudence and wisdom we confide.

Accordingly, pursuant to the trust reposed in us, we do resolve, that this Congress assume the name, power, and authority, of a House of Representatives, or Assembly, for the Colony of *New-Hampshire*. And that said House then proceed to choose twelve persons, being reputable freeholders and inhabitants within this Colony, in the following manner, viz: Five in the County of *Rockingham*, two in the County of *Stafford*, two in the County of *Hillsborough*, two in the County of *Cheshire*, and one in the County of *Grafton*, to be a distinct and separate branch of the Legislature, by the name of a Council for this Colony; to continue as such until the third *Wednesday* in *December* next, any seven of whom to be a quorum to do business.

That such Council appoint their President, and, in his absence, that the senior Counsellor preside.

That a Secretary be appointed by both branches, who may be a Counsellor, or otherwise, as they shall choose.

That no Act or Resolve be valid, and put into execution, unless agreed to, and passed by both branches of the Legislature.

That all publick officers for the said Colony, and each County, for the current year, be appointed by the Council and Assembly, except the several Clerks of the Executive Courts, who shall be appointed by the Justices of the respective Courts.

That all Bills, Resolves, or Votes, for raising, levying, and collecting money, originate in the House of Representatives.

That at any sessions of the Council and Assembly, neither branch shall adjourn for any longer time than from *Saturday* till the next *Monday*, without consent of the other.

And it is further Resolved, That if the present unhappy disputes with *Great Britain* should continue longer than this present year, and the Continental Congress give no instructions or directions to the contrary, the Council be chosen by the people of each respective County, in such manner as the Council and House of Representatives shall order.

That General and Field-Officers of the Militia, on any vacancy, be appointed by the two Houses, and all inferior officers be chosen by the respective companies.

That all officers of the Army be appointed by the two Houses, except they should direct otherwise in case of an emergency.

That all civil officers for the Colony, and for each County, be appointed, and the time of their continuance in office be determined by the two Houses, except Clerks of Courts, and County Treasurers, and Recorders of Deeds.

That a Treasurer and a Recorder of Deeds, for each County, be annually chosen by the people of each County, respectively; the votes for such officers to be returned to the respective Courts of General Sessions of the Peace, in the County, there to be ascertained as the Council and Assembly shall hereafter direct.

That Precepts, in the name of the Council and Assembly, signed by the President of the Council, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives, shall issue annually, at or before the first day of *November*, for the choice of a Council and House of Representatives, to be returned by the third *Wednesday* in *December*, then next ensuing, in such manner as the Council and Assembly shall hereafter prescribe.

COURT-MARTIAL ON CAPTAIN SPENCER.

At a General Court-Martial, held for inquiring into the conduct of Captain *Spencer*, of the Minute Battalion, upon Lieutenant-Colonel *Scott's* detachment, and for the trial of all the prisoners in all the guards: Present—

John Ruffin, President, Captain *Markham*, Captain *Fle-*

ming, Captain *Meade*, Captain *Crawford*, Captain *Jameson*, Captain *Mason*, Lieutenant *Gee*, Lieutenant *Monroe*, Lieutenant *Hanway*, Ensign *Woodson*, Ensign *Halloway*, Ensign *Foster*.

Captain *Spencer* appeared before the Court, when several depositions were read, and divers witnesses were sworn and examined. On consideration whereof, the Court is of opinion, that Captain *Spencer* is not guilty of the charge laid against him, and that he be discharged from the arrest.

JOHN RUFFIN.

Approved of by ROBERT HOWE.

Whereas, I have been informed that some reports have been spread to the prejudice of Captain *Joseph Spencer*, respecting his conduct in a late attack of the enemy, commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel *Scott:* These are to certify, that the above affair was inquired into by a Court-Martial, who, after a fair hearing, honourably acquitted Captain *Spencer*. That the said Captain *Spencer* has served under my command ever since we left *Williamsburgh*, upon the *Norfolk* expedition, and has always discharged his duty as a good officer.

Given under my hand, at *Norfolk*, the 6th day of *January*, 1776.

WILLIAM WOODFORD.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Philadelphia, January 6, 1776.

SIR: I have the honour of enclosing you sundry resolutions, passed yesterday, respecting Mr. *Lovell*.

The Congress are desirous to know your opinion what rank it would be proper the Aid-de-camps of the General Officers ought to hold in the Army; and, on this head, I am directed to write to you, and desire your answer.

Just after the receipt of your letter, *Connolly* and *Cameron* were brought to town. By some mismanagement, *Smith*, one of their associates, was suffered to make his escape from *Fredericktown*, where they were confined. Orders were given to have his saddle searched, but nothing is yet discovered. There is reason to believe he must have found means to withdraw his papers, as we find, by an account from the Committee of *Frederick*, that his saddle was mended there.

The *French* gentlemen are arrived, and referred to the Secret Committee.

The Congress have given orders to General *Schuyler*, immediately to secure Brigadier-General *Prescott*, and keep him in close and safe custody until further order.

I am, &c.,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

To General *Washington*.

JOHN JAY TO ROBERT R. LIVINGSTON.

Philadelphia, January 6, 1776.

DEAR ROBERT: Amid the various sources of consolation, in seasons of poignant distress, which the wise have long amused themselves and the world with, the little share of observation and experience which has fallen to my lot, convinces me that resignation to the dispensations of a benevolent as well as omnipotent Being, can alone administer relief. The sensations which the first paragraph of your letter has occasioned, mock the force of philosophy, and, I confess, have rendered me the sport of feelings which you can more easily conceive than I express. Grief, if a weakness, is nevetheless, on certain occasions amiable, and recommends itself by being in the train of passions which follow virtue. But remember, my friend, that your country bleeds and calls for your exertions. The fate of those very friends, whose misfortunes so justly afflict you, is linked with the common cause, and cannot have a separate issue. Rouse, therefore, and after vigorously discharging the duties you owe your country, return to your peaceful shades, and supply the place of your former joys by the reflection, that they are only removed to a more kindred soil, like flowers from a thorny wilderness by a friendly florist, under whose care they will flourish and bloom, and court your embraces forever. Accept my warmest thanks for the ardour with which you wish a continuance and increase of that friendship to which I have long been much indebted. Be assured that its duration will always be among the first objects of my care. Let us unite in proving, by our example, that the rule which declares juvenile friendships, like vernal flowers, to be of short continuance, is not without exceptions, even in our degenerate days.

Mr. *Deane* has this moment come in, so that I must conclude, as I hope to conclude every letter to you, with an assurance that I am your affectionate friend,

JOHN JAY.

To *Robert R. Livingston*.

P. S. Fifty tons of saltpetre arrived this day.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE NORTHERN ARMY.

[January 6, 1776, read, and consideration postponed to Monday next.]

In Congress, January 6, 1776.

The Committee on the affairs of the Northern Army, beg leave to make a further Report, and to sit again.

Resolved, That it is the opinion of this Committee, that the Medical Committee be directed to provide sufficient quantities of anti-scorbuticks, for the use of the Hospital in the Northern Army.

Resolved, That it is the opinion of this Committee, that the Hospital at *Fort-George* be continued, for the reception of soldiers labouring with contagious diseases; and that there be a General Hospital erected on *Mount-Independence*.

Resolved, That a suitable spot of ground for a garden be enclosed, in the neighbourhood of the General Hospital, to supply the Army with vegetables; and that labourers be hired to cultivate it, under the direction of an overseer, to be appointed by the General, or commanding officer.

Resolved, That it is the opinion of this Committee, that the General, or commanding officer in each of the Armies, cause strict inquiry to be made into the conduct of the Directors of the Hospitals, and their surgeons, officers, and servants, and of the regimental surgeons, that, if there has been any just ground of complaint in those departments, the offenders may be punished.

Resolved, That it is the opinion of this Committee, that the Colonel, or commanding officer, of every regiment, make frequent inquiry into the health of the men under his command, and report the state thereof, with any negligence, malpractice, or other misconduct, of the surgeons, or others, to the General and to Congress, delivering copies of such reports to all persons therein accused.

Resolved, That it is the opinion of this Committee, that the General, or Commander-in-chief of the Northern Army, direct all the Batteaus on Lakes *Champlain* and *George*, to be immediately repaired.

Resolved, That it is the opinion of this Committee, that one hundred Batteaus be built at *Schenectady*, so as to be ready for use in *February*, or *March* next, at furthest; and, for this purpose, that boards, pitch, oakum, and other necessary materials, be collected, and artificers employed, by the General, or commanding officer.

LORD STIRLING TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

Elizabethtown, January 6, 1776—12 o'clock.

SIR: After sealing the letters which Captain *Morris* will deliver you herewith, I found on the messenger some private letters to Mrs. *Gage*, which I have forwarded. The handwriting of one of them I knew to be from a most dangerous man; and, for very particular reasons, I was induced to open it. I now send it to you, and am your most humble servant,

STIRLING.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq.

LORD STIRLING TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

Elizabethtown, January 6, 1776.

SIR: Having particular reasons for believing that an express, which went through this place about noon, this day, for *New-York*, was charged with despatches of importance for the Ministry of *Great Britain*, and which might contain matters valuable to be known to the Continental Congress, I immediately despatched the bearer hereof, Capt. *Morris*, of my regiment, to overtake the messenger, which he did, at the second ferry between this and *New-York*, and has this moment brought back the messenger, with the enclosed two packets, directed for the Earl of *Dart-*

mouth, which I think it is most proper to send to you unopened, in order to be laid before the Congress. Captain *Morris*, who, on this occasion, has behaved with great prudence and alertness, will wait for whatever despatches or commands you may have for me.

I have the pleasure to inform you, that several vessels, with valuable cargoes, from foreign ports, have arrived in this Province, and, under the protection I have afforded them, have landed their cargoes. Among the rest, are some hundred barrels of gunpowder, which, chiefly, is safely lodged in *New-York*.

I have the honour to be, your most obedient, humble servant,

STIRLING.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER TO A GENTLEMAN IN LONDON, DATED NEW-YORK, JANUARY 6, 1776.

This Colony contains about 200,000 souls, of which, by an exact return, 40,000 are able to bear arms; from whom deduct 2,000, as lukewarm and disaffected, which leaves 38,000 men attached to the *American* cause. The Militia of the Colony is well regulated by the Convention; 9,500 are appointed as Minute-Men, properly officered, and allowed the pay of the Continental troops, for the extra days they muster above the time prescribed by law. Ammunition is distributed to them, at the publick expense, by the several County Committees. They are tolerably well armed, but, by the Spring, will be as completely furnished as any troops in the world, contracts having, for some time past, been made for that purpose, by, and under the inspection of gentlemen who have the cause at heart. A sufficient quantity of intrenching tools are made, and their camp equipage preparing. They have a good train of brass field-artillery, of their own casting, and a vast plenty of iron ordnance. The Militia is commanded by one Major and six Brigade Generals. This Colony is far better prepared for defence than the *Massachusetts* was last Spring; all our neighbours are in a better state. The present Convention of the Colony exists till *May* next; during the recess, the publick affairs are conducted by a Committee, or Council of Safety.

There are now twenty-six complete regiments at *Cambridge*, of 632 effective men, which amounts to 16,422. The *Connecticut* troops returned home, after the expiration of their time. That Colony is now raising nineteen regiments, of 900 effective men each. *New-York* has raised four, of 750 each. *Jersey* two, of 632; and *Pennsylvania* five, of 632, effective. The number raised in the Southern Colonies, I cannot inform you. The Army at *Cambridge* is now exceedingly well provided with ammunition and artillery.

General *Wooster* commanded at *Montreal*. Our last advices from *Canada* are dated the 7th of *December*. General *Montgomery* was then before *Quebeck*, with 4,000 Provincials and 5,000 *Canadians;* he was waiting for his artillery to come from *Montreol*. Upon its arrival, there is no doubt but he would soon oblige General *Carleton* to surrender, who has in garrison, under his command, to defend the place, 1,053 men, consisting of *English* and *French* merchants, emigrants, *Newfoundland-men*, sailors, and marines.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM A GENTLEMAN AT NEW-YORK TO HIS FRIEND IN SCOTLAND, DATED JANUARY 6, 1776.

Mr. *Washington*, with 25,000 men, still keeps General *Howe* within the limits of *Bunker's Hill* and the town of *Boston*. Their privateers have had amazing success in taking a vast number of provision and store-ships, some with cannon and ordnance stores. In short, they are very active. I wish I could say as much for the *British* fleet, although they are very numerous. Captain *Wallace*, at *Rhode-Island*, has, indeed, kept them in good order there; but, by all accounts, [Admiral *Graves*] has behaved very ill. He gives no proper orders to his Captains detached, and studies nothing, himself, but getting money. In the beginning, some people ventured to *Boston* by water, with fresh provisions; but there is such oppression, that none of them will go again. Even the poor fishermen cannot get out, till they give a dollar to his Secretary.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Albany, January 6, 1776.

SIR: I have the honour of your favour of the 1st inst. The Paymaster-General has delivered me the rolls of some of General *Wooster's* regiment, as, also, Captain *Curtis's* pay-roll, by which, I observe, he is paid for sundry premiums, allowed by your Colony. As these differ from the allowances made in other Colonies, and having no directions from the Continental Congress on that head, I cannot venture to give any warrants for their payment. I believe, at any rate, that this would best come as a Colonial charge against the Continent, together with the days added for returning home. In this view, I have taken the liberty to enclose your Honour a form of a pay-roll, agreeable to which I have paid the troops raised in this Colony. It will be almost impossible for many of the Captains to ascertain the dates of the discharges of many of their men, but this can be supplied from my books; as to such as were discharged by Colonel *Hinman* or me, I propose to give warrants for the pay, and that the Paymaster should, immediately after the accounts are finished, repair to *Connecticut*, and pay the Captains there. Such of the men as have reinlisted in *Canada*, to have their names entered in the roll, following each other, and, if the Captains are not certain as to the time, then to make up the wages due to them the 18th *November*. I have ordered the Captains of the troops raised in this Colony, to send me accounts of the distance the people had to travel from where they were discharged to their places of residence, that I might lay it before the Congress, which I wish yours, also, to do. The billeting money, which I will grant warrants for, I wish to have in separate rolls.

General *Montgomery* was still before *Quebeck*, on the 16th *December*, and had intentions of storming, but he has so few troops, (only eight hundred, and a few *Canadians*,) that I tremble for the event. I wish he could have prevailed on more of the troops to remain in *Canada*.

Please to accept my best wishes, with the compliments of the season.

I am, sir, with much respect and esteem, your Honour's most obedient, humble servant,

PHILIP SCHUYLER.

Governour *Trumbull*.

P. S. I take the liberty of enclosing fifty dollars, which General *Prescott* sends Mr. *McKay*, begging your Honour to cause the same to be delivered to him.

GENERAL WOOSTER TO COLONEL WARNER.

Montreal, January 6, 1776.

SIR: With the greatest distress of mind I now sit down to write to you of the event of an unfortunate attack made on *Quebeck*, between the hours of four and six in the morning, of the 31st *December;* unfortunate indeed for us; in it fell our brave General *Montgomery*, his Aid-de-camp *Macpherson*, Captains *Cheeseman* and *Hendricks*, of the riflemen, and two or three of the subalterns, and between sixty and one hundred privates, (the number uncertain,) and about three hundred officers and soldiers taken prisoners, among whom are Lieutenant-Colonel *Green*, Major *Bigelow*, Major *Meigs*, and a number of Captains and inferior officers. Colonel *Arnold* was wounded in the leg, in the beginning of the action, as was Major *Ogden*, in the shoulder, and brought to the General Hospital. I have not time to give you the particulars, but thus much will suffice to show, that in consequence of this defeat, our prospects in this country are rendered very dubious, and, unless we can quickly be reinforced, perhaps it will be fatal, not only to us, who are stationed here, but to the Colonies in general, especially to the frontiers. Greatly, very greatly, depends upon our keeping possession of this country. You know as well as any other man, the temper and disposition of the *Canadians;* that they are not persevering in adversity; that they are not to be depended upon, but, like the Savages, are extremely fond of choosing the strongest party; and, add to this, our enemies in the country, of which there are many, who use every method to excite the *Canadians* against us; among other things, they tell them that the *United Colonies* intend to abandon the country; the clergy refused absolution to all who have shown themselves our friends, and preach damnation to those that will not take up

arms against us, and tell them that now it is not too late that we are but a handful of men.

I have sent an express to General *Schuyler*, General *Washington*, and to Congress, but you know how far they have to go, and it is very uncertain how long it will be before we can have relief from them. You, sir, and the *Green-Mountain* corps are in our neighbourhood; you all have arms, and, I am confident, ever stand ready to lend a helping hand to your brethren in distress. I am sensible that there was some disagreement between you and General *Montgomery*. Poor man! he has lost his life fighting valiantly for his country; but why do I mention any thing about disagreement between you; I know that no private resentment can hinder your exercising every faculty to vindicate the rights and privileges for which we are nobly contending; therefore, let me beg of you, to collect as many men as you can, five, six, or seven hundred, and if you can, and some how or other, convey into this country, and stay with us till we can have relief from the Colonies. You are sensible we have provisions of all kinds in abundance, and the weather in this country is not so frightful as many have imagined. You will see that proper officers are appointed under you, and both officers and soldiers shall be paid as the other Continental troops. It will be well for your men to set out as fast as they are collected, not so much matter whether together or not, but let them set out, ten, twenty, thirty, forty, or fifty, as they can be first collected, for it must have a good effect on the minds of the *Canadians*, to see succour coming in. You will be good enough to send copies of this letter, or such parts of it as you think proper, to the people below you. I cannot but think our friends will make a push into the country, and am confident you will not disappoint my most fervent wish and expectation in seeing you here, with your men, in a very short time. Now is the time for you to distinguish yourselves; of obtaining the united applause of your grateful countrymen, of your distressed friends in *Canada*, and your very great friend and servant,

DAVID WOOSTER.

To Colonel *Warner*.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM COLONEL ARNOLD, DATED CAMP BEFORE QUEBECK, JANUARY 6, 1776.

Before this reaches you I make no doubt you will have heard of our misfortune of the 31st ultimo, and will be anxious for my safety. I should have wrote you before, but a continual hurry of business has prevented me. The command of the Army, by the death of my truly great and good friend, General *Montgomery*, devolved on me; a task, I find, too heavy under my present circumstances. I received a wound by a ball through my left leg, at the time I had gained the first battery, at the lower town, which, by the loss of blood, rendered me very weak. As soon as the main body came up, with some assistance I returned to the hospital, near a mile, on foot, being obliged to draw one leg after me, and a great part of the way under the continual fire of the enemy from the walls, at no greater distance than fifty yards. I providentially escaped, though several were shot down at my side. I soon learned the death of our General, who attacked the town at the side opposite to me; he behaved heroically; marched up in the face of their cannon, and when he had nearly gained the pass, received the fatal shot, or the town would have been ours. This occasioned the disaster that afterwards happened to my detachment, which, after the General's defeat, had the whole garrison to encounter, under every disadvantage of ground, &c. &c. To return was impossible, as the route was within fifty yards, and exposed to the fire of the whole garrison, who had brought several pieces out of one of the gates, which our people would have been obliged to pass. In this situation, they maintained their ground near three hours; but being overpowered with numbers, were obliged to lay down their arms; about three hundred, including Captain *Lamb*, of *New-York*, and part of the train, were taken prisoners, and as near as I can judge, about sixty killed and wounded. Captain *Oswald* is among the prisoners; he was with me in a selected party of about twenty-five, who attacked the first battery; behaved gallantly, and gained much honour; the prisoners are treated politely, and supplied with every thing the garrison affords. Governour *Carleton* sent to let me know that the soldiers' baggage, if I pleased, might be sent to them, which I shall immediately send. Though the enemy are now double our number, they have made no attempt to come out. We are as well prepared to receive them as we can possibly be in our present situation, divided at a distance of two miles. I expect General *Wooster* from *Montreal* in a few days with a reinforcement. I hope we shall be properly supported with troops by the Congress. I have no thoughts of leaving this proud town, until I first enter it in triumph. My wound has been exceeding painful, but is now easy, and the surgeons assure me will be well in eight weeks. I know you will be anxious for me. That Providence which has carried me through so many dangers, is still my protection. I am in the way of my duty, and know no fear.

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read January 15, 1776, and referred to Mr. Paine, Mr. Dyer, Mr. Lynch, Mr. Wythe, Mr. W. Livingston.]

Lebanon, January 6, 1776.

SIR: Enclosed is a copy of a letter from the Committee of Inspection in the town of *Greenwich*, bordering on the County of *Westchester*, in the Province of *New-York*. This intelligence appears to me worthy the attention of your body. When the *United Colonies* are driven to the necessity of taking up arms for the defence of their rights, at the same time to feed their enemies, and to give them intelligence and aid, appears incongruous, and requires attention, and some vigorous exertions to prevent it.

Oliver Wolcott and *Samuel Huntington*, Esquires, the new members from this Colony, will inform what is needful, of the acts and resolves of our General Assembly. Great harmony and unanimity subsisted therein. An act passed for restraining and punishing persons who are inimical to the liberties of this and the rest of the *United Colonies*, &c.; another for encouraging the manufacture of saltpetre and gunpowder. Hope to produce a considerable quantity of gunpowder by the Spring, from materials collected amongst ourselves.

The furnace at *Middletown* is smelting lead, and will soon turn out twenty or thirty tons. The vein of ore seems to promise a plenty.

A resolve passed our Assembly directing the Governour and his Council of Safety to fit two armed vessels; one is purchased, will carry sixteen guns. The other to be bought or built; if it be built, will be larger; also to build four row-galleys.

A request was made in a former letter for the loan of fifty cannon from the northern posts. Enclosed is minutes of the ordnance in the possession of the *United Colonies* in that quarter, exclusive of what is at *Crown-Point*, at which place there is not less than forty. I hope for a speedy answer, and grant of that favour. The season is advancing wherein they may be drawn down.

Enclosed is copy of the report of a Committee from our Assembly, concerning a lead mine at *New-Canaan*, in the Colony of *New-York*. Is it not needful to engage the Congress of that Colony to pursue this discovery. The lead extracted from this ore appears to be of the best kind, and the appearance of a plenty is very great.

I am, with great truth and regard, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

JONATHAN TRUMBULL.

To the Honourable President *Hancock*.

In Committee, Greenwich, December 26, 1775.

HONOURABLE SIR: In compliance with your honourable desire, signified to this Committee by Doctor *Mead*, who, at the request of this body, has made inquiry into the state of affairs in the County of *Westchester*, the result of which inquiry we beg leave to lay before your Honour, viz: That upon the best information he could obtain from the friends of the *American* cause in that quarter, there is now between *Byram* River and *King's Bridge* about two thousand barrels of pork, chiefly in the hands of Tories, besides what has been sent off, which is difficult to ascertain.

One *Webb* and *Weyman*, of the Borough of *Westchester*, put up about three or four hundred barrels, which they, (with themselves,) conveyed on board the *Asia* man-of-war, except twenty-four barrels, stopped by the Committee

of *New-York*. That at the house of *W. Sutton*, Esq., of *Maroneck*, about twenty head of fat cattle had been barrelled within a few days past, which, by some of our friends in that neighbourhood, is supposed to be sent off for the Ministerial army; and that in the same neighbourhood, for three or four miles round, there are not more than eight or ten Whigs to one hundred and twenty Tories. The proceedings of the Committee of that County appear rash, dilatory, weak, and inadequate to their unhappy circumstances. That upon the 15th inst., a large yawl from the *Asia*, with about twenty-four men armed, came in the night into *Maroneck* harbour, and from the inimical inhabitants, was loaded with poultry and small stock for said ships; the friends of liberty were so few, that they were not able to collect sufficient force to make any timely opposition. That the Provincial Congress of *New-York* have sent two or three fruitless messages to the armed Tories in *Queen's* County, and then passed a resolve, that they should not be indulged the privilege of the *York* markets, but cannot learn that they have taken any other measures to suppress them. Said Congress adjourned 'till the 1st of *February*. It is said by one of their members, that some time had been spent by them in debating whether they should not address Mr. *Tryon*, for the purpose of calling the General Assembly of that Province, to revive their old scheme of adopting the Parliamentary insult of the 20th of *February* last, which was rejected. And as to the conduct of the men-of-war in *New-York*, we cannot learn any thing more than what is inserted in the publick papers, to which we beg leave to refer your Honour, and are, with great respect and esteem, your Honour's obedient, humble servants.

By order of the Committee:

AMOS MEAD, *Clerk*.

TO THE HONOURABLE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, CONVENED AT NEW-HAVEN, ON THE 14TH OF DECEMBER, 1775.

Whereas, Captain *Samuel Forbs* and the subscriber were appointed by your Honours, at your Sessions in *October* last, a Committee to examine and explore a Lead Mine at *New-Canaan*, in the Province of *New-York*, and to report, &c.

The said subscriber asks leave to report, that, on the 7th of *November* last, on my journey to said *New-Canaan*, I expected said Captain *Forbs* to join me, but he being ill and unable to assist in said business, advised me to proceed; with which advice I complied, and repaired to said *New-Canaan*, where I found said mine, the vein of ore in which appears about fifty or sixty rods in length, lying north and south, in a ledge of rocks, or lime-stone mixed with white flint; at the south end of which the ground falls about twenty-six feet; below which the water cannot be drawn off by a level; which vein I found had been opened about one rod in length, and about three or four feet deep, where I employed a skilful miner to blast the rock, but found no continued or adherent vein, but found the ore in bodies, in different shapes, about three or four inches diameter, lying about three or four feet distant; the said miner also opened the vein in several places, where it had not before been tried, and it appeared to be in the same manner. I, also, smelted eight ounces of said ore, and found, when it was well refined, it weighed five ounces, and was very mallable and good. All which is submitted by your Honour's most obedient, humble servant,

JOSEPH HOPKINS.

N. B. The mine aforesaid lies in a tract of land called the *King's District*, where the fee has never been granted or patented to any person, and the inhabitants claim to hold by possession only; and I employed the miner aforementioned, with others, to labour in said mine seven days, about half of which time was spent in preparing to open the vein, and by the other half of the labour was raised one hundred weight of ore. Yours as above, J. H.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GOVERNOUR COOKE.

Cambridge, January 6, 1776.

SIR: I received your favour of the 1st instant, and return you my thanks for the blankets, and your promise of having more procured, as they are much wanted. I did not see Mr. *Earl*, who brought them, nor the account, or the money should have been transmitted you by his return. You will please to draw on the Quartermaster-General, and it shall be immediately paid. I have seen General *Lee* since his expedition, and hope that *Rhode-Island* will derive some advantage from it. I am told that Captain *Wallace's* ships have been supplied, for some time, with provisions by the town of *Newport*, on certain conditions, stipulated between him and the Committee. When this treaty first obtained, perhaps it was right—there then might have been some hopes of an accommodation taking place; but now, when every prospect of it seems to be cut off by His Majesty's late speech; when the Throne, from which we had supplicated redress, breathes forth vengeance and indignation, and a firm determination to remain unalterable in its purposes, and to prosecute the system and plan of ruin formed by the Ministry against us, should not an end be put to it, and every possible method be fallen upon to prevent their getting necessaries of any kind? We need not expect to conquer our enemies by good offices, and I know not what pernicious consequences may result from a precedent of this sort. Other places, circumstanced as *Newport* is, may follow the example, and, by that means, their whole fleet and army will be furnished with what it highly concerns us to keep them from; this, however, with all deference, I leave to your consideration.

I received a letter from Governour *Trumbull*, of the 1st instant, by which I am informed, that the *Connecticut* Assembly are very unanimous in the common cause; and, among others, have passed an act for raising and equipping a fourth of their Militia, to be immediately selected by voluntary inlistments, with such other able, effective men, as are not included in their militia-rolls, who inclined to inlist, to act as Minute-Men, for their own, or the defence of any of the *United Colonies*, and this under proper encouragements. Another act, for restraining and punishing persons inimical to us, and directing proceedings therein; no person to supply the Ministerial army or navy, to give them intelligence, to inlist, or procure others to inlist, in their service, to pilot their vessels, or in any way assist them, under pain of forfeiting his estate, and an imprisonment not exceeding three years; none to write, speak, or act against the proceedings of Congress, or their acts of Assembly, under penalty of being disarmed, and disqualified from holding any office, and be further punished by imprisonment. For seizing and confiscating, for the use of the Colony, the estates of those who put or continue to shelter themselves under the protection of the Ministerial fleet or army, or assist in carrying on their measures against us. A resolve to provide two armed vessels, of sixteen and fourteen guns, with a spy schooner of four, and six row-galleys. An act exempting the polls of soldiers from taxes, for the last and ensuing campaign. Another for encouraging the making of saltpetre and gunpowder; a considerable quantity of both, Mr. *Trumbull* hopes to make early in the Spring. He says, the furnace at *Middletown* is smelting lead, and likely to turn out twenty or thirty tons, and that ore is plenty. They have, also, passed an act, empowering the Commander-in-chief of the Continental Army, or officers commanding a detachment or out-posts, to administer an oath, and swear any person or persons to the truth of any matters concerning, and relative to, the publick service. The situation of our affairs seems to call for regulations like these, and I should think the other Colonies ought to adopt similar ones, or such of them as they have not already made. Vigorous measures, and such as, at another time, would appear extraordinary, are now become absolutely necessary for preserving our country against the strides of tyranny making against us. Governour *Trumbull*, in his list, has not mentioned an act for impressing carriages, and agreeable to the recommendation of Congress; this I hope they have not forgot. It is highly necessary that such an authority should be given, under proper restrictions, or we shall be greatly embarrassed, whenever the Army, or any detachment from it, should find it necessary to march from hence.

I am, sir, with very great esteem, your most obedient servant,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To Governour *Cooke*.

P. S. I have received certain intelligence of the fitting out of a fleet at *Boston*, of the embarkation of some troops, and that all the ships that were in *Nantasket* Road are gone, except two men-of-war; their destination is not known, but I am persuaded it is for the southward; I think for *Long-Island* or *New-York*.

COMMISSION TO WILLIAM MORONY.

By His Excellency General WASHINGTON, *Esq., Commander-in-chief of the Army of the* UNITED COLONIES *of* NORTH-AMERICA.

To Mr. WILLIAM MORONY:

By virtue of the powers and authorities to me granted by the honourable Continental Congress, I do hereby constitute and appoint you Provost Marshal in said Army, in the service of the *United Colonies* of *North-America*, to have, hold, exercise, and enjoy, the said office of Provost Marshal, and to perform and execute all matters and things which to your said office doth, or may of right, belong or appertain, until further order shall be given herein, by the honourable Continental Congress, myself, or any future Commander-in-chief of said Army; willing and commanding all officers, soldiers, and persons whatsoever, any way concerned, to be obedient and assisting to you in the due execution of this commission.

Given under my hand and seal, at *Cambridge*, *January* sixth, *Anno Domini* one thousand seven hundred and seventy-six.

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

By His Excellency's command.

Instructions for Mr. WILLIAM MORONY, *Provost Marshal of the Army of the* UNITED COLONIES, *under the immediate command of His Excellency General* WASHINGTON.

All prisoners guilty of capital crimes, and crimes not triable by a Regimental Court-Martial, are to be sent to the Provost.

The Provost is not to receive any prisoner, without a crime specified in writing, and signed by the person committing him.

No prisoner is to be suffered to be absent from his confinement, until released by proper authority.

The Provost Marshal is to provide a suitable person, when necessary, to execute the sentences of General Court-Martials, approved of, and directed to be enforced, by the Commander-in-chief.

When any men are sent to the Provost, the Provost Marshal is to send a report of them immediately to the regiment they belong to; and no man is to be received by the Provost, except his crime is sent with him.

The Provost is to make a return, every morning, by ten o'clock, to the Adjutant-General, of the number of prisoners under guard, specifying the regiment they belong to, their crimes, by whom, and how long confined.

The Provost is to take due care that all orders from the Judge Advocate, respecting the trials of prisoners, be punctually executed; and is to post proper sentries, from his guard, at such times and in such places, as a General Court-Martial may sit.

The Provost is frequently to take a party from his guard, and patrole the avenues and environs of the camp; is to take up and confine all disorderly and suspicious persons; to suppress riots and disturbances; and to inform the Quartermaster-General of all persons who keep unwarranted and destructive dram-shops, and all other pernicious and camp nuisances.

The Provost is to receive and obey all such orders and instructions as may, at any time, be given him by his Excellency the Commander-in-chief, the Adjutant-General, the Quartermaster-General, and the Judge Advocate, of the Army of the *United Colonies*.

Given at Head-Quarters, at *Cambridge*, this 12th day of *January*, 1776.

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

COLONEL LONG TO NEW-HAMPSHIRE CONGRESS.

Portsmouth, January 6, 1776.

SIR: Mr. *McClure* tells me there was some difficulty respecting the rolls, which prevented the moneys being paid. I sincerely wish every obstacle may be removed, and their wages may immediately come down, for I heartily wish to see the time for the troops to get off. Mr. *Ayres*, whom you have appointed Wagon-Master, says, he cannot make it convenient to undertake for more than Captain *Dearing's*, *Wiggins's*, and *Brewster's* companies, as the others live far out of his way, and, consequently, his expenses, in making preparations, will be large. I think, in order to save all that expense, those several Captains had better provide carriages for themselves and men, as they will be able to determine the hour, perhaps, they will go from their rendezvous. There is one Mr. *Beal*, of this town, an officer of Colonel *Poor's* regiment, who is inlisting men from out of the companies down here, to serve during the war. There is a resolve of Congress, dated, I think, the 16th *September* last, which, no doubt, you have, which he thinks authorizes him. The prisoners who are set at liberty by virtue of your vote, are without money or friends, wandering about within their limits, reflecting on us, for making no provision for them. I have been obliged to let some of them sleep in the barracks, otherwise they would, in all probability, have perished this inclement season. I had forgot to mention that Mr. *Beal* has applied to me for a barrack and other necessaries, for his men. I would, likewise, inform you, that I have paid all the carpenters who wrought on the new barracks, and on the bridge, and have purchased near a sloop load of wood, at four dollars per cord, for the forts and troops, which leaves, in my hands, about one hundred pounds, of the sum of two hundred and thirty-five pounds received of Colonel *Langdon;* and must add, there is not one stick of wood now, either at the barracks or forts, excepting a small matter at Captain *Salter's*. I am, this day, going again to find where I can purchase any, for they cannot do without it. I must entreat your attention to the poor prisoners, who are continually at my house, in droves, begging for provision to be made. The staff-roll will be handed to you by Mr. *McClure*.

Have nothing further to add, but am, sir, your most obedient servant,

PIERCE LONG.

P. S. After I have purchased some more wood, I will call on you, and settle the above account.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO COLONEL WYNKOOP.

Albany, January 7, 1776.

SIR: The expense of carrying on the women and children by land, will be too heavy; you will, therefore, detain them with you, more especially as it is not certain whether their husbands are in *Connecticut* or *Pennsylvania*. Mrs. *Bliss*, the widow of the sergeant that was killed on board the *Gaspee*, you will forward to her parents; and such others may go, as choose to hire their own sleds.

All the men of the *St. John's* garrison to go or stay, as the officers commanding the different corps they belong to, shall direct.

If any officer of the other troops taken at *Montreal*, chooses to remain with the men, he has my leave.

General *Montgomery* is well before *Quebeck*. I have his letters of the 18th ultimo; he was in hopes soon to be in possession.

I am, sir, your most humble servant,

PHILIP SCHUYLER.

To Colonel *Wynkoop*.

JAMES GRAY TO SIR JOHN JOHNSON.

Hermitage, January 7, 1776.

DEAR SIR: The bearer, *Lewis Grant*, a good soldier, wants a gun, and I wish you had a thousand such men. Captain *Barrington's* arrival hinders my writing upon particulars. He mentioned some news. My good sir, when you get any news, honour me with your remarks upon them. I beg my humble respects to the ladies, and have the honour to be, dear sir,

Your most obedient, humble servant, JAMES GRAY.

To Sir *John Johnson*.

P. S. Sir *John*, send me three or four sheets of paper.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Cambridge, January 7, 1776.

SIR: Your favour of the 1st instant I received, and heartily thank you for your kind salutations. I was happy to hear of the great unanimity in your Assembly, and of the several salutary laws they passed, which show them to be well attached to the common cause, and to have taken the proper measures for supporting it.

Enclosed you have the amount of the lead from *Crown-Point*, agreeable to your request. The account of the smelting furnace, and your expectations to make a considerable quantity of saltpetre and powder, pleases me much. I wish your most sanguine endeavours may be more than answered.

As to gun-locks, it is not in my power to furnish any; the information you had was groundless, for there were no spare ones in the ordnance stores which fell into our hands. None were ever found, that I have heard of, nor is there mention of them in the invoice.

Having undoubted intelligence of the fitting out a fleet at *Boston*, and of the embarkation of troops from thence, which, from the season of the year, and other circumstances, must be destined for some expedition south of this; and having such information as I can depend upon, that the inhabitants of *Long-Island*, in the Colony of *New-York*, or a great part of them, are inimical to the rights and liberties of *America*, and, from their conduct and professions, have discovered an apparent inclination to assist in subjugating their fellow-citizens to Ministerial tyranny, there is the greatest reason to believe, that this armament, if not immediately designed against the city of *New-York*, is, nevertheless, intended for *Long-Island*; and, as it is of the utmost importance to prevent the enemy from possessing themselves of the city of *New-York* and the *North* River, which would give them the command of the country and the communication with *Canada*, I shall despatch Major General *Lee*, with orders to repair thither, with such volunteers as are willing to join, and can be expeditiously raised, (having no troops to spare from hence,) to put the city, and fortifications on the *North* River, in the best posture of defence the season and circumstances will admit of, and for disarming all persons, upon *Long-Island* and elsewhere, whose conduct and declarations have rendered them justly suspected of designs unfriendly to the views of Congress. I have directed him to call upon the commanding officer of the *Jersey* troops for such assistance as he can afford; and, being informed by Captain *Sears* and Mr. *Woodward*, (who will deliver you this, and whom General *Lee* will follow in a day or two,) that he apprehends one thousand or fifteen hundred volunteers may be readily raised in your Government, in the towns through which Mr. *Lee* will pass, I beg the favour of you to interpose your good offices and interest in the matter, to encourage men to go on this important service, and as expeditiously as possible, for counteracting any designs our enemies may have against us in that quarter; every necessary expense attending their march and stay, will be borne by the publick. I just received advice from *Chelsea*, about nine or ten miles from this, that several ships have sailed from *Nantasket* Road, that were lying there.

I shall write to the honourable the Convention of *New-York*, by General *Lee*, and direct his instructions to be laid before them, praying their assistance to facilitate the purposes of his going.

Boxes of lead, 19½, at $2 70 each.

I am, sir, with much esteem, &c.,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To Governour *Trumbull, Connecticut.*

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO JOHN ADAMS.

Cambridge, January 7, 1776.

SIR: You will excuse me for reminding you of our conversation the other evening, when I informed you that General *Lee's* departure for *New-York* is advisable upon the plan of his letter, and, under the circumstances I then mentioned, ought not to be delayed. In giving me your opinion of this matter, I have no doubt of your taking a comprehensive view of it; that is, you will not only consider the propriety of the measure, but of the execution; and whether such a step, though right in itself, may not be looked upon as beyond my line.

If it could be made convenient and agreeable to you to dine with me to day, I shall be very glad of your company, and we can then talk the matter over at large. Please to forward General *Lee's* letter to me. I am, &c.

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

[GENERAL WASHINGTON] TO WILLIAM WATSON.

Cambridge, January 7, 1776.

Ordered him to examine into the condition of Captain *Coit's* schooner. If fit to be continued in service, to look out for some person qualified to take command of her, appoint officers, and raise men for that purpose. If unfit, and that a clever set of officers and men can be got, also a schooner remarkable for sailing, to remove the guns, ammunition, &c., from on board the one into the other, &c., &c.

To *William Watson*, Esq., *Plymouth.*

LORD STIRLING TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

Elizabethtown, January 8, 1776.

SIR: By the post of this day, I have received your letter of the 3d, with a copy of the minutes of Congress relative to the *New-Jersey* troops, &c., from the 8th of *December* to the 2d instant, inclusive. I have great satisfaction in knowing the sense of the Congress on the several matters therein, and they may be assured, that I shall pay the highest attention and regard to it. The two battalions of this Province, notwithstanding my utmost diligence, are still very deficient in arms, blankets, and almost every necessary, as will appear by the returns, which I shall transmit to you by *Thursday* next, when I expect to have the returns from all the companies in the First Battalion. I hope this will in some measure be remedied by the Committee of Safety of this Province, who are to meet to-morrow, at *Princeton*, for the first time since the adjournment of the Provincial Convention, in *October* last.

I hope you will this evening receive the despatches I sent you by Captain *Morris*. I hear *Cortlandt Skinner*, Esq., went off yesterday to the *Asia*. He has been too quick for me, for I sent off two very alert officers yesterday evening, to assist Lieutenant-Colonel *Winds* to watch their motions, and to stop such as should attempt to go off. Having some reasons to suspect that Governour *Franklin* was about moving, he has obtained his promise not to leave the Province, and has planted guards in such a manner as to prevent it.

I have the honour to be, your most obedient, humble servant,

STIRLING.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, &c.

WESTCHESTER (NEW-YORK) COMMITTEE TO COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

White-Plains, January 8, 1776.

SIR: The Committee of *Westchester* County, having seen in the publick prints, that many of the inhabitants of *Queen's* County are thrown out of the protection of the Provincial Congress, and having been informed that they are arming in their defence, are greatly alarmed at their conduct, and beg leave to assure your honourable House, that the friends of liberty in this County are willing, strenuously, to exert themselves to reduce the enemies to their country, before they are supported by the regular troops, if it shall be thought most advisable by the Committee of Safety, or the Provincial or Continental Congresses.

We are, sir, your most humble servants.

By order of the Committee:

WILLIAM MILLER, *Deputy Chairman.*

To Mr. *Pierre Van Cortlandt*, President of the Committee of Safety.

MONSIEUR PELISSIER TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

Forges St. Maurice, 8 Janvier, 1776.

MONSIEUR: En *Decembre* dernier, le Général *Montgomery* m'ayant informé du desir qu'il auroit de convoquer une Assemblée en cette Colonie, afin de former des Députés pour envoyer au Congrès Continental, m'engagea

d'employer mes soins pour y parvenir; mais n'ayant pas trouvé la chose practicable alors, je me rendis au camp de ce Général, afin de conférer avec lui sur les moyens qu'il y auroit à prendre pour en venir à bout.

Par les informations qu'il avoit eu, et suivant les connoissances que j'avois prises, nous fûmes d'avis que cette convocation ne pourroit avoir lieu, qu'après la prise de *Quebeck*, atendu que les Royalistes, dont le nombre est considérable dans les villes de *Montreal* et *Trois-Rivières*, ne cessoient d'intimider le peuple sur les evènemens futurs, et de lui faire un portrait odieux et méprisant de la conféderation de *l'Amérique*.

Ce brave Général, impatient de seconder les intentions du Congrès, voulut aplanir les difficultés et lever tous les obstacles par un coup d'éclat, en donnant l'assaut à la ville de *Quebeck;* mais vous savez qu'il n'y reussit pas, et qu'il eut le malheur d'y finir ses jours. Il a été généralement regretté de tous ceux qui sont persuadés que des sentiments nobles et généreux l'avoient seuls déterminés à soutenir les intérêts légitimes de ses compatriotes.

Ce contretemps n'a du tout point alteré ici les bonnes dispositions des Amis de *l'Amérique*, quoiqu'en très petit nombre. Mais il a rendu les Royalistes plus audacieux que jamais, surtout ceux qui sont gagés par le gouvernement; ils crient déjà Victoire; cependant je me flatte qu'ils se trompent grossièrement, car quand on voudra ataquer *Quebeck*, suivant les règles de l'art, du côté de la porte du palais, aucune saison ne pourra empêcher que cette ville ne soit prise en peu de jours.

Quatre canons divisés en deux batteries derrière un mur simple servant de parapet, et le dit mur prolongé sur la même ligne jusqu'à cinquante toises ou environ garnis de creneaux pour la mousqueterie, composent toute la defense de cette partie.

Le local est tel que deux petites batteries que l'on peut établir facilement vingt à trente toises de distance pour battre ou en écharpe, ou de revers, ou en flanc, peuvent ruiner en peu de tems cette foible artillerie. Comme la porte de la ville dans cet endroit est simple ainsi que son portail, il ne seroit pas bien difficile d'y faire brêche, puisqu'une fois les quatre canons demontés, il n'auroit plus qu'à se garantir de la mousqueterie des creneaux. Il est vrai que derrière ces creneaux s'éleve un corps de caserne dans l'intérieur, du quel on pourroit fusiller. Mais la mousqueterie ne tient pas devant des batteries couvertes et disposées pour s'en garantir.

La majeure partie du restant de la place étant bordé d'un cap presque inaccessible et tout roc, on ne pourroit y pratiquer aucune brêche. Reste la hauteur *d'Abraham*, où l'art a établis des fortifications irregulières, et dont les chemins couverts ne sont pas finis; cependant, comme elles forment une ligne presque droite depuis la côte *d'Abraham* jusqu'à celle du fleuve *St. Laurent*, il resulte de cette position que le feu des courtines et des faces de bastions est considerable, et ne peut être eteint que par une artillerie prodigieuse; outre cela le terrein exige que les parapets des tranchées y soient formées avec des sacs à terre, au lieu que du coté de la porte du palais, il n'y a que deux batteries que l'on peut attaquer, comme j'ai déjà dis, en écharpe de revers ou en flanc, et qui par ce moyen n'ont point de défense.

J'imagine que si le Congrès daigne encore nous continuer ses secours généreux, et qu'un plan méthodique soit mis à l'execution, *Quebeck* ne tiendra pas longtemps.

Alors les Royalistes seront confondus, le juste prevaudra sur l'injuste, les *Canadiens* timides seront enhardis, et on pourra faire des préparatifs contre les forces Parlementaires qui pourroient survenir cette année à dessein d'exécuter des résolutions prises depuis plusieurs années pour reduire dans un état de servitude tous les habitans du continent de *l'Amérique Septentrionale*.

J'observe, à cet égard, que lorsque le Ministère a voulut abolir les privileges des habitans de la *Baye de Massachusetts*, il a au moins cherché à sauver les apparences en leur faisant une mauvaise querelle par une imposition sur le thé. Quant aux *Canadiens*, on a cru pouvoir leur ôter les leurs sans tant de cérémonies, et même leur persuader que c'étoit pour leur bien, et qu'ils devoient en avoir une eternelle reconnoissance. Je vous avouerai franchement, qu'il faut avoir une triste opinion d'un peuple pour en agir ainsi; c'est le comble de l'humiliation, mais on s'est trompé.

Lorsqu'en 1765, le Général *Murray*, sous le prétexte spécieux de former des representans, tous *Canadiens*, voulut rétablir le gouvernement sur le même pied qu'il étoit sous la domination Françoise, il fut aisé de conclure que c'étoit un plan du Ministère, et que les promesses garanties par la proclamation du Roy, en *Octobre*, 1763, n'auroient point lieu. Le Général *Murray* n'ayant pu mettre le dit plan à l'exécution, il fut rélévé. Le Ministère lui substitua le Général *Carleton*, qui, dans les mêmes vues, sonda le cœur des *Canadiens*, et ne negligea rien pour leur persuader que leurs anciennes lois, coutumes, et usages étoient ce qui pouvoient leur convenir le mieux; mais ayant trouvé l'opposition chez ceux qui savent préférer la liberté au despotisme, il ne donna plus sa confiance qu'aux officiers *Canadiens* et au clergé. Il trouva en eux tout ce qu'il lui falloit; c'est-à-dire, des courtesans qui, flattés de l'esperance de voir renaître un jour les temps où ils pouvoient dominer sur le peuple, ils le suivirent suivant ses désirs, et en conséquence adressèrent au Roi une requête, au nom de tous les habitants de la Province de *Quebeck*, pour se soustraire à la sage constitution *Britannique;* c'est-à-dire, pour demander fers pour leurs concitoyens.

Il ne faut pas croire que les *Canadiens* en général se soient avilis jusqu'à ce point; quelques adulateurs et quelques ignorans fanatiques des anciennes coutumes signèrent cette honteuse requête sans y avoir été autorisés que par eux-mêmes, au nombre de 65.

C'est d'après cette requête de commande que le Ministère qui avoit déjà ses vues, a saisi avec empressement l'occasion d'établir en ce pays le pouvoir arbitraire, au moyen du Bill de *Quebeck*. Tous les honnêtes gens de cette Province s'y seroient vus assujettis, si les Colonies voisines n'eussent daigné avoir pitié de leur malheureux sort, et ne leur eussent prêté leur appui pour secouer ce joug odieux. On ose croire que la reconnoissance de cette Province à l'égard de ses voisines sera éternelle: cependant on ne peut, et on ne doit pas cacher que cette bonne disposition et ses bons sentimens pourroient être corrompus dans quelques membres, si on n'avoit pas la précaution de purger la Colonie des flatteurs qui sont aux gages du Gouvernement.

On doit regarder comme certain, que si on les y laisse subsister, ils y formeront une division qui pourroit devenir prejudiciable à toutes les *Provinces Unies*. Ils y travaillent même déjà en insinuant au peuple qu'au printemps prochain il viendra ici une armée nombreuse de l'ancienne *Angleterre*, et que s'étant rendu coupable de rebellion, il ne leur restera pour ressource que l'aller joindre l'armée pour obtenir leur pardon, sans quoi ils seront brulés, pillés, et la majeure partie punis de mort.

Tels sont les propos que l'on tient journellement à un peuple naturellement trop crédule. Si on ne coupe pas au plutôt le mal par la racine, il pourroit devenir incurable; car des impressions de cette nature deviennent avec le temps, comme des préjugés de l'enfance, très difficiles à détruire: en outre, par les épithètes outrageantes et injurieuses, dont ils se servent en parlant de nos bons voisins qui nous ont secourus, ils tâchent de les rendre méprisables ainsi que la liberté aux yeux du peuple *Canadien*. Toutes ces menées ne peuvent que produire un mauvais effet, et elles sont d'autant plus dangereuses et sineuses que des précautions que l'on prendra à leur égard dependra beaucoup la conservation de la Province.

Si, comme il est à présumer, il n'y a point d'arrangement entre les Colonies et l'ancienne *Angleterre* d'ici au printemps prochain, il pourroient peut-être arriver qu'elle enverroit des forces dans le fleuve *St. Laurent* pour tâcher de pénétrer dans les autres Colonies en ramenant les *Canadiens* sous le joug, soit par menaces, soit par promesses. Il paroîtroit que pour rendre infructuese une pareille expedition, il y auroit deux moyens principaux qui à ce que je crois meritent une attention particulière. Le premier seroit de maintenir les *Canadiens*, et le second d'empêcher les flottes de passer au-dessus de *Quebeck*.

Les circonstances présentes pour le maintien des *Canadiens* paroissent avoir trois pointes de vue pour objet:

1. Qu'il soit pris des précautions convenables à l'égard des personnes gagées par le Gouvernement, des autres Royalistes, et surtout des militaires.

2. Quoiqu'il soit naturel que les *Canadiens* payent leur quote part des frais de la guerre, j'imagine qu'il conviendroit de retarder ce prélevement, atendu que ce peuple,

n'ayant jamais payé aucun impôt que par la voie des droits d'entrée sur les importations, et de sortie sur les exportations, il se figureroit qu'il a été abusé, et qu'il n'a été conquis par ses voisins que pour être taxé et payer tous les frais de la guerre présente, ainsi que les Royalistes le lui font entendre.

3. Pour ne point les alarmer, il faudroit leur laisser leurs evêques, leurs prêtres, et le libre exercise de leur réligion. Il est vrai que quelque-suns de leurs curés ont fait des neuvaines et prieurs publiques à l'Etre Suprême pour qu'il daigna exterminer les troupes que nos bons voisins ont bien voulus envoyer à notre secours; mais la politique exige dans ces circonstances qu'ils soient maintenus, et non réduits.

Quant aux mesures à prendre pour empêcher une flotte de passer au-dessus de *Quebeck*, il me semble que le plus expedient pour des personnes qui, jalouses de leur liberté, ne doivent pas risquer leur fort au hasard d'une bataille, seroit de la brûler.

L'endroit le plus près de la ville où une flotte puisse mouiller, est le chenal de l'Isle *d'Orléans*. Il est vrai qu'en 1759 les *François* ne reussirent pas à brûler celle de l'Amiral *Saunders*, quoiqu'ils eussent huit brûlots du port de 200 jusqu'à 450 tonneaux; mais il ne faut pas en être surpris. A l'instant du depart de ces brûlots, tous les capitaines qui devoient les commander reçurent un ordre positif de lever leurs ancres et de mettre le feu à leurs navires aussitot que le commandant auroit mis le feu au sien; mais ce dernier, au lieu de lever, coupa ses cables sur la bite, et força de voile, de sorte qu'il a été rendu à la *Pointe-Lévi* lorsque les autres étoient à peine à moitié chemin; cependant le commandant étant encore à deux lieues de la flotte qu'il devoit brûler, il mit le feu à son brûlot; tous les autres en firent autant en conformité de leurs ordres, mais trop tot pour qu'ils pussent produire aucun effet; plusieurs d'entre eux s'echouèrent avant d'arriver à la flotte; et l'amiral, qui avoit eu la précaution de faire mouiller tous ses vaisseaux, et transporter le long des batures à droit et à gauche du fleuve, eut le temps d'envoyer des chaloupes pour remorquer dans le milieu de chenal, qui pour lors étoit libre, les brûlots qui ne s'étoient pas échoués.

On peut dire que si cette expédition n'eut pas le succès que l'on devoit en attendre, elle répondit on ne peut pas mieux aux vues de ceux qui avoient intérêts qu'elle ne réussit pas. Si le contraire fut arrivé, les généraux n'eussent pas pu se flatter d'acquerir de la gloire durante le cours de cette campagne. On sait que l'evènement justifia mal leur espoir. Il ne seroit de même avec des Généraux qui ne sacrifieroient pas les intérêts publics à leur ambition particulière.

Il me paroit qu'il ne seroit peut-être pas impossible de se debarrasser d'une flotte, et même d'une escadre, dans un fleuve comme celui de la Province de *Quebeck*. Les marées peuvent favoriser ces sortes de manœuvres, et la Province fournit en abondance des matériaux convenables pour construire des brûlots de deux espèces qui ne pourroient être coulés bas facilement par l'artillérie d'un vaisseau de guerre; une des deux espèces pourroient lancer son feu de loin, et l'autre par communication.

Il est bien decidé qu'un corps ne flotte dans un fluide que parcequ'il pese moins que la volume de ce même fluide qu'il deplace. D'après ce principe incontestable, il ne s'agit que de remplir la cale d'un bâtiment d'un matière dont le poids, ajoute à celui des munitions de guerre, de bouches, equipage, &c., pese moins que le volume d'eau qu'il pourra déplacer.

Le cèdre est fort abondant en ce pays, et est très convenable en pareil cas, parceque son poids spécifique est moindre que celui de l'eau. Un pied cube de ce bois, quoique vert, peut supporter sur la surface de l'eau un poids de trente livres, et ne peut absolument caler qu'avec trente-six livres; mais pour éviter toute difficulté imprévue, je suppose qu'il n'en porte que vingt-cinq livres. Dès-lors un bâtiment large, à fond plat de 200 tonneaux de trente pieds cube chaque, construit avec du cèdre, et dont la cale en sera remplie, pourra, quoique plein d'eau, porter 150,000 livres, qui font 75 tonneaux; et floter facilement, je suppose que la partie du bâtiment qui sera dans l'eau fera un effort suffisant pour supporter celle qui en sera déhors.

D'après ce calcul, il est aisé de donner à une pareille barque un equipement qui n'excede point ce poids, ayant attention de se reserver au centre pour les munitions, un coffre étanche depuis le fond de cale jusqu'aux baux.

Le volume de ce coffre peut, par son déplacement de l'eau, donner la facilité de mettre du lest, afin de maintenir l'équilibre; le poids d'un pied cube d'eau douce étant 70 lbs., il ne s'agit que de donner au coffre une grandeur rélative au poids du lest nécessaire au bâtiment que l'on voudra construire.

Mais au lieu de l'armer avec des canons, si l'on pouvoit lui substituer des obus pour tirer horizontalement des bombettes de huit pouces, et surtout des carcasses rondu en forme d'herisson, on pourroit espérer de brûler les vaisseaux ennemis, pourvu que l'on garantit du feu les sabords en leur donnant une forme convenable, et les garnissant avec de la taule, il faudroient que les pointes des herissons fussent grillées, et que les matières combustibles qui les enveloperoient pussent flechir assez, afin qu'arrivant sur un vaisseau, elles pussent entrer dans les bordages jusqu'à un pouce et demi ou environ. Un petit boulet d'où s'enléveroit en differents sens des pointes de fers grillées garnies dans les intervalles, et même jusqu'au dessus de leurs surfaces, pointues avec de l'etoupe huilée, de la toile goudronnée, et autres matières combustibles, que l'on a acoutume d'employer dans les carcasses, composeroit cette machine destructive.

Il ne seroit peut-être pas impossible de bastinguer un tel bâtiment de façon à le mettre à l'abris du boulet, et de le garantir de l'abordage, en garnissant son ribord de pointes de fers, les unes horizontales et les autres verticales, en leur donnant deux pieds exterieurement deux tonneaux de fer suffiroient. La précaution de ne placer des aubans qu'intérieurement (ce qui peut se faire en égard à sa largeur) et de ne point lui donner de beaupré conviendroit en pareil cas. On sait bien qu'un bâtiment qui partiroit de *Quebeck* avec un vent fait de sud-ouest et marée baissante qui iroit la nuit mouiller en avant d'un vaisseau de guerre et qui fileroit son cable jusqu'à ce qu'il n'en fut qu'à environ cinquante brasses, ne sauroit être abordé pour ce vaisseau, le vent et le courant étant deux obstacles invincibles; mais ces sont les chaloupes que l'on ne manqueroit pas de trouver mouillées bien au-dessus des vaisseaux qui pourroient être à craindre, c'est pourquoi il faut des moyens pour sauver le bâtiment en question de l'abordage.

Si une machine flotante construite sur ces principes ne pouvoit être coulée bas ni abordée, et qui lançant son feu à une moyenne distance, pourroit insulter un vaisseau de guerre, le brûler, on au moins l'obliger de lever, auroit, je crois, quelque avantage sur un bâtiment ordinaire. Il est vrai qu'il ne seroit propre que sur une rivière, mais c'est tout ce qu'on en attend.

Huit bâtiments de cette espèce de 150 tonneaux chaque, à un mât seulement montée chacun de six ou huit obus, couteroient moins en total qu'un seul vaisseau de soixante canons, et rendroient peut-être plus de service; quant à l'autre espèce de brulôt destiné à mettre le feu par communication, on pourroit les faire sur les mêmes principes, mais beaucoup plus petits.

Des gabarres à fond plat de vingt à trente tonneaux pontier garnies de cèdre dans le câle, et ayant leurs artifices sur le pont suffiroient.

Deux raisons qui m'ont parues très importantes m'ont fais imaginer la necessité des brûlots: la première c'est qu'avec des nouvelles troupes, il pourroit y avoir quelques difficultés à disputer le terrein à des vieux corps réglés; et la deuxième c'est que j'oserois dire, par expérience, que l'on doit poser pour axiome que des batteries quelques fortes qu'elles puissent être ne sauroient empêcher une flotte de passer durant la nuit devant *Quebeck*, remonter le fleuve, et laisser par la derrière elle tous les préparatifs qu'on auroit pu faire par terre.

Telles sont, Monsieur, les idées que j'ai formé sur l'ataque de *Quebeck*, et une partie des défenses de la Colonie, et que je soumis à votre examen. Je suis bien convaincu que ceux qui, comme vous, s'interessent essentiellement à la prospérité de *l'Amérique* sauront prendre tous les arrangements convenables dans les circonstances présentes.

Si j'ai pris la liberté de vous communiquer mes sentiments à cet égard, c'est que persuadé, comme je suis, de la

justice de la cause de *l'Amérique*, personne ne desire plus que moi de la voir reussir dans sa louable entreprise.

Je m'estimerois très heureux, si mes reflections pouvoient donner lieu à quelques moyens qui pourroient tourner à son avantage.

J'ai l'honneur d'être, avec une parfaite considération, Monsieur, votre très humble et très obeissant serviteur,

PELLISSIER,

Directeur des Forges St. Maurice, près des Trois Rivières.

Janvier 28, 1776.

MONSIEUR: Je suis actuellement à *Montréal*, où j'ai eu lieu de faire des observations dont j'ai cru devoir vous informer. J'y ai trouvé le nombre des Royalistes beaucoup plus considérables que je ne pensois. Si on ne met pas un frein à leurs propos, il est à craindre qu'ils ne changent la bonne disposition des habitants des campagnes. Je crois que si le rangfort destiné pour le *Canada* étoit envoyé subitement, et logé dans les campagnes, cela arreteroit le progrès des mauvais discours. Il est encore tems de le faire, et les habitants ne le trouveront pas mal-à-propos.

Quoique le siège de *Quebeck* ne soit pas difficile, il pourroit cependant arriver qu'en l'attaquant du coté du Palais, les assiegés se fortifieroient dans l'intérieur de la ville. En égard à l'avantage qu'ils ont de la hauteur de cette partie, c'est pourquoi il seroit nécessaire d'avoir des canons de vingt-quatre, ou au moins de dix-huit, pour suffire dans le cas où l'on seroit obligé d'assieger par le bastion *St. Jean*, qui est le foible des fortifications qui sont sur la hauteur *d'Abroham*. Mais je ne peux pas m'empêcher de vous prier d'observer qu'il faut absolument des ingenieurs pour la conduite des details du siège, et que sans cette précaution ce sera en vain qu'on y employera une quantité considérable de troupes et des munitions de guerre.

Si mes informations peuvent vous être utiles, vous pouvez disposer librement de celui qui a l'honneur d'être, avec une parfaite considération, Monsieur, votre très humble et très obeissant serviteur, PELISSIER.

—

TRANSLATION OF MONSIEUR PELISSIER'S LETTER.

Forges of St. Maurice, January 8, 1776.

SIR: In *December* last, General *Montgomery* acquainted me of his intention of calling an Assembly in this Colony, to the end that Deputies might be chosen to join the Continental Congress. He engaged me to use my endeavours to accomplish this affair, but not finding it then practicable, I went to the camp to confer with him on the proper measures to be taken hereafter for that purpose.

From the informations he had received, and those I had obtained, we were both of opinion that this Convention ought not to be attempted till after the reduction of *Quebeck*, as the Royalists, who were numerous in the towns of *Montreal* and *Three-Rivers*, were continually intimidating the people with supposed consequences, and giving them odious and contemptible ideas of the *American* Confederation.

This brave General, impatient to forward the designs of the Congress, resolved to remove all difficulties and obstacles, by a bold stroke, in assaulting the City of *Quebeck*. He did not succeed, and had the misfortune there to finish his days. He fell much regretted by all those who were persuaded that noble and generous motives alone, had determined him to engage in the service of his country.

This repulse has, in no wise, altered the good dispositions of the friends of *America* here, though they are a very small number, but it has made the Royalists more audacious than ever, particularly those who are in the pay of the Government. They already cry victory; but, I flatter myself, they are grossly mistaken, for, if *Quebeck* is attacked according to the rules of art, on the side of the *Palace-Gate*, no season, in my opinion, can prevent the city's being taken in a few days.

* * * * * * * * *

I imagine, that, if the Congress continues to afford us its generous assistance, and the above methodical plan is put in execution, that city must soon be taken. The Royalists will then be confounded, the just will prevail over the unjust, and the timid *Canadians* will be encouraged and emboldened to join in preparations for opposing the Parliamentary forces which may arrive this year, with a design to execute the resolutions taken long since, to reduce to a state of servitude all the inhabitants of *North-America*.

I cannot but observe, upon this head, that were the Ministry determined to abolish the privileges of *Massachusetts-Bay*, they endeavoured to save appearances, at least, by creating a cause of quarrel, in imposing a duty upon tea; but they fancied they might enslave the *Canadians* without so much ceremony; they even presumed they could persuade us it was for our good, and that we owed them, for so much kindness, everlasting gratitude. I own they must have had a wretched opinion of us, to think of thus treating us. It was the height of contempt, but they were mistaken.

When, in 1765, General *Murray*, under the specious pretence of forming an Assembly of Representatives, who should all be *Canadians*, intended to re-establish the Government on the same footing it had been under *France*, it was easy to conclude it a plan of the Ministry, and that the promises made us, and which had been confirmed by the King's Proclamation in 1763, were no longer to be considered as binding. General *Murray*, not being able to carry this plan into execution, was removed. Ministry substituted General *Carleton*, who, in the same views, sounded the sentiments of the *Canadians*, and omitted nothing to persuade them that their ancient laws, customs, and usages, would be most suitable and convenient for them; but having met with opposition among those who knew the difference between liberty and despotism, he no longer communicated with, or took into his confidence, any but some *Canadian* officers and the clergy. In them he found all he wanted; that is to say, courtiers, who, pleased with the hope of seeing a return of the times in which they might domineer over the people, served him in every thing he desired, and, in consequence, addressed a petition to the King, in the name of all the inhabitants of the Province of *Quebeck*, to have the wise *British* Constitution withdrawn; which, in effect, was asking chains for their fellow-citizens.

It ought not to be supposed that the *Canadians*, in general, were so base. Some flatterers, and some ignorant people, bigoted to ancient customs, signed this shameful petition, without being authorized by any but themselves, to the number of sixty-five only.

It was upon this bespoken petition that the Ministry, who had their views in obtaining it, seized with eagerness the opportunity of establishing arbitrary power in this country, by the *Quebeck* Act. All the good people of this Province would have found themselves subjected to it, if the neighbouring Colonies had not pitied their unhappy fate, and lent their assistance to throw off the odious yoke; for which we ought to be forever grateful. But it cannot, and ought not to be concealed, that this good disposition, and these good sentiments, may be corrupted in some, if the precaution is not taken of purging the Colony of all those flatterers who receive pay from the Government. It may be considered as certain, that if they are suffered to remain here, they will work a division that may be prejudicial to all the *United Colonies*. They are already doing it, by insinuating to the people that a large army will be here next Spring from Old *England*, and that, being guilty of rebellion, they will have no other resource than joining that army to obtain their pardon, without which, their houses will be pillaged and burnt, and themselves punished with death. Such are the discourses daily held to a people naturally too credulous. If this evil is not soon cut up by the roots, it may become incurable; for impressions of this nature, become, in time, like the prejudices of infancy, very difficult to remove. Besides, by the abusive and contumelious epithets they make use of, in speaking of our good neighbours, who come to succour us, they endeavour to render them, together with liberty itself, contemptible in the eyes of the *Canadians*. These base practices cannot but produce a bad effect; and are so much the more dangerous and serious, as, upon the precautions to be taken with regard to them, depends greatly the preservation of the Province.

If, as it may be presumed, no agreement should take place between the Colonies and *Britain*, before the Spring, it is probable she will send a force into the river *St. Lawrence*, for the purpose of penetrating the other Colonies by the aid of the *Canadians*, brought again under her yoke through menaces or promises, it seems to me that, to render

such an expedition fruitless, there are two principal means which deserve particular attention. The first would be to support and retain the *Canadians;* the second, to hinder the fleet coming up the river, or passing above *Quebeck.*

The circumstances necessary for retaining and supporting the *Canadians,* are:

First. That proper precautions be taken for securing the persons salaried here by Government, the other Royalists, and particularly all the military.

Second. Although it is reasonable that the *Canadians* should pay their proportion of the charges of the war, I imagine it would be proper to delay levying it for some time, as this people, having never been accustomed to pay any tax but by way of duties on importation and exportation, would fancy they had been deceived, and that they were conquered merely to be taxed, and made to pay all the expense of this war, as the Royalists endeavoured to persuade them.

Third. That they may not be alarmed, it is necessary to leave them in possession of their bishops, their priests, and the free exercise of their religion. It is true, that some of the curates have made publick prayers, during nine days, that *God* would exterminate the troops that our good neighbours have kindly sent to assist us; but prudence requires that no notice should be taken of that conduct.

As to the measures to be taken for hindering a fleet's passing above *Quebeck,* it seems to me that the most expedient for persons, who, jealous of their liberty, ought not to risk too much upon the chance of a battle, would be to burn it. * * * * * * * *

If I have taken the liberty to communicate to you my sentiments thus on the attack of *Quebeck* and defence of the Colony, it is, because, persuaded as I am of the justice of the cause of *America,* no one desires more than myself to see her succeed in her most laudable enterprise.

I shall esteem myself very happy, if my reflections may occasion the use of some means that may turn to her advantage.

I have the honour to be, with perfect consideration, sir, your most humble and obedient servant,

PELISSIER,
Director of the Iron Works,
Near the Three-Rivers.

To the Honourable *John Hancock,* Esq.

January 28, 1776.

POSTSCRIPT.—I am now at *Montreal,* where I have an opportunity of making some observations, which I think I ought to communicate to you.

I have found the number of Royalists much more considerable here than I imagined. If they are not bridled, it is to be feared they may change the good disposition of the country people. I believe that if the reinforcements destined for *Canada* arrive soon, and are quartered in the country, that may be a means of stopping the progress of bad discourses. There is yet time to do it, and the people will not dislike it.

STONINGTON (CONNECTICUT) COMMITTEE TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Stonington, January 8, 1776.

SIR: The Committee of Correspondence and Safety in this place, to whose consideration your Excellency, by letter dated the 27th of *November* last, was pleased to refer the affair of one *Denny,* and his captured vessel and cargo, having, on the 1st of *December,* transmitted to you their proceedings relative thereto, beg leave now to report, further, that, (having notified all persons concerned,) after a full hearing, and careful examination and inquiry of the several evidences before us, (consisting of people on board said vessel when taken, and of the neighbours supposed best acquainted with the character of said *Denny,* and one *Buddington,* who, for some reasons, was suspected of being toryistical,) cannot find that either of them have adopted or pursued any measure really inimical to *America,* or in any thing acted a part so obnoxious, but that they, upon paying the necessary and occasional charges, might, without further delay or trouble, have said vessel and cargo restored to them; unless the mere act of said *Denny's* availing himself and being possessed of the enclosed certificate and clearance when taken, should be deemed a sufficient bar in the way; relative to which, the bearer is desired to wait and receive your Excellency's resolution and commands.

From your most obedient, humble servant,
By order of the Committee:

JOSEPH DENISON, *Chairman.*

To His Excellency General *Washington.*

JOHN ADAMS TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Watertown, January 8, 1776.

DEAR SIR: As your Excellency has asked my opinion of General *Lee's* plan, as explained in his letter of the 5th instant, I think it my duty to give it, although I am obliged to do it in more haste than I could wish.

I suppose the only questions which arise upon that letter, are, whether the plan is practicable, whether it is expedient, and whether it lies properly within your Excellency's authority, without further directions from Congress.

Of the practicability of it, I am very ill qualified to judge; but, were I to hazard a conjecture, it would be, that the enterprise would not be attended with much difficulty. The *Connecticut* people, who are very ready upon such occasions, in conjunction with the friends of liberty in *New-York,* I should think might easily accomplish the work.

That it is expedient, and even necessary to be done, by some authority or other, I believe will not be doubted by any friend of the *American* cause, who considers the vast importance of that City, Province, and the *North* River, which is in it, in the progress of this war, (as it is the *nexus* of the Northern and Southern Colonies,) as a kind of key to the whole Continent; as it is a passage to *Canada,* to the great lakes, and to all the *Indian* nations, no effort to secure it ought to be omitted.

That it is within the limits of your Excellency's command, is, in my mind, perfectly clear. Your commission constitutes you commander of all the forces now raised, or to be raised, and of all others who shall voluntarily offer their service, and join the Army for the defence of *American* liberty, and for repelling every hostile invasion thereof, and are vested with full power and authority to act as you shall think for the good and welfare of the service.

Now, if upon *Long-Island* there is a body of people who have arms in their hands, and are intrenching themselves, professedly to oppose the *American* system of defence; who are supplying our enemies, both of the Army and Navy, in *Boston* and elsewhere, (as I suppose is undoubtedly the fact,) no man can hesitate to say that this is an hostile invasion of *American* liberty, as much as that now made in *Boston.* Nay, those people are guilty of the very invasion in *Boston,* as they are constantly aiding, abetting, comforting, and assisting the army there, and that in the most essential manner, by supplies of provisions. If in the city a body of Tories are waiting only for a force to protect them, to declare themselves on the side of our enemies, it is high time that city was secured. The *Jersey* troops have already been ordered into that city by the Congress, and are there, undoubtedly, under your command, ready to assist in this service.

That *New-York* is within your command as much as the *Massachusetts,* cannot bear a question. Your Excellency's superiority in the command, over the Generals in the Northern Department, as it is called, has been always carefully preserved in Congress, although the necessity of despatch has sometimes induced them to send instructions directly to them, instead of first sending them to your Excellency, which would have occasioned a circuit of many hundreds of miles, and have lost much time.

Upon the whole, sir, my opinion is, that General *Lee's* is a very useful proposal, and will answer many good ends.

I am, with great respect, your Excellency's most obedient, humble servant,

JOHN ADAMS.

To General *Washington.*

INSTRUCTIONS TO MAJOR-GENERAL LEE.

SIR: Having undoubted intelligence of the fitting out of a fleet at *Boston,* and of the embarkation of troops from thence, which, from the season of the year, and other cir-

cumstances, must be destined for a Southern expedition; and having such information as I can rely on, that the inhabitants (or a great part of them) on *Long-Island*, in the Colony of *New-York*, are not only inimical to the rights and liberties of *America*, but, by their conduct and publick professions, have discovered a disposition to aid and assist in the reduction of that Colony to Ministerial tyranny; and, as it is a matter of the utmost importance to prevent the enemy from taking possession of the city of *New-York* and the *North* River, as they will thereby command the country, and the communication with *Canada*, it is of too much consequence (since we find, by His Majesty's speech to Parliament, that, in disregard of the petition from the united voice of *America*, nothing less than the total subversion of her rights will satisfy him,) to hazard such a post at such an alarming crisis: You will, therefore, with such volunteers as are willing to join you, and can be expeditiously raised, repair to the city of *New-York*, and calling upon the commanding officer of the forces of *New-Jersey*, for such assistance as he can afford, and you shall require, you are to put that city in the best posture of defence which the season and circumstances will admit of; disarming all such persons, upon *Long-Island* and elsewhere, (and, if necessary, otherwise securing them,) whose conduct and declarations have rendered them justly suspected of designs unfriendly to the views of Congress.

You are also to inquire into the state and condition of the fortifications up the *North* River, and, as far as that be consistent with the orders of Congress, (or not repugnant to them,) to have the works guarded against surprise from a body of men, which might be transported by water near the place, and then marched in upon the back of them.

You will also endeavour to have the medicines, shirts, and blankets, (now at *New-York*,) belonging to the Ministerial troops, secured, and forwarded to this Army. Captain *Sears* can give you particular information concerning them.

That in other matters relative to the execution of the general plan you are going upon, your own judgment, (as it is impossible, with propriety, to give particular directions,) and the advice of those you have reason to believe are hearty in the cause, must direct you; keeping always in view the declared intentions of Congress.

I am persuaded I need not recommend despatch in the execution of this business; the importance, alone, is sufficient incitement. I would advise a dismission of the volunteers (whose necessary expenses will be borne) as soon as the service will admit of it; and that you endeavour, as much as possible, at all times to be in readiness to join the Army, if the exigency of our affairs here should call for it.

Given under my hand, at Head-Quarters, *Cambridge*, the eighth day of *January*, *Anno Domini* 1776.

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO THE NEW-YORK COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Cambridge, January 8, 1776.

SIR: Having undoubted intelligence of the fitting out of a fleet at *Boston*, and the embarkation of troops from thence, which, from the season of the year, and other circumstances, must be destined for some expedition south of this; and having such information as I can rely on, that the inhabitants of *Long-Island*, in your Government, or a great part of them, are not only inimical to the rights and liberties of *America*, but, by their conduct and professions, have discovered an apparent inclination to lend a helping hand to subjugate their fellow-citizens to Ministerial tyranny, there is the greatest reason to believe, that this armament, if not designed immediately against the city of *New-York*, is, nevertheless, intended for *Long-Island*; I have, therefore, thought it expedient to despatch Major-General *Lee*, with such volunteers as he can quickly assemble, on his march, (for I have not troops to spare from hence, if the distance and time would admit of it,) to put the city of *New-York* in the best posture of defence the season and circumstances will admit of.

To his instructions, which I have desired him to lay before you, I beg leave to refer, firmly persuaded that your honourable body will give every assistance in their power to facilitate the end of his coming, as there needs no other argument than a retrospective view of the conduct of the Ministerial troops in *Boston*, and the consequences resulting from it, to prove what a fatal stab it would give to the interests of *America*, to suffer the city of *New-York* to fall into the hands of our enemies.

I am, &c. GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To the Chairman of the Committee of Safety of *New-York*.

[GENERAL WASHINGTON] TO WILLIAM BARTLETT.

Cambridge, January 8, 1776.

Answered his letters of the 5th and 6th instants. Desired he would purchase the guns from Captain *Darby*, belonging to the *Lee*, schooner; if not, he must give them to him. To be alert in fitting the vessels out, &c.

To *William Bartlett*, Esq., *Beverly*.

R. HOOE TO DANIEL OF ST. THOMAS JENIFER.

Alexandria, January 9, 1776.

HONOURABLE SIR: Captain *Conway* has never been able to get his vessel ready to take in till this day, though he used great industry; the weather, the holydays, &c., have been against him. She is still a very fine vessel, now in the most complete order; and it gives me concern to inform you that the Captain, one of the most active fellows in the world, is about leaving her. Of this, Captain *Conway* never gave me the most distant hint, till within these few days. As soon as he made known his intentions, I expostulated with and endeavoured to convince him of the impropriety of leaving the service without giving the Council of Safety due notice to provide another master, but all in vain.

He has had a little vessel built somewhere in the lower parts of *Virginia*; she is finished and come up, and he is going out in her. However, he promises to stay by the vessel and see things carried on, till another master comes on board; you will, therefore, be pleased to appoint one, and send him to take charge, as soon as possible. He says he intended to give you notice at *Annapolis*, but the Council Room was always full, and he never could find an opportunity.

If you have not a proper person to spare, there is a brother of *Conway's*, who I believe to be an able seaman, and a very industrious, spirited man, that has offered himself. He being well acquainted, could pick up men in a short time, of which the vessel is bare, having but three on board.

I am, sir, your most obedient servant,

R. HOOE.

To the Hon. *Daniel of St. Thomas Jenifer*, Esq.

P. S. If you incline to accept of his brother, it will be well to give me orders by next post, or he will be engaged.

ADDRESS OF NEW-YORK COMMITTEE OF SAFETY TO THE INHABITANTS OF THE COLONY OF NEW-YORK.

January 9, 1776.

To prevent, as much as possible, the evil consequences which may arise from the assertion, that the "Continental Congress have made no approaches towards an accommodation with *Great Britain*," the Committee of Safety of the Colony of *New-York*, have directed the following Petition of the Continental Congress to His Majesty, and the Address of the Lord Mayor and Livery of *London*, to the Electors of *Great Britain*, occasioned by that Petition, to be published.

In the present unhappy controversy, we can call for no evidence so unexceptionable to the deluded enemies of *America*, as the testimony of the inhabitants of the Capital city of *Great Britain*.

Every information on this subject, coming from among us, might, perhaps, be considered as passing through a suspicious channel; but when we appeal to those who, if we have engaged without grounds in the present contention, are immediately interested against us, every unprejudiced reader must be convinced, that their voluntary testimony in our favour, is full proof of the justice of our cause. And it is for this purpose, that the above-mentioned Address is

recommended to the serious consideration of the inhabitants of the Colony of *New-York*.

By order of the Committee:

PIERRE VAN CORTLANDT, *Chairman*.

Copy of Petition of the honourable Continental Congress, sitting at PHILADELPHIA, JULY 8, 1775, *to His Majesty.*

Most Gracious Sovereign:

We, your Majesty's faithful subjects, of the Colonies of *New-Hampshire, Massachusetts-Bay, Rhode-Island and Providence Plantations, Connecticut, New-York, New-Jersey, Pennsylvania*, the Counties of *New-Castle, Kent* and *Sussex*, on *Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North-Carolina*, and *South-Carolina*, in behalf of ourselves, and the inhabitants of these Colonies, who have deputed us to represent them in General Congress, entreat your Majesty's gracious attention to this our humble petition.

The union between our mother country and these Colonies, and the energy of mild and just Government, produced benefits so remarkably important, and afforded such an assurance of their permanency and increase, that the wonder and envy of other nations were excited, while they beheld *Great Britain* rising to a power the most extraordinary the world had ever known.

Her rivals, observing that there was no probability of this happy connection being broken by civil dissensions, and apprehending its future effects, if left any longer undisturbed, resolved to prevent her receiving such continual and formidable accessions of wealth and strength, by checking the growth of those settlements from which they were to be derived.

In the prosecution of this attempt, events so unfavourable to the design took place, that every friend to the interest of *Great Britain* and these Colonies, entertained pleasing and reasonable expectations, of seeing an additional force and extension immediately given to the operations of the union hitherto experienced, by an enlargement of the dominions of the Crown, and the removal of ancient and warlike enemies to a greater distance.

At the conclusion, therefore, of the late war, the most glorious and advantageous that ever had been carried on by *British* arms, your loyal Colonists, having contributed to its success, by such repeated and strenuous exertions, as frequently procured them the distinguished approbation of your Majesty, of the late King, and of Parliament, doubted not, but that they should be permitted, with the rest of the empire, to share in the blessings of peace, and the emoluments of victory and conquest.

While these recent and honourable acknowledgments of their merits remained on record, in the journals and acts of that august legislature, the Parliament, undefaced by the imputation, or even the suspicion of any offence, they were alarmed by a new system of statutes and regulations, adopted for the administration of the Colonies, that filled their minds with the most painful fears and jealousies; and, to their inexpressible astonishment, perceived the danger of a foreign quarrel quickly succeeded by domestick dangers, in their judgment, of a more dreadful kind.

Nor were these anxieties alleviated by any tendency in this system to promote the welfare of their mother country; for, though its effects were immediately felt by them, yet its influence appeared to be injurious to the commerce and prosperity of *Great Britain*.

We shall decline the ungrateful task of describing the irksome variety of artifices practised by many of your Majesty's Ministers; the delusive pretences, fruitless terrours, and unavailing severities, that have from time to time been dealt out by them, in their attempts to execute this impolitick plan; or of tracing, through a series of years past, the progress of the unhappy differences between *Great Britain* and these Colonies, that have flowed from this fatal source.

Your Majesty's Ministers, persevering in their measures, and proceeding to open hostilities for enforcing them, have compelled us to arm in our defence, and have engaged us in a controversy so peculiarly abhorrent to the affections of your still faithful Colonists, that when we consider whom we must oppose in this contest, and, if it continues, what may be the consequences, our own particular misfortunes are accounted by us only as part of our distress.

Knowing to what violent resentment and incurable animosities, civil discords are apt to exasperate and inflame the contending parties, we think ourselves required by indispensable obligations to Almighty *God*, to your Majesty, to our fellow-subjects, and to ourselves, immediately to us all the means in our power, not incompatible with our safety, for stopping the further effusion of blood, and for averting the impending calamities that threaten the *British* empire.

Thus called upon to address your Majesty, on affairs of such moment to *America*, and probably to all your dominions, we are earnestly desirous of performing this office with the utmost deference for your Majesty; and we therefore pray, that your Majesty's Royal magnanimity and benevolence may make the most favourable constructions of our expressions on so uncommon an occasion. Could we represent, in their full force, the sentiments that agitate the minds of us, your dutiful subjects, we are persuaded your Majesty would ascribe any seeming deviation from reverence in our language, and even in our conduct, not to any reprehensible intention, but to the impossibility of reconciling the usual appearances of respect, with a just attention to our own preservation, against those artful and cruel enemies, who abuse your Royal confidence and authority, for the purpose of effecting our destruction.

Attached to your Majesty's person, family, and Government, with all devotion that principle and affection can inspire, connected with *Great Britain* by the strongest ties that can unite societies, and deploring every event that tends in any degree to weaken them, we solemnly assure your Majesty, that we not only most ardently desire the former harmony between her and these Colonies may be restored, but that concord may be established between them, upon so firm a basis as to perpetuate its blessings, uninterrupted by any future dissensions, to succeeding generations in both countries; and to transmit your Majesty's name to posterity, adorned with that signal and lasting glory that has attended the memory of those illustrious personages, whose virtues and abilities have extricated states from dangerous convulsions, and, by securing happiness to others, have erected the most noble and durable monuments to their own fame.

We beg leave further to assure your Majesty, that, notwithstanding the sufferings of your loyal Colonists, during the course of this present controversy, our breasts retain too tender a regard for the kingdom from which we derive our origin, to request such a reconciliation as might, in any manner, be inconsistent with her dignity or her welfare. These, related as we are to her, honour and duty, as well as inclination, induce us to support and advance; and the apprehensions that now oppress our hearts with unspeakable grief, being once removed, your Majesty will find your faithful subjects on this Continent ready and willing, at all times, as they have ever been, with their lives and fortunes, to assert and maintain the rights and interests of your Majesty, and of our mother country.

We, therefore, beseech your Majesty, that your Royal authority and influence may be graciously interposed to procure us relief from our afflicting fears and jealousies, occasioned by the system before-mentioned, and to settle peace through every part of your dominions; with all humility, submitting to your Majesty's wise consideration, whether it may not be expedient, for facilitating those important purposes, that your Majesty may be pleased to direct some mode by which the united applications of your faithful Colonists to the Throne, in pursuance of their common counsels, may be improved into a happy and permanent reconciliation; and that, in the mean time, measures may be taken for preventing the further destruction of the lives of your Majesty's subjects; and that such statutes as more immediately distress any of your Majesty's Colonies, may be repealed.

For by such arrangements as your Majesty's wisdom can form, for collecting the united sense of your *American* people, we are convinced your Majesty would receive such satisfactory proofs of the disposition of the Colonists towards their Sovereign, and the parent state, that the wished for opportunity would soon be restored to them, of evincing the sincerity of their professions, by every testimony of devotion becoming the most dutiful subjects, and the most affectionate Colonists.

That your Majesty may enjoy a long and prosperous reign, and that your descendants may govern your dominions, with honour to themselves, and happiness to their subjects, is our sincere and fervent prayer.

—

TO THE ELECTORS OF GREAT BRITAIN.

GENTLEMEN: The mischiefs which have already arisen, and the greater calamities which are threatened, from the unnatural war excited in *America*, by the arbitrary and inexorable spirit of His Majesty's Ministers, and advisers, have impressed our minds with alarms and apprehensions, which occasion this address to you.

As electors, we are more particularly called upon to take into consideration these dangerous proceedings against our fellow-subjects in *America;* because the representatives of the people are unhappily made the instruments of these measures.

It is impossible we can see, without the utmost alarm, preparations making for the prosecution of an expensive and ruinous war with our own Colonies, from which so much of our commerce, and, therefore, the sources of our wealth, are derived. The inevitable consequence of this must be an increase of taxes, already too heavy, and an addition to the national debt, which presses us with intolerable weight. We beg you to consider what must be the situation of this kingdom, under an augmentation of taxes, and a diminution of commerce, an increase of national debt, and an equal decrease of national resources.

These are the immediate and unavoidable consequences of this war. The probable ones are still more fatal. If our natural and inveterate enemies should fall upon us, when we are exhausted of men and money, when our most valuable commerce is ruined, and our bravest and veteran troops sacrificed, what is it that can shield us from immediate ruin? If we involve ourselves, then, in this obstinate and expensive civil war, we must owe our safety to the forbearance of our enemies. Neither do we think it improbable, from the desperate valour with which the *Americans* defend their dearest liberties, that all our efforts will be unsuccessful, and that we shall at last be obliged to sit down under a grievous addition of debt, the shame of defeated armaments, and the total loss of our useful and affectionate Colonies.

The provision that is making for the introduction of *Hanoverian* and *Hessian* troops, instead of removing, confirms our apprehensions; because we cannot have any confidence in the protection of foreign mercenaries; and feel at once the shame and folly of that policy which is to burden us with taxes for the payment of foreign protectors, while our own brave troops are slaughtered in an unnatural, unnecessary, and inglorious contest.

For the certain expenses of this war, we see no reparation, even in conquest. Desolated fields, and depopulated Provinces, are little likely to contribute to our necessities, either by revenue or commerce. No complaint from the merchants and manufacturers in *Great Britain*, of illicit trade, and acts of navigation infringed, has called for these coercive measures. On the contrary, they have repeatedly petitioned against the principles upon which the war is founded. To secure our commerce, therefore, can neither be the aim, nor issue of this war. Neither can it be to settle a due subordination of the Colonies upon the parent state, since they have repeatedly and solemnly acknowledged their subordination, and submitted to our control.

We cannot, therefore, discover any real object, or possible event of this dispute, (should we be successful,) but that of establishing the arbitrary power of the Crown over our fellow-subjects in *America*, which must greatly endanger the Constitution here, and increase the number of placemen and pensioners, already so enormous as to threaten the utter destruction of freedom and independence among us.

The people of the Colonies have appealed to their fellow-subjects in *Great Britain*, for the justice and necessity of their conduct. We are convinced of their having been injured and oppressed. We sympathize in their griefs, and revere their fortitude; every motive of humanity, of justice, and of interest, calls upon us to condemn the measures of which they complain, and to declare that we will never willingly contribute to urge their oppressions, or abridge their liberties.

It has been our grief and our misfortune to see that the repeated petitions from His Majesty's subjects in *America*, supported by many in this country, have not availed to prevent the dreadful extremities we now lament. The petitioners have been studiously driven to the last resources of despair, by a denial of redress, and an accumulation of grievances too severe to be endured by a free people.

In the united petition last year, from all the Colonies to the King, they asked for peace, liberty, and safety. Did it become us to refuse such a request, or to persist in violating the peace, liberty, and safety, of any part of our fellow-subjects? They pledge themselves, "that in time of war, they will be ready and willing to demonstrate their loyalty to His Majesty, by exerting their most strenuous efforts, in granting supplies and raising forces." What can we, in justice, require more from a part of the empire, restrained, in point of commercial advantages, for our benefit, and labouring, in consequence of that restraint, under a heavy and accumulating debt? Can we expect success from a war founded in such flagrant injustice? Appealing, say they, "to that Being who searches thoroughly the hearts of his creatures, we solemnly profess that our counsels have been influenced by no other motive than a dread of impending destruction."

That dread has been realized. Famine, fire and sword, have answered (*i. e.* were the answers given to) their reasonable requests, and earnest applications. Utter destruction, or unconditional submission, is the only alternative left them, by this imperious and intemperate Administration.

Yet still they were determined to try the force of fresh supplication. This they have done in their late petition to the Throne, more humble, but still fruitless as the former. They say, "Knowing to what violent resentments, and incurable animosities, civil discords are apt to exasperate and inflame the contending parties, we think ourselves required by indispensable obligations to Almighty *God*, to your Majesty, to our fellow-subjects, and ourselves, immediately to use all the means in our power, not incompatible with our safety, for stopping the further effusion of blood, and for averting the impending calamities, which threaten the *British* empire."

We feel these as the most amiable sentiments, of men cordially interested in our welfare, and earnestly aiming at peace and reconciliation.

In pursuance of these laudable purposes, they solemnly declare their most ardent desire, that "the former harmony between the two countries may be restored, and a concord may be established between them, upon so firm a basis, as to perpetuate its blessings, uninterrupted by any future dissensions, to succeeding generations, in both countries." They declare, that "they do not request such reconciliation as might, in any manner, be inconsistent with the dignity or welfare of *Great Britain;*" that, "they are ready and willing, at all times, as they have been, with their lives and fortunes, to assert and maintain the rights and interests of His Majesty, and of their mother country." They, therefore, implore His Majesty, "to take measures for preventing the further destruction of the lives of his subjects; and that he will be pleased to direct some mode by which the united applications of his faithful Colonists to the Throne, in pursuance of their common counsels, may be improved into a happy and permanent reconciliation; and that the wished-for opportunity may soon be restored to them, of evincing the sincerity of their professions, by every testimony of devotion, becoming the most dutiful subjects, and the most affectionate Colonists."

To this petition an answer has been refused. The unhappy petitioners are left to deplore the prospect of inexorable war and desolation, and to seek protection in those fatal resources which self-preservation suggests against impending destruction.

This, gentlemen, is the alarming state of *America*, which fills us with anxiety and apprehensions.

We lament the blood that has been already shed; we deplore the fate of those brave men, who are devoted to hazard their lives, not against the enemies of the *British* name, but against the friends of the prosperity and glory of *Great Britain*. We feel for the honour of the *British* arms, sullied, not by the misbehaviour of those who bore them, but by the misconduct of the Ministers who employed them, to the oppression of their fellow-subjects. We are

alarmed at the immediate, insupportable expense, and the probable consequences of a war, which, we are convinced, originates in violence and injustice, and must end in ruin.

These are the sentiments, gentlemen, which we take the liberty of communicating to you, as the reasons upon which we have acted, trusting that, if they meet with your approbation, you will co-operate with us, in endeavouring to bring the authors of these evils to the justice of their country.

Signed in obedience to order of the Common Hall.

JOHN WILKES, *Mayor.*
GEORGE HAYLEY, } *Sheriffs.*
NATHANIEL NEWNHAM, }

CONNECTICUT COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Friday, January 5, 1776.

At a meeting of the Governour and Council of Safety, &c., at *Lebanon*, Present:

His Honour the Governour, *Jabez Huntington*, Esq., *William Williams*, *Nathaniel Wales*, *Jedediah Elderkin*, *Joshua West*, and *Benjamin Huntington*, Esqrs.

Motion by Esquire *Chapman*, made to the Governour, about supplying the Minute-Men, inlisting at *East-Haddam*, with Arms. On discourse and consideration, thought it premature to determine any thing about it at present.

Moved to conclude where the four Row Galleys, lately ordered by the Assembly, under the direction of said Committee, shall be built; and, on consideration, *Resolved*, That one of them be built at *Norwich*, and one at *East-Haddam*; and thought proper not now to determine as to the other two.

On a Letter, and request from Mr. *Deane*, in behalf of the Naval Committee at Congress, requesting that Captain *Niles*, of the *Spy*, be sent to carry recruits from *New-London* to *Philadelphia*, for the Navy; it was, on consideration, concluded and voted, that we cannot properly and safely permit her to be absent so long; and do not agree to the proposal.

Being informed by Letter from Mr. *Shaw*, that Captain *Hinman* has brought in about two tons of Powder for the Colony, procured by him, and landed the same at *Bedford*, near or in *Dartmouth*,

Voted, that said *Shaw* be desired to cause said Powder to be brought to *Providence*, and committed to the care of Governour *Cooke*; and that the Governour be desired to write to Governour *Cooke*, to take care of the same, till further orders.

And Letters wrote, &c.; and Mr. *Shaw* came in and received his directions, &c.

On motion, that the men on board Captain *Niles* have served out the term for which they engaged at the 1st of *December*, and have since been continued by order, &c.; and that they appear desirous to be released, &c.,

Voted and *Ordered*, That said Captain *Niles* be directed to raise and inlist twenty men, such as he can confide in, to serve on board said Schooner *Spy*, for the term of one year, unless sooner discharged, on the following wages, viz: For able Seamen, forty-eight shillings; and for Seamen, forty shillings per calender month. (And copy sent him.)

Voted, That Colonel *Mott* be desired and directed to repair, as soon as may be, to *New-London*, *Groton*, and *Stonington*, and view the works of defence, erected and proposed there; and make report to his Honour the Governour, as soon as it may be done, with his opinion, in and about the premises.

Tuesday, January 9, 1776.

At a meeting of the Governour and Council of Safety, Present:

His Honour the Governour, *Jabez Huntington*, Esq., *William Williams*, *Nathaniel Wales*, *Jedediah Elderkin*, *Joshua West*, and *Benjamin Huntington*, Esqrs.

A number of Letters, to and from sundry persons, read, &c.

The subject of building, or purchasing, to be armed for defence, &c., according to the Resolve of the Assembly, in addition to the one lately purchased, by order of said Assembly of Captain *Gregg*, was considered, &c.; and on the question,

Voted, That the Vessel, to be built or purchased for said purpose, be of not less than two hundred tons burden.

And then *Voted*, That *Benjamin Huntington*, Esq., and Captain *Seth Harding*, be a Committee to repair forthwith to *Middletown*, and other towns on the river, and such other places as they shall find necessary, and make diligent inquiry, whether and where, such warlike Vessel, fit for and suitable for the service designed, can be purchased and obtained; and how, and on what terms and conditions; and, also, where such Vessel can best and most advantageously be built for that purpose, and by whom, and on what terms, and to make report of whatever they may find and judge to be advantageous for promoting said service, to the Governour, and this Committee, as soon as possible. (And copy given.)

And then, on representation to this Board, that the Iron Furnace at *Salisbury*, belonging to Mr. *Richard Smith*, now in *Boston*, is in good repair, and capable of being improved to great advantage for the publick, by manufacturing Iron, casting Cannon, Cannon Ball, &c.; On consideration thereof, it is,

Voted and *Resolved*, That Colonel *Jedediah Elderkin* be, and he is hereby appointed a Committee, to repair forthwith to said Furnace, and to the Iron Works of said *Smith*, at *Suffrage*, or higher up, and find the true state and circumstances of said Furnace, and how they may be improved for the benefit of the Colony, in either of the ways aforesaid; consult and advise, in the best manner he can, as to the propriety of immediately improving, and setting said works agoing, for any or either of the purposes aforesaid; and make the best estimate he shall be able, and with his best discretion, if he shall find it expedient, give proper orders for executing any, or either of said designs; and make report of his doings and opinion in the premises.

And he is further instructed to make inquiry after whatever can be collected of the Saltpetre and Sulphur belonging to this Colony, which was sent to the late Judge *Livingston's* Powder-Mill at *Claremont*, to be worked into Powder, which mill has been blown up; and unless he find said mill rebuilt, or in such condition as that said materials are like to be soon worked up, he is directed to cause the same to be returned to this Colony; and also report make. (And copy given to him, and he set out next day.)

An Account of Captain *Isaac Sears*, laid in for sundries, supplied the Battery, &c., at *New-Haven*, viz: 17 cwt. 2 qrs. Cannon Ball, at fifteen shillings—and interest, eight shillings and nine pence; 9 cwt. 1 qr. 21 lbs. refined Iron, at twenty-eight shillings; and 3 cwt. 2 qr. 6 lbs. bloom Iron, at twenty-two shillings, &c.; total, twenty pounds, eleven pence, lawful money; and the same is allowed; and that an order be given on the Pay-Table for the same. (And is done.)

And adjourned to *Thursday*, 18th instant.

Thursday, January 11, 1776.

At a meeting of the Governour and Council of Safety, specially called by his Honour, Present:

His Honour the Governour, *Jabez Huntington*, Esq., *William Williams*, *Nathaniel Wales*, and *Joshua West*, Esquires.

N. B. The rest being gone on publick business. The *York* affair, for General *Lee*, done, &c.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER TO A GENTLEMAN IN PHILADELPHIA, DATED CAMBRIDGE, JANUARY 9, 1776.

Last evening, (*January* 8,) General *Putnam* achieved what our friend on *Winter-Hill* attempted. Major *Knowlton* commanded the party; *Minchin*, and a deserter, who lately came out, were the guides; about one hundred and thirty passed, near nine o'clock, over the mill-dam; Majors *Cary* and *Henly* had each a party, and the former was to push to the farthest house; (if you recollect, there was, to your right from *Cobble-Hill*, when you looked towards *Bunker's Hill*, about fifteen houses, which had escaped the conflagration on the 17th of *June*.) The plan was, to surprise these houses, set them on fire, and bring off the guard, which, we were informed, consisted of an officer and thirty men; but the information was wrong, as there was only a sergeant and five men. The persons appointed to set fire to the houses nearest the dam, had orders not

to execute it until *Cary* had returned from the farthest, but, eager to fulfil what they had undertaken, they were the first that appeared in flames; sometime after, the whole was one blaze of fire. Had I *Burgoyne's* knack at description, I assure you, a picture might be drawn that would afford great horrour, and, at the same time, great entertainment. *Bunker's Hill* took the alarm; the flashing of the musketry, from every quarter of that fort, showed the confusion of its defenders—firing, some in the air, some in the *Mystick* river; in short, they fired at random, and thought they were attacked at every quarter, which, you may suppose, gave no small pleasure to the General and a number of us, who were spectators of the scene, from *Cobble-Hill*. Ten of the houses were soon in ashes. The sergeant and four of the men, with one woman, were brought off prisoners; one poor wretch made some resistance, and was killed. *Knowlton* behaved like a man used to the business; your friend *Minchin* with great coolness; *Cary* and *Henly* receive merited applause; indeed, every person engaged, did his duty, except being rather too eager in setting the first house on fire.

It is the opinion of many, that, if there was a vigorous attack made, the hill might be carried with little loss; but it was not designed; of course, no preparations were made for such a push.*

ADDRESS OF THE NOBLEMEN, ETC., OF THE COUNTY OF ABERDEEN.

Address of the Noblemen, Gentlemen, and Freeholders of the County of *Aberdeen*, transmitted to the Earl of *Suffolk*, one of His Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State, and presented to His Majesty.

Unto the King's Most Excellent Majesty.

The humble Address of the Noblemen, Gentlemen, and Freeholders of the County of ABERDEEN.

Most Gracious Sovereign:

We, the Noblemen, Gentlemen, and Freeholders of the County of *Aberdeen*, deeply penetrated with a due sense of the many invaluable blessings we have uninterruptedly enjoyed under your Majesty's beneficent reign; of the mild government it has pleased your Majesty to rule over us with; of the paternal affection and watchful care your Majesty has ever shown for the liberties of your subjects, and the advantages of your kingdoms; think it our indispensable duty to lay at your Majesty's feet, upon every occasion, the humblest and strongest assurances of our loyal attachment and most respectful gratitude.

We more particularly think this duty incumbent upon us, when we see that the factious principles of some evil-minded and designing men at home, have, at first, misled the opinions of the inhabitants of our Colonies, and, at last, raised up in *America* a spirit of rebellion, which has forced the sword of authority into a hand that has hitherto constantly covered them with the shield of protection.

After bewailing these circumstances, we do here assert, with the warmest sincerity, that we shall be ever ready, to the utmost extent of our power, to act in defence of your Majesty's person, in support of the dignity of your Crown, and in promoting the wise regulations of your Majesty's Government.

And we, at the same time, pray, that these blessings your Majesty has so widely diffused over your subjects, may constantly attend your Majesty's Royal person, family, and cause.

Signed, in name and by appointment of the meeting, at *Aberdeen*, *January* 10, 1776.

CHARLES BOYD, *Præses.*

ADDRESS OF THE DEACONS, ETC., OF THE CITY OF GLASGOW.

Address of the Deacon Conveener, Deacons of the Fourteen Incorporated Trades, and other Members of the Trades-House, of the City of *Glasgow*, presented to His Majesty by the Right Honourable Lord *Frederick Campbell*, their Representative in Parliament.

To the King's Most Excellent Majesty.

Most Gracious Sovereign:

We, your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Deacon Conveener, Deacons of the Fourteen Incorporated Trades, and other Members of the Trades-House, of the City of *Glasgow*, at a general meeting assembled, impressed with the most unalterable sentiments of loyalty and affection to your Majesty's person and Government, humbly beg leave, at this time, with unfeigned hearts, to express our abhorrence and detestation of that unprovoked and unnatural rebellion, now prevailing in some of your Majesty's Colonies in *America*. To levy war against their Sovereign, acknowledged to be the best of Kings; against the Government which has always protected them, when in danger, and defended them from the attacks of foreign enemies; against the nation from which they sprung, and against their friends and fellow-subjects, all for the most frivolous causes that ever excited sedition; indicates, too strongly, their intention to shake off, and not be governed by, the laws of *Great Britain*, which, we firmly believe, they are bound to obey.

We, however, have the pleasure of informing your Majesty, that, notwithstanding this unnatural rebellion, our trade and manufactures, in general, are in a prosperous state; and, as we have hitherto enjoyed all the blessings and advantages which have flowed from your Majesty's just, wise, and prudent administration, so, in duty, we, from the sincerity of our hearts, declare, that, with our lives and fortunes, we will support and defend your Majesty's person and Government, to the utmost of our power, in quelling the unnatural rebellion now subsisting in *America*, and in restoring the rebellious Colonies to a due submission to the laws and Government of *Great Britain*.

Signed in our presence, and by our appointment, by *John Craig*, Deacon Conveener of the Trades of the City of *Glasgow*, at *Glasgow*, the tenth day of *January*, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-six years.

JOHN CRAIG.

ADDRESS OF THE JUSTICES OF THE PEACE, ETC., OF THE COUNTY OF WIGTON.

Address of the Justices of the Peace, Freeholders, Commissioners of Supply, and Land-Owners of the County of *Wigton*, presented to His Majesty by the Earl of *Galloway*.

To the King's Most Excellent Majesty.

The humble Address of the Justices of the Peace, Freeholders, Commissioners of Supply, and Land-Owners of the County of WIGTON.

May it please your Majesty:

We, the Justices of the Peace, Freeholders, Commissioners of Supply, and Land-Owners of the County of *Wigton*, humbly beg leave to assure your Majesty, of our steadfast loyalty and zealous attachment to your sacred person, Crown, and dignity, and the happy Constitution under which we live, the preservation of which, we are, and ever shall be, ready to support, with our lives and fortunes, being fully sensible of the many blessings we enjoy, under your Majesty's most benign government.

We hear, with the deepest sorrow, and sincerely lament, that many of your Majesty's subjects in *America*, influenced by the counsels of wicked and designing men, have not only denied the supreme legislative authority of this their parent country, but have even dared to appear in

* CAMBRIDGE, *January* 11, 1776.—We hear that the enemy, the evening on which our troops burnt the houses at *Charlestown*, were entertaining themselves at the exhibition of a play, which they called the *Blockade of Boston;* in the midst of which, a person appeared before the audience, and, with great earnestness, declaring that the *Yankees* were attacking *Bunker's Hill;* the deluded wretches at first took this to be merely farcical, and intended as a part of their diversion; but, soon convinced that the actor meant to represent a solemn reality, the whole assembly left the house in confusion, and scampered off with great precipitation.

BOSTON, *January* 11, 1776.—On *Monday* was presented, at the Theatre, at *Faneuil-Hall*, the comedy of the *Busy-Body*, which was received with great applause. The actors [*British* officers] seemed all to have profited by *Impartial's* advice; and, we must do the ladies the justice to say, they always were perfect, as well in their parts as in their action. A new farce, called the *Blockade of Boston*, was to have been presented the same evening, but was interrupted by a Sergeant's representing, or, rather, misrepresenting, the burning of two or three old houses at *Charlestown* as a general attack on the town of *Boston*. But it is very evident, the Rebels possess a sufficiency of what *Falstaff* terms the better part of valour, to prevent their making an attempt that must inevitably end in their own destruction.

As soon as those parts in the *Boston Blockade* which are vacant, by some gentlemen being ordered to *Charlestown*, can be filled up, the farce will be performed, with the tragedy of *Tamerlane*.

actual rebellion, attempting to render themselves independent of *Great Britain*.

We rely, with the fullest confidence, on the wisdom and prudence of your Majesty's councils, and trust the most effectual measures will be taken, for restoring peace and tranquillity, upon the most permanent foundation, to all your Majesty's dominions. And we fervently pray for the preservation of your Majesty's Royal person and family, that your reign over us may be long and happy, and that you may ever triumph over the enemies of our most excellent Constitution.

By appointment of the meeting:

JOHN AGNEW, *Præses.*

THOMAS EWING TO COLONEL WILLIAM SMALLWOOD.

Baltimore, January 10, 1776.

DEAR SIR: With pleasure have I heard of your being much better of your late illness. I hope the bearer, Mr. *Joseph Baxter*, my Lieutenant, will find you thoroughly recovered. He now waits on you and the Convention, to get the commissions for our company, with orders for inlisting troops. As I suppose it will be found necessary to advance the soldiers a month's pay, or some advance money, you will please procure for him what you think necessary; and I do here engage, to be accountable to you, or the Convention, for any money you give him, on account of our company. I am in hopes I shall have a very respectable company of farmers' sons, as I am determined I will take very few, if any, out of this town. If any troops are to be kept in this town, I am in hopes you will indulge me and my company by staying here.

I am, with due respect, dear Colonel, your most obedient, humble servant,

THOMAS EWING.

To Colonel *William Smallwood*.

FREDERICKTOWN (MARYLAND) COMMITTEE TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

Frederick, January 10, 1776.

SIR: By order of the Committee for the Upper District of *Frederick* County, I have sent you (under guard) one Doctor *Smith*; he was taken sometime in *November* last in company with Doctor *Connolly*, and confined in *Fredericktown*, from where he made his escape; since which he has been taken at the *Little-Meadows*, with the enclosed letters. The Committee has thought proper to send him to the Congress.

I have the honour to be your obedient servant,

SAMUEL HUGHES, *President.*

To the Honourable *John Hancock*.

P. S. The guard will expect something for their trouble.

Fredericktown, Maryland, November 24, 1775.

DEAR SIR: Little did I expect, when I last wrote you, that our next correspondence would be from this place, or so soon; but my unaccountable fate, still delights in leading me through numerous and perplexing labyrinths, and in adventures particularly singular and strange. I sit down to unbosom myself to my friend, as a relief to an anxiety of mind caused by confinement under a guard for several nights and days, and the painful suspense of as yet not knowing my doom from the Committee of this place; but I find myself very unfit for the task, occasioned by the depression of spirits to which I am often so subject, and the number and confusion of disagreeable ideas that depression raises in my mind. I endeavour to banish them, but in vain. Confinement is death and torture to me; and, to refine on the barbarity of my fate, my guard consists of *Germans*, whose dissonant jargon of corrupt high *Dutch*, is not only unintelligible to me, but also so extremely disagreeable, by its cursed noise and harshness, that it distracts my very soul. I often consider that I am in a place where you have enjoyed much satisfaction and agreeable society; but that reflection brings me no comfort, as I am deprived of every benefit of that nature. My two fellow-travellers, my only acquaintance and friends in this place, are, unhappily, in the same circumstances, and we are separated one form the other, so that, as yet, we are not permitted to see or converse with each other, a circumstance which greatly adds to my pain. However, I shall endeavour to fortify my mind, so as to be able to bear whatever may be my doom. Pain, affliction, losses, misfortunes, and defamation, I am habituated to; they are become familiar; but confinement, which, to me, is more dreadful than death, I am but little able to endure; it is the last, and heaviest of all; but, as it is now my destiny, I shall make use of my best efforts to submit to it with patience, and make a virtue of necessity. But it is, indeed, a mortifying reflection, that when, through a crowd of misfortunes, I saw a prospect rise before me, of still doing well, and of attaining all my favourite wishes, it is, I say, a most mortifying reflection, to be then thrown down from this, and to lose every ray of hope—"a long dependance in an hour is lost."*

I have a care, an anxious, deep concern still on my mind, which ought to depend upon me, but, in my situation, am unable to. I must rely on my dear and worthy friend's protection. Your feeling heart can guess whom I mean, and must point out those whom nature itself prompts me to hold dear; remember me to them, with all the affection you can conceive, or they can merit, and assure them, that they

* After these groundless and most ridiculous suspicions were happily cleared up, the whole intention and subst nce of a secret expedition to the back country, under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel *Connolly*, then appointed commandant of the *Queen's* Royal regiment of Rangers, was disclosed to me, and I was earnestly solicited by the Colonel to accompany him, along with another gentleman named *Cameron;* to this I most cheerfully consented, and, in the above regiment, we all received our commissions.

On the day following I received an order to take any vessel in the harbour, and also such of the pilots on board His Majesty's sloop the *Otter*, as I judged proper, for the use of this expedition.

This circumstance was no small satisfaction to me, as I thereby convinced Captain *Squire* of my being no spy, as he had alleged; and, on going on board his ship, made choice of two of his best pilots.

When we departed from *Norfolk* on this expedition, I was obliged to leave behind me my servant and all the property I had been able to bring down there. My servant and horses, which were valuable, were to be sent to the plantation of Mr. *Atchison*, at Lord *Dunmore's* request; and the rest of my property I left in the house of a Mr. *Pierce*, in *Portsmouth*, but I have never since that time heard the least account of any thing belonging to me.

We embarked on board a flat-bottomed decked schooner, which I had engaged for that purpose, with our horses, and only one servant, who belongad to the Colonel.

Our small party consisted of Lieutenant-Colonel *Connolly*, Mr. *Cameron*, myself, and the servant; and we intended to proceed in this vessel up the *Chesapeake*, into *Potomack* River, and land, if possible, near to my house,† or *Port-Tobacco Creek*, and afterwards to pass through the country on horseback, until we arrived at *Detroit*, in *Canada*.

It was proposed that I should pass through *Pittsburgh*, with despatches to Mr. *McKee*, the *Indian* Superintendant, and to some other friends of Government, then proceed down the river *Ohio* to the mouth of the *Sciota*, and from thence up that river, through the *Shawanese*, *Delawares*, and *Wyandotts*, and down *Sandusky* River to *Sundasky Old Fort;* from thence I was to cross Lake *Erie*, by the *Rattle Snake* Islands, to *Detroit;* while the other two gentlemen were to cross the *Allegany* River, at the *Kittaning*, and proceed by the nearest and most direct route to *Detroit*. Here a very considerable force was to be collected from all the nearest posts in *Canada*, and transported, early in the Spring, across the Lake *Erie* to *Presque Isle*, where I was to be employed during the Winter with a detachment of two hundred men, in covering and conducting the building batteaus, and collecting provisions, in order to proceed by the way of *French Creek*, *Venango*, and the *Allegany* River, to *Pittsburgh*, which we were to seize on, and establish as Head-Quarters, until the disaffected interest was entirely crushed, and the whole strength of the country collected, and formed into regular disciplined regiments.

After leaving a sufficient garrison at *Pittsburgh*, we were to advance across the *Allegany* Mountains with our whole force upon the back of *Virginia;* and, after establishing a strong post at *Fort Cumberland*, it was proposed to fall down the river *Potomack*, and seize on *Alexandria*, where the Earl of *Dunmore* was to meet us with the fleet, and all the force of the lower part of the Province. *Alexandria* was to be strongly fortified, as a place of arms, and the communication between the southern and northern parts of the Continent thereby cut off.

If a misfortune, of such magnitude, should have happened, as to oblige us to give up this enterprise at any particular stage thereof, our retreat was then secured by these posts which we occupied in our rear; and if it should have failed in the first part of the expedition, by our finding it impracticable to seize upon *Pittsburgh*, we were to fall down the *Ohio* in our batteaus to the *Mississippi*, where we were to be joined by the garrison, artillery, and stores from Fort *Gage* of *Kiskuskias*, at the *Illinois;* and then to proceed down to the mouth of the river *Mississippi*, in *West-Florida;* where we were to embark in transports, and come round to *Norfolk*, in *Virginia*, there to join the Earl of *Dunmore*.

For the execution of this well formed, judicious, and vast undertaking, Lieutenant-Colonel *Connolly* was furnished with the proper and necessary powers, both from General *Gage*, the Commander-in-chief, and from the Earl of *Dunmore*, and with ample instructions for his future conduct, as well as commissions for the formation of a complete regiment at *Detroit*, or *Pittsburgh;* all of which, containing no less than eighteen sheets of paper, we carried along with us, in a secret manner, invented by, and executed under the inspection of his Lordship. All these papers were concealed in the mail pillion-sticks on which the servant carried his portmanteau, they being made hollow, for that purpose, and covered with tin plates, and then canvass glued thereon as usual; this was so dextrously and completely executed that it could not be discovered on the strictest examination.—*J. F. D. Smyth's Tour.*

[† About two miles below *Cedar-Point.*]

are ever near my heart. If I live, and regain my liberty, I may still be serviceable to them; if not, oh God! how I anticipate their distress; but inform them not where I am, or my situation, for distraction itself would be ease and peace to me, compared with the sight of them in my present circumstances. You, who know the inmost recesses of my heart, will readily discover my perturbation and uneasiness of mind, from every sentence of this incoherent epistle, but believe me, I at present am incapable of any thing better, and must conclude, with a firm reliance on your humanity and friendship.

Dear sir, your sincere and affectionate,

—

JOHN, *Earl of* DUNMORE, *Viscount* FINCASTLE, *Baron* MURRAY *of* BLAIR, *of* MONLIN *and of* TILLIMET, *Lieutenant and Governour-General of His Majes-*
[SEAL.] *ty's Colony and Dominion of* VIRGINIA, *and Vice-Admiral of the same, to* JOHN CONNOLLY, *Esquire.*

By virtue of His Majesty's Royal Commission and instruction, appointing me Lieutenant and Governour-General, in and over this his Colony and Dominion of *Virginia*, with full power and authority to appoint all officers, both civil and military, within the same, I, reposing especial trust in your loyalty, courage, and good conduct, do, by these presents, constitute and appoint you, *John Connolly*, Esq., Lieutenant-Colonel Commandant of the Queen's *Royal Rangers*. You are, therefore, carefully and diligently to discharge the duty of Lieutenant-Colonel Commandant, by exercising and well disciplining both the officers and soldiers under your command; and you are to observe and follow such orders and directions, from time to time, as you shall receive from his Majesty, myself, or any other, your superior officers, according to the rules and discipline of war, and in pursuance of the trust hereby reposed in you.

Given on board the Ship *William*, under my hand and seal at arms, this 5th day of *November*, and in the 16th year of his Majesty's reign, 1775.

DUNMORE.

—

Fredericktown, Maryland, December 16, 1775.

DEAR SIR: I have more to say to you than I will commit to paper. I mentioned you in proper terms to General *Gage*; and had done something to your honour and advantage could I have got up safely to *Detroit*.

Captain *Lord*, who was to have acted under me, will now be in danger at the *Illinois*. I have, therefore, desired him to push down the *Mississippi*, and join the Earl of *Dunmore* and the Fourteenth, at *Norfolk*. Assist the bearer with a canoe, gun, &c., which make a charge of, and send an *Indian* express with my letter to Captain *Lernoult*, at *Detroit*.

Pray give Mrs. *Connolly* any assistance she may want, and throw it into the *Indian* Department, for which I have authority to direct you.

God bless you, adieu, I write in bed, with two sentinels at the door, with hourly apprehensions of death.

JOHN CONNOLLY.

To *Alexander McKee*, *Pittsburgh*.

—

From confinement in Frederick, Maryland, December 16, 1775.

DEAR SIR: Just snatching the opportunity of pen and ink, of which I am generally debarred the use of, I write you by the bearer, Doctor *Smith*, who will inform you fully of every circumstance relative to what you were to have performed. I am now a prisoner, and the whole scheme at an end. You must, therefore, agreeable to General *Gage's* order, and Lord *Dunmore's*, proceed down the *Mississippi*, and join Lord *Dunmore* at *Norfolk*, and the Fourteenth, who are now there. Lose no time, for fear the Rebels should be upon you from *Pittsburgh*. All the General's orders are as Doctor *Smith* will inform you.

Adieu, my compliments to all the gentlemen under your command. Things wear a shocking aspect in *America*.

Yours, &c., JOHN CONNOLLY.

To Captain *N. Lord*.

P. S. Draw upon General *Howe* for two hundred dollars, in favour of the bearer. J. C.

Frederick, Maryland, December 16, 1775.

SIR: From the strictest confinement, I venture to write to you, having accidentally got pen, ink and paper, of which I have been debarred for some time.

I was made prisoner on my way through this Government, to your port, where I expected to have afforded you some assistance, and to have ordered Captain *Lord* of the Eighteenth, from the *Union*, to join us there also. I am now to inform you, that I much fear His Majesty's enemies may attack you early in the Spring, and as *Montreal* is in their hands, I dread the consequences. Let this thing . . . . to give you notice of such intentions, and whether upon that account, you might not judge it expedient to evacuate the garrison, and, with Captain *Lord*, move down the *Mississippi*, and join the Earl of *Dunmore* at *Norfolk*. The Fourteenth Regiment have lately had a skirmish with the Rebels, in which Captain *Fordice* was killed.

I can say no more, as I write every moment expecting to be surprised. Your orders, which I had from the General, are . . . . they would have been satisfactory to you. You were ordered to raise all the *French* you could, which I hope you have done.

I am sir, your most obedient servant,

JOHN CONNOLLY.

To Captain *Lernoult*, or Officer commanding at *Detroit*.

N. B. Take care that there is not an improper correspondence carried on between your post and *Pittsburgh*.

—

Fredericktown, Maryland, December 16, 1775.

DEAR SIR: Though your remote situation may have prevented you from hearing many particulars relative to the state of the Colonies, you yet must know enough to discover your own dangerous situation. You were to have joined me at *Detroit*, by the *Ouabache* communication, and it was expected, by your advice and assistance, that we would have been able to penetrate through the Colony of *Virginia*, and thus divided the Southern from the Northern Governments. You were formerly ordered by the General to put yourself immediately under the command of General *Carleton*, but, for obvious reasons, you were desired to receive your directions from the Earl of *Dunmore*.

The orders are now—— You are therefore, as you was directed, to move yourself and all garrison stores, ordance, &c., immediately down the *Mississippi* to *New-Orleans*, or wherever you can procure a conveyance for *Norfolk*, *Virginia*, where you will join his Excellency the Earl of *Dunmore* and the Fourteenth Regiment. You had full power to make all expenses, so that you need not be apprehensive on that score. The sooner you get down the better, as I much fear you will be attacked from *Pittsburgh* very soon. Draw a bill in favour of the bearer, for two hundred dollars, and, also, take him with you to *Norfolk*. The Fourteenth have just had a skirmish with the *Virginians*, in which Captain *Fordice*, of that regiment, was killed, and Lieutenant *Batut* taken prisoner. I am safely watched here, and now write in bed, with two sentinels at the door. Adieu. *God* bless you. Remember me to *Connolly*, and all the gentlemen.

I am, dear sir, your most obedient humble servant,

JOHN CONNOLLY.

To Captain *N. Lord*, or Officer commanding at *Illinois*.

—

[Fredericktown, Maryland, December 16, 1775.]

I wrote to you before, but as that letter was to pass the inspection of the Committee, I could not speak free. I am now to desire you not to write to me, or you may be assured that every word will be known before I can see it, as they will open all directed to me. I have wrote to Captain *McKee*, to let you have what you want, and charge it in the *Indian* account. Make yourself easy. I don't know where I am to be sent yet. I thought to have had you here, but the Committee altered their opinion, after the man had his horses saddled, to go for you and the child. Lord *Dunmore* has had a skirmish lately, and had a Captain of the Fourteenth Regiment killed. Give my love to *Sally*. Keep this secret, for I am not allowed pen or ink.

Yours affectionately,

JOHN CONNOLLY.

To Mrs. *Susanna Connolly*, *Pittsburgh*.

LANCASTER (PENNSYLVANIA) COMMITTEE TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

In Committee, Lancaster, January 10, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The women and children belonging to the privates of the Seventh and Twenty-Sixth Regiments, who are prisoners here, have this day implored us, in a body, that we would interest ourselves in their behalf. They tell us they are denied further provisions, by Mr. *Franks*, agent in this place, and that they must inevitably perish, unless relieved from their present distress by your munificence.

We are also informed, by the gentleman who transacts the business for the contractors here, in the absence of Mr. *Simon*, that he has received express orders not to deliver out any allowance of meat or bread to the soldiers' wives or children, for the future.

Being mindful that humanity ought ever to distinguish the sons of *America*, and that cruelty should find no admission amongst a free people, we could not avoid considering the situation of their women and children as pitiable, indeed. We were strongly inclined, at the first moment, to assist them in their distress. Our feelings, as men, evidently pointed out to us those people as real objects of compassion.

The Committee have, accordingly, requested of Colonel *Matthias Hough* to supply them with necessary provisions at the publick expense, until your pleasure can be made known unto us. Mr. *Hough* has engaged to do this at our request. We flatter ourselves your honourable body will approve the step we have taken, and will give directions for the future subsistence of the women and children. From the returns given to us, we find that there are twenty-four women and twenty-five children belonging to the soldiers of the Seventh Regiment, and six women and eight children belonging to the Twenty-Sixth Regiment.

The Committee have been under the necessity of taking up a number of blankets for the prisoners, at the publick expense. There were in the barracks about one hundred and sixty-five old blankets, almost worn out, and to these we have added seventy-two new ones. The whole serve as a scanty covering for the soldiers, against the rigour and inclemency of the season. We have also been obliged to purchase a quantity of coarse, strong linen, to be filled with straw, for their use. The article of fire-wood, for the consumption of so many men, is very expensive. One hundred weight of soap has been also furnished by us to the prisoners. We beg your directions in what manner these accounts are to be discharged.

The Committee have not yet been favoured with your instructions respecting the officers continuing here until their baggage comes up, and whether they are allowed the privilege of drawing bills for their support. Our particular situation must apologize to you for our importunity, and the trouble we give you. Amongst the more important concerns, it is our highest wish to conduce, in some degree, to the general weal, and that our conduct may be rendered acceptable to the honourable Congress.

We are, gentlemen, with the utmost respect, your most obedient and very humble servants.

By order of the Committee:

J. YEATES, *Chairman.*

To *John Hancock*, President of the honourable Continental Congress.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO GENERAL SCHUYLER.

Philadelphia, January 10, 1776.

SIR: I had the pleasure of transmitting you, some days ago, a letter of thanks for your eminent services in the cause of your country.

The several letters you mention in your last, came safe to hand, and were laid before Congress. The distresses of this great Continent, thrown into convulsions by an unnatural war; the unprepared state we were in, when unjustly attacked; the enemies that have arisen up against us in different quarters; and the horrid attempts of the Southern Governours to excite domestick insurrections, and bring the Savages to desolate our frontiers; the necessity of providing armed vessels, to prevent, if possible, the desolation threatened our sea-coast; these, and other matters of the highest importance, which you can easily conceive, must apologize for your letters not having an earlier answer; besides, the Congress flattered themselves, from the steps they had taken, and from the orders and instructions given to their Committee, who were sent to confer with you, that your army would have reinlisted, and your difficulties in other respects have been relieved.

After the return of their Committee, the Congress took into consideration your several letters, and the Report of the Committee, and thereupon came to sundry resolutions, which I have the honour to enclose.

Phelps has thrown in a petition praying to be heard in his justification; but, as matters of higher moment engage the attention of the Congress, that is suffered to lie over.

The Congress resent the conduct of Lieutenant *Halsey*, and are of opinion you should proceed to have his conduct inquired into by a court-martial, giving him previous notice to appear in his own defence, and that such sentence should be passed on him as the court-martial shall think just; and should he decline to submit his conduct to such examination and sentence, in that case all arrears due to him ought to be stopped.

I cannot sufficiently express the confidence the Congress have in your attention to the publick interest, and their reliance that you will give to the proper officers in your department such orders as will procure indemnification to the publick for any embezzlement or waste of its stores or moneys.

Desirous of giving every reasonable encouragement and indulgence to men who have resigned their lives in the cause of their country, they have given you power to grant discharges to such officers as find themselves under a necessity of quitting the service, and to remit to such of the troops raised in the Colony of *New-York* as may reinlist, any right the Congress might have to stop wages for the underclothes delivered to them.

I must not omit to inform you of the grateful sense the Congress have of the friendly offices Mr. *Price* has done to General *Montgomery*, for the support of the *American* cause. You will, therefore, be pleased to embrace the first opportunity of returning him their thanks for the same, and assure him immediate measures shall be taken for replacing the moneys he has advanced.

You will, also, be pleased to notify Colonel *Easton* their approbation of his services, and that they will retain in their minds a just sense of them.

The conduct, spirit, and resolution shown, both by the officers and men who have penetrated *Canada*, have induced the Congress, in testimony of their approbation, to reserve the raising of two regiments out of the forces now there, for the defence and protection of that country, which their valour has rescued from slavery. The regiments in *Pennsylvania* and *New-Jersey* are under orders to march and join them, and the other regiments destined for that service will be ordered to march as fast as raised.

The enclosed resolutions of Congress are so full and explicit that I need not enlarge.

I shall be happy to hear of your perfect recovery, being, with much esteem, sir, &c.,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President.*

To General *Schuyler.*

CHRISTOPHER GADSDEN TO ADMIRAL HOPKINS.

Philadelphia, January 10, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Enclosed is a copy of an order from the Committee to Captain *Stone*, sent by directions of Congress, on an application from *Maryland*, which it is necessary you should have.

I also take the liberty to send you a list of the Field-Officers and Captains of two regiments of Foot, and the companies of Artillery, all Provincials, stationed in *Charlestown, South-Carolina*. Should you go there, upon your arrival off the bar, the pilot will inform you what officer is at Fort *Johnson*, or any of the nearest batteries to you, from whom you may depend upon all the assistance they can give; they are, most of them, gentlemen of considerable fortunes with us, who have entered into the service merely from principle; and to promote and give credit to the cause, they take it by turns to be at the fort, and the zeal and activity of all of them is such, that you cannot happen amiss, let who will be there. In *Charlestown*, my particular friends, Mr. *Lowndes*, Mr. *Ferguson*, Colonel

Powell, Mr. *Benjamin Elliott*, Colonel *Pinckney*, Mr. *Drayton*, Mr. *Timothy*, and the Reverend Mr. *Tennant*, a countryman of yours, will introduce you to the others, who will all be glad to have an opportunity of obliging you, and promoting the service.

I wrote yesterday to Mr. *Ferguson*, one of the gentlemen just mentioned, by way of *Georgia*, by a gentleman I can depend on, who will destroy my letter should he be taken. In this letter I have hinted to look out for you, and be ready to assist you at a moment's warning.

The two large ships seen off *Virginia*, the 29th of last month, we are told, were not bound there; however, you will know more certainly by the time you get off the Capes, I make no doubt. I hope you will be able to effect that service; but, whether you may or not, sooner or later, I flatter myself, we shall have your assistance at *Carolina*, where you may depend on an easy conquest, or, at least, be able to know, without loss of time, when off our bar, the strength of the enemy; and should it be too much for you prudently to encounter, which I hardly think probable, if soon attempted, with the assistance from us, you may, in such case, retreat with great ease, safety, and expedition.

Wishing you every success you can possibly wish yourself, I am, dear sir, your most humble servant,

CHRISTOPHER GADSDEN.

To *Eseck Hopkins*, Esquire, Commander-in-chief of the Fleet of the *United Colonies*.

P. S. Pray make my compliments to Capt. *Saltonstall*, and all the rest of your Captains; and shall be obliged to you, if you go to *Carolina*, to introduce them to any or all the gentlemen I have mentioned, who, I am sure, will be glad to show them every civility in their power. I hope Captain *Whipple* is better. One of the *Maryland* gentlemen, Mr. *Alexander*, a Delegate of that State, tells me there is a very good ship, of about . . . . there, easily fitted out, which he is in hopes will join you, with the *Hornet* and *Wasp*, and that he should press it to be done. . . . mention by the by—

LORD STIRLING TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

Elizabethtown, January 10, 1776.

SIR: I now send you, enclosed, copies of some letters which have passed between Governour *Franklin* and Lieutenant-Colonel *Winds*. As it is evident, from the last letter from the Governour, that he intends no longer to remain quiet, I thought it most prudent to secure him, and remove him to this place. I, accordingly, sent orders to Lieutenant-Colonel *Winds*, this morning, for that purpose. I have provided good, genteel private lodgings for the Governour, at Mr. *Boudinot's*, which I expect he will occupy this afternoon, and where I intend he shall remain until I have directions from Congress what to do with him.

I am, with great regard, your most humble servant,

STIRLING.

Barracks at Perth-Amboy, January 8, 1776.

SIR: I have had hints that you intended to leave the Province, if the letters that were intercepted should be sent to the Continental Congress. As I have particular orders concerning the matter, I, therefore, desire you will give me your word and honour, that you will not depart this Province till I know the will and pleasure of the Continental Congress, concerning that matter. From, sir, your humble servant,

WILLIAM WINDS.

To His Excellency *William Franklin*, Esq.

January 8, 1776.

SIR: Being conscious that my letter, which has been intercepted, contained nothing but what was my duty to write, as a faithful officer of the Crown, being a mere narrative of such facts and reports as had come to my knowledge, concerning publick transactions, I have not the least intention to quit the Province, nor shall I, unless compelled by violence. Were I to act otherwise, it would not be consistent with my declarations to the Assembly, at the last session, nor my regard to the good people of this Province.

Your humble servant, WILLIAM FRANKLIN.

To *William Winds*, Esq.

Perth-Amboy, January 9, 1776.

SIR: I observed, this morning, that armed men were placed at my gate, who, from time to time, have been relieved by others. On inquiry, I am given to understand that they are placed there as sentinels, by your orders. This I scarcely know how to believe, not only as I am convinced you can have no proper authority for it, but, as I had before, under my hand, assured you (who are a member of the House of Representatives) that, agreeable to my declaration to the Assembly, at the last session, and, I might have added, in compliance with their request, I was determined not to quit this Province until compelled by violence, such an assurance, on my part, was certainly equal to any promise I could make, and ought, of course, have weight with those who pretend to act on principles of honour. However, let the authority, or let the pretence, be what it may, I do hereby require you, if these armed men are sent by your orders, that you do immediately remove them from hence, as you will answer the contrary at your peril.

I am, sir, your humble servant,

William Winds, Esq. WILLIAM FRANKLIN.

January 9, 1776.

SIR: As you, in a former letter, say you wrote nothing but what was your duty to do, as a faithful officer of the Crown, so I say, touching the sentinels placed at your gate, I have done nothing but what was my duty to do, as a faithful officer of the Congress.

From, sir, your very humble servant,

To Governour *Franklin*. WILLIAM WINDS.

ISAAC RYSDYCK TO ROBERT BENSON.

New-Hackensack, January 10, 1776.

RESPECTED SIR: In due return to your letter of *December* 23d, and the directions of the honourable the Convention, delivered to me last *Sunday*, I have translated their address to my best endeavours. My having been unwell with cold since, has retarded the work till now. This being the first attempt I ever made of this unusual labour, the time short, my health weak, and myself but a scholar in the *English* tongue, I shall make no apology for the performance. However, such a more than *Demosthenian* or *Ciceronian* piece, translated in the language of *Holland*, where, possibly, it may be read, and, if so, doubtless much admired, should be, by all means, very correct. If, therefore, the Convention should choose to have it printed, I should wish that some more able eye should review it; or, should the Convention appoint a Committee for the purpose, for an hour or two, I might consult them, and, perhaps, make some amendments. And as no low *Dutch*, printed in *America*, hath been seen, hitherto, every where correct, because *English* printers seldom meet with *Dutch* copies, and the languages differ so much, I am also willing to attend the press closely, that it may be done in the neatest manner possible; I shall, therefore, please *God*, wait on you in the beginning of next week, to know the pleasure of the Convention.

As to any recompense, my being a citizen of this State, and enjoying the protection of the honourable the Congress and Convention, therefore, in duty bound to do something for the publick good, forbids me to claim any other than the approbation of the Convention, if not of the performance itself, at least, of my best endeavours to serve, in any manner, *God* and this bleeding and much injured country.

I am, sir, your most obedient and very humble servant,

ISAAC RYSDYCK.

To *Robert Benson*, Esq., Secretary to the honourable the Convention of the State of *New-York*.

P. S. Want of good paper and ink hath rendered this copy not so distinctly legible as I wished.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

Albany, January 10, 1776.

SIR: I take the liberty to enclose you an extract of a letter from General *Montgomery* to me, of the 18th ultimo. I fear his next will announce the disagreeable account of his having been obliged to raise the siege, as, soon after the

date of his letter, the weather became most intensely cold in *Canada*. Congress will perceive by the first part of the second paragraph of his letter, that he expected troops from this quarter. I had mentioned to him, that I had taken the liberty to recommend to Congress, to send a body of troops into *Canada* this winter. I am so well convinced of the practicability, as well as necessity of it, that, although I am much indisposed, I would willingly undertake to conduct them to the south end of the Bay of *Missisque*, to which place I can get with the necessary provisions, in sleds; from whence the traverse across that bay, which is, by this time, passable on the ice, to *Windmill-Point*, is easy, and thence on the narrow part of *Lake Champlain*, no obstacles will intervene, and the distance only about twenty-four miles to *St. John's*.

Enclose you a copy of the pay-rolls, by which I pay off the men. Governour *Trumbull* has sent me one from *Connecticut*, copy of which I also enclose. Congress will observe, that in the last, there is an allowance made for going home, at the rate of fifteen miles per day, a bounty of forty shillings billeting money, one penny per day for travelling charges, &c. None of which, except the billeting money, has been allowed by me to the troops raised in *New-York*, and for which I chose to have separate rolls made out, that if it either exceeded or fell short of what Congress might allow, the difference may be charged to, or credit given the Colony. Enclose an extract of my letter [dated *January* 6,] to Governour *Trumbull*, on this subject.

The officers that have been employed in this quarter complain much of a discrimination in favour of those at *Boston*, whom, they say, are allowed extra rations. I did not conceive that it was in my power to allow more than one. I have paid the officers only to the time when they left the service. They claim more, and say they ought to be paid until Congress revokes their commissions. On this head they have given me much trouble.

I have not yet received all the accounts of the people engaged in taking and garrisoning *Ticonderoga* and *Crown-Point;* those that have been delivered, I now enclose. I have been obliged to advance about one hundred and thirty pounds on this account. The people are poor, and are continually pressing me for the money.

Would it not have a very good effect, besides preventing much jealousy, if no Colony was permitted, (although at a Colonial expense,) to make any further allowance to the troops than what Congress thinks proper to give as a Continental.

A deputation from the *Caughnawaga* tribe have been at this place, and entered into a treaty of peace. Thirteen of them are gone on a visit to *Cambridge*. The advantage of possessing *Canada* becomes daily more evident. The *Indians* see themselves in our power, as they cannot be supplied but by our leave.

Two of the heaviest cannon broke the ice in crossing *Hudson's* River. The one is got out, and the other will be in a day or two. The others are all gone on, and I hope will reach *Cambridge* by the 16th.

I have the honour to be, with sentiments of the most profound respect and esteem, your most obedient, and very humble servant,

PHILIP SCHUYLER.

P. S. I forgot to observe, that the *Caugnawaga* Deputies avowed that Colonel *Johnson* had made the infernal invitation to the *Indians*, mentioned by the *Mohawks*, viz: to eat a *Bostonian*, and to drink his blood, and that an ox was roasted on the occasion, and a pipe of red wine given to drink.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO LORD STIRLING.

Cambridge, January 10, 1776.

MY LORD: Having received undoubted intelligence of the fitting out of a fleet from *Boston*, and of the embarkation of the troops from thence, which, from the season of the year, and other circumstances, must be destined for some expedition south of this, and having such information as I can rely on, that the inhabitants of *Long-Island*, or a great part of them, are inimical to the rights and liberties of *America*, and, by their conduct and professions, have discovered an apparent inclination to assist in subjugating their countrymen and fellow-citizens to the system of tyranny Administration are attempting to establish, there is the greatest reason to apprehend, that this armament, if not immediately designed against the city of *New-York*, is, nevertheless, intended for *Long-Island*. Knowing it to be of the last importance to the interest of *America*, to prevent the enemy from getting possession of these places, and the *North* River, which would give them the command of the country, and a free communication with *Canada*, I have despatched Major General *Lee*, with orders to repair to *New-York*, with such volunteers as he can raise on his way, (having no troops to spare from hence,) to put the city, and the fortifications up the river, in the best posture of defence the season and situation of affairs will admit of; and for taking proper steps against such persons on *Long-Island*, and elsewhere, whose conduct hath rendered them suspected of designs unfriendly to the views of Congress, I have directed him to apply to you for the troops of *New-Jersey*, under your command, in the Continental pay, or such of them as he may think necessary for effecting the purposes of his going. I beg, and am assured, that you will afford him every assistance in your power, for facilitating this business, as far as may be consistent (or not repugnant) to the orders you shall have received from Congress, and with all possible expedition.

I am, my Lord, with much esteem, &c.,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To Colonel Lord *Stirling*, *New-York*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Cambridge, January 10, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: In the confused and disordered state of this Army, occasioned by such capital changes as have taken place of late, I have found it almost impossible to come at exact returns of the strength of our levies. Not till last night was I able to get in the whole, since the dissolution of the old Army. By these, I find myself weaker than I had any idea of, and under the necessity of requesting an exertion of your influence and interest, to prevail upon the Militia of this Government, now in the pay of the Continent, to continue till the last of the month, and longer if requisite. I am assured that those of *New-Hampshire* will not stay any longer than they engaged for, notwithstanding our weak state, and the progress we make in recruiting, which, by the last week's report, amounts to but little more than half of our usual complement, owing, it is said, to the number of men going, or expecting to go into the Provincial service, at or near their own homes.

I am more and more convinced that we never shall raise the Army to the new establishment by voluntary inlistments. It is, therefore, necessary, that this, and the neighbouring Governments, should consider in time, and adopt some other expedient for effecting it.

The hurry I was in the other day, when your Committee did me the honour to present a petition from a person, (whose name I forgot,) wanting to be employed in the Continental Army, prevented me from being so full on the subject as I wished. I shall beg leave, therefore, at this time to add, that I hope your honourable Board will do me the justice to believe, that it will give me pleasure at all times to pay a proper respect to any recommendation coming from them, and that the reason why I do not now encourage such kind of applications as was made to you, is, that the new Army was arranged as near the plan and agreeable to the orders of Congress, as it was in my power to comply with them, (although some unavoidable departures and changes have taken place,) and the officers thus constituted, ordered to recruit. Every attempt, therefore, of others, not of their appointment, must counteract, and has been of infinite prejudice to the service. They infuse ideas into the minds of the men they have any influence over, that, by engaging with them, or, which is tantamount, not engaging with others, they shall be able to force themselves into the service. Of this we have numberless instances. I am, therefore, anxious to discourage every attempt of this kind, by convincing such persons, that their engaging a company will not bring them in. If they could be once satisfied of this, the business of the Army would go on more smoothly, and with much more regularity and order. In short, gentlemen, it is scarcely pos-

sible for me to convey to you a perfect idea of the trouble and vexation I have met with, in getting this matter fixed upon some settled footing. One day an officer would serve, the next he would not, and so on, that I have hardly known what steps to pursue for preserving consistency, and advancing the good of the service, which are the only objects in my view. I have no friend, nor any person with whom I am the least connected, that I want or wish to bring in.

I am, gentlemen, with much esteem and respect, your most obedient servant,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To the Honourable the President and Council of *Massachusetts-Bay.*

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GENERAL SULLIVAN.

Cambridge, January 10, 1776.

DEAR SIR: In looking over the list of officers in your brigade, I find the whole completed, except in one instance, without paying the least regard to the order which directed that no person should be inserted that was not in the first arrangement, otherwise than by recommendation.

I also find, in the regimental returns of our strength, in your brigade, several matters that need explanation—to wit: a number of men on command—and in Col. *Poor's* last return, the whole number of his regiment consisted but of two hundred and seventy-seven men; whereas, by the different weekly returns, which he has given, there appears to have been inlisted five hundred and eleven men. In like manner, by the different weekly returns, our whole number of recruits ought to amount to about ten thousand five hundred men; whereas, by the regimental returns of *Saturday*, (which were only completed last night,) they stand at eight thousand two hundred and twelve, and but five thousand five hundred and eighty-two of these returned present, fit for duty. These things are so alarming, and stand so much in need of explanation, that I must desire you to take a ride to Head-Quarters, and see if they can be accounted for. Major *Scammell* and Colonel *Poor* may be necessary, also, in the elucidation of some of these points.

If you were to come to dinner, I should be glad of your company. I am, dear sir, your most obedient servant,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To Brigadier-General *Sullivan, Winter-Hill.*

ROBERT H. HARRISON TO WILLIAM BARTLETT.

Cambridge, January 10, 1776.

SIR: By Colonel *Glover's* account, I find that Captain *Manly* and Captain *Burke* have engaged, what, in my opinion will, with the officers, be a sufficient number for these small vessels. If the guns belonging to Captain *Darby* cannot be purchased, they must be replaced out of the two vessels that are not in such forwardness. We shall afterwards think of supplying them. There are two pieces at *Cape Ann*, out of the ordnance store-ship, and two at *Beverly*, out of the *Concord*; these are good guns, and will help. Indeed, I think four as good as six, for the purpose these vessels are fitted out.

The treasury is at present very low. You must, therefore, wait for money until a remittance comes from *Philadelphia*. We are every day expecting it.

Colonel *Glover* tells me that both *Manly* and *Burke* engaged to advance a month's pay. It was wrong, except the people engaged for twelve months. If they did not, I do not think them entitled to it. However, if you find it will retard the sailing of the vessels, I wish you would raise money, and advance it to them yourself, as the General will not choose to have their accounts blended with the accounts of the Army; which must be the case if Colonel *Glover* advances the money to them. It will save much trouble, and, at the same time, be your own interest, to keep all the accounts of these vessels in your own hands.

I am, sir, yours, &c.,

ROBERT H. HARRISON.

To *William Bartlett*, Esq., *Beverly.*

[GENERAL WASHINGTON] TO COLONEL WENTWORTH.

Cambridge, January 10, 1776.

Acknowledged receipt of his and Mr. *King's* letter of the 10th instant, the latter covering invoice for . . . . . barrels, and . . . . . half barrels of flour, given to *Stephen Moylan*, by order of General *Washington*. Desired Mr. *Wentworth* to dispose of five hundred and fifty bushels of potatoes, taken in the schooner *Rainbow*, at any price, rather than have them perish, and to libel said schooner, agreeable to resolves of Congress sent him herewith.

To Colonel *Joshua Wentworth, Portsmouth.*

JOHN KNIGHT TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Northampton, January 10, 1776.

SIR: Many reasons, as well as the unexpected lengthening time of my captivity, induces me to take the liberty of addressing you on a subject, the propriety of which, I must leave to your judgment. Freedom from being a prisoner is the ultimate of my request; and, as this great indulgence, I conceive, lies entirely with your Excellency, I must beg your attention, one moment, to my reasons for this presumption. I have been employed in *America* since the year 1763, on the survey of the sea-coasts, and, since 1770 until the hour of my captivity, commanded a King's vessel, on that service only; during all which time, I can declare, I never did a single injury to an *American*, or ever detained one of their vessels, even in an illicit trade, though often in my power. On the contrary, I dare believe, there are several will do me the justice to acknowledge having received assistance from me, when in distress. The work I was then engaged on, was of a publick nature, and intended for the advantage of all; but, as this unhappy dispute must necessarily put a stop to that service, there is not the least probability of my being employed, (should your goodness indulge me with my liberty,) there being so many young gentlemen with the Admiral, waiting for promotion, and many more seeking employment, which, to a man in my situation, having a family in *America*, would admit of no invitation. I should trespass on your patience, to relate the particulars of my being made prisoner, at *Machias*, which, I am confident, would appear most favourable for me, and no doubt influence you, sir, in a great measure, to acquiesce with my entreaty. If Captain *Stephen Smith*, the principal person of that place, was near your Excellency, he would give positive information, that the proceedings with me there, and the Surgeon, Mr. *McFadjen*, belonging to the *Diligent*, were altogether contrary to every practice in war.

I beg leave to submit these facts to your Excellency's consideration, and am, with respect, your Excellency's most obedient, very humble servant,

JOHN KNIGHT.

General *Washington.*

JOSHUA WENTWORTH TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Portsmouth, January 10, 1776.

SIR: Yesterday came to town, from *London*, last from *Poole*, in *England*, via *Casco Bay*, four masters of vessels, belonging to this port, from whom I have collected all the newspapers I possibly could, with sundry packages and letters; and, as I have it in direction from your Excellency, to forward any letters that arrive here, I take the readiest method of their reaching your Excellency, by despatching my young man.

The newspapers are much defaced, previous to their coming to my hand; the anxiety of *Americans* occasioned a frequent perusal, which, I hope, may apologize for their present state.

The Captains intend setting out for Head-Quarters, in a day or two, who have verbal informations to your Excellency, from some gentlemen of note in *London*.

In the interim, I have to inform your Excellency, that a number of transports sailed on or about the time these gentlemen left *England*, (say *November* 6th,) with stores, for *Boston*, without convoy; three of which were large ships, formerly in the service of the *India* Company, and are defenceless. I sincerely wish some of the *American* armed vessels may conduct them safe to other ports than their first destination.

I am, with much respect, your Excellency's most obedient, humble servant,

JOSHUA WENTWORTH.

His Excellency General *Washington.*

SOUTHAMPTON (VIRGINIA) COMMITTEE.

Southampton Committee, January 11, 1776.

Present—The Rev. *George Gurley*, Chairman, and eleven Members.

The honourable Convention, having recommended an inquiry to be made by this Committee, into the conduct of Mr. *William Urquhart*, merchant, relative to certain goods, mentioned in an account enclosed in a letter from one *Hugh Warden*, dated *Glasgow*, *September* 6, 1775, Mr. *Urquhart*, having had due notice, appeared before the Committee, and was heard, touching the importation of the said goods. And it appears, from the account, and the examination of his storekeeper, that no goods have been shipped or received by the said Mr. *Urquhart* contrary to the Association; and that Mr. *Urquhart* ought to be acquitted of any imputation of having acted contrary to the Association, in that particular.

SAMUEL KELLO, *Clerk*.

LORD STIRLING TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read January 15, 1776, referred to a Committee.]

Elizabethtown, January 11, 1776.

SIR: In consequence of the orders I sent to Lieutenant-Colonel *Winds*, in the night, between the 9th and 10th instant, he sent two officers, attended by a proper guard, to wait upon Governour *Franklin*, who, at first, refused paying any attention to the message, which kindly invited him to dine with me at this place; but, finding it in vain to act that part, he ordered up his coach, in order to proceed to this place. But Chief Justice *Smyth*, thinking it was possible to put the matter on an easier footing for the Governour, prevailed on him to give his parole not to depart from his house, on any pretence whatever, not even if a rescue should be offered by Captain *Parker*, or any other person. This induced Lieutenant-Colonel *Winds* to suspend the Governour's journey, till he could hear from me, and the Chief Justice came *Chargé d'affaires*, to negotiate the business here. I have given the Lieutenant-Colonel orders to let the Governour remain at his house, on the conditions stipulated, until I have the orders of Congress to the contrary.

I am, with great regard and esteem, your most obedient, humble servant,

STIRLING.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*.

GENERAL ARNOLD TO CONTINENTAL CONGRESS.

Camp before Quebeck, January 11, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I take the liberty, most heartily, to condole with you the loss of great, amiable, and brave General *Montgomery*, and those brave men who fell with him. By his death, the command of the Army devolves on me; of course, I have carefully examined his instructions from the honourable Continental Congress, and their resolutions respecting this country. I find it strongly recommended to him, to conciliate the affections of the *Canadians*, and cherish every dawning of liberty which appears among them; and to assure them of the friendship and protection of the Congress; and to endeavour to form, on a lasting basis, a firm union between them and the Colonies, by forming a Provincial Congress, and, from that body, giving them a full representation in the Grand Continental Congress. This, I am confident, the General laboured for with the greatest assiduity, and with as great a degree of success as could be expected, under the present state of affairs.

The disposition of the *Canadians* is very favourable to your wishes; (the only bar, of consequence, is *Quebeck;* as this is the key, so, in a great measure, it governs the whole country;) who, having been so long habituated to slavery, and having, as yet, but a faint sense of the value of liberty, are naturally timorous and diffident, and want every possible encouragement to take an active part. This bar removed, I humbly conceive every other obstacle, to a firm and lasting union with *Canada*, will, of course, be removed. So long as *Quebeck* remains in the hands of the enemy, it will not be in our power to assist and protect them; of course, we cannot expect their hearty exertions in our favour. *Quebeck* appears to me an object of the highest importance to the Colonies, and, if proper methods are adopted, must inevitably fall into their hands, before the garrison can be relieved. The whole garrison of *Quebeck*, including men, women, and children, is supposed, by gentlemen who left town the beginning of *December*, to be four thousand.

A gentleman of veracity assures me, that Mr. *Alsop*, the King's Commissary, told him, in confidence, that there was not one thousand barrels of flour in the town; and, it was notorious among the merchants, there was not eight thousand bushels of wheat, and no convenience for flouring it. Provisions of meat were known to be much less than those of bread, though they had some quantity of fish. It is generally agreed, they had short of four months' provision the 1st *December*. This cannot be exactly ascertained, as the Governour denied the inhabitants liberty of viewing the stores, or giving them any satisfaction, in regard to the quantity. It appears, a blockhead must answer our purpose; it is possible it may not. Will it be prudent to trust an object of such vast importance to the event? With submission, I think it will not. What is to be done? A sufficient force employed to reduce it, by a regular siege, or assault? If the first is attempted, an addition of three thousand men to our present force will, I make no doubt, be thought necessary; if the latter, at least five thousand. The former, with a vast expense and great waste of ammunition, may prove unsuccessful; the latter, from the extensiveness of their works, I think cannot; and five thousand men will hardly be a sufficient garrison, if the place is taken. I beg leave to recommend the sending a body of at least five thousand men, with an experienced General, into *Canada*, as early as possible; and, in the mean time, that every possible preparation, of mortars, howitzers, and some heavy cannon, should be made, as the season will permit our raising batteries by the middle of *March*, which may, very possibly, be attended with success, as we can place our mortars under cover, within two hundred yards of the walls, and within one thousand of the centre of the town; and, if supplied with shells, carcases, &c., can set fire to it whenever we please, which, I make no doubt, would reduce the garrison to terms.

I am well assured more than half of the inhabitants of *Quebeck* would gladly open the gates to us, but are prevented by the strict discipline and watch kept over them, the command of the guards being constantly given to officers of the Crown, known to be firm in their interest. The garrison consists of about fifteen hundred men, great part of whom Governour *Carleton* can place no confidence in, or he would not suffer a blockade, and every distress of a siege, by seven hundred men, our force consisting of no more, at present, including Colonel *Livingston's* Regiment of two hundred *Canadians*. I have arranged my men in such order, as effectually to blockade the city, and to assist each other as early as possible, if attacked. The men are obliged to lay on their arms constantly, and to mount guard every other night. Their duty is exceedingly hard; however, the men appear alert and cheerful, though wanting many necessaries, which cannot be procured here.

I expect General *Wooster* from *Montreal*, with a reinforcement, every minute. I have withdrawn our cannon from the battery, and placed them around the magazine, which contains a considerable quantity of powder and ordnance stores, which I am fearful of removing, lest it should make unfavourable impressions on the *Canadians*, and induce them to withdraw their assistance, and Governour *Carleton*, presuming on our panick, to sally out. I thought it most prudent to put the best face on matters, and betray no marks of fear. We are in great want of cash; our finances have never afforded any, of consequence, to the troops, who make heavy complaints, not without reason. We have often been reduced to a few johannes, and never able to procure more than ten days' sustenance beforehand. Our whole dependance has been on Mr. *Price*, who has done every thing in his power, and is the only resource we have at present. I have received two petards from Monsieur *Pelissier*, at *Three-Rivers*, who assures me he can supply us with shells, by the 1st of *April*.

Enclosed is a list of officers killed and wounded in the unfortunate attack on *Quebeck*. The prisoners and missing amount to about four hundred. Governour *Carleton* has permitted the baggage of both officers and men to be sent in, and (strange to tell) treats them with humanity.

I think myself, in justice, bound to acknowledge the good conduct and intrepidity, of both officers and men, of my detachment, who undauntedly marched up, in the face of the enemy's cannon; in particular, the volunteers of Captain *Oswald*, who signalized himself in the attack on their battery, and is now a prisoner.

I hope, gentlemen, my being confined to my bed with my wound and a severe fit of the gout, will apologize for the incoherency and inaccurateness of my scrawl; and that you will believe me, with respect and esteem, gentlemen, your most obedient and very humble servant,

B. Arnold.

To the Honourable Continental Congress.

GENERAL ARNOLD TO CONTINENTAL CONGRESS.

Camp before Quebeck, January 12, 1776.

Gentlemen: Since writing the enclosed, General *Wooster* has acquainted me he cannot leave *Montreal*, but has sent down Colonel *Clinton*, to whom I shall resign the command, until my wound will permit my doing duty, which my Surgeon thinks will be four or six weeks. Colonel *Clinton* acquaints me, we cannot expect more than two hundred men from *Montreal*. I have put on foot the raising a regiment of three hundred *Canadians*, which I make no doubt of effecting. They are to have the same pay, and be under the same regulations, as the Continental forces. I make no doubt the exigency of our affairs will justify the step I have taken, (though without authority for so doing,) and that it will be approved of by the honourable Continental Congress.

I am, most respectfully, gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servant,

B. Arnold.

P. S. The forts of *Niagara* and *Detroit* are an object, which, I make no doubt, the honourable Congress have in view. Mr. *Antill*, now on his way down, can inform you in regard to their strength, stores, &c.

B. A.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

Cambridge, January 11, 1776.

Sir: Every account I have out of *Boston* confirms the embarkation of troops, mentioned in my last, which, from the season of the year, and other circumstances, must be destined for some expedition to the southward of this. I have, therefore, thought it prudent to send Major-General *Lee* to *New-York*. I have given him letters, recommendatory to Governour *Trumbull*, and to the Committee of Safety at *New-York*. I have good hopes, that in *Connecticut*, he will get many volunteers, who, I have some reason to think, will accompany him on this expedition, without more expense to the Continent than their maintenance; but, should it be otherwise, and that they should expect pay, I think it is a trifling consideration, when put in competition with the importance of the object—which is to put the city of *New-York*, such parts of the *North* River, and *Long-Island*, as to him shall seem proper, in that state of defence which the season of the year, and circumstances will admit of, so as, if possible, to prevent the enemy from forming a lodgment in that Government, which, I am afraid, contains too many persons disaffected to the cause of liberty and *America*. I have, also, wrote to Lord *Stirling*, to give him all the assistance that he can, with the troops under his command in the Continental service, provided it does not interfere with any orders he may receive from Congress relative to them. I hope the Congress will approve of my conduct in sending General *Lee* upon this expedition. I am sure I mean it well, as experience teaches us, that it is much easier to prevent an enemy from posting themselves, than it is to dislodge them after they have got possession.

The evening of the 8th instant, a party of our men, under the command of Major *Knowlton*, were ordered to go and burn some houses, which lay at the foot of *Bunker's Hill*, and at the head of *Charlestown*. They were, also, ordered to bring off the guard, which, we expected, consisted of an officer and thirty men. They crossed the mill-dam, about half after eight o'clock, and gallantly executed their business, having burnt eight houses, and brought with them a sergeant and four privates, of the Tenth Regiment. There was but one man more there, who, making some resistance, they were obliged to despatch. The gun that killed him, was the only one that was discharged by our men, though several hundreds were fired by the enemy from within their works, but in so confused a manner that not one of our people was hurt. Our inlistments go on very heavily.

I am, with great respect, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

George Washington.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq.

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, January 5, 1776.

(Parole, *Hancock.*) (Countersign, *Adams.*)

The Majors of Brigade to order the Adjutants to be exact and punctual in making their weekly returns of the strength of each regiment; also, a separate return of the numbers inlisted in the course of last week, at orderly time to-morrow: The weekly returns to be according to the form lately sent by the Adjutant-General.

The regimentals, which have been made up, and drawn for, may be delivered to the respective Colonels, by the Quartermaster-General, to the order of those Colonels, who drew them at such prices as they have cost the Continent, which is much cheaper than could otherwise be obtained. As nothing adds more to the appearance of a man, than dress, and a proper degree of cleanliness in his person, the General hopes and expects, that each regiment will contend for the most soldierlike appearance. He is, also, very desirous of having the men instructed, as speedily as possible, in all parts of their duty, and recommends it to all the Colonels, to be very careful in the choice of their Non-commissioned Officers; and to their Captains, to divide their companies into small squads, appointing a Sergeant and Corporal to each, from whom the utmost diligence is expected. Those Sergeants and Corporals are by no means to suffer the arms and accoutrements of any man, in their squads, to be dirty, or unfit for use; and, as far as in them lies, to make the men appear neat, clean, and soldierlike. Neglect of duty, in these instances, they may rely upon it, will reduce them to the ranks. These orders are not intended to exempt the Commissioned Officers of the companies, from the strictest attention to these things; on the contrary, as it serves to show the General's solicitude in having the men, and their arms, appear in the best order, it is hoped they will double their diligence.

If Colonel *Brewer* inclines to accept the appointment of Barrackmaster, he is to proceed directly to discharge the duty of that office; and, as the first business to be done in an army, is with the Quartermaster of each regiment, he is to see that the number of men, for which each barrack was designed, are immediately quartered therein, keeping the regiments together as much as possible, that every tent may be delivered into the Quartermaster-General's store.

The Regimental Quartermasters, and their Sergeants, are to cause proper necessaries to be erected, at convenient distances from the barracks in which their men are lodged, and see that those necessaries are frequently filled up. Any person who shall be discovered easing himself elsewhere, is to be instantly confined, and brought before a Regimental Court-Martial. They are to cause, also, the filth and garbage about the barracks, to be removed and buried. In short, it is in a particular manner the duty of the Quartermaster to see that the barracks are kept clean and sweet, the victuals properly prepared, &c.; and, although it is the particular business of the Quartermasters, and their Sergeants, to see this done, it is equally necessary, and the duty of the other officers, to look into this business, as too much care cannot be used in a matter where the health of the men so much depends upon it.

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, January 6, 1776.

(Parole, *Gerry.*) (Countersign, *Chase.*)

The General is informed that a custom hath prevailed, at the main guard in *Cambridge*, of permitting prisoners to be absent upon their parole; he, therefore, orders a total stop be put to this practice for the future. Any officer offending herein, will be immediately put in arrest, and tried for disobedience of orders.

The frequent application for flags at *Roxbury*, having

*

been found troublesome, and, at the same time, attended with inconveniences, Major-General *Ward* is requested to suffer no more than one a week to go in, unless it be on special occasions, and this to happen on *Tuesdays*, at which time he will appoint a proper officer always to attend.

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, January 7, 1776.

(Parole, *Lynch.*) (Countersign, *Morris.*)

The Adjutant-General will, this day, deliver to the Brigade Majors, the number of the new Articles of War necessary for each regiment, in their respective brigades; and that no mistake in regard to the said Articles may possibly happen, each book is signed by the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq., President of the Continental Congress, and countersigned, upon the title page, by *William Tudor*, Esq., Judge Advocate of the Army of the *United Colonies*.

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, January 8, 1776.

(Parole, *Harrison.*) (Countersign, *Johnson.*)

It is exceedingly astonishing to the General, that he is yet without those Returns which were called for on the 1st and 3d instants. It is impossible that the business of an army can be conducted with any degree of regularity or propriety, where so much inattention prevails; and he desires that the Commanding Officers of such regiments as are conscious of their neglect, in the instances now referred to, will take notice, and be fully persuaded, that if those Returns are not made at, or before orderly time to-morrow, that they will be ordered under an arrest, and tried for disobedience of orders.

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, January 9, 1776.

(Parole, *Knowlton.*) (Countersign, *Charlestown.*)

The General thanks Major *Knowlton*, and the officers and soldiers who were under his command last night, for the spirit, conduct and secrecy with which they burnt the houses near the enemy's works, upon *Bunker's Hill*. The General was in a more particular manner pleased with the resolution the party discovered, in not firing a shot, as nothing betrays greater signs of fear, and less of the soldier, than to begin a loose, undirected, and unmeaning fire, from whence no good can result, nor any valuable purposes answered.

It is almost certain that the enemy will attempt to revenge the insult which was cast upon them last night; for which reason the greatest vigilance and care is recommended; and it also is recommended, that the out-posts be always guarded by experienced officers and good soldiers, who are to be considered in other duties.

It is, also, again and again ordered, that the men are not suffered to ramble from, or lie out of their quarters, contrary to repeated orders on this head, and that their arms and accoutrements be always in order.

To remove present doubts, and prevent future mistakes, it is hereby expressly ordered and directed, that no persons do proceed to discharge the duty of any office, without a regular appointment, by commission from the Congress, warrant, or general order, from the Commander-in-chief. No allowance will be made to any one who acts contrary to this order. All persons, therefore, for their own sakes, are desired to take notice of it, and govern themselves accordingly, that no complaints may hereafter be exhibited for services unwarranted.

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, January 10, 1776.

Parole, *Nelson.*) (Countersign, *Langdon.*)

His Excellency General *Washington* has been pleased to appoint Mr. *William Morony*, Provost-Marshal to the Army of the *United Colonies*, serving in the *Massachusetts-Bay*; he is, therefore, in all things appertaining to his office, to be considered and obeyed as such.

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, January 11, 1776.

(Parole, *Mount Airy.*) (Countersign, *Calvert.*)

Head-Quarters, at Cambridge, January 11, 1776.

All officers, non-commissioned officers, and soldiers, belonging to any of the regiments or corps of the Army of the *United Colonies*, under the immediate command of His Excellency General *Washington*, who are absent upon furlough, recruiting, or by permission of their commanding officers, are to join their respective regiments by the 1st day of *February* next. If any officer neglects to pay due obedience to this order, he will be immediately cashiered; and any non-commissioned officers or soldiers offending therein, will be tried and punished as deserters.

By His Excellency's command:

HORATIO GATES, *Adjutant-General.*

General Return of the Army of the UNITED COLONIES, *commanded by His Excellency* GEORGE WASHINGTON, *Esq., General and Commander-in-chief, Head-Quarters at* CAMBRIDGE, JANUARY 8, 1776.

REGIMENTS.	OFFICERS PRESENT.												RANK AND FILE.						Wanting to complete.			Since last Return.			
	Commissioned.					Staff.				Non-commissioned.															
	Colonels.	Lieut. Colonels.	Majors.	Captains.	Lieutenants.	Ensigns.	Chaplains.	Adjutants.	Quartermasters.	Surgeons.	Mates.	Sergeants.	Drums and Fifes.	Present, fit for duty.	Sick, present.	Sick, absent.	On Command.	On Furlough.	Total.	Sergeants.	Drums and Fifes.	Privates.	Inlisted.	Dead.	Discharged.	Deserted.
1. Riflemen	1	1	1	8	26	–	1	1	1	1	–	37	10	557	81	38	12	5	693	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
2. Colonel Reed's	1	1	1	8	17	7	1	1	1	–	1	23	14	401	34	12	41	20	508	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
3. Colonel Learned's	1	1	1	14	28	8	1	1	1	1	1	49	20	653	28	4	36	43	764	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
4. Colonel Nixon's	1	–	1	5	14	8	–	1	1	–	1	29	12	274	11	24	75	20	404	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
5. Colonel Stark's	–	–	1	7	15	3	1	1	1	1	1	17	4	320	15	9	85	26	455	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
6. Colonel Whitcomb's	1	1	1	7	7	8	–	1	1	1	–	20	8	224	17	4	88	14	347	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
7. Colonel Prescott's	1	1	1	8	15	10	–	1	1	1	1	30	13	314	16	5	30	93	458	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
8. Colonel Poor's	1	1	1	8	11	7	–	1	1	1	1	25	21	343	41	2	5	44	435	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
9. Colonel Varnum's	1	–	1	5	10	5	1	1	1	–	1	25	13	205	12	4	72	36	329	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
10. Colonel Parsons's	–	1	1	8	13	2	–	1	1	1	1	25	14	425	44	1	5	4	479	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
11. Colonel Hitchcock's	1	1	1	4	9	7	–	1	1	1	1	19	8	190	10	5	20	39	264	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
12. Colonel Little's	1	1	1	6	10	5	–	1	1	1	1	13	8	257	18	–	75	50	400	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
13. Colonel Read's	1	1	1	14	25	6	–	1	1	–	1	39	19	575	40	7	82	74	778	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
14. Colonel Glover's	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
15. Colonel Patterson's	1	–	1	7	11	6	1	1	1	1	1	24	11	256	14	–	71	37	378	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
16. Colonel Sargent's	–	–	1	8	8	7	1	1	1	1	–	19	13	206	31	3	26	5	271	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
17. Colonel Huntingdon's	1	1	–	7	17	4	–	1	1	–	–	27	12	391	31	12	26	30	490	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
18. Colonel Phinney's	1	–	1	8	14	5	–	1	1	1	1	19	13	219	27	4	7	41	298	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
19. Colonel Webb's	1	–	1	5	7	2	–	–	–	1	1	21	7	259	15	2	140	41	457	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
20. Colonel Arnold's	–	–	1	20	41	3	–	–	–	–	–	67	21	864	44	–	110	46	1, 064	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
21. Colonel Ward's	1	1	–	17	34	4	1	1	1	1	1	58	33	788	85	8	11	49	941	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
22. Colonel Wyllys's	1	–	–	12	23	4	–	1	1	1	1	42	22	528	13	39	43	27	650	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
23. Colonel Bailey's	1	1	1	15	28	6	–	1	1	1	1	41	26	661	15	12	58	121	867	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
24. Colonel Greaton's	1	1	1	10	19	19	–	1	1	1	1	34	15	342	11	6	15	52	426	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
25. Colonel Bond's	1	1	–	7	10	7	1	1	1	1	–	17	8	222	17	17	36	42	334	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
26. Colonel Baldwin's	1	–	1	9	18	6	–	1	1	1	1	35	15	435	11	6	29	56	537	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
27. Colonel Hutchinson's	1	–	1	3	11	4	–	–	1	1	1	20	9	300	24	9	120	29	482	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Total	22	15	22	230	441	153	9	23	24	20	20	781	369	10, 209	705	233	1, 318	1, 044	13, 509	–	–	–	–	–	–	–

HORATIO GATES, *Adjutant-General.*

Return of the Artillery Regiment in the service of the United Colonies, *commanded by the Honourable* Henry Knox, *Esq.*, Cambridge, January 6, 1776.

	Colonels.	Lieutenant-Colonels.	Majors.	Captains.	Captain-Lieutenants.	First Lieutenants.	Second Lieutenants.	Adjutant.	Quartermaster.	Surgeon.	Surgeon's Mate.	Sergeants.	Corporals.	Bombardiers.	Gunners.	Drums and Fifes.	Matrosses.	Total.
Present, fit for duty	-	2	1	9	10	9	22	1	1	1	1	17	17	28	26	10	300	455
On command	1	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	-	1	-	8	15
Sick, present	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	3	6
Sick, absent	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	4	9
Militia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
For one month	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	10	13
On furlough	-	-	-	3	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	21	26
Total	1	2	1	12	12	12	24	1	1	1	1	20	19	30	27	11	346	511

Four inlisted, and not joined Captain William Verktug's..... 4
Six do. do. Captain Pearce..... 6

Sum total of men..... 521

William Burbeck,
Lieutenant-Colonel of Artillery.

Return of the Militia who have consented to remain in the Army till the last of this month, January, 1776.

Roxbury, January 16, 1776.	Captains.	Subalterns.	Sergeants.	Drums and Fifes.	Rank and File.	Total.
Total	30	57	85	37	1,127	1,336

Horatio Gates, *Adjutant-General.*

[*Addition to the above by General* Washington.]

Militia, as above	-	-	-	30	57	85	37	1,127	1,336
Riflemen	-	-	-	2	9	13	4	244	272
Colonel Learned's	1	1	1	8	24	28	14	379	556
Colonel Parson's	1	1	1	4	17	32	12	334	402
Colonel Joseph Reed's	1	1	1	8	17	24	12	360	424
Colonel Huntingdon's	1	1	-	1	14	19	6	211	253
Colonel Ward's	1	1	-	6	14	18	10	292	334
Colonel Wyllys's	1	-	-	4	12	22	14	202	255
Colonel Bailey's	1	1	1	8	23	31	14	366	445
									4,277

NAMES OF THE COMMISSIONED OFFICERS IN THE REGIMENT OF ARTILLERY, IN THE SERVICE OF THE UNITED COLONIES, JANUARY 1, 1776.

Field-Officers.—Henry Knox, Colonel; *William Burbeck*, 1st Lieutenant-Colonel; *David Mason*, 2d Lieutenant-Colonel; *John Crane*, 1st Major.

CAPTAINS.	CAPTAIN-LIEUTENANTS.	FIRST LIEUTENANTS.	SECOND LIEUTENANTS.	SECOND LIEUTENANTS.
Edward Crafts,	Benjamin Eustis,	Thomas Randall,	Henry Wells,	Daniel Parker.
Thomas Pearce,	William Treadwell,	David Briant,	John Lillie,	Isaiah Simmons.
Thomas Waite Foster,	Benjamin Frothingham,	Henry Burbeck,	Joseph Loring,	Oliver Brown.
John Popkins,	- - - - - - - - -	William Stevens,	Thomas Vose,	John Chandler.
Edw. Burbeck,	Jotham Horton,	John Welch Edes,	Thomas Dean,	Thomas Machin.
William Perkins,	Edward Rumney,	Samuel Treat,	David Preston,	Joseph Blake.
Dimond Morton,	David Allen,	John Bryant,	Thomas Jackson,	John Bull.
Stephen Badlam,	Winthrop Sergeant,	- - - - - - - - -	James Furnival,	James Steele.
Eliphalet Newall,	John Johnson,	Isaac Packard,	Peter King,	Thomas Carnes.
William Dana,	Thomas Seward,	Jonas Simmons,	Joseph Savage,	Samuel Dagget.
Ebenezer Stevens,	Asa Rowson,	David Cook,	Joseph Thomas,	Hardy Peirce.
Jotham Drury,	Benajah Carpenter,	John Sleeman,	Samuel Shaw,	Jeremiah Freeman.

Staff-Officers.—Abiel Leonard, Chaplain; *Thomas Henley*, Adjutant and Second Lieutenant; *David Brudley*, Quartermaster; *William Eustis*, Surgeon.

[*Return of the Officers of the First Regiment of Foot* (*Riflemen*) *left blank.*]

NAMES OF THE COMMISSIONED OFFICERS IN THE SECOND REGIMENT OF FOOT, IN THE SERVICE OF THE UNITED COLONIES, JANUARY 1, 1776.

Field-Officers.—James Reed, Colonel; *Israel Gilman*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Nathan Hale*, Major.

CAPTAINS.	FIRST LIEUTENANTS.	SECOND LIEUTENANTS.	ENSIGNS.
Ezra Town,	Joseph Churchill,	James Taggard,	Pelatiah Whitemore.
John Jones,	Elijah Clayes,	James Otis,	Sylvanus Reed.
Levi Spaulding,	George Aldrich,	Thomas Boffee,	William Lee.
James Wilkinson,	Thomas Grover,	Thompson Maxwell,	Gillam Taylor.
Robert Oliver,	Isaac Farewell,	Richard Coughlan,	Jonathan Emerson.
Jacob Hinds,	Isaac Stone,	Isaac Frye,	Benjamin Davis.
Benjamin Mann,	Samuel Pattingale,	Jonathan Collis,	William Adrian Hawkins.
David Place,	Amos Emerson,	Aaron Hanson,	Stephen Carter.

Staff-Officers.—Hezekiah Smith, Chaplain; *Ezra Green*, Surgeon; *Nathaniel Breed*, Mate; *James Otis*, Adjutant; *Isaac Frye*, Quartermaster.

NAMES OF THE COMMISSIONED OFFICERS IN THE THIRD REGIMENT OF FOOT.

Field-Officers.—Ebenezer Learned, Colonel; *William Shephard*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Ebenezer Sprout*, Major.

CAPTAINS.	FIRST LIEUTENANTS.	SECOND LIEUTENANTS.	ENSIGNS.
Peter Harwood,	George Webb,	Seth Bannister,	Jonathan Stone.
Samuel Curtis,	Simon Learned,	Benjamin Felton,	William Moore.
Isaac Bolster,	John Mayo,	Reuben Slayton,	Scottoway Whitcomb.
Lebbeus Ball,	Caleb Keep,	Asher Granger,	Jacob Bates.
Nathan Peters,	John Chadwick,	Seth Smith,	Martin Smith.
Warham Parks,	John Carpenter,	David Sacket,	Israel Sacket.
Isaac Woods,	Nelson Phinney,	Foxel Thomas,	John Townsend.
Asa Danforth,	Thomas Fish,	John King,	Ebenezer Field.

Staff-Officers.— . . . . Chaplain; . . . . Surgeon; . . . . Mate; *Seth Bannister*, Adjutant; *Scottoway Whitcomb*, Quartermaster.

NAMES OF THE COMMISSIONED OFFICERS IN THE FOURTH REGIMENT OF FOOT, IN THE SERVICE OF THE UNITED COLONIES, JANUARY 1, 1776.

Field-Officers.—John Nixon, Colonel; *Thomas Nixon*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Andrew Colburn*, Major.

CAPTAINS.	FIRST LIEUTENANTS.	SECOND LIEUTENANTS.	ENSIGNS.
Joseph Butler,	Silas Walker,	John Sawyer,	Warham Wheeler.
Micajah Gleason,	James Kimball,	Abel Holden,	Peter Cloyes.
Ebenezer Winship,	Nathan Wheeler,	Richard Buckminster,	Mason Wattles.
Jeremiah Gilman,	Simon Sartivel,	John White,	William Hutchings.
Moses McFarland,	Joseph Wood,	John Briggs,	Dudley Taylor.
Adam Wheeler,	Jonathan Hill,	Benjamin Haywood,	Ephraim Minot.
Thomas Barnes,	Silas Bent,	William Lemont,	Isaac Nichols.
Joseph Thompson,	William Toogood,	Nathaniel Crittenton,	Ephraim Wheeler.

Staff-Officers.—Hezekiah Smith, Chaplain; *Benjamin Putnam*, Surgeon; *Nathan Burnap*, Mate; *Abel Holden*, Adjutant; *John White*, Quartermaster.

NAMES OF THE COMMISSIONED OFFICERS IN THE FIFTH REGIMENT OF FOOT.

Field-Officers.—John Starks, Colonel; *Thomas Poor*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *John Moore*, Major.

CAPTAINS.	FIRST LIEUTENANTS.	SECOND LIEUTENANTS.	ENSIGNS.
George Reid,	- - - - - - - - -	Robert Barnett,	Caleb Stark.
Amos Morrill,	Michael McClary,	Samuel Bradford,	- - - - - - - - -
Daniel More,	Ebenezer Frye,	- - - - - - - - -	Edward Evans.
Joshua Abbott,	Joseph Soper,	Abiel Chandler,	Ephraim Colby.
Elisha Woodbury,	Daniel Livermore,	John Patten,	- - - - - - - - -
Samuel Richards,	James McCauley,	Henry Perkinson,	Timothy Blake.
John Hale,	Thomas Hardy,	Jesse Carr,	Thomas Richard.
Silas Walker,	Asa Coburn,	Aaron Steel,	Isaac Wormer.

Staff-Officers.—Noah Cooke, Jun., Chaplain; ——— *Goss*, Surgeon; *Josiah Chase*, Mate; *Abiel Chandler*, Adjutant; *Henry Perkinson*, Quartermaster.

NAMES OF THE COMMISSIONED OFFICERS IN THE SIXTH REGIMENT OF FOOT.

Field-Officers.—Asa Whitcomb, Colonel; *William Buckminster*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *John Gizzard Frazer*, Major.

CAPTAINS.	FIRST LIEUTENANTS.	SECOND LIEUTENANTS.	ENSIGNS.
Lemuel Trescott,	- - - - - - - - -	John Kilbey Smith,	John Mills.
Daniel Whiting,	Elisha Brewer,	Abraham Tuckerman,	Isaac Barber.
Aaron Haynes,	Nathaniel Cushing,	Abraham Williams,	Josiah Willington.
Benjamin Bullard,	Thomas Willington,	Aaron Holden,	Jacob Welsh.
William Hutson Ballard,	Nathaniel Alexander,	Samuel Blodgett,	Nahum Wight.
Abner Cranston,	Joseph Perry,	Jonas Parker,	Joseph Williams.
Jonathan Danforth,	Joseph McNoll,	Benjamin Pollard,	Charles Dehauty.
Moses Soul,	Noah Allen,	William Winchester,	Ebenezer Smith.

Staff-Officers.—Isaac Mansfield, Jun., Chaplain; *David Townsend*, Surgeon; *James Thatcher*, Mate; *Abraham Tuckerman*, Adjutant; *Charles Dehauty*, Quartermaster.

NAMES OF THE COMMISSIONED OFFICERS IN THE SEVENTH REGIMENT OF FOOT.

Field-Officers.—William Prescott, Colonel; *Johnson Moulton*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Henry Woods*, Major.

CAPTAINS.	FIRST LIEUTENANTS.	SECOND LIEUTENANTS.	ENSIGNS.
Hugh Maxwell,	Benjamin Brown,	Benjamin Ball,	William Taylor.
John Nutting,	Eleazer Spoulding,	John Mosher,	Edmund Bancroft.
Samuel Darby,	John Williams,	George Marsdin,	Samuel Nason.
Jonathan Nowell,	Thomas Nowell,	Nathaniel Sortle,	Simeon Lord.
Joseph Moss,	Ebenezer Woods,	Jedediah Sangor,	William Nevens.
Samuel Patch,	Joshua Brown,	- - - - - - - - -	Obadiah Witherell.
Samuel Gilberts,	Joseph Gilberts,	Joseph Baker,	Andrew Brower.
Joseph Mores,	Zachariah Walker,	Isaac Dodge,	Samuel Lawrence.

Staff-Officers.— . . . . Chaplain; *John Hart*, Surgeon; *Abraham Parley*, Mate; *George Marsdin*, Adjutant; *Samuel Nason*, Quartermaster.

NAMES OF THE COMMISSIONED OFFICERS IN THE EIGHTH REGIMENT OF FOOT, IN THE SERVICE OF THE UNITED COLONIES, JANUARY 1, 1776.

Field-Officers.—Enoch Poor, Colonel; *John McDuffie*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Joseph Cilley*, Major.

CAPTAINS.	FIRST LIEUTENANTS.	SECOND LIEUTENANTS.	ENSIGNS.
Winborn Adams,	Zachariah Beal,	Jeremiah Fogg,	John Colcord.
Jeremiah Clough,	Thomas Lyford,	Edward Parsons,	Jonathan Heath.
Philip Tilton,	Benjamin Kimball,	Joseph Huntoon,	Robert Pike.
Benjamin Titcomb,	William Smith,	Nathaniel McClintock,	Enoch Chase.
Jonathan Wentworth,	James Carr,	Jethro Herd,	Samuel Nute.
James Norris,	Jonathan Frye,	William Rowell,	Charles Glidden.
Richard Shortridge,	Richard Weare,	Joshua Lovejoy,	Steven Abbot.
Frederick Mordaunt Bell,	James Mathes,	Stephen Jones Thomas,	Jacob Lowe.

Staff-Officers.—Noah Cooke, Jun., Chaplain; *Caleb Greenleaf Adams*, Surgeon; *William Parker*, Mate; *Edward Parsons*, Adjutant; *Jeremiah Fogg*, Quartermaster.

NAMES OF THE COMMISSIONED OFFICERS IN THE NINTH REGIMENT OF FOOT.

Field-Officers.—James M. Varnum, Colonel; *Archibald Crary*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Christopher Smith*, Major.

CAPTAINS.	FIRST LIEUTENANTS.	SECOND LIEUTENANTS.	ENSIGNS.
Ebenezer Flagg,	Noel Allen,	Joseph Whitmarsh,	- - - - - - - - -
Elijah Lewis,	William Potter,	- - - - - - - - -	Elijah Hull.
Nathaniel Hawkins,	John Singer Dexter,	Micah Whitmarsh,	Chandler Burllingham.
Oliver Clark,	Samuel Bissell,	Daniel Pearce,	- - - - - - - - -
Thomas Cole,	Isaac Holden,	Clark Brown,	- - - - - - - - -
John Lane,	Jabez Lane,	Amos Crandall,	Moses Atkinson.
Joshua Read,	James Varnum,	Thomas Henley,	Michael Molton.
John Gooch,	Timothy Lock,	Matthew Chambers,	Duty Jerauld.

Staff-Officers.—Ebenezer David, Chaplain; *John Singer Dexter*, Adjutant; *Clark Brown*, Quartermaster; *Joseph Joslyn*, Surgeon; *Daniel Brown*, Mate.

NAMES OF THE COMMISSIONED OFFICERS IN THE TENTH REGIMENT OF FOOT.

Field-Officers.—Samuel H. Parsons, Colonel; *John Tyler*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Samuel Prentice*, Major.

CAPTAINS.	FIRST LIEUTENANTS.	SECOND LIEUTENANTS.	ENSIGNS.
James Chapman,	Richard Hewitt,	William Cleveland,	Daniel Waite.
David F. Sill,	David Nevins,	Caleb Baldwin,	—— Pendleton.
James Eldridge,	Oliver Babcock,	Daniel Collins,	Daniel Billings.
Christopher Darrou,	John McGregore,	Ezra Selden,	John Balkley.
Abraham Watrous,	Elisha Lee,	James Day,	Henry Hill.
Isaac Gallop,	Stephen Keyes,	Thomas Avery,	Lemuel Cleft.
Christopher Ely,	William Richards,	Enoch Reed,	David Dorrence.
Ebenezer Brewster,	Nathaniel Hall,	Jesse Prentice,	Benjamin Haskill.

Staff-Officers.— . . . Chaplain; *Josiah Hart*, Surgeon; *Elisha Ely*, Mate; *James Day*, Adjutant; *Richard Sill*, Quartermaster.

NAMES OF THE COMMISSIONED OFFICERS IN THE ELEVENTH REGIMENT OF FOOT.

Field-Officers.—Daniel Hitchcock, Colonel; *Ezekiel Cornell*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Israel Angell*, Major.

CAPTAINS.	FIRST LIEUTENANTS.	SECOND LIEUTENANTS.	ENSIGNS.
Jeremiah Olney,	John Wyman,	William Blodgett,	John Armstrong.
William Yew,	John Blunt,	Thomas Hughes,	Ebenezer West.
Stephen Kimball,	William Blanchard,	William Bradford, Jun.,	Nathan Olney.
Francis Symonds,	William Mills,	James King,	Holleman Potter.
Silas Talbot,	William Allen,	Peter Donworth,	John Thomas.
Coggeshall Olney,	Stephen Olney,	James Bridges,	Eliphalet Foster.
Ephraim Bowen,	Ephraim Sawyer,	Cyprian Sterry,	- - - - - - - - -
John Spurr,	Ebenezer Fitch,	Christopher Hopkins,	- - - - - - - - -

Staff-Officers.—Oliver Noble, Chaplain; *Samuel Tenny*, Surgeon; . . . . . Mate; *William Bradford*, Jun., Adjutant; *Cyprian Sterry*, Quartermaster.

NAMES OF THE COMMISSIONED OFFICERS IN THE TWELFTH REGIMENT OF FOOT, IN THE SERVICE OF THE UNITED COLONIES, JANUARY 1, 1776.

Field-Officers.—Moses Little, Colonel; *William Henshaw*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *James Collins*, Major.

CAPTAINS.	FIRST LIEUTENANTS.	SECOND LIEUTENANTS.	ENSIGNS.
Jacob Gerrish,	Amos Atkinson,	Samuel Hughes,	William Searl.
John Baker,	Caleb Lambson,	Joseph Fisk,	Samuel Proctor.
Gideon Parker,	Moses Kent,	Jared Smith,	Benjamin Gould.
Nathaniel Wade,	Joseph Hodgkins,	John Carr,	William Littlefield.
Ezra Lunt,	Stephen Jenkins,	Nathaniel Montgomery,	Nathaniel Mitchell.
Abraham Dodge,	James Lord,	Enoch Parsons,	William Story.
Nathaniel Warner,	John Burnham,	Daniel Collins,	Jonathan Woodman.
Benjamin Perkins,	Silvanus Smith,	Dudley Colman,	Amos Pearson.

Staff-Officers.—Oliver Noble, Chaplain; *Elisha Story*, Surgeon; . . . . . Mate; *Dudley Colman*, Adjutant; *John Carr*, Quartermaster.

NAMES OF THE COMMISSIONED OFFICERS IN THE THIRTEENTH REGIMENT OF FOOT.

Field-Officers.—Joseph Read, Colonel; *Ebenezer Clap*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Calvin Smith*, Major.

CAPTAINS.	FIRST LIEUTENANTS.	SECOND LIEUTENANTS.	ENSIGNS.
Ames Walbridge,	Nathan Goodall,	Bethuel Washburn,	John Trotter.
Oliver Pond,	Elias Bacon,	Ezekiel Plymton,	Oliver Rouse.
Edward Seagraves,	Joseph McCumber,	Thaddeus Read,	Robert Muzzy.
Andrew Peters,	Isaac Warren,	George Whipple,	Benjamin Walker.
Samuel Payson,	John Holden,	Levi Lindly,	Jacob Goldthwaite.
Samuel Warren,	Japhet Daniels,	Benjamin Read,	Adams Chapin.
Oliver Soaper,	Thomas Williams,	Abijah Lincoln,	Rufus Barney.
Moses Knapp,	Peter Taft,	Gideon Macumber,	Benjamin Pike.

Staff-Officers.— . . . . Chaplain; *Seth Ames*, Surgeon; *Joseph Adams*, Mate; *Benjamin Read*, Adjutant; *Adams Chapin*, Quartermaster.

NAMES OF THE COMMISSIONED OFFICERS IN THE FOURTEENTH REGIMENT OF FOOT.

Field-Officers.—John Glover, Colonel; *Gabriel Johonnot*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *William Lee*, Major.

CAPTAINS.	FIRST LIEUTENANTS.	SECOND LIEUTENANTS.	ENSIGNS.
William Courtis,	Edward Archibald,	Thomas Courtis,	James Foster.
Thomas Grant,	William Bubier,	Ebenezer Groves,	John Clark.
John Glover,	Joshua Orne,	Marston Wattson,	John Allen.
Joseph Swasey,	Robert Williams,	Thomas Fosdick,	Robert Wormsted.
Nathaniel Bond,	Nathaniel Clarke,	Seward Lee,	Jeremiah Reed.
Joseph Lee,	William Groves,	Joseph Stacey,	Samuel Getchell.
Moses Brown,	Robert Nimblett,	John Wallis,	William Hawks.
Gilbert Warner Speekman	Theophilus Monson,	William Jones,	- - - - - - - - -

Staff-Officers.— . . . Chaplain; *Isaac Spafford*, Surgeon; . . . . Mate; *Thomas Fosdick*, Adjutant; *Joseph Stacey*, Quartermaster.

NAMES OF THE COMMISSIONED OFFICERS IN THE FIFTEENTH REGIMENT OF FOOT.

Field-Officers.—John Patterson, Colonel; *Seth Read*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Henry Sherburn*, Major.

CAPTAINS.	FIRST LIEUTENANTS.	SECOND LIEUTENANTS.	ENSIGNS.
David Noble,	William Aug. Patterson,	Solomon Martin,	Mathias Hall.
John McInstry,	Thomas McKinstry,	John Pennoyer,	Gerard Fitch.
Samuel Sloan,	Peter White,	Jehiel Jackson,	David Johnson.
Samuel Sayer,	Samuel Chapin,	Jeremiah Littlefield,	Samuel Stevens.
William Wyman,	John Bacon,	Joshua Traston,	Belcher Hancock.
Ebenezer Sullivan,	Joseph Welsh,	Nathan Lord,	Joseph Johnson.
Moses Ashley,	William Walker,	Jeremiah Miller,	Job Preist.
Theodore Bliss,	Edward Cumpston,	Robert Davis,	John Arnold.

Staff-Officers.—David Avery, Chaplain; *Timothy Child*, Surgeon; *Jonathan Lee*, Mate; *William Walker*, Adjutant; *Gerrard Fitch*, Quartermaster.

NAMES OF THE COMMISSIONED OFFICERS IN THE SIXTEENTH REGIMENT OF FOOT, IN THE SERVICE OF THE UNITED COLONIES, JANUARY 1, 1776.

Field-Officers.—Paul D. Sargeant, Colonel; *Michael Jackson*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Jonathan W. Austin*, Major.

CAPTAINS.	FIRST LIEUTENANTS.	SECOND LIEUTENANTS.	ENSIGNS.
Frederick Pope,	Isaac Fuller,	Zacheus Thayer,	Isaiah Fuller.
William Scott,	Lemuel Holmes,	- - - - - - - - -	Josiah Monroe.
Asa Barnes,	Ephraim Cleveland,	Aaron Stratten,	Matthew Macumber.
John Vinton,	Silas Hollis,	Ichabod Houlbrook,	Thomas Hartshorn.
James Perry,	Jonathan Drowne,	Peter Dolliver,	Benjamin Snow.
James Keith,	David Chandler,	David Thomas,	Osgood Carleton.
Thomas Farrington,	Nathaniel Doubleday,	Moody Dustin,	Richard Welch.
John Wyley,	William Scott,	Timothy Whiting,	Aldrich Wyley.

Staff-Officers.— . . . . . Chaplain; *John Homans*, Surgeon; . . . . Mate; *Peter Dolliver*, Adjutant; *Osgood Carleton*, Quartermaster.

NAMES OF THE COMMISSIONED OFFICERS IN THE SEVENTEENTH REGIMENT OF FOOT.

Field-Officers.—Jedediah Huntington, Colonel; *Joel Clark*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Elihu Humphreys*, Major.

CAPTAINS.	FIRST LIEUTENANTS.	SECOND LIEUTENANTS.	ENSIGNS.
Abram Tyler,	Solomon Orcutt,	Aaron Hale,	Cornelius Higgins.
Caleb Trowbridge,	Zebediah Farnum,	Thomas Fanning,	Anthony Bradford.
Joseph Jewitt,	Jabez Fitch,	John Harris,	John Kinsman.
Jonathan Brewster,	Simeon Huntington,	Ebenezer Perkins,	Joshua Tracy.
Ozias Bissett,	Abraham Wright,	Solomon Makepeace,	Joseph Chapman.
Elihu Hubbard,	Jonathan Gillet,	Thomas Haydon,	Elihu Lyman.
Timothy Percival,	Nathaniel Gove,	Simeon Newell,	Joel Gillet.
Ebenezer Fitch Bissett,	William Peck,	John Humphreys,	Moses Goodman.

Staff-Officers.—John Ellis, Chaplain; *John Waddo*, Surgeon; *Silas Holmes*, Mate; *William Peck*, Adjutant; *Thomas Fanning*, Quartermaster.

NAMES OF THE COMMISSIONED OFFICERS IN THE EIGHTEENTH REGIMENT OF FOOT.

Field-Officers.—Edmund Phinney, Colonel; *Samuel March*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Jacob Brown*, Major.

CAPTAINS.	FIRST LIEUTENANTS.	SECOND LIEUTENANTS.	ENSIGNS.
Wentworth Stewart,	Jonathan Sayer,	Josiah Jenkins,	Archelaus Lewis.
Hart Williams,	William McClannen,	Carey McClennen,	John Perkins.
John Rice,	Bartholomew York,	Crispus Graves,	Austin Alden.
Abraham Tyler,	Elisha Mersowey,	Edward Millickin,	Solomon Mersowey.
Tobias Fernald,	James Donnell,	George Smith,	Henry Sewell.
Jeremiah Hill,	William Boden,	Moses Banks,	Samuel Stubbs.
Silas Wild,	Daniel Merrill,	William Frost,	John Pray.
Nathan Watkins,	Silas Burbank,	Jacob Lyon,	Peter Brown.

Staff-Officers.— . . . . Chaplain; *Samuel Adams*, Surgeon; *John Sprague*, Mate; *George Smith*, Adjutant; *Moses Banks*, Quartermaster.

NAMES OF THE COMMISSIONED OFFICERS IN THE NINETEENTH REGIMENT OF FOOT.

Field-Officers.—Charles Webb, Colonel; *Street Hall*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *John Brooks*, Major.

CAPTAINS.	FIRST LIEUTENANTS.	SECOND LIEUTENANTS.	ENSIGNS.
Joseph Hait,	Joseph Allen Wright,	Reuben Scofield,	Stephen Betts.
Nathaniel Tuttle,	Eli Catlin,	Jesse Grunt,	Amos Johnson.
Edward Shipman,	John Yates,	Nathan Whittlesey,	Selah Benton.
Isaac Bostwick,	Samuel Hurlbut,	Elisha Bostwick,	Amos Bostwick.
Peter Perrott,	Charles Pond,	Samuel Sandford,	William Smith.
Eli Leavensworth,	Robert Lewis,	Charles Webb, Jun.,	John Bull.
William Hull,	John Shumway,	William Clark,	Charles Whittlesey.
Nathan Hale,	Alpheus Chapman,	John Elderkin,	George Hurlbut.

Staff-Officers.— . . . Chaplain; *Francis Fogues*, Surgeon; —— *Rossiter*, Mate; *Charles Webb*, Jun., Adjutant; *John Elderkin*, Quartermaster.

NAMES OF THE COMMISSIONED OFFICERS IN THE TWENTIETH REGIMENT OF FOOT, IN THE SERVICE OF THE UNITED COLONIES, JANUARY 1, 1776.

Field-Officers.— . . . . Colonel; *John Durkee*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Thomas Knowlton*, Major.

CAPTAINS.	FIRST LIEUTENANTS.	SECOND LIEUTENANTS.	ENSIGNS.
Ephraim Manning, - -	Nathaniel Webb, - - -	Nathaniel Bishop, - -	Bryant Brown.
Jedediah Waterman, - -	Ebenezer Gray, - - -	John Waterman, - - -	Waters Clark.
Thomas Dyer, - - -	Daniel Tilden, - - -	James Holt, - - - -	Benjamin Durkee, Jun.
Thomas Grovenor, - -	James Sprague, - - -	Benjamin Durkee, - -	Timothy Cleveland.
Stephen Brown, - - -	Samuel Brown, - - -	Seth Phelps, - - - -	Silas Goodale.
John Keyes, - - - -	William Adams, - - -	Josiah Fuller, - - - -	John Buel.
Wills Clift, - - - -	Daniel Putnam, - - -	Jonathan Woodworth, -	John Alden.
John Robertson, - - -	Beriah Bell, - - - -	Robert Hallam, - - -	John Durkee.

Staff-Officers.—*Abiel Leonard*, Chaplain; *John Spalding*, Surgeon; . . . . Mate; *Daniel Tilden*, Adjutant; *Ebenezer Grey*, Quartermaster.

NAMES OF THE COMMISSIONED OFFICERS IN THE TWENTY-FIRST REGIMENT OF FOOT.

Field-Officers.—*Jonathan Ward*, Colonel; *Benjamin Tupper*, Lieutenant-Colonel; . . . Major.

CAPTAINS.	FIRST LIEUTENANTS.	SECOND LIEUTENANTS.	ENSIGNS.
Josiah Fay, - - - -	Ebenezer Cleaveland, -	Baxter How, - - - -	Jonathan Champney.
James Millen, - - - -	Nahum Ward, - - -	Samuel Shelden, - - -	Samuel Clafflin.
Daniel Barnes, - - -	William Boyd, - - -	James Hart, - - - -	Henry Brigham.
Jonas Hubbard, - - -	Elihu Lyman, - - - -	Obadiah Mann, - - -	John Kennedy.
William King, - - -	Job Alverd, - - - -	William Watson, - - -	Simeon Hurlburt.
Samuel Bartlett, - - -	Samuel Allen, - - - -	William Ashby, - - -	Daniel Johnson.
Earl Clapp, - - - -	Jesse Sturtevant, - - -	George Dunham, - - -	Samuel Edred.
Jonathan Allen, - - -	Joshua Benson, - - -	Jacob Pope, - - - -	Elihu Root.

Staff-Officers.— . . . . Chaplain; *Samuel Crosby*, Surgeon; *William Prentice*, Mate; *James Hart*, Adjutant; *William Boyd*, Quartermaster.

NAMES OF THE COMMISSIONED OFFICERS IN THE TWENTY-SECOND REGIMENT OF FOOT.

Field-Officers.—*Samuel Wyllys*, Colonel; *Rufus Putnam*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Levi Wells*, Major.

CAPTAINS.	FIRST LIEUTENANTS.	SECOND LIEUTENANTS.	ENSIGNS.
. . . . . Promoted,	Henry Champun, - - -	Warren Huntley, - - -	Richard Duff.
Abel Pettibone, - - -	Nathaniel Humphrys, -	Jonathan Pettibone, - -	Benjamin Adams.
Jedediah Hyde, - - -	Ebenezer Huntington, -	Eliphalet King, - - -	Thomas Phelps.
Ezekiel Scott, - - - -	- - - - - - - - -	Dudley Wright, - - -	Jonathan Heart.
Ebenezer Sumner, - -	Robert Warner, - - -	Roger Hooker, - - -	Hezekiah Hubbard.
Samuel Wright, - - -	Stephen Goodrick, - -	Charles Butler, - - -	Charles Miller.
Hezekiah Holdridge, - -	Charles Whiting, - - -	Elias Stillwell, - - -	Thomas Hander.
Amasa Mills, - - - -	Marcus Cole, - - - -	Bezalled Ackley, - - -	Samuel Richards.

Staff-Officers.—*John Ellis*, Chaplain; ——— *Beardsley*, Surgeon; *John Richard Watrout*, Mate; *Charles Whiting*, Adjutant; *Simeon Belding*, Quartermaster.

NAMES OF THE COMMISSIONED OFFICERS IN THE TWENTY-THIRD REGIMENT OF FOOT.

Field-Officers.—*John Bailey*, Colonel; *John Jacobs*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Josiah Hayden*, Major.

CAPTAINS.	FIRST LIEUTENANTS.	SECOND LIEUTENANTS.	ENSIGNS.
Peleg Wadsworth, - -	Seth Drew, - - - -	Nathan Sears, - - - -	Robert Bradford,
John Bridgham, - - -	Edward Sparrow, - - -	Joshua Thomas, - - -	John Bridgham, Jun.
Samuel Bradford, - - -	Judah Alden, - - - -	Samuel Loring, - - -	Joseph Wadsworth.
Joshua Jacobs, - - -	Atwood Mott, - - - -	Zachariah Watkins, - -	Thomas Webb.
Eleazer Hamlen, - - -	Isaac Pope, - - - -	Charles Church, - - -	Thomas Weeden.
William Reed, - - -	Prince Stetson, - - -	John Leavet, - - - -	Benjamin Shaw.
Elijah Crooker, - - -	Abner Hayward, - - -	Adams Bailey, - - -	John Cotton.
Jacob Allen, - - - -	Amos Shaw, - - - -	Luther Bailey, - - -	Job Bryant.

Staff-Officers.— . . . . . Chaplain; *Lemuel Cushing*, Surgeon; *John Thomas*, Mate; *Joshua Thomas*, Adjutant; *Luther Bailey*, Quartermaster.

NAMES OF THE COMMISSIONED OFFICERS IN THE TWENTY-FOURTH REGIMENT OF FOOT, IN THE SERVICE OF THE UNITED COLONIES, JANUARY 1, 1776.

Field-Officers.—John Greaton, Colonel; *Joseph Vose*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Jonathan Loring*, Major.

CAPTAINS.	FIRST LIEUTENANTS.	SECOND LIEUTENANTS.	ENSIGNS.
Elijah Vose,	Aaron Paine,	Nathan Rice,	Benjamin Talbott.
William Bent,	Matthew Fairfield,	Isaiah Bussey,	William Kirkpatrick.
Edward Payson Williams,	Samuel Foster,	John Lucas,	Thomas Cheney.
Joseph Guild,	John Gay,	Joshua Gould,	Eliphalet Thorp.
Moses Whiting,	Daniel Pillsbury,	Peter Page,	John Jones.
Charles Cushing,	Nathaniel Niles,	Benjamin Beals,	John Lincoln.
Abner Crafts,	Joseph Williams,	Bill Vose,	Samuel Wales.
Jacob Goold,	Elijah Shaw,	William Harmon,	Err Cushing.

Staff-Officers.— . . . . . Chaplain; *Eliphalet Downer*, Surgeon; *Amos Holbrook*, Mate; *Nathan Rice*, Adjutant; *Bill Vose*, Quartermaster.

NAMES OF THE COMMISSIONED OFFICERS IN THE TWENTY-FIFTH REGIMENT OF FOOT.

Field-Officers.—William Bond, Colonel; *Ichabod Alden*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Nathaniel Cudworth*, Major.

CAPTAINS.	FIRST LIEUTENANTS.	SECOND LIEUTENANTS.	ENSIGNS.
Josiah Harris,	Bartholomew Trow,	Jedediah Thayer,	James Berry.
Abijah Childe,	Joshua Swann,	Abraham Hunt,	Thomas Hunt.
Phineas Cook,	Peter Hobert,	Jonathan Clark,	John Pownall.
Nathan Fuller,	Nathan Smith,	John George,	Isaac Gage.
Nailer Hatch,	Nathan Eaton,	John Veazie,	Elisha Cox.
Moses Draper,	Jacob Haskins,	Job Sumner,	Charles Ward.
Daniel Egery,	Solomon Bowman,	John Peckins,	Thomas Marshall.
Thomas Mayhew,	Benjamin Warren,	William Curtis,	Josiah Cotton.

Staff-Officers.—Ebenezer David, Chaplain; *John Pitcher*, Surgeon; *William Vinal*, Mate; *Abraham Hunt*, Adjutant, *John Peckins*, Quartermaster.

NAMES OF THE COMMISSIONED OFFICERS IN THE TWENTY-SIXTH REGIMENT OF FOOT.

Field-Officers.—Loammi Baldwin, Colonel; *James Wesson*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Daniel Wood*, Major.

CAPTAINS.	FIRST LIEUTENANTS.	SECOND LIEUTENANTS.	ENSIGNS.
Thomas Mighill,	Mark Cressey,	Amos Bailey,	Caleb Clap.
Thomas Cogswell,	Moses Duston,	Amos Cogswell,	James Walker.
Richard Dodge,	Paul Dodge,	Michael Farley,	Abijah Hastings.
Isaac Sherman,	Caleb Robinson,	Micah Hoit,	Ebenezer Light.
John Wood,	Abraham Child,	Nathan Dix,	Sylvanus Wood.
Barnabas Dodge,	Joseph Cheever,	Joseph Knight,	Joseph Edes.
Ezra Badlam,	Samuel Carr,	John Noyes,	Wadleigh Noyes.
Joseph Pettingale,	Samuel Thompson,	John Woodward,	Joseph Walker.

Staff-Officers.— . . . . . Chaplain; *David Jones*, Surgeon; *Aaron Putnam*, Mate; *John Woodward*, Adjutant; *Michael Farley*, Quartermaster.

NAMES OF THE COMMISSIONED OFFICERS IN THE TWENTY-SEVENTH REGIMENT OF FOOT.

Field-Officers.—Israel Hutchinson, Colonel; *Benjamin Holden*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Ezra Putnam*, Major.

CAPTAINS.	FIRST LIEUTENANTS.	SECOND LIEUTENANTS.	ENSIGNS.
Benjamin Kimball,	Ephraim Emerton,	Tarrant Putnam,	Elisha Hutchinson.
Ezra Newhall,	Archelaus Bachelder,	Frederick Breed,	John Watts.
Enoch Putnam,	Job Whipple,	Benjamin Gardner,	John Tucker.
Nathan Browne,	Thomas Downing,	Thomas White,	Gibson Clough.
John Lowe,	Nathaniel Cleaves,	Joseph Herrick,	Luke Roundy.
Addison Richardson,	Francis Cox,	David Poor,	Jeremiah Putnam.
Billy Porter,	Haffieild White,	Samuel Cutter,	Eliphalet Perley.
John Baker,	John Peirce,	Jonathan Trash,	Ezekiel Cooper.

Staff-Officers.—Isaac Mansfield, Jun., Chaplain; *Thomas Welch*, Surgeon; *Nathaniel Oliver*, Mate; *Tarrant Putnam*, Adjutant.

*

TO THE SOLDIERS OF MASSACHUSETTS-BAY, WHO ARE NOW IN ARMS AGAINST THE LAWS OF THEIR COUNTRY.

Boston, January 11, 1776.

My Fellow-Citizens:

You have been addressed, by the General Officers of the Continental Army, as fellow-soldiers, and with that insinuating art which was designed to move your passions. I would not draw your attentions from it, provided you will devote your cooler moments to a dispassionate consideration of its subject-matter.

Suffer me, on my part, to address you as fellow-citizens; for I cannot have such dishonourable thoughts of you as to suppose that, when you put on the soldier, you then put off the citizen. Citizens most of you were; you enjoyed the comforts of domestick life, you lately followed your different occupations, and reaped the profits of a quiet and peaceable industry; and I hope in *God* that you may yet do it, without any disturbance to your innocent wives and children. But, in the late courses of your lives, you must not only have given great uneasiness to your families, but, I dare to say, that all of you were not quite free from uneasiness in your own minds. I know, my dear countrymen, that many of you have been drove to take up arms against your Sovereign and the laws of the happiest Constitution that ever human beings were blest with; some through the necessities incident to human nature, and others by that compulsion which the malevolent and ambitious arts of your leaders have made necessary to deceive you with, in order to screen themselves from that vengeance which the injured laws of society had devoted them to. Many a tear of pity have I dropped for you and for the fate of my country; and many more tears I fear that I shall be forced to shed for the wrath which awaits you from an offended Heaven and an injured Government. Many of your associates have already quitted the field of battle, to appear before that solemn tribunal, where the plea of the united force of all the Colonies will be of no avail, to bribe the judgment, or avert the sentence, of an offended Deity. Some of them, in the agonies of death, sent messages to their friends to forbear proceeding any further, for they now found themselves in the wrong; others have repeatedly said, that an ambition of appearing something considerable, and that only, led them into rebellion. And the unhappy leader in the fatal action at *Charlestown*, (who, from ambition, only, had raised himself from a bare-legged milk boy to a Major-General of the Army,) although the fatal ball gave him not a moment for reflection, yet had said, in his life time, that he was determined to mount over the heads of his coadjutors, and get to the last round of the ladder, or die in the attempt. Unhappy man! his fate arrested him in his career, and he can now tell whether pride and ambition are pillars strong enough to support the tottering fabrick of rebellion.

But, not to divert you from an attention to the Address of your officers, I would, rather, wish you to weigh it with exactness; and, after you have so done, if you then should think that it is better to trample upon the laws of the mildest Government upon earth, and throw off your allegiance to the most humane Sovereign that ever swayed a sceptre, and submit to a tyranny uncontrolled, either by the laws of *God* or man, then blame none but yourselves, if the consequences should be fatally bad to you and to your families.

Your officers, my countrymen, have taken great pains to sooth and flatter you, that you may not quit your posts and forsake them, until they have accomplished their ambitious and desperate schemes. Your leaders know that they have plunged themselves into the bowels of the most wanton and unnatural rebellion that ever existed; they think that, by engaging numbers to partake in their guilt, they shall appear formidable, and that, by so numerous an appearance, the hand of justice will not dare to arrest them. Some of you know that this argument hath been frequently urged; but you must know that much superior Powers than this Continent can boast of, have been conquered by that Government which you are now at war with.

Your officers tell you, that they have reduced the regiments from thirty-eight to twenty-six, and assign, as a reason, that many officers, from a puny habit of body, found themselves incapable of fulfilling the duty of their station, have been obliged to absent themselves from their posts, and, consequently, the duty has fallen very heavily upon those who remained. Whether this is a true reason or not, some of you can tell. Be it so or not, why, then, not appoint others? Are none of you fit for officers, but those who absented themselves from their posts? You, generally, took up arms about the same time, and I dare to say, that many of you were as well qualified for commissions as those who left their posts.

Another reason they sooth you with, for disbanding twelve regiments, is, that the vast expense of attending the maintenance of so many regiments might have disabled the Continent from persevering in its resolution of defending their liberties, if the contest should be of any continuance. Surely, my countrymen, you cannot be deluded with such trifling pleas. Can this Continent, which undertakes to carry on a war with the power of *Great Britain*, be alarmed at a few millions of dollars? Their resources are boundless. The issuing of paper money is easily accomplished; and, while you cannot be compelled to take it, the Continent can never be disabled from persevering in its resolutions. Unhappily for them, they have discovered to you what will be much for your interest to know, viz: that the vast expense of this civil war will be a burden too heavy for the shoulders of you or your posterity to bear. Consider that, already, three millions of dollars have been emitted in paper, and that four hundred and thirty-four thousand dollars, equal to nine hundred and seventy-six thousand pounds, old tenor, is assessed on the Province of the *Massachusetts-Bay*, to redeem their part; and how much more must be raised to carry on this unnatural war, which was commenced to gratify the pride and desperation of many of your leaders, time, alone, will discover. You have just entered the lists, but there is much yet to be done. To finish the mighty independent empire which they have planted for you, demands such resources as it will require one century to sponge away. Most of you have groaned under a tax of about two or three hundred thousand pounds, old tenor; but, when millions are thrown into the scale, they will press you down, never to rise more.

Your officers tell you, that men who are possessed of a vivacity of disposition, though brave, and in all other respects unexceptionable, are totally unfit for service. This is a new doctrine, advanced to make good officers and soldiers. It is a mystery, which I leave to that dulness and stupidity which your officers have complimented you with, to unravel. The meaning of it you are best acquainted with; but it puts me in mind of what I have heard from the mouth of an arch traitor, who was disappointed in his expectations of the promotions of his near relations, viz: That the people were a set of d—d stupid asses, and were fit only to be drove.

You are further told, that the present campaign is far from a hard one. How hard you have worked, and how much duty you have done, you, yourselves, can tell best. Many who have seen your labours, have thought them great; and I am much inclined to believe that you have gone through some difficulty, especially when your officers, having forgot the popularity of this harangue, almost in the next breath tell you, that the post you at present occupy was fortified and secured by infinite labour. It is an old and just maxim, my countrymen, that deceivers ought to have good memories.

You are next addressed, in the invariable style, for years past, of newspapers and popular harangues, with the abuses of Ministers and Generals. This may keep up your spirits, for aught I know. Town-meeting oratory, I know, has frequently had this effect, till the spirit of it was evaporated, and then it flattened, so as to be quite insipid. They boast much of the attachment of *Nova-Scotia* and *Canada* to what they call your interest, as well as of the rest of the Continent. I give you one word of advice, and, as it is from a book which, it is said, you are fighting for, so I suppose that you will not totally disregard it. It is this: "Let not him that putteth on the harness boast as he that putteth it off." But as to the success of union, which you have met with, the same book says, that rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft. It is so, my countrymen, in a double sense; for, in the first place, no person, but one who was bewitched, would run the risk of engaging in a rebellion; and, in the next place, (which is the true meaning of the words,) as

witchcraft is renouncing the authority of *God* Almighty, and applying to the Devil, so rebellion is withdrawing allegiance from a lawful Sovereign, overturning his laws and government, and joining with a power inimical to him.

You are also told that, as the Southern Provinces have ever placed the greatest confidence in your zeal and valour, they did not think it necessary to raise any bodies in the other Provinces for this particular service. Do you believe, my countrymen, that any of the *Massachusetts* officers were concerned in drawing this Address to you? If so, beware of them, before it is too late. I will not believe it. It surely must be drawn by some of your foreign officers, whom you have disgraced yourselves by suffering them to command you, when you had men of your own Province who were, at least, equal to them, and who would have more naturally cared for you. But you may have felt the ill consequence of it even now, and it may be too late for redress. The true *English* of it runs thus: The *Massachusetts* have a different interest from the rest of the Continent; they are a set of brave, hardy dogs, and are always encroaching upon their neighbours, and ought to be humbled; and, when we have established our independency, we shall have much to fear from them. Let us, therefore, make them the mercenaries; they will sacrifice every thing for money; we can pay them in paper, which they are so fond of; by engaging them for soldiers, they will get knocked in the head; their wives and children will be ruined; and, when we have established our empire, we shall have nothing to fear from them; they will become an easy prey to the rest of the Provinces, and we can parcel them out among us as we may think proper.

The remainder of your officers' Address to you, I leave to your own remarks. It is so full of compliment and flattery, in order to catch your passions, that I cannot help blushing for you; and if you are caught by it, I shall then pity you, and you will blush for yourselves.

That you may not plead ignorance, in justification of yourselves, in case the fate of war should be against you, I will now let you into the origin and progress of the publick disorders which, for many years past, have sickened the state of this Province, and, at last, hath terminated in a most unnatural and ungrateful rebellion. I am persuaded, my countrymen, that you are ignorant of the true rise of your disorders; the aim of your leaders hath been to keep you in ignorance; they knew that your ignorance was their protection. Had you known their views, you would not only have spurned at the thought of overturning the Constitution, but I venture to say, that some of you would have dragged them to the bar of justice, there to have received that punishment which now awaits them, and I wish that you, yourselves, may not be involved in, as partakers in their crimes. The history runs thus, and every page of it is capable of ample proof.

Know, then, for many years past, this Province hath been deeply immersed in the smuggling business. Perhaps some of you are ignorant, though I am sure all of you are not, of the meaning of smuggling business. I will tell you what it means; it is an importation of goods contrary to the laws of the society to which we belong; it is a defrauding the King of those dues which the law hath granted to him, which fraud is equal, in criminality, to the injuring of a private person; it is a violation of the laws of Christianity; it is injuring, and, perhaps, ruining, our neighbour; in short, when it is thoroughly engaged in, it naturally tends, by degrees, to the effacing every sentiment of virtue. This is a description of the smuggling business; and it is here where I fix the sudden rise of the present rebellion.

In order to evade those laws against unlawful trade, those who were concerned in it, exerted themselves to defeat them. Unluckily for the Government, at that juncture, a person, who had a long while been hunting after preferment, was disappointed of his game; on which, a friend of his, who was versed in the law, vowed revenge; he swore that he would set the Province in a flame, if he died in the attempt. He fulfilled his oath, and burnt his fingers, to such a degree, that he hath irrecoverably lost the use of them. Remember, my countrymen, that there is one sort of flame, that consumes not only a man's property, but also a man's understanding, and ruins, very often, his posterity, also. This man's adroitness in law was thought necessary to be engaged in the cause of defeating acts of Parliament. He was engaged, and he had shrewdness enough to start a thought which, artfully pursued, hath, generally, its expected effect in all popular commotions. He said, that it was necessary to inlist a Black regiment in their service; the bait was snapped at, and many ministers of the Gospel, too, (too many for the honour of the Christian religion,) joined in the cry. The press then routed out its libels; the sacred desk, which ought to have been devoted to the doctrines and precepts of the Prince of Peace, rang its changes on Government, and sounded the trumpet of sedition and rebellion. Boys, who had just thrown away their satchels, and who could scarcely read *English*, mounted the pulpit, and ventured to decide on matters which had puzzled the sages of the law. Nay, they could not be contented to decide controversies of law, in their harangues to their audiences, but must show their parts in their solemn addresses to the Supreme Being, telling Him who had been guilty of murder, where the law had pronounced the supposed crime to be only self-defence; and some of them even debased the sacred character, by setting on the rabble, in the publick street, to insult a person who was obnoxious to the leaders of the mob. At the same time, a notorious defaulter, who had pocketed a large sum of the publick moneys, in order to screen himself, took it into his head to mouth it for patriotism; and, by artful wiles and smooth demeanour, he talked the people out of their understandings, and persuaded them to give him a discharge from the debt, on account of his patriotism. This man, whom, but a day before, hardly any one would have trusted with a shilling, and whose honesty they were jealous of, now became the confidant of the people. With his oily tongue, he duped a man whose brains were shallow and pockets deep, and ushered him to the publick as a patriot, too. He filled his head with importance, and emptied his pockets, and, as a reward, hath kicked him up the ladder, where he now presides over the Twelve United Provinces, and where they both are at present plunging you, my countrymen, into the depths of distress. Libertinism, riot, and robbery, soon became the effects of this sort of publick spirit; houses were plundered and demolished; persons were beat, abused, tarred and feathered; courts of justice were insulted; the pillars of Government were destroyed; and no way to escape the torrent of savage barbarity but by paying obeisance to the sovereign mandates of a mob. Garrets were crowded with patriots; mechanicks and lawyers, porters and clergymen, huddled promiscuously into them; their decisions were oracular, and from thence they poured out their midnight reveries. They soon determined to form an independent empire. Yes, my countrymen, I assure you that this independent empire, which you are now assisting those pretended patriots to erect, was formed above seven years ago, though I dare say that most of you are ignorant of the black design. And one of the patriots, (peace be to his manes!) openly avowed it, and declared that a valuation had been taken of the estates in the town of *Boston*, which, he supposed, would be destroyed by the naval power of *Great Britain;* and that all the friends of licentiousness were to be reimbursed out of the estates of the friends to Government.

The patriots were determined to humble *Great Britain;* and, as a first step, they promoted a Non-Importation Agreement, at the same time that the wealthy and artful among them had large quantities of goods by them, by the advanced sale of which they made fortunes, and ruined the small traders. They promised to send their new-imported goods back to *England;* and, instead thereof, their trunks were crowded with billets of wood, shavings, and brickbats, (to the eternal disgrace of this Province,) when they were opened in *England*. Some of the patriots carried about papers of subscription against importing goods from *England;* and washing-women and porters, in order to swell the list, made their marks, (for write they could not,) that they would not import coaches or chariots from home. When they were told of the impropriety of such a conduct, and that the scheme would have no effect, they replied, that they were sensible of it, but *Great Britain* would be scared by it. They hired mercenaries in *England* to cabal and write for them, and raise an insurrection. When they were told that *Great Britain* would be roused, they said

that she was not to be dreaded; that she had neither men nor money; that there was more money in the Colonies than in *England;* that, if she should resent it, the Colonies would not pay her the millions that were due to her. Not content with this insult, the General Assembly disavowed any observance of Acts of Parliament. *Great Britain*, with her usual lenity, pitied our infatuation, till she was, at last, forced to send troops to support civil Government; those troops we were then to destroy, and we did our best to destroy them, but felt the fatal consequence of the attempt. Our violences at last rose to such a height, that injured sovereignty and an insulted Government have been roused to assert their authority, in order to curb as wanton and wicked a rebellion as ever raged in any Government upon earth.

Thus, my countrymen, I have very shortly stated to you, the rise and progress of the present rebellion. I believe that many, if not most of you, were insensible of the ambitious views of your leaders. I do not think that you were so devoid of virtue as to rush into so horrid a crime at one leap; for, let me tell you, that it is the highest crime that a member of society can be guilty of, and the punishment annexed to it is nothing less than a forfeiture of estate and life. Your leaders have deceived you into what they do not believe themselves; they were desperate themselves, and they have involved you in their own just doom. They tell you your properties and religion are at stake: your ministers tell you so too; and I know that you are too apt to take all they say for gospel. But pray, what danger is your religion in? Why, it is said, that Popery is established in *Canada*, and will be established here. No, my countrymen! Popery is not established in *Canada*, let your teachers and leaders assert it never so roundly; it is only indulged to the *Roman* Catholicks there. Your Continental Congress says *God* and nature have given them a right to the enjoyment of their religion; it is what they capitulated for with General *Amherst;* it is what the just, the humane King *George* the Third, confirmed to them. This is the King whom you so lately professed allegiance to, in opposition to the Parliament; not considering that it was by acts of Parliament that the Crown was placed upon his head, and on the heads of his predecessors. It seems, indeed, that your leaders have more lately found out that it is necessary to deny the authority of the King, as they have been daring in denying that of his Parliament. Witness their late Thanksgiving Proclamation, which concludes with a "*God* save the People," instead of the heretofore invariable "*God* save the King." Will it not suffice your leaders to mock the King, but they must mock Heaven also? Read it over; view the cloven foot of one of your spiritual guides peeping out, whose pen fabricated the mockery, and whose foot has many a time trod the recesses of rebellion with the cabal, and I dare to say, that had it not been for his mole-like, underground cunning and priestcraft, that this, once over-happy, but now miserably distracted Province, had not been so soon involved in distress.

I would ask you, also, my countrymen, how your properties are at stake? You will, doubtless, tell me, that acts of Parliament have been made to oblige you to pay duties upon various articles. Be it so. Why then do you purchase articles that are to pay duties? Why then did you not petition, in a constitutional manner, to have those acts repealed? The *British* Parliament never assumed to themselves infallibility; and many a time have they repealed *American* acts, when they have been convinced that the enforcement of them was incompatible with the mutual interest. It is true, your leaders did petition; but in such an unconstitutional manner, that it was below the dignity, and contrary to the system of the *English* Government, to hear such petitions; and this your leaders knew must be the fate of them; and this method they planned, in order to effect their independence, and make themselves of that importance to you which they now appear in. But you can have no just plea for entering so deeply into opposition against the parent state. You may know, if you please, that King *Charles* the First granted to our ancestors a charter; you may call it a compact, if you please, too; and, if it be so, the argument will be much against you; for in that you compacted to pay duties after a short term of years, and you have been fulfilling your compact by paying duties for above an hundred years past; till of late, the scandalous smuggling business reared its front against the laws, and brought the state into its present distraction. You have been told, also, that your land was to be taxed, and that you were to be brought into Lordships. This, I know, hath been artfully propagated among you, and I dare assert it to be groundless. There is too much justice and benignity in the *English* Government to advance such a scheme; and, supposing that they had it in their idea to do it, so violent an opposition ought to have been suspended, at least, till the scheme had been brought into action; it is like one man's cutting another's throat, lest the other might possibly injure his grandchildren.

I am loath to detain you any longer, my countrymen, from sober reflection. For *God's* sake, for your own sakes, for your wives' and children's sake, pause a moment, and weigh the event of this unnatural civil war. You have roused the *British* Lion; you have incensed that Power which hath crushed much greater Powers than you can boast of, and hath done it without your aid too. *Great Britain* is not so distressed for men or money as some would make you believe. Your conduct hath raised the resentment of the greatest Powers in *Europe*, and she may, if she pleases, accept of their proffered aid. But your priests and your leaders tell you otherwise; and I will just put the case, that, supposing Heaven in righteous judgment, should suffer you to conquer; look forward then to the fatal consequences of your conquest. You will be conquered by an army of your own raising; and then your dreaded slavery is fixed; the ambition and desperation of your leaders will then demand the fruit of all their toils. Turn back a few pages of the *English* history; read the account of the civil wars of the last century; and view the triumph, and absolute sway of that tyrant *Cromwell;* he, like some of your leaders, began with humoring the enthusiasm of the times, and ended the parricide of his country. Let me suppose again, as you vainly imagine, that this will not be the case, and that when you have conquered, you will then beat all your swords into ploughshares; how long do you think it will be before you are obliged to change sides, and beat your ploughshares into swords again? You will then have twelve or fourteen Colonies to form into an independent empire. Where then is to be the seat of empire? Surely the *Massachusetts-Bay* hath the best title to precedence; they begun the rebellion, and they have the best title to reward. Do you think that the other Colonies cannot furnish as artful demagogues as this Province can? Do not imagine that we are the men, and that wisdom is to die with us. We shall be cantoned out into petty States; we shall be involved in perpetual wars, for an inch or two of ground; our fertile fields will be deluged with blood; our wives and children be involved in the horrid scene; foreign Powers will step in and share in the plunder that remains, and those who are left to tell the story will be reduced to a more abject slavery than that which you now dread. The Colonies are too jealous of each other to remain long in a state of friendship.

I will now, my fellow-citizens, change the scene, to a more eligible view for your interest, and suppose it possible, (though you do not think it so,) that *Great Britain* can conquer you, and that, instead of being victors, you may be subjects again. You will then have the mildest Government to live under—a Government to be envied by the rest of mankind, and whose only unhappiness is, that it is too apt to abuse that liberty which *God* and the Constitution hath blessed it with. She hath been loath to call you conquered; she hath, like an over-fond parent, indulged your peevishness, and withheld her resentment until she hath felt the smart of her indulgence; she is now roused, but her resentment is tempered with mildness. He whom you formerly acknowledged for your Sovereign, drops the tear of pity for you, in his late speech from the Throne—a speech so attempered with paternal pity, Royal firmness of mind, and sentiment of dignity, as distinguishes the speaker as the father of his country, and the ornament of human nature. Clemency he is distinguished for; he is revered for his humanity; but his soul is impressed with too much magnanimity to suffer his laws, and the rights of his subjects, to be trampled under the foot of rebellion; he holds out the sceptre of mercy, that bright gem of his Royal dignity, for you to embrace; but if you choose to kiss the rod of his justice, be you yourselves witnesses that it is not his choice.

Remember that Heaven punishes but to save. The *God* of heaven hath repeatedly checked rebellion, and our own history confirms its defeats. Rebellion is so odious in the eyes of all rational beings, that it is for the universal good that it should be suppressed; it saps the foundation of moral virtue, and, therefore, it is for the general interest that all nature should rise in arms against it; and I have not the least doubt, that Providence will arrest it in its career. When that time comes, complain not that you were not forewarned, and bear your own punishment without murmuring.

That you may seriously reflect on your own impending fate, and the fate of your wives and innocent children, before you take the deadly plunge, and that you may immediately retire from the precipice of ruin, is the friendly wish of your fellow-citizen, Z. Z.

TO MESHECK WEARE.

Portsmouth, January 11, 1776.

Dear Sir: As the Committee chosen yesterday, by this town, are just going to *Exeter*, with a petition and remonstrance to the Congress, against their proceedings, I thought I would just inform you of it, for I think it gives a silly cast to all their doings. I hope they will not comply with their request. The objection was first started in the Committee, at the Work-House, the night before last, and the town-meeting called yesterday. The meeting was very thin, not above forty or fifty persons in it; every one in the meeting voted for it, though, I believe, they were actuated from different motives. They voted to send circular letters to all the towns, that they may remonstrate likewise. It was proposed, I think, by designing men, on purpose to make a division in the Colony, and I believe will go near to effect it, unless the wisdom of the Congress prevent it.

I am, &c., Veritas.

INSTRUCTIONS TO MARYLAND DELEGATES IN CONGRESS.

In Convention, held at Annapolis, *in* Maryland, January 11, 1776.

To the Honourable *Matthew Tilghman*, Esq., *Thomas Johnson*, Jun., *Robert Goldsborough*, *William Paca*, *Samuel Chase*, *Thomas Stone*, *Robert Alexander*, and *John Rogers*, Esquires.

The Convention, taking into their most serious consideration the present state of the unhappy dispute between *Great Britain* and the *United Colonies*, think it proper to deliver you their sentiments, and to instruct you in certain points, relative to your conduct in Congress, as Representatives of this Province.

The experience we and our ancestors have had, of the mildness and equity of the *English* Constitution, under which we have grown up to, and enjoyed a state of felicity, not exceeded among any people we know of, until the grounds of the present controversy were laid by the Ministry and Parliament of *Great Britain*, has most strongly endeared to us that form of Government from whence these blessings have been derived, and makes us ardently wish for a reconciliation with the mother country, upon terms that may ensure to these Colonies an equal and permanent freedom.

To this Constitution we are attached, not merely by habit, but by principle, being in our judgments persuaded it is, of all known systems, best calculated to secure the liberty of the subject—to guard against despotism on the one hand, and licentiousness on the other.

Impressed with these sentiments, we warmly recommend to you, to keep constantly in your view the avowed end and purpose for which these Colonies originally associated—the redress of *American* grievances, and securing the rights of the Colonists.

As upon the attainment of these great objects, we shall think it our greatest happiness to be thus firmly united to *Great Britain*, we think proper to instruct you, that should any proposition be happily made by the Crown or Parliament, that may lead to or lay a rational and probable ground for reconciliation, you use your utmost endeavours to cultivate and improve it into a happy settlement and lasting amity, taking care to secure the Colonies against the exercise of the right assumed by Parliament, to tax them, and to alter and change their Charters, Constitutions, and internal polity, without their consent—powers incompatible with the essential securities of the lives, liberties, and properties of the Colonists.

We further instruct you, that you do not, without the previous knowledge and approbation of the Convention of this Province, assent to any proposition to declare these Colonies independent of the Crown of *Great Britain*, nor to any proposition for making or entering into alliance with any foreign Power, nor to any union or confederation of these Colonies, which may necessarily lead to a separation from the mother country, unless, in your judgments, or in the judgments of any four of you, or a majority of the whole of you, (if all shall be then attending in Congress,) it shall be thought absolutely necessary for the preservation of the liberties of the *United Colonies*; and should a majority of the Colonies in Congress, against such, your judgment, resolve to declare these Colonies independent of the Crown of *Great Britain*, or to make or enter into alliance with any foreign Power, or into any union or confederation of these Colonies, which may necessarily lead to a separation from the mother country, then we instruct you, immediately, to call the Convention of this Province, and repair thereto with such proposition and resolve, and lay the same before the said Convention, for their consideration; and this Convention will not hold this Province bound by such majority in Congress, until the representative body of the Province, in Convention, assent thereto.

Desirous as we are of peace with *Great Britain*, upon safe and honourable terms, we wish you, nevertheless, and instruct you to join with the other Colonies, in such military operations as may be judged proper and necessary for the common defence, until such a peace can be happily obtained.

At the same time that we assure you we have an entire confidence in your abilities and integrity, in the discharge of the great trust reposed in you, we must observe to you, as our opinion, that, in the relation of constituent and representative, one principal security of the former is the right he holds to be fully informed of the conduct of the latter. We can conceive no case to exist in which it would be of more importance to exercise this right than the present, nor any in which we can suppose the representative would more willingly acquiesce in the exercise of it. We, therefore, instruct you, that you move for, and endeavour to obtain, a resolve of Congress, that the votes given by the Colonies on every question agitated in Congress, shall appear upon the journals thereof; and if such resolve be obtained, that you, at the expense of this Province, procure copies of the said journals, except such parts thereof as relate to military operations and measures taken to procure arms and ammunition, and, from time to time, lay the same before the Conventions of this Province, showing the part you, as Representatives of this Province, take in such questions.

And we further instruct you to move for, and endeavour to obtain, a resolve of Congress, that no person who holds any military command in the Continental, or any Provincial regular forces, or marine service, nor any person who holds or enjoys any office of profit under the Continental Congress, or any Government assumed since the present controversy with *Great Britain* began, or which shall hereafter be assumed, or who directly or indirectly receives the profits of such command or office, shall, during the time of his holding or receiving the same, be eligible to sit in Congress.

JOHN HANCOCK TO NEW-HAMPSHIRE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Philadelphia, January 12, 1776.

Gentlemen: The repeated proofs which our enemies have given, of their rage and malice, leave no doubt that they will exert their utmost endeavours to effect our destruction. Through the favour of Providence, our success in *Canada* has prevented them from employing the Savages against our frontiers. But as there is reason to apprehend they will attempt, in the Spring, to recover possession of that country, the Congress have resolved to support nine battalions for its defence this year: One of *Canadians*, under Colonel *James Livingston;* two, to be composed of

those brave troops serving there—an honour due to their bravery and merit, to have an opportunity of defending a country which their valor has rescued from slavery; three from *Pennsylvania* and *New-Jersey*, of which two are under marching orders; and the remaining three to be raised to the eastward, viz: one in your Colony, one in *Connecticut*, and one in *New-York;* as you see by the enclosed resolve.

As the arrival of the troops in due time will greatly conduce to the preservation of that country, and defeat the designs of our enemies, and, as the month of *February*, which is fast approaching, is the best, indeed, the only time before Summer, of crossing the Lakes, the Congress rely that you will, according to your usual zeal, exert your utmost endeavours to have the battalions from your Colony raised and sent forward with all possible expedition.

I am, gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President.*

A battalion to consist of eight companies; each company of one Captain, two Lieutenants, one Ensign, four Sergeants, four Corporals, a Drum and Fife, and seventy-six Privates, Adjutant, Quartermaster, and Surgeon.

REPRESENTATION OF THE FIELD-OFFICERS OF THE PENNSYLVANIA BATTALIONS.

[Read January 11, 1776.]

The Field-Officers of the four Battalions to be raised in *Pennsylvania*, beg leave to represent to Congress: That considerable inconveniences will arise from the battalions consisting of seven battalion companies, that number not answering for subdivisions, and rendering all the manœuvres more difficult. They, therefore, request that another company may be added to the battalion; or, if it should be thought that would increase their number too much, that the battalion companies be reduced to sixty-eight men each, in which mode there may be eight companies to a battalion, and a company of light-infantry, without increasing the number of men to be raised by the present establishment of Congress.

ARTHUR ST. CLAIR,
JOHN SHEE,
ANTHONY WAYNE,
LAMBERT CADWALLADER,
WILLIAM ALLEN, JUN.,
JOSEPH PENROSE,
JOSEPH WOOD,
HENRY BICKEY.

LORD STIRLING TO NEW-YORK COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Elizabethtown, January 12, 1776.

SIR: As the Continental Congress have put me under orders to march the two *New-Jersey* regiments, in their service, to the city of *New-York*, I must beg the favour of you to request the Committee of Safety for that Province to provide for their reception and quarters, and that they will be so obliging as to inform me when these will be in readiness.

The one hundred fire-locks, which the *New-York* Congress have promised to furnish for my regiment, I hope are ready, and that they will forward them to me as soon as possible.

I am informed that the enemies to *American* liberty are very busy on *Staten-Island*, and that some dangerous movements are now going on among them. My situation here renders it convenient to me to disarm them, or to take and secure such as may be thought worthy of so much notice. When it is intimated to me that such a measure is necessary, it will be executed.

You will see the absolute necessity of the utmost secrecy being observed in all these matters.

I am, your most humble servant, STIRLING.

To the Chairman of the Committee of Safety, *New-York*.

P. S. I must beg the favour of a copy of this letter being returned to me.

THOMAS WICKES TO NEW-YORK COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Huntington, January 12, 1776.

SIR: We are to inform you we received the powder sent over by Colonel *Drake*, but Mr. *Smith* has not yet come, or sent for it. As there is a number of commissions wanting, please to convey them to us by the bearer, Mr. *Platt*, or some other safe hand, viz: *John Buffit*, Captain; *Isaac Thompson*, First Lieutenant; *Zebulon Ketcham*, Second Lieutenant; *Joseph Ketcham*, Ensign, for the Fourth Company: *Platt Veal*, Captain; *Michel Heart*, First Lieutenant; *Isaac Dennis*, Second Lieutenant; *Jacob Conckling*, Ensign, for the fifth company, all of the First Regiment.

We are, sir, your humble servants,

THOMAS WICKES, *Chairman.*

To *Pierre Van Cortlandt*, Esq., Chairman, &c.

GENERAL CARLETON TO GENERAL HOWE.

Quebeck, January 12, 1776.

SIR: The 5th of *December*, Mr. *Montgomery* took post at *St. Croix*, within less than two miles of *Quebeck*, with some field artillery; his heavy cannon were landed at *Caprouge;* at the same time *Arnold's* party took possession of the other avenues leading to the town, and prevented all communication with the country. The 7th, a woman stole into town, with letters addressed to the principal merchants, advising them to an immediate submission, and promising a great indulgence in case of their compliance. Enclosed was a letter to me, in very extraordinary languago, and a summons to deliver up the town; the messenger was sent to prison for a few days, and drummed out.

To give more efficacy to these letters, five small mortars were brought to *St. Roque's*, and a battery of five cannon and one howitzer raised upon the heights, within about seven hundred yards of the walls. Soon after, *Arnold* appeared with a white flag, said he had a letter for me, but was refused admittance, and ordered to carry back his letter.

After every preparatory stratagem had been used to intimidate our wretched garrison, as Mr. *Montgomery* was pleased to call it, an assault was given the 31st of *December*, between four and five of the morning, during a snow storm from the northeast. The alarm was general. From the side of the river *St. Lawrence* along the fortified front, round to the Bason, every part seemed equally threatened. Two real attacks took place upon the lower town: one under *Cape-Diamond*, led by Mr. *Montgomery;* the other by Mr. *Arnold*, upon the part called the *Saut au Matelôt*. This, at first, met with some success, but, in the end, was stopped. A sally from the upper town, under Captain *Laws*, attacked their rear, and sent in many prisoners; Captain *McDougal* afterwards reinforced this party, and followed the Rebels into the post they had taken. Thus Mr. *Arnold's* corps (himself and a few others excepted, who were wounded and carried off early,) were completely ruined. They were caught, as it were, in a trap; we brought in their five mortars and one cannon. The other attack was soon repulsed, with slaughter; Mr. *Montgomery* was left among the dead.

The Rebels have on this assault between six and seven hundred men, and between forty and fifty officers, killed, wounded, and taken prisoners. We had only one lieutenant of the navy, doing duty as a captain in the garrison, and four rank and file, killed, and thirteen rank and file wounded; two of the latter are since dead.

You will be pleased to transmit a copy of my letter to the Secretary of State, by the first opportunity, for His Majesty's information, &c.

GUY CARLETON.

MOVEMENTS OF THE BRITISH FLEET AT RHODE-ISLAND.

Providence, January 20, 1776.

On *Friday*, the 12th instant, Captain *Wallace*, with all the vessels under his command, consisting of twelve sail, came up the river from *Newport*, and at four o'clock, in the afternoon, landed about two hundred and fifty men on the Island of *Prudence*, where about forty or fifty of our men were stationed, under the command of Captain *Pearce*. They were soon fired on by the enemy, which was returned with much spirit; but Captain *Pearce*, finding the enemy greatly superior in number, retreated, and with his men went off the Island; he had one man wounded and taken

prisoner, and, it is said, several of the enemy were killed and wounded. The enemy, about sun-set, burnt seven houses on the Island, which being discovered here, his Honour, the Deputy-Governour, General *West*, Colonels *Richmond*, *Martin*, and *Cook*, Captain *Allen*, and Captain *Wells*, immediately set out to send forces upon the Island, by way of *Warren* and *Bristol*; from the former of which places General *West* ordered fifty men, directing them to join such as should be collected at *Warwick-Neck*, and proceed to the Island. His Honour, with the General, then went to *Bristol*, and sent off Major *Talman*, with eighty men, in whale-boats, who landed about the dawn of day. Captain *Barton*, with a few men, had landed from Head-Quarters, but those at *Warwick-Neck* were not able to join them for want of boats. About nine o'clock in the morning the enemy landed about two hundred and fifty men, and attacked Lieutenant *Car*, who was stationed with a guard of forty men, to observe their motions; the remainder of our men, about fifty in number, soon coming up, a smart engagement ensued, which lasted three hours. The enemy several times sent out flanking parties, which were as often drove back to their main body. They were at length drove to their vessels, leaving our people in possession of the Island, having the night before got on board about one hundred sheep; but no cattle are missing. Two of their men were found dead after the action, and one wounded in the thigh; they likewise carried off a number of killed and wounded, particularly an officer, that appeared to be badly wounded, and who, it is supposed, had the command. We had only three men slightly wounded. Our officers and men behaved with the greatest bravery, and had there been boats at *Warwick*, to carry over the reinforcements from thence, it is thought the enemy's whole party would have been killed or taken. *Sunday* evening the enemy burnt two buildings on *Patience-Island*; on *Monday* they cut a quantity of wood at *Hope-Island*, and yesterday, it is said, returned to *Newport*.

While the bomb brig lay off *Prudence*, the gunner and five seamen made their escape in a boat, and arrived safe at *Bristol*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GENERAL MONTGOMERY.

Cambridge, January 12, 1776.

Dear Sir: Every account from your quarter serves to confirm our hopes that you will get possession of *Quebeck*, if not already in your hands. I must beg, therefore, your attention to the wants of the Army here, which are not few, and, if they cannot in some part be supplied by you, I do not know where else I can apply.

After powder, the principal deficiency is that of arms; those brought in by the soldiers are so very indifferent that I cannot place confidence in them.

Blankets and clothing we are very deficient in. Of these, and other necessaries, I am taught to believe there is abundance in *Canada*. *Quebeck* is, I suppose, the great magazine for them, and all kind of military stores. I hope it will be in your power to forward to this place from thence a sufficient quantity to relieve our wants. Whatever you can spare, we shall have occasion for, and your sending them, as expeditiously as possible, will be doing vast service to this Army, and very much oblige sir, yours,

George Washington.

To Major-General *Richard Montgomery*, *Canada*.

P. S. Arms we are exceedingly in want of. These I would wish to receive without delay, if you can supply them from the King's stores in *Quebeck*.

WILLIAM WALL TO ADMIRAL HOPKINS.

Baltimore, January 13, 1776.

Dear Sir: This will be handed you by Captain *Stone*, of the *Hornet*, sloop-of-war.

At my arrival here, I found my vessel, agreeably to my expectations, with great satisfaction, and after that I waited on Captain *Stone*, and gave your compliments to him, and delivered your message, which I hope may prove satisfactory. My business is so at present, that I cannot come to you by this opportunity of Captain *Stone*, or otherwise would, with all my heart; but after the business is done, will gladly enter with you, with all the cheerfulness in the world, and, therefore, beg, if any vacancy should offer, you will be kind enough to keep it for me, consistent with your honour and convenience. So wishing you all the success imaginable, I am your most obedient humble servant,

William Wall.

To Admiral *Hopkins*, on board the ship *Alfred*, per favour of Captain *Stone*.

N. B. As for news, I refer you to Captain *Stone*. My best compliments to brother *John* and *Abraham Whipple*.

W. W.

JOSIAH BARTLETT TO NEW-HAMPSHIRE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Philadelphia, January 13, 1776.

Gentlemen: In order that General *Schuyler* may be properly informed what pay the officers and soldiers, who served in the expedition to *Canada* last year, have received from their respective Colonies, the Congress passed the enclosed resolve, which they have ordered me to transmit to you. An order of Congress, for raising a regiment in the western parts of our Province, for *Canada*, will be sent you by the President.

I am, gentlemen, your most humble servant,

Josiah Bartlett.

To the Convention, or the Committee of Safety of *New-Hampshire*.

"In Congress, January 8, 1776.

"*Resolved*, That the Governour of *Connecticut*, the General Assemblies of *Massachusetts-Bay* and *New-Hampshire*, and the Convention of *New-York*, be written to forthwith, by the Delegates of the said Colonies, respectively, to furnish General *Schuyler* with the amount of money paid to any persons in the Army under his command, specifying the names of the persons to whom the money was paid by their order."

BAYARD, JACKSON AND COMPANY, TO CAPTAIN MESTON.

Philadelphia, January 13, 1776.

Sir: Our snow *Dickenson*, being now loaded and ready for sea, we hereby direct you to proceed in her with all possible despatch from this port to the port of *Nantes*, in *France*. On your passage, you are to improve wind and weather, to the best advantage, constantly endeavouring to make your passage in as short a time as possible, and carefully avoiding to speak to any vessel. On your arrival at *Nantes*, you are to apply to Messrs. *Montandouin* and *Frere*, merchants there, and to whom you are consigned; they will receive your cargo, which you are to lose no time in delivering, and there take on board such goods as they have orders to ship in return; with which you are to proceed immediately for this port, observing the directions given you as above. On your arrival off our Capes, you are to stand off, and on making a signal, by hoisting your jack to your foretopmast-head, when you will be answered, either from the Light-House or *Cape-May*, by a sheet hung out. Upon seeing this, you are to conclude there is no danger in your way, and immediately proceed up the bay; but if, after making your signal for six or eight hours, you should see no signal, from either the Light-House or *Cape-May*, you are then to proceed along the coast towards the Capes of *Virginia*, and endeavour to land your cargo in the best manner you can, putting it in the care of the Committee of the place where it is landed, or some persons of property, for the use of the Congress, and immediately despatch an express with an account of your proceedings to us. We have the greatest dependance in your vigilance and activity in prosecuting this voyage. Should you succeed, as we pray *God* you may, you will not only recommend yourself strongly to our further notice, but you will be considered as rendering an essential service to your country. You must be sensible the success of this voyage in a great measure depends upon conduct; we doubt not you will endeavour to acquit yourself in a suitable manner.

Wishing you a safe and pleasant voyage, and a quick and prosperous return, we are, sir, your very humble servants,

Bayard, Jackson & Co.

To Captain *William Meston*.

P. S. Beside the goods that may be shipped on board you, by Messrs. *Montandouin* and *Frere*, in return for your cargo, you are to receive on board any quantity of arms and ammunition you may have room for, that may be offered for account of the Congress by any person whatever.*

Yours, BAYARD, JACKSON & Co.

BAYARD, JACKSON AND CO., TO THE FRENCH MERCHANTS.

Philadelphia, January 18, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: We wrote you the 28th of *April* last, and enclosed the account of sales of your last adventure, at the same time ordered Captain *James Johnston*, of our snow *Dickenson*, to remit you the balance, (one hundred and seventy-four pounds, eleven shillings and four pence sterling,) which, by his account, we find he did do from *Bristol*, since which we have not had the pleasure of a line from you.

This serves to hand you invoice and bills of lading of a valuable cargo of flour, spermaceti candles, and beeswax, shipped on board our snow *Dickenson*, to your address, which we wish safe to your hands. We would have this cargo immediately sold, and the net proceeds laid out in fifteen tons of gunpowder; or, if gunpowder is not to be had, as much saltpetre, with a portion of fifteen pounds of sulphur to each hundred weight of saltpetre, as will be sufficient to make that quantity of gunpowder; and one thousand five hundred stand of arms, fitted with bayonets and steel ramrods; and one thousand bolts of *Russia* duck or canvass, and as much more of these articles as the net proceeds of this cargo will purchase. If any of the aforesaid articles cannot be got as aforesaid, the money directed to be paid out of that article, we would have laid out in good ticklenburghs or osnaburghs, or vitzeys, or, failing, the returns to be made in gold or silver. This cargo we have shipped you for account of the Continental Congress of the thirteen *United Colonies* of *America*, and the order of the returns is what they have directed; and, we make no doubt, you will use your best endeavours to complete it in every article. The ready and cheerful assistance afforded us by many of your merchants, both from the *West-Indies* and *Europe*, demands our grateful acknowledgments, and encourages our applying to you for still further supplies, to enable us to oppose the arbitrary and tyrannical proceedings of the Court of *Great Britain* against us. Should it be in your power to complete the whole of our order, we must request you will be very particular in sending the best of each article that is to be had, and that you will give the vessel all possible despatch, so as to be on our coast as early as possible in the Spring. Our former experience of your punctuality and despatch of business, has induced us to recommend this consignment to your house; and we have liberty to inform you, should this voyage succeed to our wishes, we shall have it in our power to wait on you with more important consignments. We request you would conduct this business with as much secrecy as possible, as we have been informed the Court of *Great Britain* have spies in most of your principal seaport towns, whose business it is to find out *American* vessels, and learn their cargoes and destination, the time of their sailing, &c., which they transmit to *England*, in order to have them watched and taken.

We shall anxiously wait the event of this voyage, and, in the mean time remain, with the greatest respect, gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servants,

BAYARD, JACKSON & Co.

Messrs. *Montandouin* and *Frere*, Merchants in *Nantes*.

NEW-JERSEY COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Princeton, January 9, 1776.

The Committee of Safety of the Province of *New-Jersey*, pursuant to notice given for that purpose, met this day, and there not being a sufficient number of Members to proceed on business, adjourned till to-morrow morning, nine o'clock.

Wednesday, January 10, 1776.

The Committee met. Present:

Samuel Tucker, President; *Hendrick Fisher*, Vice-President; *Abraham Clark*, Deputy Secretary; *Azariah Dunham*, *Ruloffe Van Dike*, *John Dennis*, *Augustine Stevenson*, *John Pope*.

The President laid before the Committee a Letter from the Provincial Congress, and the Congress of *New-York*, enclosing Resolutions of the Continental Congress, and the Congress of *New-York*, relative to establishing Posts at proper distances, to carry intelligence to the different parts of the Colony or elsewhere, as occasion may require; and for erecting Beacons at proper distances, which the Congress of *New-York* recommended to the Congress of *New-*

* BRISTOL, (ENGLAND,) *April* 8, 1776.—This morning came up to the Key, the snow *Dickenson*, *William Meston*, Master, from *Philadelphia*, bound to *Nantes*, in Old *France*, where she was to discharge her loading, and take in a cargo of warlike stores and ammunition, for the use of the Continental Army. She was taken up and fitted out by order of the Congress, and consigned to Messrs. *Montandouin* and *Frere*, merchants in *Nantes*, as appears by the captain's orders, which are hereunder copied, *verbatim*.

The mate and people on board, finding that they were to load with warlike stores, for the use of the *Americans*, and having, as they declare, been forced into the service, took the vessel, and, instead of proceeding to *France*, determined to make the first *British* port. They accordingly brought her into *Bristol*, after beating upwards of a fortnight about the mouth of the channel; and the Mate is immediately going off for *London*, and will take all the letters and papers which were on board the said vessel, for the inspection of Government. She was first boarded by the Lieutenant of the *Inchiquin* tender, lying there; who is going with the Mate to *London*.

She is about two hundred and fifty tons burden, and now lies at the Quay till the determination of Government concerning her is known. The Captain has entered her at the custom-house.

Her cargo, which consists of twenty-two hundred and twenty-one barrels of flour, two hundred and sixty boxes of spermaceti candles, thirteen casks and one bag beeswax, and fifty-six hundred barrel staves, is valued at near six thousand pounds, and the vessel is worth upwards of fifteen hundred pounds. She is the first *American* vessel that has been brought into *England* since the act passed for granting the seamen certain privileges and rewards for seizing any of the Provincial ships, &c.

The following is the principal intelligence received by this vessel:

As soon as the Congress received an account of the repulse and death of General *Montgomery*, at *Quebeck*, they ordered ten companies, of one hundred men each, and other considerable reinforcements raised in the western parts of *Connecticut*, and in the neighbourhood of *Albany*, to march immediately to *Quebeck*.

The *Americans* have an army of fifteen thousand men in the field, in *Carolina* and *Virginia*.

The Congress paper is in the highest credit, and they have begun to make payments with it.

The Congress are perfectly unanimous; there is not the least dissension amongst them.

She did not clear the Capes of *Delaware* River till the 1st of *March*. When she left *Philadelphia*, the Congress had received no account of the Prohibitory Act, nor of the hiring of foreign troops.

It was reported the Provincials had taken post upon *Noddle's Island*, in *Boston* harbour.

The following vessels sailed at the same time the *Dickenson* did, all bound for different ports in *France*, and on the same business; but as she is a very swift sailer, she left them soon after they put to sea: the ships *Sally*, *Rowland*; *Neptune*, *Collins*; the *Aurora*, *Cheeky*; and three brigs; captains' names, *Montgomery*, *Bethel*, and *Martin*; and many other vessels, the names of which are forgot; and during the three preceding weeks, upwards of thirty other vessels sailed for different ports in *France*.

About three weeks before the *Dickenson* left *Philadelphia*, a *French* nobleman, (who, with another gentleman of the same nation, had been some time treating with the Continental Congress, and had visited the camp of the grand Army at *Cambridge*, in *New-England*,) [Messrs. *Penet* and *Pliarne*] intended returning to *France* in her; but they afterwards removed their baggage out of her, and went on board a vessel which was hired on purpose for them, and are now on their passage for *France*. The day they came down *Delaware* River, two *French* vessels, under *French* colours, laden with powder, ball, and small arms, arrived there.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER DATED BRISTOL, *April* 11, 1776.—I yesterday had a long conversation with Captain *Meston*, the master of the *Dickenson*. The crew consisted of four *Scotchmen*, four *Irish*, and one *Englishman*, including the master, who is a *Scotchman*. Some people at *Bristol* suspect this last of being concerned in the villany, but I am fully persuaded he was not. He has a wife and family at *Philadelphia*, and cries like a child at the misfortunes that has happened to him. He thinks the river *Delaware* sufficiently secured, and speaks highly of the unanimity and warlike appearance of the *Pennsylvanians*. He confirms the death of *Montgomery*, and was at *Philadelphia* when the unfortunate news from *Quebeck* was received. Two thousand volunteers, he says, turned out, and offered to march immediately into *Canada*. I asked him if they went? He believed they did; but could not say positively. The truth is, he is one of the most ignorant fellows I ever conversed with. As he did not expect to come to this country, he brought no newspapers with him.

The mate of the vessel, an *Irishman*, is gone up to make his merits known to Lord *George Germain*. He was the cause of the conspiracy, and will, of course, be graciously received. It is very doubtful whose prize she will be. The custom-house, a lieutenant of a man-of-war, and the treacherous crew, all claim her. I hope the infamous traitors may be disappointed.

When the crew brought her opposite to the wharf, in *Bristol*, where she was to be moored, they gave three cheers; but so far were they from being answered in the same by the people on shore, who were collected in great numbers, and had heard the story from the custom-house officers, that they received nothing but curses for their treachery.

Jersey; which Letter and Resolves were read in this Committee, who, after duly considering the same, approve of the expediency of establishing posts for the purposes aforesaid; have, therefore,

Resolved, That a man and horse be kept in constant readiness, by each of the several Committees of *Newark*, *Elizabethtown*, *Woodbridge*, *New-Brunswick*, *Princeton*, and *Trenton*, whose business shall be to forward all expresses to and from the Continental Congress; and that the aforesaid Town Committees shall, on every intelligence of any invasion or alarm, send expresses to the neighbouring Town Committees, who are directed to provide expresses to forward the same from town to town, to the Town Committees, and to such officers of the Militia as they may think proper to notify thereof throughout the Colony, with as much expedition as may be in their power. And that all the expenses incurred by such expresses, the Treasurers of this Colony, appointed by the Provincial Congress, or either of them, are hereby required to pay on order or orders signed by the Chairman of either of the Committees of the Townships in this Colony. Which orders, with endorsements thereon by the person or persons to whom the same are made payable, shall be sufficient vouchers to the said Treasurers, or either of them, for such sums of money as they, or either of them, may pay thereon as aforesaid.

Ordered, That the above Resolve be published in the *New-York* and *Pennsylvania* Gazettes.

A Memorial from *Yelles Mead*, of the County of *Bergen*, and several other Memorials from the Counties of *Bergen* and *Essex*, of the same tenor, setting forth, that the said *Yelles Mead* had, in expectation of a Lieutenant's commission in Captain *Meeker's* Company, in one of the Battalions in this Colony, raised his complement of men for said Company, praying a commission accordingly. Also, a Memorial from *George Ross*, the third, of the County of *Essex*, setting forth, that in expectation of an Ensign's commission in said Captain *Meeker's* Company, he had raised his complement of men, praying a commission in consequence thereof—were laid before the Committee and read, and several recommendations in favour of the Memorialists were also read.

And, also, a Letter from Lord *Stirling*, recommending *Matthias Halstead*, of *Elizabethtown*, First Lieutenant, and the abovesaid *Yelles Mead*, Ensign of Captain *Meeker's* Company, was also read.

Ordered, That the said Memorials, Recommendations, and Letter, have a second reading.

Two Recommendations, from the Committee of *Woodbridge*, were laid before the Committee, recommending *James Bonny*, Captain, *James Manning*, First Lieutenant, *David Crow*, Second Lieutenant, and *John Clarkson*, Ensign, of a Company of Militia in *Woodbridge*. The other recommending *Ellis Barron*, Captain, *Ralph Marsh*, First Lieutenant, *Matthew Freeman*, Second Lieutenant, and *Jonathan Bloomfield*, Ensign, of another Company of Militia in said *Woodbridge*, which were read, and commissions ordered to be issued accordingly.

A Certificate was produced from the Chairman of the Committee of the North Ward of *New-Brunswick*, certifying that *John Taylor* was elected Captain, *Jacob Mersural*, First Lieutenant, *James Schuurman*, Second Lieutenant, and *John Voorhees*, Jun., Ensign, of a Company of Minute-Men in Colonel *Neilson's* Battalion.

Ordered, That the above gentlemen be commissioned accordingly to their appointment.

The Committee adjourned till two o'clock, P. M.

—

The Committee met according to adjournment.

John Hart, Esq., one of the Committee, attending, took his seat accordingly.

Mr. President laid before the Committee a Letter from *Richard Smith*, Esq., one of the Delegates of this Province, at the Continental Congress, in the words following:

"Philadelphia, January 4, 1776.

"Dear Sir: I am desired by the Congress to transmit to you the enclosed extracts from their proceedings, the whole of which, relative to that subject, I have sent to Lord *Stirling*, by this post, together with six dozen copies of the Articles of War. The one thousand dollars mentioned in the extract, I have received from the Continental Treasury, and they wait your commands.

"The Congress wish to know in what manner the prisoners of war at *Trenton* live, who supplies them, and upon what terms. The reason of the inquiry is, that very extravagant claims are made on this head from other quarters, and we aim to render the publick burdens as light as possible. You will, as soon as it is convenient, afford me the necessary information.

"I am, your affectionate, faithful servant,

"Richard Smith.

"To *Samuel Tucker*, Esq."

The enclosed Resolve, referred to in the above Letter, was read, and is in the words following:

"In Congress, January 2, 1776.

"*Resolved*, That the Barracks in the Colony of *New-Jersey*, be prepared for the reception of such of the Battalions as may not be in readiness to proceed to *New-York*, and that the Ministerial troops or prisoners, at present occupying them, be accommodated in the said Colony, in such a manner as the Committee of Safety for the said Colony shall think most prudent and convenient.

"That the hundred stand of Arms, supplied by the Colony of *New-York*, for the *New-Jersey* Battalion, be paid for by the Convention of *New-Jersey*; and that in order to enable the said Convention to make such payment, as well as to furnish such of the men belonging to the said Battalions, as are yet unprovided with Arms, the further sum of one thousand dollars be advanced to the said Convention, and that the price of the Arms be deducted out of the wages of the Privates belonging to said Battalions.

"Extracts from the Minutes:

"Charles Thomson, *Secretary.*"

The above Letter and Resolve were read, and ordered a second reading.

Adjourned till to-morrow morning, nine o'clock.

—

Thursday, January 10, 1776.

Joseph Holmes, Esq., one of this Committee, attending, took his seat accordingly.

Jacob Scoggin, Esq., laid before this Committee a recommendation from the Committee of the County of *Salem*, in favour of certain gentlemen to be commissioned Field-Officers of the Militia in said County. And it appearing to this Committee that a controversy now subsists in the County of *Salem*, respecting the appointment of Field-Officers, and as this Committee have not at present an opportunity of hearing the grounds of the controversy from both parties, and being desirous of acting in such a manner as may conciliate all parties in a just and equitable determination between them in the appointment of said officers, do, in order thereto, direct, as well the Committee of the County of *Salem*, as such other persons as are opposed to the gentlemen recommended by the said Committee, or may have any claim to commissions, by the election of the Captains and the Subalterns of the Militia before the 16th day of *August* last, to appear, by persons properly deputed for that purpose, before the Congress of this Province, the 6th day after their next meeting, that the truth of facts may be then fully known, that they may take such resolution thereon as to them may seem just.

Ordered, That a copy of the above order be delivered to Mr. *Scoggin*, to be laid before the County Committee, to be by them communicated to the contending parties.

Adjourned till two o'clock, P. M.

—

The Committee met.

This Committee received information from the Committee of the County of *Monmouth*, by Doctor *Scudder* and Doctor *Henderson*, and also by Letter from the Chairman of the said Committee, that a small sloop, called the *Polly and Anne*, one *Haines*, captain, was on the 24th of *December* last, stranded on *Squan Beach*, on board of which was a quantity of Beef, Pork and other Provisions; which Vessel and cargo is now in the care and custody of Colonel *Forman*, except such articles as are perishable, which the Committee directed to be sold by Doctor *Scudder* and Doctor *Henderson;* an inventory of which cargo, as well such as were sold, as such as remain, were laid

before this Committee. And one *James Webb*, a passenger on board said Vessel when stranded, appeared before this Committee, by whose deposition it appears that said Vessel was bound from *New-York* to *Boston*, and from all circumstances, the Provisions on board were designed for the Ministerial army.

The Committee taking the above matters into consideration, think it proper that the whole of the said cargo be immediately sold, and the Vessel secured; which Vessel, with the amount of the sales, after deducting the necessary expenses, be referred to the disposal of the Congress of this Colony at their next sitting. And that Colonel *David Forman*, Doctor *Nathaniel Scudder*, and *Thomas Henderson*, be, and are hereby authorized and empowered to secure the abovesaid Vessel, and to complete the sales of the cargo, in some convenient time, and account for the sales, and report their proceedings to the Congress of this Province at their next sitting; and may deliver to the seamen and passengers belonging to said Vessel, all such clothing and other effects as belong to them, (exclusive of the cargo,) provided they call for the same in a reasonable time; and that the thanks of this Committee be returned to Colonel *Forman*, for his extraordinary care and vigilance in securing the said Vessel and cargo.

And whereas, it appears that the Captain, Master and Passengers of the Sloop *Polly and Anne*, stranded on *Squan Beach*, are inhabitants of the Colony of *New-York;* it is, therefore,

Ordered, That the said Captain, Master and Passengers, or such of them as are in this Province, be conveyed under guard, as Colonel *Forman* may think proper, to *New-York*, and delivered to the Provincial Congress or Committee of Safety, to be dealt with as they may think proper.

Adjourned till to-morrow morning, nine o'clock.

—

Friday, January 12, 1776.

The Committee met.

Whereas, a certain *Richard Symonds*, a Midshipman, belonging to one of the King's ships-of-war, was, in *September* last, taken on board a small tender at *Barnegat*, since which he hath remained a prisoner in the County of *Monmouth:*

Ordered, That *Richard Symonds* be removed to *Trenton*, and there be admitted to remain a prisoner of war on his parole of honour, on the same terms granted to those officers who are already prisoners at that place.

Robert Ellison, Esq., of the County of *Sussex*, was brought before this Committee, by order of the Committee of the County of *Sussex*, on a charge of many misdemeanors committed against the liberties of *America*, and among others of entering into an Association, resolving not to pay the tax ordered to be levied by the Congress of this Province, and not to purchase any goods which might be distrained from persons for their taxes, or for non-attendance at musters. Mr. *Ellison* being informed of said charge, confessed the same to be true, and that he was influenced thereto by Justice *Nathaniel Pettit;* but that after signing the said Association, he had erased his name therefrom; that he had nothing to offer in his justification, but his ignorance of the consequence of his proceedings, and his precipitately engaging therein without consideration, and manifested a deep contrition for his offences. He acknowledged he had signed the Association recommended by the Provincial Congress, before signing the Association mentioned above. That after signing the General Association, and before his signing that now charged against him, he had been apprehended in *Pennsylvania* for practices unfriendly to the liberties of *America*, where he then made a full recantation, and asked pardon of the publick, promising reformation.

Nathaniel Pettit, Esq., of the County of *Sussex*, also appeared before this Committee, by order of the Committee of said County, being charged with signing and promoting said Association, mentioned in *Robert Ellison's* charge; which the said Mr. *Pettit* confessed, only alleging in his justification, that he had no intention thereby of using any violent measures in opposing the proceedings of the Congress; and, being fully heard in his own justification, by order, withdrew.

The above charges against Mr. *Ellison* and Mr. *Pettit*, were reserved to the consideration of the Committee in the afternoon.

Adjourned till two o'clock, P. M.

—

The Committee met.

The Committee resumed the consideration of the matters alleged against *Robert Ellison* and *Nathaniel Pettit*, Esq., and the facts charged against them, appearing by their own confessions, to be true, and the offences of both being nearly equal,

Resolved, That the said *Robert Ellison* and *Nathaniel Pettit* be returned to the County of *Sussex*, under the custody of Colonel *Ephraim Martin*, and that they be both disarmed, and pay to the Committee of the aforesaid County, or their Chairman, the sum of eight pounds each towards defraying the expenses of apprehending and bringing them before the Committee. And, also, that they severally give security to the said Committee or their Chairman in the sum of fifty pounds each, for their future good behaviour, and, thereupon, be discharged from further detention. And, as during the present process, the said *Ellison* and *Pettit* have not only appeared unfriendly to the liberties of this country, but from their conduct have appeared unworthy of the offices of Magistracy which they now sustain; this Committee, therefore, think it advisable for the said delinquents to desist from the further execution of their respective offices, until, by their future good behaviour, they may appear more worthy to execute the same, and shall be called thereto by the Congress or Committee of Safety of this Province. And that the Committee of the County of *Sussex* be assured of this Committee's hearty approbation of their timely and spirited exertions in apprehending the above persons.

A Memorial from the Committee of the County of *Cumberland*, was presented to this Committee and read, setting forth, that they had apprehended, and secured in custody, *Daniel Stretch*, *Richard Cayford*, and *Nathaniel Dowdney*, inhabitants of that County, convicted of being enemies to this country, by using their influence, with the ignorant and unwary, to raise a party to oppose the measures adopted for redress of grievances; cursing and ill-treating all Congresses and Committees, and refusing to give any reasonable satisfaction for their extraordinary conduct. The said Committee requesting the direction of this Committee respecting said offenders,

This Committee, duly considering the conduct of the above persons, and finding it necessary to use spirited exertions for the discouragement of such base behaviour:

Do, *Order and Resolve*, That the Committee of the County of *Cumberland* detain the said *Daniel Stretch*, *Richard Cayford*, and *Nathaniel Dowdney*, in close confinement, until they shall manifest a suitable contrition for their offences, satisfactory to the said Committee; pay the charges that have or may accrue in apprehending and detaining them in custody; and give security to said Committee, in the sum of fifty Pounds each, for their future good behaviour.

Also, *Resolved*, That the said *Daniel Stretch*, *Richard Cayford*, and *Nathaniel Dowdney* be disarmed by the said Committee.

This Committee received several Resolutions and determinations of the Continental Congress, respecting raising one new Battalion in this Province; erecting and establishing a Court of Admiralty; advising the forming some useful regulations respecting the Continental forces raised in this Colony; which requisitions, together with many other important concerns, render the speedy meeting of the Congress of this Province absolutely necessary. This Committee have, therefore, appointed the meeting of said Congress to be at *New-Brunswick*, on *Wednesday*, the thirty-first day of this instant, (*January.*)

The Letter from Lord *Stirling*, recommending *Matthias Halstead* to be commissioned First Lieutenant, and *Yelles Mead* Ensign, in Captain *Joseph Meeker's* Company, in one of the Battalions raised in this Colony; and the Memorial of *Yelles Mead*, claiming the First Lieutenant's commission in said Company, and of *George Ross*, the third, claiming the Ensign's commission in said Company,

with several recommendations accompanying the same, were all read the second time; and, being duly considered,

Ordered, That *Yelles Mead* be commissioned First Lieutenant, and *George Ross*, the third, Ensign of said Company.

A Memorial was presented from *John Goldtrap*, of the County of *Somerset*, recommending the encouraging of Linen and Woollen Manufactories in this Colony, was read and referred to the next meeting of Congress.

Several Memorials were presented to this Committee, for appointments in a Battalion to be raised in this Colony; which were read and filed, to be taken into consideration at the meeting of Congress.

Adjourned till to-morrow morning, at nine o'clock.

—

Saturday, January 13, 1776.

The Committee met.

The Committee having before them several Resolutions of the Continental Congress, of the second day of this instant, (*January*,) among which are the following paragraphs:

"And, with respect to such unworthy *Americans* as, regardless of their duty to their Creator, their country, and their posterity, have taken part with our oppressors, and, influenced by the hope or possession of ignominious rewards, strive to recommend themselves to the bounty of Administration, by misrepresenting and traducing the conduct and principles of the friends of *American* liberty, and opposing every measure formed for its preservation and security—

"*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the different Assemblies, Conventions, and Committees, or Councils of Safety, in the *United Colonies*, by the most speedy and effectual measures, to frustrate the mischievous machinations, and restrain the wicked practices of these men.

"And it is the opinion of this Congress, that they ought to be disarmed, and the more dangerous among them either kept in safe custody or bound with sufficient sureties to their good behaviour.

"And, in order that the said Assemblies, Conventions, Committees, or Councils of Safety, may be enabled, with greater ease and safety, to carry this Resolution into execution:

"*Resolved*, That they be authorized to call to their aid whatever Continental Troops, stationed in or near their respective Colonies, as may be conveniently spared from their more immediate duty; and the commanding officers of such troops are hereby directed to afford the said Assemblies, Conventions, Committees, or Councils of Safety, all such assistance, in executing this Resolution, as they may require, and which, consistent with the good of the service, may be supplied."

This Committee do, therefore, most earnestly recommend to the several County and Town Committees of this Province, to be vigilant and active in carrying the above Resolution into execution; at the same time recommending the exercise of due moderation and prudence in the affair: requesting all officers of the Militia, in this Province, to aid and assist the said Committees, and to execute such orders as they, or either of them, shall receive from the Committee of the County or Township where they reside.

The Letter from *Richard Smith*, Esq., with the enclosed Resolve of the Continental Congress, were read the second time.

Ordered, That *Richard Smith*, Esq., deliver to the President, or Vice-President, the one thousand Dollars by him received from the Continental Congress, mentioned in said Resolve; and that the said President, or Vice-President, lay out the same for Fire-Arms, for the use of the Continental Troops in this Colony.

Ordered, That *John Posee*, Esq., deliver the Arms, by him purchased, to Colonel *William Maxwell*, or his order, for the use of the Continental Troops in this Colony.

Application was made from the Committee of the County of *Morris* to this Committee, recommending *Jacob Ford*, Jr., to be commissioned Colonel; *Ellis Cook*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Cornelius Ludlow*, First Major; *Eleazer Lindsley*, Second Major; and *John Doughty*, Adjutant, of the Eastern Regiment of Militia, in the County of *Morris*.

Ordered, That Commissions be issued, agreeable to the above recommendation.

Ordered, That the Prisoners of War, now in the Barracks at *Trenton*, be removed from thence by the Committee of Observation of that town, to such convenient quarters as they may be able to procure, in order that the Continental Forces may occupy the said Barracks; and that the expenses in providing quarters for such Prisoners be paid out of the Provincial money in the Treasury.

Ordered, That the President write to the Continental Congress, acquainting them that the Congress of this Province are to meet this month, at which time they will, undoubtedly, give all due attention to raising the Battalion ordered in this Colony; this Committee having, for weighty reasons, deferred issuing warrants till meeting of Congress, being firmly persuaded that the appointment of officers by the Congress will give much greater satisfaction in the Colony than if appointed by this Committee; at the same time recommend *Azariah Dunham*, Esq., to be appointed Commissary for supplying such Battalion, when raised.

The Committee adjourned their present sitting.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Albany, January 13, 1776.

I wish I had no occasion to send my dear General this melancholy account. My amiable friend, the gallant *Montgomery*, is no more; the brave *Arnold* is wounded; and we have met with a severe check, in an unsuccessful attempt on *Quebeck*. May Heaven be graciously pleased that the misfortune may terminate here. I tremble for our people in *Canada;* and nothing, my dear sir, seems left, to prevent the most fatal consequences, but an immediate reinforcement, that is nowhere to be had, but from you, and the only route, that which I have pointed out in my letter to Congress, copy of which you have enclosed. Nor do I think that a less number than I have mentioned will suffice. Should your Excellency think proper to send the troops, you will please to let me know it by Express, that I may send provisions to *Onion* River.

Congress has wrote to me on the subject of my request to retire. Our affairs are much worse than when I made the request; this is motive sufficient for me to continue to serve my country in any way I can be thought most serviceable, but my utmost can be but little, weak and indisposed as I am.

The clothing is gone to *Cambridge*.

I am your Excellency's most obedient and most humble servant,

PHILIP SCHUYLER.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read January 17, 1776.]

Albany, January 13, 1776—6 o'clock, P. M.

SIR: Within this half hour, Mr. *Antill* arrived with the unfortunate account contained in the enclosed. My amiable and gallant friend, General *Montgomery*, is no more; he fell in an unsuccessful attack on *Quebeck*, on the 30th ultimo. My feelings on this unhappy occasion are too poignant to admit of expression. May Heaven avert any further evils.

In the present critical situation of affairs, it is evident to me that nothing but the immediate march of a body of troops into *Canada* can secure that Province, for the *Canadians*, as I have heretofore observed, are not to be depended upon; only one hundred and sixty were at *Quebeck* with Colonel *Livingston*, and those behaved ill, as Mr. *Antill* will inform you.

The very great distance of Congress from here will apologize for a request I shall immediately make to General *Washington*, to send three thousand men into *Canada*, to march, by the way of No. 4, to *Onion* River, from whence *Lake Champlain* is passable to *Canada*.

Congress, undoubtedly, conceives it to be advantageous to the cause of *America* to sit at *Philadelphia*; but they will be good enough to permit me to suggest the necessity

of a full-empowered Committee immediately to repair to this place.

Whilst I was preparing to carry into execution the resolutions of Congress respecting *Tryon* County, I received the two enclosed papers, marked *Tryon*. We have had a corroboration of these accounts, and I propose to march from hence with what of Militia I can collect; perhaps I shall something exceed the Tories in number, who, we are informed, are about seven hundred. They have cannon; we have none, and we have a very small quantity of powder. I hope, however, to give a good account of them.

The garrison of *Ticonderoga* leave it on *Tuesday*. I have only twenty men as yet arrived, of all the recruiting parties I have sent out; these, I suppose, reached *Fort-George* on the 11th. On the 12th I ordered them back, to aid me to carry into execution the resolution of Congress transmitted me by Mr. *Tilghman*. I shall send an express to countermand my orders, and to send them on to *Ticonderoga*.

The hurry I am in will apologize for my not answering your letter sent me by Mr. *Tilghman* and the other gentlemen, which I must defer to an hour less encumbered than the present.

If any troops can be spared from *Jersey*, entreat Congress to send them up, that *Ticonderoga* may have a garrison.

The money arrived yesterday, and goes off to-morrow.

I am, sir, most sincerely, your obedient, humble servant,

PHILIP SCHUYLER.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq.

P. S. Captain *Hazen* has stood our friend in the contest. He has been a great sufferer on the occasion; his house and furniture, I have understood, were destroyed by our troops and the *Canadians*, and that all his stock of cattle were killed and used by our people. If Congress means to recompense him, perhaps it would be best to have the damage ascertained by a Court of Inquiry. I mention this, lest he should be referred to me, without, at the same time, a mode of liquidating his loss should be prescribed.

—

TRYON COUNTY (NEW-YORK) COMMITTEE TO MAJOR-GENERAL SCHUYLER.

Tryon County Committee Chamber, January 11, 1776.

HONOURABLE SIR: We have intelligence, by an inhabitant of *Kingsborough*, (as by the enclosed copies of affidavits will at large appear,) that inimical preparations are undertaking against the friends of the *American* cause in *Johnstown*, and, also, an ambuscade being in wait in the woods not very distant from *Kingsborough*, so that they may be warned to approach, and to attack with cannon-shot; to which, yet, should join the several friends of the Government within our country. We immediately, upon this information, ordered sufficient scouting parties, to spy out whether any such malicious schemes were enterprised. But, in case to be certain, you must see us in such a defenceless situation that we hardly can resist, much less destroy, such enemies, for the utmost want of powder. We, therefore, resolved, at our Board, to apply, in such remarkable need, to your Honour, begging that you will please to take these, our distressed condition, into kind consideration, and to succour us, as soon as possible, with such ammunition, and, also, with men, if need should require. Relying on your particular zeal for our country's cause, we do not doubt you will grant our request to the safety of our country and the real friends of its liberties.

You will be pleased to favour us with your opinion, in this important matter, with despatch; remaining, with much respect, honourable sir, your obedient, humble servants,

By order of the Committee:

ISAAC PARIS, *Chairman*.

P. S. It is our opinion that we cannot expect much success against such enemies in *Johnstown* without cannon, as they are provided there alike. Pray order two or three of nine-pounders to be sent to our use for that purpose. This moment, being about one o'clock, after midnight, arrived at our House of Convention, Colonel *Frederick Vischer*, of the *Mohawk* District, and informs us, that he was acquainted, of a credible person living in *Johnstown*, that there are now about six or seven hundred men ready, under arms, in *Johnstown*, upon some inimical intent, without doubt.

ISAAC PARIS, *Chairman*.

To Major-General *Schuyler*.

—

AFFIDAVIT OF JONATHAN FRENCH.

Tryon County, N. Y., Committee Chamber, January 11, 1776.

Jonathan French, Jr., of *Kingsborough*, appeareth, and informeth this Board, under oath, that he heard of a certain woman, being the wife of an inhabitant near to *Johnston-Hall*, (which said woman wishes the country well, on condition of not being discovered of her intelligence,) that there was a fort to be built about said Hall; and the friends on the King's side shall be notified of this plan laid by Sir *John;* and about three hundred *Indians* (of what nation she does not know) are lying in ambush, so nigh that they can be warned with a cannon shot. Within a fortnight's time, (whereof a part of the time is already past,) the fort aforesaid shall be ready, and the *Scotch* people of *Skenesborough* shall partly defend the said fort and partly join the aforesaid *Indians*, and the King's friends shall be invited to join.

When all be ready, there shall be communication made to the country, or, rather, to the Committee of this County; and, upon the moving of the Whigs and attacking *Johnstown*, the *Indians* shall surround them, and fall, in company with the *Scotch* people and the Government's friends in the country, upon the said friends of liberty, and destroy not only those, but, also, all the rest of the inhabitants of the country, being on the country's side, entirely; as, besides, they live in hopes that some of the *Six-Nations* will join and assist them in their schemes.

Further the deponent informs, for certainty, that one *Daniel Russell*, of *Kingsborough*, is sent abroad, with a flag and the best pair of horses of Sir *John Johnston*, to inlist people on their (the King's) side, but nobody, at large, knows where he is gone.

Also, there are, already, some stockades rid, to his knowledge, for the above-mentioned fort, and the *Scotch* people shall be employed to cut all the said stockades wanting. And further saith not.

A true copy.

JOHN EISENLORD, *Clerk*.

—

JAMES PRICE TO GENERAL SCHUYLER.

Montreal, January 5, 1776.

SIR: The bearer, my good friend Mr. *Antill*, will acquaint you with the situation of the Army here, and the late unhappy affair at *Quebeck*, in which the brave General *Montgomery* fell; this was owing to the ill-timed advice of a person from *Quebeck*. Mr. *Antill's* extensive knowledge of this country gives him the advantage of any body that can be sent from hence, and will be of infinite service to the Congress, in making them thoroughly acquainted with the minds of the *Canadians* in general, as well as what steps will be necessary for securing this Province and uniting it to the other Colonies. He joined the General on his arrival before *Quebeck*, and continued with him until he fell, rendering every service in his power.

I fear the Army here will be in great want of cash; our house has advanced them, since their arrival here, upwards of twenty thousand pounds. We are now almost out of that article, and am sorry to say I do not find any of the merchants here willing to lend; however, I hope this inconvenience will be remedied by a speedy supply from the Treasury below; in the mean time, I shall do every thing in my power for the support of the Continental Army.

Have not to add, but am, respectfully, sir, your most humble servant,

JAMES PRICE.

To Major-General *Schuyler*, &c.

—

GENERAL WOOSTER TO GENERAL SCHUYLER.

Montreal, January 5, 1776.

SIR: The enclosed letters from Colonel *Arnold* and Colonel *Campbell* will inform you of the unhappy fate of our brave and most amiable friend, General *Montgomery*, who, with his Aid-de-camp *Macpherson*, Captain *Cheese-*

man, and several other brave officers and men, gloriously fell in an unfortunate attack upon *Quebeck*; unfortunate, indeed; for, in addition to the loss we sustain in the death of the General, one of the bravest men of the age, the flower of our Army at *Quebeck* were either cut off or taken prisoners. I little expect, that with the troops who remain, to be able to continue the siege; in short, our situation in this country is, at present, and will be, till we can have relief from the Colonies, very critical and dangerous. We really have but very few men in the country, and many of those few not to be depended on, as we have too dearly proved.

Mr. *Antill*, a gentleman from *Quebeck*, who General *Montgomery* appointed an Engineer, I beg leave to recommend to you. He was with the General when he fell, and can give you particulars. He is well acquainted with this country; for which reason I have detailed him, to proceed on to you, and so to the Congress, knowing that he will be much better able to inform you and them than I can, concerning the state of this country, and what will be necessary to be done; unless we have a number of men thrown into this country, as soon as they can possibly get over the lakes on the ice, which, I apprehend, might be done with sleds, and, at the same time, forward some powder, as we have but four tons in the country, at the several posts. We have lost our Artillery company; it will, therefore, be necessary to supply us with another very soon, or we may, possibly, not only lose the footing we have got here, but, perhaps, be all sacrificed in the country. There is but little confidence to be placed in the *Canadians;* they are but a small remove from the savages, and are fond of being of the strongest party.

Give me leave, also, to remind you of what, I dare say, General *Montgomery* has done, that we are in the greatest need of cash; hard money we shall soon be in the greatest distress for want of, and, doubtless, the more so, since the check to our arms. Mr. *Price* has hitherto supplied us; indeed, I know not how we could have subsisted as an army, without him; he has already advanced for us about twenty thousand pounds, and has assisted us in every way possible. General *Montgomery*, in his last letter to me, begged that *Price* might be mentioned, in the strongest terms, to the Congress.

The necessity of immediate relief, I am sure, will strike your mind very forcibly, when I tell you that our enemies in the country are numerous; the Clergy almost universally refuse absolution to those who are our friends, and preach to the people that it is not now too late to take arms against us; that the *Bostonians* are but a handful of men; which, you know, is too true.

Suppose, sir, that General *Washington* should detach a thousand men from his Army, if there are no other troops, already raised, that can be better spared. Something must be done, and that speedily, or I greatly fear we are ruined. We have but five or six hundred men for the garrisons of this place, *Chambly* and *St. John's*. Many of the troops insist upon going home, their times of inlistment being out; some, indeed, have run away without a pass or dismission, expressly against orders. I have been just informed that a Captain *Pratt*, of the Second Battalion of *Yorkers*, has led off his company from *St. John's*. I have given orders to suffer no man to go out of the country, whether they will inlist or not; the necessity of the case, I believe, will justify my conduct. I shall not be able to spare any men to reinforce Colonel *Arnold;* this place must be secured for a retreat, if necessary. I called a council of my officers in this place, who were, to a man, agreed that I ought to remain here. I have, therefore, sent Colonel *Clinton* with Mr. *Price*, who, I think, may be of great service to him. *God* only knows what the event will be. This affair puts a very different face upon our interests in this country; however, we must make the best of it.

I have ordered General *Montgomery's* papers to be sent to me; when I receive them, I shall conform myself to his instructions. I expected you was at Congress, and had prepared to send this melancholy news to General *Washington*, as well as to you; but the post arriving last night, I find that you was at *Albany*, therefore, shall leave it to you. I most heartily condole with you, with General *Montgomery's* friends, and with the country, for so great and publick a loss.

I have the honour to be, your most obedient, and very humble servant,

DAVID WOOSTER.

To General *Schuyler*.

COLONEL DONALD CAMPBELL TO GENERAL WOOSTER.

Head-Quarters before Quebeck, January 2, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: This covers one from Col. *Arnold*, by which, I understand, you will be particularly informed of the state of affairs here, which gives me much anxiety of mind, yet I hope no fatal accident will happen to us, more than what has happened; and, truly, it is distressing enough. And, to add to it, several of our men, this two days past, have strenuously insisted on being discharged, not having inlisted for longer than to the last of *December*, which has been complied with; but it is said by some, that their view is only to change companies, and inlist at *Montreal*, which I hope may be true, though, really, few of them are worth retaining. Some good men are gone, (and some, even, without a discharge,) and carried off their arms, which I wish could be recovered, as being in much demand here. I hope every disposition of the troops, this two days past, will prove agreeable to you, when I have the pleasure of seeing you, though, to gratify some Field-Officers, I shall be necessitated to hold a council of war to-morrow, which I pray may agree in, was it only to satisfy the Field-Officers. I pray you to recommend, in the strongest terms, to Congress, the absolute necessity of sending a sufficient body of troops here, as early as possible; and I would recommend that those troops already on duty at *New-York*, for expedition sake, be forwarded here, and their place filled up as fast as they can be recruited.

Medicines are much wanted here, and I am told that a Dr. *Beaumont* has claimed a chest worth fifty guineas, which was the property of the Crown, and ought to belong to Congress. If this is a fact, I could wish it was looked into, as the most expeditious way of providing a supply for the Army, and which must be provided. I hope you will not forget to remind the Congress of the necessity of furnishing a suitable chest for the Army that may be ordered here; a thing much neglected this campaign for our Army.

Musket ball, and smaller sized balls and buckshot, are wanting, and I esteem buckshot more serviceable than generally allowed. I have not, as yet, received a return of the killed and wounded; must, therefore, defer it till you arrive.

I am, dear General, your most humble servant,

DONALD CAMPBELL.

To General *Wooster*.

P. S. I most sincerely wish you the compliments of the season.

COLONEL ARNOLD TO GENERAL WOOSTER.

General Hospital, January 2, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I wrote you, three days since, of our defeat and the death of General *Montgomery* and others, with all the information I then had of the matter. We have been in suspense, with regard to my detachment, until this afternoon, when Major *Meigs* was sent out, with a flag, for the officers' baggage, who, he says, are all taken prisoners, except Captain *Hendricks*, Lieutenant *Humphreys*, of the Riflemen, and Lieutenant *Cooper*, who were killed in the action. General *Carleton* says our loss, in killed and wounded, is a hundred. Major *Meigs* thinks it does not exceed sixty, and about three hundred taken prisoners, who are treated very humanely. These brave men sustained the force of the whole garrison for three hours, but were finally obliged to yield to numbers, and the advantageous situation the garrison had over them. Several other officers, I am told, are slightly wounded. We had the misfortune of losing one brass six-pounder in the engagement, and all our mortars were taken from *St. Roque's* the evening after the engagement. This was the fault of some of the officers who commanded, as they might very easily have been brought away, agreeable to my positive orders for that purpose. Our force, at this time, does not exceed eight hundred men, including Colonel *Livingston's* Regiment of two hundred *Canadians*, and some scattered *Canadian* forces, amounting to two hundred more. Many of the troops are dejected, and anxious to get home, and

some have actually set off. I shall endeavour to continue the blockade while there are any hopes of success. For *God's* sake order as many men down as you can possibly spare, consistent with the safety of *Montreal*, and all the mortars, howitzers, and shells, that you can possibly bring. I hope you will stop every rascal who has deserted from us, and bring him back again.

Every possible mark of distinction was shown to the corpse of General *Montgomery*, who was to be interred in *Quebeck* this day. Had he been properly supported by his troops, I make no doubt of our success. We are short of cash—not more than four or five hundred pounds, and only twenty barrels of salt pork. If any can be spared from *Montreal*, I think best to bring it down, and all the butter.

I beg you will transmit a copy of this letter to the honourable Continental Congress, and another to his Excellency General *Washington*. I think it will be highly necessary, with the reinforcement which, I make no doubt, Congress will send, that they should order all the large mortars and howitzers at *Crown-Point*, *Ticonderoga*, and *Fort-George*, on to this place. Monsieur *Pelissier*, who has a furnace at *Three-Rivers*, assures me that he can cast any size and number of shells between this and the beginning of *April*. I hope the honourable Continental Congress will not think of sending less than eight or ten thousand men to secure and form a lasting connection with this country.

I am in such excessive pain from my wound, (as the bones of my leg are affected,) I can only add that I am, with the greatest esteem, dear sir, your most obedient and very humble servant,

B. Arnold, *Colonel, &c.*

To General *Wooster*.

N. B. Many officers here appear dispirited; your presence will be absolutely necessary. I don't expect to be in a capacity to act this two months.

B. Arnold.

—

Albany, January 14, 1776.

Sir: Through the great hurry in which the express was sent off from hence, the enclosed was forgot.

I am, sir, with sentiments of esteem, your most obedient, humble servant,

Philip Schuyler.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq.

Sir: I have sent Colonel *Warner* to throw into *Canada* whatever numbers of men he can procure upon what are commonly called the *New-Hampshire Grants;* and, in order to encourage them to march without delay, I have offered forty shillings, lawful, as a bounty to the men, and a month's pay to the officers, and an allowance of one-sixth of a dollar per day from their leaving home until they can receive Continental provisions. I hope the Congress will give their approbation of this measure.

I am, as above, yours, &c.,

Philip Schuyler.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO COLONEL McDOUGALL.

Cambridge, January 13, 1776.

Sir: I received your favour of the 2d instant last evening, and note what you mention of the cannon. I am in daily expectation of Colonel *Knox's* arrival, and until he comes, I cannot, with certainty, inform you whether I shall want the iron cannon or not.

Upon examination of the stores that were on board the brigantine, I find we stand in great need of shells, and shall esteem it a particular favour if you will, immediately on receipt hereof, forward the eleven hundred specified at the foot of your letter.

I am told that there is a vessel arrived with you, that brought twenty tons of powder. I need not inform you the great necessity I am in for that article. If it is true that this quantity is arrived, it would be of infinite service to the great cause we are engaged in, that the whole, or such part thereof as can be spared, was sent with the utmost despatch to this camp. If it belongs to private persons, I request you will purchase it; if to the publick, your exerting your influence with the Committee of Safety to effect this good purpose, will very much oblige, sir, your most obedient servant,

George Washington.

To Colonel *Alexander McDougall*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO MASSACHUSETTS ASSEMBLY.

Cambridge, January 13, 1776.

Gentlemen: It is exceedingly painful to me to give you so much trouble as I have, and am like to do, in the support of our lines and the arrangement of the new Army. But my difficulties must, in their consequences, devolve trouble on you. To my very great surprise, I find that the whole number of arms which have been stopped from the discharged soldiers, amount to no more than one thousand six hundred and twenty; and of that number, no more than one hundred and twenty in store, the rest being redelivered to the recruits who have come in. I also find, from the report of the Recruiting officers, that few men are to be inlisted who have arms in their hands, and that they are reduced to the alternative of either getting no men, or men without arms. Unhappy situation! What is to be done, unless their Governments will exert themselves in providing arms from the several towns, or in such other manner as to them shall seem speedy and effectual.

To account for this great deficiency would be tedious, and not much to the purpose. Suffice it, generally, to say, that it has arisen from two causes: the badness of the arms of the old Army, which the inspectors and valuers of did not think fit to detain; and to the disobedient regiments, which, in spite of every order I could issue to the contrary, (even to a solemn threat of stopping the pay for the months of *November* and *December*, of all those who should carry away their arms,) have, in a measure, by stealth, borne them away.

I am glad to hear, by a gentleman of your honourable body, who does me the honour to be the bearer of this letter, that you have, for some time past, been collecting arms at *Watertown*, whilst a good deal of despatch has been used in making them elsewhere. I beg to know how many I can rely upon, as the recruits now coming in from the country will be useless without. It is to no purpose, I find, to depend upon imported arms. What you can furnish, I must take on behalf of the Continent, and will, upon notice, send some gentlemen to receive them. Will it be prudent to apply to such of the Militia as are going away, for their arms? Leaving it optional with them, cannot be amiss; but, will the necessity of the case justify the policy of detaining them? I ask for information, being, with great truth and esteem, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

George Washington.

To the Hon. *James Warren*, Speaker of the House of Assembly, &c.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO MATTHEW THORNTON.

Cambridge, January 13, 1776.

Sir: I am very sorry that I should have so often troubled you respecting this Army, and that I am under the necessity of applying to you again.

To my great surprise, sir, I find that, notwithstanding I have taken the utmost pains to prevent the soldiers that would not reinlist in the new Army from carrying away their arms, or such of them as were good, the whole number collected amounts to only one thousand six hundred and twenty, of which there are no more than one hundred and twenty now in store, the rest being delivered to the recruits who have come in.

I also find, from the report of the Recruiting officers, that few men are to be inlisted who have arms in their hands, and that they are reduced to the disagreeable alternative of getting men without any, or no men at all. Unhappy situation! What is to be done? Must not these Governments exert themselves in procuring them from the several towns, or in such other manner as to them shall seem most effectual and speedy.

To account minutely for this great deficiency would be tedious, and of no importance. I shall only say, that it has arisen from two causes, to wit: the badness of the arms of the old Army, which the inspectors and appraisers did not

think worth detaining, and to the disobedience of some Regiments, carrying theirs away, in a manner, by stealth, notwithstanding every order I could issue, and even solemn threats of stopping the pay for the months of *November* and *December* of those that should.

The prospect of getting imported arms is so remote and uncertain that I cannot depend upon it. I, therefore, request the favour of you to inform me, whether you have any, and what number belongs to the Government, as, also, if you will be able to procure more, and in what time. If you have any, or can get them, I shall be glad to take them on account of the *United Colonies*. They must be had if possible. I have wrote to the honourable General Court of this Province about the same, but have not received their answer. Should any of your Militia be here when I get your answer, will it be prudent to apply to them for their arms? Leaving it optional in them cannot be amiss; but, will the necessity of the case justify an involuntary detention of them? I ask for information.

I am, sir, with great esteem, &c.,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To the Hon. *Matthew Thornton*, Esq., President of the Convention of *New-Hampshire*.

BENJAMIN FESSENDEN TO JAMES WARREN.

Sandwich, January 13, 1776.

HONOURED SIR: In compliance with the desire of a number of the members of the Committees of Correspondence and Inspection for this town, I enclose you a copy of the vote passed by them yesterday. The Committee have done all in their power to stop said vessel, referred to in the vote, and have had repeated assurances that she should not sail without liberty; but, as she has sailed, thought it a duty incumbent on them, to give information of it to the honourable House, that if any thing further was necessary, they might give such order thereon as to them should, in their wisdom, seem best. Mr. *Nye* is a member of our Committee, and to him I beg leave to refer you for a more particular account of the conduct of the owners, relative to their sending away the vessel.

I am, honoured sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

BENJAMIN FESSENDEN.

To the Hon. *James Warren*, Esq.

At a meeting of a number of the Members of the Committees of Correspondence and Inspection, of the town of *Sandwich*, on *January* 12, 1776, Mr. *Stephen Nye* was chosen Chairman, and *Benjamin Fessenden*, Clerk.

Present: Messrs. *Stephen Nye*, *Eliakim Tobey*, Lieutenant *John Dillingham*, Captain *Simeon Fish*, *Elisha Pope*, *Nathaniel Fish*, *Seth Freeman*, Esquire, *Lot Nye*, and *Benjamin Fessenden*.

Whereas, the Committees, or at least a number of each, were some time past informed that a certain sloop, reputed to be owned by *Solomon Nye*, of *Falmouth*, *Levi Barlow*, *Jesse Barlow*, and *Obed Barlow*, of this town, was preparing to go on a voyage to the *West-Indies*, contrary to the recommendations of the Continental Congress and Provincial Assembly; and, in consequence thereof, chose one of their number to make inquiry into the affair; and, in case it was found necessary, to make application to the commanding officer of the troops stationed in this County for orders for them to stop said vessel, or something similar to it, the proceedings at which meeting the Committee cannot now come at. In consequence of which, said member went and received assurances from the above *Solomon Nye* and *Jesse Barlow*, that said vessel should not proceed on said voyage without liberty from the General Court. Notwithstanding which, we last week received information that said vessel had loaded and sailed on said voyage, but meeting with contrary winds, was returned and then at anchor. On which, a number of us met and passed the following vote, viz:

That Captain *Ward Swift* be requested to repair on board said vessel, with such aid as he shall judge necessary, and strip her of her sails, or take some other effectual method to put it out of their power to prosecute said voyage until they shall obtain liberty.

In consequence of which, Captain *Swift* hath attempted, with a file of men, to stop said vessel; but, before he could get on board, she came to sail, and is gone off.

Therefore, voted, that Captain *Benjamin Fessenden* be desired to write to the Speaker of the honourable House of Representatives, and enclose to him a copy of this vote. Unanimously agreed to. A true copy of the Minutes:

B. FESSENDEN.

COLONEL BENEDICT ARNOLD TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Camp before Quebeck, January 14, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I make no doubt you will soon hear of our misfortune on the 31st ultimo, and be very anxious to know our present situation. Our loss and repulse struck an amazing panick into both officers and men, and had the enemy improved their advantage, our affairs here must have been entirely ruined. It was not in my power to prevail on the officers to attempt saving our mortars which had been placed in *St. Roque's*, of course they fell into the hands of the enemy. Upwards of one hundred officers and soldiers instantly set off for *Montreal*, and it was with the greatest difficulty I could persuade the rest to make a stand. The panick soon subsided, I arranged the men in such order as effectually to blockade the city, and enable them to assist each other if attacked. It was urged by the officers to move our ammunition and artillery stores, of which we had a large quantity, and though the risk was great, I could not approve the measure as it would undoubtedly have made unfavourable impressions on the minds of the *Canadians*, and induced them to withdraw their assistance, which must have ended in our utter ruin. I, therefore, put the best face on matters, and betrayed no marks of fear. I have withdrawn the cannon from our battery and placed them round the Magazine. Our present force is only seven hundred. I am in daily expectation of a reinforcement from *Montreal* of two or three hundred men. I expected General *Wooster*, but find he cannot leave *Montreal*. Colonel *Clinton* is just arrived. I have put on foot the raising a regiment of two or three hundred *Canadians*, which I make no doubt of effecting. Our finances are very low; however, I hope we shall be able to rub along. Mr. *Price* is our only resource, and has exerted himself. I wait with great anxiety the arrival of a reinforcement from below. I have wrote the honourable Congress my opinion that five thousand men will be necessary to insure us *Quebeck*, though it may possibly be reduced with a less number; it appears a blockade may answer the purpose. I think *Quebeck* an object of too much consequence to trust it to the event. If reduced, five thousand men will be necessary for a garrison.

Your favour of the 5th ultimo, is just come to hand. It gives me a most sensible pleasure to have your approbation of my conduct. I beg you would accept my thanks for the notice you have been pleased to take of me and my officers, in your new establishment. Most of them are provided for in an unexpected manner, not very pleasing to me.

Enclosed is a list of the killed and wounded. Both officers and men behaved with the greatest intrepidity; and had not the General been basely deserted by his troops, we should doubtless have carried the town. My detachment had carried the first battery; my being wounded, and the loss of their guides, retarded them much. After the death of the General, they sustained the force of the whole garrison for a considerable time, who fired from under cover, and had every advantage of situation. Their retreat was cut off by the enemy's gaining a narrow defile through which they were obliged to pass. They were overpowered by numbers and obliged to resign, though deserving a better fate. Governour *Carleton* treats them with humanity, and has given leave for their baggage to be sent in to them.

I heartily congratulate you on the success of your privateers. I think the balance of the last year's account is still in our favour, though we have met a severe check here. I hope soon to have the pleasure of seeing General *Lee*, or some experienced officer, here.

I heartily wish you the protection and blessing of the Almighty, and am, with very great respect and esteem, dear sir, your obedient, humble servant,

BENEDICT ARNOLD.

To General *Washington*.

List of Killed, Wounded, and Prisoners, in the attack on *Quebeck, December* 31, 1775:

The brave and amiable General *Montgomery*, killed; Captain *Macpherson*, his Aid-de-camp, killed; Captain *Cheeseman*, First Battalion *Yorkers*, killed; Captain *Hendricks*, *Pennsylvania* Riflemen, killed; Lieutenant *Humphreys*, *Virginia* Riflemen, killed; Lieutenant *Cooper*, *Connecticut*, killed.

Colonel *Arnold*, wounded in the leg; Major *Ogden*, in the shoulder; Captain *Lamb*, of the Train, in the head; Captain *Hubbard*, slightly; Captain *Topham*, slightly; Adjutant *Steel*, slightly; Quartermaster *Taylor*, slightly.

Non-commissioned officers and privates killed and wounded, about sixty—names unknown. The whole detachment prisoners, except Captains *Smith*, *Burr*, and *Hopkins*, seven subalterns, and about two hundred privates, sick and on command.

COLONEL HUNTINGTON TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Camp at Roxbury, January 14, 1776.

Honoured Sir: I have your esteemed favour of the 8th instant, and would devoutly join in your petitions, that the hand of the Almighty, in His publick and private dealings, may be properly and profitably attended to. *God* has, indeed, appeared for our land, contrary to all human reasoning. The principles and hopes of our enemies have failed them; the King's speech, threatening as it is, yet betrays, in almost every sentence, the imbecility of his measures. The Ministry, it seems, have still a morbid majority. It will give the minority new spirits, that so eminent and respectable characters as the Duke of *Grafton*, General *Conway*, and Bishop of *Peterborough*, are added to their number. And, before this time, the King's affairs in *Canada* will look with a dark aspect. *Boston* papers are, now a days, something of rarities. I enclose you one for your amusement; the lengthy address in it, animadverting on the address from our Head-Quarters to the soldiers, has inserted one sentence very erroneously. "Your officers tell you, (he says,) that men who are possessed of a vivacity," &c. The word "not," which is essential to the meaning of the sentence, is left out. As light as they make of the burning of two or three old houses at *Charlestown*, they have pulled down the three or four that escaped the flames. The troops in *Boston* were under arms all night. I have alighted upon some old proclamations in the house where I am. As they are old things, and the productions of eminent men, I have had thoughts of sending some of them to you.

Recruits come in slowly. The Regiments, on average, are not more than four hundred strong. We have, however, more men than arms. By brother *David's* letter to the Major, the situation of affairs at *New-York* require immediate attention. That Colony has hitherto been, and I fear will forever be, a moth to us. I almost wish its capital was in ashes.

I send my love and duty to mother, brothers, and sisters, and a letter to son. I long to embrace the offspring of my dear companion. I implore the Divine mercy that he may, by his improvements and dutifulness, make some amends to his grand-parents for the loss of their lovely daughter. That he may be a blessing to his friends and the world; above all, that his name be written in Heaven. That you may experience much of the presence of the Father of lights, carrying you through the important business of your station, and have occasion to rejoice in the happy fruits of your care and labour.

I am, with all duty and affectionate regards, your bereaved son,

Jedediah Huntington.

To Governour *Trumbull*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read January 25, 1776, referred to the Committee of Correspondence.]

Cambridge, January 14, 1776.

Sir: I am exceedingly sorry that I am under the necessity of applying to you, and calling the attention of Congress to the state of our arms, which is truly alarming. Upon the dissolution of the old Army, I was apprehensive that the new would be deficient in this instance; and that the want might be as inconsiderable as possible, I gave it in orders, that the arms of such men as did not reinlist, should be (or such of them as were good) retained at the prices which should be affixed by persons appointed to inspect and value them; and that we might be sure of them, I added, that there would be a stoppage of pay for the months of *November* and *December*, from those who should carry their fire-locks away without their being first examined. I hoped, by these precautions, to have procured a considerable number; but, sir, I find, with much concern, that from the badness of the arms, and the disobedience of too many in bearing them off, without a previous inspection, that very few were collected. Neither are we to expect that many will be brought in by the new recruits; the officers who are out inlisting having reported that few men who have arms will engage in the service, and that they are under the disagreeable alternative of taking men without arms, or of getting none. Unhappy situation, and much to be deplored! especially, when we have every reason to convince us, that we have to contend with a formidable army, well provided of every necessary, and that there will be a most vigorous exertion of Ministerial vengeance against us, as soon as they think themselves in a condition for it. I hope it is in the power of Congress to afford us relief. If it is not, what must, what can be done?

Our treasury is almost exhausted, and the demands against it very considerable. A constant supply of money to answer every claim and exigency, would much promote the good of the service. In the common affairs of life it is useful; in war it is absolutely necessary and essential. I would beg leave, too, to remind you of tents, and of their importance, hoping, that if an opportunity has offered, you have procured them.

I fear that our Army will not be raised to the new establishment in any reasonable time, if ever; the inlisting goes on so very slow, that it almost seems at an end.

In my letter of the 4th inst., I wrote you that I had received certain intelligence from a Mr. *Hutchinson* and others, that two of the five regiments from *Cork*, were arrived at *Halifax*, one at *Boston*, and the two others had sailed for *Quebeck*, and had not been heard of. I am now assured, as a matter to be relied on, by four captains of ships, who left *England* about the 2d *November*, and who appear to be men of veracity, that the whole of these regiments, (except the three companies that arrived at *Boston* some time ago,) when they sailed, were at *Milford-Haven*, where they had been obliged to put in by a violent storm the 19th of *October;* that they would not be able to leave it for a considerable time, as they were under the necessity of repairing their vessels and getting some new ones taken up. Such is the uncertainty and contradiction in what I now hear, that it is not possible to know what to believe or disbelieve.

I wrote to the General Court yesterday, and to the Convention of *New-Hampshire*, immediately upon seeing the great deficiency in our arms, praying that they would interest themselves in the matter, and furnish me with all in their power. Whether I shall get any, or what quantity, I cannot determine, having not received their answers. The same application will be made to the Governments of *Connecticut* and *Rhode-Island*.

I do myself the honour to send you sundry newspapers, I received from the above-mentioned captains, as they may be later than any you have seen, and contain some interesting intelligence.

I have the honour to be, with much esteem and regard, your most obedient servant,

George Washington.

To the Hon. *John Hancock*, Esq.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO JOSEPH REED.

Cambridge, January 14, 1776.

Dear Sir: The bearer presents an opportunity to me of acknowledging the receipt of your favour of the 30th ultimo, which never came to my hands till last night, and, if I have not done it before, of your other letter of the 23d preceding.

The hints you have communicated from time to time, not only deserve, but do most sincerely and cordially meet, with my thanks. You cannot render a more acceptable service, nor, in my estimation, give me a more convincing

proof of your friendship, than by a free, open, and undisguised account of every matter relative to myself or conduct. I can bear to hear of imputed or real errors. The man who wishes to stand well in the opinion of others, must do this, because he is thereby enabled to correct his faults, or remove the prejudices which are imbibed against him. For this reason, I shall thank you for giving me the opinions of the world upon such points as you know me to be interested in; for, as I have but one capital object in view, I could wish to make my conduct coincide with the wishes of mankind, as far as I can consistently; I mean, without departing from that great line of duty which, though hid under a cloud for some time, from a peculiarity of circumstances, may, nevertheless, bear a scrutiny.

My constant attention to the great and perplexing objects which continually rise to my view, absorbs all lesser considerations, and, indeed, scarcely allows me to reflect that there is such a body in existence as the General Court of this Colony, but when I am reminded of it by a Committee; nor can I, upon recollection, discover in what instances (I wish they would be more explicit) I have been inattentive to or slighted them. They could not, surely, conceive that there was a propriety in unbosoming the secrets of an army to them; that it was necessary to ask their opinion of throwing up an intrenchment or forming a battalion. It must, therefore, be what I before hinted to you; and how to remedy it I hardly know, as I am acquainted with few of the members, never go out of my own lines, nor see any of them in them.

I am exceedingly sorry to hear that your little fleet has been shut in by the frost. I hope it has sailed ere this, and given you some proof of the utility of it, and enabled the Congress to bestow a little more attention to the affairs of this Army, which suffers exceedingly by their overmuch business, or too little attention to it. We are now without any money in our treasury, powder in our magazines, or arms in our stores. We are without a Brigadier, (the want of whom has been twenty times urged,) Engineers, Expresses, (though a Committee has been appointed these two months to establish them,) and, by-and-by, when we shall be called upon to take the field, shall not have a tent to lie in. Apropos, what is doing with mine?

These are evils, but small in comparison of those which disturb my present repose. Our inlistments are at a stand; the fears I ever entertained are realized; that is, the discontented officers (for I do not know how else to account for it) have thrown such difficulties or stumbling-blocks in the way of recruiting, that I no longer entertain a hope of completing the Army by voluntary inlistments, and I see no move nor likelihood to do it by other means. In the last two weeks, we have inlisted but about a thousand men; whereas, I was confidently led to believe, by all the officers I conversed with, that we should, by this time, have had the regiments nearly completed. Our total number upon paper amounts to about ten thousand five hundred; but, as a large portion of these are returned "not joined," I never expect to receive them, as an ineffectual order has once issued to call them in. Another is now gone forth, peremptorily requiring all officers, under pain of being cashiered, and recruits, of being treated as deserters, to join their respective regiments by the first day of next month, that I may know my real strength; but, if my fears are not imaginary, I shall have a dreadful account of the advanced month's pay. In consequence of the assurances given, and my expectation of having, at least, men enough inlisted to defend our lines, (to which may be added my unwillingness to burden the cause with unnecessary expense,) no relief of Militia has been ordered in to supply the places of those who are released from their engagements to-morrow, and as to whom, though many have promised to continue out the month, there is no security for their stay.

Thus am I situated, with respect to men. With regard to arms, I am yet worse off. Before the dissolution of the old Army, I issued an order, directing three judicious men of each brigade, to attend, review, and appraise the good arms of every regiment; and, finding a very great unwillingness in the men to part with their arms, (at the same time not having it in my power to pay them for the months of *November* and *December*,) I threatened severely, that every soldier who should carry away his fire-lock without leave, should never receive pay for those months. Yet, so many have been carried off, partly by stealth, but chiefly as condemned, that we have not, at this time, one hundred guns in the stores, of all that have been taken in the prize-ship and from the soldiery, notwithstanding our regiments are not half complete. At the same time, I am told, and believe it, that, to restrain the inlistment to men with arms, you will get but few of the former, and still fewer of the latter, which would be good for any thing. How to get furnished, I know not. I have applied to this and the neighbouring Colonies, but with what success, time, only, can tell. The reflection on my situation, and that of this Army, produces many an unhappy hour, when all around me are wrapped in sleep. Few people know the predicament we are in, on a thousand accounts; fewer, still, will believe, if any disaster happens to these lines, from what cause it flows. I have often thought, how much happier I should have been, if, instead of accepting the command under such circumstances, I had taken my musket on my shoulder and entered the ranks; or, if I could have justified the measure to posterity and my own conscience, had retired to the back country and lived in a wigwam. If I shall be able to rise superior to these and many other difficulties which might be enumerated, I shall most religiously believe that the finger of Providence is in it, to blind the eyes of our enemies; for, surely, if we get well through this month, it must be for want of their knowing the disadvantages we labour under.

Could I have foreseen the difficulties which have come upon us; could I have known that such a backwardness would have been discovered, among the old soldiers, to the service, all the Generals upon earth should not have convinced me of the propriety of delaying an attack upon *Boston* till this time. When it can now be attempted, I will not undertake to say; but thus much I will answer for, that no opportunity can present itself earlier than my wishes. But, as this letter discloses some interesting truths, I shall be somewhat uneasy until I hear it gets to your hands, although the conveyance is thought safe.

We made a successful attempt, a few nights ago, upon the houses near *Bunker's Hill*. A party, under Major *Knowlton*, crossed upon the mill-dam, the night being dark, and set fire to and burnt down eight, out of fourteen which were standing, and which we found they were daily pulling down for fuel. Five soldiers and the wife of one of them, inhabiting one of the houses, were brought off prisoners; another soldier was killed; none of ours hurt.

Having undoubted information of the embarkation of troops (somewhere from three to five hundred) at *Boston*, and being convinced they are designed either for the *New-York* Government (from whence we have some very disagreeable accounts of the conduct of the Tories) or *Virginia*, I despatched General *Lee*, a few days ago, in order to secure the City of *New-York* from falling into their hands, as the consequences of such a blow might prove fatal to our interests. He is, also, to inquire a little into the conduct of the *Long-Islanders*, and such others as have, by their conduct and declarations, proved themselves inimical to the common cause. To effect these purposes, he is to raise volunteers in *Connecticut*, and call upon the troops of *New-Jersey*, if not contrary to any order of Congress.

By a ship arrived at *Portsmouth*, *New-Hampshire*, we have *London* prints to the 2d of *November*, containing the Addresses of Parliament, which are little more than a repetition of the Speech, with assurances of standing by his Majesty with lives and fortunes. The captains (for there were three or four of them passengers) say, that we have nothing to expect but the most vigorous exertions of Administration, who have a dead majority upon all questions, although the Duke of *Grafton* and General *Conway* have joined the minority, as, also, the Bishop of *Peterborough*. These captains affirm, confidently, that the five regiments from *Ireland* cannot, any of them, have arrived at *Halifax*, inasmuch as, by a violent storm on the 19th of *October*, the transports were forced, in a very distressed condition, into *Milford-Haven*, and were not in a condition to put to sea when they left *London;* and the weather has been such, since, as to prevent heavy-loaded ships from making passage by this time. One or two transports, they add, were thought to be lost; but these arrived some consider-

able time ago at *Boston*, with three companies of the Seventeenth Regiment.

Mr. *Sayre* has been committed to the Tower, upon the information of a certain Lieutenant or Adjutant *Richardson*, (formerly of your city,) for treasonable practices; an intention of seizing his Majesty and possessing himself of the Tower, it is said in "The Crisis." But he is admitted to bail, himself in five hundred pounds, and two sureties in two hundred and fifty pounds each.

What are the conjectures of the wise ones with you, as to the *French* armament in the *West-Indies*? But, previous to this, is there any certainty of such an armament? The captains, who are sensible men, heard nothing of this when they left *England;* nor does there appear any apprehensions, on this score, in any of the measures or speeches of Administration. I should think the Congress will not, ought not, to adjourn at this important crisis.

But it is highly necessary, when I am at the end of the second sheet of paper, that I should adjourn my account of matters to another letter. I shall, therefore, in Mrs. *Washington's* name, thank you for your good wishes towards her, and with compliments, added to mine, to Mrs. *Reed*, conclude, dear sir, your sincere and affectionate servant,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To *Joseph Reed*, Esq.

[GENERAL WASHINGTON] TO COLONEL WENTWORTH.

Cambridge, January 14, 1776.

SIR: I am commanded by his Excellency to acknowledge the receipt of your favour of the 10th instant, with sundry newspapers, packages, &c., by your young man, and to return you his thanks for the same, and your great attention to the directions he has given you. He is much obliged for your information respecting the store-ships, and wishes with you that they, or some of them may be brought safe into port by our armed cruisers, as they will be of immense value to us.

I am, sir, yours, &c.

To *Joshua Wentworth*, Esq., *Portsmouth*.

GOOCHLAND COUNTY (VIRGINIA) COMMITTEE.

At a meeting of the Committee of *Goochland* County, at the Court-House, on *Monday, January* 15, 1776:

Present seventeen Members.

The Rev. Mr. *William Douglas* being summoned to this Committee on the information of sundry witnesses, that the said *William Douglas* had spoken disrespectfully of the people of *America*, appeared, and after the witnesses were examined, this Committee are of opinion that Mr. *Douglas* has said nothing worthy of notice, and that he should be acquitted with honour.

GEORGE UNDERWOOD, *County Clerk.*

PRINCE EDWARD COUNTY (VIRGINIA) COMMITTEE.

At a meeting of the Committee for the County of *Prince Edward, January* 15, 1776:

Samuel Burks, an inhabitant of this County, having been summoned to attend this Committee, in consequence of an information lodged against the said *Burks*, on suspicion of his having acted as an enemy to *America*, appeared, and after hearing the testimony of several witnesses, summoned and examined relative to Mr. *Burks's* conduct, it appears to this Committee, that the report was altogether false and groundless, and that the said *Burks* is entirely innocent of the charge: wherefore, he is honourably acquitted.

Ordered, That a copy of the above Resolves be transmitted to Mr. *Alexander Purdie*, and entreat him to publish the same.

JOHN NASH, JUN., *Chairman pro tem.*
BENJAMIN LAWSON, *Clerk.*

ACCOMACK COUNTY (VIRGINIA) COMMITTEE.

In Committee, Accomack County, January 15, 1776.

A complaint being, heretofore, lodged against Captain *Custis Kellum*, mariner, a native of this County, for that he has opposed the measures adopted by the honourable the Convention of this Colony for raising troops, and prevented, as much as in his power, recruits from being raised in the said service, and that he also has expressed himself in language inimical to the *American* cause, the said *Kellum* this day appeared, and answered the same; and sundry witnesses being examined on oath, it appeared, that he has much opposed the said measures, and prevented men from listing in the said service, and that he expressed himself in these words, viz: "Damn the *Bostonians*, what are they but a pack of *G–d* damned Rebels?"

The Committee taking this case into consideration, are unanimously of opinion that he has acted the part of an enemy to his country, and that the same be published in the *Gazette;* but the said *Kellum* appeared penitent, and expressing himself very sorry for his past imprudent conduct, promising to behave himself for the future in such manner as to regain and merit the confidence of his countrymen, and being seemingly convinced of his error, and voluntarily signed the Recantation hereafter written, it is recommended to his said countrymen to receive him into their former favour and good opinion:

"Whereas, I have spoken sundry very malicious and disgraceful words of the noble and spirited Sons of Liberty in *New-England*, now bleeding in the cause of freedom, and have been so impudent as to find fault with the proceedings of the honourable the Convention of *Virginia*, do hereby acknowledge, that my former opinion of the *Bostonians*, and of the proceedings of the honourable Convention, was founded on mean and narrow principles, and that I do hereby renounce the same, and will, for the future, conduct myself in such a manner as shall merit the good opinion of the good people of this country and the publick in general, against whom I have offended; and hope for this, my free and open recantation and acknowledgment, to receive pardon and forgiveness from the publick for my above offence."

"CUSTIS KELLUM."

Extract from the Minutes:

JOHN POWELL, *Clerk.*

DANIEL OF ST. THOMAS JENIFER TO CHARLES CARROLL, BARRISTER.

Stepney, January 15, 1776.

MY DEAR BARRISTER: Governour *Eden* is now with me, and very desirous and willing to co-operate with you and Mr. *Tilghman*, and such other gentlemen of the Convention, as are willing to disperse the cloud that has almost overshadowed and ready to burst upon us. Let me, therefore, beg and beseech you to use your influence with Mr. *Tilghman*, Mr. *Johnson*, Mr. *Holliday*, and Mr. *Stone*, to dine with me to-morrow if the Convention should break up in time, if not the next or any other day that may suit. I know the *Eastern-Shore* gentlemen are anxious to get home, but I flatter myself, that they will think an additional day to the many they have spent on publick business will not be thrown away in attempting to form a plan which may save millions of money and thousands of lives. I know your disposition, and need say no more, but to desire that you will communicate my request to the above named gentlemen, and send an answer by *Charles*, who will wait your commands.

I am, truly and affectionately yours,

DANIEL OF ST. THOMAS JENIFER.

To *Charles Carroll*, Barrister.

CHARLES CARROLL, BARRISTER, TO DANIEL OF ST. THOMAS JENIFER.

January 15, 1776.

MY DEAR MAJOR: I communicated your letter to the gentlemen you mentioned; they will, with the utmost pleasure, lend their assistance to form a plan for the very good purposes you mention, and would most willingly wait on you to dinner to-morrow, but think it impossible they can get back time enough to meet the House in the afternoon. Will it be agreeable to the Governour and yourself to take a scrap of dinner with me to-morrow. You know I cannot give you meat, but you shall both be most heartily welcome to what I can give you. We expect the Convention will break up to-morrow evening. Pray let me hear

from you to-morrow morning early, we must have a meeting. Your affectionate humble servant,

CHARLES CARROLL.

To the Hon. *Daniel of St. Thomas Jenifer*, Esq.

P. S. I wrote you a note about dinner time, on the appointment of the Council of Safety, which I hope you received.

CHRISTOPHER GADSDEN TO COMMODORE HOPKINS.

Philadelphia, January 15, 1776.

SIR: I last night received my orders to go to *Carolina*, and expect to set out on *Thursday* morning for one of our pilot boats, now at *New-Castle*, in which I shall take my chance. Should you come out our way, if you think proper to let me know to-morrow or next day, what signal you will show when off our bar, you may depend on my keeping a good look out for you, and let nobody know the signal, but when it is necessary.

I am, sir, your most humble servant,

CHRISTOPHER GADSDEN.

To the Honourable *Eseck Hopkins*, Esq., Commander-in-chief of the Fleet of the *United Colonies*.

(SIGNAL: Some one of the fleet, if together, or the small sloop, if alone, will hoist a striped flag half up to flying-stay.)

NEW-YORK DELEGATES TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read January 17, 1776.]

New-York, January 15, 1776.

SIR: Mr. *Livingston* arrived here on *Saturday*, and immediately communicated to us your letters, desiring us to purchase a quantity of powder, &c., we accordingly made a particular inquiry how much of that article is now in this Province, and find there is not, nor has there been, any since last *April*, but what has been in the hands of the Committee here, of which we send an account enclosed, whereby it appears that there is now in the publick store six thousand three hundred and fifty pounds, which, with what is due from the Continent to this Province, is all the stock they have; four hundred and sixty-two quarter casks was all the powder that was brought from *Curacoa*, though it was said that it was to the amount of three hundred barrels, and that several other vessels, which arrived about the same time, had also brought powder, which was without foundation.

A report prevails here that a fleet of eighteen transports, three ships of war, and a bomb-ketch, have sailed from *Boston;* that General *Lee* has desired Governour *Trumbull* to get fifteen hundred men in readiness, with all despatch; that he intended to march with a small body of men from *Cambridge* to *Connecticut*, and with the troops to be raised in *Connecticut* to march to this place; but, as it is probable you have information from the General, it will be needless for us to enlarge.

The *Asia* and *Phenix* are both in this harbour, and the *Viper* at *Sandy-Hook*.

We are, sir, your most humble servants,

PHILIP LIVINGSTON,
JOHN ALSOP,
FRANCIS LEWIS.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*.

COLONEL McDOUGALL TO PHILIP LIVINGSTON.

New-York, January 15, 1776.

SIR: Agreeable to your desire, I have given you, at foot, an account of all the Powder this Colony has been possessed of since the battle of *Lexington* to this day.

I am, sir, respectfully, your very humble servant,

ALEXANDER McDOUGALL.

Powder in our possession since *April*, 1775:

In the Magazine on that day, about	1,000 lbs.
Reported from *Pensacola*,	1,500 "
Do. by Capt. *A. Laurence*,	3,600 "
Do. by Capt. *Cannon*, from *Curacoa*, 462 quarter barrels, equal to	11,500 "
	17,700 lbs.
Imported by Capt. *Murray*,	100 lbs.
	17,800 lbs.
Disposed of	11,455 "
	6,350 lbs.

This, only, remains for our musketry and field artillery.

Disposition of the Powder since 17th *April:*

Sold, and distributed among the people,	900 lbs.
Sent, by land, to *Canada*, early in *June*, of our powder,	200 "
Soon after sent there,	1,200 "
To *Ticonderoga* and *Albany*,	300 "
To the Northern Army, in *October*,	1,400 "
Sold, and gave to the Minute-Men of the Colony,	2,000 "
To *Suffolk*, of the last,	1,000 "
To *Westchester*, do.	1,000 "
Deposited at the Fort, for the upper Counties,	3,000 "
Paid a debt to *Jersey*,	450 "
	11,450 lbs.

Sir, my memory does not serve me, without looking over the Journals, as to several small parcels of Powder delivered out; but the whole now in the Magazine, and in the Barracks, is two hundred and thirty-five quarter casks.

ALEXANDER McDOUGALL.

To *Philip Livingston*, Esq.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM A GENTLEMAN IN ALBANY TO ONE IN HARTFORD, DATED JANUARY 15, 1776.

Last *Friday* came an express to this city, with the news that Sir *John Johnston*, (son of the late Sir *William*,) with about five hundred men, and a few *Indians*, (*Mohawks*,) were assembling in hostile posture, &c. The County Committee convened immediately, and ordered the Minute-Men in *Albany*, *Schenectady*, *Schoharie*, *Half-Moon*, &c., to march to *Johnstown*, with four days provision, an axe to every sixth man, &c., who are now gone and going; but I rather guess will prove a false alarm, in part, or, at least, less alarming than at first received.

P. S. *Monday Evening*, *January* 15.—To-morrow morning, very early, General *Schuyler*, with the multitudes come in from *Berkshire*, and all around, (except those gone forward to *Schenectady*, and some sent home to prepare for the tour of *Canada*,) will set off for *Johnstown*. This city is in the greatest confusion; every countenance is changed; Whigs depressed and melancholy, and immediately animated and revengeful, or rather spirited for a noble and vigorous effort in the cause of liberty; whilst the Tories prick up their ears. One of them, for publickly rejoicing at General *Montgomery's* untimely fall, is closeted in the City-Hall.

P. S. 16*th*, *ten o'clock*, *A. M.*—The General just gone to *Schenectady*, on his way to *Johnstown*, accompanied by many good soldiers, &c. Success attend them.

MESSAGE TO THE MOHAWKS, BY MR. BLEECKER, INDIAN INTERPRETER, JANUARY 15, 1776.

Brothers: I am sent by the Commissioners of the *United Colonies*, to acquaint you that the brethren of *Albany* have received information that several persons, in and about *Johnstown*, are busy in inlisting men to cut our throats, and are making other hostile preparations to assist in enslaving this country, and to prevent and stop up the road of communication to the westward. Your *Albany* brothers, on this alarming occasion, have collected their warriors, and are now sending them up the river, in order to inquire into the truth of the report, and act thereupon as they may judge needful.

Brothers: Be not alarmed at these preparations; nothing is intended against you; our own safety and liberty impel us to this measure; you can rest perfectly satisfied that we will invariably pursue our friendly disposition towards you, and expect that you will, agreeable to the promises you made us at *Albany*, take no part in the present struggle.

Brothers: We promised you, last Summer, that Sir *John* and his family should not be molested, while he took no measures against us: We are yet of that mind; and, if he has acted as an honest man, he need not fear any danger.

Brothers: Lest the preparations and march into your

country should alarm the *Six Nations*, we desire that you will send some of your young men with this speech to the end of the House of the *Six Nations*, that no uneasiness may take place in their minds.

—

Reply of the Mohawks, *sent by Mr.* Bleecker.

Brothers: This belt we present to the Commissioners of the Twelve *United Colonies*, and our brothers of *Albany*, and desire them that the troops that were coming up should not come up so speedily; that, perhaps, a mode might be pointed out to have it settled in an easier manner; that, perhaps, in case the troops came up, it might be a means to stop up the road, and, perhaps, create an uneasiness in their minds, as they and Sir *John* were, as it were, one blood; and that the General should do all in his power to have it settled without the troops going up; that he was a wise man, and should set his thoughts a thinking to have it settled, by appointing three or four persons to treat with Sir *John* about it. That they would retain the belt sent by the Commissioners, till such time as they heard from the Commissioners; and, in case the troops did not come, then they would send the belt forward to the other nations; but, if they came up, then they would keep the same in their hands. That three of their nation should immediately go to Sir *John*, and desire him to remain silent and be at peace; and, that in case there were any in *Johnstown* that were Tories, they would settle them, and make them remain peaceable. That all the uneasiness in the minds of Sir *John* and the others in *Johnstown*, originates from accounts that they receive from people in *Albany;* that they daily have accounts from thence that the *New-England* people are coming up to destroy Sir *John* and his possessions.

—

Answer sent from the Squaws.

Brothers, The Commissioners of the *United Colonies*, and the People of *Albany:* This belt we present you, and hereby renew the covenant that was made last Summer; and we beg that no disturbance shall be made up here, and that the said covenant may not thereby be broken. That in case the troops were to come up, it might create great uneasiness, as they and Sir *John* were of one blood; and that in case Sir *John* was disturbed, it might touch their blood; and we beg some other mode may be pointed out, whereby this uneasiness may be settled.

—

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Lebanon, January 15, 1776.

Sir: I have received your agreeable letter of the 7th instant, per Captain *Sears*.

The condition and circumstances of the Colony of *New-York* gives me pain, lest the friends to *American* liberty, in that Colony, should be too much neglected, and become disheartened, and the inimical designs and mischievous operations of others succeed. I have received credible information that the Provincial Congress there had spent some time, just before they adjourned to the first of *February*, in debating whether they should not address Mr. *Tryon*, for the purpose of calling the General Assembly of that Colony, to revive the old scheme of adopting the Parliamentary insult of the 20th of *February* last, which was rejected. Surely our friends want to be strengthened, and our enemies to be checked.

The following is an extract from a letter from one of our friends to another, dated *December* 27, 1775: "Just after you left town, the *Phenix*, a forty-gun ship, arrived, and anchored just before Mr. *Drake's;* and, in two or three days after, the *Asia*, in company of the *Dutchess of Gordon*, came and anchored opposite to *Peck's Slip*, so that we are highly honoured. General *Dalrymple* is on board the *Phenix*, and it is rumoured that they have two hundred troops concealed on board, which has, for near a week past, kept us on pretty hard duty. The Colonel has slept in the barracks two or three nights. If they come, I hope to give a good account of them. We have some excellent field-pieces, and if they visit us the gates will be opened, and we will welcome them with a few *Resolves of the Continental Congress*, which is the name of one of the pieces."

I wrote a letter to President *Hancock*, dated the 6th *January*, instant, and another to one of our Delegates at Congress, requesting that more effectual measures may be taken for the security of *New-York*, to prevent our enemies from being supplied with provisions, furnished with intelligence, and from having an opportunity to use every artifice to insult and injure us from that quarter. It, therefore, gave me sensible pleasure, to find that you have adopted the measures mentioned in yours, and with great cheerfulness called my Council, and, with their advice, appointed Colonel *Waterbury*, Lieutenant-Colonel *Bradley*, and Major *Hobby*, Field-Officers for one regiment; Colonel *Ward*, Lieutenant-Colonel *Lewis*, and Major *Douglass*, for another; sent a proclamation to the two Colonels, and orders to them, with the rest of the Field-Officers, by voluntary inlistment to raise seven hundred and fifty men each, to join and assist Major-General *Lee*, with encouragement that they should be entitled to the same pay, wages, and billeting allowed the troops before *Boston*, during the time they serve, and to be dismissed soon, when the service would conveniently admit. The Field-Officers of each regiment to select Captains and Subalterns from those in the standing Militia; if needful, to request the chief officer of the Militia companies to call their companies together, for the purpose of inlisting the men with expedition; and, to prevent difficulty for want of ammunition, have ordered Captain *Niles*, commander of our armed schooner, *Spy*, to take on board half a ton of powder, and transport four hundred pounds to *New-Haven*, two hundred pounds to *Norwalk*, and four hundred pounds to *Stamford*, with orders to him to follow such directions as Major-General *Lee* may give for the service he is employed in, and to execute the same until dismissed by him, or further orders from me; wished, but failed, to have the pleasure of a short interview with him.

When my orders were ready, very early on *Saturday* morning last, Captain *Sears* took them, and, I apprehend, he got to *Hartford* by noon. I wrote to Major-General *Lee*, informing of what was done by me. I have no doubt but the men at the westward part of this Colony will readily and expeditiously engage in the service. May the Supreme Director of all events add his blessing on our endeavours to preserve, support, and maintain the constitutional liberties of these Colonies, which he hath made it our duty to do.

Thirteen *Indians*, of the *Caughnawaga* tribe, came to visit me on the 13th, and seemed well pleased to have a conference on our affairs, and expressed their belief of my information, and that they were friends and brothers; and yesterday proceeded on their way to you.

I am, with great esteem and regard, your Excellency's most obedient humble servant,

Jonathan Trumbull.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

—

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO MASSACHUSETTS ASSEMBLY.

Cambridge, January 15, 1776.

Sir: The enclosed account was this day sent me, by Captain *Wadsworth*, for payment, as you will see by his order. The services being done for the benefit of the Province, and at the instance of your honourable body, I have referred him to you for payment.

I am, sir, &c.,

George Washington.

To the Honourable *James Warren*, Esq., President, &c.

—

WILLIAM WATSON TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Plymouth, January 15, 1776.

Sir: Your Excellency's favour of the 3d instant came to hand, annexed to which are the resolves of the Grand Continental Congress, respecting captures made by Continental armed vessels and others. In compliance with which, and in obedience to your Excellency's command, I have libelled all the vessels which have been brought into this port, by the *Harrison* armed schooner, and which are now in my care, viz: one sloop, one schooner, and one fishing boat, of about fifteen tons, and shall use my best endeavours that these vessels be brought to trial as soon as may be.

The schooner *Harrison*, lately commanded by Captain

Coit, I find by strict inquiry, (though she be not very well accommodated for the officers,) is an excellent sailer, and is sufficiently strong. The Continent has been at considerable expense in fitting this vessel for the service, and should she be put out, and another taken into the service, one hundred pounds will necessarily be sunk to the Continent by the transfer. For these reasons I have thought it prudent to continue the *Harrison* in the service, and have, agreeable to your Excellency's permission, nominated Captain *Charles Dyar* to the command. This *Dyar* was with Captain *Coit*, his last cruise, and can give the character of the schooner more perfectly.

Captain *Dyar*, the bearer of this wont, at first interview, appear to your Excellency to advantage; he is no orator, and seems rather softly; but his character ranks high as a good officer, and as an active, smart sailor. Captain *Coit* has recommended him in high terms, and will give your Excellency his true character.

We shall have no difficulty in getting as fine a crew as any on the Continent, provided they can be inlisted for six months only, or for so long a time as Captain *Dyar* shall continue to command. Our people are very fond of knowing their officers, and the best of them are unwilling to engage for a longer time than their officers engage for. Captain *Dyar* will wait on your Excellency, and will receive every necessary direction.

I am, your Excellency's most obedient, humble servant,

WILLIAM WATSON.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

N. B. Your Excellency will please to direct me whether I am to libel the two vessels taken by Major *Tupper*, and carried into *Dartmouth*.

MESHECH WEARE TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

January 15, 1776.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY: Your letter of the 13th instant, setting forth the difficulty of providing fire-arms for the Army, came to hand yesterday. The General Court, now sitting, took the contents under consideration, and find that all the publick arms of the Colony have been delivered out to the soldiers, now in the Continental Army, and at our own garrisons in *Portsmouth*. Upon a return lately made from the several towns in this Colony, we find that not more than two-thirds of the persons capable of using arms, are provided therewith, and many of them, such as would not be thought fit to be trusted to in the Continental Army. The scarcity of workmen, as well as steel, has hitherto prevented our getting but a small number made in this Colony, for which reasons, together with the apparent need of our keeping a considerable body of troops to defend our seaports, brings us to the disagreeable necessity of informing your Excellency that it is not in our power to supply any arms for the purpose you mention. We are fearful, that the detention of the arms of the Militia, (now at the Camp,) against their consent, would create such an uneasiness in their minds, that they would not exert themselves freely, if called upon hereafter.

To General *Washington*.

THOMAS WESTBROOK WALDRON TO NEW-HAMPSHIRE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Dover, January 15, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: While my heart gratefully glows with thankfulness, on the distinguished mark of respect shown me by your vote of the 6th instant, handed hither by *Ichabod Rollins*, Esq., the evening of the same day, I beg leave to acquaint you, that I have been little able to leave home for three winters successively. That accepting the honourable, arduous, and intense duty, proposed, without a prospect of attending thereto, (which I have not,) would be but to prevent the appointment of a suitable person to assist in the now critical councils of the Colony, and that an address giving notice of my inability, and imploring your excuse, would have been forwarded last week, had not one of your honourable body consented to convey it there.

Please to forgive my saying, that to prevent the effects of late unconstitutional measures, many Colonies appointed Congresses, as their General Assemblies were subject to the adjournments, prorogations, and dissolutions of Governours, &c., and that while Congresses, as such, managed the momentous affair, the friends of *America* in *England*, and elsewhere, approved the exertions, and we may reasonably hope will continue still so to do as it seems to me.

But as the fertile field before me begins to raise ideas too important for my steril pen to marshal, I take leave, with only adding, that I wish you Divine direction, and am, with great truth and sincerity, honourable sirs, your respectful, and most obliged, humble servant,

THOMAS WESTBROOK WALDRON.

To the *New-Hampshire* Committee of Safety.

HERBERT COURTENAY TO CHARLES CARROLL, BARRISTER.

Baltimore, January 16, 1776.

SIR: Your favour of the 14th is now before me, the contents of which I note. You may be assured I want no other indulgence in loading the brig *Friendship*, than others are entitled to by similar contracts, and without vanity, can say, that I can execute such business on equal terms with any other in *Baltimore*, but I wish not to sacrifice a commission in giving advanced prices above my limits, as am pretty certain has been the case with some since my writing you last. I wonder my application has been the first to raise the price, as I have been told by several that the Convention was wrote to on same head, but when I wrote you first, the matter was only beginning, and that with people who was buying on some private account, and not on that of the Convention, which disabled those employed by them from executing their commissions, as the country people and millers will always sell to those who give them most; nay, some flour that I had bought two days ago, was taken from my door, and given to another private buyer, who gave thirteen shillings per cwt. for it; under such circumstances the market is at present, and unless some order is taken therein to put a stop to private buyers, it appears that the publick's must be impeded. I did inform the Committee that I had engaged between four and five hundred barrels, which was the case, but bad weather has, I must suppose, stopped the wagons. I have about one hundred and seventy barrels of flour on board, and the bread is ready, but that must go in last. I shall go on with loading, as fast as flour comes in, and follow your directions. I thought I could not do less than advise you in my former letter how matters were going on here, which is still the case. This week I think must bring much flour in.

I am, sir, with all respect, your very humble servant,

HERBERT COURTENAY.

To *Charles Carroll*, Esq., Barrister.]

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Philadelphia, January 16, 1776.

Your letters of the 25th and 31st of *December*, and 4th of *January*, have been duly received, and laid before Congress.

By the enclosed resolutions, you will perceive, that the Congress, in providing for the defence of *Canada*, have directed that two battalions should be raised out of the troops now serving there. This they did in testimony of their approbation of the services of those brave men, apprehending at the same time that it would be both agreeable to the officers and men, to have the honour of defending a country which their valour had rescued from slavery.

And the Congress have a firm confidence, that General *Montgomery*, who has a warm and just sense of their merit and services, will cheerfully embrace the present opportunity to continue and promote the officers of that corps, and, as far as in his power, to reward with office, and commend, in those battalions, such volunteers and others, as have distinguished themselves.

The Committee to whom your letters were referred, this day brought a partial report; on which the Congress came to certain resolutions, which you will see in the enclosed extracts. I am just to acquaint you, that it is expected when the Paymaster draws any bills, he will observe to make them payable some few days after sight. The Committee have desired leave to sit again, which is granted.

As soon as they have completed their report, and the Congress have come to a determination thereon, I shall do myself the pleasure of transmitting it to you.

The money last voted, is now ready; and the persons who have the charge of conveying it, will, I expect, set out with it to-morrow.

I have the pleasure to inform you, that the Committee have purchased the saltpetre, and have agreed with the owners of mills to manufacture it into powder. One of the mills, it is expected, will make near a ton a week, and another near half a ton. I hope you will soon receive the powder ordered to be purchased at *New-York*. There were, as we are informed, eight tons in the same vessel imported for that Colony.

The publick papers will inform you that Lord *Dunmore* has endeavoured to exercise the same barbarity against the defenceless town of *Norfolk*, as was exercised against *Falmouth*.

By these repeated instances of inhumanity, so contrary to the rules of war, and so long exploded by all civilized nations, it would seem, as if the rancorous Ministry, despairing of their measures to conquer and enslave, had determined to glut their revenge with destruction and devastation. For my part, I shall not be surprised to hear, that in their phrenzy of rage, and to effect their dark purposes, they have proceeded to murder, under forms of law, those prisoners whom the tools of their vengeance have chanced to take, and whom, with officious zeal, they have sent to *England*.

As it is now apparent that our enemies mean to exert their whole force against us next Summer, the Congress are taking measures for putting the Middle and Southern Colonies in a posture of defence. We shall, doubtless, suffer much in this great struggle; but I trust no losses or sufferings will induce us to desert the defence of our liberty; and that, cost what it may, we will persevere with unremitting vigour to maintain that inestimable jewel, which we received from our ancestors, and transmit the same with unsullied lustre to our posterity.

January 18.—The Committee to whom your letter of the 31st of *December* was referred, desire to be informed, whether the companies stationed at *Chelsea* and *Malden* are regimented, and whether, if those at *Hingham*, *Weymouth*, and *Braintree*, were withdrawn, it would be necessary to replace them out of the Continental Army.

Since writing the above, we have received a letter from Messrs. *Philip Livingston*, *Alsop*, and *Lewis*, by which, we find, to our mortification, that we were misinformed with regard to the large quantity of powder arrived at *New-York*, and that there were only four hundred and sixty-two quarter casks, which were imported for the use of that Colony, and of which a great part is distributed among several Counties.

Before this comes to hand, you will doubtless receive an account of the disagreeable news from *Quebeck*, on which I sincerely condole with you. The Congress arrived here last evening. To day I expect the Congress will take it into consideration. The result of their deliberations you will have in my next letter.

I am, &c., JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

THOMAS LYNCH TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Philadelphia, January 16, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I am happy to be at last able to write you, that every thing you desired me to get done, is accomplished for the present. Our President assures me he has sent you the determination of Congress, concerning the trial of captures. Courts of Admiralty have been appointed in the Colony for that purpose. Colonel *Frye* has been appointed Brigadier in your Army, (Mr. *Arnold* precedes him in that of *Quebeck*;) and I enclose copies of the resolutions for the direction of the Postmaster, relative to letters of officers and soldiers in our service.

The delays in procuring the money has given me much concern, being sensible of the injury occasioned thereby to the service, but the calls for money from every quarter so far outrun the diligence of the signers, that my reiterated solicitations could get the sum no sooner.

We have resolved to raise, exclusive of your Army, in *New-Hampshire* one battalion, in *Connecticut* one, in *New-York* one, in *Jersey* three, in *Pennsylvania* five, in the Lower Counties one, in *Virginia* six, in *North-Carolina* three, and *South-Carolina* three, in *Georgia* one, and in *Canada* two, exclusive of *Canadians*; besides these, I have no doubt *New-York* will have four more, and *Maryland* two, which, with the Regiments of Artillery, will be sixty-two or three battalions, and the expense not less than ten millions of dollars. How quick a transfer of property from the rich to the poor such an expenditure must produce, you are well able to judge. The prospect is far from receiving light when it is considered how each Colony lavishes away its private treasure at the same time, or when we view the amazing and unaccountable supineness of all our Governments. Not a single individual, any where in civil department, seems to consider himself as interested in publick matters, unless he can get money by them. The idea of all the paper being mortgages on their private estates is totally lost and forgotten.

In this state of things, I have, besides my dependance of the continuance of the favour of Heaven, trust in two supports alone, the one on your vigorous exertions, the other on the weakness of our enemies. Should they lose footing in *America* this Winter, I should despise their thirty thousand *Russians*, scattered by storms, arriving, one transport after another, fatigued and debilitated by the fatal effects of a long voyage, without a spot to collect and recruit themselves for the field, and depending for every necessary on supplies from a country three thousand miles distant.

Do not the speeches of the King and his Ministers hold very different language from those of the last year? *America* is no longer the abject, cowardly, and defenceless wretch she was then; now his Lordship would have despised, had they not bravely supported their rights, seems to approve their vigorous support of them, and offers the terms of 1763. A gentleman, well known to *Maryland*, Lord *Drummond*, just from *England*, assures me, he will give much more; he tells me that he has had many conversations with Ministry on this subject, and showed me a paper, approved by each of them, and which he is sure will be supported in both Houses. The substance of it is, *America* to be declared free in point of taxation, and internal police; judges to be approved by the judges of *England*, and commissioned during good behaviour, upon stated and sufficient support be statedly assigned by the Colonies; all charters to be held sacred; that of *Boston* restored; *Britain* to regulate trade *sub modo*, all duties laid for the purpose of regulation, be paid into the Colony Treasury, where they arise, applicable to its uses by its own Legislature, in lieu of which, *America* shall, by duties, on such articles as will probably keep pace in its consumption, with the rise or declension of the Colony, laid up by each legislature, by permanent act of Assembly; grant towards the general support of the empire, annual sums in proportion to five thousand pounds sterling, for this Colony: as this sum is little more than half of what did arise by duties heretofore paid in this place, I doubted his information, but was assured, that Ministry wanted nothing but a show of revenue to hold up to Parliament, as they are afraid to propose reconciliation, without saving, what the stiff old *Englishmen* call, the honour of the nation. His Lordship came hither through *Halifax*, *Boston*, and *York*, where, I fancy, he saw what induced him to hint once or twice at beginning with a suspension of arms; to which I turned a very deaf ear, well knowing that the Winter season is ours, and that much may be done by *April* next. I sincerely wish I had your sentiments on these heads. I shall propose them to the consideration of Congress, as soon as the most urgent affairs are over; I think they merit it.

Congress has ordered you fifteen ton of gunpowder from *New-York*, and we have saltpetre enough here, to make eighty tons more, so that I hope we shall not soon want again; larger quantities are every day expected. I beg you will make our compliments to your lady, and to the rest of your family, and all my friends. Dear, sir, your most obedient,

THOMAS LYNCH.

P. S. We have just heard from *Charlestown*, that they have mounted on the batteries there above one hundred and sixty cannon, from twelve to forty-two pounders, and

seventy more in different parts of the Province, that the party raised by *Kirkland* and his gang are totally suppressed; he is come, but I have not yet seen him.

NEW-YORK COMMITTEE.

Thursday, January 4, 1776.

The following Members met according to adjournment: *John Broome*, Chairman.

Mr. Low,	Captain Denning,	Mr. Ramsey,
Mr. P. P. Van Zandt,	Mr. Brinckerhoff,	Colonel Lott,
Mr. Jay,	Captain Berrian,	Colonel Hyer,
Mr. Norwood,	Mr. Breasted,	Major Stoutenburgh,
Captain Dennis,	Captain Johnson,	Mr. Janeway,
Mr. Burling,	Mr. Bassett,	Mr. De Peyster,
Mr. R. Ray,	Mr. J. Ray,	Mr. Roome,
Mr. Pell,	Mr. Roosevelt,	Mr. Brower,
Mr. Bancker,	Mr. Totten,	Mr. Gilbert.

As there was not a sufficient number of Members present to constitute a House, Committee adjourned.

At a special meeting of the General Committee for the City and County of *New-York*, on *Monday, January* 8, 1776. Present: *C. P. Low*, Chairman *pro tem.*

Colonel Lasher,	Captain Pell,	Mr. Van Voorhies,
Colonel Hyer,	Captain Gilbert,	Major Bleecker,
Mr. Low,	Captain Johnson,	Mr. Brinckerhoff,
Mr. Dunscomb,	Mr. Curtenius,	Mr. Bassett,
Colonel Lott,	Mr. Reade,	Colonel Bull,
Mr. Breasted,	Mr. Moore,	Mr. Pintard,
Mr. Roosevelt,	Mr. Van Zandt,	Mr. J. Anthony,
Mr. Duyckinck,	Mr. Bancker,	Captain Janeway,
Captain Ivers,	Mr. Miller,	Mr. De Peyster,
Captain Dennis,	Major Stoutenburgh,	Mr. Norwood,
Captain Denning,	Mr. J. Ray, Jun.,	Mr. Sharpe,
Mr. Byvanck,	Mr. Totten,	Mr. Sands,
Mr. Jay,	Mr. Brower,	Mr. Roome.
Major Abeel,		

On motion of Major *Abeel*, and seconded by Captain *Denning*,

Ordered and agreed, That every Member now present do engage to meet punctually upon every adjournment, under the fine of eight shillings for every default, until the whole business now before this Committee, unfinished, is finally determined; and that no Member do leave this Committee without first obtaining permission from the Chair.

The fourth article of the Regulations for the Military Night Guard, being found insufficient, Major *Abeel* moved that the following addition be made thereto, viz:

"And, also, shall take down the names of the persons such Goods belong to, the number of the Packages, and report them in the morning to the Chairman of the Committee, who shall direct the Committee of Secrecy to examine about the Goods so landed. If the Chairman is not in town, the Report be given to one of the gentlemen of the Secret Committee."

Which was unanimously agreed to.

Ordered, That the Secretary make a copy of the Regulations for the Military Night Guard, with the above addition, and deliver the same to the Town-Major, with orders to have the same put up in the Guard Room.

The Committee being informed that Mr. *Samuel Burling* and *Thomas Grant*, have imported sundry *English* Goods in the Sloop *Wanton*, *James Mount*, Master, contrary to the General Association,

Ordered, That Messrs. *Grant* and *Burling* be requested to attend this Committee.

Mr. *Grant* accordingly attending, laid several Letters before the Committee.

Committee adjourned until four o'clock, this afternoon.

Monday, afternoon, January 8, 1776.

The Committee met according to adjournment. Present: *C. P. Low*, Chairman *pro tem.*

Colonel Lasher,	Mr. Pintard,	Mr. Van Voorhies,
Colonel Hyer,	Mr. Norwood,	Mr. Brinckerhoff,
Mr. Dunscomb,	Mr. Stoutenburgh,	Mr. Anthony,
Mr. Roosevelt,	Mr. Mulligan,	Captain Janeway,
Mr. Duyckinck,	Captain Gilbert,	Mr. De Peyster,
Captain Dennis,	Captain Johnson,	Mr. Sands,
Captain Denning,	Mr. Moore,	Mr. Roome,
Mr. Byvanck,	P. P. Van Zandt,	Colonel Lott,
Mr. Jay,	Mr. Bancker,	Mr. Miller,
Major Abeel,	Mr. Breasted,	Mr. Bleecker,
Captain Pell,	Mr. Brower,	Mr. Van Cortlandt,
Mr. Bull,	Mr. J. Ray, Jun.,	Mr. Templeton.
Mr. Bassett,	Mr. Totten,	

Garret Abeel and *Abraham Brinckerhoff*, a sub-Committee appointed to attend the election of Officers for Beat No. 8, in the room of *Benjamin James*, who had been chosen captain, but had resigned, he not being willing to sign the Declaration required of him, report as follows, viz: That on *Friday* evening, the 5th of *January*, 1776, they did attend at the Guard Room on the Battery, where there appeared to be present about sixty persons belonging to said Beat; that we acquainted them with our business, at the same time letting them know that Mr. *James* had resigned, not being willing to sign the Declaration, and, therefore, could not obtain a commission unless he would sign said Declaration, he being present informed us that he did not choose to sign the Declaration, asked them who they nominated for their captain? was told by them *Benjamin James*, as Captain, *John Turner*, as First Lieutenant, *John Burrows*, as Second Lieutenant, and *Meads Brasher*, as Ensign, and unanimously declared they would serve under no other captain.

Ordered, That the Report, (with a copy of this order,) be transmitted to the Committee of Safety immediately, and that Mr. *Abeel* and Mr. *Brinckerhoff* be a sub-Committee to wait on the Committee of Safety, with said Report.

Garret Abeel and *Abraham Brinckerhoff*, a sub-Committee appointed to attend the election of Officers for Beats No. 13 and 14, in the room of some who had resigned and removed out of town, report, that on *Saturday* evening, 6th *January*, 1776, they did attend such elections at the Guard Room on the Battery, where there appeared to be a majority of the electors in said Beats, and unanimously chose the following persons Officers, viz:

Beat No. 13.—*David Wolfe*, Captain; *Joseph Winter*, First Lieutenant; *Christopher Wolfe*, Second Lieutenant; *Philip Phenix*, Ensign.

Beat No. 14.—*Burne Burlingham*, Captain; *Henry York*, First Lieutenant; *Thomas Van Pelt*, Second Lieutenant; *Anthony Ford*, Ensign.

Ordered, That the Report be transmitted to the Committee of Safety, that the commissions may be made out for the Officers.

Mr. *Samuel Burling* attended the Committee agreeable to an order of this morning, and after being examined, was ordered to withdraw.

Ordered, That Mr. *Denning*, Mr. *Bancker*, Mr. *Dunscomb*, and Mr. *Dennis*, be a sub-Committee to examine the Goods in the possession of Mr. *Grant*, which were imported in the Sloop *Wanton*, and that they make a report thereon immediately.

Ordered, That Mr. *Mount* be requested to attend this Committee immediately.

Mr. *Mount* accordingly attending, produced a Manifest of the cargo imported in the Sloop *Wanton;* and upon his examination says: That he does not remember that he told any person what quantity he had brought; that he reported he had brought Powder, in order to make people easy.

Ordered, That Mr. *Burling's* case be deferred until the next meeting.

Ordered, That *Barnt Christophers* and *James Leonard*, be requested to attend this Committee at the next meeting.

Daniel Phenix and *Oliver Templeton*, a sub-Committee appointed to superintend the election of Officers in Beat No. 20, certify that the following persons were elected without opposition:

Wydert Ketletas, Captain; *Daniel McCormick*, First Lieutenant; *Henry Mitchell*, Second Lieutenant; *William Smith*, Ensign.

Eleazer Miller, Jun., and *Gerret Ketletas*, reported a state of a poll taken for a Captain in Beat No. 10, from which it appeared that *Abraham Van Wyck* was elected Captain of said Beat.

Samuel Johnson and *Jacob Van Voorhies*, reported, they had attended an election for Officers in Beat No. 2, when *Jacob Brower*, Jun., was unanimously chosen First Lieutenant, and *Abraham Brower*, Ensign.

Ordered, The Reports be transmitted to the Committee

of Safety, that the commissions may be made out for the Officers.

—

At a meeting of the General Committee for the City and County of *New-York*, on *Tuesday* evening, *January* 9, 1776. Present: *C. P. Low*, Chairman *pro tem.*

Mr. Breasted,	Mr. Brower,	Mr. T. Anthony,
Mr. Byvanck,	Mr. Ray, Jun.,	Mr. Moore,
Mr. Denning,	Mr. De Peyster,	Mr. Bassett,
Mr. Pintard,	Colonel Lott,	Mr. Abeel,
Mr. Jay,	Colonel Bull,	Colonel Hyer,
Mr. Curtenius,	Mr. Janeway,	Mr. Norwood,
Mr. Gilbert,	Mr. Phenix,	Captain Johnson,
Mr. Pell,	Mr. Roome,	Mr. Miller,
Mr Stoutenburgh,	Mr. Van Zandt,	Captain Dennis,
Mr. Tompleton,	Mr. Bleecker,	Colonel Lasher,
Mr. Roosevelt,	Mr. Bancker,	Mr. Dunscomb.
Mr. Totten,		

The sub-Committee appointed to examine the Goods imported in the Sloop *Wanton*, Captain *Mount*, report, That fifty-six pieces of Linen, and ten pieces of Sheeting are the manufactory of *Ireland*, and one hundred and eighty-five pounds of Thread, the manufactory of *Scotland*.

Resolved, That said Goods are imported contrary to the General Association.

The sub-Committee further report, that they are dubious whether the Nails imported in the said Sloop *Wanton*, are *English* or a foreign manufactory. The matter being debated, the question was put, whether the Nails imported in the Sloop *Wanton* are *English* Nails? Carried in the affirmative.

Resolved, therefore, That the said Nails are imported contrary to the General Association.

The sub-Committee further report, that ninety-eight Blankets, fifty-six pieces of Osnaburghs, twenty-six pieces of *Russia* Sheeting, four bales of Pepper, and fifty-two reams Paper, appear to be of foreign manufacture and produce.

Resolved, That this Committee do agree with the sub-Committee, and that the said Goods are imported agreeable to the General Association.

A motion was then made by Mr. *Abeel*, and seconded by Mr. *Dennis*, in the words following, viz:

Mr. Chairman: I move that the Goods imported by Messrs. *Grant* and *Fine*, and *Samuel Burling*, and which have been found by this Committee to have been imported contrary to the General Association, be delivered into the custody of the sub-Committee appointed for granting leave to vessels departing this port, to be by them kept in safe custody until Messrs. *Grant* and *Burling* shall obtain an opportunity of sending them back, and do give sufficient security that they shall be returned to the place from whence they came; which was unanimously agreed to.

Ordered, That the above-mentioned sub-Committee do wait on Messrs. *Grant* and *Burling*, and demand the Goods of them, and make a report thereof to this Committee.

Resolved, That Mr. *Thomas Grant* has violated the Association.

Resolved, That Mr. *John Fine* has violated the Association.

Resolved, That Mr. *Samuel Burling* has violated the Association.

Ordered, That Mr. *De Peyster*, Mr. *Phenix*, and Mr. *Bull*, be a sub-Committee to draw up a state of the facts relative to the above gentlemen's violating the Association, to be published in the publick papers; and that the said sub-Committee report the same to this Committee with all convenient speed.

Resolved, It is the opinion of this Committee, that whereas a number of the Members of this Committee are either removed out of Town, or engaged in the Army, or Continental or Provincial Congresses, that there be a sub-Committee appointed to draw up an advertisement to the Town, requesting that the Quorum may be reduced to the number of Twenty-One, and that the Chairman be desired to sign the advertisement.

Ordered, therefore, That Mr. *Denning*, Mr. *Abeel*, Mr. *Jay*, and Mr. *Miller*, be appointed a sub-Committee for that purpose, and attend at the City-Hall at ten o'clock, on *Wednesday*, the 17th day of *January* instant, to take the sentiments of the publick.

Mr. *Christopher Duyckinck* having suggested to the Committee that a quantity of Tea was imported in the Sloop *Wanton*, Captain *Mount*,

Ordered, That Mr. *Duyckinck* attend this Committee, with his evidences, at the next meeting.

Adjourned till to-morrow evening.

—

At a special meeting of the General Committee for the City and County of *New-York*, on *Wednesday* evening, *January* 10, 1776. Present: *Cornelius P. Low*, Chairman *pro tem.*

Mr. Denning,	Mr. Stoutenburgh,	Captain Johnson,
Mr. Roosevelt,	Colonel Hyer,	Mr. Breasted,
Mr. Jay,	Captain Pell,	Mr. Tompleton,
Mr. Roome,	Mr. Totten,	Mr. Bleecker,
Mr. Bassett,	Mr. Helme,	Samuel Broome,
Mr. Miller,	Mr. Norwood,	Captain Janeway,
Mr. Pintard,	Colonel Lott,	Captain Dennis,
Mr. Byvanck,	Mr. Abeel,	Mr. J. Ray, Jun.,
Mr. Duyckinck,	Colonel Curtenius,	Colonel Bull,
Mr. Brinckerhoff,	Colonel Lasher,	Mr. Sharpe,
Captain Anthony,	Mr. Dunscomb,	Mr. Ray, Sen.,
Mr. J. Anthony,	Mr. Moore,	Mr. Bancker.

A motion was made by Mr. *Bull*, and seconded by Mr. *Helme*, in the words following, viz:

Mr. Chairman: I move that the opinion of this Committee be taken, whether any person residing in another Colony, during their non-residence ought to hold a seat in this Committee.

The question then being put upon the above motion, was carried in the negative.

Mr. *Samuel Broome*, a Member of this Committee, having removed out of this Province, resigned his seat.

Christopher Duyckinck, agreeable to an order of last night, attended with one of his evidences relative to Mr. *Burling's* having imported a quantity of Tea in the Sloop *Wanton*.

Mr. *John Buchannan*, Mr. *Duyckinck's* evidence, being called in, informed the Committee that he saw four casks of Tea carted from *Samuel Burling's* store to *Thomas Grant's*, by *John Van Aullen* and *Peter Outenbergh*; that the head of one of the casks falling loose, he, (the examinant,) discovered Tea on the body of the cart.

Ordered, That a sub-Committee be appointed to examine the several casks, supposed to be Tea, carted from Mr. *Burling's* store to Mr. *Thomas Grant's*, as also six hogsheads which Mr. *Burling* delivered Mr. *Isaac Roosevelt*.

Ordered, That Mr. *Breasted*, Captain *Pell*, Mr. *Abeel*, and Mr. *Bull*, be a sub-Committee for that purpose, and make a report thereon, with all convenient speed.

On motion of Mr. *Denning*,

Ordered, That Mr. *Duyckinck* be requested to deliver Mr. *Samuel Burling*, or his order, the Sails which he has in charge belonging to the Sloop *Wanton*.

Mr. *Brinckerhoff* having purchased Goods of Mr. *Thomas Grant*, which were found by this Committee to have been imported contrary to the General Association, the matter was this evening laid before the Committee; which, being debated, the question was put, whether Mr. *Brinckerhoff* had knowingly violated the Association? Carried in the negative.

A motion was made by Mr. *Bleecker*, and seconded, in the words following, viz:

Mr. Chairman: I move that an application be made from this Committee to the Provincial Congress, requesting they will pass a resolve that all Goods and Merchandise imported into this Colony, contrary to the General Association, be forfeited; and that they empower this Committee to appoint persons to dispose of such Goods and Merchandise, and to distribute the moneys arising from the sales thereof to the poor.

—

At a meeting of the General Committee for the City and County of *New-York*, *Friday* evening, *January* 12, 1776. Present: *Cornelius P. Low*, Chairman *pro tem.*

P. P. Van Zandt,	Mr. Stoutenburgh,	Mr. Brinckerhoff,
Mr. Gilbert,	Mr. Roome,	Mr. De Peyster,
Mr. Breasted,	Colonel Hyer,	Colonel Lott,
Mr. Bassett,	Captain Johnson,	Mr. Roosevelt,
Mr. Anthony,	Mr. Abeel,	Mr. Mulligan,
Captain Denning,	Mr. Janeway,	Captain Pell,

Mr. Reade,	Mr. Ketletas,	Colonel Lasher,
Mr. Van Cortlandt,	Mr. Dunscomb,	Mr. J. Anthony,
Mr. Templeton,	Mr. Helme,	Mr. Sharpe,
Mr. Totten,	Mr. Ray, Scn.,	Mr. Duyckinck.
Mr. Phenix,	Colonel Bull,	

Henry Outenbergh, who was waiting at the door, being called in, informed the Committee that he carted two Rice casks from Mr. *Burling's* store to Mr. *Thomas Grant's;* that he verily believes they contained Tobacco; that he did not observe any Tea fall out of the casks; that *John Van Aullen* carted two casks also.

John Van Aullen informed the Committee that he carted two casks of Tobacco from Mr. *Burling's* store to Mr. *Grant's;* that he saw dust like Tea lay on the cart; that he saw some Lead round the cask; that he verily believes it was Tobacco put into a Rice cask.

Peter Myers says he carted Wine from on board Captain *Mount;* that he did not believe there was any Tea came in the vessel.

The sub-Committee appointed to draw up a state of the facts relating to Messrs. *Grant* and *Fine*, and *Samuel Burling's* violating the Association, report the same accordingly.

On motion of Mr. *Sharpe*,

Ordered, That the same be committed to the reconsideration of the sub-Committee.

Mr. *Bonner*, a prisoner, being confined in the Guard-House,

Ordered, That he be admitted to bail.

The sub-Committee appointed to draw up an advertisement to the Town, report the same accordingly; which, being read and approved of, is as follows, viz:

"Committee Chamber, New-York, January 10, 1776.

"Whereas the business of this Committee has been much impeded by reason of the absence of many Members; and the Quorum or number constituted to form a House, being found, by long experience, to be too large: The Freemen and Freeholders of this City and County are hereby requested to attend at the City-Hall, at ten o'clock, on *Wednesday*, the 17th of *January* instant, in order to reduce the said Quorum to Twenty-One, or such other number as they think most likely to answer the end in view. By order of the Committee:

"Cornelius P. Low, *Chairman pro tem.*"

Committee then adjourned to *Tuesday* evening next.

At a meeting of the General Committee for the City and County of *New-York*, on *Tuesday* evening, *January* 16, 1776. Present: *C. P. Low*, Chairman *pro tem.*

Mr. Anthony,	Mr. Stoutenburgh,	Mr. Duyckinck,
Mr. Moore,	Mr. Helme,	Mr. Ketletas,
Mr. Barrian,	Mr. Lott,	Mr. Hyer,
Mr. Bull,	Mr. Totten,	Mr. Roome,
Mr. Pell,	Mr. Norwood,	Mr. Templeton,
Mr. Lasher,	Mr. De Peyster,	Mr. Van Zandt,
Mr. Bassett,	Mr. Johnson,	Mr. Brinckerhoff,
Mr. Reade,	Mr. Denning,	Mr. Breasted,
Mr. Abeel,	Mr. Miller,	Mr. Sharpe,
Mr. Wickham,	Mr. Ray,	Mr. Bancker.

Information being given by Mr. *Benjamin Seixas*, that *Eleazer Benzoken* had acquainted him that Mr. *Samuel Israel* informed him (*Benzoken*) that he had heard *Barrack Hays* declare that he had sixteen Tories in the Company to which he belonged, (of which Company *William Remsen* is Captain,) who would join the King's Forces to fight against us.

Mr. *John Wyley*, upon his examination, further declares, that in the presence of Mr. *Seixas* he heard Mr. *Benzoken* say, that Mr. * * * * * * * * *

MEMORIAL OF WILLIAM LEARY.

To the Committee of Safety for the Colony of New-York:

The Memorial of William Leary, *Town-Major, humbly sheweth:*

That since he has had the honour of filling the station he now occupies, by virtue of his appointment, he studiously endeavoured to preserve the peace, good order, and well being of this city, as much as was in his power; that for that purpose, he has carefully attended the regular appointment of the Nightly Guard, according to the instructions of the General Committee.

And this memorialist further sheweth, that since his said appointment, he has found the utmost remissness in duty, and the greatest disrespectfulness towards officers from the soldiers of the respective beats; that he has repeatedly complained of the same to no effect: that the few independent companies which have been raised in this city, have showed, upon many occasions, the greatest cheerfulness to render any assistance to their suffering country; but that at present he observes a great delinquency even in them.

And this memorialist further sheweth, that upon regular complaint being made to the Field-Officers of said companies, they unanimously assign the following reason for the same: That they have been, and ever will be, willing and ready to do their part of their respective duties; but that the men over whom they have command, too justly assert that their good nature is imposed upon; that the more they do, the more seems to be required at their hands; that their interest and families have already suffered by their persisting in their former assiduity, and they are fearful that necessity will at length compel them to desist, unless their fellow-citizens will step forth and aid them in the common cause.

And this memorialist further sheweth, that the danger to which this city is nightly exposed, not only from the attacks of external and internal enemies, but from the malice and intemperance of any individual who mounts guard, he has thought it his indispensable duty to lay before this Committee particular threats which he has heard from some individuals of those unruly guards, who, he has reason to believe, wanted nothing but an opportunity of putting the same into execution, "such as firing upon His Majesty's ships, now in the harbour," an act that must unavoidably bring unspeakable distress upon the inhabitants of this city. The countersign has been divulged, and those who were appointed as guardians of our safety, have exposed us to the greatest dangers from the common enemy. He, therefore, humbly prays that this Committee will take the matter under their serious consideration, for, if long neglected, he is fully convinced a sufficient number will soon be wanting to do the duty (though ever so badly) of this city.

William Leary, *Town-Major.*

New-York, January 16, 1776.

GENERAL LEE TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

New-Haven, January 16, 1776.

Dear General: We have been so baffled by the weather, that we only arrived here last night. I believe we shall find no difficulties in procuring a sufficient body of volunteers for the *New-York* expedition. The unhappy accounts from *Canada*, seem to animate these people, rather than depress. Indeed, we have now occasion for exertion and decision. I am apprehensive that the Congress must be inspired by you. They have just given a strong, and, I think, unfortunate instance of indecision. Colonel *Waterbury* had raised a regiment; the regiment was equipped and ready for embarkation. They were to have landed in *Oyster-Bay*, to have attacked the Tories in *Long-Island*. Lord *Stirling* was to have attacked them on the other side; all this by order of Congress; when suddenly, Colonel *Waterbury* received an order to disband his regiment, and the Tories are to remain unmolested till they are joined by the King's assassins.

Governour *Trumbull*, like a man of sense and spirit, has ordered this regiment to be reassembled; I believe it will be ready on *Sunday*, the day on which I shall march from this town. I shall send immediately an express to the Congress, informing them of my situation, and at the same time conjuring them not to suffer the accursed Provincial Congress of *New-York* to defeat measures so absolutely necessary to salvation. The affairs of *Canada*, will, I suppose, very soon, if not instantly require a very considerable force from this Province; neither will the circumstances of *New-York* admit of its being too much stripped of men, for which reason I should think it advisable immediately to raise some additional regiments in *Massachusetts-Bay*. Adieu, dear General. *God* prosper you, and the arms of virtue.

Yours, most sincerely, Charles Lee.

To General *Washington*.

GENERAL LEE TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Hartford, January 16, 1776.

Dear General: Major *French*, whom I have met with at *Hartford*, is extremely solicitous for permission to return home, as he is confident that his whole fortunes depend upon his being immediately on the spot with his friends at this instant. As he is, I believe, a man of strict honour, his parole not to serve for a given time against the freedom of *America*, would be sufficient security; and as he has a family to provide for, it would certainly be humane and charitable to indulge him, nor can I see any inconvenience which would attend the indulgence; there may be some objections which do not, perhaps, occur to me, but I could wish for my own part, that as so much depends upon it, he might be gratified; however, I beg you will excuse my submitting the matter to your consideration.

I am, dear General, your most obedient humble servant.

Charles Lee.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

SAMUEL MOTT TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Preston, January 16, 1776.

Sir: Being on the 5th of this instant, (*January*,) desired and directed by your Honour and Council of Safety, to view the works erected and proposed for defence at *New-London*, *Groton*, and *Stonington*, and report my opinion in the premises, &c.

In pursuance thereof, I have attended at the places above mentioned, and have found that there is at *New-London* a work newly erected at the edge of the town, by the water, where the old fort or battery stood, which, on some accounts appears neat, well made and in good order. But by reason of the bad situation of the place, on account that in case of an attack from the enemy, it will have a tendency to draw the enemy's shot in the most dangerous direction on the body of the town, and by reason of the ill construction of the embrasures, &c., that it cannot defend from those parts of the harbour, where an enemy's ships of war might, and doubtless would, lie for action; and by reason that in case the enemy should set fire to any of the nearest buildings, it would be very difficult to support and occupy the work, and the danger that the men in the work must undergo from those in the tops of enemy's vessels, render it, in my opinion, not a suitable place to defend the town and harbour, and altogether insufficient for that purpose; and likewise, that in case of an attack from the enemy, the guns and stores in said work would be in great danger of falling an easy prey to the enemy.

I find also, adjacent to the town, on a place called *Winthrop's Neck*, a new work erected for defence, which, in my opinion, so far as it is done, may be of good service in assisting to defend the place, but the situation of the place will not admit of its being a sufficient defence. I also, viewed *Shaw's Point*, commonly called *Mamacock*, which, in my opinion, is capable of being fortified to very good purpose. The guns would lie fifty or sixty feet above the surface of the water, and only about one hundred and ninety rods from the opposite side of the channel; it has a very good and safe communication with the country, but no works are yet erected here.

I have also viewed the east shore of *New-London* harbour, on *Groton* side, and find a new work erected within reach of the whole channel of the harbour, which work so far as it is carried, I very much approve of, and think that with finishing what is begun, and making some small addition, it will be capable of making a very good defence.

The guns on this work, I imagine to be about one hundred feet above the surface of the water. A little back of the work, next the country, is a very commanding eminence, (likewise in pretty good shot of the harbour,) which if well fortified, might contain barracks and a bomb-proof sufficient to contain its own stores, and those of the other work, and would secure a safe and easy communication with the country, and would, if skilfully erected, in a great measure, defend the harbour, and be almost inaccessible to an enemy.

On the whole, it is my opinion, that somewhere between ten or fifteen hundred pounds, well laid out, in fortifying the above-mentioned parts of *Groton*, and on *Mamacock*, and *Winthrop's Point* or *Neck*, is all that is necessary for defending that important harbour and the town, and properly manned, would prevent any, the most potent enemy, from either holding possession of the harbour, or annoying the town. An addition of heavy cannon, to make what they now have, to the number of about forty, would be sufficient to man all these works.

I have, likewise, viewed the works lately erected at *Stonington*, and find them, so far as executed, in my opinion well situated, strong built, and being completed, with a very little alteration, which I have pointed out to Major *Smith*, sufficient with one hundred battalion-men, and thirty artillery-men, to defend against any ship-of-war, &c., that will likely penetrate that harbour, unless the enemy land a body of troops, in which case the above number of troops might hold out, until the country came to their assistance. All which is submitted to your Honour, by yours, &c., &c.

Samuel Mott.

To the Honourable *Jonathan Trumbull*, Esq., Captain-General and Governour of the *American* Colony of *Connecticut*, &c.

N. B. If the works at the above places should be prosecuted, it will be necessary to provide about twelve new spades, five falling axes, two broad axes, and some iron crows, for the work at *Stonington*, and a number of tools for *New-London*, *Groton*, &c.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GENERAL SCHUYLER.

Cambridge, January 16, 1776.

Dear Sir: Your favour of the 5th instant, enclosing copies of General *Montgomery's* and General *Wooster's* letters, I received, for which I return you my thanks.

It was from a full conviction of your zealous attachment to the cause of our country, and abilities to serve it, that I repeatedly pressed your continuance in command; and it is with much concern, sir, that I find you have reason to think your holding the place you do will be of prejudice and incompatible with its interest. As you are of this opinion, the part you are inclined to take is certainly generous and noble. But will the good consequences you intend, be derived from it? I greatly fear they will not. I shall leave the matter to yourself, in full confidence, that in whatever sphere you move, your exertions for your country's weal, will not be wanting.

Whatever proof you may obtain, fixing or tending to support the charge against Mr. *Prescott*, you will please to transmit me by the first opportunity.

I am apt to believe the intelligence given Dr. *Wheelock*, respecting Major *Rogers*, was not true, but being much suspected of unfriendly views to this country, his conduct should be attended to with some degree of vigilance and circumspection.

I confess I am much concerned for General *Montgomery* and Colonel *Arnold;* and the consequences which will result from their miscarriage, should it happen, will be very alarming; I fear not less fatal than you mention. However, I trust, that their distinguished conduct, bravery, and perseverance, will meet with the smiles of fortune, and put them in possession of this important fortress. I wish their force was greater, the reduction would then be certain.

I am sorry that *Ticonderoga* and *Fort-George* should be left by the garrisons, and that your recruiting officers meet such ill success. It is too much the case in this quarter, and from the slow progress made in inlisting, I despair of raising an army to the new establishment. Should it be effected, it will be a long time first.

Our *Caughnawaga* friends are not arrived yet; I will try to make suitable provision for them, during their stay, and use every means in my power to confirm their favourable disposition towards us. They will not, I am fearful, have such ideas of our strength as I could wish. This, however, shall be strongly inculcated.

If *Quebeck* is in our possession, I cannot see that any inconvenience will result from Mr. *Gamble's* going there upon his parole; but if it is not, however hurtful it may be to him, however disagreeable to me to prejudice the interest of an individual, I cannot consent to his return. I am much distressed by other applications of a like nature. If Mr. *Gamble's* request is granted, others in the same situation will claim the same indulgence; further, I think a partial exchange should not be made, and my proposition

for a general one, was rejected by Mr. *Howe*, or what is the same, it was unnoticed. I could wish that his application had been to Congress, they might have complied with it, had they thought it reasonable.

I shall be much obliged by your sending, as expeditiously as you can, such clothing as you are able to spare; it not being made up is rather an advantage, as it may be done here with some saving.

I am much pleased that the artillery was like to be got over the river; and am in hopes that Colonel *Knox* will arrive with it in a few days. It is much wanted.

On reading the copy of General *Wooster's* letter, I was much surprised to find that he had granted furloughs to the *Connecticut* troops under his command, in preference to discharges. What advantage could he imagine they would be of to the Continent, when they were at their own homes? If he could not continue them in the service they were upon, their discharge would certainly have eased the country of a considerable expense.

Giving you, in return, the compliments of the season, and wishing for you every happiness, I am, dear sir, &c.,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To General *Schuyler*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Cambridge, January 16, 1776.

SIR: The alarming and almost defenceless state of our lines, occasioned by the slow progress in raising recruits for the new Army, and the departure of a great number of the Militia, which had been called in for their support till the 15th instant, from this and *New-Hampshire* Governments, rendered it necessary for me to summon the General Officers in council, to determine on proper measures to be adopted for their maintenance and preservation. For this purpose they met at Head-Quarters yesterday and to-day, and finding that it was with the utmost difficulty and persuasion that such part of the latter as are now here, could be prevailed on to continue till the last of the month, (after which there is not the remotest probability of their staying one moment,) they have judged it expedient, and absolutely necessary, that thirteen regiments should be forthwith raised, equal to those of the new establishment, to be officered according to the usual mode of their respective Governments, which are to repair to this camp by the last instant, if possible, to be in readiness to act in such manner (and till the 1st of *April*) as circumstances may require. Of this number, they apprehend the *Massachusetts* should furnish seven; your Government four; and the *New-Hampshire* two; being agreeable to the proportion settled by Congress.

In order that each regiment may consist of a proper number of officers and men, I herewith send you a list for their regulation, as, also, of the Continental pay.

I must earnestly solicit your regard to arms, ammunition, blankets, clothing, and kettles, that they may come as well provided with these necessary articles as they can, particularly of the first, of which I find, to my great surprise and concern, there is an amazing deficiency, notwithstanding I have used every precaution my judgment could point out to procure them. Besides the arms which these regiments will bring with them, I shall be particularly obliged by your furnishing me, for the use of the Continent, with such others as you have, or can collect. If you have any, or can get them made, you will please to inform me of the quantity. These Governments, I hope, will exert themselves in this instance. They must be had, or what can, what will be done?

The great and constant attention, sir, which you have shown, upon all occasions, to promote the publick cause, affords me the strongest assurance that your every exertion and interest will be employed to comply with these several requisitions.

I am, sir, &c., &c.,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To the Honourable *Jonathan Trumbull*, &c.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GOVERNOUR COOKE.

Cambridge, January 16, 1776.

SIR: It is exceedingly painful to me that I should have so often troubled you respecting this Army, and that I am under the necessity of applying to you again; but you must, in some measure, be involved in whatever difficulties attend me.

To my great surprise, I find, that notwithstanding I had taken the utmost care to prevent the soldiers that would not reinlist in the new Army from carrying away their arms, or such of them as were good, the number collected is trifling and inconsiderable, of which there are but very few, if any, now in store, they having been delivered to the recruits which have come in.

I also find, from the report of the recruiting-officers, that a few more are to be inlisted who have arms in their hands, and that they are reduced to the disagreeably alternative of taking men without any, or no men at all. Unhappy alternative! Must not those Governments exert themselves in procuring them from the several towns, or in such other manner as to them shall seem most speedy and effectual?

To account minutely for this great deficiency, would be of no importance. I shall only say, that it has arisen from two causes, to wit, the badness of the arms of the old Army, which the inspectors and appraisers did not think worth detaining, and to the disobedience of some regiments, carrying theirs away, contrary to every order I could issue, and even solemn threats of stopping their pay for the months of *November* and *December*, of those that should.

The prospect of getting imported arms is so remote and uncertain, that I cannot depend upon it. I, therefore, request the favour of you, to inform me whether you have any, and what number, belonging to Government; as, also, if you will be able to procure more, and in what time. If you have any, or can get them, I shall be glad to take them, on account of the Continent; they must be had, if possible.

I have wrote to the other *New-England* Governments on the same subjects.

I am, sir, with great regard and esteem, your most humble servant,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To the Honourable Governour *Cooke*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO MASSACHUSETTS ASSEMBLY.

Cambridge, January 16, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Your several resolves, in consequence of my letters of the 10th and 15th instant, have been presented to me by a Committee of your honourable body. I thank you for the assurances of being zealously disposed to do every thing in your power to facilitate the recruiting of the *American* Army; and, at the same time, that I assure you I do not entertain a doubt of the truth of it, I must beg leave to add, that I conceive you have mistaken the meaning of my letter of the 10th, if you suppose it ever was in my idea that you should offer a bounty at the separate expense of this Colony.

It was not clear to me, but that some coercive measure might be used on this, as on former occasions, to draft men to complete the regiments upon the Continental establishment; but, as this is thought unadvisable, I shall rely on your recommending to the Selectmen, and the Committees of Correspondence, &c., to exert themselves in their several towns, to promote the inlistments for the *American* Army.

In the meanwhile, as there is an appearance of this service going on but slowly, and it is necessary to have a respectable body of troops here, as soon as possible, to act as circumstances shall require, I must beg that you will order in, with as much expedition as the nature of the case will admit of, seven regiments, agreeable to the establishment of this Army, to continue in service till the 1st of *April*, if required. You will please to direct that the men come provided with good arms, blankets, kettles for cooking, and, if possible, with twenty rounds of powder and ball.

With respect to your other resolve, relative to arms, I am quite ready to make an absolute purchase of such as shall be furnished either by the Colony or individuals. I am also ready to engage payment for all the arms which shall be furnished by the recruits, if lost in the publick service; but I do not know how far I could be justified in

allowing for the use of them, when I know it to be the opinion of Congress that every man shall furnish his own arms, or pay for the use of them, if put in his own hands; to do otherwise, is an indirect way of raising the pay. I again wish that the honourable Court could devise some method of purchasing.

I beg leave to return my thanks for the kind offer of fifty thousand pounds, for the Continental use. I will accept of a loan upon the terms mentioned, of half that sum, to secure payment of the Militia, whose time of service will be up the last of this month, till when I shall not have occasion to make use of the money.

I am, with great respect, &c.,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To the Honourable General Court of *Massachusetts-Bay*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO MATTHEW THORNTON.

Cambridge, January 16, 1776.

SIR: The alarming and almost defenceless state of our lines, occasioned by the slow progress in raising recruits for the new Army, and the departure of a great number of the Militia, which had been called in for their support till the 15th instant, rendered it necessary for me to summon the General Officers in council, to determine on proper measures to be adopted for their preservation. For this purpose they met at Head-Quarters yesterday and to-day, and finding that it was with the utmost difficulty and persuasion that such of the latter as are now here, have been prevailed to continue till the last of the month, (after which there is not the remotest probability of their staying a moment,) they have judged it expedient, and absolutely necessary, that thirteen regiments should be forthwith raised, equal to those of the new establishment, to be officered according to the usual mode of their respective Governments, which are to repair to this camp by the last instant, if possible, to be in readiness to act in such manner (till the 1st of *April*) as circumstances may require. Of this number, they apprehend the *Massachusetts* should furnish seven; *Connecticut* four; and your Government two; being agreeable to the proportion settled by Congress.

In order that each regiment may consist of a proper number of officers and men, I have enclosed you a list for their regulation, and of the Continental pay.

I must earnestly solicit your attention and regard to arms, ammunition, blankets, kettles, and clothing, that they may come as well provided with these necessaries as possible, particularly the first, as, from the amazing deficiency here, I shall not have it in my power to supply them.

The situation and exigency of our affairs calling for this assistance, I have the most pleasing assurance that your honourable body will exert themselves for complying with this requisition, with all possible despatch.

I am, sir, with much esteem and regard, your most obedient servant,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To the Honourable *Matthew Thornton*.

MAJOR-GENERAL HOWE TO THE EARL OF DARTMOUTH.

Boston, January 16, 1776.

MY LORD: By Admiral *Shuldham's* arrival, on the 30th of *December*, I had the honour of your Lordship's despatches of the 22d *October;* a duplicate of the 25th *September*, from Mr. Deputy Secretary *Pownall*, covering a letter from Lord *William Campbell*, of the 19th *July;* a duplicate from your Lordship, of the 22d *September*, the originals of which are not yet received, with copies of despatches from the Earl of *Rochford*, of the 21st *September*, to the Lord-Lieutenant of *Ireland;* also, a copy of a letter from your Lordship, of the 22d *September*, to the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, in which you are pleased to intimate that the stores of provisions contracted for by Messrs. *Mure, Son & Atkinson*, by the Lords of the Treasury, are intended as well for the fleet as the army; whereas, from there not being any mention made of the fleet sharing these stores, either in your Lordship's letters to me, from the Lords of the Treasury, or the merchants, the cargoes arriving before Admiral *Shuldham*, were distributed solely to the army. But, since the sight of your Lordship's letter, that I might not appear to neglect the fleet, I have, though without a direct order from your Lordship, given a proportion of porter to the ships; at the same time, I beg leave to observe, the deliveries of provisions to the soldiers, for some weeks past, being without peas or rice, the want of bedding, and the unavoidable exposure to the weather, from the nature of the duty, which has been very severe, without enumerating further reasons, make them require these refreshments more than seamen, who are better provided.

I enclose, for your Lordship's information, an account of the deficiencies in the provision contract, with the Commissary's letter thereupon; and I shall send another to the Lords of the Treasury.

Having heard, from Governour *Tryon*, that there is a prospect of getting some provisions on the side of *New-York*, I have despatched a vessel to endeavour to procure it; and the victuallers for the navy, lately arrived, could conveniently afford us a supply for six weeks, if necessary, which relieves me from the necessity of putting the troops to short allowance, more especially as I am hopeful that the vessels mentioned in my despatch of the 19th *December*, may return from the *West-Indies* and *Georgia*, before the provisions in store, as per state, are consumed; so that our dependance is not wholly on the contractors' ships, one of which got in the 13th instant, with oats, flour, and peas; the last article affording most seasonable relief.

The necessary arrangements being made for the departure of Major-General *Clinton* to *Cape-Fear*, in consequence of your Lordship's despatches of the 22d *October*, he is ready to sail in the *Mercury*, ship-of-war, with the *Falcon*, sloop, and two transports, having on board two companies of Light-Infantry, and some *Highlanders;* the latter, I hope, may be useful in getting men in *North-Carolina*, if Governour *Martin* is not deceived in his expectations, of which I do not presume to judge, having received no direct intelligence from thence since General *Gage's* departure; nor have I received Governour *Martin's* letter, referred to in your Lordship's letter of 22d *October*.

It is much to be wished that the troops had sailed from *Europe* in time to have arrived at their destination by the middle, or latter end of *November;* but I am free to own my opinion to your Lordship, which has been, to leave the Southern Provinces in the fullest persuasion of their security, until the Rebels should have been defeated on the side of *New-York;* which event appears to me, more clearly than ever, of so much consequence, that our utmost strength should be exerted to accomplish it before designs of less importance are taken up, inconsistent with the general plan of operations for the ensuing campaign; and it is to be presumed the Southern Rebels would have been less able to defend themselves, had they not been roused by the conduct of their Governours, who have not, I fear, the power of suppressing them, or of re-establishing the interest of Government in any degree.

It is remarkable, that the destination of the regiments to the Southward, was promulgated here by private letters from *England*, that came in the same ship with your Lordship's despatch relative to them; and I make no doubt of the Rebels being in possession of the intelligence very soon after it arrived. General *Lee*, I hear, is gone for the Army in consequence of it.

In Mr. Deputy Secretary *Pownall's* letter of the 22d *September*, I am to understand, that I may expect the King's commands from your Lordship, for the Seventeenth, Twenty-Seventh, Twenty-Eighth, Forty-Sixth, and Fifty-Fifth Regiments, to be sent to *Quebeck*, as early as possible, in the Spring, and to detach a sufficient force from this army for the security of *Halifax*.

These drains, added to that to the Southward, from whence I can promise myself little assistance to the main army, will reduce the expected strength for the campaign so considerably, that, if a respectable supply of troops from *Europe* does not arrive soon in the Spring, another defensive campaign, I conclude, will be the consequence; for, by the want of a force to act early, the Rebel Army will have full time to intrench in every strong position their commanders may fix upon; in which case, though we should get possession of *New-York* without resistance, we must not expect to carry their intrenched camps but with considerable loss. Whereas, on the contrary, the army, at the opening of the campaign, being in force, would, pro-

bably, by rapid movements, bring the Rebels to an action upon equal terms, before they could cover themselves by works of any signification.

The ill consequences that must arise from another defensive campaign, are not to be pointed out to your Lordship; but it may be necessary to observe, that if the five battalions under Major-General *Clinton* are joined by the well-affected inhabitants, and should possess themselves of any object that it may be important to hold, I shall not presume to call them off to the main army, unless the General shall represent that the inhabitants are able to maintain their situation, although the King's troops should be withdrawn.

I beg leave to remark, that with a proper army, of twenty thousand men, having twelve thousand at *New-York*, six thousand at *Rhode-Island*, and two thousand at *Halifax*, exclusive of an army for the Province of *Quebeck*, the present unfavourable appearance of things would, probably, wear a very different aspect before the end of the ensuing campaign. With fewer troops, the success of any offensive operations will be very doubtful, the enemy possessing advantages that will not be readily overcome by a small force; neither is their army by any ways to be despised, having in it many *European* soldiers, and all, or most of the young men of spirit in the country, who are exceedingly diligent and attentive in their military profession.

Enclosed are copies of letters of the 13th and 18th *December*, from Governour *Tryon*, with three papers, containing intelligence from him. He seems positive of being able to raise two thousand men, upon the arrival of this army at *New-York*, who may be rendered very useful, if accompanied by his personal services in the field. The enclosed extract from my answer to the Governour, and copy of a letter to the commanding officer at *Niagara*, I hope may meet with His Majesty's approbation.

I beg your Lordship will honour me with the King's commands respecting the bounty money, payment, and clothing, of the Provincial levies: their officers, last war, ranked with those of the army as youngest, in their respective degrees.

Your Lordship has enclosed a state of the transports, including such as have arrived and been taken into His Majesty's service, in consequence of the duplicate of your Lordship's letter of the 22d *September;* and, that no time may be lost in transporting the army from hence to *New-York*, I shall continue to take up all proper vessels that can be got; but I do not suppose that this place can be evacuated without the aid of transports from *Europe*. One great difficulty, among the many in this operation, will be the number of inhabitants who, I expect, will desire to be removed, with their effects and merchandise. As many as Governour *Legge* can possibly accommodate and provide for, shall be sent to *Nova-Scotia*.

Having lately discovered a negotiation of property between the Rebels and their friends in this town, I use every endeavour to stop it; and, although it is not done as effectually as I could wish, yet I am hopeful a large stock in trade may be reserved until I have the honour of your Lordship's instructions for my future conduct in this business.

By accounts from the Rebel army, it is said Major-General *Carleton* got into *Quebeck* on the 20th of *November*, and the season then being so far advanced, I conclude it will not be in the power of the Rebels to force him this Winter. I have sent an officer, who may be depended upon, to *Halifax*, and from thence to *Quebeck*, that I may have a true state of the General's situation, and I expect his return by the beginning of *April*.

The six missing companies of the Seventeenth, and six companies of the Fifty-Fifth Regiments, arrived the 30th *December*, in the *Grosvenor*, and *Grand Duke of Russia*, transports, but have not had any account of the other four companies of the Fifty-Fifth Regiment.

From what I can learn of the designs of the leaders of the Rebels, they seem determined, since the receipt of the King's speech among them, to make the most diligent preparations for an active war; and it is my firm opinion they will not retract until they have tried their fortune in a battle, and are defeated; but I am under the necessity of repeating to your Lordship, that the apparent strength of this army, for the Spring, does not flatter me with the hopes of bringing the Rebels to a decisive action.

With the most perfect respect, I have the honour to be, your Lordship's faithful, and most obedient servant,

WILLIAM HOWE.

JOHN YOUSTE TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Georgetown, January 17, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Having applied to the Committee of Observation for a sufficient quantity of powder, for proving the guns which I have engaged to furnish the Council of Safety, which I have been refused, without your approbation.

Glad you would please to nominate a man in town to see the guns proved, as it is inconvenient to me, at present, to leave the business.

Mr. *Dickens* has left town, which prevents his writing to you, according to agreement.

I hope, gentlemen, you will please to let me know what I am to expect, as the guns cannot be delivered, or finished, otherwise than by your granting a license for powder.

I am, gentlemen, your very humble servant,

JOHN YOUSTE.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety.

NOMINATION OF MEMBERS OF ASSEMBLY IN NEW-YORK.

New-York, January 17, 1776.

At a meeting of a number of freemen and freeholders of the City and County of *New-York*, at the house of Mrs. *Vanderwater*, on *Wednesday*, *January* 17, 1776, for the purpose of nominating persons to represent them in the next General Assembly, it was agreed, by a majority of said company, that *Philip Livingston*, *John Alsop*, *John Jay*, and *Alexander McDougall*, be, and are, recommended to the publick as sufficient men for that purpose; and, in order to avoid any division among the electors, they are desired to aid and assist in the above choice.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER DATED NEW-YORK, JANUARY 17, 1776.

General *Lee* is coming here with a body of armed men. A gentleman of this city, who is just returned from *Connecticut*, tells me General *Washington* has wrote to Governour *Trumbull*, informing him that a fleet has left *Boston;* that he conjectures they are bound for *New-York;* given him their size and strength, as nearly as he could; informed him that General *Lee* was coming along with ninety riflemen; and desired he would order a number of men to be immediately raised to come with them to this city. That, in consequence thereof, Governour *Trumbull* had assembled the Committee of Safety, and they advised him to issue his warrant, ordering two regiments to be raised, (about fifteen hundred in both,) to be commanded by Colonels *Waterbury* and *Ward*, under the direction of General *Lee*, and to come to this city. Another gentleman, who is just come from camp, told me that General *Lee* was to bring with him an Engineer and artillerymen.

18*th*.—The *Jersey* lads are gone to *Horn's Hook*, from thence they have crossed, or are to cross, as I am informed, to *Long-Island*, and pay *Queen's* County a visit. The Eastern Post told me he left General *Lee* at *Hartford* on *Monday*.

19*th*.—Eleven o'clock this morning, a second detachment (about three hundred *Jerseymen*) went to *Long-Island*. It is said the former one consisted of four or five hundred.

PETITION FROM THE NEW-HAMPSHIRE GRANTS TO CONTINENTAL CONGRESS.

To the Honourable JOHN HANCOCK, *Esq., President of the Honourable Continental Congress, &c., &c., now assembled at* PHILADELPHIA.

The humble Petition, Address, and Remonstrance of that part of AMERICA, *being situate south of* CANADA *line, west of* CONNECTICUT *River, north of the* MASSACHUSETTS-BAY, *and east of a twenty-mile line from* HUDSON'S *River, commonly called and known by the name of the* NEW-HAMPSHIRE GRANTS, *humbly sheweth:*

That your Honours' petitioners, being fully sensible and deeply affected with the very alarming situation in which the *United Colonies* are involved, by means of a designing

Ministry, who have flagrantly used, and are still using, their utmost efforts to bring the inhabitants of the very extensive Continent of *America* into a base and servile subjection to arbitrary power, contrary to all the most sacred ties of obligation by covenant and the well-known Constitution by which the *British* empire ought to be governed: Your petitioners, not to be prolix or waste time, when the whole Continent are in so disagreeable a situation, would, however, beg leave to remonstrate, in as short terms as possible, the very peculiar situation in which your petitioners have, for a series of years, been exercised, and are still struggling under. Perhaps your Honours, or, at least, some of you, are not unacquainted that, at the conclusion of the last war, the above-described premises, which your petitioners now inhabit, was deemed and reputed to be in the Province of *New-Hampshire*, and, consequently, within the jurisdiction of the same; whereupon, applications were freely made to *Benning Wentworth*, Esq., then Governour of the Province of *New-Hampshire*, who, with the advice of his Council, granted, under the great seal of said Province, to your Honours' petitioners, a large number of townships, of the contents of six miles square, each. In consequence of which, a great number of your petitioners, who were men of considerable substance, disposed of their interest in their native places, and, with their numerous families, proceeded, many of them, two hundred miles, encountering many dangers, fatigues, and great hardships, to inhabit a desolate wilderness, which is now become a well-settled frontier to three Governments. This was not all our trouble; for, soon after the commencement of those settlements, the monopolizing land-traders of *New-York*, being apprized that the Province of *New-Hampshire* had granted the said lands, and that settlements were actually making, did present a petition, as we have often heard, and verily believe, in your petitioners' names, praying that the same lands granted by *New-Hampshire* might be annexed to the Province of *New-York*, on account of its local and other circumstances, for the benefit of the inhabitants. Your petitioners, not being apprized of the intrigue in this case, were mute. Therefore, as no objection was made, why the prayer of the petition should not be granted, his Majesty was pleased, with advice of Council, on the 24th day of *July*, 1764, to grant the same. Immediately after, the land-traders of *New-York* petitioned the then Governour of that Province for grants of land, some parts of which had been previously granted to your petitioners by the Governour and Council of *New-Hampshire*. The dispute then became serious. Your petitioners, then, petitioned his Majesty for relief in the premises. His Majesty was pleased to appoint a Committee, who reported to His Majesty in the premises, and His Majesty was pleased to pass an Order in the following words:

"At a Court at *St. James's*, the 24th day of *July*, 1767.

"Present: The King's Most Excellent Majesty, Archbishop of *Canterbury*, Lord Chancellor, Duke of *Queensbury*, Duke of *Ancaster*, Lord Chamberlain, Earl of *Litchfield*, Earl of *Bristol*, Earl of *Shelburne*, Viscount *Falmouth*, Viscount *Barrington*, Viscount *Clarke*, Bishop of *London*, Mr. Secretary *Conway*, *Hans Stanly*, Esq.

"His Majesty, taking the said Report into consideration, was pleased, with the advice of his Privy Council, to approve thereof; and doth hereby strictly charge, require, and command, that the Governour or Commander-in-chief of His Majesty's Province of *New-York* for the time being, do not, upon pain of His Majesty's highest displeasure, presume to make any grant, whatsoever, of any part of the lands described in the said Report, until His Majesty's further pleasure should be known concerning the same.

"William Sharp.

"A true copy. Attest:

"George Banyar, *Deputy Sec'y.*"

The many intervening and unhappy disputes which have since happened between those land-traders of *New-York* and your petitioners, would take up too much time, under the present situation of publick affairs, to recite; as Captain *Heman Allen* and Dr. *Jonas Fay*, who we have appointed to present this to your Honours, will be furnished therewith, should they find your Honours' admittance, and such particulars be thought necessary. Let it suffice here, only to mention that the oppressions from these overgrown land-traders of *New-York* were so grievous, that your petitioners were again induced, at a great expense, to petition His Majesty; in consequence of which, a Committee was appointed, and made a report in favour of your petitioners, which is too prolix to be inserted here.*

We are called on, this moment, by the Committee of Safety for the County of *Albany*, to suppress a dangerous insurrection in *Tryon* County. Upwards of ninety soldiers were on their march, within twelve hours after their receiving the news; all inhabitants of one town, inhabited by your petitioners, and all furnished with arms, ammunition, accoutrements, and provisions, &c. Again, we are alarmed by express from General *Wooster*, commanding at *Montreal*, with the disagreeable news of the unfortunate attack on *Quebeck*, (unfortunate, indeed, to lose so brave a commander,) requiring our immediate assistance by troops; in consequence of which, a considerable number immediately marched for *Quebeck*, and more are daily following their example.

Yet, while we, your petitioners, are thus earnestly engaged, we beg leave to say, we are entirely willing to do all in our power in the general cause, under the Continental Congress, and have been, ever since the taking *Ticonderoga*, &c., in which your petitioners were principally

* *Extract from a Report of the Lords of Trade to the Committee of His Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council, for Plantation Affairs, dated* December 3, 1772.

Upon the fullest examination into all the circumstances, which, at present, constitute the state of that district between the rivers *Hudson* and *Connecticut*, out of which, the greatest disorders and confusion have arisen, it seemeth to us, that the principal objects of attention in the consideration of any measures that can be suggested for restoring publick tranquillity, and quieting possessions, are,

First, Those townships, which, having been originally settled and established under grants from the Government of the *Massachusetts-Bay*, fell within this district, by the determination of the northern boundary of that Province, in the year 1740.

Secondly, Those grants of land, made within this district, by the Government of *New-York*, previous to the establishment of the townships laid out by the Governour of *New-Hampshire*, after the conclusion of the peace; and which land now lies within the limits of some one or other of those townships.

Thirdly, Those townships, which, having been originally laid out by the Governour of *New-Hampshire*, either continue in the same state, or have been confirmed by grants from *New-York;* and, also, those which have since originated under grants from the latter of those Colonies.

With regard to those townships which fall under the first of the above-mentioned descriptions; when we consider their nature and origin, and the numberless difficulties to which the original proprietors of them must have been subjected in the settlement of lands, exposed to the incursions of the Savages, and to every distress, which the neighborhood of the *French*, in time of war, could bring upon them; and, when we add to these considerations, the great reason there is to believe that the grants were made upon the ground of military services against the enemy; we do not hesitate to submit to your Lordships, our opinion, that the present Proprietors of these townships, ought, both in justice and equity, to be quieted in their possessions; and, that all grants whatsoever, made by the Government of *New-York*, of any lands, within the limits of those townships, whether the degree of improvement, under the original grant, had been more or less, are, in every light which they can be viewed, oppressive and unjust. But, as we are sensible that such subsequent grants made by the government of *New-York*, however unwarrantable, cannot be set aside by any authority from His Majesty, in case the grantees shall insist on their title; we submit to your Lordships, whether it might not be expedient, in order to quiet the original Proprietors in their possessions, to propose that all such persons who may claim possession of lands within the limits of such townships, under *New-York* grants, should, upon condition of their quitting such claim, receive a grant under the seal of *New-York* upon the like terms, and free of all expenses, of an equal number of acres, in some other part of the district lying between the rivers *Hudson* and *Connecticut;* and in case where any actual settlement or improvement has been made by such claimants, that they should, in such case, receive fifty acres of waste land for every three acres they may have improved.

With regard to those grants made by the Government of *New-York*, which fall within the second description, and upon which any actual improvement has been made; they do appear to us to deserve the same consideration; and that the Proprietors thereof ought not to be disturbed in their possessions, whether that improvement be to a greater or lesser extent. But we beg leave to observe to your Lordships, that, in both these cases, no consideration ought to be had to any claim, where it shall appear that no regular possession has ever been taken, and no actual settlement ever been made.

With regard to those townships, which fall within the last mentioned description, we submit to your Lordships our opinion; that, provided such townships do not include land within the limits of some antecedent grant, upon which actual improvement has, at any time, been made, it would be advisable they should be confirmed as townships, according to the limits expressed in the grants thereof; and that all persons having possession of any shares in the said townships, either as original grantees, or by purchase, or conveyance, and upon which shares any actual improvement or settlement has been made, ought not, in justice, to have been, or to be, in future, disturbed in the possession of such shares; nor ought they to be bound to any other conditions, whether of quit-rent, or otherwise, than what is contained in the grant.

active under Colonel *Ethan Allen;* but are not willing to put ourselves under the honourable Provincial Congress of *New-York*, in such a manner as might, in future, be detrimental to our private property, as the oath to be administered to those who are, or shall be, entrusted with commissions from said Congress and the Association agreed upon by the same authority, together with some particular restrictions and orders for regulating the Militia of said Province, if conformed to by the inhabitants of said *New-Hampshire Grants*, will, as we apprehend, be detrimental to your petitioners, in the determination of the dispute now subsisting between said inhabitants and certain claimants under said Province of *New-York;* and that your petitioners' ardent desires of exerting themselves in the present struggle for freedom may not be restrained, and that we might engage in the glorious cause without fear of giving our opponents any advantage in the said land dispute now subsisting, which we would wish should lie dormant until a general restoration of tranquillity shall allow us the opportunity for an equitable decision of the same.

Another reason, that much hinders our joining hand and hand with *New-York* Government in the general cause, is, they will not own us in our property; but, on the contrary, the Judges of the Supreme Court for said Province have expressly declared the charters of our lands, deeds, &c., to be null and void. Therefore, we, your Honours' humble petitioners, most earnestly pray your Honours to take our case into your wise consideration, and order that, for the future, your petitioners shall do duty in the Continental service, if required, as inhabitants of said *New-Hampshire Grants*, and not as inhabitants of the Province of *New-York*, or subject to the limitations, restrictions, or regulations of the Militia of said Province; and that commissions, as your Honours shall judge meet, be granted accordingly. And, as in duty bound, your Honours' petitioners shall ever pray.

At a meeting of the Representatives of the different towns on the *New-Hampshire Grants*, legally warned and convened at the house of *Cephas Kent*, inn-holder, in *Dorset*, on the 16th day of *January*, 1776, Captain *Joseph Woodward*, Chairman, Dr. *Jonas Fay*, Clerk.

This meeting, after due consideration, agreed to prefer to the honourable Continental Congress an humble Petition, setting forth the peculiar circumstances of this part of the country. Accordingly, a Committee was appointed to draw up the same, who drew up the foregoing, and reported to the House in the evening. The Clerk read the same in his place, and afterwards delivered it in at the table. The House adjourned till to-morrow, nine of the clock, 17th *January*. Met according to adjournment. The said Petition, being a second time read, was agreed to by the whole House. Then Lieutenant *James Brackenridge* and Captain *Heman Allen* were nominated to prefer the said Petition; the vote was called; passed in the affirmative, *nem. con.* Then Dr. *Jonas Fay* was nominated; the vote called; passed in the affirmative, *nem. con.*

JOSEPH WOODWARD, *Chairman.*

A true copy: JONAS FAY, *Clerk.*

FURTHER ACCOUNTS OF THE UNSUCCESSFUL ATTACK ON QUEBECK.

Philadelphia, January 17, 1776.

Our readers will expect that we should give some account of so interesting a piece of intelligence as the late unsuccessful, but brave, attempt made by the Continental troops to storm the town of *Quebeck*. The following is the best we have been able to collect, and, we have reason to think, contains the most material facts.

General *Montgomery* had determined to storm the town as soon as a good opportunity offered, and his plan was to attack the upper and lower town at the same time; but, several of his soldiers having deserted, he was induced to alter his design, and thought it most prudent to make two different attacks upon the lower town, the one at *Cape-Diamond* and the other at *St. Roque's*. The former was conducted under the immediate command of the General himself; but here a most unfortunate event early took place, viz: the fall of that gallant and able commander, which, no doubt, damped the ardour of his troops, and was the occasion of a repulse, though not till they had passed the first barrier, and were preparing to attempt the second. The other attack was conducted by Colonel (now Brigadier-General) *Arnold*, with his own detachment from *New-England*, and Captain *Lamb's* company of artillery, from *New-York*. They pressed through the *St. Roque's*, and approached near a two-gun battery, without being discovered, and attacked it; the enemy bravely defended it above an hour, but it was carried. In this attack General *Arnold* was shot through the leg, and was obliged to be carried to the Hospital, as was, also, Brigade-Major *Ogden*, who, after a spirited and soldier-like conduct, received a wound in his shoulder. The command of this detachment now devolved on Lieutenant-Colonel *Greene*, of *Rhode-Island*, who, after gaining the battery, pushed on to a second barrier, which they took possession of; at the same time, the enemy sallied out from *Palace-Gate*, and attacked them in the rear. A field-piece, which the roughness of the road would not permit their carrying on, fell into the enemy's hands. The communication between the two detachments was, by this means, cut off, and, after a resolute push for the lower town, these brave soldiers were forced to yield to superior numbers with superior advantage, and submitted themselves prisoners. Captain *Macpherson* and Captain *Cheeseman* fought and fell by the side of their General. These officers distinguished themselves by their good conduct; and Lieutenant-Colonel *Greene*, Majors *Bigelow* and *Meigs*, and Captains *Oswald* and *Burr*, are particularly mentioned as having done themselves great honour. The loss of General *Montgomery*, who well understood the duties of the soldier and citizen, and generously endured the fatigues of the one for the sake of securing the rights of the other, is greatly regretted by every lover of mankind; but our enemies will soon find that *America* is become the nursery of heroes, and that, while we are struggling in so glorious a cause as that of liberty and virtue, she will not want Generals to lead forth her armies, and direct them to victory and triumph.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM CANADA, DATED FEBRUARY 9, 1776.

It is not improbable, that, unacquainted with all the circumstances, some persons who, while they applauded the courage and resolution of our late brave General *Montgomery*, in attacking, under every disadvantage, a city so strongly fortified, both by art and nature, as *Quebeck*, with less than half the number of men that were within the walls to defend it, may censure the attempt as rash and desperate. But his situation not only justified, but made it a matter of indispensable duty, though a duty of a nature so difficult and arduous, that the most heroick virtue and intrepid courage, was absolutely necessary to the performance of it. The expiration of the time for which a great part of the Provincial troops had been inlisted being near at hand, in a council of war an attack of the town before that time was determined upon, and a plan concerted. But just before its execution, it appearing that some deserters from our Army had discovered it to the enemy, an alteration became necessary, nor was there any time to delay, for the men were on point of returning home, and the General was reduced to the dilemma of making an attack, under all disadvantages, or of raising the seige, and retiring with the loss of all the advantages we had gained by the unparalleled fatigues of a Winter campaign in such a country. It is no wonder, therefore, that, perilous as it was, he, with Colonel *Arnold*, &c., determined to make the attack, though to stimulate his men, the General was obliged to head them in person.

The attack was made with as much bravery as it was resolved on, and probably would have succeeded, had not a fatal discharge from the enemy's cannon, soon after he mounted the wall, finished the glorious career of our gallant General and some of the bravest of his followers. The principal of these were, his Aid-de-camp, Captain *Macpherson*, of *Philadelphia*, Captain *Cheeseman*, of *New-York*, and ten of his company, who all fell at the first fire. This mighty loss, at the first onset, so confused and discouraged our men that the remaining officers in the detachment thought themselves under a necessity of drawing off the men.

Captain *Cheeseman* was the first that scaled the wall, and intrepidly pushing forward, he received a canister of

grape-shot through his body, which brought him to the ground. He attempted to rise, and his motions indicated a desire to press forward, but all was over, the fatal wound was given, through which fled as brave and heroick a spirit as ever animated the breast of an *Alexander*.

He seemed to have a remarkable presage that he should fall in the attack; he mentioned it without the least superstitious fear, but with the undaunted bravery of a soldier. He dressed himself that morning extremely neat, and putting five half-joes in his pocket, said that would be sufficient to bury him with decency. In him, I have lost a valuable and much esteemed friend.

—

ACCOUNT OF THE ATTEMPT ON QUECECK.

[From the New-York Gazette.]

As the publick have, no doubt, received many contradictory accounts relative to the unfortunate attempt against *Quebeck* on the 31st of *December* last, and having great reason to think no just one has yet been published, I have (in justice to the characters of many, whose names, perhaps, have not been mentioned, or, if mentioned, not with the respect they deserve) sent you for publication the following sketch of that morning's transaction; assuring you, at the same time, that I am entirely divested of prejudice; that I was but transiently acquainted with any of the officers of the detachment previous to the attack, and, consequently, can have no interest in suppressing or exaggerating any circumstances, to the injury of any one of them; on the contrary, there is not a circumstance related, respecting the assault, but what I was either an eye-witness to, by being in the front, or had from those whose characters as gentlemen, and conduct as brave soldiers, entitles them to the greatest credibility. Those officers and gentlemen whose names are mentioned, eminently distinguished themselves; their enemies do them the justice to acknowledge it; and I hope their country will amply reward them.

About four o'clock in the morning, the detachment being assembled in *St. Roque's*, (together with Captain *Lamb*, and part of his company of Artillery, with a field-piece, mounted on a particular carriage, for the conveniency for carrying it through the snow, though its inefficacy was soon experienced) Captain *Eleazer Oswald*, with a party of twenty-five men, was detached to attack the enemy's advanced works at the *Saut au Matelôt*, on the entrance into the lower town, on *St. Charles's* side, the main body being then in motion to follow, but by the time they came opposite *Palace-Gate*, the garrison had taken the alarm, and, being apprized of the design, began a heavy fire from the walls, by which they had to pass a full quarter of a mile ere they came to the first place of action; which, with the obstruction occasioned by the field-piece, threw the divisions commanded by Majors *Bigelow* and *Meigs* into such confusion, that they lost the right path. However, the advanced party soon reached the barrier, and began the attack, in which they were joined by Colonel *Arnold* himself, and supported by Captain *Daniel Morgan* with his company of Riflemen, who were in front of the main body.

In this onset, unfortunately—unfortunately, indeed—Col. *Arnold* received his wound, and was carried off; but, notwithstanding, Captain *Morgan* and the first party obtained possession of the battery of four guns, took great part of the guard, and a number of inhabitants, who surrendered prisoners. In this situation they were obliged to remain (not being supported by the main body, who had not recovered from their confusion so as to come up) till joined by Lieutenant *Steel*, with part of Captain *Smith's* company. Captain *Lamb*, with his Artillery company, (who were obliged to quit the field-piece, it being impossible to bring it forward,) Captain *Hendricks*, with part of his company, and several of the musketeers from the different companies, (after regaining the proper road) in all, about two hundred, when they again formed, and were again led on by Captain *Morgan*, (upon whom the body then called as their commanding officer) to force the second barrier, which, had they effected, would have given full possession of the lower town; but the enemy having defeated the division which the immortal hero, General *Montgomery*, led to force their works in the lower town, on the *St. Lawrence* side, had now turned all their force upon this detachment; yet the dispute remained obstinate for some time, (in which an attempt to scale it was twice made by the intrepid Captain *Morgan*, whose uncommon presence of mind, and gallant behaviour in this critical situation, were truly conspicuous,) and success till now, seemed inclined to crown their brave endeavours, when they found themselves surrounded on all quarters; a party of near two hundred men, having sallied out at *Palace-Gate*, attacked and took prisoners all the rear, who had not got within the first barrier, and having brought their cannon, which commanded the river *St. Charles*, to rake the street, were a second time thrown into disorder, and obliged to take possession of the houses, in which they made a resolute stand of full three hours; but finding the enemy's fire continue, both from their cannon and musketry, and not more than one in ten of their own fire-locks serviceable, the others rendered useless by a snow storm which began in the night, and continued the whole day; and not having the least possibility of making a retreat, were at length obliged to surrender themselves prisoners; which in all human probability would not have been their fate, had those brave officers and soldiers who distinguished themselves in the front, been properly sustained by those who were in the rear; but, on the contrary, from the conduct of the garrison, there was the greatest prospect of carrying the town.

In this glorious though unsuccessful attempt, fell, (besides those in General *Montgomery's* division,) while in the utmost exertion of their duty, that excellent young officer, Captain *William Hendricks*, of *Pennsylvania*; the truly brave Lieutenant *John Humphreys*, of Captain *Morgan's* company, and Lieutenant *Cooper*, of *Connecticut*; Captain *Hubbord*, of the town of *Worcester*, in *Massachusetts-Bay*, died in a few days after, of a wound he received before he reached the first barrier.

The spirited exertions and gallant behaviour of the patriotick *John Lamb*, the firmness of the indefatigable Captain *Samuel Lockwood*, (by whose vigilance, both by night and day, with forty men, and a twelve-pounder, in a gondola, eleven armed vessels, with General *Prescott*, one hundred and thirty officers and soldiers, and one hundred and thirty seamen were taken at *Sorel*,) and the undaunted resolution shown during the whole conflict by Captains *Oswald*, *Thayer*, and *Topham*; Lieutenants *William Heath*, *Peter O'Brien Bruen*, (*Charles Potterfield*, and *John M'Guire*, volunteers,) all of Captain *Morgan's* company; *Steel*, of *Smith's*; *Moody*, of *Lamb's*; *Tisdale*, of *Ward's*, and several other subalterns, &c., has not only crowned them with honour as soldiers, but entitles them to the applause of their bleeding country.

Adjutant *Febiger*, (a *Danish* gentleman, who holds a lieutenancy in the King of *Denmark's* service,) behaved with all the resolution, calmness, and intrepidity, peculiar to an old veteran and an experienced officer; and has given many specimens of his great military abilities.

In justice to Mr. *Matthew Duncan*, a volunteer from *Philadelphia*, who was made a prisoner the day after, owing purely to his enterprising spirit, in coming voluntarily to know whether the detachment were in possession of the lower town, agreeable to a report then prevailing in the camp, I do assure the publick, that the enemy gave him the character such a young adventurer deserves; and that many of them appeared surprised so young a man could be able to maintain the justness of the cause in which he was engaged with so much spirit, sensibility, and firmness. Indeed, it was frequently mentioned, that his zeal carried him so far as to insult, in his turn, some of the principal officers, as they marched him to the main guard; meaning (I suppose) his asking Colonel *Maclean*, in a sarcastical manner, if he did not land at *New-York*, alluding to a belief then entertained, that he was there obliged to give his parole for his future conduct.

A SOLDIER.

—

A List of the Officers that were made Prisoners at the attack upon the City of QUEBECK, *on the* 31*st of* DECEMBER, 1775, *who were not exchanged on the* 18*th of* MAY, 1776:

Captain *Daniel Morgan*, Lieutenant *William Heath*, Lieutenant *Peter O'Brien Bruen*, slightly wounded; Volunteers, *John McGuire* and *Charles Potterfield*, of *Frederick* County, *Virginia*; Lieutenant *Archibald Steel*, of

Lancaster, wounded, lost two fingers; Volunteer *John Henry, Lancaster;* Lieutenant *Francis Nicholas, Carlisle;* Volunteer *Matthew Duncan, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania;* Major *John Lamb;* Lieutenant *Andrew Moody, New-York;* Captain *Oliver Hanchet, Suffield;* Captain *Samuel Lockwood, Stamford;* Lieutenant *Abijah Savage, Middletown;* Quartermaster *Benjamin Catling, Wethersfield;* Volunteer Captain *Eleazer Oswald, New-Haven, Connecticut;* Colonel *Christian Green, Greenwich;* Captain *John Topham*, slightly wounded, *Newport;* Captain *Samuel Ward, Westerley;* Captain *Simeon Thayer, Providence;* Lieutenant *James Webb, Newport;* Lieutenant *William Humphreys, Providence;* Lieutenant *Edward Slocum, Tiverton; Silvanus Shaw, Newport, Rhode-Island;* Major *Timothy Bigelow, Worcester;* Captain *William Goodrich, Stockbridge;* Lieutenant *Samuel Brown, Acton;* Lieutenant *John Cumpston, Saco;* Lieutenant *John Clark, Hadley;* Lieutenant *James Tisdale*, wounded in the shoulder, recovered, *Medfield;* Captain *Henry Dearborn, East-Nottingham;* Lieutenant *Nathaniel Hutchings, Dunbarton;* Lieutenant *Ammi Andrews, Hillsborough*; Lieutenant *Joseph Thomas, East-Nottingham;* Adjutant *Christian Febiger*, a *Danish* officer, and about three hundred privates.

ROBERT H. HARRISON TO WILLIAM BARTLETT.

Cambridge, January 17, 1776.

SIR: I am to inform you, by command of his Excellency, that *Archibald Templeton, James Crawford, Joseph Douglass, James Hamilton*, and *John McIver*, who belonged to the ship *Concord*, Captain *Laurie*, have his permission to go on board our armed vessels.

You will please to observe, that his Excellency would not wish that too great a number of them should be in one vessel; for, though these men may be well disposed to serve us, it is only right to guard against accidents.

I am, &c.,

GENERAL SULLIVAN TO GENERAL GATES.

Winter-Hill, January 17, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I enclose you a letter from some gentlemen at *Newburyport*, for some cannon-shot, which beg you to lay before the General; and, if you please, inform him that there are a great number of those shot which I sent from *New-Hampshire* to *Medford*, which have never been called for, or taken into account. If it is agreeable to his Excellency, I will spare a part of those to the gentlemen, to enable them to fix out the privateer they are about; otherwise, shall not beg an answer per bearer, and am, sir, your very humble servant,

JOHN SULLIVAN.

To General *Gates*.

GENERAL SULLIVAN TO THE GENERAL COURT OF NEW-HAMPSHIRE.

Winter-Hill, January 17, 1776.

I was favoured with your letter respecting the affair of Colonel *Stark* and Colonel *Hobart*, which I immediately laid before the General. He showed me your letter to him, with a copy of Colonel *Hobart's* to you; and a trial would immediately have taken place, but Colonel *Stark* was gone into the country recruiting. He is now returned, and a Court of Inquiry will sit upon him to-morrow or next day.

You may depend that, notwithstanding I esteem *Stark* as a worthy, good officer, I will do every thing in my power to punish any insult he may have been guilty of offering to the Colony.

I repeatedly told Colonel *Hobart*, the evening after the affair happened, when I found him and *Stark* together, at my house, on my return from Head-Quarters, that I would confine *Stark* immediately, if he desired it, and even his whole regiment, if necessary; but he chose to omit it.

MESHECH WEARE TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Colony of New-Hampshire, Exeter, January 17, 1776.

SIR: Your Excellency's letter of the 13th instant, setting forth the difficulty of providing fire-arms for the Army, came to hand yesterday. The General Court, now sitting, immediately took the contents under consideration, and find that all the publick arms of the Colony have been delivered out to the soldiers in the Continental Army, and at our garrisons in *Portsmouth*.

Upon a return lately made from the several towns in the Colony, we find that not more than two-thirds of the inhabitants capable of using arms are furnished therewith, and many of them such as would not be thought fit to be trusted to in the Continental Army.

The scarcity of workmen, as well as steel, has hitherto prevented our having any considerable number made in the Colony; for which reasons, together with the apparent need of our keeping a considerable body of troops to defend our seaport, brings us to the disagreeable necessity of informing your Excellency it is not in our power, at present, to supply any arms for the purpose you mention. We are fearful that the detention of the arms of the Militia, (now at the camp,) against their consent, will create such an uneasiness in their minds, that it would hinder their exerting themselves if called upon hereafter.

In consequence of a former request from your Excellency, we have procured one hundred and forty blankets, which we shall forward to the camp immediately; and if any more can be obtained, they shall be sent along without delay.

In behalf of the Council and Assembly, I am, with great esteem and respect, your Excellency's most humble servant,

MESHECH WEARE, *President*.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM A CAPTAIN OF AN ENGLISH TRANSPORT TO HIS OWNERS, IN LONDON, DATED BOSTON, JANUARY 17, 1776.

I have the pleasure to acquaint you of my safe arrival here on the 1st instant, having had one continued storm of wind since my last letter to you, dated at sea, *November* 6th. The sea continually washed over us, and froze so excessively hard, that, had it not been for our masts, we might have been taken for an island of ice.

I was told that I might depend on meeting a good many cruisers at a distance from the land, who would conduct us safe into port; but I did not see ship or vessel for three weeks after I got over *St. George's Bank*, and my orders from the Admiralty forbade me to go into any port without first speaking with a King's ship, who was to conduct me into port, or inform me of a place of safety.

After being baffled about for three weeks, with only six men fit for duty, the rest being frost-bitten, or sick through fatigue, (having, besides, had the misfortune to lose one, washed overboard,) I made for the land, and got, as I judged, from my reckoning, within three leagues of *Boston* light-house, when, it coming on to blow a gale of wind, and meeting neither cruiser nor pilot, I was forced out to sea again, and continued in a storm, at sea, eight days more. I got in with the land again, with the wind at north, and, though thick, snowy weather, I stood in boldly, and made the light-house, and met one of the King's schooners, and asked for a pilot, but he could not spare one, as he was going on a cruise. Soon after, I got to an anchor in *Nantasket* Road, and found several King's ships, I believe ten sail, in all. To them I applied for a pilot; but they had none to spare, and were so weakly manned that they could give me no assistance. They told me there were many privateers out, well manned and armed, and that they were going to cruise for them; but, if they meet with any bad weather, as I have done, they are so badly manned they will make no hand of it.

At last I got a pilot from *Boston*, who tells me that a ship with ordnance stores is taken by the Rebels, and that, likewise, several coal and porter ships are taken, which I find, now, to be likely, for there are only eight sail, of the forty, arrived yet, and they had no force to resist.

They have not begun to unload us yet. We have split several of our sails, and the rest are much the worse for wear. All our running rigging is bad; our ropes cracked like glass, and we broke our maintopmast backstay; and all our rigging is much damaged.

I can see the Rebels' camp very plain, whose colours, a little while ago, were entirely red; but, on the receipt of

*

the King's speech, (which they burnt,) they have hoisted the Union Flag, which is here supposed to intimate the union of the Provinces.

About a week ago, the Rebels made an excursion into *Charlestown*, and burnt down some few houses that were left standing, and carried off a sergeant and four men prisoners; but, at present, all is quiet.

You had better, if any of your ships should come out, get higher freight, for the loss, in wear, is greater than I expected, and no supply can be had. If you send some naval stores, they will sell well. There are a great many privateers out, and more will be soon ready; but I suppose the ships, after this, will come with convoy.

I am, &c.

P. S. I brought but fourteen hogs alive; and another ship, that had one hundred and thirty sheep, brought in five, and all as thin as you could expect, and, as the sailors say, only fit for lanterns.

MARYLAND CONVENTION.

At a Convention of Delegates, chosen by the several Counties of the Province of *Maryland*, at the City of *Annapolis*, on *Thursday*, the 7th of *December*, 1775.

Present:

For St. Mary's County: *John Allen Thomas, Richard Barnes.*

Charles County: *William Smallwood, Francis Ware, Josias Hawkins, Thomas Stone, Robert T. Hooe.*

Calvert County: *Benjamin Mackall* 4th, *Alexander Somerville, Edward Gantt, Patrick Sim Smith, William Allein.*

Prince George's County: *Joseph Sim, Thomas Contee, John Rogers.*

Anne Arundel County: *Charles Carroll,* Barrister, *Thomas Johnson,* Jun., *Samuel Chase, Charles Carroll,* of *Carrollton.*

Frederick County, Middle District: *Charles Beatty, Baker Johnson.*

Lower District: *Henry Griffith.*

Baltimore County: *Robert Alexander, Benjamin Nicholson, John Moale, Walter Tolley,* Jun., *Jeremiah T. Chase.*

Harford County: *John Love, Richard Dallam.*

Cecil County: *John Veazy,* Jun., *Joseph Gilpin, John D. Thompson, Nathaniel Ramsay, Patrick Ewing.*

Kent County: *Peregrine Letherbury, Emory Sudler, William Sluby.*

Queen Anne's County: *Turbutt Wright, James Tilghman.*

Talbot County: *Matthew Tilghman, Nicholas Thomas.*

Caroline County: *Joshua Clark, Richard Mason.*

Somerset County: *George Dashiell, Gustavus Scott.*

Worcester County: *Samuel Handy, Smith Bishop, Joseph Dashiell.*

The Honourable *Matthew Tilghman,* Esq., was unanimously chosen President, and Mr. *Gabriel Duvall,* appointed Clerk.

Ordered, That *Gabriel Duvall* qualify himself as Clerk, by taking oath that he will faithfully, diligently, and honestly, discharge the office of Clerk to this Convention, and that he will not disclose or reveal the secrets thereof.

The Convention appointed Mr. *Allen Quynn* Messenger to attend this Convention, and ordered that he qualify himself as such, by taking the oath of office and secrecy, as above directed to be taken by the Clerk.

The Convention appointed Mr. *Robert Reynolds* Doorkeeper, and ordered that he qualify himself as such, by taking the oath of office and secrecy, as above directed to be taken by the Clerk.

Ordered, That the Clerk write to the several absent Members, and require their immediate attendance here.

The Convention adjourns till to-morrow morning, half after nine o'clock.

—

Friday, December 8, 1775.

Convention met. All Members present as on yesterday.

The Proceedings of yesterday were read. Mr. *Richard T. Earle,* a Member for *Queen Anne's* County, appeared and took his seat in the House.

Certificates of the qualification of the Clerk, Messenger, and Doorkeeper, were produced and filed.

A Letter from Mr. *John Hanson,* Jun., Chairman of the Committee of *Frederick* County, was read, together with several Papers therein enclosed, relating to *Allen Cameron, John Smith,* and *John Connolly,* now in custody, by order of the said Committee.

On motion, *Resolved,* That a sum not exceeding two hundred Pounds, currency, be appropriated for building a strong Log Jail, in *Fredericktown,* in *Frederick* County, at least thirty feet long, and twenty in breadth, lined with two inch plank on end, of two stories, with split logs, and plank floors, the upper story to be divided into three rooms, with a stove in each room. And that a small house be built for the Keeper, and occasionally for a Guard, enclosing the door of the said Jail.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western Shore* pay the said sum of money, or any part thereof, to *James Johnson* and *Thomas Beatty,* or their order, that the same, or such part thereof, as shall be necessary, be laid out by them in building the said Jail.

Adjourned till three o'clock.

—

Post Meridiem.—Convention met.

Ordered, That the Messenger be directed to hire an Express to despatch Letters to the several absent Members.

The Convention adjourns till to-morrow morning, half after nine o'clock.

—

Saturday, December 9, 1775.

Convention met. All Members present as on yesterday.

The Proceedings of yesterday were read.

On motion, *Resolved,* That a Committee be appointed to examine the several Claims upon the Treasury, and report the same to the Convention; and Mr. *Contee,* Mr. *Sim,* Mr. *Earle,* Mr. *Hooe,* Mr. *Moale,* and Mr. *Tolley,* were elected by ballot to be the said Committee.

Resolved, That they, or any four of them, have power to act.

Resolved, That the several returns of subscriptions for Arms and Ammunition, within this Province, be referred to the said Committee.

Mr. *Peter Waters,* a Member for *Somerset* County, appeared and took his seat in the House.

The House taking into their consideration, that this Province, by means of the necessary attendance of some of its Deputies now in Convention, is at present unrepresented in Congress, directed the President to know of Mr. *John Hall,* whether it was convenient for him to attend in Congress; and Mr. *Hall* having signified that it was very inconvenient to him at this time, and that it was his wish, that some other gentleman might be appointed in his stead, and it being represented that Mr. *Robert Goldsborough,* through long indisposition, is at present unable to attend that service, it is, therefore,

Resolved, That, in the present critical and dangerous situation of the *United Colonies,* it is highly necessary that three Deputies from this Province do immediately attend in Congress, now sitting at *Philadelphia;* and that for this purpose, two gentlemen be now appointed, and added to the number of Deputies already chosen; and *Robert Alexander* and *John Rogers,* Esq., were elected by ballot.

Resolved, That *Robert Alexander* and *John Rogers,* Esquires, together with those already chosen, be Deputies to represent this Province in the Continental Congress; and that the said Deputies, or any three or more of them, have full and ample power to consent and agree to all measures which such Congress shall deem necessary and effectual to obtain a redress of *American* grievances, and be authorized to represent and act for this Province in any Continental Congress which may be held before the 25th day of *March* next.

Adjourned till three o'clock.

Post Meridiem.—Convention met. Mr. *John Ennals* and Mr. *James Murray*, Members for *Dorchester* County, Mr. *William Adams* and Mr. *John Adams*, Members for *Somerset* County, and Mr. *Aquila Hall*, a Member for *Harford* County, appeared and took their seats in the House.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the Deputies from this Province to the Continental Congress, be each allowed the sum of fifteen Pounds, common money, per week, during their attendance in Congress.

Convention adjourns till *Monday* morning, half after nine o'clock.

—

Monday, December 11, 1775.

Convention met. All Members present as on *Saturday*, except Mr. *James Tilghman*, Mr. *Mackall*, Mr. *Smith*, Mr. *Sim*, Mr. *Contee*, Mr. *Rogers*, Mr. *Gilpin*, and Mr. *Moale*.

The Proceedings of *Saturday* were read. Mr. *Pollard Edmonson* and Mr. *James Lloyd Chamberlaine*, Members for *Talbot* County, appeared and took their seats in the House.

The Proceedings of the Committee of Observation for *Talbot* County, relative to Mr. *Francis Baker*, a Member returned for the said County, together with several Resolves of the Continental Congress, were read the first time, and ordered to lie on the table.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the Parliamentary Post be not permitted or suffered to travel in or pass through this Province, with any Mail, Packages, or Letters; and the several Committees of Observation are requested and directed to see this Resolution strictly observed and executed.

Ordered, That the above Resolve be published in the *Maryland Gazette*.

On motion, *Resolved*, That every Member of this Convention consider himself under the ties of virtue, honour, and love of his country, not to divulge, directly or indirectly, any matter or thing agitated or debated in Convention, during the time of debate, or before the same shall be determined, which the mover thereof shall openly request to be kept secret, without the leave of the Convention, or a majority thereof, or any matter or thing which a majority of the Convention shall order to be kept secret; and that every person who shall violate this agreement, shall be expelled this Convention, and considered as an enemy to *America*, and liable to be treated as such; and that every Member signify his consent hereto by signing the same.

Adjourned till three o'clock.

—

Post Meridiem.—Convention met.

The Convention took into their consideration the Proceedings of the Committee of *Talbot* County, on the case of Mr. *Francis Baker*, who had been guilty of a breach of the Continental Association, and who had been since elected a Member for *Talbot* County. The said *Francis Baker* appeared, acknowledged his offence, and expressed great contrition and sorrow for the same, and prayed a remission of the penalty annexed by the Congress to his crime, that he might not be declared an enemy to *America*, but be permitted to enjoy the rights of a member of this community, on such terms and conditions as this Convention may think proper to impose; and promised a strict compliance with all Continental and Provincial Resolutions; whereupon, it is

Resolved, That the seat of the said *Francis Baker* be vacated, and that the Electors of *Talbot* County elect another person as a Member and Committee-man for that County, in the room and place of the said *Francis Baker*, the Committee giving ten days' notice of the election, excluding the days of notice and election, and any three of their Members to be judges thereof: That the said *Baker* not offering himself for any office of trust, his offence be not published, nor any further proceedings had against him.

Ordered, That the Clerk make out and transmit a copy of the above Resolve to the Committee of Observation for *Talbot* County.

On motion, *Resolved*, That this Convention will, on *Thursday* next, take into consideration the state of the Province.

The Proceedings of the *Eastern Shore* branch of the Council of Safety, relating to Mr. *Isaac Atkinson*, were read the first time, and ordered to lie on the table.

Convention adjourned till to-morrow morning, half after nine o'clock.

—

Tuesday, December 12, 1775.

The Convention met. All Members present as on yesterday. The Proceedings of yesterday were read. Mr. *Contee*, Mr. *James Tilghman*, Mr. *Mackall*, Mr. *Smith*, and Mr. *Gilpin*, appeared in the House.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the Committee of Observation for *Talbot* County, be requested immediately to send *Isaac Atkinson*, under a guard of four of the Militia of that County, to this Convention; and that the Sheriff of *Talbot* County deliver the said *Atkinson* to such guard.

Ordered, That the accounts of Expenses attending the prosecution of *Isaac Atkinson*, be referred to the Committee appointed to examine the several claims upon the Treasury.

The Proceedings of the Committee of *Kent* County, relative to the conduct and behaviour of the Reverend *John Patterson* were read, and are as follow:

"At a meeting of a special Committee held for *Kent* County, on the 16th day of *August*, *Anno Domini* 1775, present, *Thomas Smyth*, Chairman, and thirteen Members.

"This Committee being informed that the Reverend Mr. *John Patterson*, of *Kent* County, had some time past publickly spoken words which reflected upon the Convention; upon which the matter was considered, and

"*Resolved*, That summons issue to the said *Patterson*, for him to appear before the next Committee to be held for the County aforesaid, on *Monday*, the 21st instant; to which time this Committee is adjourned."

"*Monday*, the 21st day of *August*, the Committee met according to adjournment, present, thirty-one Members.

"The Reverend *John Patterson* appeared in consequence of the summons issued at the last meeting, and being interrogated with regard to the disrespectful words which it was alleged he had spoken against the Convention, confessed that he had reflected on the Proceedings of the Convention, as well that held in *December* last, as the one held in *July* last; that the first had undertaken to preclude persons who were not members of the Committee, from judging of the propriety of their proceedings; that he conceived the said Convention had entered into that resolution to cover a duplicity of conduct of the Continental Congress; that it was depriving men of their liberty, and that he considered himself brought as a criminal, to receive a mock trial; that the multitude were deluded; that he did not see why he should not judge upon the Proceedings of the Convention, it was a liberty the people of *New-York* had taken; upon being asked who, in *New-York*, he answered, Doctor *Cooper* and Doctor *Chandler*, and said that he should think it a higher honour to be ranked with those gentlemen, than to have the approbation of this Committee, or even the Convention; that the last Convention had treated *James Chrystie* in a tyrannical, cruel, and oppressive manner, and that there was more liberty in *Turkey* than in this Province; that the Convention had forbid him from passing any censure on the Congress; that he had not done it since, and that if the Committee should forbid him from passing any censure on the Convention, he would not, but should then confine himself to censures on the Committee.

"Upon which, it was unanimously voted, That the whole proceedings against said *Patterson* be transmitted to the Council of Safety for this Province, for them to take order therein.

"A true copy from the Minutes:

"W. Hall, *Clerk Committee.*"

Whereupon, it is *Resolved*, That the Committee of Observation for *Kent* County be requested immediately to take into custody the Reverend *John Patterson*, and send him under a guard of four of the Militia to this Convention.

On motion, That Mr. *Robert Buchanan*, elected a Delegate for *Kent* County, attend his duty in Convention, on *Monday* next, the 18th of this present month, and that the Committee of Observation for that County procure a copy of this order to be served on Mr. *Buchanan* as soon as may be.

The previous question was called for and put, whether the above question be now put? Carried in the negative.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western Shore* pay to *Samuel Chase*, or his order, forty Pounds, common money, to be accounted for.

On motion, *Resolved*, That no Boat or other Vessel belonging to this Province, go out of this Province without license in writing from this Convention, the Council of Safety hereafter to be appointed, or from some Committee of Observation, and that the particular place such Boat or Vessel shall be designed to go to, shall be expressed in all licenses granted by the Committees of Observation. And if any such Boat or Vessel shall be navigated beyond the limits of this Province without such license, or if, after having obtained such license, the skipper thereof shall, without absolute and inevitable necessity, go to, or touch at, any place out of this Province, other than that mentioned in such license, or shall carry any person, or letter, of which he shall not give previous notice to such Committee, or shall bring back any person, or letter, of which he shall not give notice to some Committee of Observation, as soon as may be after his return, such skipper, and all other persons accessary to such misbehaviour, may be punished by imprisonment; but it is understood that this Resolution is not to prohibit the crossing *Potomack*, although the Boats or Vessels employed or used therefor should go up the creeks or arms of *Potomack* River making into *Virginia*, or to prohibit passing or repassing at the Ferry on *Potomack* River.

On motion, *Resolved*, That no Member of this Convention depart the House without leave thereof.

Adjourned till three o'clock.

—

Post Meridiem.—Convention met. Mr. *Robert Tyler*, a Member from *Prince George's* County, and Mr. *Jeremiah Jordan*, a Member from *St. Mary's* County, appeared and took their seats in the House.

A Petition from the frontier Inhabitants of *Frederick* County, and a Memorial from the Magistrates of said County, were read the first time, and ordered to lie on the table.

Ordered, That a Committee be appointed to inquire into the truth of the facts set forth in the Memorial from *Frederick* County Court, and the Petition of the frontier Inhabitants of said County, and report the same to the Convention; and Mr. *Smallwood*, Mr. *Jeremiah T. Chase*, Mr. *John Allen Thomas*, Mr. *Chamberlaine*, and Mr. *James Tilghman*, were elected by ballot a Committee for that purpose.

Mr. *Sim* appeared in the House.

Convention adjourns till to-morrow morning, half after nine o'clock.

—

Wednesday, December 13, 1775.

Convention met. All Members present as on yesterday, except Mr. *Alexander*. The Proceedings of yesterday were read.

Mr. *John Stull*, a Member for the Upper District of *Frederick* County, and Mr. *Henry Hooper*, a Member for *Dorchester* County, appeared and took their seats in the House.

On motion, *Resolved*, That a Committee be appointed to devise the best ways and means to promote the manufacture of Saltpetre; and Mr. *Carroll* of *Carrollton*, Mr. *Thomas Johnson*, Mr. *Bishop*, Mr. *Ramsey*, and Mr. *Gilpin*, were elected by ballot a Committee for that purpose.

A Letter from the Committee of Observation for *Somerset* County, to the *Eastern Shore* branch of the Council of Safety, dated 21st *November*, 1775, was read.

Resolved, That this Convention doth approve the conduct of the Committee of Observation for *Somerset* County in raising the Company of Men mentioned in the said Letter.

Resolved, That this Province will discharge the Pay, according to the rates allowed by the last Convention to Militia in actual service, of the said Company, and also the reasonable expenses of subsistence from the time of their entering into actual service, till the further order of this Convention.

Resolved, That the said Company of Men be subject to the orders of the said Committee, who shall provide for their pay and subsistence.

Resolved, That the Treasurer of the *Eastern Shore* pay to the said Committee six hundred Dollars on account, and that such part thereof as may be necessary be expended by them for the purposes aforesaid.

Ordered, That the Clerk make out and transmit a copy of the above Resolutions to the Committee of *Somerset* County.

Ordered, That the Committee of Claims be a Committee to examine the Accounts of the Treasurers of the *Eastern* and *Western Shores*, and report the state of the same.

On motion, *Resolved*, That a Committee be appointed to examine and report the Returns by the Committees of Observation, of persons in the several Counties of this Province, who have subscribed, or refused or neglected to subscribe, the Association directed by the last Convention; and Mr. *Wright*, Mr. *Chamberlaine*, and Mr. *Tolley*, were elected by ballot a Committee for that purpose.

Resolved, That a Committee be appointed to examine and report the Returns by the Committees of Observation of the Companies of Artillery, Minute and Militia-Men, enrolled or formed into Battalions, and of the persons who have not enrolled themselves either as Minute, or Artillery-Men, or in the Militia, according to the directions of the last Convention; and Mr. *Mackall*, Mr. *Nicholson*, and Mr. *James Tilghman*, were elected by ballot a Committee for that purpose.

Resolved, That a Committee be appointed to examine and report the quantity of Arms and Ammunition belonging to this Province, and the state and condition of such Arms and Ammunition and Mr. *Ware*, Mr. *Beatty*, and Mr. *Hooper*, were elected by ballot a Committee for that purpose.

Ordered, That Association Papers be immediately transmitted to *Kent* Island, to be subscribed by the Freemen of that Island, and that the Delegates of *Queen Anne's* County transmit the same.

Adjourned till three o'clock.

—

Post Meridiem.—Convention met. Mr. *William Ennalls*, a Member for *Dorchester* County, Mr. *Nathaniel Potter* and Mr. *Henry Dickinson*, Members for *Caroline* County, and Mr. *Peter Chaille* and Mr. *John Done*, Members for *Worcester* County, appeared and took their seats in the House. Mr. *Waters* and Mr. *Handy* have leave of absence.

The Convention being informed that there are a number of Cannon and Shot at Fort *Cumberland*, *Oldtown*, and Fort *Frederick*; and, also, a number of Small Arms at *Isaac Baker's*, in *Frederick* County, belonging to the publick,

Resolved, That the Committee for inquiring into the state of Arms and Ammunition, agree with some person or persons for the carriage of such of the said Cannon as are fit for use, and Shot, to *Baltimore* town, and for the collection of as well the said Small Arms, as any other Small Arms in *Frederick* County, belonging to the publick, and conveying them to *Fredericktown*, to be there repaired and put in order.

Convention adjourns till to-morrow morning, half after nine o'clock.

—

Thursday, December 14, 1775.

Convention met. All Members present as on yesterday, except Mr. *Waters* and Mr. *Handy*. The Proceedings of yesterday were read.

A Memorial from *Alexander McFadon*, of *Frederick* County, was read the first time, and ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. *Benjamin Rumsey*, a Member for *Harford* County, appeared and took his seat in the House.

The Convention having received information, that *Ezekiel Hunter*, of *Caroline* County, had by his conduct broke up a Company of Militia of that County, and refused to submit to, and abide by the determination of the said Committee upon his conduct, and had brought with him to the Committee an armed force to oppose the determination of the said Committee,

Resolved, That the Committee of Observation for *Caroline* County, be empowered immediately to take into custody the said *Ezekiel Hunter*, and examine into his conduct, and either confine him in the Jail of their County, or send him under a sufficient guard with the charge against him, to this Convention, or acquit and discharge him, as the Committee shall think proper.

Ordered, That the Clerk make out and transmit a copy of the above Resolution to the Committee of *Caroline* County.

Mr. *Mason* has leave of absence.

It appearing to this Convention by sundry Depositions, that *William Bartlett Townsend*, of *Worcester* County, had left this Province with inimical designs against the same, and that the said *William Bartlett Townsend*, had carried sundry inhabitants of this Province to join Lord *Dunmore*, who is now carrying on hostilities against the Colony of *Virginia*, and has committed depredations upon the property of some of the inhabitants of this Province; and this Convention being also informed, that the Committee of Observation for *Worcester* County, had fixed a guard upon the Estate of the said *William Bartlett Townsend*, as well to save the same from waste, as to prevent the said *William Bartlett Townsend* carrying the *Negroes* thereon to join him with Lord *Dunmore*; and application having been made by *Bartlett Townsend*, son of the said *William Bartlett Townsend*, to take the management of the said Estate into his possession, to secure the same against waste, and to prevent the *Negroes* thereon being removed,

Resolved, That it be recommended to the Committee of Observation for *Worcester* County aforesaid, to commit the said Estate to the said *Bartlett Townsend*, taking bond with sufficient security, for his taking care of, managing, and securing the said Estate, and every part thereof, first having the same inventoried and appraised, and to be accountable for the same; and to take such measures as shall be necessary to prevent the *Negroes* on the said Estate being carried out of this Province, or removed to any place where they may be liable to be taken out of this Province, and to return and deliver up the said Estate, and every part thereof, as soon as the said *William Bartlett Townsend* shall surrender himself to the Committee of *Worcester* County, to take his trial before the Convention, if sitting, or the Council of Safety hereafter to be appointed.

Ordered, That the Clerk make out and transmit a copy of the above Resolution to the Committee of Observation for *Worcester* County.

Mr. *Robert Buchanan*, a Member for *Kent* County, appeared and took his seat in the House.

A Petition from sundry Inhabitants of *Baltimore* County, relative to the election of Committee-men and Delegates for said County, being read,

Ordered, That the same be taken into consideration on *Wednesday* next.

Adjourned till three o'clock.

—

Post Meridiem.—Convention met.

The Proceedings of the Committee of *Kent* County were read to Mr. *Robert Buchanan* in his place, and the said *Robert Buchanan* heard thereon; upon which Mr. *Buchanan* confessed that he had refused to enroll according to the Resolution of the last Convention, and that in consequence of his reasons, fourteen others had also refused; and declared, he having conceived himself not well treated by the said Committee, at the time the said proceeding passed, was rather short in his answers to them, and did not give the Committee that satisfaction respecting his conduct, in the subject by the said Proceedings referred to, as was in his power, or as he would have done, had he not apprehended himself ill treated by the Committee. Mr. *Buchanan* then withdrew, and the Convention having considered the said Proceedings and conduct of the said *Robert Buchanan*,

Resolved, That the Proceedings of the Committee of *Kent* County respecting Mr. *Buchanan*, are approved by this Convention: And that Mr. President, from the chair, signify to the said *Robert Buchanan*, in his place, that this Convention censures the conduct of the said *Robert Buchanan*, in having refused to enroll in the Militia, on the terms directed by the last Convention, and in having encouraged others to imitate his example; thereby setting up his own judgment in opposition to the determinations of that Convention, and that the said *Robert Buchanan* be informed by Mr. President, that he and those who disapproved the scheme adopted by the same Convention, for regulating the Militia, ought to have applied to the next Convention for such alterations as they thought necessary; that such applications would have been duly considered and attended to; but that the said *Robert Buchanan* ought, in the mean time, to have acquiesced in the regulations agreed to in Convention by the Representative body of the Province.

Ordered, also, That Mr. President signify to Mr. *Buchanan*, that this Convention highly disapprove his conduct and behaviour before the Committee, respecting the charge exhibited against him, which the said Committee were bound by their duty to examine into and proceed on.

Mr. *Sudler* has leave of absence till *Monday* next.

Ordered, That the Committee of *Kent* County deliver to Mr. *Sudler*, out of the publick Arms in their possession, one hundred Fire-locks, forty Bayonets, two hundred pounds of Powder, and all the Cutlasses.

The Order of the Day for taking into consideration the state of the Province, being read,

Ordered, That the same be referred for further consideration till to-morrow.

Mr. *Allein* has leave of absence.

Convention adjourns till to-morrow morning, half after nine o'clock.

—

Friday, December 15, 1775.

Convention met. All Members present as on yesterday, except Mr. *Mason* and Mr. *Allein*.

The Proceedings of yesterday were read.

James Hollyday, Esquire, a Member for *Queen Anne's* County, and Mr. *Thomas Bond*, a Member for *Harford* County, appeared and took their seats in the House.

Upon reading the Proceedings of the Committee of *Anne Arundel* County against *Robert Davis*, he appeared and, presented, a Memorial, which was read and considered, and, thereupon, Mr. President was directed to inform Mr. *Davis*, that it was his duty to attend the Committee, when requested, and to subscribe the Association when offered to him; that this Convention highly disapproves his indecent conduct and behaviour to the gentlemen ordered by the Committee of *Anne Arundel* County to compel his attendance before them, but, in consideration of his submission and sorrow for his offence, have ordered him to be discharged.

Ordered, That *Robert Davis's* Memorial, with a copy of the above Resolve, be sent to the Committee of *Anne Arundel* County.

Adjourned till three o'clock.

—

Post Meridiem.—Convention met.

Mr. *Josias Beall*, a Member for *Prince George's*, appeared and took his seat in the House.

Mr. *Bond* has leave of absence.

On motion, *Resolved*, That a Committee be appointed to draw the form of Commissions for the Officers of the Militia of this Province.

And Mr. *Thomas Johnson*, Mr. *Hollyday*, and Mr. *Wright*, were elected by ballot a Committee for that purpose.

Mr. *Nicholson* has leave of absence till *Monday* next.

Resolved, That if the assistance of the Militia of *Somerset* and *Worcester* Counties, or either of them, should be needed and requested by the Committee of *Accomack* or *Northampton* County, this Convention is desirous such assistance should be given; and this Province will pay and subsist the Militia in that service.

The Order of the Day, for taking into consideration the state of the Province, was read and considered:

Ordered, That the same be referred for further consideration until to-morrow.

Convention adjourns till to-morrow morning, half after nine o'clock.

—

Saturday, December 16, 1775.

Convention met. All Members present as on yesterday, except Mr. *Nicholson* and Mr. *Bond*. The Proceedings of yesterday were read.

Mr. *Sim* has leave of absence.

Upon reading the Proposals of *Jacob Myer*, of *Frederick* County, for building a Powder-Mill,

Ordered, That the same be referred to the Committee for devising the best ways and means to promote the manufacture of Saltpetre.

The Order of the Day, for taking into consideration the state of the Province, was read and considered, and after some time spent in debate thereon,

Resolved, That this Convention will, in the afternoon, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole House to consider the same.

Adjourned till three o'clock.

—

Post Meridiem.—Convention met.

Mr. *Gantt* has leave of absence.

Isaac Atkinson, according to order, being brought before the Convention in custody of Captain *William Hyde*, the Proceedings of the *Eastern Shore* branch of the Council of Safety, respecting the said *Isaac Atkinson*, were read; and he was informed by Mr. President, that the Convention would hear any thing which he had to say in mitigation of his offence; the said *Isaac Atkinson* declared, he never meant to injure *America*, his native country, and was extremely sorry for what he had done; that he was ready and willing to make any concessions and atonement to his country, which were in his power, and this Convention thought necessary; that he was willing to give security for his good behaviour in future; whereupon, it is

Resolved, That the President reprimand the said *Isaac Atkinson* for the offence of which he stands condemned; and that the said *Isaac Atkinson* be informed by the President, that this Convention views him as a man guilty of a crime of a heinous nature against this country, which was and is entitled to his aid and assistance: but that this Convention, considering the penitence and contrition of the said *Isaac Atkinson*, and that a numerous family must suffer by a continuance of his imprisonment, had thought proper to mitigate his punishment.

Resolved, That the said *Isaac Atkinson* be discharged from confinement, first having given bond with good security, payable to the President, in the sum of one thousand Pounds, currency, for his future good behaviour; and for the payment of such reasonable expenses as shall be adjudged by the Convention to have been incurred in guarding and confining him.

Resolved, That the thanks of this Convention are due to the Committee of *Somerset* County, and to all those patriotick and spirited friends of *Worcester* and *Somerset* Counties, who were active in arresting and securing the said *Isaac Atkinson*, and quelling that dangerous spirit which was discovered by the said *Isaac Atkinson*, and others, who joined in inimical designs against this country.

Ordered, That the said *Isaac Atkinson* be continued in custody, till he give the security above-mentioned.

Ordered, That four men of Captain *Hyde's* Company guard the said *Isaac Atkinson*.

The Convention resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole House, *Charles Carroll*, Esquire, Barrister, in the chair.

After having spent some time in considering the state of the Province, Mr. President resumed the chair, and Mr. *Carroll* reported, that the Committee, according to order, had taken under their consideration the state of the Province, but not being able to go through the same, had directed him to move for leave to sit again.

Resolved, That this Convention will, on *Monday* next, resolve itself into the said Committee.

Convention adjourns till *Monday* morning, half after nine o'clock.

—

Monday, December 18, 1775.

Convention met. All Members present as on *Saturday*, except Mr. *Gantt*, Mr. *Sim*, and Mr. *Sudler*. The Proceedings of *Saturday* were read.

Mr. *William Baird*, a Member for the Upper District of *Frederick* County, appeared and took his seat in the House.

The Petition of *Thomas McCobb*, of *Lincoln* County, in the Colony of *Massachusetts-Bay*, was read the first time, and ordered to lie on the table.

The Reverend Mr. *Patterson*, according to order, was brought before the Convention in custody of a guard of four of the Militia of Captain *Johnson's* Company. The Proceedings of the Committee of *Kent* County, respecting the conduct and behaviour of the said Rev. Mr. *Patterson*, were read; and he was informed by Mr. President, that the Convention would hear any thing he had to offer in his defence. Mr. *Patterson* was then heard, and ordered to withdraw.

Ordered, That he attend in the afternoon, at three o'clock.

Adjourned till three o'clock.

—

Post Meridiem.—Convention met, and took Mr. *Patterson's* case into consideration, and, thereupon,

Resolved, That Mr. *Patterson* be informed by the President, that it is not the intention of this Convention to preclude the inhabitants of this Province from judging of their Proceedings with decency and temper; but that those who apprehend any defect therein, ought to apply for such alterations and amendments, as may be thought proper and necessary; and such applications will always be attended to and duly considered. And, in the mean time, this Convention expects an acquiescence in such measures as may be thought necessary for the safety of the country, until the same are reconsidered by the Representative body of the people. That the expressions and declarations made use of by the said Mr. *Patterson*, were highly indecent and intemperate, for which, and for his disrespectful conduct to the Committee of *Kent* County, he deserves the censure of this Convention. That the President do accordingly censure Mr. *Patterson* for the indecency and intemperance of his expressions and declarations, reflecting upon the Proceedings of the Conventions of this Province, and for his disrespectful conduct to the Committee of *Kent* County, and caution him against such behaviour in future.

That, in consideration of Mr. *Patterson's* declaration and resolution, that he will not do any act to oppose or impede measures which have been and are thought necessary for the preservation of *American* liberty, and upon his acknowledging, before this Convention, the impropriety of his rash and imprudent behaviour before the said Committee, and paying the expenses incurred in bringing him to the Convention, he be discharged.

Resolved, That this Convention do highly approve the conduct of the Committee of *Kent* County, in calling to account the Rev. Mr. *Patterson*, for having spoken disrespectfully of the proceedings of the Conventions of this Province, in terms which cannot be justified by an individual in opposition to the Representative body thereof.

Ordered, That the Committee of Observation for *Frederick* County, immediately send in two wagons, under the guard of four of their Militia and an Officer, to *Baltimore* town, three thousand pounds of Gunpowder, to the care of Mr. *William Lux* of that town.

A Letter, from the Committee of *Baltimore* County, was read.

Ordered, That the same be referred to a Committee of the Whole House.

The Order of the Day, for taking into consideration the state of the Province, was read.

Ordered, That the same be referred for consideration till to-morrow.

The Convention adjourns till to-morrow morning, half after nine o'clock.

—

Tuesday, December 19, 1775.

Convention met. All Members present as on yesterday. The Proceedings of yesterday were read.

The Petition of *Abraham Jarret* and *Robert Harris*, Captains of Companies of Minute-Men in *Harford* County, was read the first time, and ordered to lie on the table.

On motion, that the Proceedings of the *Eastern Shore* branch of the Council of Safety, together with the Depositions therewith sent, relative to *Benjamin Shockley*, be read; the same were read accordingly. Thereupon, it is

Ordered, That the Committee of *Worcester* County order *Benjamin Shockley* before them, and reprimand him, and upon his making proper concessions, that he be discharged.

The Order of the Day, for taking into consideration the state of the Province, was read.

The Convention resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole House to consider the same, Mr. *Carroll* in the chair.

After some time spent therein, Mr. President resumed the chair, and Mr. *Carroll* reported, that the Committee, according to order, had under their consideration the state of the Province, but not being able to go through the same, had directed him to move for leave to sit again.

Resolved, That the same be referred for further consideration till to-morrow.

Mr. *Wright* has leave of absence.

Mr. *John Duckett* was appointed Clerk Assistant to the Convention.

On motion, *Ordered*, That the Committee of Claims estimate and report a proper allowance to a Guard, for the security of Prisoners or Offenders.

A Petition, from sundry Inhabitants of *Harford* County, was read the first time, and ordered to lie on the table.

Convention adjourns till to-morrow morning, half after nine o'clock.

—

Wednesday, December 20, 1775.

Convention met. All Members present as on yesterday. Mr. *Sim* and Mr. *Gantt* appeared in the House. The Proceedings of yesterday were read.

The Order of the Day, for taking into consideration the Petition from *Baltimore* County, which was referred on *Thursday* last to this day, being read, the same was considered, and, thereupon, it is

Resolved, unanimously, That *Robert Alexander, Benjamin Nicholson, John Moale, Walter Tolley*, Jun., and *Jeremiah T. Chase*, returned Delegates for *Baltimore* County, are duly elected.

The Petition of *Samuel Dorsey*, of *Anne Arundel* County, was read the first time, and ordered to lie on the table.

The Order of the Day, for taking into consideration the state of the Province, being read,

Ordered, That the same be referred for further consideration till to-morrow.

Convention adjourns till to-morrow morning, half after nine o'clock.

—

Thursday, December 21, 1775.

Convention met. All Members present as on yesterday, except Mr. *Wright*. The Proceedings of yesterday were read.

A Letter and Deposition of *Thomas Hammond*, and the Memorial of *William Whetcroft*, were read the first time, and ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. *Mason* appeared in the House.

Edward Davis was brought before the Convention on suspicion of attempting to convey intelligence to Lord *Dunmore*, and examined:

Ordered, That the said *Edward Davis* be committed to the custody of Mr. *William Cayten*, until the further order of this Convention; and that the Treasurer of the *Western Shore* pay the said *William Cayten* for his trouble and expense, during the confinement of the said *Davis*, three Shillings and six Pence, common money, per day.

Adjourned till three o'clock.

—

Post Meridiem.—Convention met. Mr. *Sudler* appeared in the House.

A Letter from the Committee of *Kent* County, dated *December* 20, 1775, was read the first time, and ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. *Done* has leave of absence.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the sum of fourteen Shillings, currency, per day, and reasonable itinerant charges, be allowed to each Member attending this Convention.

The Order of the Day, for taking into consideration the state of the Province, being read, the Convention resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole House to consider of the same, Mr. *Carroll* in the chair.

After some time spent therein, Mr. President resumed the chair, Mr. *Carroll* reported, that the Committee, according to order, had under their consideration the state of the Province, but not being able to go through the same, had directed him to move for leave to sit again.

Resolved, That this Convention will, to-morrow, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole House to consider of the same.

On motion, *Resolved*, That if any Member of this Convention depart the House without leave thereof, such Member shall forfeit his allowance for attendance.

Mr. *Somerville* has leave of absence.

The Convention adjourns till to-morrow morning, half after nine o'clock.

—

Friday, December 22, 1775.

Convention met. All Members present as on yesterday, except Mr. *Somerville* and Mr. *Done*. The Proceedings of yesterday were read.

Mr. *Buchanan* and Mr. *Griffith* have leave of absence.

A Memorial from *Baltimore* County Court, together with several Depositions therewith sent, were read the first time, and ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. *John Duckett* being unable, through sickness, to attend as Clerk Assistant to the Convention, Mr. *John Callahan* was appointed in his stead.

Ordered, That Mr. *John Callahan* qualify himself as such, by taking the oath of office and secrecy, as before directed to be taken by the Clerk.

Certificate of the qualification of the said *Callahan* was produced and filed.

On motion, *Resolved*, That a Committee be appointed to consider and report the most effectual method of establishing a Gun-Lock Manufactory, and the expense thereof; and Mr. *Thomas Johnson*, Mr. *Sudler*, and Mr. *Beatty*, were elected by ballot a Committee for that purpose.

The Order of the Day, for taking into consideration the state of the Province, being read,

Ordered, That the same be referred for further consideration till to-morrow.

Mr. *Hawkins* has leave of absence.

Convention adjourns till to-morrow morning, half after nine o'clock.

—

Saturday, December 23, 1775.

Convention met. All Members present, as on yesterday, except Mr. *Griffith* and Mr. *Hawkins*. The Proceedings of yesterday were read. Mr. *Moale* has leave of absence till *Monday* next. Mr. *Edmonson* has leave of absence for a few days.

The Petition of *Edward Parker*, of *Cecil* County, relative to the establishing of a Linen and Woollen Manufactory, was read the first time, and ordered to lie on the table.

On motion, *Resolved*, That a Committee be appointed to receive all Proposals relating to the establishment of

Manufactories of any kind within this Province, and report their opinion thereon; and Mr. *Gilpin*, Mr. *Ewing*, Mr. *Rumsey*, Mr. *Romsey*, and Mr. *Earle*, were elected by ballot a Committee for that purpose.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the Deputies for this Province attending in Congress, are instructed, that it is the sense of this Convention, that all *India* Teas imported into this Continent before the first day of *March* last, may be sold and used without any prejudice to the cause of *America*, and that they endeavour to procure the same to be permitted by the Congress, not taking into such permission any Teas imported for, or on account of, the *English East-India* Company, or imported from *Great Britain* contrary to the Continental Association, if any such there be.

Adjourned till three o'clock.

—

Post Meridiem. Convention met.

The Petition of sundry Inhabitants of the three lower Counties, *Newcastle*, *Kent*, and *Sussex*, on *Delaware*, praying that *Richard Ellis*, of *Cecil* County, may be continued their Captain, was read a first and second time and granted.

On motion, *Resolved*, That a Committee be appointed to consider what alterations and amendments are necessary in the regulation of the Militia of this Province, and report their opinion thereon; and Mr. *Smallwood*, Mr. *Ware*, Mr. *Thomas Johnson*, Mr. *James Tilghman*, and Mr. *Hooper*, were elected by ballot a Committee for that purpose.

The Order of the Day, for taking into consideration the state of the Province, being read,

Ordered, That the same be referred for further consideration till *Tuesday* next.

Mr. *Hooe* has leave of absence.

Convention adjourns till *Tuesday* morning, half after nine o'clock.

—

Tuesday, December 26, 1775.

Convention met. All Members present, as on *Saturday*, except Mr. *Moale*, Mr. *Edmonson*, Mr. *Hooe*, Mr. *Sim*, Mr. *Smith*, Mr. *Contee*, and Mr. *Tolley*.

The Proceedings of *Saturday* were read.

Mr. *Johnson* brings in, and delivers to Mr. President, a Report from the Committee appointed to devise the best ways and means to promote the manufacture of Saltpetre, which was read the first time, and ordered to lie on the table.

The Order of the Day, for taking into consideration the state of the Province, being read,

Ordered, That the same be referred for further consideration till to-morrow.

Convention adjourns till to-morrow morning, half after nine o'clock.

—

Wednesday, December 27, 1775.

Convention met. All Members present, as on yesterday.

The Proceedings of yesterday were read. Mr. *Contee* and Mr. *Moale* appeared in the House.

The Petition of *Patrick Graham*, of *Charles* County, praying a remission of the judgment pronounced against him by the last Convention, was read the first time, and ordered to lie on the table.

The Convention proceeded to take into their consideration the Report from the Committee appointed to devise the best ways and means to promote the manufacture of Saltpetre, and, thereupon,

Resolved, That a small Saltpetre Work be erected at a principal Inspecting House, or in the neighbourhood of Tobacco Houses, or in some other publick and convenient place, in each County, at the publick expense, for the making Crude Nitre; that thus, besides the advantage immediately accruing from carrying on so many Works, in different parts of the Province, the good people thereof may be generally instructed in the art of making Crude Nitre; and as a further inducement thereto, and that this art may be still more extensively diffused and practised, that a liberal price ought to be allowed for all Crude Nitre manufactured in private families; that all the Crude Nitre, whether made by individuals or at the County Manufactories, be carried to one Refinery, where the same may be purified by a skilful Refiner, in large quantities, without waste, and made fit for manufacturing into Gunpowder.

That seventeen hundred Pounds, common money, be appropriated, one hundred pounds whereof to be placed in the hands of a discreet and active person in the Lower District, and one hundred pounds in the hands of a discreet and active person in the Middle District of *Frederick* County; and the residue thereof, one hundred pounds for each other County, to be placed in the hands of a discreet and active person in each County, who shall be called a Supervisor; and that so much of the said one hundred pounds as may be necessary, shall be laid out by the said Supervisor in purchasing, procuring, and setting up proper kettles, tubs, and other necessary utensils and conveniences, for manufacturing rough Nitre, at some such place as aforesaid, in his County; and, also, in erecting a rough shed convenient thereto, under which the earth, from which the ley shall have been drawn, may be placed, that the same may become again impregnated with Nitre.

That each of the said Supervisors be empowered to lay out the residue of his one hundred pounds, in hiring labourers to assist a skilful workman, who shall be employed in each of the said Works, and in procuring and removing earth impregnated with Nitre, fit to be used at the said Works.

That the Supervisor of each of the said Works employ a skilful workman to carry on, direct, and manage the process of making Crude Nitre at the said Works, respectively; and that the same Supervisor pay to the said workman one shilling, common money, for each pound of good Crude Nitre that he shall manufacture and deliver at the same Works, as his wages and reward for his skill and labour.

That the said workman show and explain to those who will attend the Work, and may be desirous of instruction, the method and process of making Crude Nitre.

That each Supervisor pay to any person who shall deliver to him good Crude Nitre, manufactured at any place within his County, other than the said Publick Work, for the use of the publick, after the rate of two shillings, common money, for every pound thereof.

That as soon as a contract shall be made for building a Powder Mill, pursuant to the Resolution of the late Convention, a Publick Work be erected convenient thereto, under the management of a skilful person, for purifying Nitre. And the several Supervisors shall, from time to time, send all the Crude Nitre which shall be made at the said Works, and otherwise come to their hands, as aforesaid, to the said Publick Refinery.

That each Supervisor draw from the Treasurer of his Shore, as well the said one hundred pounds, as the sum of two shillings, common money, and no more, per pound, for all Crude Nitre by him sent to, and delivered at, the said Refinery.

That each of the said Supervisors render an account of his transactions to every Convention, by the third day of every session thereof; and that, on such account, he be allowed all the said disbursements, the actual expenses of sending the Crude Nitre to the Refinery, and, for his trouble, the sum of two pence for every pound of rough Nitre made at the Works under his care, and the sum of one penny for every other pound of Crude Nitre by him collected, as aforesaid, and sent to the said Refinery; and that he pay the balance of the money in his hands into the publick Treasury, for the use of the publick, if so ordered.

That it be strongly recommended to such of the good people of this Province, whose circumstances and conveniences will allow them to pursue the following directions, to place in open houses, or sheds admitting the air, but excluding the rain and sun, the stalks and trashy leaves of tobacco, trodden straw, the sweepings of stables, mixed with rich mould, collected from the floors of barns and outhouses, and from time to time to sprinkle with urine, brine, or water, this collection of various substances, so as to occasion the fermentation and speedy putrefaction thereof, that the whole mass, when perfectly rotten and digested, may be dug, stirred up, and thoroughly blended, and thus left, without further damping, so loose and light as to at-

tract more readily, and be more plentifully impregnated with Nitre, for future use.

Mr. *Jeremiah Jordan* was appointed Supervisor for *St. Mary's* County; Mr. *Thomas Sernes* for *Charles* County; Dr. *Edward Johnson* for *Calvert* County; Mr. *Richard Richardson* for *Anne Arundel* County; Mr. *Daniel Clark* for *Prince George's* County; Mr. *Thomas Richardson* for the Lower District, and Mr. *Charles Beatty* for the Middle District of *Frederick* County; Dr. *Charles F. Weisenthall* for *Baltimore* County; Mr. *Amos Garrett* for *Harford* County; Mr. *Henry Hollingsworth* for *Cecil* County; Dr. *John Scott* for *Kent* County; Mr. *William Hemsley* for *Queen Anne's* County; Mr. *James Benson* for *Talbot* County; Mr. *Thomas Ennals*, B. W., for *Dorchester* County; Mr. *Joshua Clark* for *Caroline* County; Mr. *George Day Scott* for *Somerset* County; and Mr. *Joshua Townsend* for *Worcester* County.

That upon the death or refusal of any Supervisor, the Committee of Observation for the County where such death or refusal shall happen, are required immediately to nominate and appoint some other discreet and active person in his place.

Mr. *Beatty* brings in, and delivers to Mr. President, a Report from the Committee appointed to consider and report the most effectual method of establishing a Gun-Lock Manufactory, and the expense thereof, which was read the first time and ordered to lie on the table.

Adjourned till three o'clock.

—

Post Meridiem. Convention met. Mr. *Tolley* appeared in the House.

The Petition of *Patrick Graham*, of *Charles* County, was read a second time and granted.

Mr. *Johnson* brings in, and delivers to Mr. President, the form of a Commission for the Officers of the Militia of this Province; which was read a first and second time and agreed to, and is as follows:

The Delegates of the Freemen of *Maryland*, in Convention, to . . . . . : We, reposing especial trust and confidence in your fidelity, courage, good conduct, and attachment to the liberties of *America*, do, by these presents, constitute and appoint you to be . . . . . You are, therefore, carefully and diligently to discharge the trust reposed in you, by disciplining all officers and soldiers under your command; and we do, hereby, strictly enjoin and require them to obey you as their . . . . . And you are to observe and follow all such orders and directions as you shall, from time to time, receive from this or a future Convention, or from the Council of Safety of *Maryland*, for the time being, according to the rules and regulations established by this or a future Convention. This Commission to be in force until revoked by this or some future Convention of the Delegates of the Freemen of *Maryland*, or by the Council of Safety of *Maryland*, for the time being, according to the powers and authorities in such Council of Safety to be hereafter vested by such Convention.

Given . . . . this . . . day of . . . . *Anno Domini* 177 .

By order of the Convention:

MATTHEW TILGHMAN, *President.*

Ordered, That twenty-five hundred copies thereof be immediately printed.

Mr. *Chamberlaine* brings in, and delivers to Mr. President, a Report from the Committee appointed to examine into the facts contained in the Memorial preferred by the Justices of *Frederick* County, which was read the first time, and ordered to lie on the table.

The Convention took into consideration the Report from the Committee appointed to consider and report the most effectual method of establishing a Gun-Lock Manufactory, and the expense thereof; and, thereupon,

Resolved, That a Gun-Lock Manufactory be established in *Fredericktown*, in *Frederick* County, or in the neighbourhood thereof. That twelve hundred Pounds, common money, be appropriated for erecting and carrying on the said Manufactory, and be subject to be drawn out and applied for that purpose by three Commissioners, who shall, over and above, have power to draw out of the publick Treasury any sum of money, not exceeding one dollar, for every good Musket-lock made at the said Manufactory, and delivered pursuant to the orders of the Convention, or Council of Safety, in the recess of the Convention.

Resolved, That Mr. *Charles Beatty*, Mr. *James Johnson*, and Mr. *John Hanson*, Jun., or any two of them, be Commissioners for the above purpose.

Resolved, That the said Commissioners, or any two of them, be directed to purchase ground, not exceeding one half acre, in or near *Fredericktown*, sufficient for erecting shops for the said Manufactory, which ground is to be conveyed to the said Commissioners for the use of this Province; and that the said Commissioners, or any two of them, draw on the Treasury of the *Western Shore* for the price of the said ground, in the purchase of which, and in the buildings, it is recommended to the said Commissioners to be as frugal of the publick money as may be.

The Order of the Day, for taking into consideration the state of the Province, being read,

Ordered, That the same be referred for further consideration till to-morrow.

Convention adjourns till to-morrow morning, half after nine o'clock.

—

Thursday, December 28, 1775.

Convention met. All Members present, as on yesterday. The Proceedings of yesterday were read. Mr. *Smith* appeared in the House.

Mr. *James Tilghman* brings in, and delivers to Mr. President, a Report from the Committee appointed to consider what alterations and amendments are necessary in the regulation of the Militia of this Province, which was read the first time, and ordered to lie on the table.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the Council of Safety to be appointed by this Convention, be empowered to advance, on loan for two years, without interest, on bond with good security, any part of the one thousand Pounds appropriated by the last Convention, for erecting and working a Powder Mill, to such person, or persons, as will undertake, and give good security, for erecting and working the same; such person or persons undertaking that such Mill shall be capable of manufacturing at least eight hundred pounds of Gunpowder per week, and that the Saltpetre which may belong to the publick, shall be there manufactured into Gunpowder, for a just and reasonable price; the same Powder Mill to be erected within fourteen, and not less than six miles from *Baltimore* town.

Upon reading a second time the Memorial and Depositions from *Baltimore* County Court,

Resolved, That a Committee be appointed to consider of the truth of the facts therein set forth, and report their opinion thereon; and Mr. *Nicholson*, Mr. *Hollyday*, Mr. *James Tilghman*, Mr. *Rumsey*, and Mr. *Thomas Johnson*, were elected by ballot a Committee for that purpose.

Adjourned till three o'clock.

—

Post Meridiem. Convention met.

Mr. *Chamberlaine* brings in, and delivers to Mr. President, a Report from the Committee appointed to examine and report the returns of the Committees of Observation of persons in the several Counties of this Province, who have subscribed, or refused or neglected to subscribe, the Association directed by the last Convention, which was read the first time, and ordered to lie on the table.

The Order of the Day, for taking into consideration the state of the Province, being read,

Ordered, That the same be referred for further consideration till to-morrow.

Convention adjourns till to-morrow morning, half after nine o'clock.

—

Friday, December 29, 1775.

Convention met. All Members present, as on yesterday. The Proceedings of yesterday were read. Mr. *Griffith* appeared in the House.

Mr. *Contee* brings in, and delivers to Mr. President, a Report from the Committee appointed to examine the

several claims upon the Treasury, which was read the first time, and ordered to lie on the table.

Adjourned till three o'clock.

—

Post Meridiem. Convention met. Mr. *Hawkins* appeared in the House.

Mr. *Earle* brings in, and delivers to Mr. President, a Report from the Committee appointed to receive all Proposals relating to the establishment of Manufactories of any kind within this Province, which was read the first time, and ordered to lie on the table.

On motion, *Resolved*, That a Committee be appointed to prepare a draught of Instructions for the Deputies representing this Province in Congress; and Mr. *Hollyday*, Mr. *Carroll*, Barrister, Mr. *James Tilghman*, Mr. *Scott*, and Mr. *Rumsey*, were elected by ballot a Committee for that purpose.

Mr. *Dallam* has leave of absence.

The Order of the Day, for taking into consideration the state of the Province, being read,

Ordered, That the same be referred for further consideration till to-morrow.

Convention adjourns till to-morrow morning, half after nine o'clock.

—

Saturday, December 30, 1775.

Convention met. All Members present, as on yesterday, except Mr. *Dallam*. The Proceedings of yesterday were read. Mr. *Clarke* has leave of absence. The Proceedings of the Council of Safety were read.

The Order of the Day, for taking into consideration the state of the Province, being read, the Convention resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole, to consider of the same, Mr. *Carroll* in the chair.

After some time spent therein, Mr. President resumed the chair, and Mr. *Carroll* reported, that the Committee, according to order, had under their consideration the state of the Province, but, not being able to go through the same, had directed him to move for leave to sit again.

Resolved, That this Convention will, on *Monday* next, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole, to consider of the same.

Convention adjourns till *Monday* morning, half after nine o'clock.

—

Monday, January 1, 1776.

Convention met. All Members present, as on *Saturday*, except Mr. *Clarke*. The Proceedings of *Saturday* were read.

Mr. *Bond* appeared in the House.

A Letter from Messrs. *Wilfred Neale*, *Gerard Bond*, and *James Eden*, of *St. Mary's* County, and sundry Depositions, relative to the conduct of *Basil Patterson*, were read; and upon consideration thereof,

Resolved, That the said *Basil Patterson*, together with the said Letter and Depositions, be sent and delivered up to a Justice of the Peace for *St. Mary's* County, that the charge against him may be inquired into by a civil Magistrate, and order taken therein according to the due course of law.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western Shore* pay to *Nicholas White*, or his order, out of the bills of credit in his hands, fifty-six Pounds, six Shillings and a Penny, common money, for repairing guns, as per account.

Mr. *Contee* brings in, and delivers to Mr. President, the following Report:

In obedience to the honourable Convention, your Committee, appointed to estimate the expenses of bringing *Basil Patterson* to answer, and carry him back to *St. Mary's* County, to some Magistrate there, do report as follows:

To *James Brown* and *Ignatius Edwards*, for bringing *Basil Patterson* from *St. Mary's* to *Annapolis*, four days, - - - - -	£4 0 0
To ditto, for carrying *Basil Patterson* to *St. Mary's* County, and delivering him to a Justice of the Peace there, - - - - -	1 0 0
To ditto, for *Patterson's* expenses to *Annapolis* and back to *St. Mary's*, and when at *Annapolis*, about seven days, - - - - -	1 15 0
	£6 15 0

Signed per order:

JOHN CALLAHAN, *Clerk Committee.*

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western Shore* pay to *James Brown* and *Ignatius Edwards*, for their expenses in bringing *Basil Patterson* from *St. Mary's* County to this Convention, and carrying him back, out of the bills of credit in his hands, six Pounds fifteen Shillings, common money.

The Order of the Day, for taking into consideration the state of the Province, being read, the Convention resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole, to consider of the same, Mr. *Carroll* in the chair.

After some time spent therein, Mr. President resumed the chair, and Mr. *Carroll* reported from the Committee the following Resolutions, to wit:

Resolved, That this Province be immediately put in the best state of defence.

Resolved, That a sufficient armed force be immediately raised and embodied under proper officers, for the defence and protection of this Province.

Resolved, That one thousand four hundred and forty-four men, with proper officers, be immediately raised in the pay, and for the defence of, this Province.

Resolved, That eight Companies of the said troops, to consist of sixty-eight privates each, under proper officers, be formed into a Battalion.

Resolved, That the remainder of the said troops be divided into Companies of one hundred men each.

Resolved, That two Companies of the said troops, to consist of one hundred men each, be companies of Matrosses, and trained as such.

Which were read and agreed to.

On motion, *Resolved*, That a Committee be appointed to report Resolutions for Raising, Clothing, and Victualling, the Forces to be raised in this Province; and Mr. *T. Johnson*, Mr. *Carroll*, Barrister, Mr. *Rumsey*, and Mr. *Ware*, were elected by ballot a Committee for that purpose.

On motion, *Resolved*, That a Committee be appointed to report Rules and Regulations for the government of the Forces to be raised in this Province; and Mr. *T. Johnson*, Mr. *Carroll* of *Carrollton*, Mr. *Stone*, Mr. *Rumsey*, and Mr. *J. Tilghman*, were elected by ballot a Committee for that purpose.

Mr. *S. Chase* has leave of absence on *Wednesday* next.

Adjourned till three o'clock.

—

Post Meridiem.—Convention met. Mr. *Sim* and Mr. *Somerville* appeared in the House. Mr. *Letherbury*, Mr. *Sudler*, and Mr. *Sluby*, have leave of absence.

Convention adjourns till to-morrow morning, half after nine o'clock.

—

Tuesday, January 2, 1776.

Convention met. All Members present as on yesterday. The Proceedings of yesterday were read.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the acceptance of any office in the Regular Forces to be raised in this Province, shall be a disqualification of the officer accepting the same, from and after the making out and acceptance of his commission, to be a Delegate to serve in Convention, or to be of the Council of Safety, or a Member of any Committee of Observation, or of any other civil office under the authority of the Convention, during the continuance of his said commission.

The Convention proceeded to elect by ballot Field-Officers for the Battalion.

Mr. *William Smallwood* was elected Colonel, Mr. *Francis Ware*, Lieutenant-Colonel; Mr. *Thomas Price*, First Major, Mr. *Mordecai Gist*, Second Major.

They then proceeded to elect seven Captains for the seven Independent Companies; the ballots were as follow:

Rezin Beall, - -	15	*John Allen Thomas*, -	9
John Gunby, - - -	14	*Lemuel Barrett*, - -	7
John Watkins, - -	11	*Edward Veazy*, - -	6
James Hindman, - -	10		

The following persons were then elected Captains of the Battalion, (Light Infantry.)

John H. Stone,	15	*Peter Adams*,	9
William Hyde,	11	*John Day Scott*,	8
Barton Lucas,	10	*Samuel Smith* of *John*,	8
Thomas Ewing,	10	*George Stricker*,	7
Nathaniel Ramsey,	10		

Adjourned till three o'clock.

—

Post Meridiem. Convention met.

The Petition of *Thomas M'Cobb*, of *Lincoln* County, in the Colony of the *Massachusetts-Bay*, setting forth, that in consequence of a Resolution of the General Court of that Colony, he had obtained a permit from the Selectmen and Committee of Correspondence of *Georgetown*, in *Lincoln* County, in the same Colony, to import Grain into the said County, and praying leave to load his Vessel, was read; and, thereupon, it is,

Resolved, That the said Petitioner be allowed to load his said Vessel in *Somerset* County: And it is,

Ordered, That the loading of the said Vessel be under the inspection of the Committee of Observation for *Somerset* County, who are required, before the said Vessel shall depart, to appoint the track for her voyage, and have the Captain and Mate of her sworn to perform the same, so far as they can, and that they will use their utmost endeavours to land her cargo in the County of *Lincoln*, in the Colony of *Massachusetts-Bay* aforesaid.

Ordered, That the Clerk make out and transmit a copy of the above Resolution to the Committee of *Somerset* County.

The Convention proceeded to ballot for seven First Lieutenants for the Independent Companies; the ballots were as follow:

Thomas Woolford,	11	*Bennett Bracco*,	10
Moses Chaille,	11	*John Stewart*,	6
William Harrison,	10	*William Goldsborough*,	5
Uriah Forrest,	10		

The following persons were next elected by ballot First Lieutenants for the Battalion, (Light Infantry,) to wit:

Daniel Bowie,	13	*Nathaniel Ewing*,	10
Benjamin Ford,	12	*Thomas Harwood*,	6
William Sterett,	12	*James Campbell*,	6
Joseph Butler,	11	*Thomas Smith*,	5
Levin Winder,	10		

The persons following were then elected by ballot Second Lieutenants for the Independent Companies.

John Eccleston,	11	*William Bowie*,	7
John Halkerston,	10	*Archibald Anderson*,	7
John Davidson,	10	*Samuel Turbutt Wright*,	6
Solomon Long,	10		

And the following Second Lieutenants for the Battalion, (Light Infantry.)

John Kidd,	11	*David Plunkett*,	9
John Beans,	11	*Thomas Goldsmith*,	8
Alexander Roxburgh,	10	*Joseph Ford*,	8
Joseph Baxter,	10	*James Ringgold*,	8
Alexander Murray,	9		

The following persons were elected by ballot Third Lieutenants for the Independent Companies.

Edward Hindman,	12	*Henry Neale*,	10
Hooper Hudson, son of John,	12	*Ely Dorsey*,	8
Edward De Courcy,	11	*Daniel Jenifer Adams*,	8
		Benjamin Brooks,	8

And the following elected by ballot Ensigns for the Battalion, (Light Infantry.)

Benjamin Chambers,	14	*Walker Muse*,	12
Henry Gaither,	12	*John Jordan*,	12
William Ridgely,	12	*James Peale*,	11
Edward Praul,	12	*Bryant Philpot*,	9

And *Hatch Dent*, Third Lieutenant.

Convention adjourns till to-morrow morning, half after nine o'clock.

—

Wednesday, January 3, 1776.

Convention met. All Members present, as on yesterday, except Mr. *Sluby* and Mr. *Sudler*. The Proceedings of yesterday were read. Mr. *Nicholson*, Mr. *Murray*, and Mr. *Hall*, have leave of absence.

An account of the expenses for transporting Powder from *Fredericktown* to *Baltimore* town, being read,

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western Shore* pay to the Committee of Observation for the Middle District of *Frederick* County, or their order, out of the bills of credit in his hands, twenty-three Pounds, nineteen Shillings, common money, being the expense of transporting the same.

Ordered, That the Clerk make out and transmit a copy of the above Resolution to the Committee of Observation for the Middle District of *Frederick* County.

On application of Colonel *Harrison*, of *Virginia*, to this Convention, to furnish Colonel *Simpson*, of *Accomack* County, with two hundred pounds of Gunpowder,

Ordered, That the Committees of Observation for *Worcester* and *Somerset* Counties do, each of them, immediately, send one hundred weight to Colonel *Simpson*.

The Convention proceeded to the election of Officers.

Mr. *Gabriel Duvall* was elected by ballot Mustermaster and Commissary of Stores; Mr. *Peter Mantz*, Quartermaster, Mr. *Charles Wallace*, Paymaster.

Mr. *Nathaniel Smith*, Captain of the Matrosses, at *Baltimore* town; Mr. *William Woolsey*, First Lieutenant; Mr. *Alexander Furnival*, Second Lieutenant.

Mr. *Beall* has leave of absence.

Adjourned till three o'clock.

—

Post Meridiem.—Convention met. Mr. *Thos. Wright*, a Member for *Queen Anne's* County, appeared, and took his seat in the House. Mr. *Handy* and Mr. *Waters* appeared in the House.

Mr. *George Keepott* was appointed Third Lieutenant of Captain *Smith's* Company of Matrosses.

The Convention took into consideration the following Report, to wit:

In obedience to a Resolve of the honourable Convention, the Committee appointed to receive all Proposals relating to the establishment of Manufactories of any kind within this Province, and report their opinion thereon, do report: That the following Proposals and Petitions have been laid before them, to wit:

The Petition of Mr. *Fielder Gaunt*, setting forth: That, about four months ago, he had discovered a vein of Lead Ore in *Frederick* County, between *Fredericktown* and the *Catoctin* Mountain; that, upon an examination of the same, appearances were so favourable that he hoped to be able, in a short time, to supply this Province with a sufficient quantity of Lead during our present unhappy disputes; and prayed that two hundred pounds might be advanced to him for the term of one year, without interest, upon giving bond, with sufficient security, at the end of that term to repay the same. Your Committee further report, that Mr. *Gaunt* hath, in person, informed them that he has, by sinking a shaft thirty-eight feet in the earth higher up the hill, found another vein of Lead; and that both the said veins run under a large rock, where it was too expensive, on his own capital, to pursue the same; and that the quantities of Lead Ore taken out of said veins were not considerable. Your Committee beg leave, further, to report thereon: that, in their opinion, a Manufactory of Lead in this Province would be of great advantage to the publick, and, of course, merits the attention and encouragement of this Province; and that the sum requested for that purpose is not unreasonable.

Your Committee further beg leave to report: That *Alexander McFadon*, of *Frederick* County, by his Petition, hath expressed his desire of erecting a Linen, Woollen, and Cotton Manufactory, in or near *Fredericktown*; that he is, also, well acquainted with the business, and would undertake to carry on the same, with the publick encouragement and assistance, and proposed that a sum, not exceeding four thousand pounds, should be advanced to him, from time to time, by the Province, on giving bond, with good security, for the payment of the money lent, with four per cent. interest, after the expiration of three years from the advancement thereof. Your Committee further report: That Mr. *McFadon*, in person, informed them that, although he proposed, by the above

scheme, to carry on the same so extensively as thereby to manufacture, annually, fifty thousand yards, yet, if it did not meet with the approbation of the honourable the Convention, he was willing to undertake to set up a Manufactory on having not less than one-half of the above sum advanced to him; that he proposed to begin, at first, with the sum of five hundred pounds, and draw out, to the amount of the sum stipulated, in proportion as he should purchase the materials to manufacture; that he would not engage to deliver any certain quantity of Linen or Woollen Cloth, unless he could be assured of purchasing the rough materials, nor could he agree for any price, as he was uncertain on what terms he could purchase the same; that, if he could buy them, he would furnish the Province with any quantity within his power, at a reasonable price, on their paying him for the same; and that the original sum borrowed would be absolutely necessary for him to carry on the Manufactory aforesaid, entire, during the time aforesaid.

Your Committee further beg leave to report: That *Edward Parker*, of *Cecil* County, by his Petition, hath set forth, that he hath erected a house, provided himself with all manner of implements necessary for carrying on a Linen and Woollen Manufactory, and had, also, engaged a number of weavers; but found it absolutely impossible to carry on the same with spirit, and in an extensive manner, without a considerable sum of ready cash, and, therefore, prayed that the sum of three hundred pounds, out of the publick Treasury, might be advanced to him, upon his giving bond, with undoubted security, for the delivery of the value of two hundred pounds in good strong merchantable Linen Cloth, manufactured in this Province, on or before the first day of *May* next, and the value of one hundred pounds in good merchantable Linen or Woollen Cloth, manufactured in this Province, on the first day of *November* next, of such quality as he may be directed, and at such prices and rates as this or a future Convention, on his producing the same, may be pleased to allow. The said *Edward Parker*, in person, acquainted your Committee that he kept five looms constantly employed in manufacturing.

Your Committee beg leave to report, thereon, their opinion, that the establishment of Linen and Woollen Manufactories is of the greatest importance to this Province, as not only a number of poor people may be employed, fed, and clothed thereby, but necessary Cloth for the use of the Province be manufactured therein; and that, for the above purposes and other valuable ones, a Manufactory for making the above Cloths should be established in every County in this Province; that the sum of five thousand pounds be appropriated and set apart for the above purpose, to be distributed in manner and form following, to wit: Five hundred pounds for *Frederick* County, and three hundred pounds to each of the other Counties; which sum, in the opinion of your Committee, will employ eighty looms, and the produce thereof amount to from eighty to one thousand yards of Cloth, at a moderate calculation, suitable for tents, hunting and soldiers' shirts, and supplying the necessitous poor; that three gentlemen, in whom confidence may be placed, be appointed in each County, and styled Contractors; and that they, or any two of them, be empowered to draw the several sums above mentioned out of the Treasuries, as occasion may require, agree with such persons as will undertake to carry on the work, receive the Linen and Woollen, and take bond, with sufficient security, in double the sum lent, payable to ——, conditioned for the return of the value of the money lent, in good coarse Linen or Woollen Cloth, in the following manner, to wit: One-third thereof by the first of *May* next, one other third by the first of *August* next, and the remainder by the first of *December* next; and that the said Contractors shall transmit the bonds so taken to the President of the Convention, (should the Convention be sitting,) or, if in their recess, to the Council of Safety for the time being, that, if it should happen that undertakers could not be found, or should not apply in any one or more of the Counties on or before the first day of *March* next, the Contractors in any other of the Counties may be empowered to draw out, for the purposes aforesaid, and on the above terms, the proportion, or proportions, allotted such County or Counties as may not apply.

Your Committee further beg leave to observe, that several Proposals have been made to them respecting a Sheeting and Slitting Mill to be erected in this Province, but that they are not fully prepared to report on that subject.

Signed per order:

JOHN CALLAHAN, *Clerk Committee.*

On reading the first part of the above Report, the question was put, That the House concur therewith? Resolved in the affirmative.

Resolved, therefore, That two hundred Pounds, common money, out of the publick Treasury, be advanced to Mr. *Fielder Gaunt*, of *Frederick* County, for the purposes mentioned in the said Report, for the term of one year, on his giving bond, with sufficient security, to repay the same at the end of one year, without interest; the security to be approved by the Convention, or Council of Safety hereafter to be appointed, and the bond to be made payable to Mr. President, Mr. *Carroll*, Barrister, and Mr. *T. Johnson*, Jun.

On reading that part of the said Report relating to the establishment of a Linen, Woollen, and Cotton Manufactory, by Mr. *Alexander McFadon*, the question was put, That the House concur with the proposals of Mr. *McFadon*? Carried in the negative.

On reading the third paragraph of the said Report, in which is contained the proposal of *Edward Parker*, of *Cecil* County, the question was put, That the House concur therewith? Resolved in the affirmative.

Resolved, therefore, That the sum of three hundred Pounds, out of the publick Treasury, be advanced to the said *Edward Parker*, upon his giving bond, with good security, for the delivery of the value of two hundred Pounds in good, strong, merchantable Linen Cloth, manufactured in this Province, on or before the first day of *May* next; and the value of one hundred Pounds in good, merchantable Linen or Woollen Cloth, manufactured in this Province, on the first day of *November* next, of such quality as he may be directed, and at such prices and rates as this or a future Convention shall allow.

On reading that part of the said Report which relates to the establishment of Linen and Woollen Manufactories in each County in this Province, the question was put, That the House concur therewith? The Counties were equally divided; and, therefore, the House does not concur.

Mr. *Mackall* has leave of absence.

The Convention adjourns till to-morrow morning, half after nine o'clock.

—

Thursday, January 4, 1776.

Convention met. All Members present as on yesterday, except Mr. *Letherbury*, Mr. *Beall*, Mr. *Hall*, Mr. *Nicholson*, Mr. *Mackall*, and Mr. *Murray*. The Proceedings of yesterday were read.

On motion, the question was put, That the Commissions for the Officers of the Independent Companies be made out according to the order in which they stand upon the list as balloted for?

Carried in the negative.

The following list was then offered as the rule for making out Commissions for the Officers of the Independent Companies, to wit:

Charles and *Calvert Counties: Rezin Beall*, Captain; *Bennett Bracco*, First Lieutenant; *John Halkerston*, Second Lieutenant; *Daniel Jenifer Adams*, Third Lieutenant.

Somerset County: John Gunby, Captain; *Uriah Forrest*, First Lieutenant; *William Bowie*, Second Lieutenant; *Benjamin Brooks*, Third Lieutenant.

Worcester County: John Watkins, Captain; *Moses Chaille*, First Lieutenant; *Solomon Long*, Second Lieutenant; *Ely Dorsey*, Third Lieutenant.

Talbot County: James Hindman, Captain; *William Goldsborough*, First Lieutenant; *Archibald Anderson*, Second Lieutenant; *Edward Hindman*, Third Lieutenant.

St. Mary's County: John Allen Thomas, Captain; *John Steward*, First Lieutenant; *John Davidson*, Second Lieutenant; *Henry Neale*, Third Lieutenant.

Dorchester County: Lemuel Barrett, Captain; *Thomas*

Woolford, First Lieutenant; *John Eccleston*, Second Lieutenant; *Hooper Hudson*, Third Lieutenant.

Queen Anne's and *Kent Counties: Edward Veazy*, Captain; *William Harrison*, First Lieutenant; *Samuel T. Wright*, Second Lieutenant; *Edward de Courcy*, Third Lieutenant.

On motion, that the said Commissions be made out according to the said list, the question was put, and resolved in the affirmative.

Mr. *Hooe* appeared in the House.

The Convention took into consideration the Report from the Committee appointed to consider what alterations and amendments were necessary in the regulation of the Militia of this Province; and, thereupon, came to the following Resolutions:

That no Minute-Men be hereafter enrolled under the Resolutions of the late Convention. That where Minute Companies are already formed, no commissions issue to the Officers thereof, unless the Officers desire to have their commissions. That no Minute Companies be continued beyond the 1st day of *March* next, and that a sum of money sufficient for the purpose, be lodged in the hands of the Committee of Observation in each respective County where a Company of Minute-Men hath been enrolled, viewed, and allowed to pay and discharge the expense of such Company for the time past, and, also, for the time to come, if such Company continues till the 1st day of *March* next, and that such Committee receive the Rolls of such Companies, and the times of the attendance of the men, proved by the oath of some one, at least, of the Commissioned Officers, return the balance of the money, if any, into the publick Treasury, and render an account of their transactions herein to the next Convention; but no person chosen for a Commissioned Officer in any Company of Minute-Men, shall be compellable to serve in the Militia in a lower rank or station than he was elected to in the Minute Company.

That all publick Arms in the hands of the Minute-Men, immediately after the 1st day of *March* next, or as soon as they disband, where they disband sooner, be delivered to the Committee of Observation for their respective County, to be by the said Committee kept and preserved for the publick use.

That every able-bodied effective Freeman within this Province, between sixteen and fifty years of age, (Clergymen of all denominations, practising Physicians, and the household of his Excellency the Governour, excepted,) who hath not already enrolled himself in the Militia, shall, on or before the 1st day of *March* next, enroll himself in some Company of Militia, agreeable to the form of the enrollment prescribed by the last Convention, and that every Minute or Artillery Man, except Commissioned Officers, shall in like manner enroll in the Militia, within one month next after he shall cease to act as a Minute or Artillery Man. And if any able-bodied, effective Freeman shall refuse or delay to enroll himself in the Militia as aforesaid, every such person shall pay for the present year, which shall be reckoned from the 15th day of *September* last, such sum of money, not less than forty shillings, nor more than ten pounds, as shall be assessed by the Committee of Observation of his County, for the use of the publick. And the Committee of Observation in each respective County shall, by warrant under their hands, appoint and empower any person or persons they shall judge proper, to collect and receive all moneys by them so assessed, which shall be paid within one month after notice of such assessment, and in default thereof, the person or persons so empowered, may distrain the goods and effects of the defaulters, and sell and dispose of the same in the same manner that goods may be distrained and sold by law for County levies. And every Collector shall, on or before the 1st day of *July* next, pay the money by him collected, after deducting seven and an half per cent. for his commission, to the Treasurer of his Shore, and leave with the same Treasurer an account containing the names of those from whom he hath received the same, and the sums from them respectively collected.

That every person who shall refuse and delay to enroll as aforesaid, shall, on or before the 10th day of *March* next, deliver to the Committee of Observation for his County, all his Fire-Arms, if he hath any, except pistols; and if any such person shall refuse or delay to do the same, then such Committee shall empower some person, or persons, by warrant under their hands, to seize the said Fire-Arms, and deliver the same to the said Committee; and the said Committees shall cause all the Arms which shall come to their hands to be valued, by indifferent and honest men, on oath, and shall keep a list of such Arms, to whom they belong, and their respective values, and may deliver out such Arms at their discretion, to the Captains of Militia in their County, taking the Captains' receipts therefor, and the Captains being liable for the redelivery thereof, may deliver the same to the unarmed men of their Companies; and every Committee of Observation shall transmit an account of all assessments by them made, as well as of all Arms by them received as aforesaid, and how they have disposed of the same, to every Convention; but because some persons who do not enroll in the Militia may be so poor that they cannot pay the said assessment of forty shillings, and their omitting to enroll may not proceed from disaffection to the cause of *America*, or perverseness, it is provided, that where the real and personal Estate of any effective Freeman, who shall refuse or neglect to enroll himself in the Militia as aforesaid, shall not, in the judgment and estimation of the Committee of his County, be of the value of thirty pounds, the same Committee may in their discretion omit to assess any sum of money on such person, the same Committee certifying to the Convention, or Council of Safety, the name of the person, and the reasons wherefore they do not assess him.

That all fines which have been already set and adjudged, according to the Resolutions of the last Convention, on Militia Officers or men, and have not been paid, or which shall hereafter be so set and adjudged, shall, if the same be on a Field-Officer, be paid into the hands of the Quartermaster of the Battalion to which he belongs, and if on any Officer of inferior rank to a Field-Officer, or on a non-Commissioned Officer or Private, be paid into the hands of such persons as hath or shall have been appointed to receive the fines for the Company to which such person belongs, or if no such Receiver hath or shall have been appointed, then the same shall be paid into the hands of the Captain of such Company, and on refusal to pay the same fine, and such refusal being certified to the Committee of Observation for the County where such person resides, the same Committee shall grant a warrant under their hands, empowering any other person or persons of the same County to levy such fine by distress and sale as aforesaid, of the party's goods and effects, but the Officers who set and adjudged the fine may commit the offender to a Sergeant according to the Resolution of the late Convention, if they choose that as the best method to compel payment.

That in cases where it may greatly promote the ease of the inhabitants, a number not less than forty, nor exceeding eighty privates, may, with the especial permission of the Committees of Observation, enroll in any one Company of Militia, but any of those already enrolled in any Company, where the privates do not exceed seventy-four, shall not be permitted to leave such Company, for the purpose of enrolling in a new one. That in those Counties where only part of the Militia are appointed to join in Battalion, the respective Committees of Observation form the other Companies into Battalion, if there are sufficient in number for that purpose, and in those Counties where there are not any Battalions formed, that the said Committees proceed, as soon as may be, to divide their Militia into Battalions, according to the Resolves of the late Convention.

That within the general description of able-bodied effective Freemen of this Province, are intended to be included, overseers, and those who are bound by contract made within this Province, to serve in any particular quality or capacity, being able-bodied effective men, between sixteen and fifty years of age.

That a Brigadier-General, a Quartermaster, and an Adjutant-General, be appointed by the Convention over every eight Battalions, and to include within that command, all Artillery Companies and other Militia within the District.

That the Counties ballot for the rank of Colonels and Battalions from number one to number sixteen, and so the County drawing number one to have its Second Battalion

the Seventeenth of the Province, &c., and all Field and Commissioned Officers to rank according to their commissions, and as to those who bear the like commissions, according to the number of the Battalion to which they belong.

That the Companies of each Battalion ballot from number one to number eight, and hold their rank the first battalion day, according to the numbers drawn, the second day, number two to take the place of number one, and number one the place of number eight, and so on, that equals may each in turn have the most honourable place, and every man may be instructed to act in any part of a Battalion, as occasion may require.

That to avoid a needless and insupportable expense, no person after the 10th day of *May* next, wear any uniform at exercise, either in single Companies or in Battalion, but hunting-shirts, the Officers distinguishing themselves from the Privates by different feathers, cockades, or the like, as fancy may direct.

Convention adjourns till to-morrow morning, half after nine o'clock.

—

Friday, January 5, 1776.

Convention met. All Members present as on yesterday. The Proceedings of yesterday were read. Mr. *Sluby* appeared in the House. Mr. *Bishop* has leave of absence.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the several Committees of Observation purchase the whole of the Sulphur in their respective Counties, provided it is to be had at six pence per pound, and that they transmit the same, with an account thereof, as soon as may be, to Messrs. *William Lux* and *Daniel Bowly*, of *Baltimore* town; and that the Committees of Observation be empowered to draw on the Treasurer of their respective Shore, for as many of the bills of credit of this Province as may be wanted; as well for the purposes aforesaid, as for any expenses to be incurred in removing the Sulphur to *Baltimore* town.

Ordered, That the Clerk make out and transmit copies of the above Resolve to the several Committees of Observation for each County in this Province.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the several Counties in this Province be divided into the following Districts, to wit: *St. Mary's*, *Charles*, *Calvert*, and *Prince George's* Counties, into one District; *Anne Arundel*, *Baltimore*, and *Harford* Counties, into another District; *Frederick* County into another District; *Cecil*, *Kent*, *Queen Anne's* and *Talbot* Counties, into another District; *Dorchester*, *Caroline*, *Somerset*, and *Worcester* Counties, into another District.

That to each of the said Districts or Brigades, there be one Brigadier-General, a Quartermaster, and an Adjutant.

Adjourned till three o'clock.

—

Post Meridiem.—Convention met. Mr. *J. Dashiell* has leave of absence till *Monday* next.

Mr. *Scott* brings in and delivers to Mr. President a draft of Instructions for the Deputies representing this Province in Congress, which was read the first time, and ordered to lie on the table.

Convention adjourned till to-morrow morning, half after nine o'clock.

—

Saturday, January 6, 1776.

Convention met. All Members present as on yesterday. The Proceedings of yesterday were read. Mr. *John Reeder*, Jun., a Member for *St. Mary's* County, appeared and took his seat in the House. Mr. *John Allen Thomas* has leave of absence.

The Convention elected by ballot the following persons Field-Officers for the Militia: Mr. *Henry Hooper*, Brigadier-General of the Lower District on the *Eastern Shore*; Mr. *James Lloyd Chamberlaine*, of the Upper District; Mr. *John Dent*, of the Lower District on the *Western Shore*; Mr. *Andrew Buchanan*, of the Middle District; Mr. *Thomas Johnson*, Jun., of the Upper District.

Resolved, That the said Brigadiers-General rank in the following manner, to wit: Brigadier-General *Johnson*, 1st; Brigadier-General *Hooper*, 2d; Brigadier-General *Dent*, 3d; Brigadier-General *Chamberlaine*, 4th; Brigadier-General *Buchanan*, 5th.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the acceptance of a superior office in the Militia of this Province be a vacation of the inferior office.

For St. Mary's County.

Upper Battalion: Mr. *Jeremiah Jordan*, Colonel; Mr. *John Reider*, Jun., Lieutenant-Colonel; Mr. *James Eden*, First Major; Mr. *John Hanson Briscoe*, Second Major; Mr. *James Mills*, Quartermaster.

Lower Battalion: Mr. *Richard Barnes*, Colonel; Mr. *John Hatton Reed*, Lieutenant-Colonel; Mr. *Ignatius Fenwick*, Jun., First Major; Mr. *Samuel Abell*, Sen., Second Major; Mr. *Hugh Hopewell*, Jun., Quartermaster.

For Charles County.

Upper Battalion: Mr. *William Harrison*, Colonel; Mr. *Samuel Hanson* of *Samuel*, Lieutenant-Colonel; Mr. *Kenelm Truman Stoddert*, First Major; Mr. *Samuel Hanson*, Jun., Second; Mr. *Walter Hanson*, Quartermaster.

Lower Battalion: Mr. *Josias Hawkins*, Colonel; Mr. *Robert T. Hooe*, Lieutenant-Colonel; Mr. *John Marshall*, First Major; Mr. *John Harris*, Second; Mr. *John Nathan Smoot*, Quartermaster.

Adjourned till three o'clock.

—

Post Meridiem.—Convention met. Mr. *Thomas Wright*, Mr. *Sim*, and Mr. *Tyler*, have leave of absence. Mr. *Letherbury* appeared in the House.

The Convention resumed the election of Officers for the Militia, and elected by ballot:

For Calvert County.

Mr. *Benjamin Mackall*, Fourth Colonel; Mr. *Alexander Somerville*, Lieutenant-Colonel; Mr. *Joseph Wilkinson*, First Major; Mr. *Patrick Sim Smith*, Second; Mr. *William Allein*, Quartermaster.

For Anne Arundel County.

Elk-Ridge Battalion: Mr. *Thomas Dorsey*, Colonel; Mr. *John Dorsey*, Lieutenant-Colonel; Dr. *C. A. Warfield*, First Major; Mr. *Edward Gaither*, Jun., Second; Mr. *Benjamin Howard*, Quartermaster.

Severn Battalion: Mr. *John Hall*, Colonel; Mr. *Rezin Hammond*, Lieutenant-Colonel; Mr. *Nicholas Worthington*, First Major; Mr. *Elijah Robosson*, Second; Mr. *Matthias Hammond*, Quartermaster.

South-River Battalion: Mr. *John Weems*, Colonel; Mr. *Richard Harwood*, Jun., Lieutenant-Colonel; Mr. *John Thomas*, First Major; Mr. *Thomas Tillard*, Second; Mr. *Edward Tillard*, Quartermaster.

For Frederick County.—Middle District.

First Battalion: Mr. *Charles Beatty*, Colonel; Mr. *William Beatty*, Lieutenant-Colonel; Mr. *Ludwick Weltner*, First Major; Mr. *Benjamin Johnson*, Second; Mr. *Lewis Bush*, Quartermaster.

Second Battalion: Mr. *James Johnson*, Colonel; Mr. *Joseph Wood*, Lieutenant-Colonel; Mr. *Benjamin Ogle*, First Major; Mr. *Roger Johnson*, Second; Mr. *Azel Waters*, Quartermaster.

Third Battalion: Mr. *Jacob Good*, Colonel; Mr. *William Blair*, Lieutenant-Colonel; Mr. *Samuel Shaw*, First Major; Mr. *William Shields*, Second; Mr. *Joseph McKillip*, Quartermaster.

Fourth Battalion: Mr. *Baker Johnson*, Colonel; Mr. *William Luckett*, Lieutenant-Colonel; Mr. *Jacob Miller*, First Major; Mr. *Henry Darnall*, Second; Mr. *Nicholas Tice*, Quartermaster.

Lower District.

Lower Battalion: Mr. *John Murdock*, Colonel; Mr. *Thomas Johns*, Lieutenant-Colonel; Mr. *Richard Brooke*, First Major; Mr. *William Deakins*, Second; Mr. *Richard Thompson*, Quartermaster.

Upper Battalion: Mr. *Zadock Magruder*, Colonel; Mr. *Charles G. Griffith*, Lieutenant-Colonel; Mr. *Francis Deakins*, First Major; Mr. *Richard Crabb*, Second; Mr. *Samuel Du Vall*, Quartermaster.

Upper District.

First Battalion: Mr. *John Stull*, Colonel; Mr. *Andrew Rench*, Lieutenant-Colonel; Mr. *Henry Shryock*, First Major; Mr. *George Woltz*, Second; Mr. *Elie Williams*, Quartermaster.

Second Battalion: Mr. *Samuel Beall*, Colonel; Mr. *Joseph Smith*, Lieutenant-Colonel; Mr. *Richard Davis*, First Major; Mr. *Charles Swearingen*, Second; Mr. *James Chapline*, Quartermaster.

For Harford County.

Upper Battalion: Mr. *Aquila Hall*, Colonel; Mr. *John Love*, Lieutenant-Colonel; Mr. *Josias Carvill Hall*, First Major; Dr. *John Archer*, Second; Mr. *Richard Dallam*, Quartermaster.

Lower Battalion: Mr. *Benjamin Rumsey*, Colonel; Mr. *Thomas Bond*, Lieutenant-Colonel; Mr. *Abraham Jarrett*, First Major; Mr. *John Taylor*, Second; Mr. *Robert Amos*, Quartermaster.

For Cecil County.

Bohemia Battalion: Mr. *John Veazy*, Jun., Colonel; Mr. *John D. Thompson*, Lieutenant-Colonel; Mr. *William Rumsey*, First Major; Dr. *Joshua Clayton*, Second; Mr. *Samuel Young*, Quartermaster.

Elk Battalion: Mr. *Charles Rumsey*, Colonel; Mr. *Henry Hollingsworth*, Lieutenant-Colonel; Mr. *Edward Parker*, First Major; Mr. *John Strawbridge*, Second; Mr. *Thomas Huggins*, Quartermaster.

Susquehannah Battalion: Mr. *George Johnson*, Colonel; Mr. *Thomas Hughes*, Lieutenant-Colonel; Mr. *John Hartshorn*, First Major; Mr. *Elihu Hall*, Second; Mr. *John Hambleton*, Quartermaster.

For Queen Anne's County.

Upper Battalion: *Richard T. Earle*, Colonel; Mr. *Samuel Thompson*, Jun., Lieutenant-Colonel; Mr. *John Seney*, First Major; Mr. *James Kent*, Second; Mr. *William Bruff*, Quartermaster.

Lower Battalion: Mr. *Thomas Wright*, Colonel; Mr. *Richard Tilghman*, Lieutenant-Colonel; Mr. *William Hemsley*, First Major; Mr. *Arthur Emory*, Second; Mr. *James Tilghman*, Quartermaster.

For Somerset County.

Upper Battalion: Mr. *George Dashiell*, Colonel; Mr. *George Day Scott*, Lieutenant-Colonel; Mr. *John Stewart*, First Major; Mr. *William Horsey*, Second; Mr. *Severn Hitch*, Quartermaster.

Lower Battalion: Mr. *Thomas Hayward*, Colonel; Mr. *Peter Waters*, Lieutenant-Colonel; Mr. *Thomas Bruff*, First Major; Mr. *William Waters* of *William*, Second; Mr. *William Gillis*, Quartermaster.

For Worcester County.

First Battalion: Mr. *Peter Chaille*, Colonel; Mr. *Joseph Dashiell*, Lieutenant-Colonel; Mr. *John Done*, First Major; Mr. *Robert Done*, Second; Mr. *George Martin*, Quartermaster.

Second Battalion: Mr. *William Purnell*, Colonel; Mr. *Zadock Purnell*, Lieutenant-Colonel; Mr. *Samuel Handy*, First Major; Mr. *William Morris*, Second; Mr. *Josias Mitchell*, Quartermaster.

The Convention adjourns till *Monday* morning, half after nine o'clock.

—

Monday, January 8, 1776.

Convention met. All Members present, as on *Saturday*, except Mr. *J. A. Thomas*, Mr. *Thomas Wright*, Mr. *Sim*, and Mr. *Tyler*. The Proceedings of *Saturday* were read.

Mr. *Edward Lloyd*, a member elected for *Talbot* County, in the room of *Francis Baker*, and Mr. *Thomas Ringgold*, appointed a member for *Kent* County, in the room of Mr. *Thomas Smyth*, who refused to act, appeared, and took their seats in the House.

Mr. *Sudler* and Mr. *Buchanan* appeared in the House.

Mr. *William Adams* has leave of absence.

Adjourned till three o'clock.

—

Post Meridiem. Convention met.

Mr. *Tyler* and Mr. *Dallam* appeared in the House.

The following persons were elected by ballot to the Battalion in *Talbot* County, to wit:

Mr. *Christopher Birkhead*, Colonel; Mr. *Peregrine Tilghman*, Lieutenant-Colonel; Mr. *Jeremiah Banning*, First Major; Mr. *Robert Lloyd Nichols*, Second; Mr. *Nicholas Thomas*, Quartermaster.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the nomination of Field-Officers for *Dorchester* County be postponed, and that the Council of Safety, hereafter to be appointed, be empowered to appoint them.

The following election by ballot for *Caroline* County, was had:

East Battalion: Mr. *William Richardson*, Colonel; Mr. *Henry Dickinson*, Lieutenant-Colonel; Mr. *William Whitley*, First Major; Mr. *Matthew Driver*, Second; Mr. *John White*, Quartermaster.

West Battalion: Mr. *Philip Fiddeman*, Colonel; Mr. *Benson Stainton*, Lieutenant-Colonel; Mr. *Richard Mason*, First Major; Mr. *Henry Downes*, Second; Mr. *Thomas Hardcastle*, Quartermaster.

The Convention adjourns till to-morrow morning, half after nine o'clock.

—

Tuesday, January 9, 1776.

Convention met. All Members present, as on yesterday. The Proceedings of yesterday were read.

The Memorials of *Patrick Hamilton*, *John Archer*, and *James Harris*, relating to the establishment of Linen and Woollen Manufactories, were read the first time, and ordered to lie on the table.

Ordered, That nine hundred copies of the Proceedings relative to the manufacture of Saltpetre, be immediately printed.

On motion, *Resolved*, That a Committee be appointed to prepare and report a scheme for the emission of Bills of Credit, to defray the expenses of defending this Province; and Mr. *Hollyday*, Mr. *Thomas Johnson*, Mr. *Hooe*, Mr. *Rumsey*, and Mr. *James J. Tilghman*, were elected by ballot a Committee for that purpose.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the Instructions for the Deputies representing this Province in Congress, be taken into consideration to-morrow.

The Convention adjourns till to-morrow morning, half after nine o'clock.

—

Wednesday, January 10, 1776.

Convention met. All Members present, as on yesterday. The Proceedings of yesterday were read. Mr. *Sim*, Mr. *Mackall*, and Mr. *John Allen Thomas* appeared in the House.

The Order of the Day, for taking into consideration the Instructions for the Deputies representing this Province in Congress, being read, the same were taken into consideration, and, after some debate thereon, the Convention adjourned.

—

Thursday, January 11, 1776.

Convention met. All Members present, as on yesterday. The Proceedings of yesterday were read. Mr. *Smith*, Mr. *Jordan*, and Mr. *Gilpin*, have leave of absence.

The Convention resumed the consideration of the Instructions for the Deputies representing this Province in Congress, which were read, considered, and agreed to, and are as follow:

In Convention, January 12, 1776.

To the Honourable *Matthew Tilghman*, Esq., *Thomas Johnson*, Jun., *Robert Goldsborough*, *William Paca*, *Samuel Chase*, *Thomas Stone*, *Robert Alexander*, and *John Rogers*, Esquires.

The Convention, taking into their most serious consideration the present state of the unhappy dispute between *Great Britain* and the *United Colonies*, think it proper to deliver you their sentiments, and to instruct you in certain points, relative to your conduct in Congress, as Representatives of this Province.

The experience we and our ancestors have had, of the mildness and equity of the *English* Constitution, under which we have grown up to, and enjoyed a state of felicity, not exceeded among any people we know of, until the grounds of the present controversy were laid by the Ministry and Parliament of *Great Britain*, has most strongly endeared to us that form of Government from whence these blessings have been derived, and makes us ardently wish for a reconciliation with the mother country, upon

terms that may ensure to these Colonies an equal and permanent freedom.

To this Constitution we are attached, not merely by habit, but by principle, being in our judgments persuaded it is, of all known systems, best calculated to secure the liberty of the subject—to guard against despotism on the one hand, and licentiousness on the other.

Impressed with these sentiments, we warmly recommend to you, to keep constantly in your view the avowed end and purpose for which these Colonies originally associated—the redress of *American* grievances, and securing the rights of the Colonists.

As upon the attainment of these great objects, we shall think it our greatest happiness to be thus firmly united to *Great Britain*, we think proper to instruct you, that should any proposition be happily made by the Crown or Parliament, that may lead to, or lay a rational and probable ground for reconciliation, you use your utmost endeavours to cultivate and improve it into a happy settlement and lasting amity, taking care to secure the Colonies against the exercise of the right assumed by Parliament, to tax them, and to alter and change their Charters, Constitutions, and internal polity, without their consent—powers incompatible with the essential securities of the lives, liberties, and properties of the Colonists.

We further instruct you, that you do not, without the previous knowledge and approbation of the Convention of this Province, assent to any proposition to declare these Colonies independent of the Crown of *Great Britain*, nor to any proposition for making or entering into alliance with any foreign Power, nor to any union or confederation of these Colonies, which may necessarily lead to a separation from the mother country, unless, in your judgments, or in the judgments of any four of you, or a majority of the whole of you, (if all shall be then attending in Congress,) it shall be thought absolutely necessary for the preservation of the liberties of the *United Colonies;* and should a majority of the Colonies in Congress, against such, your judgment, resolve to declare these Colonies independent of the Crown of *Great Britain*, or to make or enter into alliance with any foreign Power, or into any union or confederation of these Colonies, which may necessarily lead to a separation from the mother country, then we instruct you, immediately, to call the Convention of this Province, and repair thereto with such proposition and resolve, and lay the same before the said Convention, for their consideration; and this Convention will not hold this Province bound by such majority in Congress, until the Representative body of the Province, in Convention, assent thereto.

Desirous as we are of peace with *Great Britain*, upon safe and honourable terms, we wish you, nevertheless, and instruct you, to join with the other Colonies, in such military operations as may be judged proper and necessary for the common defence, until such a peace can be happily obtained.

At the same time that we assure you we have an entire confidence in your abilities and integrity, in the discharge of the great trust reposed in you, we must observe to you, as our opinion, that, in the relation of constituent and representative, one principal security of the former is the right he holds to be fully informed of the conduct of the latter. We can conceive no case to exist in which it would be of more importance to exercise this right than the present, nor any in which we can suppose the Representative would more willingly acquiesce in the exercise of it. We, therefore, instruct you, that you move for, and endeavour to obtain, a resolve of Congress, that the votes given by the Colonies on every question agitated in Congress, shall appear upon the journals thereof; and if such resolve be obtained, that you, at the expense of this Province, procure copies of the said journals, except such parts thereof as relate to military operations and measures taken to procure arms and ammunition, and, from time to time, lay the same before the Conventions of this Province, showing the part you, as Representatives of the Province, take in such questions.

And we further instruct you to move for, and endeavour to obtain, a resolve of Congress, that no person who holds any military command in the Continental, or any Provincial regular forces, or marine service, nor any person who holds or enjoys any office of profit under the Continental Congress, or under any Government assumed since the present controversy with *Great Britain* began, or which shall hereafter be assumed, or who directly or indirectly receives the profits, or any part of the profits, of such command or office, shall, during the time of his holding or receiving the same, be eligible to sit in Congress.

Convention adjourns till to-morrow morning, half after nine o'clock.

—

Friday, January 12, 1776.

Convention met. All Members present, as on yesterday, except Mr. *Samuel Chase*, Mr. *Jordan*, Mr. *Smith*, and Mr. *Gilpin*. The Proceedings of yesterday were read.

The President communicates to the Convention several Resolutions of Congress, which were read, and ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. *Ware* has leave of absence.

Adjourned till three o'clock.

—

Post Meridiem. Convention met.

Mr. *Hollyday* brings in, and delivers to Mr. President, a Report from the Committee appointed to prepare and report a scheme for the emission of Bills of Credit, to defray the expenses of defending this Province, and other purposes therein mentioned, which was read the first time, and ordered to lie on the table.

A Report from the Committee appointed to receive Proposals relating to the establishment of Manufactories of any kind within this Province, was read and considered; and, thereupon,

Resolved, That six hundred Pounds, in Bills of Credit, out of the publick Treasury, be advanced to Mr. *William Whetcroft*, of the City of *Annapolis*, for the term of two years, without interest, he giving bond, with good security, to repay the same. The said *William Whetcroft* to contract to build and complete, within the space of six months, at his own risk, a Rolling, Sheeting, and Slitting Mill, within twenty miles of *Baltimore* town, or in any other part of the Province that this Convention shall appoint, and therefrom to supply the publick, and individuals, with Slit or Sheet Iron, at the price the same, at the time of sale thereof, can be purchased in *Pennsylvania* or *Virginia*, and that it shall never exceed the sum of thirty-five Pounds, common money, per ton. The said *William Whetcroft* also to slit, roll, or make into Sheet or Flatted Iron, any quantity thereof, the property of the publick, brought to the said Mill, at the rate of five Pounds per ton; and any quantity thereof, the property of private persons, being inhabitants of this Province, at the rate of six Pounds per ton, if brought to the said Mill.

Ordered, That no commission issue to Mr. *John Thomas*, First Major of the *South River* Battalion, in *Anne Arundel* County, he having declined that office, or to any of the Officers of Mr. *John Burgess's* Company, or to Mr. *William Gambrill*, a Lieutenant of Mr. *John Boone's* Company, during the sitting of this Convention, but that the same be referred to the Council of Safety.

The Convention proceeded to ballot for the rank of Counties and Colonels, when the rank was settled as follows:

Somerset 1; *Cecil* 2; *Dorchester* 3; *Talbot* 4; *Queen Anne's* 5; *St. Mary's* 6; *Anne Arundel* 7; *Harford* 8; *Baltimore* 9; *Worcester* 10; *Prince George's* 11; *Charles* 12; *Kent* 13; *Caroline* 14; *Calvert* 15; *Frederick* 16.

In Somerset County: Colonel *George Dashiell*, of the First Battalion, 1; Colonel *Thomas Hayward*, 17.

Cecil County: Colonel *Charles Rumsey*, 2; Colonel *John Veazy*, 18; Colonel *George Johnson*, 30.

Dorchester: Upper Battalion, 3; Lower Battalion, 19.

Talbot: Colonel *Christopher Birkhead*, 4.

Queen Anne's: Colonel *Richard T. Earle*, 5; Colonel *Thomas Wright*, 20.

St. Mary's: Colonel *Jeremiah Jordan*, 6; Colonel *Richard Barnes*, 21.

Anne Arundel: Colonel *John Hall*, 7; Colonel *Thomas Dorsey*, 22; Colonel *John Weems*, 31.

Harford: Colonel *Benjamin Rumsey*, 8; Colonel *Aquila Hall*, 23.

Baltimore, 9.

Worcester: Colonel *Peter Chaille*, 10; Colonel *William Purnell*, 24.

Prince George's: Lower Battalion, 11; Upper Battalion, 25.

Charles: Colonel *Josias Hawkins*, 12; Colonel *William Harrison*, 26.

Kent: Lower Battalion, 13; Upper Battalion, 27.

Caroline: Colonel *William Richardson*, 14; Colonel *Philip Fiddeman*, 28.

Calvert: Colonel *Benjamin Mackall* 4th 15.

Frederick: Colonel *Zadock Magruder*, 16; Colonel *John Murdock*, 29; Colonel *John Stull*, 31; Colonel *Charles Beatty*, 33; Colonel *Baker Johnson*, 34; Colonel *Jacob Good*, 35; Colonel *Samuel Beall*, 36; Colonel *James Johnson*, 37.

Convention adjourns till to-morrow morning, half after nine o'clock.

—

Saturday, January 13, 1776.

Convention met. All Members present, as on yesterday. The Proceedings of yesterday were read.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the nomination of Field-Officers, for *Kent* County, be referred to the next session of Convention.

Several Resolutions of Congress were read, and ordered to lie on the table.

The following persons were elected by ballot Field-Officers to the Militia in *Prince George's* County, to wit:

The Lower Battalion: Mr. *Joseph Sim*, Colonel; Mr. *Thomas Contee*, Lieutenant-Colonel; Mr. *Thomas Sim Lee*, First Major; Mr. *John Rogers*, Second; Mr. *John F. A. Priggs*, Quartermaster.

Upper Battalion: Mr. *Joshua Beall*, Colonel; Mr. *Robert Tyler*, Lieutenant-Colonel; Mr. *Addison Murdock*, First Major; Mr. *George Lee*, Second; Mr. *William Turner Wootton*, Quartermaster.

The Convention took into consideration the Report from the Committee appointed to prepare and report a scheme for the emission of Bills of Credit, to defray the expenses of defending this Province, and other purposes therein mentioned, and came to the following Resolutions thereon:

That for the defence of this Province, calling in and exchanging the bills of credit emitted by virtue of the Resolves of the last Convention, for the encouragement of Manufactories within this Province, and for other purposes resolved upon in Convention, bills of credit of the denomination of dollars and parts of a dollar, to the amount of five hundred and thirty five thousand one hundred and eleven dollars and one-ninth part of a dollar, be printed and struck with all convenient speed, under the care and direction of such persons as shall be appointed by the Council of Safety for that purpose, in manner and form following, to wit:

"This bill of . . . . . shall entitle the bearer hereof to receive gold or silver, at the rate of four shillings and six pence, sterling, per dollar, for the said bill, according to a Resolve of the Provincial Convention of *Maryland*, held at the city of *Annapolis*, the 7th day of *December*, 1775."

That the plates for striking the said bills of credit, be procured to be cut in copper, by some skilful person in the city of *Philadelphia*, at the expense of this Province, by the Deputies of this Province in Congress, or some two of them, and shall have such devices and marks as the said Deputies, or such two of them, shall direct, and the number and denomination of the said bills shall be the following and no other, to wit: sixteen thousand bills of eight dollars each, sixteen thousand bills of six dollars each, sixteen thousand bills of four dollars each, sixteen thousand bills of two dollars and two-third parts of a dollars each, thirty-two thousand bills of two dollars each, thirty-two thousand bills of one dollar and one-third part of a dollar each, thirty-two thousand bills of one dollar each, thirty-two thousand bills of two-third parts of a dollar each, forty thousand bills of half a dollar each, forty thousand bills of one-third part of a dollar each, forty thousand bills of one-sixth part of a dollar each, and forty thousand bills of one-ninth part of a dollar each.

That the said Deputies, or any two of them, also purchase and provide a sufficient quantity of proper paper, on which to print and strike the said bills of credit, and that they, or some of them, do, as soon as conveniently may be, transmit the said plates and paper to the Council of Safety aforesaid, and that the said Council of Safety do forthwith cause the said bills of credit to be printed and struck, under the direction of two discreet and sober freemen of this Province, to be by them appointed to that service, who shall be called Supervisors.

That the said Supervisors shall use the best of their care and diligence that the said bills, according to their respective denominations aforesaid, and according to the manner and form aforesaid, be forthwith printed and struck, and that the number of any of the denominations thereof be not exceeded, nor any clandestine or fraudulent practice be used by the Printer, his apprentices, servants, and others, concerned in the printing or striking thereof.

That the Printer, and all his apprentices and servants, which he shall employ in the said work, before he or they enter upon the same, take, before some Justice of the Peace, in the presence of one or both of the said Supervisors, the following oath, to wit: "I, A. B., do swear that I will truly, faithfully, and honestly, perform the duty of Printer of the bills of credit directed to be printed by a Resolve of the Convention of *Maryland*, held at the city of *Annapolis*, the seventh day of *December*, seventeen hundred and seventy-five, and that I will not, advisedly, print or stamp a greater number of blank bills of credit than in that Resolve mentioned, nor of any other denomination than therein expressed, except such sheets as may be so blotted, unfair, or imperfect in the printing or striking thereof, that the same shall be unfit for use. So help me *God*."

That the said Printer shall not, by himself, his servants, or any other person by him employed, print, strike, stitch, or bind, the said bills, or any of them, but in the presence of one or both of the said Supervisors. And in every intermission of the work, the said Supervisors shall safely and securely lock up the press and stamps with which the work shall be performed, and the impressions which shall be then made, in the room in which the printing and binding shall be done, and the keys of such room shall keep in their possession; and when all the said bills shall be printed and struck, the plates shall be delivered by the Printer to the said Supervisors, and by them to the Convention, or in its recess, to the Council of Safety.

That *Charles Wallace*, *John Davidson*, *Nathan Hammond*, *Richard Tootell*, *James Brice*, *John Brice*, *Thomas Brook Hodgkin*, *John Duckett*, *Robert Lloyd Nichols*, *Samuel Sharp*, *Richard Tilghman*, Jun., *Henry Banning*, *Peregrine Tilghman*, *William Perry*, *Jeremiah Banning*, and *Joseph Bruff*, be signers of the said bills.

That the said Supervisors, as soon as the said bills shall be printed, struck, stitched, and bound, shall deliver three-fourth parts thereof in value to the Treasurer of the *Western Shore*, appointed by the last Convention, and the other fourth part thereof to the Treasurer of the *Eastern Shore*, appointed by the last Convention; and the said Treasurers shall deliver out to the signers residing on their respective Shores, such and so many of the said bills to be immediately numbered and signed by them, as may be sufficient to answer any probable and immediate demand on them for the same, not exceeding twelve thousand dollars; and each of the said bills shall be numbered and signed by some two of the said signers, and returned again, after being numbered and signed, to the respective Treasurers; and so, from time to time, shall the said bills be delivered out, numbered, signed, and returned, to the said Treasurers, respectively, either of the said Treasurers not keeping by him at any one time, ready numbered and signed, more than twelve thousand dollars.

That receipts of every delivery of the said bills, before and after the numbering and signing the same, be given by the signers and Treasurers, respectively, each to the other.

That the Treasurer of the *Western Shore*, out of the said bills of credit in his hands, pay to each of the Supervisors two dollars, and two-third parts of a dollar for each day's attendance and supervising the said work; to the Deputies who shall procure the plates and paper for printing and striking the said bills, so much as they shall pay for the same, and for transmitting them as aforesaid; and to the Printer, so much as shall be agreed by the Council of Safety for his services, and for the ink and other materials, ex-

*

cept paper, necessary for the said work; and the said Treasurers shall, also, respectively, pay to each signer of every thousand of the said bills, one dollar and one-third part of a dollar for his service.

That each of the said Treasurers shall retain for his services, at the rate of one-half per centum on all moneys by him paid and delivered, and no more.

That torn and defaced bills shall be exchanged at reasonable and convenient times.

That the said bills of credit shall be redeemed and sunk on or before the first day of *January*, seventeen hundred and eighty-six, by taxes or other legislative provision; and this Convention bind their constituents, and pledge the faith of the Province for the redemption of the said bills on or before the said first day of *January*, seventeen hundred and eighty-six.

That two hundred and sixty-six thousand six hundred and sixty-six dollars and two-third parts of a dollar of the said bills of credit, so to be printed and struck, shall be applied to exchange the bills of credit printed and struck by virtue of the Resolve of the last Convention of this Province, and that the said Treasurers shall, forthwith, after their receipt of the bills of credit hereafter to be printed and struck, give publick notice in the newspapers printed in this Province, and in several of the newspapers printed in *Philadelphia* and *Williamsburgh*, that they will give and deliver in exchange any number and value of the bills of credit hereafter to be printed and struck, for the like number and value of the bills of credit printed and struck by virtue of the Resolve of the last Convention, at such times and places as shall be by them appointed for that purpose; and the said Treasurers shall, upon the application of any person or persons holding any number and value of the said former bills of credit, deliver to such person or persons the like value in the new bills of credit in lieu thereof, at such times and places as aforesaid.

That each of the said Treasurers shall, at the publick expense, provide a fit instrument for cutting a piece of one inch square, as near as may be, out of the bills so to be brought in and exchanged, and shall, upon his receipt of any of the said former bills of credit, in exchange as aforesaid, cut out of every of such bills so received, one inch square, as near as may be, taking care not to deface the denomination thereof, and shall preserve such bills until the meeting of the then next Convention, and produce all such bills, and also all the former bills of credit remaining in his hands, to such Convention, to be destroyed.

That from and after the receipt of the said new bills of credit by the said Treasurers, respectively, all payments which they shall make by virtue of any resolve of this or the last Convention, shall be made in the said new bills of credit, and not in the said former bills of credit.

That the person to be employed in the cutting the said plates for striking the said new bills of credit, if required by the said Delegates, or such two of them as shall agree for the same, take an oath, (or affirmation if a Quaker,) that he will not, by himself, his apprentices or servants, make or cut, or suffer to be made or cut, any more or other plates than those which shall be ordered to be cut by the said Deputies, or some two of them, in the similitude and likeness of the plates which shall be so ordered to be cut, or in the similitude and likeness of any of them, unless requested so to do by the Convention of this Province, or by some authority derived from the said Convention.

That the Treasurers aforesaid, respectively, be allowed to retain, as a satisfaction for their trouble in exchanging new bills of credit for the former bills of credit as aforesaid, at the rate of one-half per centum for all bills by them so exchanged, out of the said new bills of credit.

That the said bills of credit which shall be so as aforesaid printed and struck, over and above the said bills hereby directed to be applied to exchange the said former bills of credit, be applied to the several purposes resolved on in this and the last Convention of this Province, and that the Treasurers pay the same to the orders of the Convention or Council of Safety.

That the said Treasurers, before they receive the said blank bills to be printed and struck by virtue of the Resolves of this Convention, shall give bonds, respectively, the Treasurer of the *Western Shore* in the penalty of twelve thousand pounds sterling, payable to the honourable *Daniel of St. Thomas Jenifer*, *Charles Carroll* of *Carrollton*, and *Charles Carroll*, Barrister, Esqrs.; and the Treasurer of the *Eastern Shore* in the penalty of four thousand pounds sterling, payable to the Honourable *Matthew Tilghman*, *Edward Lloyd*, and *James Lloyd Chamberlaine*, Esqrs., with the like conditions as directed by the Resolve of the last Convention; both which bonds shall be with sufficient sureties, to be approved of by the obligees therein named, or any two of them, respectively.

Mr. *Buchanan* and Mr. *Beatty* have leave of absence.

Convention adjourns till to-morrow morning, half after nine o'clock.

—

Sunday, January 14, 1776.

Convention met. All Members present as on yesterday, except Mr. *Buchanan*, Mr. *Sudler*, Mr. *Beatty*, Mr. *Lloyd*, Mr. *Sim*, and Mr. *Tyler*. The Proceedings of yesterday were read.

The Convention took into consideration the Report from the Committee appointed to report resolutions for Raising, Clothing, and Victualling the Forces to be raised in this Province, and came to the following Resolutions thereon:

Resolved, That one Battalion of Regular Troops, to be composed of one Colonel, one Lieutenant-Colonel, two Majors, one Adjutant, one Quartermaster, and nine Companies, one of which of Light-Infantry, and also seven Independent Companies of Regular Troops, two Companies of Artillery, and one Company of Marines, be immediately raised, and paid, and supported, at the expense of this Province, for the defence of the liberties thereof.

That each of the said Independent Companies, and Companies of Artillery, consist of one Captain, three Lieutenants, four Sergeants, four Corporals, one Drummer, one Fifer, and ninety-two Privates.

That each of the said Companies of the Battalion, except the Company of Light-Infantry, be composed of one Captain, two Lieutenants, one Ensign, four Sergeants, four Corporals, one Drummer, one Fifer, and sixty Privates.

That the Company of Light-Infantry be composed of one Captain, three Lieutenants, four Sergeants, four Corporals, one Drummer, one Fifer, and sixty-four Privates; and that the Privates be made up as well by drafts from the other Companies of the Battalion as by inlistments, at the discretion of the Colonel, or commanding officer, of the said Battalion for the time being.

That the pay of the said Battalion, Independent Companies, and Marines, by the calendar month, be as follows:

The Colonel, - - -	$50	Every Ensign, - -	$16
For his expenses, - -	30	Every Sergeant, -	6⅔
The Lieutenant-Colonel,	40	Every Corporal, -	6
For his expenses when acting in a separate department from the Colonel, - - - -	20	Every Drummer & Fifer, - - -	6
		Surgeon, - - -	40
Each Major, - - -	33⅓	Surgeons' Mates, each	20
Every Captain, - - -	26⅔	Chaplain, - - -	20
Every Lieutenant, - -	18	Every Private, - -	5⅓
		Clerk to Colonel, -	20

That the pay of the said Artillery Companies, by the calendar month, be as follows:

Each Captain, - - -	26⅔	Every Sergeant, -	6⅔
Every Lieutenant, - -	18⅓	Every Corporal, -	6

That the pay of the Officers, Seamen, and others, (except the Marines,) in the pay of this Province, in the Marine service, by the calendar month, be regulated by the Council of Safety.

That a Ration consist of one pound of beef or three-quarters of a pound of pork; one pound of flour or bread per man per day; three pints of peas, at six shilling per bushel, per week, or other vegetables equivalent; one quart of *Indian* meal per week; a gill of vinegar and a gill of molasses per man per day; a quart of cider, small beer, or a gill of rum per man per day; three pounds of candles for one hundred men per week, for guards; twenty-four pounds of soft soap, or eight pounds of hard soap, for one hundred men per week.

That the forces employed in the Land service be entitled to the following rations, to wit: Colonel 6, Lieutenant-Colonel 5, Major 4, Captain 3, Subaltern 2, Staff 2, non-Commissioned or Private 1.

That the allowance to the Officers and Men employed

in the Marine service be such as may be hereafter settled by the Council of Safety.

That the following persons be Officers of the said forces, to wit:

Of the Battalion: William Smallwood, Esq., Colonel; *Francis Ware*, Esq., Lieutenant-Colonel; *Thomas Price*, Esq., First Major; *Mordecai Gist*, Esq., Second Major.

First Company: John Hawkins Stone, Captain; *Daniel Bowie*, First Lieutenant; *John Kidd*, Second Lieutenant; *Benjamin Chambers*, Ensign.

Second Company: William Hyde, Captain; *Benjamin Ford*, First Lieutenant, *John Beanes*, Second Lieutenant; *Henry Gaither*, Ensign.

Third Company: Barton Lucas, Captain; *William Sterrett*, First Lieutenant; *Alexander Roxburgh*, Second Lieutenant; *William Ridgely*, Ensign.

Fourth Company: Thomas Ewing, Captain; *Joseph Butler*, First Lieutenant; *Joseph Baxter*, Second Lieutenant; *Edward Praul*, Ensign.

Fifth Company: Nathaniel Ramsey, Captain; *Levin Winder*, First Lieutenant; *Alexander Murray*, Second Lieutenant; *Walker Muse*, Ensign.

Sixth Company: Peter Adams, Captain; *Nathaniel Ewing*, First Lieutenant; *David Plunkett*, Second Lieutenant; *John Jordan*, Ensign.

Seventh Company: John Day Scott, Captain; *Thomas Harwood*, son of *Thomas*, First Lieutenant; *Thomas Goldsmith*, Second Lieutenant; *James Peale*, Ensign.

Eighth Company: Samuel Smith, Captain; *James Campbell*, First Lieutenant; *Joseph Ford*, Second Lieutenant; *Bryan Philpot*, Ensign.

Company of Light Infantry: George Stricker, Captain; *Thomas Smyth*, Jun., First Lieutenant; *James Ringgold*, Second Lieutenant; *Hatch Dent*, Third Lieutenant.

Of the Independent Companies.

First Company: Rezin Beall, Captain; *Bennett Bracco*, First Lieutenant; *John Halkerston*, Second Lieutenant; *Daniel Jenifer Adams*, Third Lieutenant.

Second Company: John Gunby, Captain; *Uriah Forrest*, First Lieutenant; *William Bowie*, Second Lieutenant; *Benjamin Brooks*, Third Lieutenant.

Third Company: John Watkins, Captain; *Moscs Chaille*, First Lieutenant; *Solomon Long*, Second Lieutenant; *Ely Dorsey*, Third Lieutenant.

Fourth Company: James Hindman, Captain; *William Goldsborough*, First Lieutenant; *Archibald Anderson*, Second Lieutenant; *Edward Hindman*, Third Lieutenant.

Fifth Company: John Allen Thomas, Captain; *John Steward*, First Lieutenant; *John Davidson*, Second Lieutenant; *Henry Neale*, Third Lieutenant.

Sixth Company: Lemuel Barrett, Captain; *Thomas Woolford*, First Lieutenant; *John Eccleston*, Second Lieutenant; *Hooper Hudson*, Third Lieutenant.

Seventh Company: Edward Veazy, Captain; *William Harrison*, First Lieutenant; *Samuel T. Wright*, Second Lieutenant; *Edward De Courcy*, Third Lieutenant.

Company of Artillery at Baltimore Town: *Nathaniel Smith*, Captain; *William Woolsey*, First Lieutenant; *Alexander Furnival*, Second Lieutenant; *George Keepott*, Third Lieutenant.

Company of Artillery at Annapolis.

That *Charles Wallace*, Esq., be Paymaster of all the Land Forces (and Marines, when in land service,) raised or to be raised in this Province, in the pay thereof, and shall be entitled to the pay of forty dollars per calendar month.

That *Gabriel Duvall*, Esq., be Mustermaster of the said Land Forces and Commissary of all warlike stores appropriated for the use of the regular service of this Province; and shall be entitled to the pay of fifty dollars per calendar month.

That commissions issue to all the said Officers, in the forms prescribed by this Convention; and that any of the said Officers may be suspended from the exercise of their offices, respectively, or displaced, and new commissions may issue to any other person, at the will and pleasure of this or any future Convention, or, in the recess of Convention, by the Council of Safety, in the name and by the authority of the Convention; and, in case of the death of any Officer, or on his refusal to act, some other person may be appointed, and, as aforesaid, commissioned in his stead by the Convention or Council of Safety.

That Recruiting Orders be delivered to each Captain in the Battalion of the Independent Companies, and Companies of Artillery and Marines, together with his commission, as follows:

Instructions for Inlisting Men in the Service of Maryland.

1. You are to inlist no man who is not able-bodied, healthy, and a good marcher, nor such whose attachment to the liberties of *America* you have cause to suspect. Young, hearty, robust men, who are tied by birth, or family connexions, or property, to this country, and are well practised in the use of fire-arms, are, by much, to be preferred.

2. You will have great regard to moral character, sobriety in particular.

3. You are not to inlist any servant imported, nor, without the leave of the master, any apprentice.

4. Those who engage in the service shall be inlisted according to the form prescribed by this Convention.

5. You shall appoint such men Sergeants and Corporals as recommend themselves by their ability, activity, and diligence; and you are, also, to appoint the Drummer and Fifer to your Company.

6. You will use all diligence in completing your Company, and report (if a Captain in the Battalion) to your Colonel, (if a Captain in an Independent Company, or in the Artillery, or Marines,) to the Council of Safety.

7. You are to be allowed seven shillings and six pence per week for the subsist of recruits, till they arrive at their station.

8. You will take notice that the Colonel of the Battalion, or a Field-Officer to be appointed by him, is to inspect your men, and reject such as do not answer to your instructions.

9. You shall be allowed seven shillings and six pence for every man you inlist, who shall be past, on inspection, as effective, besides the subsist money mentioned before, and your pay.

10. You will furnish the subalterns of your Company with a copy of these instructions, who are to exert themselves in recruiting.

By order: G. Duvall, *Clerk.*

To . . . . . ., Captain of the . . . . .

That all non-Commissioned Officers and Privates of the said Battalion, Independent Companies, and Companies of Artillery and Marines, be inlisted by their voluntarily subscribing an engagement in the following words, to wit: "We, whose names are hereto subscribed, do voluntarily inlist ourselves Soldiers, (or Matrosses, or in the Marines, as the case may happen to be,) to serve as such during the present dispute between *Great Britain* and *America*, unless sooner discharged by order of the Convention, or Council of Safety, of *Maryland*, for the time being, hereby subjecting ourselves to such rules and regulations as are or shall be made by the Convention of *Maryland* for regulating and governing the forces in the pay of this Province. Witness our hands."

That all non-Commissioned Seamen and Landsmen, retained in the pay of this Province for the Naval service, shall be entered by their voluntarily subscribing the following engagement, to wit: "We, whose names are subscribed, do voluntarily enter ourselves as Seamen, (or Landsmen, as the case may be,) in the naval service of the Province of *Maryland*, for the full term of six months next following, unless sooner discharged by order of the Convention, or Council of Safety, of *Maryland*, or by the captain or other chief officer of the ship or vessel in which we may be employed; hereby subjecting ourselves to such rules and regulations as are or shall be made by the Convention of this Province for regulating and governing the forces in the pay thereof. Witness our hands, the dates affixed to our names, respectively."

That one month's pay be advanced to each person who shall be so inlisted or entered as aforesaid, and that, over and above the pay of the non-Commissioned Officers and Privates of the Battalion, Independent Companies, and Companies of Artillery and Marines, each of them be yearly found and allowed, at the expense of this Province,

a new hat, short coat, waistcoat, pair of breeches, and hunting-shirt; and out of their pay there may be reasonable stoppages for necessary shirts, shoes, and stockings.

That the uniform of the Land Forces and Marines be hunting-shirts; the hunting-shirts of the Marines to be blue, and those of the Land Forces to be of other colours.

That the ordinary stations of the said Land Forces be as follow:

That five Companies of the said Battalion, together with the Company of Light Infantry, be stationed at the City of *Annapolis*, and the other three Companies thereof at *Baltimore* town.

That five Companies of the troops, to consist of one hundred men each, be allotted for the *Eastern Shore*.

That one Company thereof be stationed in *Worcester* County; one Company thereof in *Somerset* County; one Company thereof in *Dorchester* County; one Company thereof in *Talbot* County; and that one-half of the remaining Company thereof be stationed in *Queen Anne's* County, and the other half in *Kent* County.

That one Company of the remainder of the said troops, to consist of one hundred men each, be stationed in *St. Mary's* County; and that one-half of the other Company be stationed in *Calvert* County, and the other half in *Charles* County.

One Company of Artillery at the City of *Annapolis*, and the other at *Baltimore* town.

But the Council of Safety may, in their discretion, more particularly point out the stations of any of the said Independent Companies or Companies of Artillery; or may, from time to time, order any of the said Companies to change their stations with each other; or, in case of urgent necessity, may change the stations of, or order any of the forces in the pay of this Province to join and act together, or order any part of the said forces to the relief or assistance of the Colony of *Virginia*, the three lower Counties on *Delaware*, or Province of *Pennsylvania*; the said Council of Safety, in the recess of Convention, having the supreme direction of the said troops.

That the Council of Safety contract for supplying the rations for the said Land Forces on the best terms, the contractors giving good and sufficient security to comply with their contracts.

That every Field and Commissioned Officer in the Land Forces shall, within one month after the acceptance of his commission, and before he shall receive any pay as an Officer, before some one of the Council of Safety, or some Justice of the Peace, take and subscribe an oath, which shall be endorsed and certified on the back of his commission, in the following words, to wit: "I, A. B., do swear, that I will well and truly execute my office according to the within commission, and the trust reposed in me, according to the best of my power and ability; and that I will disband and lay down my arms whenever I shall be ordered so to do by the Convention of *Maryland* for the time being, or any authority derived under it. So help me *God*."

That the Council of Safety, or any one member thereof, on the application of any person who is detained as having entered or been inlisted as aforesaid in the service of this Province, or on the application of any person in his behalf, within twenty days after his having been detained as aforesaid, may and shall, with all convenient speed, inquire and examine into the manner of such entering or inlistment; and, if it shall appear that such person did not enter or inlist voluntarily, or was fraudulently induced to enter or inlist, then the Council of Safety, or such member thereof as aforesaid, shall discharge such person.

That such of the said forces as the said Council of Safety shall approve, be armed with rifles, and the residue of them be armed and accoutred, as soldiers are usually armed and accoutred, with the publick arms already belonging to this Province, and arms to be provided at the publick expense, as soon as they can be procured; and, in the mean time, such who cannot be provided with publick arms may use their own fire-locks; and every man who shall find his own rifle shall be allowed, at the rate of twenty shillings by the year, for the use thereof; and those who shall find other fire-locks for their own use shall be allowed, each, at the rate of fifteen shillings per year, for the use of such fire-locks.

That, if any officer or soldier of the Regular Forces, Minute-Men, or Militia, in the service of this Province, shall lose a limb, or be otherwise maimed or hurt, so as to be rendered incapable of earning a livelihood, this Province will make provision for the comfortable support of such officer or soldier.

That such sums of money, as may be necessary to provide houses for the said troops during the winter season, be, by the permission and allowance of the Council of Safety, advanced, out of the Treasuries of the respective Shores on which such troops are stationed, by the commanding officer of the said Battalion and Captains of the said Independent Companies, to be by them, respectively, laid out in providing the said houses.

That the said Treasurers, respectively, keep account of such moneys, charging the said City of *Annapolis*, Town of *Baltimore*, and Counties aforesaid, with the sums of money respectively advanced for the purposes aforesaid; which sums of money shall, hereafter, be assessed upon the said City, Town, and Counties, to which the same are, respectively, advanced, above the proportion of the said City, Town, and Counties, in the general tax.

That such bedding, and covering, and fuel, as the Council of Safety shall judge fit and proper, be provided for the said troops, at the Provincial expense.

That proper tents and camp utensils be provided by the Council of Safety for the said troops, at the expense of this Province, the said tents to be used as soon as the season will permit.

Mr. *Johnson* brings in and delivers to Mr. President a Report from the Committee appointed to report Rules and Regulations for the government of the Forces to be raised in this Province; which was read, and considered, and agreed to, as follows:

Rules for regulating and governing the Forces to be raised and employed in the service of the Province of MARYLAND.

FOR THE LAND FORCES.

ART. 1. It is earnestly recommended to all officers and soldiers to attend Divine service, when their situation will permit; and all officers and soldiers who shall behave irreverently at any place of Divine worship, shall, if commissioned officers, be brought before a Court-Martial, there to be publickly and severely reprimanded by the President; if a non-commissioned officer or soldier shall so offend, he shall, for the first offence, forfeit one day's pay, and for the second, and every after offence, he shall not only forfeit the like sum, but be confined for any time not exceeding twenty-four hours.

2. Whatever commissioned or non-commissioned officer or soldier shall use any profane oath or execration, shall incur the penalties expressed in the preceding article. And whatsoever commissioned or non-commissioned officer or soldier shall practise any species of gaming, shall pay such fine or suffer such punishment as may be adjudged.

3. Any officer or soldier who shall behave himself with contempt or disrespect towards the Colonel or other chief officer of the land forces in the pay of this Province, or shall speak false words, tending to his hurt or dishonour, shall be punished according to the nature and degree of his offence.

4. Any officer or soldier who shall utter any words tending to raise a mutiny, or shall endeavour to cause any mutiny or make any mutinous assemblies, shall be punished according to the nature and degree of his offence.

5. Any officer or soldier who shall excite, cause, or join in, any actual mutiny in the battalion, or in any company in the pay of this Province, or in any party, post, detachment, or guard, shall suffer death, or such other punishment as may be adjudged.

6. Any officer or soldier who, being present at a mutiny, does not use his utmost endeavours to suppress the same, or, coming to the knowledge of any mutiny or intended mutiny, does not, without delay, give information thereof to his commanding or some superior officer, shall be punished according to the nature and degree of his offence.

7. Any officer or soldier who shall strike his superior officer, or draw, or offer to draw, or shall lift up any weapon, or offer any violence against him, being in the execution of his office, or shall disobey any lawful commands of

his superior officer, shall suffer such punishment as shall be adjudged.

8. Any officer or soldier who shall desert to the enemy, and afterwards be retaken, shall suffer death, or such other punishment as may be adjudged.

9. Any non-commissioned officer or soldier who shall desert, or, without leave from his commanding officer, absent himself from the company to which he belongs, or from any detachment of which he is one, shall be punished according to the nature of his offence.

10. Whatsoever officer or soldier shall be convicted of having advised or persuaded any other officer or soldier to desert, shall suffer such punishment as shall be adjudged.

11. All officers, of what condition soever, shall have power to part and quell all quarrels, frays, and disorders, and order offenders to be arrested and confined till their proper superior officer shall be acquainted therewith; and whosoever shall refuse to obey such officer, (though of an inferior rank,) or shall draw his sword upon him, shall be punished according to the nature of his offence.

12. No officer or soldier shall use any reproachful or provoking speeches or gestures to another, nor shall presume to send a challenge to any person to fight a duel; and whosoever shall, knowingly or willingly, suffer any person whatsoever to go forth to fight a duel, or shall second, promote, or carry any challenge, shall be deemed a principal; and whatsoever officer or soldier shall upbraid another for refusing a challenge, shall, also, be considered as a challenger; and all such offenders, in any of these or such like cases, shall be punished according to the nature of his offence.

13. Any officer commanding in quarters, or on a march, shall keep good order, and to the utmost of his power redress all such abuses or disorders which may be committed by any officer or soldier under his command; if upon any complaint made to him of officers or soldiers beating, or otherwise ill-treating, any person, or of committing any kind of riot, to the disquieting of the inhabitants, the said commander who shall refuse or omit to see justice done on the offender or offenders, and reparation made to the party or parties injured, as far as the offender's wages will enable him or them, shall, upon due proof thereof, be punished in such manner as if he, himself, had committed the crimes or disorders complained of.

14. If any officer or soldier should think himself wronged by his Captain or commanding officer, and shall, upon application to him, be refused redress, he may complain to the Colonel or commanding officer of the said battalion to obtain justice, who is hereby required to examine into the said complaint, and see that justice be done.

15. Whatsoever non-commissioned officer or soldier shall sell, or designedly, or through neglect, waste, the ammunition, arms, or other military stores or provisions delivered out to him, to be used or employed in the service, shall, if an officer, be reduced to a private sentinel, and if a private soldier, shall suffer such punishment as shall be adjudged.

16. Any non-commissioned officer or soldier who shall be found one mile from his station, or the camp, without leave, in writing, from his commanding officer, shall suffer such punishment as shall be adjudged.

17. No officer or soldier shall be out of his quarters or camp without leave from the commanding officer, upon penalty of being punished according to the nature of his offence.

18. Every non-commissioned officer and soldier shall repair to his quarters or tent at the beating of the retreat, in default of which he shall be punished according to the nature of his offence.

19. No officer, non-commissioned officer, or soldier, shall fail of repairing, at the time fixed, to the place of parade or exercise, or other rendezvous appointed by the commanding officer, if not prevented by sickness or some other necessity, or shall go from the said place of rendezvous, or from his guard, without leave from his commanding officer, before he shall be regularly dismissed or relieved, on penalty of being punished according to the nature of his offence.

20. Whatsoever commissioned officer shall be found drunk on his guard, party, or other duty under arms, shall be cashiered for it; any non-commissioned officer or soldier so offending, shall suffer such punishment as shall be adjudged.

21. Whatsoever sentinel shall be found sleeping upon his post, or shall leave it before he shall be regularly relieved, shall suffer such punishment as shall be adjudged.

22. Any person belonging to the Provincial forces, who, by discharging of fire-arms, beating of drums, or by any other means, whatsoever, shall occasion false alarms in camp or quarters, shall suffer such punishment as shall be adjudged.

23. Any officer or soldier who shall, without urgent necessity, or without leave of his superior officer, quit his platoon or division, shall be punished according to the nature of his offence.

24. No officer or soldier shall do violence, or offer any insult or abuse to any person who shall bring provisions or other necessaries to any camp or quarters; any officer or soldier so offending, shall suffer such punishment as shall be adjudged.

25. Whatsoever officer or soldier shall shamefully abandon his post in the time of an engagement, shall suffer death immediately.

26. Whatsoever officer or soldier shall shamefully abandon any post committed to his charge, or shall induce any other persons so to do, shall suffer death, or such other punishment as shall be adjudged.

27. Any person of, or belonging to, the said forces, how shall make known the watchword to any person who is not entitled to receive it, according to the rules and discipline of war, or shall presume to give a parole or watchword different from what he received, shall suffer death, or such other punishment as shall be adjudged.

28. Whosoever of, or belonging to, the said forces, shall relieve the enemy with money, victuals, or ammunition, or shall knowingly harbour or protect an enemy, shall suffer such punishment as shall be adjudged.

29. Whosoever of, or belonging to, the said forces, shall be convicted of holding a treacherous correspondence with, or of giving intelligence to, the enemy, either directly or indirectly, shall suffer death, or such other punishment as shall be adjudged.

30. If any officer or soldier shall leave his post or colours, at the time of an engagement, to go in search of plunder, he shall suffer such punishment as may be adjudged.

31. If any commander of any post, intrenchment, or fortress, shall be compelled by the officers or soldiers under his command to surrender it to the enemy, or abandon it, the offenders shall suffer death, or such other punishment as may be adjudged.

32. If any person shall use menacing words, signs or gestures, in the presence of any Court-Martial, when sitting, or shall cause any disorder or riot, so as to disturb their proceedings, he shall be punished at the discretion of such Court-Martial.

33. To the end that offenders may be brought to justice, whenever any officer or soldier shall commit a crime deserving punishment, he shall, by his commanding officer, if an officer, be put in arrest; if a non-commissioned officer or soldier, be imprisoned till he shall be either tried by a Court-Martial, or shall be lawfully discharged by proper authority.

34. No officer or soldier, who shall be put in arrest or imprisonment, shall continue in his confinement more than eight days, or till such time as a Court-Martial can be conveniently assembled.

35. No officer commanding a guard, or provost martial, shall refuse to receive or keep any prisoner delivered into his charge by an officer belonging to the said forces; the officer, at the same time, delivering an accusation signed by himself, of the crime with which the said prisoner is charged.

36. No officer commanding a guard, or provost martial, shall presume to release any prisoner committed to his charge, without proper authority for so doing; nor shall he suffer any prisoner to escape, on the penalty of being punished for it as may be adjudged.

37. Every officer or provost martial, to whose charge any prisoner shall be committed, is hereby required, within twenty-four hours after such commitment, or as soon as

he shall be relieved from his guard, to give, in writing, to the Colonel, or commanding officer of the prisoner, his name and crime, and the name of the officer who committed him, on the penalty of being punished for his neglect as may be adjudged.

38. Whatsoever commissioned officer shall leave his confinement before he is set at liberty by the officer who confined him, or by a superior power, shall be cashiered for it.

39. Whatsoever commissioned officer shall behave in a scandalous, infamous manner, such as is unbecoming the character of an officer and gentleman, shall be discharged from the service.

40. The officer commanding the said battalion, and every officer commanding a company not of the said battalion, shall, upon notice given to him by the Commissary of Musters, assemble the battalion or company, under his command, in the next convenient place for their being mustered, which shall be done of the said battalion once in six weeks at least, and of the said other forces once in ten weeks at least.

41. Every Field-Officer, or other officer, commanding any corps, and actually residing with it, may give furloughs to officers and soldiers of his corps, as he shall judge to be most consistent with the good of the service; but no officer or soldier shall be absent above twenty days in six months; nor shall more than one officer and two private men be absent at the same time from any one company, excepting some extraordinary occasion shall require it.

42. At every muster, the commanding officer of the said battalion then present, or the captain or commanding officer of the said companies, not of the battalion then present, shall give to the Commissary of Musters certificates of the musters signed by himself, signifying how long such officers, non-commissioned officers, and soldiers, who shall not appear at the said muster, have been absent, and the reason of their absence, which reason, and the time of absence shall be inserted in the muster-rolls, opposite to the respective names of such absentees; and the said certificate, together with the muster-roll, shall be, by the said Commissary, transmitted to the Council of Safety within twenty days next after such muster being taken, on failure whereof, the Commissary so offending shall be discharged from the service.

43. Every officer, who shall sign a false certificate relating to the absence of officers, or non-commissioned officers, or private soldiers, shall be cashiered.

44. Every officer who shall knowingly make a false muster of any man, and any officer or Commissary, who shall sign, allow or return the muster-rolls wherein such false muster is contained, knowing the falsity thereof, shall be cashiered, and forfeit all such pay as may be due to him at the time of his conviction of such offence.

45. Any Commissary, who shall take any gift or gratuity, on the false mustering of the said battalion, or any company, or for signing any muster-roll, shall be displaced, and forfeit his pay, as in the preceding article.

46. Any officer, who shall presume to muster any person as a soldier, who at other times is accustomed to wear a livery, or who does not actually do his duty as a soldier, shall be deemed guilty of having made a false muster, and suffer accordingly.

47. The commanding officer of every corps, or of any garrison in the service aforesaid, or at any station of any of the said forces shall, in the beginning of every month, transmit to the Council of Safety an exact return of the state of the troops under his command, specifying the names of the officers not then residing at their posts, and the reason for, and time of, their absence. And whoever shall, through neglect or design, omit sending such returns, shall be punished as may be adjudged.

48. No person shall be allowed to suttle at any camp or station, or to any party or detachment of the said forces, before he shall have obtained a license from the commanding officer thereof, and shall also have subscribed these Rules.

49. No sutler shall be permitted to sell any kind of liquor, or victual, or to keep his house or shop open, for the entertainment of soldiers, after nine o'clock at night, or before beating the reveilles, or upon *Sundays*, between the hours of ten and one o'clock, on penalty of being dismissed from all future suttling.

50. No officer commanding in any camp, garrison, fort, or station, shall lay any duty or imposition upon, or be interested in the sale of any victuals, liquors, or other necessaries of life, or merchandise which are brought or offered for sale for the use of the soldiers, nor shall receive or have any gratuity or reward for any license to any sutler, on penalty of being discharged from the service.

51. Any commissioned officer who shall be guilty of any fraud or embezzlement, shall forfeit all his pay due at the time of his conviction, make restitution, and be discharged from the service.

52. Any non-commissioned officer or soldier, who shall embezzle or destroy ammunition, provisions, tools, or any other thing belonging to the publick stores, shall be punished as may be adjudged.

53. Any officer or soldier, who shall wilfully, or through negligence, disobey any general or special orders, shall be punished as may be adjudged.

54. That no General Court-Martial shall consist of a less number than thirteen, none of whom shall be of a less degree than a commissioned officer, and the President shall be a Field-Officer; which General Court-Martial shall be appointed, when and as often as occasion shall require, by the Council of Safety, or the Colonel or commanding officer of the said battalion; and the President shall administer an oath to the other members of the same Court, and the member next in rank to the President shall administer an oath to him, before the said Court shall proceed to determine or hear any case, in the words following, to wit: "You, A. B., do swear, that you will well and truly try, and impartially determine the cause of the prisoner now to be tried, according to the rules for regulating and governing the forces in the service of this Province. So help you *God*." *Provided*, That when any person is to be tried for his life, the Council of Safety shall appoint twenty-four members at least, two of which to be Field-Officers, and ten at least to be Captains, out of a list of whom the offender may strike all above the number of fifteen, leaving at least one Field-Officer and five Captains; and sentence of death shall not be pronounced, unless twelve of the Court-Martial concur in such sentence.

55. That no Inferior Court-Martial shall consist of a less number than five commissioned officers, unless in such cases where that number cannot be conveniently assembled, when three shall be sufficient; but no person on or against whom the offence is alleged to have been committed, shall be a member of any Court-Martial for the trial thereof; and in such cases where three, for that reason, cannot be had of the same corps, garrison, party, or station, of the offender, then with those who are competent of that corps, garrison, party, or station, and the next most convenient thereto; such Inferior Court-Martial shall be constituted of five members at least.

56. That all Inferior Court-Martials shall be appointed by the Colonel or commanding officer of the battalion, corps, garrison, party, or station, to which the offender belongs, and the members thereof shall take the same oath, to be administered in like manner as the members of a General Court-Martial,

57. That every Court-Martial administer an oath to every witness produced before them in the following words, to wit: "You do swear, that the evidence you shall give in the case in hearing, shall be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth. So help you *God*."

58. That the members of every Court-Martial shall take the same rank as they hold in the Army, and shall behave themselves with calmness, decency, and moderation, and, in giving in their votes, shall begin with the lowest in commission; and the sentence of the Court shall be given according to the majority of votes, except in capital cases, as before mentioned.

59. That in all trials of Field-Officers, two-thirds of the number that constitute the Court-Martial shall be of the degree of a Captain at least.

60. That no person shall suffer death under any article, unless the pain of death is expressly annexed by such article to his crime, nor shall any person be punished for any crime or offence, except for shamefully abandoning his post in an engagement, until he shall be convicted thereof by a General or Inferior Court-Martial.

61. That no Inferior Court-Martial shall be competent

to pass sentence for any greater punishment on a commissioned officer, than a pecuniary fine, not exceeding twelve dollars, or reprimand, or concession, or to ask pardon; or on a non-commissioned officer or soldier for a greater punishment, than a pecuniary fine, not exceeding half a month's pay, or for five days' close imprisonment, or for whipping on the bare back not exceeding fifteen lashes.

62. That in all cases where the sentence is discretionary, no General Court-Martial shall adjudge the offender, if a commissioned officer, to suffer any greater punishment than a fine or forfeiture of his pay to the amount of ten pounds, to make proper concessions, or to ask pardon, to be reprimanded or cashiered, or discharged from the service; or if the offender be a non-commissioned officer or private, a forfeiture of his pay for one month, or a fine to the value thereof, close imprisonment not exceeding ten days, or whipping with thirty-nine lashes on the bare back, and drumming out of the company.

63. No sentence of death shall be executed on any offender before the proceedings shall be certified to, and approved by, the Council of Safety, who may, in their discretion, pardon the offender; nor shall any sentence of a General or Inferior Court-Martial for whipping, be executed before the same shall be made known to, and approved by, the commanding officer of the battalion, corps, garrison, or station, to which the offender belongs, and such commanding officer may, in his discretion, remit such punishment.

64. All fines shall be paid into the hands of such persons as shall be directed by the Court-Martial that set the same, and shall be applied to the relief of the sick of the company to which the offender belongs.

65. That these Rules shall be openly and distinctly read at the head of every corps, garrison, company, or part of a company, stationed at any one place, once at least, in every month, under the penalty of twenty pounds on the officer commanding such corps, garrison, company, or part of a company.

Convention adjourns till to-morrow morning, half after nine o'clock.

—

Monday, January 15, 1776.

Convention met. All Members present as on yesterday. The Proceedings of yesterday were read.

Ordered, That Mr. *Richard Ridgely* qualify himself as Clerk Assistant to the Convention, by taking the oath of office and secrecy, as directed to be taken by the Clerk.

A Certificate of said *Ridgely's* qualification was produced and filed.

Resolved, That this Convention is willing and desirous to contribute all the assistance in their power to the relief of their sister Colonies; and as this Convention is informed that the Counties of *Accomack* and *Northampton* are in need of assistance,

Resolved, That the Minute Company in *Dorchester* County, commanded by Captain *Joseph Robson*, and the Minute Company in *Queen Anne's* County, commanded by Captain *James Kent*, and the Minute Company in *Kent* County, commanded by Captain *William Henry*, immediately march to *Accomack* and *Northampton* Counties, in *Virginia*, to the assistance of the inhabitants there; and that if any of the men belonging to either of the said companies cannot go on this occasion, then the full number to be made up by such volunteers as may offer for this particular service.

That each private be allowed for his subsistence on his march, one-sixth part of a dollar per day, and the officers in proportion.

That *Yelverton Peyton Probart* be appointed Commissary, to provide subsistence for the said companies whilst on their station, and that seven hundred Pounds, common money be paid into his hands by the Treasurer of the *Eastern Shore*, to be applied for that purpose, he giving bond, payable to the President, in the penalty of twelve hundred pounds, current money, conditioned for the faithful expenditure of the same, and rendering an account and payment of the balance, if any, thereof.

That the Committee of Observation for *Kent* County, furnish such of the publick arms in their possession as may be necessary to arm such men of the said Minute Companies as have not good arms of their own; and if there shall not be sufficient of the publick arms in the possession of the said Committee, then it is earnestly recommended to the Committees of Observation for the said Counties of *Dorchester*, *Queen Anne's*, and *Kent*, and of the adjacent Counties, to borrow such arms from the inhabitants of the said Counties as may be necessary to arm the said companies; which arms, so borrowed, shall be valued, and a receipt passed therefor, to the end that the owners may be paid for the same by this Province, in case the said arms be not returned in good order; and it is recommended to the said inhabitants, to lend such spare arms, as they have, and may be necessary for the service aforesaid.

That the said companies be relieved at the end of eight weeks, at furthest, from their arrival at their station, and be entitled to the same pay and rations as troops in the Continental Army.

That one hundred Pounds be advanced to the Captain of each of the said companies, out of the Treasury on the *Eastern Shore*, to be applied to defray the necessary expenses of the march of their companies, and that exact accounts be rendered of the expenditure of all moneys by the Captains and Commissary.

That the said Commissary, for his trouble, be entitled to the pay of forty dollars per calendar month.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the Captains of the Independent Companies, or other officers commanding such Independent Companies, or any part thereof, respectively, do, as occasions may require, apply to some adjacent Surgeon or Physician, to attend any sick or wounded soldier under his command; and that such Surgeon's or Physician's reasonable account for such attendance, and for medicines found and administered by him, be allowed and paid by the publick.

That necessary fuel be found for the said forces in the service of this Province, at the expense thereof, as may be ordered by the Council of Safety.

Adjourned till three o'clock.

—

Post Meridiem.—Convention met. Mr. *Tyler* and Mr. *Sim* appeared in the House.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the powers and authorities of the Deputies of this Province in Congress, have continuance until the end of the next session of Convention, and no longer, unless otherwise resolved, in this or the said next session of Convention, any thing in the Resolves of this or the last Convention, or any of them, to the contrary notwithstanding.

Resolved, That the Officers of the Militia rank in the following manner to wit: Brigadiers-General, Colonels, Lieutenant-Colonels, First Majors, Second Majors, Captains, First Lieutenants, Second Lieutenants, Ensigns; the Brigadiers-General as to each other, first, second, third, fourth, and fifth, according to their numbers; the other Officers as to others holding like Commissions, according to the number of the Battalion to which they belong; and if they should not belong to any Battalion, then next after the Officers holding in Battalions the like Commissions as themselves, and, as to each other, according to the number of the first Battalion in their respective County. But after the places in the Militia now enrolled shall have been once filled up, and the Officers shall have accepted their Commissions, on the filling up any places that may again become vacant, such Officers, as shall be thereafter appointed to such places, shall hold rank, amongst others of the same degree as themselves, according to the dates of their respective Commissions only; and all Battalions to be hereafter formed, shall be numbered by the successive numbers following the last number of those already formed, or allowed, by this Convention, according to the time of issuing the Commission to the respective Colonel.

That the Officers of the Militia hold no rank with those of the Regular Forces, unless at, and during such times as they act together, and that when they do act together, they rank in the following order: Field-Officers of the Regular Troops, Brigadiers-General and First Colonels of the Militia; Captains of the Regular Troops, Lieutenant-Colonels and Majors of Militia; Lieutenants of the Regular Troops, Captains and Lieutenants of Militia; Ensigns of Regular Troops, Ensigns of Militia. The Officers of Minute-Men

to rank next above the Officers holding the like Commissions in the Militia.

That any part of the Militia in actual service, during the time of their actual service only, shall be subject to the Rules made by this Convention, for regulating and governing the Forces to be raised and employed in the service of this Province, and shall be entitled to the same pay and rations as the Regular Forces, and no more; but General and Inferior Court-Martials shall be composed of Militia Officers only, and the punishment of whipping shall not be adjudged against, or inflicted on, any man serving in the Militia.

Mr. *Joseph Dashiell* has leave of absence.

Convention adjourns till to-morrow morning, half after nine o'clock.

—

Tuesday, January 16, 1776.

Convention met. All Members present as on yesterday. The Proceedings of yesterday were read.

A Petition from a number of the Inhabitants of the City of *Annapolis* was read, and ordered to lie on the table.

On motion, *Resolved*, That where any person, or persons, chosen, or to be chosen, of the Committee of Observation for any County or District, shall refuse to act, if the number so refusing to act in any one County or District, shall not at one and the same time exceed one-fourth part of the whole number of the said Committee, any part of the residue of the same Committee, not less than two-third parts of the same residue, met together after notice, may elect one other of the most discreet freemen of the said County or District, to be of the Committee in the stead of each person so refusing to act; and the place of any person dying may be filled up in like manner; and the same rule shall also be observed, where any member of a Committee of Observation shall, in writing under his hand, decline to act, or shall be disqualified by the acceptance of a commission in the Regular Forces; but in case the vacancies shall, at one and the same time, exceed the said one-fourth part, then a majority of those who remain of the same Committee, met together, may appoint, and give ten days' notice at least, by advertisements set up in the most publick places of the County or District, as the case may be, of the election of Committee-Men in the stead of those whose places shall be so vacant, and the election shall be made accordingly, by those who are qualified to vote for Committee-Men, in the presence of three, at least, of the same Committee.

Adjourned till three o'clock.

—

Post Meridiem.—Convention met.

On motion, *Resolved*, That two hundred and forty copies of the Association, ordered by the last Convention to be tendered to and subscribed by the freemen of this Province, be forthwith printed; and that forty of the said copies be sent to the Committee of Observation for *Baltimore* County, forty of the said copies to the Committee of Observation for the Upper District of *Frederick* County, and the residue of them in equal proportions to the Committees of the several Counties; and the Committees aforesaid, of *Baltimore* County and the Upper District of *Frederick* County, shall cause the said Association to be tendered, on or before the first day of *April* next, to every freeman in the Hundreds of their County and District, respectively, where the said Association hath not been already generally tendered to the said freemen, to be subscribed by them, according to the Resolutions of the late Convention; and every person who shall not sign the said Association at the time of tendering the same to him, or within ten days thereafter, shall be in the same condition as if the same had been tendered to him according to the said former Resolutions, and he had refused or neglected to have subscribed the same; and the Committee of Observation for each County shall leave one or more of the Association Papers in the custody of some person, or persons, to be by them, respectively, appointed, at some house in their County town, and also at *Georgetown* and *Hagerstown*, in *Frederick* County, and shall give publick notice thereof by advertisements, so that such of the freemen of this Province, who have not done so already, may subscribe the same.

That every freeman within this Province who hath not already, nor before the eleventh day of *April* next, shall have subscribed the Association aforesaid, shall within five days after the said last mentioned day, deliver up to the Committee of Observation for his County, all his fire-arms, if he hath any, except pistols; and every person who shall neglect to do the same, may be disarmed by order of the Committee of Observation for his County, in like manner as those who ought to enroll in the Militia and refuse to do so, and the arms of the non-Associators shall, and may be, disposed of in the same manner as the arms of those who refuse to enroll in the Militia; and, moreover, the Committee of Observation of each County in this Province, may, in their discretion, award and order any freeman of this Province, not associating as aforesaid, found within their County, whether such freeman be a resident of their County or not, to enter into bond with good and sufficient security, in such penalty as they may think fit, payable to the President of the Convention, for the time being, by name, conditioned, that if such non-Associator shall behave himself peaceably and quietly in the present unhappy contest between *Great Britain* and the Colonies; that he shall not directly or indirectly betray or give intelligence to the enemy of any councils or preparations of the Congress, or any Convention or Assembly, or Council or Committee of Safety of this or any other Province or Colony; and that he shall not directly or indirectly correspond, by letter, message, or otherwise, during the said contest, with any *British* Minister, Secretary of State, Member of Parliament, or any person out of this Province, holding an office, civil, or military, immediately under the Crown, or with any other person in arms against these Colonies, knowing such person to be in arms, then the above obligation to be void. But if any such non-Associator shall choose to quit this Province and go beyond sea, then the Committee of Observation of the County to which he belongs, may, and is hereby empowered to grant him a passport to leave this country in peace, and go beyond the sea, carrying with him his property, or any part thereof; and any person refusing to sign the said Association, and to give bond as aforesaid, and continuing to reside within this Province, may be imprisoned by the Committee of Observation of the County in which such non-Associator resides or may be found, until the Convention then next after such imprisonment shall have taken order therein. And in case any non-Associator shall quit this country and leave an Estate in this Province, such Estate shall be burdened with a proportionate part of the expense incurred by this Province in defence of *American* liberty; but these Resolutions are not to extend to the household of His Excellency the Governour. All which Association Papers that shall be subscribed as aforesaid, as well as a list of the names of all those who shall refuse or neglect to subscribe the same, and all original bonds taken as aforesaid, shall be returned to the next Convention. *Provided*, That where any person hath not, nor shall actually refuse to subscribe the Association, but shall only have neglected to subscribe the same, if he doth afterwards sign the same before the Committee of Observation of his County, he shall not be disarmed for his neglect, nor compellable to give any such bond as before mentioned.

On motion, *Resolved*, That where there are any Companies of Militia in the several Counties, which are left out of their Battalions already formed, or where there may be any surplus Companies in the several Counties, after forming the Militia into Battalions, as directed by the last Convention, the Brigadier-General of the District may, at his discretion, form the said Companies into Corps, and return the same to the Council of Safety, who may appoint and commission such Field-Officers as may by them be judged proper and necessary to command such corps.

The following Report was taken into consideration:

The Committee appointed to consider the truth of the facts set forth in a Memorial from the Justices of *Baltimore* County Court, and report their opinion thereon,

Do Report, That the uneasiness in the minds of many of the Inhabitants of *Baltimore* County, arises from the uncommon increase of Taxes therein, extraordinary assessments being made for the erecting publick Buildings and Bridges, clearing, straightening, opening, grubbing, and stoning Roads, and paying their proportion towards building a Prison, Court-House, &c., in *Harford* County.

That sundry Inhabitants of *Baltimore* County were, and are averse to clearing, opening, and straightening, said Roads, and intended to petition the Legislative Body of this Province for a repeal of the law authorizing the same, or an alteration thereof, in such parts as they apprehended aggrieved them; but being prevented by the unhappy disputes subsisting between the Colonies and *Great Britain*, from making application for redress of such apprehended grievances, to the Assembly of this Province, they have been led into an unlawful and unwarrantable opposition to the collection of the publick Taxes, which the necessary embargo laid on our ports has tended greatly to increase.

That a great number of the said Inhabitants have paid the said Taxes, and they being imposed by virtue of sundry acts of the Assembly, your Committee are of opinion, the residue of the said Inhabitants are in duty bound to pay those already assessed, as they clearly had it in their power to discharge them, the ports being open, and a price offered for all manner of country produce, till the 10th of *September* last.

That the remainder of the said money, directed by the said acts of Assembly to be levied, ought, by the Justices of the said County, pursuant to the said acts, to be assessed; but if trade and commerce should not be restored in such manner as to enable the people of the said County to discharge the said taxes, that the legislative authority for the time being ought, in such circumstances, to suspend the payment of the same (except such part thereof as shall be assessed for the paying for the building of the Poor-House and Inspection-House in said County,) or take order therein in such other way as to them shall seem most expedient.

That it is the opinion of this Committee, that the Money appropriated for loan, to the Inhabitants of *Baltimore* County, for clearing and opening Roads, by act of Assembly, and delivered out by the Commissioners for emitting bills of credit to the Supervisors of said Roads, or so much thereof as hath been unexpended, and all sums levied, or hereafter to be levied, on the Inhabitants of said County, for the purpose of repaying the same, shall be paid into the hands of the said Commissioners, to be by them let out upon interest, (except so much thereof as hath been expended, in the same manner as by the said act they are directed to let out on interest the bills of credit of this Province; and that the said sum of money, so collected, or to be hereafter collected, of the said Inhabitants—except so much thereof as hath been expended) with interest thereon accruing, ought to be appropriated to such use of the said County as shall be ordered and directed by the legislative authority, for the time being.

That the Supervisors of the said Roads, in said County, shall, respectively, render to the said Commissioners, by them to be laid before the legislative authority for the time being, a true, full, and fair account, on oath, of all moneys by them, respectively, laid out and expended, by virtue of the said act of Assembly, and to whom, and for what the same shall have been paid and expended.

That the sum of money collected, or to be collected in said County, for the building of a Prison and Court-House in *Harford* County, &c., ought to be paid into the hands of the Commissioners of *Harford* County, aforesaid, and be by them put out on interest, for the use of the same County, until the dispute in the same County, relative to the place where said Prison and Court-House, &c., shall be erected and built, be hereafter determined by the legislative authority for the time being.

All which is submitted to the consideration of the honourable House.

After consideration of the same, the question was put, That the House concur therewith?

Resolved, in the affirmative.

Convention adjourns till to-morrow morning, half after nine o'clock.

—

Wednesday, January 17, 1776.

Convention met. All Members present, as on yesterday, except Mr. *J. Dashiell* and Mr. *Ware*. The Proceedings of yesterday were read.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the residue of the sum of Money directed by act of Assembly to be assessed and levied on the Inhabitants of *Harford* County, for building the Court-House, Prison, &c., be, pursuant to said act, assessed and levied by the Justices of said County, on the Inhabitants thereof; but, if trade and commerce shall not be restored, so as to enable the people of said County to discharge the said tax, the legislative authority, for the time being, will suspend the payment of the same, or otherwise order therein, as to them shall seem expedient.

That the money already collected, or hereafter to be collected for the same, shall be paid into the hands of the Commissioners of *Harford* County, aforesaid, and be by them put out on interest for the use of said County, until the dispute therein, relative to the place where said Court-House and Prison shall be erected, be hereafter determined by the legislative authority for the time being.

Ordered, That *Edward Davis* be discharged from further custody.

On motion, *Resolved*, That Captain *Thomas Johnson*, Junior's, and Captain *William Hyde's* Company of Militia, in the City of *Annapolis*, be Independent Companies, but subject to the same rules and regulations as the other Militia of this Province, where such rules and regulations will apply to their circumstances, as well when the said Companies are in actual service as otherwise. And, that Captain *Richard Harwood*, Junior's, *William Brogden's*, *Edward Tillard's*, *John Weems's*, *John Steward's*, *John Deale's*, and *Richard Chew's* Companies of Militia, in *Anne Arundel* County, compose a Battalion, any thing in the Resolves of the last Convention, or the Proceedings of the Committee of Observation for *Anne Arundel* County, to the contrary notwithstanding.

On motion, *Resolved*, That there be a District in *Frederick* County, bounded on the east by *Licking Creek*, to include all that part of the said County which lies to the west of the said Creek.

That the freemen, and others, entitled to vote for Delegates in Convention, by the Resolves of the last Convention, meet at *Skipton*, in the said District, on a day to be appointed, and choose, by ballot, one discreet and sensible freeman, of the said District, to join the other Delegates from *Frederick* County, and vote in Conventions hereafter to be held for this Province.

That the said election be held under the inspection of such persons as may be chosen and appointed by the freemen of that District for the purpose, and be conducted in the same manner, and under the same rules, as laid down by the last Convention for choosing Delegates.

That the freemen of the said District choose fifteen discreet and sensible men, of the same District, to be a Committee for the said District, any seven of them to act; and that the election be made agreeable to the Resolves of the last Convention.

On reading a second time the Petition from the Inhabitants of the City of *Annapolis*,

Resolved, That the same be referred for consideration till the next session of Convention.

Adjourned till three o'clock.

—

Post Meridiem. Convention met.

Resolved, That this Convention do highly disapprove of the negligence of many of the People of this Province, in not paying off their levies, which ought to have been paid and discharged the last Summer; and much more so, of the combinations in some few parts of this Province, against the payment of levies; such conduct evidently leading to throw this Province into the disorder, confusion, and anarchy, desired by the inveterate enemies, and dreaded by the real friends to *American* liberty.

Resolved, therefore, That this Convention will, if necessary, aid the officers with their utmost power, in the collection of the levies which ought to have been paid in the Summer past; yet those officers are requested not to distrain the effects of those whose extreme poverty disables them from paying.

Resolved, That the Justices of the several County Courts ought to assess the Inhabitants of their Counties, agreeable to the acts of Assembly of this Province; but, as the People may not be able, if the unhappy differences with *Great Britain* should continue, to pay the whole of the assessments for building Court-Houses, Churches, and

for the like extraordinary charges, and a Convention will, probably, again meet before the time of payment, the legislative authority, for the time being, will make further order, as to the payment of such assessments, as the circumstances of the people may require, and the application of the money assessed will admit; it being the fixed intention of this Convention to support order in the community, and ease the good people of this Province as far as possible.

On reading the following application of *John Archer* and *James Harris*, of *Harford* County:

"December 6, 1775.

"GENTLEMEN: We are fully convinced of the publick utility of Factories, and would, therefore, make an overture to you, to undertake a Flax or Hemp Manufactory.

"To carry on the above branch of business to any effect, we should stand in need of three hundred pounds, which we would engage to remit in linen, of such sizes as you would recommend, at the following times:

"One-third of the above sum the 1st of *June* next; one-third more on the 1st of *September*; and the remaining third the 1st of *December*, 1776. The cost we will cheerfully transmit therewith, and leave the price to the honourable Convention.

"JOHN ARCHER,
"JAMES HARRIS.

"To the Delegates of *Harford* County, now sitting in Convention."

Resolved, That the sum of three hundred Pounds, out of the Treasury of this Province, be advanced to the said *John Archer* and *James Harris*, agreeable to their application aforesaid, on their giving bond, with good security, payable to the Honourable *Matthew Tilghman*, Esq., *Thomas Johnson*, Jun., and *Charles Carroll*, Barrister, Esquires, conditioned for the performance of the terms in the said application mentioned.

Resolved, That a new election of two Representatives, for *Charles* County, in the room of *William Smallwood* and *Francis Ware*, Esquires, a new election of one Representative for *St. Mary's* County, in the room of *John Allen Thomas*, Esq., and one in *Cecil* County, in the room of *Nathaniel Ramsey*, Esq., whose seats will become vacant on their acceptance of commissions in the Regular Forces of this Province, be had, as soon as conveniently may be, in the presence of two, or more, of the Delegates of those Counties, respectively; the elections to be by ballot, and in like manner as the election of Delegates is directed by Resolutions of the last Convention, ten days' notice, at least, excluding the day of notice and day of election, of the times of each of the said elections, respectively, being given, by advertisements set up in the most publick places in the said Counties.

On motion, *Resolved*, That in all cases where judgments have been, or shall be obtained, (except in ejectment, trespass, trover, replevin, detinue, real actions, actions for words, for money, and tobacco, actually had and received by one person for the use of another, attachment under the late act of Assembly, and against non-residents, and actions upon Loan Office bonds,) the Creditor shall, at his election, have a right to demand of the Debtor a bond, with security, for the debt and costs of the said Judgments, or to take, by *fieri facias*, any tobacco, wheat, or corn, (but no other effects,) of the Debtor, leaving to such Debtor sufficient to support his family; but, that no *capias ad satisfaciendum* be issued, in any case, (except in the cases above excepted,) where the Debtor will give bond and security, when required, as aforesaid, or where the effects, aforesaid, are tendered to the Creditor, at such price as may be settled by the Committee of Observation for the County in which such Debtor resides.

On motion, *Resolved*, That all Rents, other than Rents for Houses, may be hereafter paid, and shall be received, in tobacco, and other country produce, at a reasonable value, to be set by the Committees of Observation; and that no Rents ought to be changed into money, from tobacco, and other country produce, in which they have been, heretofore, usually paid.

Resolved, That seven persons, four of whom residing upon the *Western*, and three upon the *Eastern Shore*, be chosen, by ballot, to constitute a Council of Safety, for the Province of *Maryland*, to superintend and execute the Resolutions of this Convention, and to promote the prudent and necessary preparations for the defence and protection of the said Province, and to give such necessary assistance to the neighbouring Colonies as may, by the said Council be judged proper.

That each member of the said Council of Safety be allowed and paid fourteen Shillings, common money, out of the Treasury of this Province, for every day such member shall sit, or be absent from home on publick business.

That any four or more of the said Council of Safety convened, or the major part of them, direct and regulate the operations of the Regular Forces, the Minute-Men and Militia of this Province, and may grant all military commissions, appoint and commission all Field and Commission Officers, and regulate the rank of all Military Officers, not appointed by this Convention, and, in the recess of Convention, call forth the Regular Forces aforesaid, and Minute-Men into action in any place, or places, within this or the neighbouring Provinces, and the Militia into action in any place, or places, within this Province, at such time and times, in such proportions, and on such occasions as the said Council may judge necessary, and do all such other matters and things for the defence, protection and security of this Province, and for the aid and assistance of the neighbouring Provinces, as they shall deem necessary and expedient.

That any Officer of the said Regular Forces, Minute-Men, or Militia, may be suspended from the exercise of his commission by the said Council of Safety, and if the said Council of Safety shall think proper, they may displace any Officer, and appoint and commission another in his stead, and may, on the death, resignation, or removal of any Officer in the Regular Forces, Minute-Men, or Militia, appoint and commission another in his stead, and the said Council of Safety may fill up all vacancies in the Regular Troops aforesaid, Minute-Men and Militia, by whatever means occasioned.

That the said Council of Safety be authorized and empowered to draw out of the bills of credit emitted, or ordered to be emitted by this Convention, (except such part thereof as is appropriated to call in and exchange the bills of credit emitted by the last Convention,) any sum, or sums, which may by them be judged necessary to carry the several Resolutions of this Convention into execution, for paying and discharging all contracts made, or to be made, for, and on behalf of, this Province, and for the defence and protection of this Province, or for paying and defraying the expenses of any part of the said Regular Troops and Minute-Men, which may be ordered to any of the neighbouring Provinces.

That the said Council of Safety have power and authority to arrest, and, on hearing, confine and imprison till the next Convention, all such persons within this Province as shall have been, or may be, guilty of high and dangerous offences, tending to disunite the people of this Province in their present opposition, or to destroy the liberties of *America*; and, also, have power and authority to hear, try and imprison till the end of the next Convention, or banish all such offenders, guilty of the offence aforesaid, as may be sent to them by the several Committees of Observation.

That the said Council of Safety have full power and authority to pardon all offenders upon whom sentence of death shall be pronounced by a Court-Martial, under the Rules passed by this Convention for governing the Forces raised, or to be raised, within this Province, for the defence thereof.

That the said Council of Safety may call a meeting of the Convention of *Maryland* before the time to which it may be adjourned, and that any two Members may call a meeting of the said Council of Safety.

That the said Council of Safety may draw upon the Treasuries of the *Western* and *Eastern Shores* for all charges and expenses incurred in the execution of their office.

That the said Council of Safety sit constantly, if the service requires it, and that their ordinary sessions be held at the City of *Annapolis* or *Baltimore* Town, but the place of sitting may be changed, at the discretion of the said Council, to any other part of the Province, where the publick service may require it.

That every Member of the said Council of Safety, be-

fore he enters on the execution of his office, take, before some Justice of the Peace, the following oath, to wit: "You, A. B., do swear, that any matter or thing which shall come to your knowledge as a Member of the Council of Safety, which is ordered to be kept secret by a majority of the said Council of Safety, you will not divulge, unless to the Deputies in Congress for this Province, with the permission of the said Council of Safety, or to a Convention of Delegates, or Member of the said Council of Safety, or with the permission of the said Council of Safety or Convention. So help you *God*." And that the Clerk of the said Council of Safety shall take an oath in the said form, except instead of the words, "as a Member of the Council of Safety," inserting, "as Clerk to the Council of Safety."

That the said Council of Safety continue till the end of the next Convention, and no longer, unless otherwise ordered by the next Convention, and that they render an account of their Proceedings, and always be subject to the control of the Convention.

That the Honourable *Daniel of St. Thomas Jenifer*, Esq., and *Charles Carroll*, Barrister, *John Hall*, and *Benjamin Rumsey*, Esquires, of the *Western Shore*, and *James Tilghman*, *Thomas Smyth*, and *Thomas Bedingfield Hands*, Esquires, of the *Eastern Shore*, be the said Council of Safety.

That if any person, or persons, elected or appointed to be of the said Council of Safety, shall decline or refuse to act, or shall die before the next Convention, the other Members of the said Council of Safety, (being four at the least,) may elect and appoint one other in the room of each person who shall so decline, or refuse to act, or die, which person, or persons, so elected and appointed, shall take the same oath, and have the same powers and authorities, in conjunction with the other Members, as are given by this Convention to the said Council.

The Journal of Accounts was read and assented to.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western Shore* pay the several Claims allowed in the same.

Convention adjourns till to-morrow morning, half after nine o'clock.

—

Thursday, January 18, 1776.

Convention met. All Members present as on yesterday, except Mr. *W. Ennalls*, Mr. *G. Dashiell*, Mr. *Potter*, Mr. *Dickinson*, and Mr. *Mason*. The Proceedings of yesterday were read.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western Shore* pay to Mr. *Edward Parker*, of *Cecil* County, or his order, out of the bills of credit in his hands, three hundred Pounds, common money, to enable him to carry on his Linen and Woollen Manufactory.

Whereas, it is necessary for securing the evidences of the property of the good people of this Province, that the Records of the Land Office, Secretary's, and Commissary's Offices; and, also, the Records of *Anne Arundel* County Court, should be removed from the City of *Annapolis* to some place of greater security,

Resolved, That the Council of Safety send the said Records, packed in chests, by the respective Clerks, to some fit and secure place, first having prepared a proper house for the reception of the same, and that the said Council commit the said Records to the care and management of one of the Clerks of the said offices, respectively.

Resolved, That each of the said Clerks so employed by the Council of Safety, do, respectively, take the care and management of the Records of the office to which he belongs, and deliver copies of the said Records to the people of this Province, when thereunto required, upon being paid for the same.

Resolved, That any extraordinary expenses of the said Clerks, in taking care of the said Records, be paid by the Convention of this Province.

On motion, *Resolved*, That such young gentlemen as resort to the Regular Troops, in the quality of Volunteers, or Cadets, with the consent of the Colonel of the Battalion, for their improvement in the art of war, be furnished with one ration per day, each, at the publick expense.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the Committees of Observation for the several Counties may remove the Records of their respective Counties to some place of safety, if they think proper.

The Convention took into consideration the King's Speech to Parliament, on the 27th day of *October* last, and after some time spent therein,

Resolved, *unanimously*, That the following Declaration be entered on their Journals:

We, the Delegates of the Freemen of *Maryland*, in Convention, affected with the deepest concern by the opinion declared in the King's Speech to Parliament, on the 27th day of *October* last, and expressed in the Address of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal to His Majesty, in answer thereto, that the necessary preparations for defence made by these Colonies, are carried on for the purpose of establishing an independent empire, and being desirous to remove from the mind of the King an opinion which we feel to be highly injurious to the People of this Province, and to declare and manifest to His Majesty, to the Parliament, the People of *Great Britain*, and to the whole world, the rectitude and purity of our intentions in the present opposition to the measures of the *British* Ministry and Parliament, do declare,

That the People of this Province, strongly attached to the *English* Constitution, and truly sensible of the blessings they have derived from it, warmly impressed with sentiments of affection for, and loyalty to, the House of *Hanover*, connected with the *British* nation by the ties of blood and interest, and being thoroughly convinced, that to be free subjects of the King of *Great Britain*, with all its consequences, is to be the freest members of any civil society in the known world, never did, nor do entertain any views or desires of independency.

That as they consider their union with the Mother Country, upon terms that may insure to them a permanent freedom, as their highest felicity, so would they view the fatal necessity of separating from her, as a misfortune next to the greatest that can befall them.

Descended from *Britons*, entitled to the privileges of *Englishmen*, and inheriting the spirit of their ancestors, they have seen, with the most extreme anxiety, the attempts of Parliament to deprive them of those privileges, by raising a revenue upon them, and assuming a power to alter the Charters, Constitutions, and internal polity of the Colonies without their consent. The endeavours of the *British* Ministry to carry those attempts into execution, by military force, have been their only motive for taking up arms; and defend themselves against those endeavours, is the only use they mean to make of them. Entitled to freedom, they are determined to maintain it at the hazard of their lives and fortunes.

Ordered, That *James Hollyday*, *Charles Carroll* of *Carrollton*, and *Gustavus Scott*, Esquires, revise the Journal and Proceedings of this Convention, and direct what parts thereof shall be published.

Convention adjourns till the second *Tuesday* in *April* next, to sit at this place, but the Council of Safety may convene the Convention at any other time, or place, if they shall judge it necessary.

Signed by order of the Convention:

GABRIEL DUVALL, *Clerk*.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO THE COMMITTEE OF LANCASTER, PENNSYLVANIA.

January 18, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The Congress have received your several letters of *December* 21st, *January* 3d, and 10th. A multiplicity of important business has retarded their answering them sooner.

Your civility to the officers who are prisoners, in giving them time to make choice of their places of residence, and permitting them to remain with you till their baggage shall arrive, is approved. Their complaint, that a separation from the soldiers is a breach of General *Schuyler's* solemn engagement, we apprehend not to be well-founded. All the stipulations of a capitulation ought, undoubtedly,

to be held sacred, and faithfully fulfilled, because something is then given up or received, as a condition or equivalent; but no such stipulation is to be found in the capitulations upon which those gentlemen surrendered; nor had General *Schuyler* a right to make fresh terms with his prisoners, after they were in his power, without the consent of the Congress. Nevertheless, we should have paid a respect to his opinion and advice in the matter, had he given it, but we have not heard a word from him on the subject.

We have no objection to your permitting two or more of the officers to come, at proper times, from their places of residence to *Lancaster*, for the purpose of settling with, and paying, their soldiers. Major *Preston*, being applied to, absolutely refuses to supply the soldiers with clothing or blanketing. We must, therefore, desire you will take care that they do not suffer for want of those articles, nor any other that are necessary for their comfortable subsistence in this inclement season. What you have already done of that kind, in furnishing them with firing, bedding, &c., is well approved, and the expenses will be defrayed. The inhabitants are at liberty to purchase bills drawn by the officers for their support and accommodation; but this is to be at the risk of the purchasers, and not to exceed what is, evidently, necessary for these purposes, wherein it is to be considered the Congress advances each officer two dollars a week for his subsistence.

We approve of your regulations for preserving the peace of the Borough, and of your placing a guard and ordering a patrol for that purpose, the expense of which will be paid.

The agent of the Army's Contractor refusal to supply the soldiers' wives and children with any meat or bread, surprises us. We know not the motives of such conduct, but we must approve of those humane sentiments which induced you to provide for them in their distress. The expenses will be allowed in your accounts.

Upon the whole, gentlemen, you have judged rightly in supposing that every measure you have taken, to render the situation of our prisoners as comfortable as possible, would be agreeable to us. As men, they have a claim to all the rights of humanity; as countrymen, though enemies, they claim something more. You have, therefore, the thanks of the Congress; and I am, in their behalf, gentlemen, &c.,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President.*

To the Committee of *Lancaster, Pennsylvania.*

JOHN HANCOCK TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Philadelphia, January 18, 1776.

SIR: The bearer, Captain *F. Gurney*, has the charge of conducting five hundred thousand dollars for the use of the Army under your command. I wish it safe to hand. I shall, this evening, despatch an express to you with sundry matters of importance.

I am, sir, your obedient, humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President.*

To His Excellency General *Washington.*

COMMITTEE OF CONGRESS TO ESECK HOPKINS.

Philadelphia, January 18, 1776.

SIR: As this, perhaps, may be the last opportunity we may have to write you before you go to sea, we thought it necessary to give you every intelligence that is come to our knowledge. We shall first give you the disagreeable intelligence, brought hither by an express from *Quebeck*, of an unsuccessful attack that was made to storm that city on the 31st of *December*, in the morning, in which General *Montgomery*, his Aid-de-camp, Captain *Macpherson*, and Captain *Cheeseman*, both by his side, were all shot instantly dead by the grape-shot of one cannon; upon which, his party rather deserted their duty. Colonel *Arnold*, who conducted a different attack, proceeded awhile, successfully; but, upon his receiving a wound, and falling, after he had entered the city, (although the party were afterwards commanded and behaved with great bravery,) by the other attack failing, were overpowered and surrounded by numbers, and, after a most gallant defence of four hours, were obliged to surrender themselves prisoners of war, and, we hear, are very kindly treated by General *Carleton*. This is the substance of what we heard from thence.

We have just received a report from *New-York*, that three men-of-war and eighteen transports had sailed from *Boston*, to what place not known, but supposed to be for *Newport, New-York*, or *Virginia;* thus much of the report is certain, that the *Asia* and *Phenix* are lying in the *East-River*, in *New-York*, and that the *Viper* is lying at *Sandy-Hook*. From *Virginia* we have heard nothing material, but what you are well acquainted with. From the *Carolinas* we are informed that Lord *William Campbell*, with the *Tamer*, sloop, and *Cherokee*, cutter, has departed from *Charlestown* Road; that Governour *Martin*, in the *Scorpion*, sloop-of-war, has also departed from *Cape-Fear*. It is supposed that both these are gone to *Savannah*, in *Georgia*, in order to seduce the Province, if it is in their power, from the union of these Colonies, and get provisions, if they can, to subsist on. Should it be your fate to go southward, as far as *Savannah*, it is very probable you may have these Governours to dine with you on board your own ship, and increase your naval strength by the *Tamer, Scorpion*, and *Cherokee*.

The Congress have determined to erect a splendid monument to the memory of the gallant *Montgomery*, and to every other commanding officer bravely fighting and falling in his country's cause.

We wish you a successful cruise, and are your sincere friends,

STEPHEN HOPKINS,
JOSEPH HEWES,
SILAS DEANE.

To the Honourable *Eseck Hopkins*, Esq., Commander-in-chief of the *American* Fleet.

LORD STIRLING TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

Elizabethtown, January 18, 1776.

SIR: On *Saturday* evening Colonel *Heard* communicated to me the orders of Congress of the 10th instant, relative to my furnishing him with three companies to join the Minute-Men on the expedition into *Queen's* County. The next morning I went over to *Woodbridge*, to concert with Colonel *Heard* the necessary manœuvres, and agreed to furnish the companies strong, as his party was rather deficient. He has now with him near three hundred of my regiment, completely armed, accoutred, and provisioned for four days. As the men of my regiment went partly from *Brunswick* and *Amboy*, as well as this place, I thought it best, yesterday morning, after regulating the embarkation from the *Point*, to go to *Staten-Island* to regulate the like there, and to assist Colonel *Heard* in whatever might be necessary. I had sent off a party of thirty-six men the evening before to guard the mouth of the *Kills*. About eleven, yesterday, the first division, notwithstanding the most boisterous wind, crossed over to *Bergen Point;* Colonel *Heard* followed about noon; Major *De Hart*, with the first division of my regiment, followed soon after; and the whole, who had passed, marched for *Bergen* town. The wind continued extremely violent; night coming on, and the men much fatigued, I ordered the remainder to halt, and be quartered in the several parts of the Island they then were. At daybreak this morning, those on *Staten-Island* began to pass over. I remained there till about noon, when the chief of the whole had passed over to *Bergen Point*, and then came to this place. I am this moment informed, that the first division landed safely in the City of *New-York* yesterday evening from *Paulus Hook;* that Major *De Hart*, with about two hundred of my regiment, landed there about eleven this evening; and that the rest were following them, without the least movement about the men-of-war, or any of their boats. I have high confidence in Colonel *Heard's* management of this affair, yet I cannot but regret that I have not the command of it. However, I shall always most implicitly obey the order of Congress, and endeavour to serve the cause by every exertion in my power.

I have the honour to be your most humble servant,

STIRLING.

To the Honourable *John Hancock.*

Return of the Field and Staff Officers in the First Regiment of New-Jersey *Troops in the Continental service.*

Rank.	Names.	Date of Com.	Where stationed
Colonel,.....	The Earl of Stirling,	Nov. 7, 1775,	Elizabethtown.
Lieuten't Col.	Wm. Winds, Esq.,...	Nov. 7, 1775,	Perth Amboy.
Major, ...	Wm. De Hart, Esq.,.	Nov. 7, 1775,	Elizabethtown.
Adjutant, ...	Alex. Clough, Esq.,.	Nov. 20, 1775,	Elizabethtown.
Quartermaster,	Mat's Halsted, Esq.,	Dec. 21, 1775.	Elizabethtown.
Surgeon, ...	W. Barnet, Jr., Esq.,	Dec. 8, 1775,	Elizabethtown.
Chaplain.			

Stirling, *Colonel.*

January 11, 1776.

FAIRFIELD COUNTY (CONNECTICUT) CONVENTION.

At a County Convention held at *Fairfield*, in and for *Fairfield* County, on the 18th day of *January*, 1776, *Jonathan Sturges*, Esq., Chairman.

This Convention, taking into consideration the Resolves of the Continental Congress, lately published, dated the 2d day of *January*, 1776, and attending to the true meaning and spirit thereof, and the principles of humanity and kindness therein recommended; and, also, taking into consideration an Act of the General Assembly of this Colony, passed in their last sessions, entitled "An Act for restraining and punishing persons who are inimical to the liberties of this and the rest of the *United Colonies*, &c.,"

Resolved, That all those persons who have, heretofore, been advertised as enemies to their country, or otherwise proceeded against as such, shall be restored to the esteem and friendship of the country: *Provided*, They honestly and sincerely declare to the Committee of Inspection in their respective towns where such persons dwell, or to the Committee of Correspondence, where there is no Committee of Inspection, that they will abide by the Continental Regulations, in every case where they are not hindered by a religious tie of conscience; and that they will, in no case, directly or indirectly, oppose the country in the measures taking for its defence. The honesty and sincerity of such declaration to be left to the Committees aforesaid; and their fire-arms shall be restored them whenever they shall engage in the defence of the County, if any have been disarmed.

For the more effectually carrying into execution the Continental Association, it is resolved and recommended, that no forcible measures ought to be used to prevent any mischief, or remove any difficulty, where no express provision is made by the Act of the General Assembly, or of the Continental Congress, before the Committee of Inspection of the town where such difficulty happens, or of the next adjoining town, wherever it shall happen that any town is destitute of such Committee, be consulted, and their advice be attended to and pursued, where such advice may be had before it be too late to prevent any mischief; that every thing may be done with good order and decency.

A true copy from the Minutes:

Andrew Rowland, *Clerk.*

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Lebanon, January 18, 1776.

Sir: Enclosed is copy of intelligence brought me in the evening of the 16th instant, on which I immediately convened my Council of Safety. On consideration of the necessity of a reinforcement in that quarter, have agreed to raise a regiment of seven hundred and fifty men, officers included, with all possible expedition, by voluntary inlistments, on the same encouragements given by the Continent, to serve until the 1st *November* next, unless sooner discharged, with expectation that the General Congress will take the same into their service. It seemed necessary that no time be lost. Have set the same forward, until we can be made acquainted whether other provisions are made that may render this step unnecessary, or what may be suggested to us on the subject. Please to favour me with your answer by this express.

I am, with great esteem and regard, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

Jonathan Trumbull.

To His Excellency General *Washington.*

Montreal, January 6, 1776.

Dear Sir: With the greatest distress of mind, I now sit down to inform you of the event of an unfortunate attack made upon *Quebeck*, between the hours of four and six, of the morning of the 31st of *December;* unfortunate, indeed, for us; in it fell our brave General, *Montgomery*, his Aid-de-camp, *Macpherson*, Captain *Cheeseman*, Captain *Hendricks*, of the riflemen, and two or three subaltern officers, and between sixty and a hundred privates, (the number not certainly known,) and about three hundred officers and soldiers taken prisoners, among which are Lieutenant-Colonel *Greene*, Major *Bigelow*, Major *Meigs*, and a number of Captains and inferior officers. Colonel *Arnold* was wounded in the leg, in the beginning of the action, as was Major *Ogden*, in the shoulder, and brought off to the General Hospital.

I have not time to give you all the particulars, but thus much will serve to show you that, in consequence of this defeat, our prospects are rendered very dubious; and, unless we can be quickly reinforced, perhaps they may be fatal, not only to us, who are stationed here, but, also, to the Colonies in general; the frontiers, especially, greatly, very greatly, depend upon keeping possession of this country.

You know, as well as any man, the temper, disposition, and character of the *Canadians;* they are not persevering in adversity; that they are not to be depended upon, but, like the Savages, are extremely fond of choosing the strongest party: add to this, our enemies in this country, of whom there are very many, use every method to excite the *Canadians* against us; among other things, they tell them that the *United Colonies* intend to abandon the country. The clergy refuse absolution to all who have shown themselves our friends, and preach up damnation to all those who will not take up arms against us, and tell them that, even now, it is not too late; that we are but a handful of men, &c., &c.

I have sent an express to General *Schuyler*, General *Washington*, and the Congress; but you know how far they have to go, and that it is very uncertain how long it will be before we can have relief from them; therefore, let me beg of you, to collect, immediately, as many men as you can find, (six or seven hundred, if it can be done,) and, some how or other, get into this country, and stay with us till we can have relief from the Colonies.

You are sensible we have provisions, of all kinds, enough, and the weather, in this country, is far, very far, from being so frightful as many have imagined.

You will see that proper officers and soldiers are appointed under you, and both officers and soldiers shall be paid as other Continental troops. It would be well for your men to set out as fast as they can be collected; not so much matter whether together, or not; but let them set out by tens, twenties, thirties, forties, or fifties, as they can be first collected, for it must have a good effect upon the minds of the *Canadians*, to see succours coming on.

You will be good enough to send copies of this letter to the people below you.

David Wooster.

To Colonel *Warner.*

January 15, 1776.

The foregoing is a copy of a letter sent, by express, from General *Wooster* to Colonel *Warner*, and from thence forwarded to me.

We are raising men here, to go to *Montreal*, as soon as possible. Doubt not but you will think it of importance that recruits be immediately sent up, and hope you will forward as many as possible from your regiment.

I am, sir, your humble servant,

Mark Hopkins.

To Colonel *Barrett.*

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GENERAL SCHUYLER.

Cambridge, January 18, 1776.

Dear Sir: I received your favour of the 13th instant, with its enclosures, and am heartily sorry, and most sincerely condole with you, upon the unhappy fall of the brave and worthy *Montgomery*, and those gallant officers and men who have experienced a like fate. In the death of this gentleman, *America* has sustained a heavy loss, as

he had approved himself a steady friend to her rights, and of ability to render her the most essential service.

I am much concerned for the intrepid and enterprising *Arnold*, and greatly fear that consequences, of the most alarming nature, will result from this well-intended, but unfortunate attempt.

It would give me the greatest happiness, if I could be the happy means of relieving our fellow-citizens now in *Canada*, and preventing the Ministerial troops from exulting long, and availing themselves of the advantages arising from this repulse; but it is not in my power, since the dissolution of the old Army. The progress in raising recruits for the new has been so very slow and inconsiderable, that five thousand Militia have been called in to the defence of our lines. A great part of these are gone home, the time they engaged for being expired, and the rest retained with the utmost difficulty and persuasion, though their going away would render the holding of them precarious and hazardous, in case of an attack. In short, I have not a man to spare.

In order that proper measures might be adopted, I called a council of General Officers, and upon Mr. *John Adams*, and other members of influence of the General Courts, and laid before them your letter and proposition. After due consideration of their importances, they determined that the Province of *Massachusetts*, and Colonies of *Connecticut* and *New-Hampshire*, should each, immediately, raise a regiment, to continue in service for one year, and to march, forthwith, to *Canada*, agreeable to the route proposed in your letter to Congress. This determination, with a copy of your letter, and the several enclosures, will be immediately transmitted to the different Governments, for raising those regiments, which I have reason to believe will be complied with, from the assurances I have received from such of the Members of the Court as attended in Council, and the General Officers promising to exert their utmost interest and influence in their respective Colonies.

If these regiments should not be raised so soon as I could wish, yet, I would willingly hope, from the accounts we have received, that Colonel *Arnold* and his corps will be joined by a number of men under Colonel *Warner*, and from *Connecticut*, who, it is said, marched off directly on their getting intelligence of this melancholy affair. If this account be true, I trust they will be in a situation to oppose and prevent Mr. *Carleton* from regaining possession of what he has lost, and that, upon the arrival of the reinforcement from these Colonies, which we have judged necessary to be sent, the city of *Quebeck* will be reduced to our possession. This ought to be effected before the Winter is entirely over, otherwise it will be exceedingly difficult, if not impracticable, as the enemy will, undoubtedly, place a strong garrison there. Should this desirable work be accomplished, our conquest in that quarter will be complete. But, yet, the loss of General *Montgomery* will ever be remembered.

It gives me pleasure to find that you will continue in service, and afford your assistance to relieve your country from the distresses which, at present, threaten her in the North. I am much obliged by your sending the clothing, but they are not arrived.

None of the letters give an account how this unfortunate affair ended. In Colonel *Campbell's* letter of the 31st ultimo, the division which Colonel *Greene* was in, he seems to think, was in a very disagreeable situation, and drawing it off at night, or throwing in a party to sustain it, was an object he had much in view; here his information stops. In his letter of the 2d *January*, he says nothing about it. Wishing for the best, I hope they have not fallen a sacrifice. But I dread further intelligence in the matter.

General *Putnam* is of opinion, that it will be better for the troops which may be raised in the western parts of *Connecticut* to go by *Albany*, than the route you have mentioned, by Number 4, and that you must have pointed out this way from a supposition that the reinforcement would be detached from this Army. You will please to consider of what he has said, and, if you concur with him in sentiments, inform Governour *Trumbull* of it by letter, that he may give the necessary orders.

I am, dear sir, with great respect and esteem, your most humble servant,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

COLONEL ENOS TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Cambridge, January 18, 1776.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY: When the hostilities of our enemies made it necessary to raise an Army, for the common defence of the liberties of *America*, roused by the sacred call of my country, I thought it my duty to exert my best abilities, acquired by former services, for its protection, and, therefore, without reluctance, bid adieu to the tranquil pleasures of private life, and joined the Army, in which I served during the last campaign, (if not with good fortune, at least without censure,) and should have been happy still to have continued in the publick service, in a military capacity, could I do it with that confidence which, I think, I am entitled to, and without which no man of honour would choose to serve.

By some misfortune or other, I am satisfied I do not stand in that character, at Head-Quarters, which, as a Field-Officer, is necessary to my being serviceable to the great cause in which we are engaged; I must, therefore, beg your Excellency's permission to resign my command, as Lieutenant-Colonel of the Sixteenth Regiment, to which I was appointed for the present campaign. No dislike to the service, but a regard to my honour, solely, is the motive of this request.

I am, with great respect, your Excellency's most obedient, very humble servant,

ROGER ENOS.

To His Excellency *George Washington*, Esq., General, and Commander-in-chief of the Forces of the Thirteen *United Colonies*.

GENERAL SULLIVAN TO NEW-HAMPSHIRE ASSEMBLY.

Winter-Hill, January 18, 1776.

MUCH ESTEEMED GENTLEMEN: It is with the most sensible pain I sit down to write you the melancholy tidings of our Army's being defeated at *Quebeck*, on the 31st *December*, with the loss of one hundred and fifty killed and wounded, (according to the best accounts we can collect,) and between three and four hundred taken prisoners; among the latter, are a number of our intrepid *New-Hampshire* friends, who marched from thence with Colonel *Arnold*. The whole of his party, except himself, and some few that retired with him when he was wounded, are either killed or taken prisoners. The brave, the intrepid, but, alas! too unfortunate General *Montgomery*, fell, and, with his departing spirit, courage and resolution forsook the troops he commanded. He attacked the lower town of *Quebeck*, at the *Point Diamond;* on the opposite side Colonel *Arnold*, with his party, attacked a place called *St. Roque*, and, after an hour's engagement, carried a two-gun battery, with the loss of about twenty, killed and wounded.

They then attacked a second battery, and carried it, sword in hand; but gaining the second battery proved their defeat, for, by possessing themselves of that, they advanced beyond the *Palace Gate*, that leads from the upper town to the lower, from which the enemy immediately issued, and, falling on their rear, drove them into the lower town, from whence they could not escape, as the enemy were possessed of the passage through which they entered; and, on the opposite side, the unfortunate *Montgomery's* parties were defeated, and had retired, so that the victors, turning round to oppose, brought the small, but brave and resolute party between two fires. They took possession of the lower town about seven in the morning, and, though exposed to a fire in front and rear, as I mentioned, as, also, to a fire in flank, from the upper town, they bravely maintained their ground till night, when, despairing of succour, and growing weary of slaughter, they surrendered themselves prisoners of war.

The brave *Montgomery*, with his Aid-de-camp, were killed the first fire, and, I believe, that struck such a damp on his party, that little more was done by them.

Colonel *Livingston*, with his party of *Canadians*, made a feigned attack on the upper town, to favour the real attacks on the lower; but this was extremely ill executed. You will soon hear more particularly about the matter, and how the whole country is in motion to assist our friends there. All the people west of *Springfield* are gone. Colonel *Warner*, with his *Green-Mountain* Boys, marched, immediately, to join the party which they had left, by

being, (as they thought,) ill-used by General *Montgomery*.

You will find, by the enclosed letter, that the General Council have determined that a regiment from each of the frontiers of *New-Hampshire*, *Massachusetts*, and *Connecticut*, are to march, with all possible expedition, to secure our conquests, and, if possible, retrieve the honour of the *American* arms. This resolution induced us to release one of the regiments wrote for in my last, to serve here two months, and, instead thereof, for *New-Hampshire* to furnish one here, and one for *Canada*, the latter to be inlisted for twelve months. I have a prospect of raising one for this place, from among the recruits here, in the manner I formerly mentioned; so you need give yourselves no other trouble about that, but advancing, upon the credit of the Continent, a month's pay, advance, which beg you to do.

The party going for *Canada*, I suppose General *Washington* has called upon you to furnish them with money, &c. Upon my soul, it gives me pain to find that our Continental chest is so often empty, and that parsimony and indolence, which has destroyed so many powerful States, is but too likely to destroy ours. To this, alone, was owing that fatal defeat at *Quebeck*, as the deceased *Montgomery's* letters will fully show, for he seemed to prophesy his defeat from the want of money to pay off the troops.

I have selected officers for the regiment to be stationed here, as I mentioned, (Captains *Waldron*, *Chesley*, and *Place*,) to take the command as Field-Officers, and have taken some of the best Captains and Subalterns.

I should rejoice if Captain *Mooney* would, in conjunction with the bearer, Lieutenant *Clough*, and two subalterns, appointed by you, or them, undertake to bring in a company. The residue I can furnish myself, without giving you any trouble, except what I mention.

With respect to the regiment bound to *Canada*, you will excuse my suggesting the necessity of raising that in the western parts of the Colony. Colonel *William Stark* now happens to be in camp, and says he can, undoubtedly, raise the men. He is well acquainted with the country, and with the nature of such a march. I would, therefore, for the good of the service, beg leave to recommend him, unless you have some other person, more suitable, in view. I have directed him to wait on your Honours, and receive your commands.

Captain *John Parker*, who was here some days since, was soliciting license from General *Washington*, and myself, to raise four or five companies, and march to *Canada*; we, knowing of no necessity therefor, refused him. Perhaps he may be of some advantage in raising men; but many among you know the man, and his communication. All these hints I throw out for the good of the service; I have no particular person in view, barely for his own sake. The good of my country is what I mean to promote: where I mistake the proper means to attain that desirable end, you will please to correct me, as an ignorant offender, and believe me to be, as I really am, a true friend to my country, and your much obliged and humble servant,

JOHN SULLIVAN.

To the General Assembly of *New-Hampshire*.

P. S. The General has enclosed you copies of most of the important letters from *Canada*. My extreme hurry will, I hope, apologize for incorrectness.

Yours, J. S.

JOSEPH MAYHEW TO MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL.

Chilmark, January 18, 1776.

HONOURED SIR: Judging it to be of importance to the County of *Dukes*, whereto I belong, that the honourable Council of this Colony be informed of the state of civil affairs here, I think it to be my duty to give your Honour the following intelligence, with respect hereto, to be by your Honour communicated, if you shall think fit.

Now, four, out of the nine, commissioned to be Justices in this County, viz: *Jonothan Allen*, *John Worth*, *Enoch Coffin*, and *Thomas Cook*, Esquires, and, also, *William Mayhew*, Esq., appointed Sheriff, and Mr. *Robert Allen*, appointed Coroner, remain unsworn, appearing unwilling to be so, and neither of them, except *Jonathan Allen*, Esq., being present, when the other civil officers here were sworn, which was done on the 22d of *November* last.

Of the five Justices who have been sworn, two, viz: *Ebenezer Smith* and *Bariah Norton*, Esquires, live at *Edgartown*; and two, viz: *James Athearn* and *Shubael Cotter*, Esquires, at *Tisbury*, and I, only, at *Chilmark*; and the only person Coroner, Mr. *Ebenezer Norton*, lives at *Edgartown*.

As I have thus informed your Honour who, of those who have been commissioned to be civil officers, have declined being sworn, I hope it will not be thought impertinent if I account for this in the following manner:

The real state of things here, sir, as I apprehend, is this: There are some here who are really not well-affected to the present Government, nor to the measures now pursued in defence of our civil liberties, and these ill-affected persons endeavour to embarrass the establishing of civil government in this County, and, through their suggestions, in part, at least, many persons here, perhaps near one-half of the people of this County, imagine that it is best for us, considering our situation, to be still, and in no way to show ourselves to be on the side of the assertors of our civil liberties, lest we, thereby, provoke the invaders of our coasts to ruin us; and it is (as, I think, I have sufficient reason to believe,) through such an apprehension as this, that so many of those, who have been lately appointed civil officers, are unwilling to be sworn.

I mean, sir, that many here were thus intimidated, till the honourable General Assembly of this Colony discovered their late resolution, with respect to the defence of this country; but how far people here, are, hereby, emboldened to appear in defence of their rights and liberties, I cannot yet tell. And as, for aught I know, some, or all of those whom I have above-mentioned, are unwilling to be sworn, may have their fears so far removed as to manifest a desire to have the oath administered to them, and I am at a loss what we, who are empowered to administer the oath, ought to do in this case, I am very desirous of the direction of the honourable Council herein.

As to a Sheriff for this County, about the want of which officer here, I am peculiarly concerned. I hope it will not appear assuming in me, if I mention Major *Peter Norton* as a suitable, and, perhaps, all things considered, the most suitable person to be Sheriff of this County, and, also, to be Colonel of the Regiment of Militia here, the latter of which offices, he, as I perceive, prefers. And if he is not made Sheriff, I humbly propose that he be made a Justice of the Peace at least, if not a Justice of the Pleas also, for this County. A great part of this letter may, perhaps, appear as a vain repetition of what I wrote above a month ago to the Hon. Colonel *Otis*, as President of the honourable Council; but having reason, sir, to fear that my letter has miscarried, I have thought it proper for me to write as above.

This, honoured sir, with great respect and deference to the honourable Council, and to your Honour in particular, is from, honoured sir, your Honour's most obedient, and most humble servant,

JOSEPH MAYHEW.

To the Honourable President of the Council.

CAPTAINS SALTER AND DANIELS' RETURN OF SHOALERS.

In Congress, at Exeter, January 5, 1776.

Voted, That Captain *Titus Salter* and Captain *Eliphalet Daniels*, be appointed to go over to the *Isle of Shoals*, and inform all the inhabitants there, that it is the opinion of this Congress that the situation of the said islands is such, that the inhabitants are exposed to our enemies in the present unhappy controversy, and may be obliged by their weak, defenceless circumstances, and inability to defend themselves, to assist our enemies; and that, for said reasons, it is absolutely necessary that they should, immediately, remove themselves, with their effects, to the main land, (to tarry during the present dispute,) to such place, or places, as they may choose; and, provided they neglect to comply herewith for the term of ten days after this notice, that they be informed that they must be brought off by authority.

Extract from the Minutes of Congress:

Attest: E. THOMPSON, *Secretary*.

Pursuant to the above vote of Congress, we repaired to the Island of *Shoals*, on the 16th instant, being the first

favourable opportunity that offered, and after communicating to the inhabitants the contents of the vote of Congress, we proceeded to number the inhabitants, and underneath are the different numbers on each Island:

Star Island: Men 31, women 34, children 94, - - 159
Hog Island: Men 13, women 11, children 25, - - 49
Smutty Nose: Men 2, women, 2 children 15, - - 19

Total, - - - - - - 227

Given under our hands, *Portsmouth, January* 18, 1776.

TITUS SALTER.
ELIPHALET DANIELS.

VIRGINIA COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Williamsburgh, January 19, 1776.

The Committee of Safety will proceed on *Monday*, the 12th of next month, to the choice of the several Officers for the Company of Artillery, directed by the General Convention, to wit: One Captain, three Lieutenants, one Sergeant, four Bombardiers, and eight Gunners. All persons inclined to be employed therein, and who can be well recommended, are desired to attend on that day.

By order of the Committee of Safety:

J. PENDLETON, *Clerk.*

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO RICHARD HARRISON.

[No. 1.] Annapolis, January 19, 1776.

SIR: You have, enclosed, an invoice and bill of lading of thirteen hundred and eighty-six barrels of flour, in the Brig *Sam, Robert Forsythe*, master, with ninety-one barrels of bread; also, four thousand staves, on account of the Province, which you will dispose of in the best manner to your general instructions, and the letters heretofore sent you. We have only engaged this vessel to deliver her cargo to you. As soon, therefore, as she is unloaded, if you should have no further use for her, you may discharge her. We shall be glad to hear of her safe arrival, and likewise, to have intelligence from you, of your transactions, by every good opportunity.

We are, &c.

To Mr. *Richard Harrison, Martinico*, per Brigantine *Sam.*

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO CAPTAIN FORSYTHE.

Annapolis, January 19, 1776.

SIR: You are to proceed from hence, to the Island of *Martinico*, and there deliver the enclosed letter, and your cargo, to Mr. *Richard Harrison*. If Mr. *Harrison* should not be at the Island of *Martinico*, address to Mr. *M'Creary*, and if he should not be there, you are, in that case, to open the letter addressed to Mr. *Harrison*, sell your cargo at the very highest prices you can get. The money arising from the sales, you must lay out in gunpowder, if you can get it, if not, in muskets, fitted with good bayonets, and if they are not to be had, saltpetre and sulphur, and if you cannot get those articles, then lay out the whole in coarse strong linens and *Russia* duck, and take care you are not imposed on in your purchases. As soon as you have done your business, make the best of your way home, and avoid speaking with vessels on the coast. When you come into the latitude of our Capes, if you have a strong fair wind in, push up the Bay as fast as possible, and if you find it failing run into some small harbour, and there wait until you have a favourable opportunity to get into *Potomack, Patuxent*, or *Annapolis*. If you find a better chance of getting into any of the inlets between *Cape Charles* and *Cape Henlopen*, than into our Bay, you may push into one of them, and send an express to the Council of Safety, letting them know where you are, and what you have got, but take care and land your goods under the care of a Committee as soon as you can, for fear of being followed by the tenders. In going out, you had better take a brisk gale of wind, or get out of nights, as tenders commonly keep a strict watch at the Capes in the day time; but hope you will behave with care and industry on this voyage. If you are chased, and find you must be taken, throw all your papers overboard, with weights to sink them.

To Captain *Robert Forsythe.*

LORD STIRLING TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

Elizabethtown, January 19, 1776—3 o'clock, P. M.

DEAR SIR: I embrace this opportunity to inform you, that the whole party, destined for the *Queen's* County expedition, got safe into *New-York* yesterday, the last division of Minute-Men in the evening, and doubt not they are chiefly on *Long-Island* by this time.

I am, your most obedient, most humble servant,

STIRLING.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq.

NEW-JERSEY COMMITTEE OF SAFETY TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read January 22, 1776.—Referred.]

Trenton, January 19, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Your favour of the 12th current, covering sundry resolutions of the Congress, relating to the officers and soldiers, prisoners in this town, I duly received, and our Committee met, and made the officers acquainted with the determination of Congress. The officers have made choice of *Bordentown*, for the place of their residence, and request that the band of musick, and their servants, may go with them, which was agreeeble to our Committee, and hope it will meet the approbation of Congress. They requested some short time to consider the matter respecting their drawing of bills, for the payment of the expense already incurred.

I beg leave to return two commissions, which were filled up wrong through misinformation, and request you will send me two blank ones, signed as formerly; two more were in the same predicament, which I have made answer, and which occasioned my former application for four. If agreeable, the commissions for the third battalion may be sent at same time. I must again repeat, that near one half the new-raised two battalions are without arms. We have got no fund in this Colony to avail ourselves of money to purchase them with. The six thousand dollars advanced by Congress is expended, and unless four thousand more is advanced, as far as I am able to determine, you will have near one battalion supported at a very great expense, without arms, (which can be had for money,) and, consequently, unfit for service. Mr. *Lowrey* was with me this morning, and is of the same opinion.

I am ordered by our Committee of Safety to write to you. I have enclosed a copy of their order, that you may have their full meaning; and have the honour to be, with all due respect to the Congress, your most obedient, humble servant,

SAMUEL TUCKER.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq.

New-Jersey Committee of Safety, Princeton, January 13, 1776.

Ordered, That the President write to the Continental Congress, acquainting them that the Congress of this Province is to meet 31st instant, at *New-Brunswick*, at which time they will, undoubtedly, give all due attention to raising the battalion ordered in this Colony. Being firmly pursuaded that the appointment of officers by the Congress will give much greater satisfaction in the Colony than if appointed by the Committee, this Committee have, for weighty reasons, deferred issuing warrants, until the meeting of Congress; at the same time recommend *Azariah Dunham*, Esq., to be appointed Commissary for supplying such Battalion when raised.

By order of the Committee:

SAMUEL TUCKER, *President.*

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read January 27.—Referred to Mr. Lynch, Mr. Wythe, Mr. Sherman, Mr. Ward, Mr. Samuel Adams.]

Cambridge, January 19, 1776.

SIR: Taking it for granted that General *Schuyler* has not only informed you of the fall of the brave, and much to be lamented, General *Montgomery*, but of the situation of our affairs in *Canada*, (as related by General *Wooster*, Colonel *Arnold*, Colonel *Campbell*, and others,) I shall not take up much more of your time on this subject, than

is necessary to enclose you a copy of his letter to me, with the result thereon, as appears by the Council of War, which I immediately summoned on the occasion, and at which Mr. *Adams*, by my particular desire, was good enough to attend. It may appear strange, sir, as I had not men to spare from these lines, that I should presume, without first sending to Congress, and obtaining an express direction, to recommend to the Governments of *Massachusetts*, *Connecticut*, and *New-Hampshire*, to raise each a regiment, on the Continental account, for this service. I wish, most ardently, that the urgency of the case would have admitted of the delay; I wish, also, that the purport of General *Schuyler's* letter had not, unavoidably, as it were, laid me under an indispensable obligation to do it. For, having informed you in his letter (copy of which he enclosed me) of his dependance on this quarter for men, I thought you might, also, have some reliance on my exertions; this consideration, added to my fears of the fatal consequences of delay, to an information of your having designed three thousand men for *Canada;* to a belief, founded chiefly on General *Schuyler's* letters, that few or none of them are raised; and to my apprehensions for *New-York*, which led me to think that no troops could be spared from that quarter, induced me to lose not a moment's time in throwing in a force there, being well assured, that General *Carleton* will improve, to the utmost, the advantages gained, leaving no artifices untried to fix the *Canadians* and *Indians*, (who, we find, are too well disposed to take part with the strongest,) in his interest.

If these reasons are not sufficient to justify my conduct in the opinion of Congress, if the measure contravenes any resolution of theirs, they will please to countermand the levying and marching of the regiments as soon as possible, and do me the justice to believe, that my intentions were good, if my judgment has erred.

The Congress will please, also, to observe, that the measure of supporting our posts in *Canada*, appeared of such exceeding great importance, that the General Officers, (agreeing with me in sentiment, and unwilling to lay any burden which can possibly be avoided, although it may turn out an ill-timed piece of parsimony,) have resolved, that the three regiments for *Canada* shall be part of the thirteen Militia regiments which were requested to reinforce this Army, as appears by the Minutes of another Council of War, held on the 16th instant.

I shall, being much hurried and fatigued, add no more in this letter than my duty to Congress, and that I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient and most humble servant,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq.

P. S. I enclose you a copy of my letter to the Governments of *Massachusetts*, *Connecticut*, and *New-Hampshire;* also, a copy of a resolution of this Colony, in answer to an application of mine for arms. G. W.

Since writing the above, I have been informed by a message from the General Court of *Massachusetts*, that they have resolved upon the raising of a regiment for *Canada*, and appointed the Field-Officers for it in the western part of this Government. I am also informed, by express from Governour *Trumbull*, that he and his Council of Safety had agreed upon the raising of a regiment for the same purpose, which was anticipating my application to that Government. If commissions (and they are applied for) are to be given by Congress to the three regiments going to *Canada*, you will please to have them forwarded, as I have none by me for that purpose. G. W.

—

Albany, January 13, 1776.

I wish I had no occasion to send my dear General this melancholy account. My amiable friend, the gallant *Montgomery*, is no more; the brave *Arnold* is wounded; and we have met with a severe check in an unsuccessful attempt on *Quebeck*. May Heaven be graciously pleased that the misfortune may terminate here. I tremble for our people in *Canada;* and nothing, my dear sir, seems left to prevent the most fatal consequences, but an immediate reinforcement, that is no where to be had but from you, and the only route that which I have pointed out in my letter to Congress, copy of which you have enclosed; nor do I think that a less number than I have mentioned, will suffice. Should your Excellency think proper to send the troops, you will please to let me know it by express, that I may send provisions to *Onion* River.

Congress has wrote to me on the subject of my request to retire. Our affairs are much worse than when I made the request; this is motive sufficient for me to serve my country in any way I can be thought most serviceable; but my utmost can be but little, weak and indisposed as I am.

The clothing is gone to *Cambridge*.

I am your Excellency's most obedient and most humble servant,

PHILIP SCHUYLER.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

—

At a Council of War, held at Head-Quarters in *Cambridge*, *January* 16, 1776:

Present: His Excellency General *Washington*, the Honourable *John Adams*, Member of the honourable Continental Congress, Major-General *Ward*, Major-General *Putnam*, Brigadier-General *Heath*, Brigadier-General *Spencer*, Brigadier-General *Sullivan*, Brigadier-General *Greene*, Brigadier-General *Gates*.

His Excellency the Commander-in-chief, laid before the Council Letters received last night from Major-General *Schuyler*, enclosing copies of Letters from Brigadier-General *Wooster*, Colonel *Arnold*, and Colonel *Donald Campbell*, containing the melancholy account of the death of General *Montgomery*, the wounding Colonel *Arnold*, and the consequent failure of the success of the assault upon the city of *Quebeck*, on the 31st of *December* last.

His Excellency then requested the opinion of the Council, whether it be proper, in the present circumstances of the lines, to detach a reinforcement from hence, to the succour of the troops in *Canada*.

The question being put, it was

Resolved, That in the present feeble state of the Regiments here, it was improper to detach any force from these lines to *Quebeck*, or *Canada*.

The General then asked, whether in the present critical situation of affairs in *Canada*, he should, in their opinion, stand justified in requesting, in behalf of the Continent, a supply of Troops from the *New-England* Governments, which was, unanimously, resolved in the affirmative.

The Council then, unanimously, advised his Excellency the General, immediately to apply to the Legislature of each of the above-mentioned Colonies, *Rhode-Island* excepted, forthwith to raise a regiment of seven hundred and twenty-eight men, officers included, and direct them to march with all possible expedition, by the route prescribed by Major-General *Schuyler*, to *Canada*, to be continued until the 1st of *January* next, as part of the Continental Army, should the affairs of the Continent require it.

His Excellency then demanded the opinion of the Council, whether ten regiments of Militia of seven hundred and twenty-eight men each, officers included, to be added to the troops now in the lines, and expected to be inlisted, would not be a sufficient number to answer all the purposes of offence and defence ordered and intended against the Ministerial army in *Boston*.

Resolved, unanimously, That as matters are at present circumstanced, it is best that the three regiments intended for *Canada*, should be taken out of the thirteen which have been requested to reinforce the Army in these lines, and that ten regiments, only, be marched to *Cambridge*, to serve until the 1st of *April* next.

The Council were, unanimously, of opinion, that in the present situation of the affairs of the Colony of *Rhode-Island*, continually subject and exposed to the attacks of the Ministerial fleet, and detached bodies of troops, it was neither prudent nor reasonable to demand any more troops from thence.

—

At a Council of General Officers, held at Head-Quarters in *Cambridge*, *January* 16, 1776:

Present: His Excellency General *Washington*, the Honourable *John Adams*, the Honourable *James Warren*, Major-General *Ward*, Major-General *Putnam*, Brigadier-

General *Heath*, Brigadier-General *Spencer*, Brigadier-General *Sullivan*, Brigadier-General *Greene*, Brigadier-General *Gates*.

The Commander-in-chief laid before the Council a state of the regiments in the Continental Army, the consequent weakness of the lines, and, in his judgment, the indispensable necessity of making a bold attempt to conquer the Ministerial troops in *Boston*, before they can be reinforced in the Spring, if the means can be provided, and a favourable opportunity offer, and then desired the opinion of the Council thereon.

The Council agreed, unanimously, that a vigorous attempt ought to be made upon the Ministerial army in *Boston*, as soon as practicable, all concurring circumstances favouring the wished-for success; and advised His Excellency to request from this, and the neighbouring Colonies, thirteen regiments of Militia to his aid, to be at *Cambridge* by the 1st of *February*, and to consist of the same number of men and officers, as those upon the Continental establishment, and to remain (should occasion require) until the last of *March*, application to be made to the General Court of the *Massachusetts-Bay* for seven of those regiments; to *Connecticut*, for four; and to *New-Hampshire*, for two; exempting *Rhode-Island* from their quota of men, on account of the repeated insults of the enemy's ships of war, and the exposed situation of the sea-coasts of that Colony.

His Excellency also informed the Council of the great deficiency of arms, and the small prospect of a supply, (the Recruiting Officers having signified to him, that the recruits would not bring arms without an allowance for the use of them, and be assured they might carry them home at the expiration of their services.)

The Council, thereupon, advised the General to procure arms upon those terms, as there seemed no probability of getting imported arms, and the service must be put to the utmost hazard without.

—

Cambridge, January 19, 1776.

Gentlemen: The enclosures herewith sent, convey such full accounts of the sad reverse of our affairs in *Canada*, as to render it unnecessary for me, in my present hurry, to add ought to the tale. Your spirited Colony will, I have no doubt, be sufficiently impressed with the expediency of a vigorous exertion to prevent the evils which, otherwise, must follow from the repulse of our troops. It does not admit of a doubt but that General *Carleton* will improve this advantage to the utmost, and if he should be able to give different current of sentiment to the *Canadians* and *Indians*, than those they seemed inclined to adopt, words are unnecessary to describe the melancholy effect that will, inevitably, follow. I am persuaded, therefore, that you will exert yourselves to the utmost, to throw in the reinforcement, (by the route mentioned in General *Schuyler's* letter,) that is now required of your Colony, as the doing of it expeditiously may prove a matter of the utmost importance. You will perceive, by the Minutes of the Council of War enclosed, that the regiment asked of you for *Canada* is one of the number applied for in my letter of the 16th instant, and that the only difference with respect to the requisition, is the length of time, and place of service, as no good would result from sending troops to *Canada* for a shorter period than the Continental Army is raised for, to wit: till the 1st of *January*, 1777.

I am, gentlemen, with great respect, your most obedient, humble servant,

George Washington.

To the General Court of *Massachusetts-Bay*.

—

A Letter similar to the preceding was sent to the Governments of *Connecticut* and *New-Hampshire*.

—

January 19, 1776.

The Committee of both Houses, appointed to take into consideration his Excellency General *Washington's* Letter to this Court, of the 15th instant, have attended that service, and report as followeth, viz:

That his Excellency be informed that it is the opinion of this Court, there would be a general supply of fire-arms brought into the camp, if he would give publick notice that if the recruits would come well armed, they should be allowed for the use of their arms, and, if lost in the service, the just value of them should be paid; and that their arms shall not be detained from them when their time of service shall expire. And that, to detain the arms of the Militia, without their consent, would neither promote the good of the service, nor facilitate the arming the forces, as it would produce a general uneasiness through the country. And that his Excellency be also informed, that this Colony have in store, but about two hundred fire-arms, part of which are out of repair; such as will do for the service, although provided for the particular use of this Colony, we shall be ready to deliver, if they shall be needed, and do all in our power to aid his Excellency in arming the troops.

By order: James Prescott.

In Council, *January* 16, 1776: Read and sent down.

Perez Morton, *Deputy Secretary*.

In the House of Representatives, *January* 16, 1776: Read and accepted, and thereupon, *Ordered*, That the Committee appointed to wait upon His Excellency General *Washington*, on the subject of his Letter of the 10th current, be a Committee to present him a copy of the within Report. Sent up for concurrence.

James Warren, *Speaker*.

In Council, *January* 16, 1776: Read and concurred.

Perez Morton, *Deputy Secretary*.

A true copy.—Attest:

Perez Morton, *Deputy Secretary*.

—

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, January 12, 1776.

(Parole, *Pendleton.*) (Countersign, *Deane.*)

His Excellency, the Commander-in-chief, having been pleased to order an advertisement in the several newspapers of this and the adjoining Colonies, commanding "all Officers, non-Commissioned Officers, and Soldiers, now absent upon any leave or pretence whatsoever, to join their respective Regiments, at *Roxbury* and *Cambridge*, by the 1st day of *February* next, and all Officers neglecting to pay due obedience thereto, will be forthwith cashiered, and every non-Commissioned Officer and Soldier, failing therein, to be tried and punished as Deserters," the Colonels, and Commanding Officers of Regiments and Corps, are now positively ordered not to grant any more furloughs, or leaves of absence to any Officer, non-Commissioned Officer, or Soldier, any former order or permission heretofore given notwithstanding. His Excellency, therefore, expects every Colonel, and Commanding Officer of Regiments and Corps, will direct all those absent from their Regiments or Corps, to pay strict obedience to this Order, that no person may plead, or be allowed to plead, ignorance thereof.

—

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, January 13, 1776.

(Parole, *Conway.*) (Countersign, *Grafton.*)

To prevent any misconception of the Order of yesterday, it is declared, that the Commanding Officers of Regiments are not restrained from sending out as many recruiting officers as can be spared from the duties of their respective Regiments, but that those officers, together with such as are now out with their recruits, be positively ordered to be in camp by the last of this month, that our real strength may be fully and clearly ascertained.

The Colonels, and Commanding Officers of Corps, to recommend it, immediately, to their recruiting officers, to get all their recruits armed in the country; or, at least, as many as it is possible to have supplied with arms from thence.

—

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, January 14, 1776.

(Parole, *Peterborough.*) (Countersign, *London.*)

A General Court-Martial to sit to-morrow morning in *Cambridge*, to try such prisoners as shall be brought before them. All evidences and persons concerned to attend the Court. The Court to assemble at Mr. *Pomeroy's*, at ten, in the forenoon.

—

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, January 15, 1776.

(Parole, *Lutterel.*) (Countersign, *Fox.*)

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, January 16, 1776.

(Parole, *Sayre.*) (Countersign, *Lewis.*)

Notwithstanding the repeated orders issued in the course of the last campaign, forbidding all officers commanding Guards, to suffer any of their Guard to be absent day or night from their Guard until regularly relieved, yet it is with surprise the General hears that it is a common practice, even at the advanced posts next the enemy. Any officer commanding at any of the guards or outposts, who shall, for the future, suffer any of their officers or men to be absent, until regularly relieved, will be put in arrest, and tried for disobedience of orders.

—

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, January 17, 1776.

(Parole, *Cornwallis.*) (Countersign, *Hartley.*)

—

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, January 18, 1776.

(Parole, *Worcester.*) (Countersign, *Cambridge.*)

Samuel Neason, Quartermaster to Colonel *Prescott's* Regiment, tried at a General Court-Martial, whereof Colonel *Patterson* was President, for "defrauding the Soldiers of their allowance of Bread," is acquitted by the Court. The General orders Quartermaster *Neason* to be released from his arrest.

—

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, January 19, 1776.

(Parole, *New-Haven.*) (Countersign, *Lee.*)

One Sergeant, one Corporal, and twelve men, from General *Putnam's* division, to mount to-morrow morning for the Provost Guard, at the old School-House, on *Cambridge* Common. To this guard all prisoners accused of crimes, cognisable by a General Court-Martial, are to be sent, and all suspected spies, and all strollers and stragglers, who cannot give a proper account of themselves. The guard is to be under the immediate command of the Provost, and he is only to receive orders from Head-Quarters, the General-in-chief, the Adjutant and Quartermaster-Generals for the time being.

—

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO MASSACHUSETTS ASSEMBLY.

Cambridge, January 19, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The enclosures herewith sent convey such full accounts of the sad reverse of our affairs in *Canada*, as to render it unnecessary for me, in my present hurry, to add ought to the tale.

Your spirited Colony will, I have no doubt, be sufficiently impressed with the expediency of a vigorous exertion to prevent the evils which must follow from the repulse of our troops. It does not admit of a doubt but that General *Carleton* will improve this advantage to the utmost; and if he should be able to give another current of sentiment to the *Canadians* and *Indians*, than those they seemed inclined to adopt, words are unnecessary to describe the melancholy effect that must inevitably follow.

I am persuaded, therefore, that you will exert yourselves to the utmost to throw in the reinforcement by the route mentioned in General *Schuyler's* letter, that is now required of your Colony, as the doing of it, expeditiously, may prove a matter of the utmost importance.

You will perceive by the Minutes of the Council of War, enclosed, that the regiment asked of you, for *Canada*, is one of the seven applied for in my letter of the 16th instant, and that the only difference with respect to the requisition is the length of time and place of service, as no good would result from sending troops to *Canada* for a shorter period than the Continental Army is raised for, to wit, till the first of *January*, 1777.

I am, gentlemen, &c.

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

The Honourable General Court of *Massachusetts-Bay.*

—

To the Honourable *Matthew Thornton.*—A letter of the same date and similar to the preceding one.

—

To the Honourable *Jonathan Trumbull*, &c.—A letter of the same date and similar to the preceding ones to the Honourable General Court of *Massachusetts-Bay*, and the Honourable *Matthew Thornton*, Esq., with this postscript:

Your favour of the 15th instant now lies before me, but the hurry in which I am engaged, at present, allows no more than time for acknowledgment of it.

Yours, &c. G. W.

—

GENERAL SULLIVAN TO COLONELS WALDRON and CHESLEY.

Winter-Hill, January 19, 1776.

A requisition being made upon the Colony of *New-Hampshire* for a regiment of men, consisting of seven hundred and twenty-eight, including all officers, I have, after consulting his Excellency General *Washington*, thought proper to raise and officer a regiment out of the officers and soldiers lately come in from that Colony, to remain in the Continental service until the first day of *April* next. I have named eight Captains, and have nominated you, the said *John Waldron*, as chief Colonel of said regiment, and you, the said *Alpheus Chesley*, as Lieutenant-Colonel thereof, and have wrote to the General Assembly upon the measure I have adopted, and requested them to furnish one month's pay, advance, for said regiment, upon the credit of the Continent.

You are, therefore, requested, immediately, to repair to the General Assembly, wait on them with my compliments and these orders; receive their commands, and, immediately, proceed to complete the regiment proposed, and return to Head-Quarters by the first day of *February* next. You will please to pay strict obedience to the commands of that Assembly, and on all occasions give notice of your proceedings to your humble servant,

JOHN SULLIVAN,
Brigadier-General of the Continental Army.

To *John Waldron* and *Alpheus Chesley*, Esquires.

—

SAMUEL DEXTER TO PEREZ MORTON.

Woodstock, January 23, 1776.

SIR: Your letter of the 1st instant, wrote by direction of the major part of the honourable Council, informing me of my appointment to be first Justice of the Court of Common Pleas, for the County of *Suffolk*, did not come to hand till the arrival of the third post after its date, or I should sooner have returned the answer expected from me.

At a time when my declining a seat in the General Court has removed all ground of objection from any supposed impropriety of acting, both in a legislative and judiciary capacity, I should not choose to excuse myself from accepting this trust, did not the ill state of my health absolutely require it.

My complaints, which have been, gradually, increasing for more than two years past, are chiefly of the nervous kind, and forbid any degree of mental application beyond what is indispensably necessary for the management of my private concerns. I cannot promise myself strength sufficient even for matters of such comparatively small importance.

Such of the honourable gentlemen with whom I formerly sat in Council will testify for me, that, however poorly I acquitted myself in the discharge of my duty to the publick, I ever appeared solicitous to act a part that should meet with approbation.

Although in the department designed me, but moderate attention and study may be thought requisite, yet even that I am, by indisposition of body, which affects my mind, rendered totally unfit for.

Some time since I came to a determination never to engage in any new kind of employment of a publick nature; and, for the future, to do no more than a conscientious regard for my oath should demand of me in the office I have, for divers years past, sustained; and I have, sir, to request that you would, by communicating this letter, make their Honours acquainted with a resolution which I have, upon mature thought, found it needful to enter into.

I am no less desirous that the honourable Board should know that I have a grateful sense of the honour they have done me; and that I wish their happiness with a fervency not to be expressed, although exceeded by the ardour with which I pray for the salvation of my country.

I am, sir, your most obedient servant,

SAMUEL DEXTER.

To *Perez Morton*, Esq., Deputy Secretary of *Massachusetts-Bay, Watertown.*

ON OPENING THE PORTS OF THE COLONIES TO THE VESSELS OF FRANCE AND SPAIN.

Williamsburgh, Virginia, January 20, 1776.

As the Ministry, and their tools, have persisted in charging *America* with a desire of independence, and in spite of all the most solemn declarations on her part, that she is still (or rather, I hope, was) willing to be subject to *Britain*, as completely as she was in the year 1763, and as we have good reason to suppose, great as their lust of power is, that avarice has the greatest share in influencing their conduct, and that, therefore, not merely an empty title to superiority is claimed, or even a substantial revenue, but that something more is insisted on, the total monopoly of our trade; I say, as these things are evident, we have just cause of complaint, and may well resent such low suspicion and base treatment.

Whoever considers the acts of Parliament, laying restrictions on the trade of the Colonies, before the year 1763, will be astonished to find that the Congress, after one of their petitions had been treated with contempt, and a bloody, perfidious, and inhuman war was entered into against them, should consent that those acts should still be binding on them!

When we entered into an association not to trade with *Great Britain*, provided she had been contented to try who could hold out longest, and see who would repent first, and make the first overtures of accommodation, it would have been right to have contented ourselves with our own manufactures: but when they not only laugh at our efforts in this way, and affect to despise our whole trade, as of no importance to them, but also have, by levying against us a heavy and savage war, obliged us to incur many and great expenses, and to neglect, in many parts of our country, agriculture and manufactures, we must be fools, indeed, not to open our ports, and to try what value may be put on our trade by *France* and *Spain*, and how we may, thereby, influence them in our favour, and endeavour, by our trade, to procure every thing necessary for the support of the war, and our defence and comfort. By doing this we pave the way to a powerful alliance, and by it may humble the pride of our enemies, may show them we bid defiance to their attempts to enslave us, and that, so far from being sufferers for want of their trade, we can do ten times better without it.

If the ports were open to all nations, except the *British*, we might soon sink our paper money, and our estates would be of ten times their present value. Our tobacco, hemp, flax, cotton, tar, pitch, turpentine, iron, lead, staves, and lumber; our wheat, oats, barley, rye, rice, *Indian* corn, peas, beans, &c., &c., might be sold for their real value, in cash, or such commodities as we might wish to barter them for. Our tobacco would then always command a good price, and ready money; we should seldom get less than thirty or forty shillings a hundred for it in cash; good wheat would sell for six or seven shillings a bushel, and all other things in proportion; and, instead of paying the high price we now do for *British* goods, bought of *Scotch* factors, at an extravagant rate after selling them our tobacco for a mere nothing, we should buy every thing equally good, if not better, at half price, and often get them in exchange for articles of our produce which now we never attend to: The truth of this can be asserted by those who have traded in *French*, *Spanish*, *Dutch*, or *Italian* ports. Claret would then be as cheap as *Madeira* wine, and velvet as broadcloth, and rum, sugar, molasses, wine, oil, olives, *French* brandy, arrack, tea, spices, &c., &c., would be exchanged here for such necessaries, or rarities, as would be wanted in the different ships, by the captains, factors, or men, and by their friends and customers, at the different ports they come from. Our ports would then be filled with ships, and our towns with respectable merchants; the value of our country would soon be known abroad, and numbers of people, of ingenuity and property, would come and settle among us. We should have the trade protected against our present oppressors, the amplest means of defence afforded us, and even *Great Britain* herself would soon court our favour, and be willing to form a commercial league with us.

Let any one consider these things, and then let him say, whether he would hesitate a moment to open our ports.

AN AMERICAN.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO DELEGATES IN CONGRESS.

[No. 2.] Annapolis, January 20, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: By a resolution of the Convention, the city of *Annapolis*, and the town of *Baltimore*, are to be fortified, if it be practicable. As we are much at a loss for cannon, and as we hear they have more at *New-York* and *Philadelphia* than they have occasion for, we imagine they may be willing to spare some of them. We must, therefore, request you will be pleased to inquire of the gentlemen of those Provinces, in Congress, or of the Committee of *Philadelphia* whether it will be agreeable to them to lend us any of them, and acquaint us with their answer. We shall want about thirty or forty eighteen-pounders; if we are favoured with the loan of them, they shall be returned, or paid for if lost or damaged. As there will be great danger in attempting to get them round by water, if we borrow them from the Province of *New-York*, we judge it may be best to get them down by land to *Delaware* Bay, from thence, over short carrying-places, they may be got into our Bay. Any money that may be necessary to defray the expenses in getting down, shall be sent you, or lodged where you think proper. We enclose you a copy of the resolutions of the Convention for emitting bills of credit, as some clauses require particular duties to be performed by yourselves. We are, respectfully, gentlemen, yours, &c.

To the Deputies for *Maryland*, in Congress.

STEPHEN STEWARD TO CHARLES WALLACE.

West-River, Saturday, January 20, 1776.

DEAR CHARLES: I have long been thinking of a machine of some sort, to save your town. I think, I have now fell on one, that shall withstand against any ship in the navy that they can trust before your town. The machine must float, and carry twenty eighteen-pounders; it must be about one hundred and eight feet long, thirty-two feet, or less, broad, five and a half feet deep, the sides and ends to be glasaded, so that the men shall fight under cover, and the sides and ends cannon proof. This machine, I think, may be completed in two months, at the expense of two thousand five hundred pounds, or less. The friendship I have from yourself, *T. Hyde* and *T. Harwood*, has partly employed my mind this six weeks past. If the Committee of Safety think well of this matter, there is no time to be lost, and you must come down to me to-morrow morning, as I can wait neither on you, nor the Committee, in all next week. If this machine, or floating battery, can be got ready in time, I think it will save your town from any thing that can be done to it by sea. Every man of you must attend to this matter, as one hundred men may be employed. I am, *Charles*, with sincere respect, yours,

STEPHEN STEWARD.

To *Charles Wallace*, Esq.

P. S. This machine may always keep a fire on the enemy, as there must be two cannon in each end, and eight on each side. She may carry fifty-two swivels on her sides and ends, to prevent her being boarded.

My friend I think ill used by both Congress and Convention. The Congress gave their ships to build to men that knows nothing of the business. *Jack Steward*, you know, has been used ill by Convention, but still I am ready to serve my country in every degree that lies in my power.

If any opportunity, send *Thomas Johnson* a copy of this to-day, as he desired I would think of something of this sort to save the town.

JAMES MURRAY TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Cambridge, January 20, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The bearer hereof, Mr. *James Campbell*, who acted as a Captain of our Militia, had the honour, on application, of being appointed a Lieutenant of the Light Infantry Company at our last Convention.

I am to beg leave to introduce this gentleman to you, as particularly worthy your notice. I think, upon conversation with him, he may afford some very useful hints in those branches, that we, at this time, stand so much in need of; I mean gunnery and fortification. Have known him for several years, in character of a captain of a ship, the seafaring life having been his calling from his infancy, and think, to do him justice in that sense, or any other that he engages in, he will merit esteem. I believe he brings with

him a plan of a floating battery, his own invention, which may, very possibly, afford matter for improvement, should the original fail. If you attempt fortification, and are not already supplied with an able hand, believe you will find him very clever in drawing and taking charts of your harbours and Bay, and pointing out the fittest place to erect fortifications on.

With due regard, I remain, gentlemen, your humble servant,

JAMES MURRAY.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Philadelphia, January 20, 1776.

SIR: In my former letter, I mentioned the disagreeable news received from *Canada*. The Congress have taken that matter into consideration, and having examined Mr. *Antill*, and duly deliberated on the situation of our affairs in that quarter, they have come to sundry resolutions, which I have the honour to enclose.

I would just observe, that by Mr. *Antill's* examination, it appears our loss is greater than what is set forth in the despatches he brought; a copy of which was transmitted to you. Almost the whole of General *Arnold's* gallant detachment are taken prisoners, having, after four hours' resistance, been obliged to surrender at discretion. However, we have the satisfaction to hear the prisoners are treated with humanity.

The Congress are anxious, as well from motives of policy, as of justice and humanity, to repair our losses in that quarter, and if possible, to gain possession of *Quebeck*, and drive our enemies out of that country, before they can be reinforced in the Spring.

An active, able General is wanted to take the command there, and if such an one can be spared from the service at *Cambridge*, it is their desire you should send him.

The battalion from *Pennsylvania*, and that from *New-Jersey*, will set forward the beginning of next week.

As it is of great importance, as well for the security and relief of our friends, as for confirming the wavering, that speedy succours should arrive, I am directed to request you to detach from the camp, at *Cambridge*, one battalion, if the service there will permit you to spare one, with orders to march with the greatest expedition possible to *Canada*. If this cannot be complied with, you will use your utmost endeavours in stimulating the Governour of *Connecticut* and the Convention of *New-Hampshire*, to whom I write by this opportunity, to forward, with the utmost despatch, the very first companies that can be raised in those Colonies. You can easily conceive what effect the arrival of even one company will have on the minds of our friends, especially when they shall be satisfied it will soon be followed by more.

The Colony of *South-Carolina* has been so fortunate as to oblige Lord *William Campbell*, with the vessels of war, to quit their harbour. Being earnestly desirous of providing for their defence, they have resolved to fit out some armed vessels, but not having seamen among themselves, they have despatched Captain *Cochran* to the northward, to inlist a number of seamen for the service of that Colony. Lest the offers he was empowered to make might prejudice the service, the Congress have chalked out a plan for him to go by, as you will see in the enclosed extracts, and I am directed to desire you will please to forward this service.

Yesterday Doctor *J. Smith*, who made his escape from *Frederick*, was brought to this town. He was taken at the *Little Meadows*, on his way to *Detroit*, and had with him letters from *Connolly* to the commanding officer there.

I hinted to you in my former letter, that the Congress were taking measures for the defence of the Middle and Southern Colonies. For this purpose, over and above those destined for *Canada*, they have ordered four battalions to be raised in the Colony of *New-York*, two in *New-Jersey*, four in *Pennsylvania*, one in the Counties on *Delaware*, six in *Virginia*, three in *North-Carolina*, three in *South-Carolina*, and one in *Georgia*, each to consist of seven hundred and twenty-eight men, including officers, making in the whole, with those for *Canada*, thirty-four battalions.

I have the honour to be, &c.

JOHN HANCOCK, *President.*

To General *Washington.*

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Philadelphia, January, 26, 1776.

SIR: In my former letter I enclosed you sundry resolutions, passed by Congress for the defence of *Canada*, and therein took the liberty of urging the necessity of sending speedy succours to that country.

The disagreeable news lately received from that quarter, and the repulse our troops met with in their attempt on *Quebeck*, in which we had the misfortune of losing the brave and gallant General *Montgomery*, render it still more necessary, with all possible despatch, to reinforce our Army there, as well for the security and relief of our friends, as for the better securing the rights and liberties, not only of that Colony, but of the other *United Colonies*.

In addition to the former, I have now the honour of enclosing sundry resolutions passed since the advice received, and I trust, from your approved zeal in the cause of *America*, that every endeavour in your power will be exerted to levy and forward the battalion ordered to be raised in your Colony.

You will easily conceive what life, spirit, and confidence, the arrival of but one company will give our friends there, especially, when they understand it is quickly to be followed by more forces. You will, therefore, with the utmost despatch forward the first that can be got ready.

To prevent any delay, I send, enclosed, by order of Congress, blank commissions for the Field-Officers, Captains, and Subalterns, which you will please to fill up with the names of such gentlemen as you shall judge best qualified.

Time does not permit me to enlarge. I must, therefore, beg leave to refer you to the enclosed extracts, and have the honour to be, &c.,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President.*

To Governour *Trumbull.*

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO CONVENTION OF NEW-HAMPSHIRE.

Philadelphia, January 20, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: In addition to the resolutions of Congress, passed the 8th instant, for the defence of *Canada*, I have now to add sundry others, which the advices lately received, and the repulse our troops met with, in an attempt on *Quebeck*, render absolutely necessary to be carried into execution, with all possible despatch.

There is every reason to hope that a timely reinforcement will not only secure our friends and retrieve our losses, but put us in possession of *Quebeck* before succours can reach our enemies. I am, therefore, directed most earnestly to press you with all possible expedition to levy and forward the battalion ordered to be raised in your Colony. And as you lie the most contiguous, I trust, from your wonted zeal, you will be the first to carry relief and succour.

You will easily conceive what life, spirit, and confidence, the arrival of but one company will give our friends there, especially when they understand it is quickly to be followed by more forces. You will, therefore, with the utmost despatch forward the first that can be got ready.

To prevent any delay, I send, enclosed, by order of Congress, blank commissions for the Field-Officers, Captains, and Subalterns, which you will please to fill up with the names of such gentlemen as you shall judge best qualified and proper for the service.

The money for defraying the expense of the battalion will be forwarded by your Delegate with all possible despatch. The encouragement given to the men will, I hope, facilitate your business, and I trust your zeal will not be wanting in the defence of our common liberties. Time will not permit me to enlarge. I must, therefore, beg leave, for other matters, to refer you to the enclosed extracts, only reminding you that the battalion is to consist of eight companies, and each company of one Captain, two Lieutenants, one Ensign, four Sergeants, four Corporals, a drum and fife, and seventy-six privates; the Staff Officers: a Surgeon, a Quartermaster, an Adjutant, and a Chaplain.

I have the honour to be, gentlemen, &c.,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President.*

To the Convention of *New-Hampshire.*

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO NEW-YORK COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Philadelphia, January 20, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I have the honour of enclosing you sundry resolutions passed by Congress, as well for the defence of your Colony, as for repairing the loss lately sustained in *Canada*, and succouring our friends there.

The shortness of the time will not permit me to enlarge. I must, therefore, beg leave to refer you to the enclosed extracts, and just inform you, that the Congress rely with confidence on your zeal for the cause, that you will exert your utmost endeavours to hasten the march of the troops ordered to *Canada*, and to raise those destined for the defence of your Colony. Herewith I send you blank commissions for the officers under the rank of Majors, which you will please to fill up. On the recommendation of General *Schuyler*, the Congress have continued Colonel *Van Schaick*, Lieutenant-Colonel *Yates*, and Major *Gansevoort*, in the service of the *United Colonies*, and have appointed them to the command of the battalion to be raised in your Colony for the defence of *Canada*; and they have directed me, agreeable to an established rule, to request you will please to transmit, as soon as possible, the names of a number of gentlemen, whom you shall judge duly qualified, at least two for each command, out of whom they may elect Field-Officers for the other battalions.

I am, gentlemen, &c., JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

To the Convention, or Committee of Safety, of *New-York*.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO GENERAL SCHUYLER.

Philadelphia, January 20, 1776.

SIR: On *Wednesday* evening, Mr. *Antill* arrived with your despatches of the 13th instant, which were immediately communicated.

The Congress sincerely condole with you on the loss of your amiable friend, their gallant and much esteemed General.

Having conferred with Mr. *Antill*, and duly deliberated on the situation of our affairs in *Canada*, they have come to sundry resolutions, which I have the honour to enclose, and which you will please to communicate with the utmost despatch to General *Wooster*, as far as they relate to the defence of *Canada*, or are necessary for his direction.

The Congress rely with confidence that he will exert his best endeavours to keep up the spirits of his troops, especially, when you assure him, that every means will be used, with all possible expedition, to succour and support him. The battalions from *Pennsylvania* and *New-Jersey*, which were under marching orders, will set forward the beginning of next week; and despatches are sent to General *Washington*, and to the Colonies of *Connecticut* and *New-Hampshire*, to hasten up troops from thence.

Enclosed is a number of commissions for the battalions to be raised in *Canada*, which you will cause to be filled up with the names of such as you shall deem most suitable. As General *Montgomery*, to whom it was left to recommend proper officers, is now no more, you will endeavour to find out the most accomplished and suitable men, for the *Canadian* regiments; having a regard to men of influence, and such as are best attached to our cause.

I am, &c., JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

To General *Schuyler*.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO NEW-JERSEY COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Philadelphia, January 20, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I am directed by Congress to forward to you the enclosed resolutions, by which, you will perceive, it is their earnest desire, that you should exert your utmost endeavours in forwarding the march of the battalion to *Canada*.

As another battalion is ordered to be raised in your Colony, it is expected you will pursue the most effectual measures for levying the same with all possible expedition, and supplying them with arms, accoutrements, and other necessaries, that there may be no delay. I am directed to request you to send the names of such gentlemen as you judge best qualified, at least two for each command, out of whom the Congress may elect Field-Officers for said battalion. Blank commissions will be sent you to fill up with the names of such as you shall please to appoint officers under the rank of Major.

I must not omit pressing the necessity of attending to the collecting of specie, an article so necessary just at this juncture, that the safety of *America* depends upon it; for without it, an army cannot, at this time, be kept up in *Canada*, and the loss of *Canada* will, in all probability, involve us in an *Indian* war.

I am, &c., JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

To the Committee of Safety of *New-Jersey*.

JOSIAH BARTLETT TO NEW-HAMPSHIRE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Philadelphia, January 20, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The Congress on the 8th instant, voted to raise one regiment in the western parts of our Province for the service in *Canada*. The news of the misfortune at *Quebeck* arriving here last *Thursday*, they voted yesterday to give the men a bounty of forty shillings, and one month's pay advance, to encourage the speedy inlisting and sending forward said regiment, and I hope you will do every thing in your power to hasten it, as the taking and securing *Canada* this Winter, or early in the Spring, before the arrival of *British* troops, will be of almost infinite advantage to the Continent, more especially to *New-England*, and to our Colony in particular. One regiment will begin to march from this place for *Canada* in a few days, and one regiment from *New-Jersey* in eight or ten days; orders are, also, given to raise men as soon as possible for the same service, besides those in *New-Hampshire*, one more regiment in *Pennsylvania*, one ditto, in *New-Jersey*, one ditto, on the western parts of *New-York*, and one ditto, in *Connecticut*, and this day I expect one will be ordered to be raised in *Massachusetts* for the same purpose. No cost or pains must be spared to secure the important Province of *Canada*.

I beg leave to renew my request, that Delegates may be appointed and sent here, as soon as possible, as in my opinion the representation of a Colony, at this important crisis, is too weighty and important to be intrusted to any one person. That you may see the necessity of a larger representation of our Colony, I would inform you, that beside Committees for special purposes, that are frequently chosen, there are four or five standing Committees appointed, some for secrecy, some for despatch; some of which Committees are intrusted with large powers; and that there may be no cause of complaint, those Committees consist of one Delegate from each Colony; sometimes two, sometimes three, of those Committees sit at the same time, so that, though I attend some one of the Committees almost every night and morning, before and after Congress, yet sometimes business of consequence is transacted by them without our Colony being represented, and sometimes the Committees sit while the Congress is sitting, so that our Colony must be unrepresented in one of them, while every other Colony may be represented in both.

I have been here almost five months, great part of the time without a colleague. I really find that I never knew what confinment, with business, was before, and that I want more exercise of body, and less of mind, at least for some time. I please myself with hopes I shall soon see Delegates here from our Colony, and that I may return to my family, and with my domestick affairs relax and unbend my fatigued mind.

The sum of twelve thousand five hundred dollars, which the Congress ordered to be sent to you, to be used in raising our regiment for *Canada*, I shall send forward, as soon as I can. Please to acquaint me with the publick affairs of our Colony, as often as convenient, and, in particular, with your success, from time to time, in raising the regiment. As the Congress have intrusted you with appointing the officers, I know you will do the best you can to appoint proper persons, and hope you will be so fortunate as to give general satisfaction.

I am, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

JOSIAH BARTLETT.

To the Provincial Committee of Safety of *New-Hampshire*

COLONEL BULL TO CONTINENTAL CONGRESS.

[Read January 20, 1776.]

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOURS: An attachment to liberty, and a regard for the rights of mankind, were the only motives which induced me to take an active and leading part in the present unhappy, but, at the same time, most necessary struggle for the defence of the same. Being actuated by these motives, I offered my service, as Colonel of the First *Pennsylvania* Battalion, raised by order of your honourable House, to which command your Honours were pleased to appoint me. It would be the greatest satisfaction to me, personally, to oppose the enemies of my country, but finding myself ill-treated by many of the officers in my corps, and that near one-half of them threaten to resign their commissions if I continue in command, which, at a time when we are under immediate marching orders, might be productive of very bad consequences to the service, my regard to the publick interest obliges me to beg leave to resign my commission, which I hereby do, at the same time humbly requesting, that the Congress would proceed to a determination on the memorial exhibited against me by my officers, as I value my reputation more than life.* If I have erred, I have erred with those who have gone before me, and it has been the fault of my head and not of my heart.

The present untoward circumstances shall not alter my conduct, nor abate my zeal, and whenever I shall be called upon again to serve my country, I shall, with the greatest pleasure, obey the summons.

I am, gentlemen, with the utmost regard, your most obedient, humble servant,

JOHN BULL.

To the Honourable Continental Congress of the *United Colonies*, now sitting at *Philadelphia*.

TESTIMONY OF THE QUAKERS.

Ancient Testimony and Principles of the People called Quakers, renewed, with respect to the King and Government; and touching the Commotions now prevailing in these and other parts of AMERICA, *addressed to the People in general.*

A religious concern for our friends and fellow-subjects of every denomination, and, more especially, for those of all ranks, who, in the present commotions, are engaged in publick employments and stations, induces us earnestly to beseech every individual, in the most solemn manner, to consider the end and tendency of the measures they are promoting, and on the most impartial inquiry into the state of their minds, carefully to examine whether they are acting in the fear of *God*, and in conformity to the precepts and doctrine of our Lord *Jesus Christ*, whom we profess to believe in, and that, by him alone, we expect to be saved from our sins.

The calamities and afflictions which now surround us should, as we apprehend, affect every mind with the most awful consideration of the dispensations of Divine Providence to mankind, in general, in former ages, and that as the sins and iniquities of the people subjected them to grievous sufferings, the same causes still produce the like effects. The inhabitants of these Provinces were long signally favoured with peace and plenty. Have the returns of true thankfulness been generally manifest? Have integrity and godly simplicity been maintained, and religiously regarded? Hath a religious care to do justly, love mercy, and walk humbly, been evident? Hath the precept of *Christ*, to do unto others as we would they should do unto us, been the governing rule of our conduct? Hath an upright, impartial desire to prevent the slavery and oppression of our fellow-men, and to restore them to their natural right, to true Christian liberty, been cherished and encouraged? Or have pride, wantonness, luxury, profaneness, a partial spirit, and forgetfulness of the goodness and mercies of *God*, become lamentably prevalent. Have we not, therefore, abundant occasion to break off from our sins by righteousness, and our iniquities by showing mercy to the poor; and with true contrition and abasement of soul, to humble ourselves, and supplicate the almighty Preserver of men, to show favour, and to renew unto us a state of tranquillity and peace? It is our fervent desire that this may soon appear to be the pious resolution of the people in general, of all ranks and denominations; then may we have a well-grounded hope, that wisdom from above, which is pure, peaceable, and full of mercy and good fruits, will preside and govern in the deliberations of those who, in these perilous times, undertake the transaction of the most important publick affairs; and that, by their steady care and endeavours, constantly to act under the influences of this wisdom, those of inferior stations will be incited diligently to pursue those measures which make for peace, and tend to the reconciliation of contending parties, on principles dictated by the spirit of *Christ*, who "came not to destroy men's lives, but to save them." *Luke* ix. 56. We are so fully assured that these principles are the most certain and effectual means of preventing the extreme misery and desolations of wars and bloodshed, that we are constrained to entreat all, who profess faith in *Christ*, to manifest that they really believe in him, and desire to obtain the blessings he pronounced to the makers of peace. *Matthew*, v, 9. His spirit ever leads to seek for, and improve every opportunity of promoting peace and reconciliation, and constantly to remember, that, as we really confide in him, he can, in his own time, change the hearts of all men in such manner, that the way to obtain it, hath been often opened, contrary to every human prospect and expectation.

May we, therefore, heartily and sincerely unite in supplications to the Father of Mercies, to grant the plentiful effusions of his spirit to all, and, in an especial manner, to those in superior stations, that they may, with sincerity, guard against and reject all such measures and councils as may increase and perpetuate the discord, animosities, and unhappy contentions, which now sorrowfully abound.

We cannot, but with distressed minds, beseech all such, in the most solemn and awful manner, to consider that, if by their acting and persisting in a proud, selfish spirit, and not regarding the dictates of true wisdom, such measures are pursued as tend to the shedding of innocent blood, in the day when they, and all men, shall appear at the judgment-seat of *Christ*, to receive a reward according to their works, they will be excluded from his favour, and their portion will be in everlasting misery. See *Mat.* xxv, 41; 2 *Cor.* v, 10. The peculiar evidence of Divine regard manifested to our ancestors, in the founding and settlement of these Provinces, we have often commemorated, and desire ever to remember with true thankfulness and reverent admiration.

When we consider, that at the time they were persecuted and subjected to severe sufferings, as a people unworthy the benefits of religious or civil society, the hearts of the kings and rulers, under whom they thus suffered, were inclined to grant them these fruitful countries, and intrusted them with charters of very extensive powers and privileges; that on their arrival here, the minds of the Natives were inclined to receive them with great hospitality and friendship, and to cede to them the most valuable part of their land on very easy terms; that while the principles of justice and mercy continued to preside, they were preserved in tranquillity and peace, free from the desolating calamities of war, and their endeavours were wonderfully blessed and prospered, so that the saying of the wisest of Kings, was signally verified to them, "When a man's ways please the *Lord*, he maketh even his enemies to be at peace with him." *Prov.* xvi, 7.

The benefits, advantages, and favours, we have experienced by our dependance on, and connection with, the Kings and Government under which we have enjoyed this happy state, appear to demand from us the greatest circumspection, care, and constant endeavours to guard against every attempt to alter, or subvert, that dependance and connection.

The scenes lately presented to our view, and the prospect before us, we are sensible, are very distressing and discouraging; and though we lament that such amicable measures as have been proposed, both here, and in *England*, for the adjustment of the unhappy contests subsisting, have not yet been effectual; nevertheless, we should rejoice to observe the continuance of mutual peaceable endeavours for effecting a reconciliation, having grounds to hope that the Divine favour and blessing will attend them.

* *John Philip De Haas*, Esq., (formerly a Major in the Provincials of this Province,) is appointed Colonel of the First Battalion of *Pennsylvania* Regulars, instead of Colonel *Bull*, who has resigned.—*Pa. Gaz.*

"It hath ever been our judgment and principle, since we were called to profess the light of *Christ Jesus*, manifested in our consciences unto this day, that the setting up and putting down Kings and Governments, is *God's* peculiar prerogative, for causes best known to himself, and that it is not our business to have any hand or contrivance therein; nor to be busy bodies above our station, much less to plot and contrive the ruin or overturn of any of them, but to pray for the King and safety of our nation, and good of all men; that we may live a peaceable and quiet life, in all goodness and honesty, under the Government which *God* is pleased to set over us."—Ancient Testimony, 1696, in *Sewell's* History.

May we, therefore, firmly unite in the abhorrence of all such writings and measures as evidence a desire and design to break off the happy connection we have hitherto enjoyed with the Kingdom of *Great Britain*, and our just and necessary subordination to the King, and those who are lawfully placed in authority under him; that thus the repeated solemn declarations made on this subject, in the Addresses sent to the King, on the behalf of the people of *America* in general, may be confirmed, and remain to be our firm and sincere intentions to observe and fulfil.

Signed in, and on behalf of, a meeting of the Representatives of our Religious Society, in *Pennsylvania* and *New-Jersey*, held at *Philadelphia*, the twentieth day of the first Month, 1776.

JOHN PEMBERTON, *Clerk.*

NEW-YORK COMMITTEE OF SAFETY TO DELEGATES IN CONGRESS.

[Referred to Mr. Ward, Mr. Paine, Mr. Paca, Mr. Lee, and Mr. Rodney.]

In Committee of Safety, New-York, January 20, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: This will be delivered to you by Mr. *John Foster*, who was a member of our last Provincial Congress, and is a warm friend to *American* liberty. In the last Summer, during the continuance of our Provincial Resolve against the exportation of live stock, and before the non-exportation ordered by the Continental Congress took effect, he obtained from the Provincial Congress license to export live stock for the purpose of importing powder, the execution of which he suspended until he could send his vessel out without danger of molestation from the man-of-war; and, as the season of the year now gives him security against that danger, he is desirous of pursuing his object, for which end he has put himself to considerable expense. He, therefore, applied to us for a continuance of his permission, conceiving that, as it was originally granted before the non-exportation took effect, this Committee has the power to give such continuance. We informed him that we were clearly of opinion that he had lost his opportunity, and that we could not relieve him; he, thereupon, signified his intention of applying to the Continental Congress on that subject, as well as concerning a large ship which he is now building, and which he intends to offer for sale to Congress, and requested our recommendation, in hopes it would give his application weight. We, therefore, beg leave to recommend him, through you, to the Congress, as a gentleman worthy of the notice of that respectable body.

We have it much at heart to prevent, as effectually as possible, the importation of *British* and *Irish* goods. To this object our attention has been called by a late importation by the way of *St. Eustatia*. According to the present regulation, the reshipping of the goods is the only punishment, in point of property, to be inflicted on the offender; and we think it absolutely necessary to substitute confiscation, instead of the reshipping of the goods, as the most effectual means to check offences of that kind; and, in this view, we beg leave to recommend the proposed amendment to your attention.

We have thought it necessary to appoint a Barrackmaster for the City and County of *New-York*, in order that the barracks in this city may constantly be kept in a proper state for the comfortable accommodation of the Continental troops that may, from time to time, be posted here, or be marching through this city. We have nominated *Garret Roorback* to that office, and, therefore, entreat you to procure the settlement of this salary by the Congress.

In a resolve of Congress of the 8th instant, it is recommended to this Committee to inquire "whether the depth of water in *Hudson's* River, below the Battery, may not be easily lessened, so as to prevent large ships passing." We are at a loss to determine, with any certainty, what battery is meant, and request an explanation on that head.

We have appointed a person, agreeable to the resolve of Congress of the 2d instant, for collecting copies of all Petitions, Memorials, and Remonstrances which have been presented to the Throne and either of the Houses of Parliament since 1762, and the answer to them.

We agree that the reasons you assign against making application for liberty to export flax-seed are sufficient, and, therefore, think it best to withhold such application.

The business recommended to us in the former part of the resolve of the 8th instant, for securing the Port of *New-York*, has been some time under our consideration. We have had an accurate sounding of the channel, which, with the plan for the securing the port, and a calculation of the expense that will attend it, we shall communicate to you as soon as possible.

On the subject of the resolve of Congress for an exchange of Lieutenant *Tylee*, we beg leave to inform the Congress that, a few days before the receipt of that resolve, application was made to Captain *Vandeput*, under our directions, on that subject, by a person connected with Lieutenant *Tylee*, to procure his exchange. Captain *Vandeput* answered that it was not in his power to exchange him at present; that he had, long since, wrote to his Admiral for directions on that subject, the answer to which had miscarried; and that he had not any directions to exchange. We have appointed a member to request the Mayor of this city to use his influence with Captain *Vandeput*, or Captain *Parker*, to make a second application to the Admiral on that matter.

We have received from you, gentlemen, sundry requests about our accounts. We are so few in number, and continually so overpressed with the despatch of publick matters, that it has not yet been in our power to give due attention to that affair. We will endeavour to employ assistance, and have the accounts prepared as soon as possible.

We are, most respectfully, gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servants. By order of the Committee:

PIERRE VAN CORTLANDT, *Chairman.*

To the Delegates of the Colony of *New-York*, in Congress.

JOHN BRICKELL TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

New-York, January 20, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: As this Colony has vested you with the legislative power, and you are the only parents to whom we, as children, look up for justice and protection, I hope the application of an innocent, suffering individual, and a stranger, will not be considered as impertinent, or treated with neglect.

On *Wednesday*, the 12th instant, being abroad about my lawful business, some wicked persons, taking advantage of the publick disturbances, and of the opportunity which a number of soldiers, and others, being in the house where I lodged gave them, forced themselves in my chamber, broke open my chest and clothes-press, and robbed me of my linen apparel, and other things, to the value of ninety or one hundred dollars, a loss which, in my present circumstances, being at a distance from my friends, and having no means of obtaining a supply, is particularly grievous.

Now, gentlemen, as I have incontestable evidence that I have always spoken and acted as became a friend to *America*, since the commencement of the unhappy dispute with *Great Britain*, I am induced to hope you will take my misfortune into consideration, and afford me such relief as may be consistent with the publick honour and justice.

I am, gentlemen, your obedient, humble servant,

JOHN BRICKELL.

To the Honourable the Delegates of the Provincial Congress, for the Colony of *New-York*.

New-York, January 20, 1776.

I, the subscriber, do certify that I have known *John Brickell* to speak and act, since the commencement of our troubles, as became a friend to *American* liberty.

ROBERT HARPUR, *Deputy Chairman.*

COLONEL McDOUGALL TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

New-York, January 20, 1776.

SIR: I was this moment honoured with your Excellency's favour of the 13th instant, on the subject of cannon and shells. I should long ere now have forwarded the latter, agreeable to Colonel *Knox's* memorandum, if I had not been interdicted by a former favour. You may rest assured that all possible despatch will be given to expedite the shells; but, as the men-of-war's boats often row guard to where the stores lie, I shall be obliged to watch a suitable opportunity. The quantity of powder imported here was four hundred and sixty-five quarter barrels, less than six tons; and I can now inform you, without danger to the Colony, that, if three hundred pounds of that article would save the Colony from destruction, we could not command that quantity before the above supply. Part of this we have paid to *Jersey*, for powder borrowed of them last Summer, sent to your camp; and the Colony was so bare that many of the principal Counties have not had one grain of it. We judge it most prudent to supply the sea-frontier Counties first. We daily expect the arrival of more, and, whenever we have a tolerable supply for the most exposed parts of the Colony, you may depend on receiving from us all the assistance in our power. I hope your Excellency will excuse the informalities of this, as the post is detained for it.

I am, in haste, with great truth and regard, your Excellency's most obedient, and most humble servant,

ALEXANDER McDOUGALL.

To General *Washington.*

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read January 29, 1776.]

Lebanon, January 20, 1776.

SIR: I have to acquaint you that, on the requisition of General *Washington*, with advice of the Committee of Safety here, I gave orders for raising, by voluntary inlistment, two regiments, consisting of seven hundred and fifty men each, to aid General *Lee* in an enterprise he is pushing in the Colony of *New-York*. I understand that men are raised, with the addition of three hundred men, in the County of *Hartford*, for the same purpose; that, on the 16th instant, I had advice, by the copy of a letter from Brigadier-General *Wooster*, sent express from Colonel *Burrell*, of *Canaan*, informing that the army under the command of General *Montgomery*, at *Quebeck*, had met with a repulse, in attempting to storm the city; that the General, with sundry officers and privates, to the amount of between fifty and an hundred, were slain, and about three hundred more of the army taken prisoners, earnestly requesting relief, &c.; pursuant to which, I gave orders for raising, by voluntary inlistment, another regiment in the northern part of the Colony, consisting of seven hundred and fifty men, officers included, to march, forthwith, to reinforce our army at *Canada*, to be retained in the service till the 1st of *November* next, on the same pay, wages, and allowance, as the other troops already raised for the Continental service. No sooner were these orders issued, but an express arrived from General *Washington*, requesting a reinforcement from this Colony, of four regiments, to support the army near *Boston*, representing that the new levies were not filled up, and that the Minute-Men belonging to the Colony of the *Massachusetts-Bay* would, undoubtedly, return from the camp by the 1st of *February*, and might leave the lines much exposed. As my Council of Safety were present, we apprehended it absolutely necessary to comply with the requisition, as far as it was in our power. Accordingly, orders are making out for that purpose, to raise, by voluntary inlistment, four regiments, to be retained in the service till the 1st of *April* next, on the Continental encouragements.

We are distressed for want of good arms; are forwarding the making arms, but this with difficulty. We have ordered a ship-of-war to be forthwith built, to carry twenty nine-pounders; and our other naval preparations are forwarding with all possible expedition. I hope no time will be lost to forward Continental bills, to enable us to promote the service, as our Treasury is nearly exhausted and this Colony largely in advance, and expenses are daily arising for the general cause.

We hope that provision will be made for the security of *New-York*, from that Colony, *New-Jersey*, and *Pennsylvania*, so as to render it unnecessary to call for men from this Colony. It appears necessary that the utmost exertion be used to prevent the mischievous operations of our enemies in that Colony.

I having no answer relative to my former request for bills, occasions my mentioning it in this; nor to my motion whether the three *Canadian* prisoners may not be suffered to return to the General at *Canada;* and several other things mentioned in former letters.

I am, with great esteem and regard, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

JONATHAN TRUMBULL.

To the Honourable President *Hancock.*

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO GENERAL SCHUYLER.

Lebanon, January 20, 1776.

SIR: I have your favour of the 6th instant with the enclosed roll, have observed the contents, but no other rolls are come to hand to send by this opportunity. My time has lately been taken up in taking measures to aid and assist Major-General *Lee*, in the service he is charged with into the Colony of *New-York*. For that end, two regiments, of seven hundred and fifty men each, are ordered in the westward part of this Colony, and three hundred men are voluntarily going to his assistance from the County of *Hartford*. When this was done, I received Brigadier-General *Wooster's* letter of the 6th instant, giving the intelligence of the repulse of our troops before *Quebeck*, whereupon orders are given to raise another regiment, of seven hundred and fifty volunteers, in the northern parts of this Colony, to serve in the Northern Army until the first of *November* next, on the Continental pay, wages and allowances, to be done with all possible expedition. When this was just finished, I received a letter from General *Washington*, of the 16th, per *Bennett*, requesting four regiments to be inlisted forthwith, to serve at the camp before *Boston*, to supply the places of the soldiers who came off the 1st of *February*, until the 1st *April* next, to give time for the regiments to be filled. This is now under consideration. Please to give me intelligence of what has happened at *Quebeck*, and is doing, and must be done, at *Albany*, and the places adjacent. Concerning the arms left by our troops at the northward, as we have directed one-half of our men to expect arms at *Ticonderoga* and *St. John's*, we apprehend there are many more arms retained, which we shall want for our troops, and wish to have accounts of them, and of every intelligence needful.

I am, sir, your obedient humble servant,

JONATHAN TRUMBULL.

To Major-General *Schuyler.*

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Cambridge, January 20, 1776.

SIR: Your favour of the 18th instant I received this day, for which I return you my thanks.

Upon receiving the melancholy intelligence of the fall of the brave *Montgomery* and the repulse of our troops in their attempt against the city of *Quebeck*, I called a Council of General Officers to determine upon the necessary steps to be taken upon the alarming occasion. Of their determination I wrote you yesterday, to which I beg leave to refer you.

The early attention which you and your honourable Council have paid to this important business, has anticipated my requisition, and claims, in a particular manner, the thanks of every well-wishing *American.*

I am in hopes, by this time, that several are on their march, and that with the troops which will follow from your Government, this, and *New-Hampshire*, that our

affairs, in a little time, in that quarter, will wear a more promising aspect than what they now do.

I am, sir, very respectfully, &c.

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To Governour *Trumbull.*

INSTRUCTIONS TO CAPTAIN CHARLES DYAR.

To Captain CHARLES DYAR, *of the United Armed Schooner* HARRISON:

SIR: You being appointed Captain and Commander of the armed schooner *Harrison*, in the service of the *United Colonies*, are to pay all attention and obedience to the following Instructions:

1st. You are to proceed, immediately, on a cruise against such vessels as may be found on the high seas, or elsewhere, bound inward or outward to or from *Boston*, in the service of the Ministerial army, and to take and seize all such vessels, laden with soldiers, arms, ammunition or provisions, going to or from said town of *Boston*, or, which you shall have good reason to suspect, are employed for the purpose of aiding or assisting the Ministerial troops or navy.

2d. If you should be so successful as to take any of said vessels, you are, immediately, to send them to the nearest and safest port to this camp, under a careful prize master, directing him to deliver said prize unto the Agent by me appointed for the port into which a prize is carried, (if any there;) if none should be in that port, notice is to be given to the nearest Agent thereto; at same time an account of such capture to be transmitted to Head-Quarters, with all particulars thereto belonging, by express.

3d. You are to be very particular and diligent in your search after all letters, or other papers, tending to discover the design of the enemy, or of any other kind, and to forward all such to me as soon as possible.

4th. Whatever prisoners you take must be treated with kindness and humanity; their private stock of money and apparel to be given up to them after being searched; and when they arrive at any port, they are to be delivered up to the Agent, if any there; if not, to the Committee of Safety of such port.

5th. For your encouragement, and that of the other officers and men, to diligence and activity, over and above their pay, which will be the same as in the Army of the *United Colonies*, you shall be entitled to one-third part of every vessel and cargo, after condemnation in the Court of Admiralty, which shall be by you taken and sent into port; if she is an armed vessel that resists, as an inducement for you, your officers and men, to act courageously, one-half of the vessel and cargo will be allowed to you, which parts are to be divided in the following proportions:

Captain, - -	6 shares.	Mate, - - -	1½ shares.
First Lieutenant,	5 do.	Gunner, - -	1½ do.
Second Lieutenant	4 do.	Gunner's Mate,	1½ do.
Ship's Master, -	3 do.	Private, - -	1 do.
Steward, - -	2 do.		

6th. As Captain *Manly* is appointed Commodore of the four schooners now fitted out, he will fix upon proper signals by which you may know each other; and you are to obey him, as such, in all cases. If it should so happen that a prize is taken in sight of other vessels, fitted out at the Continental expense, or at the charge of individuals, the rule which takes place among private ships of war to be observed in the distribution of the prize money.

7th. You are to be extremely careful and frugal of your ammunition and other stores; by no means to waste any of it in salutes, or for any other purpose, but what is absolutely necessary.

8th. You, your officers and men, are, from the date hereof, to consider yourselves engaged in the service of the *United Colonies*, and in every respect subject to the rules and regulations formed by the Congress for the government of the Army raised for the defence of *American* liberty, or as near as possible, consistent with the difference of the land and sea service, a book of which rules and articles you will receive herewith; at the end of which you, your officers and men, must subscribe your names.

9th. As it is very apparent that the ill success which attended the major part of the armed vessels in former cruises was owing to the want of industry, and inactivity of the officers who commanded, you will, therefore, take notice, that a fondness to be on shore, indolence, or inactivity, will meet with their just deserts; for, if it appears that the Captain, or any of the officers, do not exert themselves and do all that they possibly can for their own and publick good, they shall be dismissed the service, and rendered incapable of serving their country in any honourable station hereafter, in the Army or Navy.

Given under my hand, at Head-Quarters, *Cambridge*, the 20th day of *January*, 1776.

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

NEWBURYPORT COMMITTEE OF SAFETY TO COUNCIL OF MASSACHUSETTS.

Newburyport, January 16, 1776.

SIR: Yesterday forenoon appeared in our Bay a brig and a ship, which were suspected to be enemy's vessels. These vessels were soon taken and brought safe into the river. The ship was from *London* eleven weeks since, and is named *The Friends, Archibald Bowie*, master, burden about two hundred tons, laden with coals, porter, pickled cabbage, vinegar, live hogs, &c., for Government service. The ship was to enter at *Boston* as a transport. The brig was from *Cork* about ten weeks since, and is named the *Sukey, Mandatt Engs*, master, burden about ninety tons, laden with beef, pork, butter, hams, tongues, potatoes, &c., and owned by *Lewis Gray*, of *Boston*. Both these vessels were bound to *Boston*. There were two passengers in the brig, viz: Lieutenant *Hill*, of Earl *Percy's* regiment, and Mr. *John Gray*, son of *Harrison Gray*, Esq. We thought it best to forward the two masters and these two passengers to the honourable Council, to dispose of them as they may think fit, and to make what inquiries they may choose.

Mr. *Marsh* and Mr. *Mullikin* of this town, (and the first gentleman of this Committee,) have undertaken to see them safe to *Watertown*. They bring with them all the papers of publick concern that were found in both vessels. We would observe to their Honours that there is, besides, a number of letters to officers and soldiers in *Boston*, a book of military orders or regulations, we did not know but might be a matter of curiosity, if not of service, at Head-Quarters, which you will present to the General if you please. Mr. *Hill* begs a return of it to him finally. Messrs. *Marsh* and *Mullikin* will present their bill of charges in this matter, which their Honours will order payment of as they shall think proper.

In behalf of the Committee of Safety for this town, I am, sir, your very obedient servant,

JONATHAN JACKSON.

To the President of the Honourable Council for the Colony of the *Massachusetts-Bay.*

In Council, January 20, 1776.

On examination of the Prisoners by the major part of the Council, *Ordered*, that a Letter be wrote to his Excellency General *Washington*, and sent with two of the Prisoners, viz: Lieutenant *Hill* and his servant, to be at his Excellency's disposal—that a Letter be wrote to the Committee of Safety at *Newburyport*, and that the two Captains of the two Vessels be sent to their care and disposal; and *John Gray*, the other Prisoner, be sent to the Jail in *Newburyport*, and held in close confinement, at his own expense, until further orders.

JOHN LOWELL, *Deputy Sec'y, P. T.*

Watertown, January 20, 1776.

SIR: The Board, upon examination of several persons who were sent here by the Committee of Safety, and were taken on board a ship from *London* and a brig from *Cork*, both bound to *Boston*, find that one of the passengers in the latter is a Lieutenant in the Fifth Regiment (Earl *Percy's*) now in *Boston*. They have, therefore, ordered the said Lieutenant *Hill*, with his servant, to be sent to your Excellency, to be disposed of as you may think proper.

In the name and by order of the Council:

W. SEVER.

To His Excellency General *Washington.*

Council Chamber, January 20, 1776.

Gentlemen: We have sent to your care *Archibald Bowie* and *Mandatt Engs*, Masters of the two Vessels lately taken and carried into *Newburyport*, and you are requested to see that the above-mentioned persons do not go without the limits of said Town; and, if you see cause therefor, you are desired to confine said persons, or either of them, till the further order of the Council.

In the name and by order of the Council:

W. Sever.

To the Committee of Safety, *Newburyport*.

[General Washington] to the committee of Newburyport.

Cambridge, January 20, 1776.

Sir: I am commanded by his Excellency to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 16th instant, with the enclosures No. 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5.

His Excellency desires, through you, sir, to return the Committee of *Newburyport*, his sincere thanks for their great politeness in this instance, and wishes that these prizes may be succeeded by others. I am, &c.

To *Jonathan Jackson*, Esq., Chairman, &c.

[General Washington] to the committee of Stonington.

Cambridge, January 20, 1776.

Sir: I am commanded by his Excellency to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 8th instant. As you, from having fully inquired into matters respecting the capture of Captain *Denny's* vessel, must be better able to determine the propriety of the same than he is, he again refers it entirely to your decision, in full confidence, that the same will be founded upon the principles of equity and the strictest justice. I am, &c.

To *Joseph Dennison*, Esq., Chairman, &c.

Robert H. Harrison to William Watson.

Cambridge, January 20, 1776.

Sir: I am commanded by his Excellency to acknowledge the receipt of your favour of the 15th instant. His Excellency is glad to hear of the vessels being libelled, and doubts not of your assiduity to have the legality of the captures determined, as soon as it shall be in your power.

His Excellency is well pleased that the schooner *Harrison* is yet good and fit for service; and, from the character you have given Captain *Dyar*, is willing you should give him the command of her, and to indulge such men as may offer their service to inlist only for six months. The Captain thinks that a squaresail, and some other small sails, will be of great advantage to her. This his Excellency leaves to your judgment. If they are necessary, in your opinion, and the expense will not be out of proportion to the benefit likely to be derived from them, you will please to provide them. You will immediately despatch the Captain upon a cruise, with such sails as he has, if they will answer. Those he wants may be made while he is out.

As to the vessels taken and carried into *Dartmouth*, by Major *Tupper*, his Excellency thinks they ought to be libelled.

I am, sir, &c.,

Robert H. Harrison, *Aid-de-camp*.

To *William Watson*, Esq., *Plymouth*.

Robert H. Harrison to Stephen Moylan.

Cambridge, January 20, 1776.

Sir: Your letter of the 19th instant was delivered early yesterday, and would have been answered before this evening, had not his Excellency's time been much employed in despatching expresses to sundry places.

His Excellency is much pleased that our fleet is likely to get out again, and wishes your return as soon as you have despatched them.

Herewith you will receive the commissions you wrote for; also, a copy of private signals used by the King's ships in the *American* service, which his Excellency desires you to furnish each of our Captains with, and to return the copy sent, when you come back.

As to the attempt on the *Fowey*, he thinks that the situation of our affairs, at present, will not justify it; but, on your arrival, will consider more of it, should there be the same prospect of success that you apprehend there is now.

The report you have had is too true, but not so bad, we hope, as you have heard. However, it is certain, that the great and gallant *Montgomery* is no more. He, with his Aid-de-camp, Captain *Macpherson*, and Captain *Cheeseman* of *New-York*, fell the first fire; also, Colonel *Arnold* is wounded in the leg.

I am, &c., Robert H. Harrison.

To *Stephen Moylan*, Esq.

General Sullivan to New-Hampshire Assembly.

Winter-Hill, January 20, 1776.

May it please your Honours: The bearer hereof, Mr. Adjutant *Peabody*, of Colonel *Reed's* Regiment, earnestly desiring to go to the relief of our distressed brethren in *Canada*, I beg leave to recommend him to the office of Second Lieutenant, and Adjutant, in the regiment bound there, which offices he has voluntarily resigned here, and cheerfully undertakes the fatigues of a long march to relieve our worthy friends at *Quebeck*. I can assure you that he has ever behaved well, and been highly esteemed here, as well for his conduct in the common business of his office, as for his courage and intrepidity at *Bunker's Hill*. Any favour you shall please to show him, shall be gratefully acknowledged by, your much obliged, and humble servant,

John Sullivan.

To the Honourable General Assembly.

Colonel Woodford to the Virginia Convention.

Norfolk, January 21, 1776.

We have had a party, these ten days, upon *Tanner's Creek*, who yesterday had a brush with a tender's boat, attempting to land at *Sprawl's* plantation; they beat her off, and killed one man.

Eight o'clock at night.—About four this afternoon, another heavy cannonading began from the *Liverpool* and *Otter*, during which the enemy landed, and set fire to some houses that remained unhurt, near to which is called *Town Point Wharf*. I sent strong parties to reinforce our water guards. We had three fine men killed with cannon shot, and one wounded, who, it is thought, will lose his arm. We have found one sailor and two *Negroes* dead, and suppose many others were killed and wounded that were carried off in their boats. Captains *Green* and *Markham* arrived in the height of the fire.

I am, sir, &c.

George Stricker to Maryland Council of Safety.

Fredericktown, January 21, 1776.

Gentlemen: I am informed that my company of Light-Infantry are to be armed with rifles; shall, therefore, esteem your directions to some person to contract for the same, they being to be had here. The gunsmiths have offered to furnish the company with the same, in a few weeks. Nothing retards me now, but the want of arms and recruiting cash. I have recruited twenty-one select men in two days, and make no doubt of completing my company in ten more.

Please to send, by the bearer, Mr. *Benjamin Ford*, or any one of my Lieutenants, the recruiting cash. Imagine shall want about two hundred and fifty pounds.

I am, with respect, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

George Stricker.

To the Council of Safety.

N. B. If a person is directed to contract for rifles, it will be necessary, also, to contract for bullet-pouches and powder-horns.

BERKS COUNTY (PENNSYLVANIA) COMMITTEE.

At a meeting of the Standing Committee for *Berks* County, *January* 20, 1776:

Mark Bird, Esq., in the chair.

The Committee, taking into their consideration the present state of the Association in this County, and being persuaded of the pressing necessity of being prepared for defence, do earnestly recommend it to their brethren to sign the Articles of Association formed by the House of Assembly at their last meeting; this Committee trusting that such amendments will be made, at the next sitting of Assembly, as will make the Association not only more effectual, but more consonant to the principles of justice and equality.

And afterwards, at a meeting of the Committee, on the 30th of the same month,

Resolved, unanimously, That it is the opinion of this Committee, that it will be highly requisite, in case the Assembly should not think proper to make the necessary amendments in the said Association, that a Provincial Convention be held for that purpose; and they do, accordingly, appoint *Edward Biddle*, *Mark Bird*, *Jonathan Potts*, *Daniel Broadhead*, *Baltzer Gheer*, *Collinson Read*, Esquires, and Messrs. *Valentine Rekert*, *Nicholas Lutz*, *Sebastian Levan*, and *Richard Tea*, to attend the said Convention, in behalf of this County.

By order of the Committee:

COLLINSON READ, *Secretary*.

BUCKS COUNTY (PENNSYLVANIA) COMMITTEE.

In Committee, Bucks County, January 21, 1776.

The Committee of Safety of this Province have lately published a process for the making of Saltpetre, with a view to induce the inhabitants of this Colony to set about the work; but, as no description, however exact, can so fully answer the purpose of instruction as an actual exhibition of the process, this Committee, at the request of the Committee of Safety, hath appointed *James Wallace*, *Andrew Kichlein*, and *Joseph Fenton*, Jun., to attend the Saltpetre Works in *Philadelphia*, so as to obtain a competent knowledge of the method practised at the Saltpetre Works there, that they may be qualified to exhibit the process to such persons as are desirous of being useful to their country, by entering into the manufacture of that useful and necessary commodity; and *James Wallace* is, also, appointed to receive all the Saltpetre that shall be made in this county, who will be furnished with Powder, to pay, in that article, one-fourth part the value of the Saltpetre, and the rest of the price will be punctually paid in cash by Mr. *Wallace*.

By order of the Committee:

JOSEPH HART, *Chairman*.

NEW-YORK COMMITTEE OF SAFETY TO LORD STIRLING.

In Committee of Safety, New-York, Sunday Evening, 8 o'clock, January 21, 1776.

MY LORD: By the seizure of a man, brought up from the *Hook* by one of our pilots, from on board a transport, we, this instant, have learned her being in a distressed condition, and waiting there for direction and assistance from this port. She has been out thirteen weeks, destined for the Head-Quarters of the Ministerial troops, so that, if she receives relief, she will, doubtless, proceed for *Boston*. She is deeply laden with all kinds of stores for the army.

Our intelligence is from letters found on the prisoner, directed to certain persons under fictitious directions, which were intended to be conveyed, by him, on board of the man-of-war. It would greatly serve the publick cause could she be seized. There are the most evident reasons why we, in *New-York*, ought not, in point of prudence, to do it. We have two ships-of-war lying here, and our exports, as yet, happily, uninterrupted by them.

This discovery cannot be kept long a secret, and we think it our duty to submit this case to your immediate attention. Should it be known to the ships-of-war, they will, doubtless, send down their boats, which consideration has induced us, by express, to furnish you with this opportunity of serving the publick.

The above reasons point out the propriety of keeping the source of your information a secret, and, to this end, we beg you will destroy this as soon as read.

We are, my Lord, with great respect, your Lordship's most obedient.

By order of the Committee:

P. S. She is a ship of between three and four hundred tons, a galley-built ship, without a head; has yellow sides, blue quarter-boards, with the trophies of war painted on the quarter-boards; has six three-pounders on the quarter-deck. She has, it is thought, a quantity of ammunition on board. She has about twenty hands, and lies hovering off and on, without the *Hook*, and will not leave that station till she receives intelligence from shore. Captain *William Rogers*, the bearer of this, will be a proper person to take the direction of the undertaking.

To the Right Honourable the Earl of *Stirling*.

NEW-YORK COMMITTEE OF SAFETY TO JOSEPH HALLETT.

In Committee of Safety, New-York, January 21, 1776.

SIR: Through the misfortunes and indisposition of sundry members we are very few in number. We have only eight members, when all meet who are in town, or can be collected. We have had more cases than one, in which we should have thought it our duty to have spared a member from the Committee, for important matters at some distance, if our number would have permitted us so to do.

Thus situated, we think it our duty, to request you to come to *New-York*, and attend the Committee as soon as the situation of your health will admit.

[A similar letter was sent to Mr. *John Imlay*.]

GENERAL WOOSTER TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Montreal, January 21, 1776.

SIR: I herewith enclose a letter just received from Colonel *Arnold*, and take this opportunity most heartily to condole with you for the loss of the brave and most amiable General *Montgomery*, and the other brave officers and soldiers who fell with him, and for the failure of success in the unfortunate attack upon *Quebeck*, the particulars of which, you will, doubtless, have received before this reaches you.

I should have gone down, immediately, upon hearing of the defeat, to the camp before *Quebeck*, but the necessity of securing this place, and the country round, in our interest, induced all the officers and our friends here, to request me not to leave this place, till we should have a reinforcement from the Colonies; when they arrive, I expect to proceed on with them. We have many enemies in this Province, particularly among the Clergy, who are using every artifice to excite the *Canadians* to take up arms against us; but I hope to be able to prevent any thing of the kind. I have called in many of the commissions given by Governour *Carleton*, and have given out new ones under the Congress, and expect soon to have them spread through the country, which, I expect, and indeed I perceive already, that it answers very salutary purposes; after receiving new commissions, they look upon themselves as bound, and unless we succeed, they will all be treated as Traitors. I allow each Parish to choose their own Captains, a circumstance which pleases them much; and there has been but few instances that they have not chosen a zealous friend to our cause.

The taking of *Quebeck* must be a matter of the greatest consequence to the Colonies, but at present we are very ill provided for it. The place is strong. I believe they are determined to defend it to the last extremity. We have but about four tons of powder in the Province. We have, I believe, a sufficiency of small cannon, none larger than twelve pounders, except two brass twenty-fours, which are at *St. John's*. We have expectations of having shot and shells cast at *Three-Rivers*.

In my opinion, it will not only be necessary to forward men and powder from the Colonies, but also, a number of heavy cannon, such as thirty-two pounders, and one thirteen inch mortar, if no more, and some small ones, if to be had. I understand that the large mortar from *Ticonderoga*, with a number of pieces of cannon, are gone to your

camp. It is of the greatest importance, that whatever is sent from the Colonies, should be here by the middle of *March*, at farthest, for, after that time, the gentlemen here inform me, it will be impossible to transport any thing from this place to *Quebeck*, on account of the river's being filled with ice, and water, of consequence, overflows the flat country. Therefore, if any of our wants can be supplied from your camp, I could wish that whatever is sent may be forwarded as expeditiously as possible.

I am, sir, with the greatest esteem and respect, your most obedient servant,

DAVID WOOSTER.

To General *Washington*.

GOVERNOUR COOKE TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Providence, January 21, 1776.

SIR: Your favour of the 6th instant I received, and laid before the General Assembly. It had great weight; and I believe that no supplies to the enemy's ships would have been permitted, had it not appeared to us that the members of the Continental Congress were of opinion that they should be continued. The following is an extract of a letter from our Delegates on that subject: "A memorial from the town of *Newport*, forwarded to us by express, having been referred to the General Assembly, we now enclose that with the papers pertinent thereto. We should not do justice to the benevolence of Congress, or to the distressed situation of the town, if we did not acquaint you that all the gentlemen who spoke in this debate, expressed the most tender regard for the distressed people, and gave it as their opinion, that, as long as the ships-of-war now in the harbour could be supplied with fresh provisions, beer, and such like, necessaries for their own immediate support, consistently with the great principles of the general good and safety of *America*, the town ought to be permitted to furnish them; the greatest care being taken by Government that no more than the barely necessary supplies be furnished them, from time to time, lest the common enemy, in other parts of the Continent should, through them, obtain provisions." In consequence of which, the General Assembly have ordered that Captain *Wallace* should be supplied, as you will see by the enclosed vote. But, as he may cannonade, and even burn the town, a discretionary power, by a private vote, which it is designed should be kept a profound secret, is given to the commander of the forces on *Rhode-Island*, to permit supplies in cases of imminent danger, until the next session, to be holden on the last *Monday* in next month.

Similar measures to these taken by *Connecticut*, as mentioned in your letter, have been adopted by this Colony. Besides which, the commanding officer of any body of the Continental troops is empowered to impress carriages, &c.

The General Assembly ordered an address to the Congress, a copy of which I do myself the honour to enclose you. We are not without hopes that the Congress will take the whole brigade into their service, especially as the necessity arising from so powerful an invasion, of establishing the whole force we have ordered, is clear and manifest. From the nature of the war, and the circumstances of the Colonies, I think every idea of partial and colonial defence ought to be given up. There must be a supreme superintending power, to exert and direct the force of the whole for the defence and safety of all; otherwise the exertions and burdens will not only be very unequal, to the greatly endangering the union upon which the welfare of *America* depends, but Colony after Colony may be subdued, without the chance of making resistance. I shall only add, on this head, that unless the Continent enter upon the defence of the Colony, it must be abandoned, to the great detriment of the common cause. I beg the favour of your Excellency seriously to consider this matter, and to give us your assistance, with the members of the Congress, for procuring such a body of forces as the interest of this and the *United Colonies*, in general, shall require.

We had procured upwards of an hundred blankets, which were designed for the Army under your immediate command; but the descent upon *Prudence* obliged us to send forty of them to our troops upon that Island; and to supply the additional forces ordered to be raised, will demand every blanket that can be spared in the Colony.

I am, with great respect and esteem, sir, your Excellency's most obedient, and most humble servant,

NICHOLAS COOKE.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

Colony of Rhode-Island, &c., in General Assembly, January 17, 1776.

It is Voted and Resolved, That the Town Council of the town of *Newport* be allowed to supply Captain *Wallace*, so long as he shall remain peaceably within the Colony, without committing any depredations upon the Islands, or upon any of the lands in the Colony, weekly with two thousand pounds weight of Beef, and with Beer as usual, under the direction of the commanding-officer of the troops stationed on *Rhode-Island*; that he appoint the person to provide and deliver the said Provisions; and that no Member of either House of Assembly be appointed to deliver the same, or to go on board of either of the ships-of-war under said *Wallace's* command, on any occasion whatever.

And this Assembly considering the situation and defenceless state of the town of *Newport*, do advise, and strongly recommend it to the inhabitants of said town, forthwith to remove to some place of safety, all their aged people, women, children, and those who are unable to assist in defence of the place, together with their valuable effects.

And do further, *Vote and Resolve*, That the sum of two hundred Pounds, lawful money, be paid out of the General Treasury, to the Committee hereinafter appointed, which shall be improved in removing such poor persons in said town, as are incapable of removing themselves, and for no other use whatever. That Messrs. *John Collins*, *John Cooke*, *Thomas Freebody*, *George Irish*, and *Daniel Holloway*, or the major part of them be, and they are, hereby, appointed a Committee for that purpose. That the said Committee be empowered to settle the price of the transportation of the effects of the inhabitants of the said town to the places where they shall be shipped; and, also, the price of transportation over the ferries; and that each of the said Committee be empowered to impress teams, horses, and cattle, to remove such effects at the prices which shall be so affixed.

A true copy: HENRY WARD, *Secretary*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Cambridge, January 21, 1776.

SIR: In the hurry of my last despatches to you, of the 19th instant, I forgot to intimate, that for the encouragement of the regiment destined for *Canada*, a month's advanced pay will be allowed officers and soldiers by me, on behalf of Congress. At the same time, I think it but right that you should be apprized of the intention of this Government to advance their regiment another month's pay, to enable the men to provide for so long and fatiguing a march, and, in the mean time, have something for their families to subsist on during their absence.

I have no doubt but that this last advance will be pleasing to Congress, and that the money will be speedily refunded; but as I have no authority to direct it, and would not appear, by any act of mine, to put these three regiments intended for *Canada*, upon a different footing from those which have been raising for this Army, I only give you a hint of the intention of this Government, if you think proper that the regiment from your Colony may be placed upon the same footing, as I know all kind of distinctions are considered by troops with an evil and jealous eye.

Such necessaries, as are absolutely requisite for the march of this regiment, you will please to have provided upon the best terms you can, and a regular account, with vouchers thereof, left, that payment may be made. The importance of despatch will, I am persuaded, appear in so urgent and pressing a light to you, that I need add nothing on this head, but shall be glad to hear what progress you make in the business, being with the sincerest regard and esteem, sir, &c.,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To Governour *Trumbull*.

[Same to the Honourable *Matthew Thornton*, *New-Hampshire*.]

INFORMATION TO THE TOWN OF SAVANNAH, FROM GOVERNOUR WRIGHT.*

Thursday night, 10 o'clock, January 18, 1776.

The Governour sent for Doctor *Jones* and *Joseph Clay*, and acquainted them that he had sent for them as the only remaining Representatives of the town of *Savannah*, and acquainted them that the following men-of-war, with the packet and one or two other vessels, were arrived at *Cockspur*, viz: the *Syren*, of 28 guns; the *Tamar*, of 18 or 20 guns; the *Raven*, of 18 guns; the *Cherokee*, of 16 guns.

That he was very certain their orders were to treat any of the Colonies who were in arms, had raised fortifications, seized any of the Crown officers, or King's stores, as in a state of rebellion, and would, if in their power, destroy their towns and property, wherever they would come at them; and, he apprehended, they would look on us as in that state, and, as far as in their power, treat us accordingly.

That the *Raven*, man-of-war, was stationed here. That they were all in want of provisions, particularly the *Tamar*, the *Cherokee*, and the packet, which vessels, as well as the *Syren*, he believed, would depart the Province as soon as they were supplied with provisions. That if he, the Governour, could be assured from the inhabitants of the town that they would supply them with provisions, and permit their boats to come to town unmolested, and purchase such provisions as they can get, that he would go down on board these ships and endeavour to settle every thing with the officers in such a manner as to prevent their doing any injury to this town, or the inhabitants of the Province, or their property.

That if they could not be supplied with provisions, they certainly would take it by force, where they can find it, and will, if in their power, attack this town and destroy it, which, as several of the vessels were of an easy draft of water, he presumed they could get up to town and effect.

Savannah, Monday, January 22, 1776.

Doctor *Jones* and *Joseph Clay* waited on the Governour in consequence of a written request from him, when he informed them, that as soon as he heard there was a man-of-war in the river, which was on *Tuesday* last, he sent orders to Captain *Lightenstone* to go on board them and to inquire who they were and what number, and endeavour to learn their intentions. And as the Governour was apprehensive, if any of the man-of-war boats came up to town, it might be the occasion of disputes between them and the inhabitants, and, perhaps, bloodshed, for which reason he directed Captain *Lightenstone* to acquaint them that the town was in much confusion, and to request that they would not send any of their boats up to town.

But his orders reached Captain *Lightenstone* at *Skidaway*, on *Wednesday* morning, who, immediately, went on board the men-of-war, and returned from them on *Thursday* afternoon, and to *Savannah* this morning; who acquainted him, the Governour, that in pursuance of his orders, he had been on board the ships-of-war—that they informed him, by *Lightenstone*, that the *Syren* and the packet would, probably, go to sea this day or to-morrow; that the *Tamar* had sprung her main-yard and was in want of provisions, as was the *Cherokee;* that as soon as she (the *Tamar*) had got a new yard, which they expected to supply themselves with from *Tybee*, that she (the *Cherokee*) would, as soon as that was done, and they had supplied themselves with provisions, which they expected soon to procure, having already got five or seven beeves from *Tybee*, and expected to get some other provisions from *Little Tybee*, (which they were then about sending for,) go to sea also; and then there would be left in this harbour only the *Raven*, which is stationed here; and that he apprehended this town had nothing to fear from the men-of-war, unless they should attempt any thing in consequence of hearing of his, the Governour, being under arrest, which he assured us if they had, it was not from him or with his knowledge.

* On the 18th of *January*, *Joseph Habersham*, Esq., who was then a member of the House, raised a party of volunteers, took Governour *Wright* prisoner, paroled him to his house, and placed a sentinel at his door; prohibiting all intercourse with the members of his Council, the King's officers, or other persons who were supposed to be inimical to the *American* cause. The Governour became tired of confinement, and with the assistance of *John Mulryne*, effected his escape from the back part of his house, on the night of the 11th of *February*.—*M'Call.*

THOMAS JOHNSON, JUN. TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Fredericktown, January 22, 1776.

Gentlemen: *Stricker* has accepted his commission, and has had, and I expect will have, good success in inlisting. He proposes to be very particular in the men he takes, and much wishes his, the Light Infantry company, to be armed with rifles; both Mr. *Price* and he think rifles for a company may be soon got. Considering the difficulty of speedily arming our troops, I think with them, it will be advisable to lodge a sum of money in the hands of somebody here. Nobody will do more justice to the publick than *C. Beatty*, to purchase up what rifles can be got. My brother, this morning, let *Stricker* have one hundred of the two hundred which he brought up for building the town Jail, to assist him in recruiting. Mr. *Ford* will be a very proper hand to bring up what money you may think proper to send *Stricker*. I imagine the two hundred and fifty pounds he applies for, is not too much, as well as what you may think proper for Captain *Barrett*, many of whose company I expect will be very good riflemen, if collected in his neighbourhood, from where I think they may be best spared. Major *Price* tells me a good many publick arms, some of which have been repaired at the expense of those who have them, may be collected with industry. I should be glad you would send up an order for the Committee to collect all they can, and if you think as I do, to allow the people the reasonable expense of necessary repairs, where the muskets came to their hands out of order.

I understand that about one hundred gun-locks, fit for rifles, and that would do well enough to put to repaired muskets, are to be had in town. I wish you would send up about sixty pounds to purchase them. Mr. *Beatty*, my brother, or myself, will do it, if you please.

Price tells me he gained an acquaintance with one *Royston*, at the camp of the Artillery, who was a very clever young man, and desires to come to the South; and from *Price's* account of him, he would be very serviceable in our Second Artillery Company, and he would be well satisfied with a First Lieutenancy. I wish, if there is still room, that he may be preferred to it. A trifling circumstance prevented his coming with *Price*, and he even talked of following him. Major *Price* writes to him that troops are raising in this Province, and that it is likely he will be employed, which, he says, he dare say, will bring him, with a strong recommendation from General *Gates*, to whom he is well known.

I am, gentlemen, your most obedient,

Th. Johnson, Jun.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO STEPHEN STEWARD.

[No. 3.] Annapolis, January 22, 1776.

Sir: The Council of Safety are informed that you have been at *Philadelphia*, and are acquainted with the method the Committee have taken there to prevent the approach of men-of-war and armed vessels to that city. As the Convention have resolved, that the sum of five thousand nine hundred pounds be appropriated to fortify *Annapolis*, and place obstructions in the channel of the river, the Council would be glad to see you, and take your opinion on any plans or designs, that may be thought necessary, in carrying this resolution of the Convention into execution. Mr. *Wallace* has been so kind as to lay before us your letter of the 20th instant, on which we shall be glad to confer with you. We are, with respect, sir, yours, &c.

To Mr. *Stephen Steward, West-River.*

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO WILLIAM ROBERTS.

[No. 4.] Annapolis, January 22, 1776.

Sir: A Company of Artillery, or Matrosses, was ordered to be raised, particularly for the city of *Annapolis*. This is a matter of consequence to all the inhabitants; we, therefore, choose to consult the Corporation with regard to the officers, and should be obliged to you to call a Corporation some day this week, or the next, at farthest, and let us know who that respectable body would recommend to us as proper persons for Captain and three Lieutenants.

We are, &c.,

To *Wm. Roberts*, Esq., Mayor of the City of *Annapolis.*

LANCASTER (PENNSYLVANIA) COMMITTEE TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read January 25, 1776.—Referred to Committee of Correspondence.]

In Committee, Lancaster, January 22, 1776.

SIR: Pursuant to the directions of Congress, the Committee of this place communicated their resolves to the officers, prisoners of war in this town, and received from them the enclosed answer.

The Committee will, with cheerfulness, execute the orders of the Congress, but they are under some difficulties in this case, as we have reason to believe the officers will insist to remain with the privates, and will make no choice of residence. It will then fall on the Committee to fix the places for them; and, as those places, or some of them, may be in other Counties, we cannot compel the Committees to receive and take them into their charge, without particular direction from Congress for that purpose. But, should the Congress direct the places of their residence, they will be most punctually obeyed; and, as it is probable that, when they are removed from hence, they will refuse to give their parole, agreeable to the former resolves of Congress, we beg the Congress will direct in what manner the Committees shall proceed with them.

The bearer of this is one of the members of the Committee; his private business will detain him a day in *Philadelphia*, and by him we hope to receive the directions of the Congress.

I am, sir, with great esteem, your very humble servant,

By order of the Committee:

GEORGE ROSS,
Chairman of the Committee.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, President of the Continental Congress.

Lancaster, January 20, 1776.

We, the undermentioned officers, having perused the Resolves of the Congress relative to us, transmitted to the Committee of this town, think proper to make the following answers to them:*

Answer to 1st Resolution.—That the officers are of opinion they may accept of the offer of drawing for their subsistence; at the same time, from the situation they are in, they cannot help expressing a doubt of their bills being honoured, as an alteration may take place in *Great Britain*, as well as in *America*, with regard to bills of exchange; but expect that, in this case, nothing detrimental be offered to their persons.

Answer to 2d Resolution.—That, although the officers at *Lancaster* do not think themselves, by any means, concerned in the article of the Resolve relative to the officers at *Trenton*, yet they think proper to declare, that their having been placed in taverns by those officers under whose conduct they were brought to this place, laid them under the necessity of living in a more expensive manner than they otherwise would have done, and that they had frequently made application for private lodgings, but without effect.

Answer to an article of said Resolution.—That the offer of an allowance of two dollars per week, for board and lodging, is so inadequate to the manner which they, as gentlemen and *British* officers, have been accustomed to live in, in every part of His Majesty's dominions, that they decline accepting of the loan.

That, as to the article respecting innkeepers' accounts, they do not, really, comprehend the meaning of it, and, therefore, request an explanation.

In answer to the last article, respecting the officers being separated from their men, they cannot help expressing their surprise at it, having had promises to the contrary, particularly General *Schuyler's;* that this promise from him, and a confirmation of it under the hands of the Congress, in their orders to Captain *Nott*, rendered them easy; that, in consequence of this, the officers, without hesitation, gave their parole to the Committee of this town, in the manner as has been already transmitted by them. The officers will be extremely sorry to be reduced to the disagreeable necessity of cancelling that promise.

The men are in great want of their clothing, not having, now, sufficient to cover them from the inclemency of the weather. Motives, therefore, of humanity and justice suggest to the officers the necessity of remaining with them, at least until the baggage arrives, which is daily expected, in order to make a proper distribution of it.

The officers beg leave to represent their own situation, which is such as will not admit of their changing quarters at this inclement season of the year; many of them lying in a bad state of health, and without the greatest part of their baggage, some, indeed, without any part of it.

The officers willingly embrace this opportunity of returning their thanks to the Committee and others, of this town, for their humanity in raising a subscription for the women and children, and, likewise, for other civilities.

W. RINNEER, P. ANSTRUTHER,
TIM. NEWMARCH, WILLIAM DUFF,
JAS. WM. BAILLIS, JOS. CAMPBELL,
JOHN DESPARD, GEO. PEACOCKE,
WM. C. HUGHES, *Royal Fusileers.*

JOHN STRONGE, E. P. WILLINGTON,
JOHN LIVINGSTON, ROBERT THOMAS,
D. MCDONELL, JAMES GORDON,
Twenty-Sixth Regiment.

DANIEL ROBERTSON,
Royal Highland Emigrants.

To the Committee of *Lancaster*.

* Agreed to set Dr. *Huddlestone* at liberty on the terms he mentions; and sent by him a proposition to General *Carleton*, that it be stipulated on both sides, not only to release all Surgeons, but that, if, by the fortune of war, the hospital of either army should fall into the power of the other, the same care should be taken of the sick and wounded as if friends, and that neither they nor the attendants of the hospital should be considered as prisoners; and, if Governour *Carleton* should not agree to the present release of Surgeons, Dr. *Huddlestone* is to be on his parole to return immediately.

Officers' Answer at LANCASTER.

1. To be left on the footing it was placed on in our letter of the 18th.
2. Resolve related merely to the officers at *Trenton*, no complaint having been received of those of *Lancaster*.
3. Two dollars per week was the allowance of Congress; the officers may refuse it or add to it on their own account, as they please.
4. Inquire the meaning, high accounts from *Trenton*.
5. See the Resolution of Congress; express stronger than before what relates to General *Schuyler's* promise.
6. We shall be extremely sorry to be reduced to the necessity of confining them in prison, if they cancel their parole.
7. Clothing ordered by us; their clothing ordered to be brought up.
8. Provided for in our former letter.

9 and 10. It is not desired to remove any officer to the prejudice of his health.

Directions given in former letter relating to the women and children.

CAPTAIN WILLIAMS TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

Philadelphia, January 22, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I am now under the necessity of applying to your Honours, (in consequence of orders issued from Congress to hold myself in readiness to march at an hour's warning,) as I am, at present, without a First-Lieutenant, Mr. *Davis*, my late Lieutenant, being promoted to a Company; Mr. *John D. Bankson*, my late Ensign, being, likewise, promoted to a First Lieutenant by the Committee of Safety, and a certain Mr. *Morgan* was appointed by your Honours a First Lieutenant (formerly appointed by the Committee of Safety in one of your new battalions) in the First Battalion, who was to join my company; but, as the whole corps of officers in the First Battalion would rather wish your Honours would promote the officers in the said battalion, as they were at the great trouble of raising the company.

I cannot but think it would be in your power to allow Mr. *Bankson* to join my company, agreeable to Mr. *Morgan's* desire. Mr. *Morgan* is, at present, out of town, recruiting for the Captain whom he was first engaged with.

Your Honours will please to take it into consideration, and grant the above request; and you will much oblige your obedient, humble servant,

WILLIAM WILLIAMS, *Capt. J. P. B.*

To the Honourable President of Congress.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read February 2, 1776.]

Albany, January 22, 1776.

SIR: When I did myself the honour to write to you on the 13th instant, the distress of mind occasioned by the

melancholy accounts I then transmitted, the hurry in preparing for the excursion into *Tryon* County, and greatly oppressed by the asthma, were so many obstacles which prevented my answering your polite letters of the 30th of *November* and 2d instant, which were delivered me on the 12th by Mr. *Tilghman*. I now sit down to answer those, and to acknowledge the receipt of yours of the 10th instant, covering several resolutions of Congress, which were delivered me on the 18th.

That my little services should have attracted the notice of Congress, so far as to merit their thanks, I can only attribute to the conviction which, I flatter myself, that respectable body entertains of my wishes and endeavours to serve my country in this hour of danger. I cannot, sir, find words to convey my feelings on the occasion. Let it suffice, that I consider it as a reward the most glorious, since it is conferred by the representatives of a people still free, and who are virtuously struggling to transmit the blessings of freedom to millions of their posterity. May indulgent Heaven so smile on their honest endeavours, that *America* may be a lasting monument to remind tyrants of their impotency, when they attempt to tyrannize over a free people. To you, sir, my best thanks are due, for the polite manner in which you have conveyed to me the sense of Congress, and believe me, sir, that I feel a grateful sense of the attention which I have experienced from you.

I frankly confess, sir, that I have been greatly chagrined to see the little order that prevailed in the troops under my command, and that, added to my very bad state of health, were the only inducements which made me wish to retire. The first, I hope, will not so much prevail in future; but I am sorry that I have no prospect that the latter will ever mend. Much indisposed when I set out for *Tryon* County, the severity of the weather, and the fatigues incident to the command of an undisciplined and enraged multitude, ready to run into imprudences of the most dangerous nature, and only to be prevented by the greatest attention and vigilance, has greatly increased my disorders, a complication of which now confine me to my room. But, sir, the affairs of my country are in a worse situation than when I requested to retire; this is motive sufficient for me to continue in any station, however inconvenient, in which my countrymen and my superiors are pleased to think I can be of service. I will continue, then, to do what I can. My country may justly claim my last services. It shall have them.

The resolutions of Congress of the 10th, 11th, and 17th of *November*, so far as they respect me, shall be strictly complied with; that of the 26th, respecting the lead at *Crown-Point*, I have already given order about. What was left at *Ticonderoga* was on its way to *Cambridge* when I received General *Washington's* account of the capture of the store-ship; I, therefore, stopped it here, and it will be much wanted for our troops that are going into *Canada*.

General *Prescott* was already considerably advanced on his way to *New-Jersey*, when I received the order of Congress, of the 2d instant, for putting him in close custody.

The resolution of Congress, permitting the officers, who are prisoners, to sell their bills for their subsistence, I have already communicated to those still here, which are the *French* officers, Major *Hughes*, Captain *Gamble*, and Lieutenant *Barrington*, all of which would have been moved last week if my time had not been engaged otherwise.

I shall take the next opportunity that offers, to transmit to the Treasury an account of my disbursements to the officers. The receipts I cannot, as they are written in a receipt-book containing many others.

The Conductor of Artillery, whom I had, through necessity, appointed, is Mr. *Hubbard Brown*. He appears to me active, honest, and capable, and now acts in the double capacity of Conductor and Barrackmaster of *Ticonderoga;* for the former he was to have five shillings, and for the other an additional shilling, *New-York* currency. I found *Gysbert Marselis*, Esq., a Barrackmaster here, and employed by the Committee of *Albany;* he still remains in the office. Mr. *Peter Schuyler* I appointed to take charge of the arms in this place; he has a considerable number already repaired. For a Storekeeper at this place, I beg leave to recommend Mr. *Philip Van Rensselaer*.

I have given Mr. *Trumbull*, the Paymaster-General, copies of the resolutions relative to his Department. I hope they are not founded on a supposition that there had been any negligence in that Department. On the confusion which had arisen in the Army accounts, is much to be imputed to officers commanding companies.

The resolve of the 8th instant, "that shipwrights be immediately sent from *New-York* and *Philadelphia*, to build batteaus," I could wish not to be put into execution, as one *Albany* shipwright will do nearly as much of that kind of work as two that are not accustomed to it. I can also make them work early and late, which the others will not; besides, there will be great saving in the travelling charges.

I shall immediately desire General *Wooster* to cause the river *St. Lawrence* to be explored, agreeable to the resolution of Congress, but I fear he is much in want of an Engineer for the purpose, as well as for a proper person to ascertain what kind of armed boats it would be most expedient to build.

Does Congress intend that I should issue warrants for completing the regiment to be raised in this Colony, or is it to be done by the Convention? In my former letters, I advised Congress that I had issued warrants for raising four companies.

I shall immediately proceed to get every thing in readiness for building batteaus at *Fort-George*, as *Wood-Creek* cannot be cleared this Winter, and shall send up all the provisions and other stores.

I fear I shall not be able to get a sufficient quantity of nails made in time at this place; what I can get, I shall be obliged to pay fifteen pence per pound for.

Part of the troops which I sent Colonel *Warner* to raise, are already on their march; the first party, I have reason to think, is, at farthest, within a day's march of *St. John's*. I have ordered them off by fifties, as they could get ready, a regiment on the last Continental arrangement, in the County of *Berkshire;* part of it is already marched. I was, however, obliged to give the like bounty as I did to Colonel *Warner*. It is commanded by Colonel *Fellows*, and all the officers were nominated by the General Committee of that County. They will not engage beyond the 15th of *April*. It was, however, lucky that I took those measures, for General *Washington* writes me that he cannot spare a man. Enclose you a copy of his letter. A few hours before I received it, I wrote him by express, that the necessity of sending troops from *Cambridge* to *Canada* appeared to me to be superseded, because of those going which I have mentioned above, and that there were two regiments on their march from *Pennsylvania* and *New-Jersey*, which, in all probability, would reach *Canada* as soon as any he could send.

Governour *Trumbull*, in a letter of the 20th instant, advises me that a regiment is raising in *Connecticut* to march immediately to *Canada*, to be engaged to the first day of *November* next.

As I have had no accounts from *Canada* since those which Mr. *Antill* brought, I conclude that nothing material has happened since the unfortunate affair of the 31st ultimo.

I have, in a former letter, observed that all the heavy cannon and mortars were ordered to *Cambridge;* I suppose they are there now. Should *Quebeck* not fall into our hands this Winter, we shall want a considerable number of those. Whence are we to be supplied? And from whence are we to get ammunition?

January 24, 1776.

Some of the troops that accompanied me into *Tryon* County refused to move unless I promised pay for their carriages; and these same people insist upon pay as Minute-Men. Many of the people, however, expect no pay for their carriages, nor for themselves. Expeditions of this kind would be very expensive at this rate. I cannot think that Congress intended pay for the men on such occasions. I shall wait their orders.

I have just now received a letter from the Committee of Safety at *New-York*, enclosing copies of the resolutions of Congress of the 8th of *January*. They observe that several things are left indeterminate "in that resolve

which orders a large quantity of provisions and stores to be sent to *Fort-George*." In answer, I have wrote them that "I cannot believe Congress intended any thing more by sending the resolution to them, than that they should supply me with what I might want; the almost impossibility of sending a large quantity from *New-York* to *Fort-George*, at this season, would countenance this construction."

They have also wrote to me on the subject of the shipwrights. I have given them an extract of what I have above said to Congress on the occasion, and requested that they would not send any until I applied for them.

They also seemed to think that they were to procure batteau-men, and ask what wages are to be allowed them. I have promised to write to Congress on that head. I believe they would be best got in the vicinity of this place. If Congress thinks so, I wish to know what pay to allow the officers and men.

Congress will please to attend to the Naval Department in this quarter. Perhaps Commodore *Douglass* will remain. I could wish a Captain *Wynkoop* to be employed under him; he is active and brave.

I am, sir, most sincerely, your obedient, humble servant,

PHILIP SCHUYLER.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq., &c., &c.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Albany, January 22, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Colonel *Warner* succeeds fast in sending men to *Canada*. From the County of *Berkshire*, in the *Massachusetts-Bay*, a regiment will, also, immediately be sent, part of which is already on its march. By a letter just received from Congress, dated the 10th instant, I am advised that a regiment from *Pennsylvania*, and another from *New-Jersey*, were ordered immediately to march for this place, and to put themselves under my command. As these corps can be in *Canada* at least as early as any your Excellency can send from *Cambridge*, the necessity of sending of those which I had the honour to request of you, will be superseded.

Since the unfortunate accounts which I transmitted you by my last express, I have heard nothing more from *Canada*, whence, I conclude, that our affairs in that quarter are not in a worse situation than when Mr. *Antill* came away. The enclosed copy of a letter from Colonel *Arnold* was forgot to be sent you per last.

I returned last night from *Tryon* County, into which I marched a body of Militia to disarm the malignants, which I have effected. Six of the chiefs of about two hundred and fifty or three hundred *Scotch Highlanders*, are to go prisoners to *Pennsylvania*, as are six others of the *English* and *Dutch* inhabitants of that County. We have taken four six and four-pounders, together with a number of swivels and blunderbusses.

I hope all is well with your Excellency. Be pleased to present my compliments to your family. I am, sir, with sincere respect and esteem, your Excellency's most obedient, and very humble servant,

PHILIP SCHUYLER.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

GENERAL LEE TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read January 26, 1776.]

Stamford, January 22, 1776.

SIR: As General *Washington* has informed the Congress of his motives for detaching me, it is needless to trouble you upon the subject. I am, therefore, only to inform you, that I have collected a body of about twelve hundred men, from the Colony of *Connecticut*, whose zeal and ardour, demonstrated on this occasion, cannot be sufficiently praised. With this body I am marching directly to *New-York*, to execute the different purposes for which I am detached. I am sensible, sir, that nothing can carry the air of greater presumption, than a servant's intruding his opinion, unasked, upon his master; but, at the same time, there are certain seasons, when the real danger of the master may not only excuse, but render laudable the servant's officiousness. I, therefore, flatter myself that the Congress will receive, with indulgence and lenity, the opinion I shall offer.

The scheme of disarming, simply, the Tories, seems to me, totally ineffectual; it will only imbitter their minds, and add *virus* to their venom. They can, and will, always be supplied with fresh arms by the enemy. That of seizing the most dangerous will, I apprehend, from the vagueness of the instruction, be attended with some bad consequences, and can answer no good one; it opens so wide a door for partiality and prejudice, to the different Congresses and Committees on the Continent, that much discord and animosity will, probably, ensue, it being next to impossible to distinguish who are, and who are not, the most dangerous.

The plan of explaining to these deluded people the justice and merits of the *American* cause, is, certainly, generous and humane, but, I am afraid, will be fruitless. They are so riveted in their opinions, that, I am persuaded, should an angel descend from Heaven, with his golden trumpet, and ring in their ears that their conduct was criminal, he would be disregarded. I had lately, myself, an instance of their infatuation, which, if it is not impertinent, I will relate:

At *Newport*, I took the liberty, without any authority, but the conviction of the necessity, to administer a very strong oath to some of the leading Tories, for which liberty I humbly ask pardon of the Congress. One article of this oath was, to take arms in defence of their country, if called upon by the voice of the Congress. To this, Colonel *Wanton*, and others, flatly refused their assent. To take arms against their Sovereign, they said, was too monstrous an impiety. I asked them, if they had lived at the time of the Revolution, whether they would have been Revolutionists? Their answers were, at first, evasive, circuitous, and unintelligible; but, by fixing them down precisely to the questions, I, at length, drew from them a positive confession, that no violence, no provocation on the part of the Court, could prevail upon them to act with the Continent. Such, I am afraid, is the creed and principles of the whole party, great and small; sense, reason, argument, and eloquence, have been expended in vain, and in vain you may still argue and reason, till the end of time. Even the common feelings and resentments of humanity have not aroused them, but rather, with a malignant pleasure, they have beheld the destruction of their fellow-citizens and relations. But, I am running into declamation, (perhaps, impertinently presuming,) when I ought to confine myself to the scheme I submit to your consideration.

It is, sir, in the first place, to disarm all the manifestly disaffected, as well of the lower as of the higher class; not on the principle of putting them in a state of impotence, (for this, as I observed before, will not be the case,) but to supply our troops with arms, of which they stand in too great need. Secondly, to appraise their estates, and oblige them to deposite, at least the value of one-half of their respective property, in the hands of the Continental Congress, as a security for their good behaviour. And, lastly, to administer the strongest oath that can be devised, to act, defensively and offensively, in support of the common rights.

I confess, that men so eaten up with bigotry, as the bulk of them appear to be, will not consider themselves as bound by this oath, particularly, as it is, in some measure, forced; they will argue, that it is by no means obligatory. But, if I mistake not, it will be a sort of criterion, by which you will be able to distinguish the desperate fanaticks from those who are reclaimable. The former must, of course, be secured, and carried into some interior parts of the Continent, where they cannot be dangerous.

This mode of proceeding, I conceive, (if any can,) will be effectual; but, whether it meets with the approbation or disapprobation of the Congress, I most humbly conjure them not to attribute the proposal to arrogance, self-conceit, or pragmatical officiousness, but, at worst, to an intemperate zeal for the publick service.

Notwithstanding the apparent slimness of the authority, as I am myself convinced that it is substantial, I think it my duty to communicate a circumstance to the Congress. I have with me here, sir, a deserter from Captain *Wallace's* ship, before *Newport*. It is necessary, previously to inform you, that this Captain *Wallace* has the reputation

*

of being the most imprudent and rash of all mortals, particularly when he is heated with wine, which, as reported, is a daily incident; that, in those moments, he blabs his most secret instructions even to the common men. This deserter, then, informs us, that the Captain, a few days ago, assembled the sailors and marines on the quarter-deck, and assured them, by way of encouragement, that they were to proceed, very soon, to *New-York*, where they were to be joined by His Majesty's most loyal subjects of *White-Plains, Poughkeepsie*, and *Long-Island*, and, at the same time, bestowed, abundantly, his curses on the Admiral and General, for their dilatoriness and scandalous conduct, in not availing themselves, sooner, of the invitation they had received from these worthy gentlemen.

The Congress will make what comments they please on this information, which, I must repeat, I thought it my duty to communicate. Upon the whole, sir, you may be assured, that it is the intention of the Ministerialists to take possession (and immediately) of *New-York*. The intercepted letters, the unguarded expressions of their officers, in their interviews with ours, on the lines, but, above all, the manifest advantages resulting to their cause from this measure, put their intention beyond dispute.

With submission, therefore, to the wisdom of the Congress, it behooves them, I should think, not to lose a moment in securing this important post, which, if in the hands of the enemy, must cut the Continent in twain, and render it almost impossible for the Northern and Southern Colonies mutually to support each other. This is not a crisis, when every thing is at stake, to be over-complacent to the timidity of the inhabitants of any particular spot. I have now under my command a respectable force, adequate to the purposes of securing the place, and purging all its environs of Traitors, on which subject I shall expect, with impatience, the determination of the Congress. Their orders I hope to receive before, or immediately on my arrival.

This instant, the enclosed express, from the Provincial Congress of *New-York*, was delivered into my hands; but, as these gentlemen, probably, are not fully apprized of the danger hanging over their heads, as I have received intelligence from camp that the fleet is sailed, and that it is necessary to urge my march, I shall proceed, with one division of the forces under my command, to that city. A moment's delay may be fatal.

The force I shall carry with me is not strong enough to act offensively, but just sufficient to secure the city against any immediate designs of the enemy. If this is to give umbrage, if the Governour, and Captain of the man-of-war, are pleased to construe this step as an act of positive hostility, if they are to prescribe what number of your troops, and what number not, are to enter the city, all I can say is, that *New-York* must be considered as the Ministers' place, and not the Continent's.

I must now, sir, beg pardon for the length of this letter, and, more so, for the presumption in offering, so freely, my thoughts to the Congress, from whom it is my duty simply to receive my orders, and, as a servant and soldier, strictly to obey, which none can do with greater ardour and affection than, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

CHARLES LEE.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq., President of the Continental Congress.

In Committee of Safety, New-York, January 21, 1776.

SIR: The inhabitants of this city are much alarmed at various confident advices of your destination, with a considerable body of forces for active service here. Confident, however, as those advices may appear to people without doors, we cannot readily credit them, as we conceive it most probable that, were you preparing to execute any plan of that kind, it would be preceded by some intimations to us on the subject, from the Continental Congress, General *Washington*, or yourself. We, therefore, should not have troubled you with this application, had it not been to procure such information from you as may enable us, in a prudent use of it, to allay the fears of our inhabitants, who, at this inclement season of the year, will continue, as they have already begun, to remove their women and children, and which, if continued, may occasion hundreds to perish for want of shelter.

This Committee, and the Congress, whose place we fill in their recess, are, we flatter ourselves, as unanimously zealous in the cause of *America*, as any representative body on the Continent; so truly zealous, that both the one and the other will cheerfully devote this city to sacrifice, for advancing that great and important cause. But, to acquit ourselves in the judgment of the Continent, which, in point of publick aid, is deeply interested in the preservation of this metropolis, and to our constituents, who expect our prudent care of their lives and properties, we think it our indispensable duty to inform you, that, though we have advices that General *Washington* has been informed of the arrival of a large quantity of powder among us, we have not a sufficiency to enable you to act hostilely against the ships-of-war now in port. Our whole quantity of publick powder is less than three tons.

No works are erected to annoy the enemy in their present situation. Should it be practicable, at this juncture, to erect hasty works for that purpose, to what shift are we to betake ourselves, after our trifling supply of ammunition shall be expended? The commencement of hostilities, for which we are now so unprepared, will preclude the possibility of a supply, even for our musketry, in the ensuing campaign. The strict guard against the exportation of ammunition from the foreign ports in *Europe*, we have great reason to fear, will cut off all hopes of supply from that quarter, as well to us as the Continental Congress. We have sent sundry adventures thither, some of which have failed; for this reason, we are daily pushing adventures to the *West-Indies*, with the article of provisions, as a necessary expedient in the present uncommon scarcity of bullion. The ships-of-war give no interruption to our vessels despatched on those adventures, a favour we cannot expect should hostilities begin. And, even should we be fortunate enough to oblige the ships-of-war to quit this port, by expending the little powder we have, (an event which our most sanguine hopes cannot promise us,) the attention of our enemies will effectually prevent our expected importations.

For these reasons, we conceive that a just regard to the publick cause, and our duty, to take a prudent care of this city, dictate the impropriety of provoking hostilities at present, and the necessity of saving appearances with the ships-of-war till, at least, the month of *March*.

Though we have been unfortunate, in our disappointments, with respect to some of our adventures, yet, be assured, sir, we have not been idle. Our intrenching tools are almost completed to a sufficient number; we are forming a magazine of provisions for five thousand men, for a month, in a place of safety, and at a convenient distance from this city; we have provided ourselves with six good brass field-pieces, and have directed carriages to be made for our other artillery, and are raising a company of Artillery for the defence of the Colony, on the Continental establishment. These things, with other smaller matters, when accomplished, and, with the arrival of some powder, the prospect of which is not unpromising, will enable us to face our enemies with some countenance.

We, therefore, ardently wish to remain in peace, for a little time, and doubt not we have assigned sufficient reasons for avoiding, at present, a dilemma, in which the present entrance of a large body of troops into this city, will, almost certainly, involve us. Should you have such an entrance in design, we beg, at least, that the troops may halt on the western confines of *Connecticut*, till we shall have been honoured, by you, with such an explanation on this important subject, as you may conceive your duty may permit you to enter into with us, the grounds of which, you will easily see, ought to be kept an entire secret, and to assure you that we are, with great esteem and respect, sir, your most obedient servants.

By order of the Committee:

PIERRE VAN CORTLANDT, *Chairman*.

To Major-General *Lee*.

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Lebanon, January 22, 1776.

SIR: Orders were just given for raising a regiment of seven hundred and fifty men, to go for the help of our friends in *Canada*, to serve till the first of *November* next, and

sent an express to your Excellency, when I received your letter of the 16th, per *Bennett*. We then proceeded to make provision for the four regiments requested for your camp.

The 20th, at evening, yours of the 19th came to hand; whereby the number is reduced to three, which will be raised with all possible expedition. But money seems necessary to facilitate their march. Wish some provision could be made for it.

It is with difficulty we can furnish our men with arms, and depend that none of them will be detained when the service of these three regiments is ended. No arms can be supplied from this Colony for the Continent. The old gun-barrels brought from *Ticonderoga*, are retarded for want of locks; there are very few or none to be purchased, and the number made here are brought in but slowly. When your hurry will permit, please to send me a return of an account of the arms retained from this Colony, their apprizal, and the way to obtain payment, as the owners complain for want of them or their value.

I am, with great esteem and regard, your Excellency's most obedient humble servant,

JONATHAN TRUMBULL.

To General *Washington*.

JAMES WILKINSON TO GENERAL SULLIVAN.

Monday Evening, January 22, 1776.

SIR: In consequence of your friendly proposal yesterday, I have waited on General *Gates*. He is pleased with your intention, and will readily afford me every assistance in his power, but thinks it necessary that you should mention the affair to General *Washington*, who, he makes no doubt, will assent to your request. If I have the honour of being established in your brigade, I shall particularly study the execution of my duty, and ardently endeavour to introduce that friendly intercourse between the northern and southern gentlemen, which is truly essential to our common interests.

I beg an excuse for this scrawl, and am, very respectfully, your much obliged and really humble servant,

JAMES WILKINSON.

To General *Sullivan*.

P. S. Lest this is the only idle time which I expect to enjoy while I continue in the Army, I apply it in gratifying a curiosity I entertain of seeing *Cape-Ann;* for which place I purpose setting out early to-morrow morning.

J. W.

COLONEL HUNTINGTON TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Camp at Roxbury, January 22, 1776.

HONOURED SIR: I enclose you a copy of General Orders, providing arms, &c. Have sent Lieutenant *Huntington* to purchase for my regiment. As the time allowed him by the order is short, I fear he will not be able to look up many among individuals, from whence, I suppose, they must come. If he should be so happy as to find a considerable number together, he may accomplish the business by the time. He is directed to procure one hundred, which I hope will be sufficient, with what the soldiers will furnish themselves. I have ordered him to let you know what success he meets with, that you may take such measures for a supply as you shall think proper and necessary.

We much lament the death of the brave General *Montgomery;* hope it will be rightly improved by the Army there and here. The impatience of the soldiers, and perhaps of the subordinate officers, was the immediate cause of it; it will teach us, (and there is too much need of the lesson,) not to depend on an arm of flesh.

Please give my love and duty to mother, son, brother, &c.

I am, most affectionately, and dutifully, yours,

JEDEDIAH HUNTINGTON.

To the Honourable Governour *Trumbull*.

MESHECH WEARE TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Exeter, January 22, 1776.

SIR: We have just received your Excellency's favour of yesterday's date, for answer to which, we beg leave to refer to the enclosed letter, in which it may be observed, our Assembly had taken up the matter of advance wages to the soldiery destined for *Canada*, in the same manner as intended by the *Massachusetts* Government.

We shall duly note your Excellency's kind intention, of refunding to this Colony the money they advance, as soon as the General Congress may remit you a sufficient supply; and we shall give the necessary directions that all accounts respecting these matters, may be correctly kept, and proper vouchers produced for the same.

In behalf of the Council and Assembly, I am your Excellency's humble servant,

MESHECH WEARE, *President of Council.*

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

NEW-HAMPSHIRE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Colony of New-Hampshire, Exeter, January 21, 1776.

SIR: Your Excellency's favour of the 19th current, with the several enclosures, came to hand yesterday noon, bringing us the melancholy advices of the defeat of our Army before *Quebeck*, and the death of the brave General *Montgomery*, with a number of our friends and fellow-soldiers. A sad reverse this, indeed, of our affairs in *Canada*, which we are extremely sorry for, and regret.

Our Council and Assembly were just upon the point of adjourning to *Monday*, when your Excellency's packet was brought us, which determined us upon sitting again in the afternoon. The subject of your letters was immediately taken into consideration. The Assembly very readily and cheerfully agreed to, and resolved upon, raising a regiment in the western frontiers, as therein recommended, to march directly into *Canada* for the reinforcement of our brethren there; the regiment to consist of the number directed in the Continental establishment. The command is assigned to Colonel *Timothy Bedel*, who, having approved himself well at the siege of *St. John's*, is just returned from *Canada*, and we think will readily enter on the duty. The other Field-Officers being residents near *Connecticut* River, well acquainted with the people and country, we doubt not will be able soon to raise the whole number of men. The Lieutenant-Colonel, *Joseph Waite*, one of our Assembly, is already sent, and carries with him inlisting orders and money for the purpose, the Assembly having voted to pay each man two months' wages in advance for their encouragement. Directions are, also, gone out for the procuring provisions, and other necessaries requisite for their march from *Connecticut River* over to *Onion River*. We trust your Excellency will give General *Schuyler* timely advice, that he may forward what provisions may further be necessary to meet the troops at *Onion River*.

In our last to your Excellency, we mentioned our having in readiness one hundred and forty blankets to forward to Head-Quarters, which were just going, when, upon receiving these last advices, it was thought absolutely necessary to stop them, that they might be sent westward for the use of this regiment, as it is impossible to provide any quantity of blankets in that part of the country.

We are truly sensible of the expediency of a vigorous exertion to prevent the evils which may follow the repulse of our troops in *Canada*, and you may depend, sir, we shall not fail to do our utmost to forward this reinforcement.

In behalf of the Council and Assembly, I am, with great esteem and respect, your Excellency's most obedient, humble servant,

MESHECH WEARE, *President.*

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

INSTRUCTIONS TO THE COMMITTEE TO WAIT ON GENERAL WASHINGTON.

To the Honourable MATTHEW THORNTON, *Esq., and* JOSIAH MOULTON, *Esq.:*

You being appointed a Committee to wait on his Excellency General *Washington*, on the subject of his requesting a regiment from this Colony, to assist in guarding the lines two months, you are, therefore, desired to proceed to the camp, and inquire what number of men are there inlisted, or likely to engage in the regiment officered by

General *Sullivan* for said purpose; and if they are not, and cannot be mostly raised there, under the proposed officers, to consider whether the officers appointed by this Court will be likely better to effect the purpose of raising the regiment.

Likewise wait on General *Washington*, and lay before his Excellency all the letters received from General *Sullivan*, on the subject, and represent to him the difficulties that have, and likely may arise by General *Sullivan's* doing things that this Colony suppose ought to be done by their legislative authority. And, if it is absolutely necessary to advance a month's pay to said regiment, you may engage it. You are desired to inquire whether the people, that came in on the *Lexington* alarm, are likely to be paid by the Continent. Also, in what manner commissions and processes issue in the *Massachusetts* Colony.

NEW-HAMPSHIRE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY TO COLONELS MOREY AND BELLOWS.

In Committee of Safety, January 21, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: You are desired, immediately, to procure on the best terms the following articles, for the use of the regiment now raising on the frontiers of this Colony, to march into *Canada* under the command of Colonel *Timothy Bedel*, there to join the Northern Continental Army, and to deliver to each soldier his proportion of the same, of the provisions, at the rate of one pound of pork, and one pound of bread, and half a pint of peas, each day, for their march from *Connecticut* River, through the woods to *Onion River*, which it is estimated will be fifteen days at least; and you are to keep an exact account of the delivery of the whole:

Twelve thousand pounds salt pork, at seven pence; 400 bushels of wheat, to be ground into flour; 500 pair of men's shoes; 50 moose skins for moccasins; 720 pair rackets or snow shoes; 688 hatchets, or tomahawks; 688 blankets, at fifteen shillings, to be allowed each soldier; if the blanket cost more, the soldier to pay the overplus, if less, to be made up to him; 120 tin camp kettles; gunpowder; musket balls; flints; ground ginger; 200 gallons rum; 200 yards coarse cloth, for *Indian* leggins; 200 yards coarse cloth, for shirting; 200 yards coarse cloth, for men's clothes.

By order of the Committee:

MESHECH WEARE, *Chairman*.

To Colonel *Morey* and Colonel *Bellows*.

NEW-HAMPSHIRE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY TO COL. WAITE.

In Committee of Safety, January 21, 1776.

To JOSEPH WAITE, *Esq.:*

You being appointed Lieutenant-Colonel of a Regiment of Rangers, to be commanded by *Timothy Bedel*, Esq., to serve in the Northern Continental Army, you are hereby authorized and desired immediately to proceed on the inlisting the said Regiment; the several Companies to consist of eighty-six able-bodied, effective men, including four Sergeants, four Corporals, one Drummer, and one Fifer, well accoutred with arms and blankets, until the 1st day of *January* next, unless sooner dismissed. And you may assure them they shall have the same pay as the other Continental troops.

By order of the Committee:

MESHECH WEARE, *Chairman*.

JONATHAN COLCORD'S LICENSE FOR CLEARANCE OF THE SCHOONER DOLPHIN.

Colony of New-Hampshire, Exeter, December 27, 1775.

To all Masters or Commanders of Vessels in the service of the UNITED CONTINENTAL COLONIES, *or well-wishers to their cause*—GREETING:

We, the subscribers, Members of the honourable Congress for said Colony, now sitting at *Exeter*, aforesaid, being a Committee appointed for this purpose, do certify, that *Jonathan Colcord*, of *New-Market*, in the County of *Rockingham*, and Colony aforesaid, yeoman, hath obtained permission from the said Congress to export to *Passamaquoddy* two four-year old steers, two heifers, and eight sheep, in a schooner belonging to Messrs. *Clark* and *Wallace*, and it is the pleasure of the said Congress, that said *Colcord* do pass unmolested.

Witness our hands, this 27th day of *December*, 1775.

WISEMAN CLAGGETT,
THOMAS TASK.

Passamaquoddy, January 22, 1776.

To the Honourable Gentlemen of the Congress, now sitting at EXETER, *in the Colony of* NEW-HAMPSHIRE.

These may certify, that the within named Messrs. *Clark* and *Wallace*, have landed the cattle and sheep herein mentioned in the cocket; and these may likewise certify, that it is the pleasure of us, as a Committee, that the said vessel pass to *Piscataqua* unmolested, and desire all masters of vessels in the Colonies' service to protect the said schooner to *Piscataqua* aforesaid.

ROBERT WILSON,
JAMES COCHRANE, } *Committee of Safety.*

MAJOR-GENERAL HOWE TO THE EARL OF DARTMOUTH.

Boston, January 22, 1776.

MY LORD: I have the honour to inform your Lordship that His Majesty's ship, *Centurion*, arrived the 18th instant, and that she spoke three weeks ago with the *Argo*, transport, having three companies of the Forty-Sixth Regiment on board, in good health at that time.

Major-General *Clinton* sailed the 20th, in the morning, in the *Mercury*, frigate, the *Falcon*, sloop, being before sent directly to *Cape Fear* to wait the arrival of the transports. A copy of your Lordship's despatch of the 22d *October*, is given as the principal guidance of his conduct, while local circumstances, and good intelligence, determine him in pursuing the main objects of his expedition. He has blank commissions for his officers, in case it should be found at any time advisable to embody Provincials for the service; and I have sent commissions to three gentlemen who have been long in *North-Carolina*, to secure the attachment of the *Highlanders* settled in that Colony, on a promise from General *Gage*, that they should have appointments in the Second Battalion of *Royal Highland Emigrants*, to be formed as soon as the first was known to be completed, which it has been for some time, as appears by collecting all the returns received in their dispersed situation.

In prosecution of General *Gage's* intentions, I have likewise issued commissions to two Captains in this corps, who have actually raised their companies in *Nova-Scotia*, and to two others who have been employed on the regiment's duty, and whose complement of men appears, also, to be raised. However, I shall proceed no further in forming the Second Battalion, until more certain accounts of their success in recruiting are received; and as I am furnished with no particular instructions concerning this corps, I could wish to be honoured with His Majesty's commands relative thereto.

Robberies, and housebreaking in particular, had got to such a height in this town, that some examples had become necessary to suppress it. Two soldiers, late of the Fifty-Ninth Regiment of Foot, have been tried, convicted, and sentenced to suffer death, for breaking into and robbing the store-houses of Messrs. *Nathaniel* and *William Coffin;* one of them has suffered; the other, *Thomas Owen*, as a young offender, and having other circumstances to plead in his favour, I have thought proper to reprieve, conforming to the power expressed in my commission, as follows: "We giving you power to reprieve any person under sentence until our pleasure be known." And I humbly entreat your Lordship to recommend the said *Thomas Owen* for His Majesty's Royal pardon.

I am, &c.,

W. HOWE.

ADDISON MURDOCK TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

January 23, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I have been honoured by the Convention with the enclosed commission, which I now return to you, with a prayer to be excused from accepting it. The precarious and declining state of my health renders me incapable of executing the office, either with benefit to my

country, or reputation to myself, and, therefore, I think it my duty to refuse it.

I am, gentlemen, with the greatest respect, your most obedient humble servant,

ADDISON MURDOCK.

To the Honourable Council of Safety, *Annapolis*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO COMMITTEE FOR PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY.

[No. 5.] Annapolis, January 23, 1776.

GENTEMEN: The late Convention having resolved that the records should be removed from the city of *Annapolis*, and directed the Council of Safety to provide a fit and proper place for them, and we having determined they should be carried to *Upper Marlborough*, if a safe and convenient place can be procured for them there, request you will examine into the state and condition of the Court-House of your County, in which, if it will answer, we had rather the records should be lodged, but if it will not, of any of the vacant houses in the town, and provide one, which you may apprehend best adapted to the purpose, upon such reasonable rent as you may agree for.

We are, &c.

To the Committee of Observation for *Prince George's* County.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO DELEGATES IN CONGRESS.

[No. 6.] Annapolis, January 23, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Mr. *Maynard*, who will deliver this to you, is going with letters to *New-York*, from the Governour to Mr. *Foxcroft*. The package covers three other letters, which are intended to go by the packet, two of them to *William Eden*, Esq., which the Governour, on his honour, assures us, contain nothing unfriendly to *America*, the other to Lord *Dartmouth*, which we have seen, enclosing copies of the Instructions of the Convention to their Deputies in Congress, and, also, of the Declaration, with his assurances to the Ministry, that he believes they contain the real sentiments of the people of this Province.

The Governour has taken this measure in consequence of a free conversation with Messrs. *Matthew Tilghman*, *Thomas Johnson*, *Thomas Stone*, and *James Hollyday*, and ourselves, on the subject. The step cannot be productive of an ill effect. It may be of the greatest service. It may possibly bring about some overture to a general reconciliation. He has promised you shall have the perusal of what he has wrote, when you come to *Maryland*. We intimate this to you to prevent the letter being stopped, on suspicion of its containing any information or intelligence unfriendly to *America*.

We do not doubt but you will think with us, that the sooner it reaches *England* the better, in the present critical situation of our affairs, and that you will give *Maynard* the proper passports to *New-York*. We are, &c.

To the Deputies of *Maryland*, in Congress.

P. S. There are some few other letters, which, from the Governour's information, we believe are from Colonel *Sim* and others, to *Thomas Eden & Co.*, on private business.

COLONEL MAXWELL TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

Trenton, January 23, 1776.

SIR: You will receive this by Captain *John B. Scott*, of my regiment, who escorts General *Prescott* and Captain *Chase*, to your honourable House. I suppose the Committee of this town will write you, by Captain *Scott*, of General *Prescott's* behaviour here, therefore I shall omit it. I find the Congress has ordered my regiment to *Canada* immediately. I hope I shall always obey them cheerfully, but must beg leave to mention to them, at all times, what the regiment wants to complete it; and with a presumption that I have leave, I must inform you it wants a great part of every thing but men. We want, for the regiment about two hundred and eighty stand of arms, four hundred and five bayonets, and a great many of the arms want repairing; we have them at so many smiths we cannot get an exact return. They have got their hats, shoes, and stockings, I believe, in general, but they want much warmer clothing to go into *Canada* than if they stayed here. There are a good many cartouch-boxes and cross-belts, some haversacks, and frocks here. Mr. *Lawrey*, I suppose, has the rest of the articles making, in different places, but still, I am afraid, not so quick as I could wish, possibly for want of materials. He is gone to the eastward, to pay off Lord *Stirling's* regiment. I shall send off an express to-morrow morning, to hurry him here, and leave the paying that regiment to his clerks.

I have sent to *Burlington*, yesterday, for a return of the part of this regiment there; when I get it, I will endeavour to make you a complete return of the regiment, with their arms, &c.

I refer you to Captain *Scott* for further particulars; you will find him very intelligent.

I am, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

WILLIAM MAXWELL, *Colonel*.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, President of the Continental Congress, in *Philadelphia*.

N. B. Articles necessary, that I have not seen any of, viz: Axes, tomahawks, camp-kettles, canteens, moccasins, caps, &c. If the powder, lead, and flints, are to be sent to Lord *Stirling*, this would be a good opportunity by Captain *Scott*, with his returning wagons.

NEW-JERSEY COMMITTEE OF SAFETY TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read January 25, 1776.—Referred to Committee of Correspondence.]

Trenton, January 23, 1776.

SIR: Your letter of the 20th, covering resolutions of Congress and a letter to Lieutenant *Hamer*, I received, and delivered Mr. *Hamer* his letter, for which he said he was much obliged. I shall lay your letter and the resolutions before our Provincial Congress, which meets on *Tuesday* next, to which, I dare say, they will pay proper attention.

Your favour of the 22d, we received this morning, and immediately waited on General *Prescott* and Captain *Chase*; on the former a guard was set, as we have informed in our letter of yesterday. The General said he should be glad, if it could be, that his setting off might be deferred until to-morrow morning, to which we readily consented. He and Captain *Chase* are coming in a light covered wagon, guarded by a detachment of Captain *Scott*, by whom this will be delivered.

I have the honour to be, (for the Committee,) your most obedient, humble servant,

SAMUEL TUCKER, *Chairman*.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq.

LIEUTENANT HAMER (A PRISONER) TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

Trenton, January 23, 1776.

SIR: I have the pleasure of your favour of the 19th instant, for which I beg leave to tender you my best thanks, and to assure you that I shall always be ready to pay such attention to the future resolves of the Congress as will entitle me to receive their indulgence during this unhappy contest.

I am, sir, your most obedient, and humble servant,

IBBETSON HAMER,
Lieutenant Royal Fusileers.

RICHARD HUDDLESTON (A PRISONER) TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read January 25, 1776.—Referred to Committee of Correspondence.]

Trenton, January 23, 1776.

SIR: Amongst all civilized nations at war it has been a practice when a Surgeon is taken prisoner to release him immediately, as being esteemed a friend to both sides. In a sick or wounded soldier he never sees an enemy, but affords him all the relief in his power. When the Surgeons in your army before *St. John's* applied to me on the route here, for some medicines they stood much in need of for their sick, I gave them to them with pleasure, and every assistance in my power I readily afforded to the sick they sent over the Lake with us. This humanity called on me to do, as it would on your Surgeons in like case. The scarcity of Surgeons, at present, in *Canada*, will make the miseries

of this unhappy war doubly felt, on both sides, in that country. I, therefore, sir, beg you to request permission of the Congress for my return to *Quebeck*, if not taken, and to assure them, that if the fortune of war throws any of their sick or wounded men under my care, they shall be treated with the greatest care and tenderness. *Quebeck* is not destitute of Surgeons. Mr. *Mabane*, my own mate, and some other Surgeons are there; therefore it is not for that reason I apply for leave to return; but I wish to see a practice observed between *England* and *America* for mutual benefit, which, as I said before, is always observed between civilized nations, and was, to my own knowledge, last war in *Germany*. I am certain, if any Continental Surgeon was taken prisoner, he would be immediately released. If Congress permits me to return, I solemnly declare I have not, nor will have, any view by this request of carrying any intelligence, &c.

I am, sir, your most humble servant,

RICH. HUDDLESTON, *7th Reg't Foot.*

NEW-JERSEY COMMITTEE OF SAFETY TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read January 24, 1776.]

Trenton, January 23, 1776.

SIR: Agreeable to orders received from the Congress, we waited on the officers, prisoners in this place, for their bills, to repay the money advanced for Mrs. *Stelle's* account, to which they returned the enclosed paper, and beg the Congress to reconsider the matter; because, if they are to repay the bill, they would wish to examine it, and their discharging it would preclude the necessity of condemning it as luxurious and extravagant. Captain *Algee* says, that his wife and family, and all that he has, is in *Quebeck*. The communication being stopped, disables him from receiving cash from thence, and should it be taken by storm and plundered, as apprehended, he will not have a shilling left to support himself and family. His age, and unexceptionable behaviour, plead strongly for the generous consideration of Congress. Major *Rigauville*, it is apprehended, is in similar circumstances. Lieutenant *Hamer* agrees to draw for his proportion of Mrs. *Stelle's* account.

Since our last, Colonel *Wynkoop* has brought to this town General *Prescott*, who absolutely refuses to give his parole; we have, therefore, confined him to his room, and Colonel *Maxwell* very cheerfully furnishes a guard till further directions from Congress, which we hope will be despatched with all convenient speed. The other gentlemen of his suite very readily complied with the requisition.

The Committee having information that Dr. *William Bryant*, of this place, a Surgeon on half-pay, was likely to join the Army, agreeable to orders, at *Boston*, thought it their duty to take his parole, which is also enclosed; his limits are extended because he practises sometimes about *Princeton*, and has business to transact in *Philadelphia*.

We are, sir, with great respect, your very humble servants,

SAMUEL TUCKER, *Chairman*,
ISAAC SMITH,
ABRAHAM HUNT.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq.

P. S. Your favour of yesterday we this moment received, to which we shall pay due attention, and carry the directions into execution.

SAMUEL TUCKER, *Chairman*.

I do give my parole of honour to the Continental Congress, that I will not go farther than twelve miles from my present place of residence, except to *Philadelphia*, without leave of the Congress.

Witness my hand, this 22d day of *January*, 1776.

WILLIAM BRYANT.

Taken by order of the Committee of *Trenton*.

SAMUEL TUCKER, *Chairman*.

TRENTON COMMITTEE TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Referred to Mr. Lynch.]

Trenton, January 24, 1776.

Enclosed is a copy of General *Schuyler's* orders to Captain *Hulbert*, delivered to our Committee by the officers confined in this town, with their observations, which I have neglected to send as was intended in a former letter, which happened by forgetfulness.

I have the honour to be, your most obedient, humble servant,

SAMUEL TUCKER.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO CAPTAIN HULBERT.

Ticonderoga, November 1, 1775.

SIR: Enclosed is a list of the officers and men that were made prisoners at *Chambly*. You will be particularly attentive that no person, who may have forgotten the rights of mankind, and the principles of *Englishmen*, offer the least insult to any of the gentlemen, their soldiers, their wives, or children.

Your good sense, and your own feelings, will point out to you, that officers are to be treated with the utmost attention and politeness. It is sufficient barely to mention this to a gentleman of your character; they are in all places to be entertained at the publick expense, for which you will pay; and I therefore enclose you a warrant on the Pay-master-General; you will keep accounts of your disbursements and transmit them to me as early as possible. The non-commissioned officers and privates, prisoners as well as your men, will be supplied with provisions at *Albany*, to carry them to *Connecticut*, for which you will apply to the Commissary-General, who I have ordered to provide sloops to carry them down to Mr. *Hoffman's* wharf, from whence the travel to *Connecticut* will be short and commodious; you will send both the subalterns, with the privates, and all your party, except ten. At *Canaan*, you will meet with Governour *Trumbull's* directions for their future route. You will give fifty pounds to the eldest subaltern, for such expenses as may necessarily incur, (which cannot be many,) as I have ordered the Commissary-General to provide the sloops and carriages, who will pay for them; you will give a copy of these orders to the eldest subaltern; you will also furnish the Commissary-General with a copy of this, who will find lodgings for the officers, and Monsieur *Rigauville*. I have wrote to him respecting their entertainment at *Albany*, of which he will take care, and all expenses incurred there he will discharge; the non-commissioned officers and privates are to be in the barracks during their stay at *Albany*.

The Commissary-General will procure a sloop, and every thing necessary for the passage, on board of which you and that part of your party that is to accompany you, are to embark, as also the Honourable Major *Stopford*, Mr. *Harison*, Mr. *Shuttleworth*, Mr. *Hamer*, Mr. *Huddleston*, and Monsieur *Rigauville*. You will then proceed by water, to *Haverstraw* Landing, where you will disembark, and procure carriages to carry you to *Newark*, where it is possible you may fall in with the stage coach, to carry you and the officers to *Trenton*, their servants' baggage and your party following them in wagons; on your arrival at *Trenton* you are to provide good lodgings, and see that the gentlemen are properly entertained; and then you are to proceed to *Philadelphia*, and report to Congress what you have done in obedience to these orders, and take theirs for your future conduct.

Captain *Godwin* and Mr. *M'Cullock* have requested to remain here until the fate of *St. John's* is determined, which I have consented to, as the former gentleman has his lady and family in *Canada*, and the latter, a widower, has two small children there.

The Honourable Major *Stopford* having requested, that if he should determine at *Albany*, to take the band of musick with him, as also his sutler, that he might be permitted, and to which I readily consented, you will accordingly comply with the requisition, should he make it.

Mr. *Algee* has my leave to go to *New-York* on his parole of honour, and to remain there fourteen days, then to repair to *Trenton*.

Mr. *Barrington* being indisposed remains at *Saratoga*.

I am, sir, your humble servant,

PHILIP SCHUYLER.

To Captain *Hulbert*.

In consequence of the Resolves of Congress, of *January* 12, 1776, the Officers of the Garrison of *Chambly*, now pri-

soners at *Trenton*, beg leave to send in General *Schuyler's* orders, and Captain *Hulbert's* proceedings in consequence of them.

The officers were placed by Captain *Hulbert* at a tavern; that he afterwards went to *Philadelphia*, and reported to Congress what he had done; on his return to *Trenton*, he told the women of the house, and likewise some gentlemen of the Committee of Safety, that we were to live at the Continent's expense, agreeable to the orders he received from General *Schuyler*, till she, or they, heard from Congress to the contrary, and that they were so busy at that time that nothing could be settled, but would be soon.

The officers imagine, that the bill already delivered in by Mrs. *Stelle*, and their lodgings, that the gentlemen of the Congress do not mean the officers should pay, as they were placed there by Captain *Hulbert*, by General *Schuyler's* instruction, and confirmed by him, on his return from *Philadelphia*, to several gentlemen of the Committee of Safety.

Return of Clothing, Necessaries, &c., that was lost, belonging to the Prisoners of His Majesty's Seventh Regiment of Royal Fusileers, at TRENTON.

MEN'S NAMES.	Clothing and Necessaries Lost.												
	Pairs of Gaiters.	Hats.	Pairs of Fur Gloves	Waistcoats.	Pairs of Breeches.	Shirts.	Stocks or Rollers.	Pairs of Shoes.	Pairs of Hose.	Winter Caps.	Valuo.		
											£	s.	d.
Sergeant-Major Wood,	-	2	2	1	4	1	1	13	1	-	7	12	0
Sergeant N. Taylor,	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	1		19	0
John Miller,	-	-	-	1	1	-	1	-	1	-	1	2	6
Olivo Whittle,	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	1	1	1		13	0
William Blakeny,	-	-	-	-	-	4	1	1	1	-		17	0
Han. Shatford,	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	1	1	1	1	2	6
Thomas Shiers,	1	-	-	2	1	5	-	1	6	-	2	19	6
James Wood,	-	-	-	1	1	-	1	1	1	-	1	6	0
James White,	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	1	1	1	1	2	0
William Hedrick,	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	1	1	-		15	6
John Frazer,	-	-	-	2	2	6	3	2	8	-	3	17	6
Nathaniel Wood,	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	-		5	6
Edward Nankivel,	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	1	1	-		13	3
John Smith, Sr.	-	-	-	1	1	-	1	1	1	-		15	6
Thomas Houghton,	-	-	-	1	1	-	1	1	1	-		15	6
Stephen Cochin,	-	-	-	1	1	-	1	1	1	-		15	6
John Smith, Jun.	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	1	1	-		18	6
Joseph Edwards,	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	1	1	-		18	6
William Serjant,	3	-	-	-	-	3	3	-	4	-	1	10	6
Total,	4	2	3	12	18	26	16	30	33	4	28	19	3

N. B. The above nccessaries were valued by the Sergeants. There is, likewise, a whole year's clothing lost.

J. STOPFORD, *Major*.

ROBERT OGDEN TO NEW-YORK COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

January 23, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Yours of yesterday, directed to the Earl of *Stirling*, came express five o'clock; and as my Lord was set off in the morning, with a party of men, as supposed, in order to take the vessel, and went by the way of *Perth-Amboy*, the Committee immediately met, and concluded to send three boats, with a hundred men, well armed, to assist in taking said vessel. This resolution, with the letter from your Committee, we sent express at seven o'clock, to my Lord, and the one hundred men, well equipped, set off in the boats about twelve o'clock, and hope, on their return, will be able to give a good account of the vessel.

We are, gentlemen, your very humble servants.

By order of the Committee:

ROBERT OGDEN, *Chairman*.

To *Pierre Van Cortlandt*, Esq., Chairman of the Committee of Safety.

JOHN IMLAY TO NEW-YORK COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

New-Brunswick, New-Jersey, January 23, 1776.

SIR: Your favour of the 21st, I received last night, and for answer, I am sorry to inform you, I cannot, with any propriety, leave home at this time; my wife being very unwell, and has been so for several days. Neither do I see any prospect of my attending the Committee of Safety as soon as I could wish. I have, for several years past, been afflicted with a scorbutick complaint on my hands and legs, which is very troublesome to me in cold weather, and has been so bad for these two weeks past, that I have been unable to put on my clothes without help. Neither can I travel in cold weather without, in some degree, endangering my life. I am really sorry I cannot attend for the discharge of my duty. As soon as the health of my family and self will permit my leaving home, I shall give my attendance in Committee.

I am, with great respect, sir, your humble servant,

JOHN IMLAY.

JOHN GRAHAM TO COLONEL McDOUGALL.

Guard-Room, January 23, 1776.

SIR: I flatter myself you will pardon this intrusion, but hope my present unhappy situation will be a sufficient apology.

I was, unfortunately, cast away on the 23d of *December* last, on *Squan-Beach*, in the sloop *Polly and Nancy*, which vessel was laden by his Excellency Governour *Tryon*, for *Boston*, with sundry articles as a present to General *Howe*, and immediately was taken prisoner, by order of the Committee of *Freehold*, in *Monmouth* County. As I only went passenger, by permission of his Excellency, in order to get my son home to *New-York*, think it is cruel; my state of health, at present, is such, that if I have not my enlargement soon, I must inevitably perish.

I now presume to beg you will be kind enough to procure me at least a hearing; your compliance will be gratefully acknowledged by, sir, your very humble servant,

JOHN GRAHAM.

To Colonel *McDougall*.

JOHN BLACKLER TO NEW-YORK COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Guard-House, January 23, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: My long confinement obliges me to beg you will let me know my doom. If I have done any thing deserving of punishment, let me suffer. I have now been deprived of liberty forty-three days. I was ingenuous in my confession, which is strictly true. Every gentleman must think it hard to be deprived of the benefit of enjoying a sufficient competency for the remainder of his days. This is truly my situation, was I but in *England*. As to my character here, I hope it is beyond the reach of malice to traduce. Necessity has obliged me to take the method I did, without a thought of depriving any individual of the city, of a farthing. I never received a remittance from home, but first I discharged my debts, which, I believe, my very enemies will say. My behaviour, since under confinement, can be attested for by the whole barracks.

As most of the gentlemen on the Committee, when I was first brought down, knew me at the time I lived with Mr. *John Amul*, and his own recommendation found in my pocket-book, will, I hope, be a sufficient proof of my behaviour since my residence here.

I am, gentlemen, your very humble servant,

JOHN BLACKLER.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

Albany, January 23, 1776.

SIR: On the evening of the 21st I returned from *Tryon* County. The following is a narrative of that little excursion:

As I had no troops here, to carry into execution the resolutions of Congress, I was under the necessity of communicating to the sub-Committee of this County, which I did, having previously administered an oath of secrecy. Whilst the Committee were devising the means to collect a body of men for this service, and much puzzled what reasons to give for doing it, the letter and affidavit from *Tryon* County (copies of which I had the honour to transmit you by my last express) came to hand, and the accounts contained in them were made the ostensible reasons for raising the Militia.

Although I thought two or three hundred men, with the *Tryon* County Whigs, sufficient to complete my business, yet I readily consented that seven hundred should be called upon, at once, to discourage the Tories in other parts of

the country, and to give confidence to the Whigs, in all parts; but, such was the zeal and alacrity of the people, that, although the weather was cold in the extreme, it was impossible to prevent their coming up, which they did in such numbers, that, by the time I reached *Caughnawaga*, I had very near, if not quite, three thousand men, including nine hundred of the *Tryon* County Militia.

On *Tuesday*, the 16th, I marched to *Schenectady*, and, on the evening of that day, a deputation from the *Mohawk* Indians met us, and delivered me the following speech, in a very haughty tone:

"We intended to have gone down to *Albany*, in order to speak to you, but, thank *God*, that He has given us an opportunity to meet you here, as we have some matters to communicate to you."

To which I gave the following Answer:

"I am very glad to see you here, and I shall be glad to hear what the brothers have to say, as my ears are always open to them."

Whereupon, *Abraham* proceeded as follows:

"Brothers: You lately sent to our place four men, who arrived to us last *Sunday* morning. They told us they were sent up to us by you, to inform us of those military preparations which were making down in this quarter. By them, you let us know that you thought it not prudent to send armed men amongst us, without previously notifying us. Likewise, brothers, your messengers informed us of the reasons of your coming in this manner.

"You informed us, that you had heard that there were a number of men embodied at Sir *John's*, about *Johnstown*. You told us, likewise, that as soon as they had completed their body, they intended to destroy the settlements, up and down the river. You informed us, that you were coming up to inquire into the truth of the report, and who it was that gave out commissions, and what were their designs.

"At the same time, you assured us that no harm was intended against us, the *Six Nations*, as we had, last Summer, publickly engaged that we would take no part against you in your dispute with the great King over the great water.

"Brothers, you told us that you would come to search into the truth of the report, and you assured us, also, that you would not be the first aggressor, and that it should be their own fault if any blood was spilt.

"You told us that you would acquaint the Lower Castle first, of the design; that they should send up to the Upper Castle; and they to the *Oneida;* and they to the *Onondaga;* and, so, through the whole *Six Nations*.

"Brothers, we thanked your messengers for the speech delivered to us, and we would consider of it for some time, to return them an answer. Accordingly, brothers, a small number of us, who take care of the news, met in council on this occasion.

"We thanked your messengers for informing us first, of your designs. We said, we know the agreement which was entered into with the whole Twelve *United Colonies*. At that meeting, you remember, it was agreed to remove all obstacles out of the way of the path of peace, to keep it open, that we might pass and repass, without being annoyed.

"Brothers, you told us that you came to inquire into the truth of the report, which might be done by four, or six, without any danger in making the inquiry.

"We proposed your sending up six persons, to inquire into the truth of this matter, as it would be a shame to interrupt them, as no person would be so mean to give them any obstruction.

"As for sending your belt forward, we thought to retain it until we had heard whether our proposal had been accepted or no. And we desire that you would consider this matter, and keep your troops at home, and let us know your mind; and if, after considering of our proposals, you do not agree to them, that you will then let us know what you intend to do.

"They, likewise, sent word to you, that when they had heard from you whether you accepted of our proposals, that we would then do as you desire, in sending up the news.

"Brothers, we expected an answer to our proposals, but none arrived, until we were informed, by a woman, who returned from *Albany*, that those preparations were actually making, and that troops were actually marching in the country. We then, brothers, took the matter into consideration, and determined it was best for a party to meet you, and you see us this day, brothers, arrived.

"We come, brothers, to beg of you, that you take good care and prudence of what you are going about. We beg of you, brothers, to remember the engagement which was made with the Twelve *United Colonies*, at our interview last Summer, as we then engaged to open the path of peace, and to keep it undefiled from blood; at the same time, something of a different nature made its appearance. You assured us, brothers, that if any were found in our neighbourhood inimical to us, that you would consider them as enemies. The *Six Nations* then supposed that the son of Sir *William* was pointed at, by that expression. We then desired, particularly, that he might not be injured, as it was not in his power to injure the cause, and that, therefore, he might not be molested. The *Six Nations* then said they would not concern themselves with your operation, in other parts, but particularly desired that this path might be free from blood.

"And now, brothers, we repeat it again, we beg of you to take good care, and not to spill any blood in this path; and the more especially, brothers, as it is as but of this day that the *Six Nations* had so agreeable an interview with the Colonies; and our Chiefs are now hunting in the woods, and not dreaming that there is any prospect that this path is, or will be, defiled with blood.

"We informed you, brothers, that we had heard, of a woman, that you was advancing, and that you had cannon; we then took it into consideration; we thought it strange, that cannon should be brought into the country, as the Twelve *United Colonies* had so lately opened the path of peace; as, you will remember that this path was opened last Spring, and the *Six Nations* agreed to keep it open. We then thought, what could influence the Twelve *United Colonies* to open this path? And, from the present appearance, it is as if with a design that the cannon should pass free from all obstruction.

"Brothers, attend! It was your request, and a matter agreed upon by the Twelve *United Colonies*, that we should mind nothing but peace; therefore, brothers, as we mean to observe that agreement, we have expressed ourselves as above, and, as brothers, we mind nothing but peace; we look upon ourselves as mediators between the two parties.

"Therefore, brothers, as your messengers declared that you would not be the aggressors, we informed Sir *John* of this, and earnestly begged of him not to be the aggressor, or the means of shedding blood, and, at the same time, assured him, that if we found he should be the aggressor, we would not pay any further attention to him; and, likewise, told them, that if our brothers of the *United Colonies* were the aggressors, we should treat them in the same manner.

"This is what we told Sir *John*, as we look upon ourselves to be mediators between both parties, and, as we have said before, desired him not to be the aggressor. To which Sir *John* replied, that we knew his disposition very well, and that he had no mind to be the aggressor. He assured us that he would not be the aggressor, but, if the people came up to take away his life, he would do as well as he could, as the law of Nature justified every person to stand in his own defence.

"According to the news we have heard, it is as though Sir *John* would shut up the path of peace in that quarter; but that is impossible he should do it, as he has but a mere handful of friends. But, brothers, if this company, who are now passing by, should go up, and any thing bad should happen, we shall look on you as shutting up the path.

"It has been represented to you, brothers, that it seems that Sir *John* is making military preparations, and that he is making a fort round his house; but, brothers, as we live so near him, we should certainly know it, if any thing of that nature should be done, especially, as we go there so frequently, on account of our father, the Minister, who, sometimes, performs divine service at that place. We have never seen any hostile preparations made there; there is no cannon, nor any thing of that kind, and that all things remained in the same situation it was in the lifetime of Sir *William*.

"Brothers, we would not conceal any thing from you; it would not be right to use deceit, neither do we mean to do it; the minds of our counsellors are very much grieved, and aggrieved, at that part of the disposition of those whom we may call our warriors, as there are some among us of different minds, as there are among you.

Brothers, our counsellors remembering the covenant we, last Summer, made with our brethren, the Twelve Colonies, have, all along, strongly urged our warriors to peace, and have checked them when a contrary disposition appeared. Our minds are very much grieved to find any of our warriors of a different sentiment. We have, hitherto, been able to restrain them, and hope still to be able to do it, for matters are not now carried to extremity; but, if they are, our warriors will not be restrained, because they will think themselves deceived if this military force comes into the country.

"We have declared to you, brothers, that we would not deceive, and that we mean to declare our minds to you openly and freely. We, the Sachems, have all along inculcated to the warriors sentiments of peace, and they have hitherto been obedient to us, though there have been frequent rumours that they should be disturbed, yet we have, hitherto, been able to calm their minds. But now, brothers, so large a party coming alarms the minds of our warriors.

"They are determined, brothers, to go and be present at your interview with *St. John*, and determined to see and hear every thing that should be there transacted; and if it shall then appear, that this party shall push matters to extremes, we then cannot be accountable for any thing that may happen. But, as for us, brothers, the counsellors are fully determined ever to persevere in the path of peace.

"Brothers, attend! Though I have finished what I had purposed so say, yet I will add one thing more. When the news of your approach arrived at our town, it caused great confusion; some were ready to take to their arms, observing, that those reports respecting the unfriendly disposition of the Colonies were now verified. I begged of them, brothers, to possess their minds in peace for a few days. I told them, that I, myself, would go to *Abany* and inquire into the truth of the matter. I was so conscious of my own innocency, that no hostile appearance could deter me however formidable. I therefore desired them to sit still, until my return home, which might be in two days if I went to *Albany*. This, brothers, is the present situation of our people; they are waiting to see what news I bring.

"Brothers, when I made this request to the warriors, that they should sit still till my return, they told me that they would, which they are now in expectation of, and will do nothing until I get back. But, brothers, after my return, I will repeat to them the speech you will now make to me, and if any of our people should still persist to be present at your interview with Sir *John*, we hope, brethren, you will not think hard of us as counsellors, as it is not in our power to rule them as we please. If they should go, and if any thing evil should happen, we beg to know, brothers, what treatment we may expect who remain at home in peace.

"Brothers, this is all we have to say; this is the business which has brought us down, and we now expect an answer, to carry home to our people."

To which I delivered the following Answer, which it was easy to be perceived, had the desired effect:

"*Brothers of the Mohawk Nation:* We the Commissioners, appointed by the Congress, and by your brothers of *Albany* and *Schenectady*, have paid great attention to the speech you have delivered to us; we now desire you to open your ears, and attentively listen to what we have to say in answer.

"Brothers, it pleased us to hear you declare, that you would speak your minds freely; we assure you that we shall do the same, and hide nothing from you of what is in our thoughts.

"Brothers, we were in hopes that the message which we sent you by Mr. *Bleecker* would have eased your minds, and have convinced you, that we had no hostile intentions against you or any other *Indians*, for if we had, we would not have sent you that message, neither would we have supplied you with powder, as we did last Summer, and again the other day.

"Brothers, we are extremely sorry that you have not complied with our request, to send the speech which we sent you by Mr. *Bleecker* to the *Six Nations*, in the manner which we required.

"Brothers, you told us that five or six men would have been sufficient to have gone to *Johnstown*, and to have inquired what was transacting there, and that these people would have been in no danger, as it would have been a shame to have interrupted them. We acknowledge, brothers, that it would have been a shame if we had sent them, and they had been interrupted; but we have full proofs that many people in *Johnstown*, and the neighbourhood thereof, have, for a considerable time past, made preparations to carry into execution the wicked designs of the King's evil counsellors.

"Brothers, it is very true, that last Summer the *United Colonies* promised that the path to the *Indian* country should be kept open. They again repeat that promise; and although it is by the special order of the Congress, that this body of troops are now marching up, yet it is not to shut the path, but to keep it open, and to prevent the people in and about *Johnstown* from cutting off the communication between us and our brethren of the *Six Nations*, and our other brethren living upon the river.

"Brothers, although we have before observed, that the people living in and about *Johnstown* are making hostile preparations against us, yet we will not shed a drop of their blood, unless they refuse to come to an agreement, by which we may be safe, or unless they oppose us with arms. We do not mean that any of our warriors should set their foot on any of the lands you possess, or that of the *Six Nations*, unless our enemies should take shelter there, for those we are resolved to follow wherever they go. We again repeat, that we have no quarrel with you, and we do expect that you will not interfere in this family contest, but stand by as indifferent spectators, agreeable to the engagement of the *Six Nations* made to us last Summer at their own request.

"Brothers, we assured you last Summer, that, as we had no quarrel with any *Indians*, we would not touch a hair of their heads; yet when our warriors were at *St. John's* they were attacked by *Indians;* two of your tribe, and some others, were killed. You have never blamed us for it, because you well know that as our lives are dear to us, we had a right to kill any man who attempts to kill us; you ought, therefore, not to be surprised, if we take every precaution to prevent being destroyed by the friends of the King's evil counsellors.

"Brothers, in a little time we may be called upon to go and fight against our enemies to the Eastward, who are employed by the King's evil counsellors, and can you think it prudent that we should leave a set of people who are our enemies, in any part of the country, in such a situation as to be able to destroy our wives and children, and burn our houses in our absence? Would you leave your wives and children in such a situation? The wisdom by which you have conducted your affairs, convinces us that you would not; and yet so cautious are we that no blood may be shed, that we shall send a letter to Sir *John*, inviting him to meet us on the road, between this place and his house, which if he does, we make no doubt but every thing will be settled in an amicable manner. And, that he may be under no apprehensions, we do now assure you, that if we do not come to an agreement, he will be permitted safely to return to his own house.

"Brothers, we thank you that you have concealed nothing from us; and we assure you that we scorn deceit as much as you do, and, therefore, we shall now speak our minds freely on what you have said respecting the conduct which your warriors mean to hold. We have no objection, nay, we wish that you and they should be present to hear what we shall propose to Sir *John*, and the people in and about *Johnstown*, who are our enemies. But we beg of you to tell your warriors, that although we have no quarrel with them, yet, if we should be under the disagreeable necessity of fighting with our enemies, and your warriors should join them and fight against us, that we will do as we did at *St. John's*, and repel force by force.

"Brothers, you have asked us if your warriors should go, and if any thing evil should happen, what treatment you may expect who remain at home in peace.

*

"Brothers, in the treaty held at *Albany* last Summer, you and your warriors were present, and you and they jointly promised to remain neuter, and not to interfere in this quarrel; should your warriors, therefore, now take up arms against us, we must consider it as a breach of the treaty, so far as it respects the Lower *Mohawk* Castle, of which breach we shall complain to our brethren of the other Nations; and, at the same time lay the matter before our Great Council, at *Philadelphia*, whose determination thereupon will be our future guide.

"Brothers, we are surprised that the least doubt should remain on your minds with respect to our friendly intentions towards you, after the many instances we have given you of our love and friendship. But we must impute it to the wicked insinuations of our mutual enemies; who wish for nothing so much as to see the ancient covenant which has so long subsisted between us broke.

"Brothers, you have observed that you would pay no regard to that party that should be the first aggressor. We cannot be the aggressors, for if our enemies in and about *Johnstown* had had no evil intentions against us, we should never have come thus far with an army. Whoever takes up arms against another, although he has not yet struck, must be considered as the aggressor, and not he who tries to prevent the blow.

"Brothers, we have now freely and fully disclosed to you our minds. We hope you will remember what we have said, and repeat it to your brother counsellors and warriors; and lest you should not be able to recollect every part of this speech, you may have your brothers *Karaghquadirhon* and *Tezederonderon** to attend you if it be agreeable to you.

"Brothers, your women have sent us a belt. We beg you to assure them of our regard, and to entreat them to prevent your warriors from doing any thing that would have the least tendency to incur our resentment, or interrupt that harmony which we wish may subsist to the end of time."

To this they made the following short Reply:

"*Brother* Schuyler, *the Great Man, attend!*

"We have this evening heard what you have to say, and we are glad of it, and thank you for it.

"Every thing that has been said to us, brother, has been perfectly agreeable to us.

"I shall not attempt, brother, to make a particular reply to every thing that has been said to us; indeed it would not be proper at this time.

"We are very glad, brother, that you have determined to write to Sir *John*, requesting an interview with him, in hopes of an amicable agreement.

"Brother, you mention, that it would be agreeable to you that the warriors and counsellors, or Sachems, should attend.

"Brother, we, the Sachems, will attend, even though we should do it at the risk of our lives.

"Brother, we should be glad if you would inform us of the time and place of your interview with Sir *John*. You likewise told us, that if it was agreeable to us that your interpreters should attend, to recapitulate the speech you have made, which, likewise, is agreeable to us; and we desire that they may go with us, for by that means all mistakes may be prevented.

"Brother, you may depend on it that we will use our utmost influence with our warriors, to calm their minds.

"You may depend on it likewise, that our sisters will use their utmost influence for the same purpose."

I then assured them again, that as we had no hostile intentions, they might rest assured that nothing disagreeable would happen to them, and that, if they attended at *Johnstown* as friends, they would receive the protection due to them as mediators, after which they returned.

Early on *Wednesday*, the 17th, I marched, having previously sent a letter to Sir *John Johnson*, of which the following is a copy:

"Schenectady, January 16, 1776.

"Sir: Information having been received that designs of the most dangerous tendency to the rights, liberties, properties, and even lives of those of His Majesty's faithful subjects in *America*, who are opposed to the unconstitutional measures of his Ministry, have been formed in part of the County of *Tryon*, I am, therefore, ordered to march a body of men into that County, to carry into execution certain resolutions of my superiors, and to contravene these dangerous designs.

"Influenced, sir, by motives of humanity, I wish to comply with my orders, in a manner the most peaceable, that no blood may be shed; I, therefore, request that you will please to meet me to-morrow at any place on my way to *Johnstown*, to which I propose then to march. For which purpose I do hereby give you my word and honour, that you, and such persons as you may choose should attend you, shall pass safe and unmolested to the place where you may meet me, and from thence back to the place of your abode.

"*Rutgers Bleecker* and *Henry Glen*, Esquires, are the bearers hereof, gentlemen who are entitled to your best attention, which I dare say they will experience, and by whom I expect you will favour me with an answer to this letter.

"You will please to assure Lady *Johnson*, that whatever may be the result of what is now in agitation, she may rest perfectly satisfied that no indignity will be offered her.

"I am, sir, your humble servant,

"Philip Schuyler.

"To Sir *John Johnson*, Baronet."

He accordingly met me about sixteen miles beyond *Schenectady*, accompanied by some of the leading *Scotchmen*, and two or three others, when I delivered him the following terms:

"*Terms offered by the Honourable* Philip Schuyler, *Esq., Major-General in the Army of the Thirteen* United Colonies, *and commanding in the* New-York *Department, to Sir* John Johnson, *Baronet, and all such other persons in the County of* Tryon, *as have evinced their intentions of supporting His Majesty's Ministry to carry into execution the unconstitutional measures of which the* Americans *so justly complain, and to prevent which they have been drawn to the dreadful necessity of having recourse to arms.*

"*First.* That Sir *John Johnson* shall, upon his word and honour, immediately deliver up all cannon, arms, and other military stores, of what kind soever, which may be in his own possession, or which he has caused to be delivered into the possession of any persons whatsoever, either directly or indirectly, or that, to his knowledge, may be concealed in any part of the said County; that he shall distinguish all such military stores, of what kind soever, as belong to the Crown, or were furnished with the design of arming the *Indians*, or the inhabitants of *Tryon* County, from those which may be private property, in order that a proper inventory may be taken of the last articles, that the same may be restored, or the value of them refunded when this unhappy contest shall be over.

"*Secondly.* General *Schuyler*, out of personal respect to Sir *John*, and from a regard to his rank, consents that Sir *John* shall retain, for his own use, a complete set of armour, and as much powder as may be sufficient for his domestick purposes.

"*Thirdly.* That Sir *John Johnson* shall remain upon his parole of honour in any part of *Tryon* County, which he may choose to the eastward of the District of . . . . . unless it should appear necessary to the honourable Continental Congress to remove him to some other part of this, or any other Colony; in which case, he is immediately to comply with such orders as they may think proper to give for that purpose.

"*Fourthly.* That the *Scotch* inhabitants of the said County shall, without any kind of exception, immediately deliver up all arms in their possession, of what kind soever they may be, and that they shall each solemnly promise, that they will not any time hereafter, during the continuance of this unhappy contest, take up arms without the permission of the Continental Congress, or of their general officers; and for the more faithful performance of this article, the General insists that they shall immediately deliver up to him six hostages of his own nomination.

"*Fifthly.* That such of the other inhabitants of *Tryon* County, as have avowed themselves averse to the mea-

* *Deane* and *Bleecker*, interpreters.

sures of the *United Colonies*, shall, also, deliver up their arms, of what kind soever they may be, and enter into the like engagement as is stipulated in the preceding article, both with respect to their future conduct, and the number of hostages.

"*Sixthly.* That all blankets, strouds, and other *Indian* articles, belonging to the Crown, and intended as presents to the *Indians*, shall be delivered up to a Commissary appointed by General *Schuyler*, in the presence of three or more of the *Mohawk* Chiefs, in order that the same may be dispersed amongst the *Indians*, for the purpose of cementing the ancient friendship between them and their brethren of the *United Colonies*, for which sole purpose they ought to have been furnished.

"*Seventhly.* If Sir *John Johnson*, and the people referred to in the aforegoing articles, shall justly abide by, and perform what is thereby required of them, the General, in behalf of the Continental Congress, doth promise and engage, that neither Sir *John Johnson*, nor any of those people, shall be molested by any of the other inhabitants of the said County, or by any of the inhabitants of the Thirteen *United Colonies;* but that, on the contrary, they will be protected in the quiet and peaceable enjoyment of their property, the sole intent of this treaty being to prevent the horrid effects of a civil and intestine war betwixt those who ought to be brethren. That all the arms, which shall be delivered up in consequence of the preceding articles, shall be valued by sworn appraisers. That if the Continental Congress should have occasion for them they may be taken. If not, they will be delivered to the respective proprietors when this unhappy contest shall be at an end."

He assured me that the *Indians* would support him, and that some were already at *Johnson-Hall*, for that purpose, and others on their way down.

In return, I told him that, although averse to shedding any blood, yet, if he resisted, that force would be opposed to force, without distinction, and that the consequences would be of the most serious nature, unless he complied with my requisitions. He begged time to answer, until next evening, to which I consented.

About an hour after he had left me, *Abraham* and another of the *Mohawks* called upon me; I acquainted him of the information I had received from Sir *John*, which he denied to be true, giving me assurances that the *Mohawks* would not interfere otherwise than as mediators; I answered, that I hoped they would not, but that, if they did, I should surely not hesitate one moment to destroy all that should appear in arms against us.

On *Thursday* the 18th, I approached to within four miles of *Johnstown*, and about six o'clock, received the following answer to my terms:

"*Terms proposed by Sir* John Johnson, *Baronet, and the people of* Kingsborough *and the adjacent neighbourhood, to the Honourable* Philip Schuyler, *Esq., Major-General in the Army of the Thirteen* United Colonies, *and commanding in the* New-York *Department.*

"*First.* That Sir *John Johnson*, and the rest of the gentlemen expect, that all such arms of every kind as are their own property, may remain in their possession; all the other arms shall be delivered up to such person, or persons, as may be appointed for that purpose. As to military stores belonging to the Crown, Sir *John* has not any.

"*Secondly.* Answered in the first.

"*Thirdly.* Sir *John* expects that he will not be confined to any certain County, but be at liberty to go where he pleases.

"*Fourthly.* The *Scotch* inhabitants will deliver up their arms, of what kind soever they may be; and they will each solemnly promise, that they will not at any time hereafter, during the continuance of this unhappy contest, take up arms without the permission of the Continental Congress, or of their general officers. Hostages they are not in a capacity to give, no one man having command over another, or power sufficient to deliver such; therefore, this part of the article to be passed from, or the whole included. Women and children to be required, a requisition so inhuman, as we hope the General will dispense with.

"*Fifthly.* Answered in the fourth.

"*Sixthly.* Sir *John* has not any blankets, strouds, or other presents, intended for the *Indians*.

"*Seventhly.* If the above proposals are agreed to, and signed by the General, Sir *John* and the people referred to will rely on the assurances of protection given by the General.

"John Johnson,
"Allan McDonell.

"To the Hon. *Philip Schuyler*, Esq., Major-General.

"Johnson-Hall, January 18, 1776."

To which I returned the following Answer:

"Cagnuage, January 18, eight o'clock P. M., 1776.

"Gentlemen: Messrs. *Adams* and *McDonell* have delivered me your answer to my proposals of yesterday's date. The least attention to the articles I offered, when compared with yours, must convince you that you omitted replies to several of them, consequently, what you have sent me is very imperfect, and, also, unsatisfactory. I waive pointing out some inconsistencies in your proposals, as the whole are exceptionable excepting the last.

"I must, therefore, obey my orders, and again repeat, that, in the execution of them I shall strictly abide by the laws of humanity; at the same time assuring you, that, if the least resistance is made I will not answer for the consequences, which may be of a nature the most dreadful.

"If Lady *Johnson* is at *Johnson-Hall*, I wish she would retire, and, therefore, enclose a passport, as I shall march my troops to that place without delay.

"You may, however, have time to reconsider the matter; and, for that purpose, I give you until twelve o'clock this night, after which, I shall receive no proposals, and I have sent you Mr. *Robert Yates*, Mr. *Glenn*, and Mr. *Duer*, to receive the ultimate proposals you have to make. This condescension I make from no other motive than to prevent the effusion of blood, so far as it may be effected without risking the safety of the country, or being guilty of a breach of the positive orders I have received from the honourable Continental Congress.

"I am, gentlemen, with due respect, your humble servant,
"Philip Schuyler.

"To Sir *John Johnson* and Mr. *Allan McDonell*."

Immediately after I had sent this away, the Sachems, and all the Warriors of the Lower *Mohawk* Town, and some from the Upper, called upon me, and informed me that Sir *John Johnson* had related to them the contents of the terms I had offered to him and his associates; that Sir *John* declared he only meant to guard himself from any insult that might be offered by riotous people; that he had no unfriendly intentions against the country, and begged that I would accept of the terms he had offered. In reply, I explained my proposals, and Sir *John's* answer; pointed out the impropriety of closing with him on the conditions he wanted, and told them that I had given him until twelve o'clock to comply, after which, I should take such measures as would force him, and whoever assisted him, to a compliance. They were contented with the reasons I gave, but begged, that if his answer was not satisfactory, that I would give him until four o'clock in the morning, that they might have time to go and shake his head, (as they expressed it,) and bring him to his senses; and they begged it as a favour, to be charged to them, that I would not remove him out of the County; they apologized for the threats of their warriors, said that they were not all present at the treaty of *Albany*, but that now they were all here, and declared that they would never take arms against us.

I paid them a compliment on their peaceable intentions, and informed them, that, although Sir *John's* conduct was extremely obnoxious, and that we should be justified in making him a close prisoner, yet, I would grant their request, for two reasons; first, to show our love and affection to them, and to convince them that they could obtain that by asking it as a favour, which they could not by threatening; secondly, that by leaving him they might, by their advice and example, teach him to alter his conduct.

At twelve, the following answer from Sir *John* came to hand:

"*Answers to the Terms proposed by the Honourable* Philip Schuyler, *Esq., Major-General in the Army of the Thirteen* United Colonies, *and commanding in*

the New-York *Department, to Sir* John Johnson, *Baronet, the Inhabitants of* Kingsborough, *and the neighbourhood adjacent.*

"*First* and *Second* Articles agreed to, except a few favourite family arms.

"*Third.* Sir *John Johnson* having given his parole of honour not to take up arms against *America*, and conceiving the design of this military operation to be with no other view than that of removing the jealousies of which his countrymen are unhappily and unjustly inspired with against him, can, by no means, think of submitting to this article in its full latitude, though, for the sake of preserving peace and removing any suspicions of undue influence, he consents not to go to the westward of the *German-Flats* and *Kingsland* Districts; to every other part of the Continent to the southward of this County, he expects the privilege of going.

"*Fourth.* Agreed to, except to that part of the Article which respects the giving hostages. After the *Scotch* inhabitants have surrendered their arms, the General may take any six prisoners from amongst them, as he chooses, without resistance. They expect, however, that the prisoners taken will be maintained, agreeable to their respective rank, and that they may have the privilege of going to any part of the Provinces of *New-Jersey* or *Pennsylvania*, which the General, or the Continental Congress, may appoint. They likewise expect, from the General's humanity, that provision will be made for the maintenance of the prisoners' wives and children, agreeable to their respective situations in life. Yet, for the sake of promoting the harmony of the country, they will not break off this treaty merely on that account, provided the General thinks he cannot exert a discretionary power in this matter, in which case they rely upon the General's influence with the Continental Congress, who, they cannot persuade themselves, will be inattentive to the voice of humanity, or to the feelings of parents who may be torn from their families. Those to whose lot it may fall to be taken prisoners, it is expected they will be allowed a few days to settle their business, and the gentlemen to wear their side arms.

"*Fifth.* Neither Sir *John Johnson*, nor the *Scotch* gentlemen, can make any engagement for any other persons than those over whom they may have influence. Neither can they possibly know the names of all such persons who have shown themselves averse to the measures of the *United Colonies.* They give their word and honour, that so far as depends on them, the inhabitants shall give up their arms and enter into the like engagement with the *Scotch* inhabitants. The General has it more in his power to discover those who are obnoxious, and to make as many as he pleases prisoners; neither shall they adopt the quarrel of any such persons as their own.

"*Sixth.* Sir *John* gives his word and honour that he has no blankets, strouds, or other presents, belonging to the Crown, intended for the *Indians*, and, therefore, this requisition cannot be complied with.

"*Seventh.* If the above proposals are agreed to, and signed by the General, Sir *John*, and the people referred to, will rely on the assurances of protection given by the General. But as it will be impossible for the arms to be collected till *Saturday* next, at twelve o'clock, all the men referred to in the above articles, will be then paraded in *Johnstown*, and ground their arms in the presence of such troops as the General may appoint.

"John Johnson,
"Allan McDonell.

"Johnson-Hall, January 18, 1776."

Upon which I told the *Indians* that I believed the matter would be settled in a peaceable manner. They then retired, with repeated expressions of their approbation of my conduct, and of esteem for Congress.

I then sent the following to Sir *John*, viz:

"Cagnuage, January 19, 1776.

"General *Schuyler's* feelings as a gentleman induce him to consent that Sir *John Johnson* may retain the few favourite family arms, he making a list of them.

"The General will, also, consent that Sir *John Johnson* may go as far to the westward as the *German-Flats* and *Kingsland* Districts, in this County, and to every other part of this Colony to the southward and eastward of said Districts, provided he does not go into any seaport town; the General, however, believes that if Sir *John's* private business should require his going to any of the other ancient *English* Colonies, that he will be permitted it, by applying to Congress for leave.

"The General will take six of the *Scotch* inhabitants prisoners, since they prefer it to going hostages. It has been the invariable rule of Congress, and that of all its officers, to treat prisoners with the greatest humanity, and to pay all due deference to rank. He cannot ascertain the places to which Congress may please to send them; for the present they will go to *Reading* or *Lancaster*, in *Pennsylvania.* Nor can he make any promises with respect to the maintenance of the women and children. His humanity will certainly induce him to recommend to Congress an attention to what has been requested on that head.

"General *Schuyler* expects that all the *Scotch* inhabitants, of whatever rank, that are not confined to their beds by illness, shall attend with their arms, and deliver them on *Saturday*, at twelve o'clock, which, if not faithfully performed, he will consider himself as disengaged from any engagements entered into with them.

"General *Schuyler* never refused a gentleman his side-arms.

"The prisoners, that may be taken, must be removed to *Albany* immediately, where the General will permit them to remain a reasonable time, to settle their family affairs.

"If the terms General *Schuyler* has offered, on the 17th instant, are accepted, with the above qualifications, fair copies will be made out and signed by the parties, one of which will be delivered to Sir *John* and Mr. *McDonell*, signed by the General. To prevent a waste of time, the General wishes Sir *John* and Mr. *McDonell* immediately to send an answer.

"He remains with due respect, Sir *John's* and Mr. *McDonell's* humble servant,

"Philip Schuyler."

Which was agreed to, and, on *Friday*, the 19th, I marched to *Johnstown*, having first detached parties to different parts of the County to bring in the other Tories, not comprehended in the agreement with Sir *John.* In the afternoon, the arms and military stores in possession of Sir *John* were delivered up; a much smaller quantity than I expected.

On *Saturday*, the 20th, at twelve o'clock, I drew my men in the street, and the *Highlanders*, between two and three hundred, marched to the front, where they grounded their arms; these secured, I dismissed them with an exhortation, pointing out the only conduct which could insure them protection. I then sent for two of the persons mentioned in *Conner's* affidavit, the rest not being in the County, and tried, by every means in my power, to make them confess what *Conner* charged them with; they strenuously denied the charge, and when I produced *Conner*, they called him a perjured wretch, and declared their willingness to be hanged, if, upon further examination, I should have just grounds to conclude that his charge was supported. I then sent several field-officers and a party, with *Conner*, to the spot where the arms were supposed to be hid. He pointed out a small artificial oval island, in a duck pond, the greatest diameter of which was about twenty-eight feet, and the shorter about twenty, and raised about three feet above the surface of the water in its highest part, and sloping down to the pond. On its being observed that it was too small to hide so many arms, he said they were put up in four piles. The ground was then cleared of the snow and broke up; it was immediately perceived that the ground had not lately been broken up; they, however, dug down until they got as low as the surface of the water, and then tried with sticks, swords, and other instruments, but found nothing. The gentlemen present unanimously reported that they were convinced that *Conner* was an impostor. As such I shall keep him confined, until I receive further directions from Congress.

On *Saturday* evening I returned to *Cagnuoge.* Some of the parties I had sent on the preceding day were returned with about fifty Tories; sixty more were brought in on *Sunday*, the 21st. I left Colonel *Herkimer*, and the Committee of *Tryon* County, to receive the arms of the remainder, and to fix on six of the principal leaders, and send them to me. I expect the whole disarmed, or to be

disarmed, will amount to above six hundred. Not being satisfied with the ammunition, &c., delivered me by Sir *John*, I wrote him the following Letter:

"Cagnuage, January 21, 1776.

"Sir: Although it is a well-known fact that all the *Scotch* people that yesterday surrendered arms, had not broad-sword swhen they came to the country, yet many of them had, and most of them were possessed of dirks; and as none have been given up of either, I will charitably believe that it was rather inattention than a wilful omission. Whether it was the former or the latter must be ascertained by their immediate compliance or non-compliance with that part of the treaty which requires that all arms, of what kind soever, should be delivered up.

"After having been informed by you, at our first interview, that the *Scotch* people meant to defend themselves, I was not a little surprised that no ammunition was delivered up, and that you had none to furnish them with. These observations were immediately made by others as well as me. I was too apprehensive of the consequences which might have been fatal to those people, to take notice of it on the spot. I shall, however, expect an eclaircissement on this subject, and beg that you and Mr. *McDonell* will give it me as soon as may be.

"I am, gentlemen, with due respect, your humble servant,

"Philip Schuyler.

"To Sir *John Johnson*, Baronet."

And then marched back to this place. I have had much anxiety, and an incredible deal of trouble to prevent so large a body of men, collected on a sudden, with little discipline, from running into excesses. I am, however, happy that nothing material has happened that can reflect disgrace on our cause.

I forgot to observe, that previous to my leaving this place, I had sent a message to the *Mohawks*, advising them of my intended march into the County of *Tryon*, and assuring them that no violence was intended them, copy of which, with copy of their answer, I enclose.

After I had finished in *Tryon* County, I despatched Mr. *Deane*, the Interpreter, with a speech and belt to the *Six Nations*.

Congress will perceive that my speeches are very crude and inaccurate; but, although at best incompetent, yet, at this time, I have another excuse from the hurry and confusion which the command of such a multitude must necessarily create. Indeed, I never had, during the whole time, less than thirty people about me, nor was it possible to retire to any place where the same inconveniency would not have attended.

I am, sir, most respectfully, your obedient, humble servant,

Philip Schuyler.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq., &c., &c., &c.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Albany, January 23, 1776.

Sir: Your favour by *Bennett*, of the 20th instant, he delivered me yesterday. Since General *Wooster's* letter of the 5th instant, I have not heard a word from *Canada*, whence I conclude that our affairs are not in a worse condition than when the General wrote. Part of the troops which I directed Colonel *Warner* to raise, are already so far advanced that I believe they will reach *St. John's* to-day or to-morrow. I believe the whole under Colonel *Warner's* command will amount to about seven hundred; he thinks more. A regiment is also raising in the County of *Berkshire*, of about that number. Part of these, also, are already marched, and a regiment is on its way from *Pennsylvania*, and another from *New-Jersey;* the two last in consequence of my former application for troops to be sent to *Canada;* and I learn, with pleasure, that you are raising another.

I enclose your Honour a return of what arms and accoutrements were delivered into store by the troops raised in the Colony of *Connecticut*. I believe they are far short of your expectations, and they are very bad, as all those that had good arms refused to deliver them. They are chiefly at this place, undergoing repairs; so that, such of your men as may not be supplied, will be provided here, on their way up. I have taken every step, the confusion and hurry of business would allow me, to prepare for the march of these troops, and I believe they will not find the difficulties any thing like so great as are generally imagined. The Tories in *Tryon* County are disarmed, and disarming, to the number of between six and seven hundred. I have made six of the chiefs of the *Highland* clan of the *McDonells* prisoners, and six more are to be sent me of the ancient *English, Dutch*, and *German* inhabitants.

I wish that the accounts of whatever money may be advanced to the regiment, now raising with you, should be transmitted to the Paymaster-General, that the accounts may be regularly kept and the men paid off.

I am, sir, most sincerely, your obedient, humble servant,

Philip Schuyler.

To the Honourable *Jonathan Trumbull*, Esq.

GENERAL LEE TO NEW-YORK COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Stamford, January 23, 1776.

Sir: Yesterday, on the road, I had the honour of receiving yours, and ought to make you a thousand apologies for not having answered it immediately; but the circumstance of being on the road, together with the necessity of finishing some despatches to General *Washington*, and to the Continental Congress, rendered it almost impossible.

I should certainly, sir, have apprized you of my march, had I not concluded that you would have learnt it time enough from the Congress. The letter which I have from the General, directed to the Chairman of the Committee of Safety, I was ordered to deliver with my own hand.

With respect, sir, to the alarms of the inhabitants, on the suspicion that my business was to commence active hostilities against the men-of-war in your harbour, I can assure you that they may be perfectly easy—such never was the intention of the General, and I hope you will believe that I never entertained a thought of transgressing the letter of my instructions. The motive of the General for detaching me was solely to prevent the enemy from taking post in your city, or lodging themselves in *Long-Island*, which we have the greatest reason to think, sir, is their design. Some subordinate purposes were likewise to be executed, which are much more proper to be communicated by word of mouth than by writing; but I give you my word that no active service is proposed, as you seem to apprehend.

If the ships-of-war are quiet I shall be quiet, but I declare solemnly, that if they make a pretext of my presence to fire on the town, the first house set in flames by their guns shall be the funeral pile of some of their best friends; but I believe, sir, the inhabitants may rest in security on this subject.

I am convinced, and every man who considers a moment must be convinced, that the destruction of the seaport towns would, if possible, be a severer stroke to the Ministry, and their instruments, than to the inhabitants themselves. The seaport towns are the only holds they have on *America;* they are considered as the pledges of servitude; the menacing destruction to them may be of admirable use to them, but the real destruction of them must extinguish all hopes of success.

In compliance, sir, with your request, I shall only carry with me into town a force just strong enough to secure it against any designs of the enemy until it shall please the Continental Congress to take measures for its permanent security. The main body I shall leave on the western frontiers of *Connecticut*, according to your directions.

I hope, sir, and persuade myself, that the Committee and inhabitants can have no objection to this plan. If Mr. *Tryon* and the captains of the ships-of-war are to prescribe what numbers are, and what numbers are not to enter the town, they are absolute dictators to all intents and purposes. The condition is too humiliating for freemen to put up with.

You take pains to assure me, sir, that your Congress and Committee are not less zealous in the cause of *American* liberty, than any representative body on the Continent. I give you my word, sir, that this assurance was unnecessary. I am not one of those who have entertained a bad opinion of the virtue of *New-York*, or made it

my business to asperse them; on the contrary, I have condemned loudly the illiberal, impolitick, and unjust reflections I have heard frequently thrown out. I should not have taken the liberty of troubling you with the opinion, good or bad, which an unimportant individual like myself may entertain of so respectable a body as your Committee, or Congress, had not this particular paragraph of your letter thrown the temptation in my way.

I am, sir, your most obedient, and devoted servant,

CHARLES LEE.

To *Peter Van Brugh Livingston*, Esq., Chairman of the Committee of Safety.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GENERAL LEE.

Cambridge, January 23, 1776.

SIR: I received your favour of the 16th instant, and am exceedingly sorry to hear that Congress countermanded the embarkation of the two regiments intended against the Tories on *Long-Island*. They, I doubt not, had their reasons; but, to me, it appears that the period is arrived, when nothing less than the most decisive and vigorous measures should be pursued. Our enemies from the other side of the *Atlantick*, will be sufficiently numerous; it highly concerns to have as few internal ones as possible.

As Congress seem to have altered their views in this instance, and the men which went with you from *Connecticut* are upon a very different footing from what I expected, it will be right to give Congress the earliest notice of your proceeding, and to disband your troops as soon as you think circumstances will admit of it.

In consequence of the melancholy reverse of our affairs in *Canada*, an application was made to me for succour, and happy should I have been if the situation of this Army could have afforded it. All I could do, was, to lay the matter before this, and the Governments of *Connecticut* and *New-Hampshire*, and urge the expediency and necessity of their sending a reinforcement of three regiments there immediately. Mr. *Trumbull*, and his Council of Safety, had anticipated my request; the other two Colonies have adopted the measure. The three regiments are now raising, and, I would willingly hope, will arrive in time to reinstate matters in that quarter, and give them a more agreeable aspect than they now have.

I shall be much obliged, by your pressing Colonel *McDougall* to forward the shells mentioned in his letter of the 2d instant, as they are much wanted; and, also, to spare me some powder, if he possibly can. You know our stock of this necessary article is small and inconsiderable, and you know, too, that we have a demand for a further supply.

The progress in raising recruits for the new Army being very slow, I have applied to this Colony, *Connecticut*, and *New-Hampshire*, for ten regiments of Militia, to continue in service till the 1st of *April* next, which they have granted me. As soon as they come in, and I can get provided with proper means, I am determined to attempt something. Of this, I would have you take no notice.

Within a few days past, several persons have come out of *Boston*; they all agree that General *Clinton* has gone upon some expedition. Some say he has between four and five hundred men; others, part of two regiments. What his force consists of is not precisely known; but, I am almost certain he has gone with some. His destination must be south of this, and, very probably, for *New-York*.

I thought it necessary to give you this information, that you may be upon your guard, and prepared to receive him as well as you can.

I shall be glad to hear from you frequently, and to be informed of any occurrences you may think material.

I am, dear sir, with great regard, &c.,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To Major-General *Lee*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO JOSEPH REED.

Cambridge, January 23, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Real necessity compels me to ask you, whether I may entertain any hopes of your returning to my family. If you can make it convenient, and will hint the matter to Colonel *Harrison*, I dare venture to say, that Congress will make it agreeable to you in every shape they can.

My business increases very fast, and my distresses, for want of you, increase with it. Mr. *Harrison* is the only gentleman of my family that can afford me the least assistance in writing. He, and Mr. *Moylan*, whose time must now be solely employed in his department of Commissary, have, heretofore, afforded me their aid; and I have hinted to them, in consequence of what you signified in some former letter, that, as they have really had a great deal of trouble, each of them should receive one-third of your pay, reserving the other third, contrary to your desire, for yourself.

My distress and embarrassment are in a way of being very considerably increased by an occurrence in *Virginia*, which will, I fear, compel Mr. *Harrison* to leave me, or suffer considerably by his stay. He has written, however, by the last post, to ascertain if his return cannot be dispensed with. If he should go, I shall really be distressed beyond measure, as I know no persons able to supply your places in this part of the world, with whom I would choose to live in unbounded confidence.

The business, as I hinted to you before, is considerably increased, by being more comprehensive, and, at this time, perplexed, by the great changes which are happening every day; so that you would want a good writer, and a methodical man, as an assistant or copying clerk. Such a one, I have no doubt, will be allowed, and the choice I leave to yourself, as he should be a person in whose integrity you can confide, and on whose capacity, care, and method, you can rely.

At present, my time is so much taken up at my desk, that I am obliged to neglect many other essential parts of my duty. It is absolutely necessary, therefore, to have persons that can think for me, as well as execute orders. As it may be essential that the pay of the under secretary should be fixed, that you may, if you incline to return, and should engage one, know what to promise him, I have written to Colonel *Harrison* and Mr. *Lynch* on this subject. I am, &c.,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To *Joseph Reed*, Esq.

COLONEL HARRISON TO GENERAL SULLIVAN.

Cambridge, January 23, 1776.

SIR: I have it in command from his Excellency to inform you, that General *Gates* handed him your letter of the 22d instant, containing a gross estimate of the pay you supposed would be due the *New-Hampshire* Militia, when the time they are engaged for shall expire.

His Excellency says, that he cannot possibly give a warrant on this estimate, and that each Captain must make out a particular list of their respective companies, noticing the time when any of their men inlisted in the regiments, (if that shall have been the case,) and, on the other side, an abstract of the pay due. There is a necessity for this, because the list and abstract are vouchers for, and the foundations of, the warrant annexed to them; the time when any of the men inlisted in the regiments must be mentioned, and pay only drawn till then, as they will be, from thence, included in the regimental abstracts.

Having made out lists and abstracts in this way, the Captains will give credit for the money they have received.

It is, also, necessary that each Captain should subjoin an affidavit to the foot of his abstract, similar to the copy enclosed. This mode has been, and will be, invariably pursued, respecting the Militia of this Colony. It is necessary, and founded on the difference between the regiments which continue in the service, and the Militia, which do not. In the abstract for the pay of the former, an affidavit is not material, because, if there should be any mistake or error in them, it may, and can be discovered, and rectified at a future day. It is otherwise with the latter; after they are gone, this cannot be done, and, therefore, their abstracts should have some authenticity; not that any intentional mistakes are apprehended to be made, but that the publick may be satisfied.

When the lists are made out in the manner directed, and the time of their engagement expired, his Excellency will give the proper warrants for payment. He would not have

any objection to giving them sooner, if he was not fearful that some of them might go off after receiving their pay.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your humble, obedient servant,

ROBERT H. HARRISON.

To Brigadier-General *Sullivan*.

By the Great and General Court of the Colony of MASSACHUSETTS-BAY.

A PROCLAMATION.

The frailty of human nature, the wants of individuals, and the numerous dangers which surround them, through the course of life, have, in all ages and in every country, impelled them to form societies and establish governments.

As the happiness of the people is the sole end of Government, so the consent of the people is the only foundation of it, in reason, morality, and the natural fitness of things; and, therefore, every act of Government, every exercise of sovereignty against, or without the consent of the people, is injustice, usurpation, and tyranny.

It is a maxim, that, in every Government there must exist, some where, a supreme, sovereign, absolute, and uncontrollable power; but this power resides, always, in the body of the people, and it never was, or can be delegated to one man or a few; the great Creator having never given to men a right to vest others with authority over them unlimited, either in duration or degree.

When Kings, Ministers, Governours, or Legislators, therefore, instead of exercising the powers intrusted with them according to the principles, forms, and proportions, stated by the Constitution, and established by the original compact, prostitute those powers to the purposes of oppression, to subvert, instead of supporting a free Constitution, to destroy, instead of preserving the lives, liberties, and properties of the people, they are no longer to be deemed magistrates vested with a sacred character, but become publick enemies, and ought to be resisted.

The Administration of *Great Britain*, despising equally the justice, humanity, and magnanimity, of their ancestors, and the rights, liberties, and courage of *Americans*, have, for a course of years, laboured to establish a sovereignty in *America*, not founded in the consent of the people, but in the mere will of persons a thousand leagues from us, whom we know not, and have endeavoured to establish this sovereignty over us against our consent, in all cases whatsoever.

The Colonies, during this period, have recurred to every peaceable resource in a free Constitution, by petitions and remonstrances, to obtain justice, which has been not only denied to them, but they have been treated with unexampled indignity and contempt, and, at length, open war, of the most atrocious, cruel, and sanguinary kind, has been commenced against them. To this, an open, manly, and successful resistance has, hitherto, been made. Thirteen Colonies are now firmly united in the conduct of this most just and necessary war, under the wise councils of their Congress.

It is the will of Providence, for wise, righteous, and gracious ends, that this Colony should have been singled out, by the enemies of *America*, as the first object both of their envy and their revenge, and, after having been made the subject of several merciless and vindictive statutes, (one of which was intended to subvert our Constitution by charter,) is made the seat of war.

No effectual resistance to the system of tyranny prepared for us could be made, without either instant recourse to arms, or a temporary suspension of the ordinary powers of Government and tribunals of justice. To the last of which evils, in hopes of a speedy reconciliation with *Great Britain* upon equitable terms, the Congress advised us to submit; and mankind has seen a phenomenon without example in the political world: a large and populous Colony subsisting, in great decency and order, for more than a year, under such a suspension of Government.

But, as our enemies have proceeded to such barbarous extremities, commencing hostilities upon the good people of this Colony, and, with unprecedented malice, exerting their power to spread the calamities of fire, sword, and famine through the land, and no reasonable prospect remains of a speedy reconciliation with *Great Britain*, the Congress have

"*Resolved*, That no obedience being due to the Act of Parliament for altering the Charter of the Colony of *Massachusetts-Bay*, nor to a Governour or Lieutenant-Governour, who will not observe the directions of, but endeavour to subvert that Charter, the Governour and Lieutenant-Governour of that Colony are to be considered as absent, and their offices vacant; and, as there is no Council there, and inconveniences arising from the suspension of the powers of Government are intolerable, especially, at a time when General *Gage* hath actually levied war, and is carrying on hostilities against His Majesty's peaceable and loyal subjects of that Colony, that, in order to conform, as near as may be, to the spirit and substance of the Charter, it be recommended to the Provincial Convention, to write letters to the inhabitants of the several places which are entitled to representation in Assembly, requesting them to choose such Representatives; and, that the Assembly, when chosen, do elect Counsellors, and that such Assembly and Council exercise the powers of Government, until a Governour of His Majesty's appointment will consent to govern the Colony according to its Charter."

In pursuance of which advice, the good people of this Colony have chosen a full and free representation of themselves, who, being convened in Assembly, have elected a Council, who, as the Executive branch of Government, have constituted necessary officers through the Colony. The present generation, therefore, may be congratulated on the acquisition of a form of Government more immediately, in all its branches, under the influence and control of the people, and, therefore, more free and happy than was enjoyed by their ancestors.

But, as a Government so popular can be supported only by universal knowledge and virtue in the body of the people, it is the duty of all ranks to promote the means of education for the rising generation, as well as true religion, purity of manners, and integrity of life, among all orders and degrees.

As an army has become necessary for our defence, and, in all free States the civil must provide for and control the military power, the major part of the Council have appointed magistrates and courts of justice in every County, whose happiness is so connected with that of the people, that it is difficult to suppose they can abuse their trust. The business of it is, to see those laws enforced, which are necessary for the preservation of peace, virtue, and good order. And the Great and General Court expects, and requires, that all necessary support and assistance be given, and all proper obedience yielded to them, and will deem every person who shall fail of his duty in this respect towards them, a disturber of the peace of this Colony, and deserving of examplary punishment.

That piety and virtue, which, alone, can secure the freedom of any people, may be encouraged, and vice and immorality suppressed, the Great and General Court have thought fit to issue this Proclamation, commanding and enjoining it upon the good people of this Colony, that they lead sober, religious, and peaceable lives, avoiding all blasphemies, contempt of the holy Scriptures, and of the *Lord's* day, and all other crimes and misdemeanours, all debauchery, profaneness, corruption, venality, all riotous and tumultuous proceedings, and all immoralities whatsoever; and that they decently and reverently attend the publick worship of *God*, at all times acknowledging, with gratitude, his merciful interposition in their behalf, devoutly confiding in him, as the *God* of armies, by whose favour and protection, alone, they may hope for success in their present conflict.

And all Judges, Justices, Sheriffs, Grand-Jurors, Tything-Men, and all other civil officers within this Colony, are hereby strictly enjoined and commanded, that they contribute all in their power, by their advice, exertions, and examples, towards a general reformation of manners, and, that they bring to condign punishment every person who shall commit any of the crimes or misdemeanours aforesaid, or that shall be guilty of any immoralities whatsoever; and that they use their utmost endeavours to have the resolves of the Congress, and the good and wholesome laws of this Colony, duly carried into execution.

And as the Ministers of the Gospel within this Colony have, during the late relaxation of the powers of civil Government, exerted themselves for our safety, it is hereby

recommended to them, still to continue their virtuous labours, for the good of the people, inculcating, by their publick ministry and private example, the necessity of religion, morality, and good order.

—

In Council, January 19, 1776.

Ordered, That the foregoing Proclamation be read at the opening of every Superior Court of Judicature, &c., and Inferior Common Pleas, and Court of General Sessions for the Peace within this Colony, by their respective Clerks; and at the annual town meetings in *March*, in each town. And it is hereby recommended to the several Ministers of the Gospel throughout this Colony, to read the same in their respective assemblies on the *Lord's* day next after their receiving it, immediately after Divine service.

Sent down for concurrence.

PEREZ MORTON, *Deputy Secretary.*

—

In the House of Representatives, January 23, 1776.

Read and concurred.

WILLIAM COOPER, *Speaker, pro tem.*

Consented to.

WILLIAM SEVER,	CHARLES CHAUNCEY,
WALTER SPOONER,	JOSEPH PALMER,
CALEB CUSHING,	JOHN WHETCOMB,
JOHN WINTHROP,	JEDEDIAH FOSTER,
THOMAS CUSHING,	ELDAD TAYLOR,
MOSES GILL,	JOHN TAYLOR,
MICHAEL FARLEY,	BENJAMIN WHITE,
SAMUEL HOLTEN,	JAMES PRESCOTT.

By order of the General Court:

PEREZ MORTON, *Deputy Secretary.*

GOD *save the King.*

MAJOR-GENERAL HOWE TO THE EARL OF DARTMOUTH.

Boston, January 23, 1776.

MY LORD: The box containing your Lordship's despatches by the *Centurion* having been received on board when the Captain was on shore, by a mistake of the steward's, was put into a store-room, without the Captain's knowledge, which has occasioned my not getting them before this day.

The letters from your Lordship are your secret duplicate and separate, of the 5th *September*, one of the 15th, and one of the 22d, following.

Copies of letters from your Lordship to the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, of the 22d *September*, from Lord *Rochford* to the Lord-Lieutenant of *Ireland*, of the 21st *September*.

Extracts from your Lordship to General *Gage*, of the 2d *August*; two from Governour *Martin*, of the 30th *June*, and 6th *July*; and one from Lord *William Campbell*, of 19th *July*.

A Letter from Mr. *Secretary Pownall*, of the 26th *September*, and a duplicate from him of the 8th; a list of *Indian* goods shipped on board the *Grand Duke of Russia*, the *Grosvenor*, and *Harcourt*, transports; the two first are arrived.

A list of store-ships for *America*, also a despatch from your Lordship to Governour *Martin*, which shall be forwarded by Captain *Collet*, who is daily expected from *Halifax*, and will proceed, without loss of time, to *North-Carolina*; he will, also, be the bearer to General *Clinton* of copies of the extracts of Governour *Martin's* letters of the 30th *June* and 6th *July*.

The matter contained in your Lordship's secret letter of the 5th *September*, having been notified to me in a former letter, I have only to add my wishes that a part of the foreign troops therein mentioned, at least eight thousand, may be sent to this part of *America*, although I fear they cannot arrive for the early operations of the campaign, upon which the future success of it so much depends; and your Lordship's despatch of the 22d *October*, having amply set forth the business contained in your letter of the 15th *September*, and which is answered in nine of the 16th instant, I do not trouble your Lordship with any thing further upon this subject. The other letters received in this package have already been answered from the early receipt of your Lordship's letters upon the same subject.

The enclosed memorial from the officers in the marine corps, serving in the army, I beg leave to recommend to your Lordship's consideration; and if your Lordship should think with me, that there is not any impropriety in it, that you would be pleased to lay the same before His Majesty. It is my duty to add, that the officers concerned have acted here with the greatest spirit, diligence, and attention to the service.

By intelligence received this morning from the enemy's quarters, I learn that about the 1st of this month the Rebels, headed by Mr. *Montgomery*, made an assault upon *Quebeck*, and that they entered the town, but were repulsed with considerable loss by their own acknowledgment. Mr. *Montgomery*, with may other officers, and seventy men, were killed; Colonel *Arnold* and three hundred wounded and taken prisoners. Two deserters that have come over this day confirm the above intelligence, and further say that it has been published in one of their newspapers.

I am, &c.,

W. HOWE.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM CORK (IRELAND) TO A GENTLEMAN IN PHILADELPHIA, DATED JANUARY, 1776.

The following occurrence must give satisfaction to the friends of suffering *America*. When Colonel *Ethan Allen*, with about fifty other prisoners, arrived in the *Solebay*, two gentlemen went on board to inquire into their situation, and to assure them of the disposition of several gentlemen in this city to alleviate their distresses. Colonel *Allen* was so affected with this instance of unexpected generosity, that the expression of his gratitude could hardly find utterance.

His treatment on board the *Solebay* is far different from the barbarous and cruel usage he experienced in his passage from *Quebeck*, being then handcuffed and ironed in the most dreary part of the vessel, and basely insulted with cruel and unmanly reflections by some officers of the ship, whom he challenged in *Cornwall* without receiving satisfaction.

A subscription was begun this morning among some friends of the cause, and near fifty guineas collected to buy clothes for his men, and necessaries for himself; and, if liberty can be got of Captain *Williams* to put live stock on board, I can assure you Colonel *Allen* will be extremely well provided. We this day sent a hamper of wine, sugar, fruit, chocolate, &c., on board for his immediate use, and to-morrow intend to prepare the sundry articles of which he sent a list. I enclose you a rough copy of his answer to our letter. Should he have permission to come on shore, he will be entertained by some of the first gentlemen of this city. I have not been refused by a single person on the subscription.

—

Copy of Colonel *Allen's* Note.

GENTLEMEN: I received your generous present this day with a joyful heart. Thanks to *God* there are still the feelings of humanity in the worthy citizens of *Cork* towards those of their bone and flesh, who, through misfortune from the present broils in the empire are needy prisoners.*

Dated Cove, January 24, 1776.

SPOTTSYLVANIA COUNTY (VIRGINIA) COMMITTEE.

At a meeting of the Committee of *Spottsylvania* County, at the Town-House in *Fredericksburgh*, the 24th day of *January*, 1776, present, *Fielding Lewis*, Esq., Chairman, and nineteen Members.

The said Committee proceeded to the choice of Officers to command two Companies of Regulars to be raised in the said County, agreeable to an Ordinance of the honourable Convention; whereupon the following gentlemen were chosen by ballot, viz: *George Stubblefield* and *Oliver Towles*, Captains; *Robert Dudley* and *Nathaniel Fox*, First Lieutenants; *Charles Tutt* and *Peter Minor*, Second

* *December* 29, 1775.—Sailed from *Portsmouth*, Sir *Peter Parker* and Earl *Cornwallis*, with the *Acteon*, *Deal-Castle*, and *Thunder-bomb*, for *Cork*, to convoy the troops and transports there to *America*. The *Acteon* put in at *Falmouth*, and took on board Colonel *Ethan Allen* and his fellow-prisoners, who had been confined in irons in *Pendennis Castle*, in order to carry them back to *America*. No assistance was given to *Allen* in *England*; but when the ship arrived at *Cork*, a subscription for him was begun in *Ireland*, and an ample supply of necessaries given to him, of which he and his friends were in great need.

Lieutenants; *Benjamin Winslow*, Jun., and *Joseph Holladay*, Jun., Ensigns.

Extract from the Minutes:

JOHN CHEW, JUN., *Clerk.*

JOSIAH BARTLETT TO NEW-HAMPSHIRE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Philadelphia, January 24, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The Congress ordered me to send you the sum of twelve thousand five hundred dollars, for the use of the regiment to be raised for *Canada*. I have agreed with Mr. *Wheat*, of *Connecticut*, (who carries the same sum to *Connecticut*,) to deliver it to you, or to Colonel *Gilman*, the Treasurer, at *Exeter*, for which he is to have thirty-six dollars, which you will please to pay him, and take his receipt; which receipt you will enclose to me, that I may receive the same out of the Continental Treasury, as the money is to be sent on the cost of the Continent.

I am, gentlemen, yours,

JOSIAH BARTLETT.

To the Provincial Committee of Safety, or *Nicholas Gilman*, Esq., Colony Treasurer.

P. S. As I was not certain whether the President had sent you the resolves of Congress of the 17th, I have enclosed them. The ten shillings mentioned, is this currency, equal to eight shillings, L. M. J. B.

RICHARD SWOOPE TO PENNSYLVANIA COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

York, January 24, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I take the liberty of troubling your Honours with these few lines, as Mr. *Nelson*, the bearer hereof, proposes to raise a rifle company in the back country. If there should be any more men wanting for the service at present, I would take the liberty to recommend him to the Board as a proper person, (as Captain of a company of riflemen,) so far as he stands recommended to me.

Gentlemen, you have been kind enough to send me by Captain *Schryak*, twenty-five extracts from the votes of the House of Assembly, of the rules and regulations; and as that number is not half enough, I hope you will be pleased to send about thirty more by the first opportunity.

So, no more at present, and from, gentlemen, your most obedient, and humble servant,

RICHARD SWOOPE.

To the Committee of Safety at *Philadelphia*.

LORD STIRLING TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[January 27.—Referred to Mr. Wythe, Mr. Sherman, Mr. Ward, and Mr. S. Adams.]

January 24, 1776.

SIR: On *Monday* last I received intelligence that a transport, laden with stores for the Ministerial Army at *Boston*, was hovering off *Sandy-Hook* in distress, and waiting for assistance from the men-of-war at *New-York*. I thought it a matter of so much importance, that I immediately set out for *Amboy*, and there seized a pilot-boat, and, with forty men, was just pushing out, about two, yesterday morning, when I was joined by three other boats from *Elizabethtown*, with about forty men each, many of them gentlemen from *Elizabethtown*, who voluntarily came on this service, under the command of Colonel *Dayton* and Colonel *Thomas*. We found her about six leagues south-east of *Sandy-Hook*. We boarded and took her without opposition. She proves to be the *Blue Mountain Valley*, commanded by Captain *James Hamilton Dempster*, laden with coal, porter, sour-krout, &c. (I wish it had been with arms and ammunition, as I expected.) We are now off *Amboy*, and intend to push in, this evening, into the Sound, between *Staten-Island* and the main. I write, now, in the hurry and noise incident to these occasions; I will write the particulars as soon as possible. And am, your most humble servant,

STIRLING.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq.

P. S. She is a ship of about one hundred feet, from stem to stern, above; capable of making a ship-of-war of twenty six-pounders, and ten three-pounders. I shall impatiently expect the orders of Congress.

GENERAL ARNOLD TO CONTINENTAL CONGRESS.

Camp before Quebeck, January 24, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: I wrote the 14th instant, advising you of our present situation, and that of the enemy, and took the liberty of presenting you my sentiments on a future plan of operations, for which my zeal for the publick service, I hope, will apologize; since which, I have made an estimate (which I now enclose) of such artillery, stores, ammunition, &c., which, I imagine, will be necessary, if it is thought proper to carry on a siege in form. Of this I can be no judge, as I know not if powder can be spared from below, or shot, shells, &c., sent up in season. The artillery, except a twelve-inch mortar, (at *Crown-Point*,) is all in this country. I have also enclosed a list of such ammunition, stores, &c., as we have on hand. A list of such articles as can be procured at *Montreal*, *St. John's*, and *Chambly*, will be taken, and sent you by General *Wooster*.

I had encouragement from Monsieur *Pelissier*, at *Three-Rivers*, of being furnished with shot, shells, &c., in all the month of *March*. I have this minute received advice from him, that the want of coal will prevent his supplying those articles before *May*. As coal is his only objection, I have wrote him to procure it, at all events, if it can be done, to supply shells, &c., by the 1st of *April*, of which the bearer, Major *Ogden*, will inform; this measure, I hope, will meet your approbation, as the expense of bringing shells from below will be great, and, if not wanted here, the cost will be trifling.

It is very probable the city would surrender before half, or, perhaps, one quarter of the shot, shells, &c., in my memorandum were expended; but, if they should make an obstinate resistance, perhaps the whole will be necessary.

A gentleman, now present, assures me, that the King's Magazines, containing upwards of three thousand barrels of powder, were all full, and that three hundred barrels, his private property, taken from him by Government, was obliged to be stored in a private vault; add to this ten thousand stand of arms, seven thousand of which are new, and arrived last Summer; also, seven thousand complete suits of new clothing, with a large quantity of artillery stores; two frigates, with a number of other vessels, in the harbour, &c., &c., &c. The above-mentioned articles, exclusive of securing an extensive country in our interest, and liberating three or four hundred of our brave men, appears an object of the greatest importance to us under our present circumstances. I make no doubt every necessary measure will be adopted for reducing the city.

Yesterday, arrived here, a reinforcement of one hundred men, from *Montreal;* sixty men are soon expected. We are still very weak handed. Of course the duty is severe; however, the enemy have not dared to come out, though they are double our number. Desertions from the garrison are frequent. They are in want of fuel, and have attempted to supply themselves by cutting down the houses in *St. Roque's* suburbs, (under their guns,) to prevent which, I have burnt most of them, with several vessels they had broke up; every artifice is used by Governour *Carleton* to procure provisions, and induce the *Canadians* to take arms against us, to no effect, though seconded by the clergy, our bitter enemies. I make no doubt of continuing the blockade until a proper reinforcement arrives to make use of more coercive measures.

Major *Ogden*, the bearer of this to *Montreal*, who came out with me a volunteer, proposes going down to *Philadelphia*. I beg leave to recommend him as a gentleman who has acted with great spirit and activity through our fatiguing march, and at the attack on *Quebeck*, in which he was wounded.

General *Montgomery*, on his arrival in this country, was pleased to appoint Mr. *John Halstead* Commissary; he is a gentleman, has been very active and zealous in our cause, is a merchant, and capable in his department, in which I beg leave to recommend his being continued.

Our finances are low; we have been obliged to beg, borrow, and squeeze, to get money for our subsistence; and, but for Mr. *Price*, who has been our greatest resource, we must have suffered.

I have the agreeable intelligence from General *Wooster*, that the Paymaster is at hand.

*

I am, with great esteem, gentlemen, your most obedient, and very humble servant,

BENEDICT ARNOLD.

To the Honourable Continental Congress.

GENERAL LEE TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Stamford, January 24, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: It was unnecessary sooner to trouble you with my scrawl, as I could give you no information the least interesting. I find the people through this Province more alert and zealous than my most sanguine expectation. I believe I might have collected ten thousand volunteers. I take only four companies with me, and *Waterbury's* regiment, which is so happily situated on the frontier. *Ward's* regiment, I have ordered to remain at their respective homes until they hear further. These *Connecticutians* are, if possible, more eager to go out of their country than they are to return home when they have been out for any considerable time.

Enclosed, I send you my letter to the General Congress. That of the Provincial Congress of *New-York* to me, with my answer, I hope will have your approbation.

The Whigs, I mean the stout ones, are, it is said, very desirous that a body of troops should march and be stationed in their city; the timid ones are averse, merely from the spirit of procrastination, which is the characteristick of timidity. The letter of the Provincial Congress, you will observe, breathes the very essence of this spirit; it is wofully hysterical. I conclude, I shall receive the orders of the General Congress before, or immediately on my arrival, otherwise I should not venture to march into the Province, as, by the late resolve, every detachment of the Continental troops is to be under the direction of the Provincial Congress in which they are—a resolve, I must say, with submission to their wisdom, fraught with difficulties and evils—it is impossible, having two sovereigns, that any business should be carried on.

Have you seen the pamphlets *Common Sense?* I never saw such a masterly, irresistible performance. It will, if I mistake not, in concurrence with the transcendent folly and wickedness of the Ministry, give the coup-de-grace to *Great Britain*. In short, I own myself convinced, by the arguments, of the necessity of separation.

Poor, brave *Montgomery!* But, it is not a time to cry, but to revenge. *God* bless you, my dear General, and crown us with the success I am sure we merit from the goodness of our cause. My love to the ladies. I shall write a long letter to *Gates*, when I have time and materials. Adieu. Yours, most affectionately,

CHARLES LEE.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Lebanon, January 24, 1776.

SIR: Your letters of the 20th and 21st instant, are received. I thought fit, this morning, to acquaint Colonel *Burrell*, appointed to command the regiment destined to *Canada* from hence, that a month's pay will be advanced to officers and men by you. This additional encouragement will enliven them to the service. Also, to inform, that I understood the route of the *Massachusetts* and *New-Hampshire* Regiments would probably be by *Number Four* to *Onion River*, with a Commissary to attend such as went that way. A month's pay was promised the men by my proclamation, and, on being acquainted with the readiness of the men, one of the Committee of Pay-Table should attend for the payment thereof at *Litchfield*, to prevent delay. Am unable to inform how and when the money from you may be received.

The men in that quarter are well spirited and zealous, but have yet received no intelligence of the progress made in the business; shall give you every necessary intelligence as it comes to my knowledge. Every necessary requisite for the march of this regiment will be provided on the best terms in my power. Shall forward the three regiments destined for your camp without delay.

I am, with sincere esteem and regard, your Excellency's most obedient, and humble servant,

JONATHAN TRUMBULL.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read February 9, 1776.]

Cambridge, January 24, 1776.

SIR: The Commissary-General being at length returned from a long and painful illness, I have it in my power to comply with the requisition of Congress, in forwarding an estimate of the expense attending his office, as also that of the Quartermaster-General. You will please to observe, that the Commissary, by his account of the matter, has entered into no special agreement with any of the persons he has found occasion to employ, (as those to whose names sums are annexed are of their own fixing,) but left it to Congress to ascertain their wages; I shall say nothing, therefore, on this head, further than relates to the proposition of Mr. *Miller* to be allowed one-eighth for his trouble, and the delivery of the other seven-eighths of provisions, which, to me, appears exorbitant in the extreme, however conformable it may be to custom and usage. I, therefore, think that reasonable stipends had better be fixed upon. Both the Quartermaster and Commissary-Generals assure me, that they do not employ a single person uselessly, and as I have too good an opinion of them to think they would deceive me, I believe them.

I shall take the liberty, in this place, of recommending the expediency, indeed, the absolute necessity, of appointing fit and proper persons to settle the accounts of this Army. To do it with precision requires time, care, and attention; the longer it is left undone, the more intricate they will be, the more liable to error, and difficult to explain and rectify; as, also, the persons in whose hands they are, if disposed to take undue advantages, will be less subject to detection. I have been as attentive as the nature of my office would admit of, in granting warrants for money on the Paymaster, but it would be absolutely impossible for me to go into an examination of all the accounts incident to this Army, and the vouchers appertaining to them, without devoting so large a portion of my time to the business, as might not only prove injurious, but fatal to it in other respects. This ought, in my humble opinion, to be the particular business of a Select Committee of Congress, or one appointed by them, which, once in three months, at farthest, should make a settlement with the officers in the different departments.

Having met with no encouragement from the Governments of *Massachusetts* and *New-Hampshire* from my application for arms, and expecting no better from *Connecticut* and *Rhode-Island*, I have, as the last expedient, sent one or two officers from each regiment into the country, with money, to try if they can buy; in what manner they succeed Congress shall be informed as soon as they return.

Congress, in my last, would discover my motives for strengthening these lines with the Militia. But whether, as the weather turns out exceedingly mild, (insomuch as to promise nothing favorable from ice,) and no appearance of powder, I shall be able to attempt any thing decisive, time only can determine. No man upon earth wishes more ardently to destroy the nest in *Bostan* than I do; no person would be willing to go greater lengths than I shall, to accomplish it, if it shall be thought advisable. But if we have neither powder to bombard with, nor ice to pass on, we shall be in no better situation than we have been in all the year—we shall be worse, because their works are stronger.

I have accounts from *Boston*, which I think may be relied on, that General *Clinton*, with about four or five hundred men, hath left that place within these four days; whether this is part of the detachment which was making up, as mentioned in my letter of the 4th instant, and then at *Nantasket*, or not, is not in my power to say. If it is designed for *New-York*, or *Long-Island*, as some think, throwing a body of troops there may prove a fortunate circumstance. If they go farther South, agreeable to the conjectures of others, I hope there will be men to receive them.

Notwithstanding the positive assertions of the four Captains from *Portsmouth*, noticed in my letter of the 14th, I am now convinced, from several corroborating circumstances—the accounts of deserters and of a Lieutenant *Hill*, of Lord *Percy's* Regiment, who left *Ireland* the 5th of *November*, and was taken by a privateer from *Newburyport*, that the Seventeenth and Fifty-fifth Regiments are arrived

at *Boston*, and other troops at *Halifax*, agreeable to the information of *Hutchinson* and others. Lieutenant *Hill* says that the transports of the two regiments only were forced into *Milford-Haven*.

Congress will think me a little remiss, I fear, when I inform them that I have done nothing yet towards raising the battalion of marines, but I hope to stand exculpated from blame, when they hear the reason—which was, that already having twenty-six incomplete regiments, I thought it would be adding to an expense, already great in officers, to set two entire corps of officers on foot, when, perhaps, we should not add ten men a week by it to our present numbers. In this opinion the General Officers have concurred, which induced me to suspend the matter a little longer.

Our inlistments for the two last weeks have not amounted to one thousand men, and are diminishing. The regiment for *Canada*, it is thought, will soon be filled, as the men are to choose all but their Field-Officers, which are appointed by the Court.

On *Sunday* evening thirteen of the *Caughnawaga Indians* arrived here on a visit; I shall take care that they be so entertained during their stay, that they may return impressed with sentiments of friendship for us, and also of our great strength. One of them is Colonel *Louis*, who honoured me with a visit once before.

I have the honour to be, with much respect and esteem, sir, your most humble servant,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

—

GENERAL ORDERS.

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, January 20, 1776.

(Parole, *Schuyler*.) (Countersign, *Warner*.)

—

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, January 21, 1776.

(Parole, *Granby*.) (Countersign, *Monckton*.)

The Colonel, or commanding officer of each regiment, is forthwith to send out one or two prudent and sensible officers to buy up such arms as are wanted for his regiment. These officers to be also good judges of arms, and they are directed to purchase none but such as are proper and in the best repair, and, if possible, to get them with bayonets, but not to refuse a good firelock without. The officers going upon this duty are to be furnished with cash, from the respective Colonels, or commanding officers, out of the money designed for the month's advance pay, for the recruits, which money will be replaced as wanted. The names of the officers sent upon this business, with sums advanced them, are to be immediately returned to the Adjutant-General by the Colonels. These officers are not to be absent longer than the 4th of *February* next.

All recruits who shall furnish their own arms (provided they are good) shall be paid one dollar, for the use of them, shall have the privilege of carrying them away, when their time is out, and in case they are lost (through no default of their own) shall be paid for them at the end of the campaign.

All persons having business with the Adjutant-General, are to apply to him at his office, at the entrance next to the front of the Head-Quarters

—

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, January 22, 1776.

(Parole, *Framingham*.) (Countersign, *St. John's*.)

The Majors of Brigade to be all at Head-Quarters, tomorrow morning, ten o'clock.

—

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, January 23, 1776.

(Parole, *Fairfax*.) (Countersign, *Vernon*.)

Timothy Downing, tried at a General Court-Martial for "desertion," being found guilty, is sentenced to receive thirty-nine lashes upon the bare back, with a cat-o-nine-tails; and it appearing to the Court, that as the prisoner is worthless and incorrigible, they order him to be drummed out of the Army.

A Court of Inquiry to sit upon *Thursday* morning next, at General *Greene's*, on *Prospect-Hill*, to examine into a complaint exhibited against Colonel *Stark*, of the Fifth Regiment of Foot, by *Samuel Hobart*, Esq., Paymaster of the *New-Hampshire* forces. All evidences and persons concerned to attend the Court. Brigadier-General *Greene*, President. Colonel *Nixon*, Colonel *Webb*, Colonel *Hitchcock*, Colonel *Varnum*, members. The Judge-Advocate to attend the Court, which will sit precisely at ten o'clock.

—

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, January 24, 1776.

(Parole, ...) (Countersign, ...)

The Barracks are to be finished as speedily as possible, that the Militia Regiments, which are expected, may be accommodated. The Quartermaster-General and his Assistants are to look out in time for other quarters, if the Barracks are thought insufficient to entertain the troops. The Regiments are to be brigaded in the following manner, viz:

Brigadier-General *Thomas's* Brigade: *Learned's*, *Joseph Reed's*, *Whitcomb's*, *Ward's*, and *Bailey's* Regiments.

Brigadier-General *Spencer's* Brigade: *Parson's*, *Huntington's*, *Webb's*, and *Wyllys's* Regiments.

Brigadier-General *Greene's* Brigade: *Varnum's*, *Hitchcock's*, *Little's*, and *Bond's* Regiments.

Brigadier-General *Heath's* Brigade: *Prescott's*, *Sergent's*, *Phinney's*, *Greaton's*, and *Baldwin's* Regiments.

Brigadier-General *Sullivan's* Brigade: *James Reed's*, *Nixon's*, *Stark's*, and *Poor's* Regiments.

Brigadier-General . . . . . Brigade: *Glover's*, *Patterson's*, *Arnold's*, and *Hutchinson's* Regiments.

Whitcomb's, *Webb's*, *and Hutchinson's* Regiments are to join their respective Brigades, as soon as provision is made for it; at any rate before the 1st *February*, that they may get fixed before the Militia come in. The Brigadier and Quartermaster-General is to see that each Brigade is as compactly quartered as the Barracks will admit of. The Barrackmaster is to see that each room has its complement of men, and the officers placed contiguous to them.

The custom of manning the lines, and each regiment repairing to its alarm-post at reveille beating, is to be strictly and invariably practised, until countermanded. The Brigadiers are to take especial care, that proper alarm-posts are assigned to every regiment, that no confusion may arise upon an alarm.

Neither provisions, nor the value of them, are to be issued to officers or soldiers when upon furlough. Furloughs are always considered as injurious to the service, but too often granted for the gratification of individuals. The General was, therefore, not a little surprised to find that it had, contrary to custom and common justice, become a question whether absentees were not entitled to the same allowance of provisions, as if they were present and actually doing duty.

—

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, January 25, 1776.

(Parole, *Niagara*.) (Countersign, *Hampton*.)

—

To the Honourable the Continental Congress, now convened at PHILADELPHIA.

The Memorial of JOSEPH TRUMBULL, *sheweth:*

That your Honours were pleased, in *July* last, to appoint your memorialist Commissary of Stores and Provisions. That he has found it necessary to perform the duty of his place in the Continental Army, to employ a number of persons in several different businesses, agreeable to the annexed list, who have had no pay or allowance for their services, nor has any pay or allowance therefor been established by your Honours. Wherefore, your Honours' humble memorialist prays your Honours to resolve, order, and direct, such pay and allowance to each person, employed in the several services, agreeable to the annexed list, as to your Honours shall appear adequate to their several services; and he, as in duty bound, shall ever pray.

JOSEPH TRUMBULL.

Cambridge, January 23, 1776.

—

SIR: As you have directed me to give you a list of the persons employed under me, their several departments, and what pay they ought to have, and likewise myself, in answer to which would say, that I shall not trespass on your time, in giving you a long detail of the great trouble and fatigue there must arise, both in body and mind, to any person who gives close application in the office to which you was pleased to appoint me. I shall say only this, that I have done the utmost in my power to serve the cause I

am employed in; and I doubt not, whenever I am called on, I shall be able to make that appear by my books and vouchers. As to my reward, it has always been the custom to allow the Commissary one-eighth for wantage and leakage, and a small salary; so that, with what savings he could make out of the one-eighth allowance, he made a tolerable pay to himself. However, I shall set down content with being obliged to deliver seven-eighths of all the provisions, &c.; and what may remain, after wantage and leakage is deducted, for my pay.

There are many reasons which might be offered for paying the Commissaries in the above-mentioned way, of which no doubt you know. As you were pleased to inform me those matters were to be laid before General *Washington*, I write with due submission to his and your judgment in the matter. I should be much obliged to you if you would get settled what rations I am to draw, which, I suppose, will be according to the rank I stand in with the Army; and likewise, whether the Clerks will be allowed more than a single ration.

Below you have a list of the Clerks and Assistants. At your desire I have fixed the pay, which, in my opinion, they ought to have; which, I hope, will be agreeable to you.

I am, with great esteem, your most humble servant,

CHARLES MILLER.

To *Joseph Trumbull*, Esq.

Peter Roe Dalton, first Clerk, 4*s.* 8*d.* per day; *Ebenezer Perry* and *Thomas Durant*, Clerks at Store, 3*s.* 4*d.* ditto; *William Brown* and *Josiah Brown*, Clerks at Scales, 3*s.* 4*d.* ditto; *Robert Davis*, Clerk, Deliverer of part of Weekly Allowance, &c., 3*s.* 4*d.* per day; eight Assistants, 2*s.* 8*d.*; one Cooper, 2*s.* 8*d.*; one Cook, 2*s.* 8*d.*

—

A List of Persons employed in the Commissary-General's Department, in the Continental Army, 20th JANUARY, 1776.

In Issuing Store, at *Cambridge:* (Issue to two Brigades,) *Charles Miller*, Issuing Storekeeper, 4 rations; *Peter Roe Dalton*, first Clerk, 4*s.* 8*d.* per diem and three rations; *Ebenezer Perry* and *Thomas Durant*, Clerks in Store, 3*s.* 4*d.* and two rations; *William Brown* and *Josiah Brown*, Clerks at Scales, 3*s.* 4*d.* and two rations; *Robert Davis*, Clerk of Weekly Allowances, 3*s.* 4*d.* and two rations; eight Labourers, one Cooper, one Cook, 2*s.* 8*d.* per diem and one ration.

In Issuing-Store, at *Roxbury:* (Issue to two Brigades,) *Aaron Blaney*, Issuing Storekeeper, four rations; *James Richardson*, first Clerk, 4*s.* 8*d.* per diem and three rations; two Clerks in Store, 3*s.* 4*d.* and two rations; two Clerks at Scales, 3*s.* 4*d.* and two rations; six Labourers, one Cooper, one Cook, 2*s.* 8*d.* per diem and one ration.

In Issuing-Store, on *Prospect-Hill:* (Issue to one Brigade,) *Peter Phillips*, Esq., Issuing Storekeeper, four rations; *Griffin Green*, first Clerk, 4*s.* 8*d.* per diem and three rations; one Clerk in Store, one ditto at Scales, 3*s.* 4*d.* per diem and two rations; one Cooper, four Labourers, 2*s.* 8*d.* per diem and one ration.

In Issuing-Store, at *Medford:* (Issue to one Brigade,) *Moses Emerson*, Esq., Issuing Storekeeper, 4 rations; *Israel Mead*, first Clerk, 4*s.* 8*d.* per diem and three rations; one Clerk in Store, one Clerk at Scales, 3*s.* 4*d.* per diem and two rations; one Cooper, four Labourers, 2*s.* 8*d.* per diem and one ration.

In Magazine, at *Cambridge: Samuel Gray*, *Reuben Stiles*, *Daniel Brown*, Clerks and Magazine-keepers, 4*s.* 8*d.* per diem and three rations; one Cooper, 2*s.* 8*d.* per diem and one ration.

In Magazine, at *Roxbury: Jabez Porter*, *James Yancey*, ... *Pendleton*, Clerks and Magazine-keepers, 4*s.* 8*d.* per diem and three rations; one Cooper.

Joseph Farnsworth, employed as Commissary to Colonel *Arnold's* Detachment, £10 per month and three rations. A most fatiguing employ. Returned from *Fort Halifax.*

John Thomas, employed constantly in riding to one place and another, to get in stores, procure teams, &c., himself and horse, 8*s.* per diem and three rations.

William Hoskins and *Elisha Avery*, Principal Bookkeepers and Payers of small bills, &c., £10 per month and three rations.

Besides the above persons employed as above, I employ divers persons as Magazine-keepers, about twenty miles back from camp, who are owners of the stores they improve. I also employ gentlemen in *New-York*, *Newburyport*, *Providence*, &c., &c., who procure flour, rum, &c., &c. The commissions to be allowed them are unsettled.

The prices annexed in the foregoing list are such as the persons employed, and their friends, propose for them. I have never agreed with any one person for certain pay, but that they should have and receive such pay as the Congress shall see fit to establish for them.

The Issuing Storekeepers, as per Mr. *Miller's* letter, given in herewith, proposes as proper pay for them, the savings on the one-eighth, commonly allowed for leakage and wastage. This mode of pay may make them very careful and saving.

—

A List of Clerks and Assistants in the Department of the Quartermaster-General at CAMBRIDGE, JANUARY, 1776.

Department of *Cambridge:* Messrs. *Cushing*, *Cranch*, *Cheekley*, *Keene;* office in *Cambridge*, at four pounds per month.

Messrs. *Felton*, *Green*, *Withrington*, Issuing Stores, of camp utensils, &c., at four pounds per month.

Messrs. *Marony*, *Organ*, ... , Stables and Granary, at four pounds for *Marony;* three pounds the others, per month.

Mr. *Machin* and one Assistant, Lumber-Yard, at four and three pounds.

Mr. *Locke* and one Assistant, to receive and deliver Wood, at . . . . . and three pounds.

Mr. *Baron*, at . . . . . pounds per month, to superintend all the Smiths, Armourers and Nailers in the Army.

Mr. *Pollard*, Captain of fifty Carpenters, exclusive of Captain *Ayres's* Company, who are constantly employed by the train.

Messrs. *Goddard* and *Chandler*, Wagonmasters. Colonel *Brewer*, Barrackmaster, and his Clerk.

Roxbury: Messrs. *Parke*, Assistant Quartermaster-General; *Chase*, Clerk; *Champney*, Wagonmaster; *Davis* to receive and deliver Wood, &c., and to regulate the Market.

Winter and *Prospect Hills:* Messrs. *Frazer*, Assistant Quartermaster-General; *Gray*, Clerk; *Francis*, Wagonmaster; *Norton* to receive and deliver Wood at *Winter-Hill*, and to regulate the Market; . . . . . to receive and deliver Wood at *Prospect-Hill*, &c.

—

AN ACCOUNT OF THE BARRACKS IMPROVED BY THE CONTINENTAL TROOPS.

On Prospect Hill.	Men.
Colonel *Thompson:* 29 rooms, that will hold twenty men each; other rooms sufficient for his officers,	580
Colonel *Little:* 30 rooms, that will hold twenty men each; 8 rooms for his officers,	600
Colonel *Varnum:* 18 rooms, that will hold twenty men each; 12 ditto, unfinished; 8 ditto, for his officers, unfinished,	600
Colonel *Hitchcock:* 30 rooms, will hold twenty men each; 10 rooms for his officers,	600
Colonel *Whitcomb:* 30 rooms, will hold twenty men each; 10 rooms for the officers,	600
Colonel *Bond:* 12 rooms, that will hold twenty men each; 1 barn, that will hold two companies; 7 rooms in a barn, twelve men each; 6 rooms for officers,	484
	3,464

At different Places.	
Colonel *Patterson:* 32 rooms, will hold twenty men each; a house and small barrack, for officers,	640
Colonel *Phinney:* 20 rooms, that will hold twenty men each; 14 ditto, unfinished; 10 rooms for officers,	680

Colonel *Greaton:* 31 rooms, that will hold twenty men each; 10 rooms for officers, - - - - - 620
Colonel *Durkee:* 34 rooms, that will hold twenty men each; 8 rooms for his officers, - - - - 680
Colonel *Sargent:* 26 rooms, will hold twenty men each; Mr. *Inman's* house for officers, - - - 520
Colonel *Baldwin:* Four companies at *Number One;* 16 rooms, that will hold twenty men each; 12 small rooms for officers, - - - - - - 320
6,924

Roxbury Camp.

Colonel *Joseph Reed:* 12 rooms, that will hold twenty men each; 3 rooms in a barrack, hold twenty-five each; 3 rooms, will hold twelve each; 7 rooms, eighteen each; 1 room, twenty-five; 5 rooms, sixteen each; 3 rooms, ten each; 3 rooms, hold eighty men; a barrack at *Wood-Point*, for a company and officers; 8 rooms for officers; 1 room, will hold twenty-five men when fitted, - - - - - - - - - - - - - 797
Colonel *Learned:* 51 rooms in different houses, will hold twenty men each, on an average; 2 rooms, six men each; 9 rooms for his officers, - 1032
Colonel *Bailey:* 32 rooms, will hold twenty men each; 10 rooms for officers, - - - - - - - 640
Colonel *Parsons:* 3 rooms in a house, hold twenty men each; 8 rooms in a barrack, twenty each; 2 rooms in ditto, for officers; 2 rooms in ditto, twelve each; 28 huts, hold six men each; a house for two sets of officers; a house for four sets of officers; 1 room for officers in a house, 412
Colonel *Huntington:* The Field and Staff-Officers are quartered in Mr. *Goldthwait's* house; 4 rooms in different houses for officers; a small barrack for one company of officers; 8 rooms in two barracks, for officers, not finished; 3 rooms, will hold twenty each, in different houses; 2 rooms, twelve each, in different houses; 6 rooms in a barrack, twenty each; a number of huts, that will hold one hundred and ten men, - - - - 314
Colonel *Wyllys:* 30 rooms, twenty men each, - 600
10,719

At Dorchester.

Colonel *Ward:* Barracks at *Fox-Point* for forty men; houses round, will hold forty more, and officers; houses at *Preston-Point*, hold forty men; 6 rooms in different houses, will hold eighteen men each, on an average; a small house that will hold sixteen men; a large house that will hold eighty men and officers; 12 rooms in two barracks, will hold twenty each; 4 rooms, twenty each, in different houses; 3 rooms, ten each, ditto; a house that will hold forty men; a large house that will hold one hundred men, - 814

At Sewall's Point.

Colonel *Prescott:* 20 rooms, will hold twenty men each; 12 rooms for officers, - - - - - - 400

At Cambridge.

Colonel *Glover's* barracks, improved at present by Militia: 32 rooms, hold twenty men each; 10 ditto, for officers, - - - - - - - - - - 640

On Winter-Hill.

Colonel *James Reed:* 24 rooms, that will hold twenty men each; huts that will hold one hundred and sixty men; 9 rooms for officers, - - 640
Colonel *Nixon:* 23 rooms, that will hold twenty men each; 11 ditto, for officers, - - - - - 460
Colonel *Stark:* 27 rooms, that will hold twenty men each, - - - - - - - - - - - - 540
Colonel *Poor:* 28 rooms, that will hold twenty men each; 12 huts, hold eight men each; 8 rooms for officers; a house for Field-Officers, - 656
Colonel *Hutchinson:* 16 rooms, hold twenty men each; 49 rooms, hold six men each; 9 rooms, hold six each; 2 rooms, for drummers and fifers; 12 rooms for officers; 2 rooms, for Doctors and Quartermaster; 1 room for the Adjutant, - - 684
Colonel *Webb:* Mr. *Temple's* house, with out-houses, will quarter five companies and their officers, with the Field-Officers, - - - - - - - 400
15,953
In the Colleges, - - - - - - 1,520
17,473

Barracks at *Prospect-Hill*, for - - - - - - - 3,464
Ditto, different places, - - - - - - - - 3,460
Ditto, *Roxbury*, - - - - - - - - - - 3,795
Ditto, *Dorchester*, - - - - - - - - - 814
Ditto, *Sewell's Point*, - - - - - - - - 400
Ditto, *Glover's* Barracks, - - - - - - - 640
Ditto, *Winter-Hill*, - - - - - - - - - 3,380
15,953

In the College, - - - - - - - - - - - 640
In the new College, - - - - - - - - - - 640
In the old College, - - - - - - - - - - 240
17,473
North Chapel, - - - - - - - 160
Privates, - - - - - - - - 17,633

Exclusive of the private houses in *Cambridge*.

STEPHEN MOYLAN TO MAJOR HAWLEY.

Cambridge, January 24, 1776.

Sir: I have it in command from his Excellency to send you herewith a commission, for such person as you may think qualified to muster the regiment raising in *Hampshire* and *Berkshire*. As his appointment is for that particular purpose only, his Excellency is of opinion that you had better agree with him on the terms on which he is to execute this business, and then fill up the blank in the commission with his name. The form of a muster-roll is enclosed.

You are referred to the letter for the Committee of Safety for *Northampton*, which you will now receive, and is open for your perusal, relative to the pressed men under their care; also, to the restricting the officers to *Northampton* district.

There are, also, two letters, one for Mr. *Stanhope*, and one for Mr. *Knight*, which you will please to forward with the one for the Committee of Safety.

I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient servant,

Stephen Moylan.

To the Honourable Major *Hawley, Berkshire.*

By His Excellency George Washington, Esq., *General and Commander-in-chief of the Army of the* United Colonies.

To Robert Bricket, *Gentleman:*

You being recommended to me as a proper person to muster the Regiment raising by order of the General Court of this Province, in the Counties of *Hampshire* and *Berkshire*, for the Continental service, I do, therefore, by virtue of the powers and authorities to me given by the Continental Congress, constitute and appoint you Commissary for that particular purpose; willing and commanding all officers, soldiers, and persons any ways concerned, to be obedient and assisting to you in the execution of this commission. Neither *Negroes*, (being slaves,) old men, or boys, unable to bear arms, and to endure the fatigues of the campaign, or persons labouring under any bodily infirmity whatsoever, are to be allowed to pass muster, of which you are to take due notice.

Given under my hand and seal, at Head-Quarters, *Cambridge*, this 24th day of *January, Anno Domini* 1776.

George Washington.

[GENERAL WASHINGTON] TO THE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY FOR NORTHAMPTON.

Cambridge, January 24, 1776.

Gentlemen: I am commanded by his Excellency General *Washington*, to inform you, that Major *Hawley* laid before him your letter of the 4th instant, as to discharging

the persons therein mentioned from confinement. His Excellency leaves the matter entirely with you, either to do it generally, or to give them a permit to work and keep within certain limits; he thinks before either is granted, that something more than bare assertion should be had, to prove that they were pressed into the service, and their friendly disposition towards us. There must not be too many instances of such indulgence, or we shall have no security for the good treatment of our soldiers and citizens that may fall into the hands of the Ministerial troops, nor shall we have any to give in exchange for them.

His Excellency, also, received your favour of the 17th instant, in answer to which I am to inform you, that it is his pleasure, that the gentlemen of the navy under your care, should be confined to *Northampton*, and not to be permitted to go out of its limits. When he granted them permission to go five miles from thence, he did not advert to the extent of the towns in these Governments.

I am, &c.

To the Committee of Safety for *Northampton*.

GENERAL GATES TO CAPTAIN STANHOPE.

Head-Quarters, January 24, 1776.

Sir: I am directed by his Excellency General *Washington*, to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 16th instant, requesting leave to go into the town of *Boston*, to solicit the Admiral for your exchange. The Admiral has already declined every negotiation for exchange of prisoners, and has not permitted any money to be sent to those gentlemen now in the hands of the *United Colonies*, though frequently acquainted with their necessities, and pressed to relieve them. Certain prisoners, taken by a Frigate, have been, by the Admiral's order, sent to *England*; so that it is not now in his power to give any exchange for those in their hands; and from the Admiral's behaviour in other matters, it very clearly appears you would not be permitted to come back to your parole, should his Excellency even allow you to go into the town of *Boston*. These reasons, you must allow, are sufficiently convincing, to oblige the General, at present, to decline complying with your request.

I am, sir, &c.,

Horatio Gates.

To Mr. *Stanhope*.

GENERAL GATES TO LIEUTENANT KNIGHT.

Head-Quarters, January 24, 1776.

Sir: I have this moment wrote to Captain *Stanhope*, and given him, by his Excellency's command, such reasons for not immediately granting his request, as cannot but be satisfactory; the same reasons, you will clearly see, hold good with respect to you. The General is truly concerned it is not at present in his power to grant you leave to go to *Nova-Scotia* to your family; the first moment that it can be done with propriety, you may be assured that indulgence will be granted.

When his Excellency granted you the district of the town of *Northampton*, and five miles around, for your place of confinement, he understood that *Northampton* and *Hadley* were towns like those to the southward, of moderate extent; since, upon better information, he finds that each of those towns contain a district of a very large extent of country. He directs me to acquaint you, and desires you will acquaint all the gentlemen upon their parole at either of those towns, that they must keep themselves within the legal limits of the town they live in. The Committee of Safety at *Northampton* and *Hadley* have, by this conveyance, received his orders upon this head. I have regularly forwarded all letters to and from *Boston*, that you or any of the gentlemen have sent to Head-Quarters.

I am, sir, &c.,

H. Gates.

To Mr. *John Knight*.

HANOVER COUNTY (VIRGINIA) COMMITTEE.

At a Committee appointed and held for *Hanover* County, at the Court-House, on *Thursday*, the 25th of *January*, 1776.

Bennet White appeared before the Committee, agreeable to a summons, to answer sundry charges lodged against him, which are as follows: "That he had been guilty of having a subscription ball; that he assured his subscribers, that if the Committee should notice it he would take the whole blame on himself; and that he had allowed gaming in his house." Which charges being examined into, were sufficiently proved; but the said *Bennet White* declaring his uneasiness for having done any thing that had caused the displeasure of the Committee, begged that they would pass it over as the first offence, and that he would pay the strictest regard to the Association in future, as well as demean himself in every respect, a firm friend to the rights of *America*. These concessions being deemed satisfactory, Mr. *White* was discharged from further prosecution.

Extract from the Proceedings:

William Bentley, *Clerk*.

PRINCE EDWARD COUNTY (VIRGINIA) COMMITTEE.

At a meeting of the Committee for the County of *Prince Edward*, *January* 25, 1776.

John Hamblin, an inhabitant of this County, having been summoned to appear before this Committee in consequence of an information lodged against the said *Hamblin*, as having acted as an enemy to the *American* cause, appeared, and acknowledged that once he was unfriendly to the measures adopted in *America*; but, that since he had been convinced of his error, and would, for the future, conduct himself, on every occasion, as a friend to his country, as far as his abilities would permit him, and hoped for the forgiveness of this Committee and his countrymen in general; and promised willingly, to sign the Association of the honourable the Continental Congress, which he had, hitherto, refused.

Resolved, That from the contrition of the said *Hamblin*, he be, for the future, considered as a friend to his country, and he is recommended to the publick for their forgiveness.

John Nash, Jun., *Chairman pro tempore*.
Benjamin Lawson, *Clerk*.

PHILADELPHIA COMMITTEE.

In Committee, Philadelphia, January 25, 1776.

The present Committee, having been chosen to serve till the 16th day of *February*, and no longer, recommend to the Freeholders and Electors of the City and Liberties, to meet at the State-House on that day, at ten o'clock, before noon, to proceed to the election by ballot of a new Committee, to consist of one hundred members, viz: For the City, seventy-six; for the *Northern-Liberties*, twelve; and for *Southwark*, twelve; who are to serve for six months.

And that the election may be conducted agreeable to the intention of the Congress, in their resolution directing a Committee to be chosen in every city, &c., "by persons having a right to vote for Representatives in Assembly," the Committee recommend to the electors in the several Wards and Districts, that they meet on the 15th of said month, between the hours of two and four o'clock in the afternoon, in their respective Wards and Districts, to choose an Inspector from each, to superintend the General Election.

And the following gentlemen are appointed to attend, and conduct the proceedings, at the houses herein mentioned, in the different Wards and Liberties, and to notify the persons chosen thereof, viz:

Northern Liberties: At *Jeremiah Baker's*; Major *Coats*, Captain *Williams*.

Mulberry Ward: At *Peter Hayes's*; *G. Schlosser*, *J. Shreiner*.

Upper Delaware: At the *New Ferry*; Captain *Furman*, *S. Massey*.

North Ward: At *Razers's*; Captain *Wilcocks*, *B. Harbeson*.

High Street: At *Whitebread's*; Major *Bayard*, *W. Ball*.

Middle Ward: At . . . . ; *B. Marshall*, *J. Cresson*.

South Ward: At *M. Duff's*; *S. Delaney*, *J. Reed*.

Lower Delaware: At *Robert Turner's*; Captain *Pryor*, *C. Massey*.

CHESNUT WARD: At Captain *Bradford's* Book Store; Colonel *Dean*, Captain *Bradford*.

WALNUT WARD: At the Fish-House; Captain *Willing*, *J. Millegan*.

DOCK WARD: At *Allen Moore's*; Captain *Moulder*, *J. Wetherill*.

SOUTHWARK: At . . . . . ; Captain *Alexander*, *S. Engles*.

To the Inspectors so chosen, it is, also, recommended, that they meet at the State-House, one hour before the General Election shall begin, and make choice of three reputable Freeholders, to assist in conducting the election agreeable to the laws of this Province, and of so many Clerks as may be deemed necessary; the said Inspectors, Judges, and Clerks, before they proceed to open the election, declaring, upon their honour, in the presence of at least three of the above-mentioned Ward Inspectors, that they will superintend this election, during the continuance of it, and conduct it to the best of their judgment, and, as near as may be, according to the act of Assembly for regulating elections, &c., passed 25 *George* II. And that if any person shall offer a vote, who is not known to some one of them to have a right to vote, they will require of him, instead of an oath, a solemn declaration, upon honour, of his having a right to vote for Members of Assembly, and inform him, at the same time, that, if it shall appear, hereafter, that he has declared falsely, he shall be publickly advertised in the newspapers, as having abused and insulted his distressed country.

The Inspectors shall then proceed to receive the votes of the Freeholders, &c., qualified to vote for Members of General Assembly, within the limits aforesaid; and, having received all such votes as may be offered, agreeable to the above regulations, shall, about eight o'clock in the evening, give the usual notice, that the election will be closed in half an hour, and shall close it, accordingly, if no persons qualified shall then appear to give a vote, or as soon after as they shall find no votes appear.

Having closed the election, and counted off the tickets carefully, and determined who are duly elected to be of said Committee, the Inspectors and Judges shall make out and certify two complete lists of the Committee so chosen, and deliver one to the printer of that newspaper in which it can be first published, together with a request to that Committee, to meet on the day of said publication, at the Philosophical Society's Hall, at five o'clock, P. M., to proceed on the duty for which they were elected; the other copy to be given to the Chairman of the present Committee.

Agreeable to the inclination of the electors of the *Northern Liberties* and *Southwark*, it is proposed, that the Members for the City, the *Northern Liberties*, and *Southwark*, shall be balloted for in three distinct tickets, by the electors of each District, severally. By order of the Committee for the City and Liberties of *Philadelphia*.

J. B. SMITH, *Secretary*.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO COMMITTEE OF TRENTON, NEW-JERSEY.

Philadelphia, January 25, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Your letter of the 23d being received, was immediately communicated to the Congress.

The necessity of the service requires that Colonel *Maxwell's* Regiment should march as soon as possible. When the orders were first given for their march, inquiry was made what articles were wanting, and a considerable sum of money was lodged in the hands of Mr. *Lowrey*, for providing the same; but, as arms and blankets were not mentioned, the Congress have ordered a draft in your favour for the sum of four thousand dollars, to purchase arms (which you say may be had for money) for such as want them.

I would just observe, that in order to supply the battalion ordered to march from *Pennsylvania*, the Committee of Inspection, of the City and Liberties of *Philadelphia*, went round from house to house, and procured blankets from the inhabitants.

I trust neither you, nor the inhabitants of your Colony, will be behind your neighbours in zeal for the cause of your country. The owners of the blankets will be allowed the value of them, according to your estimation.

I write, by this opportunity, to Colonel *Maxwell*, to stimulate him, and I hope you will give him all the aid in your power. I am, &c.,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

To the Committee of *Trenton*, *New-Jersey*.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO COLONEL MAXWELL.

Philadelphia, January 25, 1776.

SIR: When the Congress, on the 8th instant, ordered your battalion to march to *Canada*, they appointed a Committee to inquire what was wanting to fit them for the march.

The Committee having taken time to make the necessary inquiry, made report on the 10th, "That, before your battalion could be fit to march, the following articles ought to be provided, viz: six hundred and eighty-eight haversacks; six hundred and eighty-eight cartouch-boxes and cross-belts; six hundred and eighty-eight tomahawks; sixty-four pitching-axes, and nine baggage-wagons."

No notice being taken of arms, blankets, or clothing, it was presumed your troops were properly supplied with these articles. In order, therefore, that the articles wanting might be provided, they immediately ordered a very considerable sum to be put into the hands of Mr. *Lowrey*, with orders to purchase the same, and to pay the men up to the 1st of *February*, deducting out of their pay the price of the articles furnished the men, more than what was allowed in lieu of bounty.

By these means, the Congress expected your battalion would have been properly equipped, and that the first company that could be got ready, would be immediately ordered to set out on their march.

The urgency of the service requires that your battalion should begin their march with all possible expedition. It will be vain to send men without arms; but, as the Committee of *Trenton* have informed Congress that arms can be purchased, I have, by this opportunity, transmitted to them, by order of Congress, four thousand dollars for the purchase of suitable arms, and have desired them to take measures for supplying you with blankets. I hope I need not use arguments to stimulate you in this matter.

I would only observe, and have you take notice, that it is the desire of Congress that you would send forward the first company that can be got ready, and that it be followed by the other companies, one at a time, as fast as they can be provided with necessaries, without waiting till the whole are equipped. I am, &c.,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

To Colonel *Maxwell*.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO THOMAS LOWREY.

Philadelphia, January 25, 1776.

SIR: On the 11th instant, there was a draft on the Treasury in your favour, for thirty-five thousand dollars, out of which you were directed to provide sundry articles wanting for the Second *New-Jersey* Battalion, which was ordered to march to *Canada*.

By a letter this day received from Colonel *Maxwell*, the Congress are informed that the articles are not yet provided.

The necessity of the service requires that the battalion should march with all possible expedition. I am, therefore, directed to press you to exert your utmost endeavours to provide the articles, and facilitate the march of the companies, as fast as they can be got ready, by all the means in your power. I am, &c.,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

To Mr. *Thomas Lowrey*.

COLONEL ROBERDEAU TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

Half past five o'clock, P. M., January 25, 1776.

SIR: I have the honour of the commands of Congress through you this moment, [for placing a guard over General *Prescott* and Captain *Chace*,] and shall not fail in duty.

I am, most respectfully, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

DANIEL ROBERDEAU.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq.

THOMAS LOWREY TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read January 27, 1776.]

Perth-Amboy, January 25, 1776.

SIR: Give me leave to congratulate you and your honourable House on the success of Lord *Stirling*, by the capture of the transport-ship, *Blue-Mountain-Valley*, Captain *Dempster*, the particulars of which Lord *Stirling* writes you by this conveyance. I was on board the ship last evening, in *Amboy-Bay*. Some of the sailors informed one of our men that there was a quantity of arms and ammunition in the hold. The ship is now gone up to *Elizabethtown-Point*, to wait your orders.

The bearer, Mr. *Barbarie*, is owner of a sloop which was taken off *Sandy-Hook* by some of the men-of-war's tenders, and retaken on her passage to *Boston*, by Captain *Manly*, or some other *New-England* Captain. Mr. *Barbarie* is looked upon as friendly to our cause, and now goes down for instructions from Congress, how to proceed to regain his sloop and cargo.

I am, with due respect, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

THOMAS LOWREY.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq.

P. S. A number of our Militia, with three companies of Lord *Stirling's* regiment, are on *Long-Island*, and are disarming the Tories, without opposition. We expect them back in a few days.

WILLIAM DE HART TO SAMUEL TUCKER.

Staten-Island, January 25, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I am now on my return from *Long-Island*, and expect to see you at *Elizabethtown* to-morrow morning. All our men are well, no accident by land or water, nor the appearance of it. I could not join Colonel *Heard*, at *Bergen* town, by reason of excessive weather and distance, of bad roads, and late at night, and pointed in the boats for *Paulus-Hook*, but was unable to reach it, by reason of the high wind, and obliged to put into *New-York*, where I provided good quarters for our men in the barracks. Early next morning I proceeded to join Colonel *Heard*, who I came up with about four miles out of town. But a few of Colonel *Heard's* Militia having come up, I was obliged to quarter our men at *Hellgate*, and the next day got as far as *Jamaica*, staid there two days, and then marched to *Hempstead*, and staid at that place two days more, when we joined, which I think might have been much earlier. Discovered that a much smaller number might answer our purpose, and Colonel *Heard* proposed to me to separate, which I humbly agreed to, and informed him of my approbation of going or staying, as might be most agreeable to him; but suggested the hint, as less troops might serve, which would be less expensive to the Continent. However, he informed me that it was a Militia business, and it was most proper for them to stay, and ordered me to return home, which I heartily consented with, and left him last *Wednesday*, with about six or seven hundred Militia at *Hempstead*, where great numbers of Tories were every hour coming in, and delivering up their arms without the least appearance of opposition. I suppose they may deliver up about five hundred arms, and if they transport them by water, they may be worth the freight.

I have the happiness of informing you, that our men have behaved with the greatest degree of civility towards the inhabitants of *Long-Island*, but some little complaint happened about some *New-York* Volunteers, which, upon examining into, proved of very little consequence. I am now happy in returning from a place being deserving of correction, and effected with so little difficulty, from the consideration of their being our neighbours.

I am your Lordship's most humble servant,

WILLIAM DE HART.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read February 2, and referred to Mr. Wythe, Mr. E. Rutledge, and Mr. McKean.]

Albany, January 25, 1776.

SIR: I have this moment received a letter from General *Wooster*, copy of which, with copies of sundries enclosed, I now do myself the honour to transmit to you. I shall order him to send every person from *Canada* that may be dangerous to our cause if left in that country.

From General *Wooster's* letter one would be led to imagine that I had sent back vast numbers of dangerous persons; he has before wrote to me on the occasion with an unbecoming jubacity. I, therefore, trouble you with the detail. *Sears*, whom he mentions, was sent to me from *Connecticut* with a recommendation from the Committee of . . . . . to permit him to return to *Canada*, which I did, ordering him to wait on the commanding officer; Captain *Goodwin* and Lieutenant *Schalk* I permitted to remain at *Ticonderoga* at the request of General *Montgomery*, until they could be informed if their wives and children, whom they had left at *Quebeck*, were gone to *England*, or had come to *Chambly*. If to the latter, then he wished they might be permitted to return and convey them into these Colonies. They, their wives and children, are now at *Chambly*. Mr. *McCullough*, a Commissary, was another, a widower, who had left four small children in *Canada*, and whom I likewise permitted to return on the same account; these, together with the *Canadian* peasants taken at *St. John's* are all that I recollect to have sent back, and not even the last without the approbation of General *Montgomery* first had. The peasantry were too insignificant to have any influence, and there seemed at that time little danger from the others, and yet I took the precaution of their word of honour, not to say any thing on the subject of the controversy. If they have abused my confidence they are scoundrels, and I will treat them accordingly, without repenting that I gave them the indulgence, for that was an act of humanity. If they are not culpable they are injured, and I too. I shall sift the matter to the bottom, and my resentment, without any kind of exception, shall be experienced by those that deserve it.

I have just received at letter from Colonel *Warner*, of which the following is a copy:

"Bennington, January 22, 1776.

"SIR: My prospect in raising men seems very encouraging, one hundred and upwards I have sent forward; a number more is ready to march soon. I have twelve companies raising, though the men shall be sent forward as fast as possible. More money is necessary, as I have paid the chief out that I received. Two companies more I expect to raise, as they have sent me they wish to engage. Major *Safford* will be the receiver of what money will be disbursed for said purpose. From your humble servant,

"SETH WARNER."

In answer to this I sent the following, which I showed to Mr. *Livingston* our brother delegate, and of which he approved.

"Albany, January 25, 1776.

"SIR: Major *Safford* has delivered me your letter of the 22d instant. I was in hopes that by that time a much larger number of men had marched than what you mention; the bounty I promised was in consideration of their immediately marching; when, therefore, as many men are actually marched, (which I expect will be without delay,) as I gave you the bounty for, I shall furnish you with a further sum to send as many more as will amount to a regiment on the present Continental establishment, which is seven hundred and twenty men, officers included; but I do expect that the whole will march by the 1st day of *February*; such as are not marched by that time will not be entitled to any part of the bounty."

January 26.—I was last night informed that the better part of the troops to be raised in the County of *Berkshire* were already marched. I have sent Governour *Trumbull* a return of the arms that were delivered into store by the men raised in the Colony of *Connecticut*—he cannot furnish the regiment raising there, and I propose to return those arms, or a like number, that they may not be a Colonial charge against the Continent.

I am, sir, most sincerely, your obedient, humble servant,

PHILIP SCHUYLER.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq., &c., &c., &c.

Montreal, January 14, 1776.

SIR: Your letter of the 31st ultimo, I received per post, also a number of letters for General *Montgomery*, all of

which I opened, not knowing but they might contain something of a publick nature. The private letters I shall enclose with this. You will, doubtless, send them to his friends.

I am glad to hear that we may soon expect a Paymaster. We have drained our friends here of most of their cash, and it is next to impossible to do any thing without it.

Some of the persons you have sent back have really behaved very illy; one *Sears* especially, whom I have now in confinement, immediately upon coming into the country, circulated a report, that the Colonies had given over the thoughts of keeping this Province; that there were no soldiers at *Ticonderoga* or *Fort-George*, nor any expected, and so few at *St. John's* that it would be an easy matter to take it, and indeed all the rest; a story very illy calculated for us in our present delicate situation. Some others of the prisoners which were sent back, I hear have made themselves very busy in reporting stories to our prejudice. I shall, therefore, be obliged to return to you some of them, and perhaps some others, ringleaders of the Tories in this country, with the prisoners who were left here, in a few days.

The four fusils taken by Major *Lockwood*, are put up in a box, according to capitulation, and are now at *St. John's* ready to be sent over the Lakes. It was a mistake of Colonel *Flemming's*, or the fusils would have been taken from all the officers.

They capitulated upon the same conditions as the garrison of *St. John's*, and if you look into that, you will see that the officers were all allowed their side-arms; but their fire-arms were to be put up in a box and delivered to them when these unhappy disputes were ended, unless they chose to dispose of them before.

I have great hopes, however arduous and difficult it may be, that our little army at *Quebeck* will keep up the blockade till they can be relieved, provided a reinforcement is sent on in a short time. I have sent them an hundred and twenty men from this garrison, which was all that could with prudence be spared. Colonel *Clinton* has gone down with Mr. *Price*. I dare say they will take every possible measure for the safety of the army, and preserving the blockade. I enclose you copies of two letters from Colonel *Arnold*, with the translation of one sent by *Lanaudiere* out of *Quebeck*, received since my last.

Just after Mr. *Antill* left this place, I despatched an express to *Onion River*, in order to get a reinforcement from the *Green-Mountain* Boys. I wrote to Colonel *Warner* in the most pressing manner to bring a regiment into this Province, and remain here under Continental pay till they can be relieved, a measure which the present exigency, I think, will justify. Whether they will come or not you know is uncertain.

Quebeck is strongly fortified, and so well stored with provisions, that many think they will be able to hold out till they can be relieved in the Spring. It is a great chance if they do not make out to get in some provisions, should the river there break up, before our army can be augmented.

How then are we to take the place? We have at *St. John's* two twenty-four pounders, brass. I understand they have a number of thirty-two pounders at *New-York*. Will it not be well to send for them (if the heavy cannon are taken from *Ticonderoga* and *Fort-George*,) and with such mortars as you have, with proper ball, shells, &c. &c., send them forward as quick as possible. I am of the opinion, that heavy cannon will be necessary in taking of that place. I wrote you in my last, that we had but a trifle of powder. We have at *Quebeck* a howitzer which throws an eight-inch shell. I am informed that one *Pelissier*, at *Three-Rivers*, can cast shells, shot, &c., of any size; but whether he will be able to do it soon enough, I cannot yet find out.

All kinds of liquors and *West-India* goods, are so extravagantly dear hear, that I am confident they may be brought over the Lakes to great advantage.

In order, therefore, in some measure, to remedy the great difficulty in procuring hard cash, suppose rum and sugar should be forwarded for the soldiers, and a number of Sutlers should be encouraged to come over with every kind of article wanted in the Army, for which we are obliged to pay hard money here at the most extravagant rates. The Sutlers would be able to sell them to us full as low, and many things much lower, and take in pay Continental money. The people in the country seeing the money pass freely among us, perhaps will be induced to give it a currency.

By the enclosed letters, especially the one which was wrote in *French* to General *Montgomery* while he was at *Quebeck*, and before the unhappy defeat, (since when, our enemies are more bold in their measures against us,) you will see the great necessity of sending many of their leaders out of the Province, and of forwarding a reinforcement immediately, not only for continuing the blockade of *Quebeck*, but for preserving the country.

I am, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

DAVID WOOSTER.

To General *Schuyler*.

Holland-House, January 4, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: A person going to *Three-Rivers* presents an opportunity of informing you that nothing of consequence has happened since I wrote you yesterday morning. We have a number of *Canadians* joined us, most of them without arms, which are much wanted. I make no doubt you will send all you possibly can, with three or four hundred pair of snow shoes, a few barrels of sugar for the Hospital, and fifty light shovels.

Our cash is nearly expended. Enclosed is a letter I received this minute from *Montreal*. I have sent back Lieut. *Hull*, but detained his party at *Point-aux-Trembles*. He has in charge Captain *Belat*, the villain who destroyed the powder; he has behaved exceedingly ill here. I think it necessary to confine him in *Montreal*, or send him into the Colonies. I must also beg leave to observe, the lenity shown to our prisoners heretofore in *Montreal* and places adjacent—it may be justified by principles of humanity at the time, under our present circumstances would be highly imprudent and dangerous. It is my opinion that every soul who were in office at the reduction of the country, and others who are looked upon as inimical, should be immediately sent over the Lake without respect of persons. If they are suffered to remain in the country, and we defeated, the consequence will probably be the loss of the whole country. You will be good enough to excuse the incorrectness of my letter, which I am obliged to write lying on my back. If there is any absent officers belonging to the regiment here, perhaps it may further the service to order them to join immediately. Colonel *Nicholas* went from this yesterday morning for *Montreal*, without liberty or taking leave.

I am, dear General, with esteem, your most obedient, humble servant,

B. ARNOLD, *Colonel, &c.*

To General *Wooster*.

P. S. I hope you will think it necessary to send back every soldier who has deserted from us under pretence of his time being out.

B. A.

Holland-House, January 5, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: Last night, a faithful *Acadian*, belonging to our train of artillery, and who was taken prisoner in the unhappy affair of the 31st, was sent out of town by *Carleton* and *Lanaudiere*, with the enclosed note and seal, previous to which he was terrified with threats of being hanged, and when thought a true convert, he was told to carry the note to one *Mange*, at *Verrenne*, who was to raise two hundred men, &c. The seal was to be delivered to Mr. *Jacob Jordan*, the King's Commissary at *Montreal*. This the man seemed to consent to, when they promised him his fortune should be made. He was further ordered to call on the Captains of Militia on his way up, and endeavour to prevail on them to raise their Parishes against us; the needful to be done in consequence of this intelligence, I have no occasion to mention. I make no doubt of your sending those people out of the way of danger and mischief. Every thing remains quiet here at present. I believe the enemy dare not venture out, though they threaten it. I pray *God* they may not, for we are in a miserable condition to receive them.

We have brought three pieces of cannon from our battery. I intend getting the whole here as soon as possible, for de-

*

fending our Magazine. As there were several *French* prisoners in town, who will, doubtless, be tampered with, and may not be proof against their artifice, I have thought proper to send an express, on purpose that you may guard against their plots. I find, by an exact return made the 2d instant, we have not quite eight hundred men, including Colonel *Livingston's* Regiment of about two hundred. Some of the country people have come in to our assistance. In general, they appear friendly, and concerned for us; many offer to join us who have no arms. I have given out several commissions to the inhabitants, who are raising men. We are entirely out of lead. Enclosed is a list of sundry articles much wanted, which, with such as have been wrote for before, I make no doubt you will order as soon as may be. I am very anxious to see you here. The burden lies very heavy on me, considering my present circumstances; I find myself unequal to the task. My wound is in a fair way and less painful. I hope the express will meet you on your way down, and am, very respectfully, dear General, your most obedient and very humble servant,

B. Arnold, *Colonel, &c.*

To General *Wooster.*

We have drubbed the Rebels. We have taken seven hundred killed, wounded and prisoners, and their General, *Montgomery.* It remains with you to completely drive away our enemies. We fear nothing here, and will soon give you proofs, my dear fellow-citizens. Signalize yourselves to retrieve the honour of the *Canadians*, and to gain every happiness to your Parish. The others will all follow your example. Two hundred men will destroy the remains of these miserable wretches, for you will raise all the other Parishes coming down.

Lanaudiere, Jun.

The 4th, in the evening.

SPEECH TO THE SIX NATIONS SENT BY MR. DEANE, JANUARY 21, 1776.

Brothers, Sachems, and Warriors of the Six-Nations:

When we had the pleasure of meeting you last at *Albany*, we promised to send our brother *Deane* to you, that when any thing happened he might inform you, that no false reports, contrived by wicked men, might come to your ears. He now carries you a belt with this speech; open your ears and listen attentively to what he shall say, for he repeats my words.

Brothers, our great Council at *Philadelphia* have been informed that many wicked men, in the County of *Tryon*, were preparing themselves for war against us—that they had procured arms, and would attack us with the first favourable opportunity. They ordered me to inquire into the matter, and told me that I must carry up my warriors, that I might be able to secure some of the head men amongst them, and disarm the others.

Brothers, when I received this order from our Great Council-Fire, I said to myself, our brothers, the *Mohawks*, will be alarmed to see so many warriors march into the country in which they live; I must, therefore, send them a speech and belt, which I did by Mr. *Bleecker*, and I desired that our brothers, the *Mohawks*, would send it on to the end of the house of the *Six Nations*. When I had taken this precaution, that our brothers, the *Mohowks*, might not be offended, I marched my warriors up to *Schenectady*; from thence I sent a letter to Sir *John Johnson*, informing him that I would settle the matter without shedding blood if I could, and, therefore, invited him to meet me. He accordingly came, and we had an interview in a small house near by Colonel *Johnson's*, and there I proposed terms of peace and reconciliation, and desired his answer by the next night. When his answer came, it did not please me, and I sent three of our counsellors to bring him to reason, for my warriors grew very impatient, and I did not want that his blood should be shed. He grew wise, at last, and consented that all the *Scotch* people should be disarmed, and that I should take six of them prisoners, and that he would not interfere if I disarmed his other friends, who had hostile designs against us.

Brothers, our brothers, the *Mohawks*, desired me to show some kindness to Sir *John*. I was glad that they asked the favour, because I knew that he had relations amongst them, and that I might have an opportunity of showing my respect to our *Mohawk* brethren, and I granted it. But, brothers, he did not deserve it, for we found out that he had given guns to the *Scotch* people, and to many others who were not our friends, and had prepared his great guns. I could hardly restrain my warriors when they found he had done this. The designs of which said military preparations, they judged, were intended against them. But as I had given my word that he should not be hurt, provided he delivered up the guns and cannon, my warriors did not touch him, and he is now safe at home, and I and my warriors are returning home.

Brothers, I have thus opened the path of peace which we promised you last Summer should be kept open, and which these wicked men designed to stop up, that we might not any more eat, and drink, and smoke with our loving brothers, the *Six Nations.* It is now again clear, and no obstacles remain, and we can go to you and you can come to us.

Brothers, your brother, Mr. *Deane*, will inform you of my kind expressions and intentions towards all my brethren of the *Six Nations;* and I now again assure you, on the behalf of the Thirteen *United Colonies*, that they love and respect you, and will strictly abide by every agreement they have made, and they have not the least doubt but you will faithfully perform the same.

Farewell, brothers. May *God* keep you in his protection, and make you a happy people.

GOVERNOUR COOKE TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Providence, January 25, 1776.

Sir: I have consulted the General Committee upon the subject of your letter of the 16th instant. For many years past the inhabitants of this Colony, surrounded on the land side by *Connecticut* and the *Massachusetts-Bay*, thinking themselves in a perfect state of security, entirely neglected military discipline, and disposed of their arms so generally, that, at the breaking out of the present war, the Colony was, in a manner, disarmed. We have taken every method in our power by purchasing, by employing manufacturers, and by importation, to procure a sufficient quantity, but are still so deficient that the same arms which have been rated at six and eight dollars, at *Cambridge*, are readily bought here at ten and twelve. Indeed, we shall scarcely be able to find arms for the troops we have ordered to be raised for our immediate defence. Besides which, the peculiar situation of the Colony requires that every man in it should be furnished; and the Assembly have, accordingly, ordered that every man should be furnished by the 15th day of *April* next, under severe penalties. In these circumstances I do not think your Excellency can depend upon any supplies of muskets from this Colony.

I am, with great respect, sir, your Excellency's most obedient, humble servant,

Nicholas Cooke.

To His Excellency General *Washington.*

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Cambridge, January 25, 1776.

Sir: I received your favour of the 22d instant, and am much obliged by your assurance that the three regiments of Militia for this camp will be raised as fast as possible; they are much wanted. I wish it was in my power to facilitate their march, by sending a necessary supply of money for it; but it is not, as our Treasury is exhausted. I hope in a little time it will be replenished, with a sufficient sum to answer every demand.

I am sorry that arms are so scarce with you that none can be furnished on account of the Continent, at this critical period. I know not what will be done. Those of the three regiments they will be allowed to carry away, when their service is ended, unless they choose to sell them. I will gladly buy, but never had an idea of detaining them against their consent.

For the arms which were detained and appraised, I have given warrants to the several Colonels to whose regiments they belonged, upon the Paymaster-General, as fast as the

number and value have been brought in, and will take care to have a return made to you.

I am, &c., GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To Governour *Trumbull.*

ROBERT H. HARRISON TO WILLIAM WATSON.

Cambridge, January 25, 1776.

SIR: Your letter to his Excellency of the 23d instant, is come to hand, by Lieutenant *Wigglesworth*. His conduct respecting Mr. *Dote*, in giving up the First Lieutenancy to him, will be taken due notice of on a future occasion. He carries the commissions and cartridge-paper.

The General doubts not your endeavouring to get out as soon as possible. Yours, &c.

To *William Watson*, Esq., *Plymouth.*

JOSEPH ROBSON TO COUNCIL OF SAFETY OF MARYLAND.

Cambridge, January 26, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I observe, by a resolve of the late Convention, that the Minute-Company of *Dorchester* County, which I have the honour to command, is ordered to march down into *Virginia;* and, as the gentleman who was my First Lieutenant has thought proper to resign his commission, I have herewith enclosed it to you. Lest you should be unacquainted with a person suitable to fill that station, have, in some measure, thought it my duty to inform; with your approbation, could wish it supplied by the appointment of him who now acts as my Second Lieutenant, Mr. *Moses Le Compte*, Jun.; and, if your Honours have not in view a person more worthy to act as Second Lieutenant, take the liberty of naming Mr. *Matthias Traverse*, if you approve of him.

I am, gentlemen, with due respect, your obedient, humble servant,

JOSEPH ROBSON.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety.

P. S. As I cannot possibly march until the officers are complete, I hope the messenger will be despatched as quick as possible.

JOHN HANCOCK TO GENERAL LEE.

Philadelphia, January 26, 1776.

SIR: This morning I was favoured with your letter, by express, which I laid before Congress, in consequence of which they have appointed a Committee of three of their Members, viz: Colonel *Harrison*, Mr. *Lynch*, and Mr. *Allen*, immediately to repair to *New-York*, and confer with you and the Committee of Safety of that Colony on the subject of your letter, which supersedes the necessity of my being particular, as I must refer you to those gentlemen.

I have only to add my best wishes for your health, and that success may attend your important exertions.

I have the honour to be, with esteem, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President.*

To the Honourable Major-General *Lee.*

JOHN GRAHAM TO NEW-YORK COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Guard-Room, Upper Barracks, January 26, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Please to pardon my intrusion of the following lines, as I am one of the unfortunate among mankind, and my health so much impaired that this close confinement, I find, daily drives a nail in my coffin.

I hope you will take the above into your wise consideration, and set me at liberty; or, should these unhappy times determine it otherwise, if it should seem meet, grant me the parole.

I am, gentlemen, with the greatest respect, your most obedient, humble servant,

JOHN GRAHAM.

P. S. I wrote a letter, dated 23d instant, to Colonel *McDougall*, setting forth the reason of my going in that sloop that was cast away on *Squan-Beach*, *New-Jersey*, the 23d *December*, 1775, which was matter of fact, which I hope has appeared before the honourable Committee.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM AN OFFICER IN THE EXPEDITION ON LONG-ISLAND, DATED AT JERICHO, JANUARY 26, 1776.

We set out from *Woodbridge* on *Wednesday*, the 17th instant, with about six hundred Militia, and were joined, at *New-York*, with a detachment from Lord *Stirling's* battalion, consisting of near three hundred, and on *Friday* morning we crossed, with all our troops, at *Horne's-Hook*, near *Hellgate*, and met with no opposition; proceeded on our way to *Jamaica*, took in custody some of the principal persons proscribed, sent out parties and brought in many of those who voted against sending Delegates, disarmed them, and required them to sign an obligation we had drawn up, in which we enjoin them not to oppose either the Continental or Provincial Congresses, but to be subject to them, and not aid or assist the Ministerial troops in the present contest.

From *Jamaica* we went to *Hempstead* town, where we expected the warmest opposition, but were disappointed, for the inhabitants came in and brought in their arms voluntarily, for two days, as fast as we could conveniently receive them. We have got about three hundred stand of arms, and a considerable quantity of powder and lead. We are now on our way to *Oyster-Bay*, and shall scour the country as we go, and shall exert ourselves to discharge the trust enjoined on us.

Colonel *Heard* sent the detachment home last *Tuesday*, as he thought the Militia sufficient. He is indefatigable in discharging his duty, treats the inhabitants with civility and the utmost humanity, and even the delinquents express themselves well pleased that a detachment of *Jerseymen* (and not of *New-England*) were sent to disarm them. Many of those who were proscribed as principals have either fled or secreted themselves; several we have in custody. Some others, I believe, are yet to be had; but, by some means or other, they have had a list of the persons pointed out as principals before our arrival. We are making inquiry how they got their intelligence, but are not yet informed. Those that have come in and surrendered their arms, are much irritated with those who have led them to make opposition, and have deserted them in the day of difficulty. I conceive they will be as safe, if not safer, in our custody than at present among their neighbours, of which some of them seem very apprehensive, and complain that they have met with insults already.

DECLARATION SIGNED BY SUNDRY INHABITANTS OF QUEEN'S COUNTY, NEW-YORK.

January 19, 1776.

Whereas, we, the subscribers, inhabitants of *Queen's* County, on *Long-Island*, in the Province of *New-York*, have given great uneasiness to the good people of the neighbouring Provinces and the Continent in general, by our not choosing a Committee agreeable to the orders of the Continental Congress, by our not paying that attention to the directions of our Provincial Congress, which we ought to have done, and by our opposing the General Instructions of the Continental Congress in almost all our conduct and actions. Therefore, (in order to relieve the minds of the virtuous inhabitants of *America*, and those of this County in particular, engaged in the common cause,) we, the subscribers, do most solemnly and sincerely promise, that we will, hereafter, in all cases, implicitly obey all orders and instructions enjoined on us by our Provincial and Continental Congresses, that we will act in conjunction with the inhabitants of this and the neighbouring Provinces, in the defence of *American* liberty, that we never will take up arms against the *Americans*, and that we will not, directly or indirectly, countenance, aid, assist, or by any means join with, any of His Majesty's troops in the present contest between *Great Britain* and *America*. Given under our hands, this 19th day of *January*, 1776.

Rulef Durye,	Samuel Birdsall,	Thomas Tredwell,
Luke Noostrand,	Townshend Jackson,	Andrew Allen,
Jonathan Rowland,	Thomas Seaman,	Richard Matthews,
Edward Willett,	Thomas Jackson,	William Cornell,
William Wilson,	Samuel Carman,	Silvester Bedell,
Jacamiah Valentine,	Jacob Jackson,	John Smith, *Rock.*
Anthony Rhodes,	Lawrence Fish,	Jonah Valentine,
Stephen Clement,	Joshua Birdsall,	William Smith, *Rock.*
John Carman,	John Pratt,	James Smith, *Rock.*
William Thurston,	John Duryee,	James Pine,

Francis Davenport,
Samuel Davenport,
Jacob Stringham,
Samuel Denton,
Richard Smith,
Edward Spragg,
John Birdsall,
Nehemiah Collins,
Peter Jones,
Joshua Smith,
Samuel Seaman,
Timothy Cornell,
Amadis Rhoads,
Leffert Lefferts,
Solomon Pool,
Peter Rierson,
Israel Seamans,
Stephen Callas,
Oliver Birdsall,
Parmenas Jackson,
George Rierson,
Martin Rierson,
Ludlum Smith,
Joshua Mills,
Peter Nostrand,
Silch Smith,
Joseph Gaulder,
William Goder,
Isaac Bennet,
Obadiah Mills,
Luke Burgen,
Obadiah Hinchman,
Tunis Burgen,
Nicolas Vanarsdalen,
John Vanlau,
Isaac Amberman,
Matthias Lamberson,
Nicholas Amberman,
Aris Remson,
John Bennet,
Simon Lambertson,
John Nostrandt,
Isaac Amberman, Jr.,
John Remson,
Rem Remson,
Nicholas Lamberson,
John Lamberson, Sen.,
John Lamberson, Jun.,
Joseph Field,
John Willett,
Joost Van Brunt,
Benjamin Hegeman,
Solomon Southard,
Johannes Van Cots, Jr.,
Zebulon Seaman,
Thomas Seaman,
William Spragg,
Sylvanus Beagle,
John Mott,
John Spragg,
James Birdsall,
Isral Smith,
Elijah Wood,
Samuel Carman,
Elijah Barton,
John Raner,
Benjamin Smith,
David Ludlow,
Joseph Dodge,
Robert Satton,
Isaac Pettit,
Joseph Therne,
Thomas Southard,
Samuel Doty,
Jonathan Cornelius,
A. Scabury,
Elijah Spragg,
Sylvester Cornell,
Uriah Bedell,
Jacob Golder,
Abel Southard,
Joseph Dorlon,
Richard Gildersleave,
Caleb Southard,
Abijah Bedell,
Benjamin Wiggins,
Amos Rainer,
Irael Elderd,
Uriah Platt,
Jonathan Serrin,
William Cornwell,
William Rushmore,
John Rushmore,
Abraham Wattson,
George Doyce,
Thomas Ellison,
John Cock,
Thomas Woolley,
Doremus Bedell,
Philip Woolley,
Joseph Ludlam,
Henry Ludlam,
William Ludlam,
Henry Ludlam, Jun.,
John Underhill,
William Hall,
John Tredwell,

John Haviland,
Thomas Birdsall,
Thomas Cornell,
Thomas Coombes,
Samuel Smith,
Peter Bond,
John Combs,
John Higby,
Timothy Flower,
Abraham Demott,
James Baldwin,
Pelham Sands,
Nicholas Ludlum,
Johannis Covert,
Thomas Featherby,
Hend. Hendrickson,
Daniel Hendrickson,
Henry Walters,
William Covert,
Stephen Powell,
C. Carman,
Richard Green,
Benjamin ———,
Benjamin Dalon,
Zebulon Smith,
Amos Powell,
William Pigeon,
James Burtis,
Luke Elder,
Nathaniel Coombee,
Daniel Murray,
Hezekiah Pearsall,
Joseph Oldfield,
Samuel Coombes,
John Thurston,
Michael Demott,
Peter Losee,
Ezekiel Matthews,
Rock Smyth,
Aaron Vanostrand,
Valentine H. Peters,
Carman Rushmore,
Christian Snedicker,
William Millar,
Benjamin Hewlett,
James Southard,
Richard Brewer,
Israel Carman,
Amos Smith,
Samuel Place,
Pearson Langdon,
Archibald Langdon,
Elijah Cornell,
Daniel Abrahams,
Elijah Smith,
Joseph Rainer,
Cornelius Jackson,
Jacob Doxsee,
James Verity,
William Golder,
Samuel Jackson,
Moses Cornelius,
Wm. Van Norstrant,
Aaron Van Nostrandt,
Abra. Van Nostrandt,
Thomas Peters, Jun.,
Josias Latten,
Joseph Bedell,
John Weekes,
Benjamin Downing,
James Place,
Robert Jackson,
Isaac Seaman,
Isaac Latten,
Albert Van Nostrandt,
Nicholas Schenck,
Simon Losee,
William Wilson,
Jacob Bedall,
Richard Mayson,
J. Van Noostrandt,
John Waters,
Daniel Youngs,
John Van Norstrandt,
Cornelius Hoogland,
Thomas Younge,
Robert Allen,
John Van Cott,
Timothy Titus,
Absalom Townsend,
William Hoogland,
Jonathan Gorham,
Stephen Robbins,
Nicholas Van Cott,
Jacob Rhinehart,
William McCoun,
John Hughes,
James Beal,
James Walters,
John Weekes,
Hubert Coles,
William Frost,
James Carpenter,
Thomas Ripp,
Harvey Colwell,
Obadiah Lawrence,
Daniel Albertson,

Samuel Carman,
John Ramson,
Obadiah Smith,
James Verity,
Samuel Pettit,
Isaac Snedicker,
Silvanus Bedell,
John Ellsworth,
George Weekes,
Daniel Pine,
James Whaley,
Benjamin Tredwell,
Cornelius Miller,
John Southard,
John Holmes,
William Langdon,
John Titus,
David Bedell,
Joseph Goulder,
Solomon Symons,
John Seaman,
Jacob Bedell,
Samuel Wood,
Samuel Mott,
Charles Cornwell,
Joel Rayner,
Benjamin Smith,
John Marvin,
Elijah Rainer,
Philip Thorne,
Jacob Rayner,
Jacob Lamberson,
Symonds Verity,
Daniel Smith, *Rock.*
Samuel Stringham,
Richard Wiggins,
Flower Hulse,
Michael Golder,
William Stiles,
Jacob Peterson,
James Eldred,
William Williams,
Michael Burne,
Benjamin Reyner,
Cornelius Hartt,
Charles Hicks,
William Curtis,
Benjamin Burtis,
Isaac Denton,
Samuel Langdon,
Joseph Birdsall,
John Jackson,
Israel Rogers,
David Jackson,
Benjamin Hewlett,
Joseph Hewlett,
George Hewlett,
Joseph Kissam,
Henry Jackson,
Thomas Hutchins,
William Johnson,
Samuel Johnson,
Jeremiah Hutching,
Derrick Berger,
William Shatford,
Hope Mills,
Samuel Van Wyck,
John Hewlett,
Darius Allen,
Michael Weekes,
John Allen,
Baruch Allen,
Robert Lawrence,
D. Lawrence,
Henry Higbie,
Thomas Thorn,
Isaac Ditmars,
Nathaniel Sigler,
Hendrick Emmons,
William ———,
David Colden,
Jabez Woodroff,
Thomas Willett,
Philip Platt,
Nicholas Townsend,
Gilbert Snedicker,
Douwe Ditmars,
Paul Amerman,
John Polhemus,
John Wiggins,
William Valentine,
Rem Remsen,
John Remsen,
George Fives,
Jacob Dean,
John Foster,
Aury Burom,
Stephen Higbie,
Daniel Remsen,
Whitehead Field,
Thomas Hallet,
Douw Van Dine,
Henry Woolley,
John Amberman,
Peter Mills,
Charles Willett,
John Snedicker,

Joseph Hall,
William Cock,
Samuel Tredwell,
James Smith,
John Hauxhurst,
Stephen Cock,
Levi Cock,
George Rhoades,
Thomas Cock,
Barent Snedicker,
Samuel Carman,
Benjamin Lester,
Joseph Pettit,
Benjamin Waters,
Samuel Pettit,
Daniel Whitehead,
Benjamin Dolin,
Daniel Hewlett,
Theodorus VanWyck,
Gilbert McCoun,
Daniel Noorstrandt,
Isaac Remsen,
Abraham Remsen,
Thomas Dorland,
Benjamin Tredwell,
Thomas Smith, Jun.,
Isaac Smith,
David Peterson,
Richard Townsend,
Richard Smith,
Benejah Bedle,
Peter Titus, Jun.,
Benjamin Smith,
Joseph Hall, Jun.,
Nehemiah Sammis,
John Simonson,
Lewis Davenport,

Joseph Weekes,
Townsend Weekes,
Caleb Underhill,
Solomon Powell,
Baruch Underhill,
Daniel Allen,
David Youngs, Jun.,
George Weekes, Jun.,
Edmond Weeks,
John Legross,
David Corseboom,
Daniel Van Velser,
Robert Valentine,
Adrian Schenck,
John Flect,
Thomas Fleet,
John Boerum,
John Hewlett,
Samuel Weekes,
Garrit Noorstrandt,
John Schenck,
Peter Scott,
Augustin McCoun,
Justus McCoun,
Samuel Townsend,
Peter Wannal, Sen.,
Stephen Hendrickson,
Daniel Kirby,
Tunis Van Cott,
James Van Valsen,
Simeon Hauxhurst,
John Sands, Jun.,
Thomas Hendrickson,
John Doty,
Preolus McCoun,
Peter Underhill,
Richard MacCoun,

Garret Dorland,
Elbert Hoagland,
Johannes Snedeker,
William Pitt,
Penn Weekes,
Obadiah Valentine,
John Talman,
John Martin,
John Hegman,
Tunis Covert,
Cornelius Rierson,
William Moufort,
Felix Fowler,
Jonathan Fish,
Samuel Mills,
Jacob Adriance,
Elbert Adriance,
Isaac Raynor,
John Dunbar,
Nathaniel Townsend,
William Cornell,
Joseph Dunbar,
Cornelius Rapilje,
Hugh Holmes,
Elias Dorlin,
Isaac Rapilje,
John Suydam,
Christopher Remsen,
Jacob Bond,
George Brinkerhoff,
Richard Bergan,
Peter Bergan,
James Marr,
Casper Spring Steen,
Martin Rapelye,
Jacobus Riker,
Samuel Moore, (and with reluctance.)

OATH SUBSCRIBED BY SUNDRY INHABITANTS OF QUEEN'S COUNTY, NEW-YORK.

Jamaica, on Long-Island, January 19, 1776.

We, the subscribers, in the presence of Almighty *God*, do most solemnly and sincerely swear, that the fire-arms, side-arms, powder and lead, we respectively delivered up to Colonel *Heard*, and his party, or by them taken from us, are all the fire-arms, side-arms, powder and lead, that belong to us, or that are in our possession or power; and that we have not destroyed, concealed, or otherwise disposed of, any of our said arms or ammunition, in order to evade or obstruct the execution of Colonel *Heard's* orders from the Continental Congress, for disarming the inhabitants of *Queen's* County, on *Long-Island*, who are disaffected to the opposition now making in *America* against Ministerial tyranny.

Isaac Amberman, Jr.,
Rem Remson,
William Thurston,
Francis Davenport,
Samuel Davenport,
Samuel Denton,
Jacob Stringham,
Richard Smith,
John Birdsall,
Edward Sprag,
Nehemiah Collins,
Peter Jones,
Joshua Smith,
Samuel Seaman,
Samuel Birdsall,
Ludlum Smith,
John J. Troup,
Joshua Mills,
Peter Nostrandt,
Luke Nostrandt,
Jonathan Rowland,
Joseph Gaulder,
William Goder,
Isaac Bennet,
Obadiah Mills,
Luke Borgen,
Obadiah Hinchman,
Nicholas Vanarsdalen,
Matthias Lamberson,
Simon Lambertson,
John Nostrandt,
Timothy Cornell,
Leffert Lefferts,
Amadis Rhoades,
George Rierson,
Martin Rierson,
Peter Rierson,
Solomon Pool,
Israel Seaman,
Stephen Callas,
Oliver Birdsall,
Parmenas Jackson,
Solomon Southard,
Johannes Van Cots, Jr.
Zebulon Seaman,

John Remson,
John Lamberson, Sen.,
Joseph Rainer,
Cornelius Jackson,
William Golder,
Ezekiel Matthews,
Rock Smith,
Jonathan Smith,
Valentine H. Peters,
Carman Rushmore,
Christian Snedicker,
Obadiah Smith,
Samuel Pettit,
Isaac Snedicker,
Silvanus Bedell,
John Ellsworth,
George Weekes,
Benjamin Tredwell,
James Whaley,
Daniel Pine,
Cornelius Miller,
John Southard,
John Holmes,
William Langdon,
David Bedell,
Benjamin Smith,
John Marvin,
Elijah Rainer,
Philip Thorne,
Jacob Rainer,
Jonah Valentine,
James Smith, *Rock.*,
John Remsen,
Samuel Stringham,
Richard Wiggins,
Flower Hulse,
William Gritman,
Michael Golder,
William Stiles,
Jacob Peters,
Daniel Murray,
Benjamin Reyner,
Solomon Symonds,
Jacob Bedell,
John Seaman,

Benjamin Hegeman,
Jacamiah Valentine,
Samuel Carman,
Benjamin Lester,
Joseph Pettit,
Benjamin Waters,
Daniel Whitehead,
Benjamin Durlin,
Benjamin Tredwell,
Thomas Smith, Jr.,
Isaac Smith,
Benjamin Smith,
Joseph Hull,
John Simonson,
Nehemiah Sammis,
Aaron Van Norstrandt,
Josias Lattan,
Joseph Bedell,
Isaac Seamen,
Theodorus Van Wyck,
Daniel Van Velser,
Robert Valentine,
Adrian Schenck,
Thomas Fleet,
Garret Van Nostrandt,
Garret Noordstrandt,
John Schenck,
Peter Scott,
Augustin McCoun,
Justus McCoun,
William Hoogland,
John Amerman,
Stephen Robbins,
Nicholas Van Cott,
William McCoun,
Nicholas Schenck,
Simon Losee,
Thomas Ludlum,
William Wilson,
Jacob Bedell,
Richard Mayson,
Jacob Van Nortstrandt,
David Cosseboom,
John Waters,
Samuel Forsdall,

Thomas Seaman,	Samuel Mott Cornell,	Peter Wannal, Sen.,
William Spragg,	Samuel Wood,	Stephen Hendrickson,
Sylvanus Beagle,	Joel Reyner,	Daniel Kirby,
John Mott,	Charles Cornwell,	James Van Valsen,
James Birdsall,	Thomas Huchins,	Thos. Hendrickson,
John Spragg,	Samuel Johnson,	John Doty,
Israel Smith,	William Johnson,	Prcolus McCoun,
Elijah Wood,	Jacamiah Hutchings,	Richard MacCoun,
Amos Powell,	Samuel Carmar,	Derrick Berger,
William Pidgeon,	John Raner,	William Shatford,
Luke Eldred,	A. Seabury,	Hope Mills,
James Burtis,	Elijah Spragg,	Henry Woolley,
Nathaniel Coombes,	Elijah Berger,	John Amberman,
Hezekiah Pearsall,	James Elderd,	Peter Mills,
Joseph Oldfield,	Amos Rainer,	Cornelius Willet,
John Thurston,	Uriah Platt,	John Snedicker,
Michael Demott,	Jonathan Serrin,	Garret Dorland,
Peter Losee,	William Rushmore,	Abraham Lawrence,
Thomas Combes,	John Rushmore,	D. Lawrence,
Samuel Smith,	Abraham Wattson,	Nathaniel Sigler,
Peter Bond,	George Duryea,	Isaac Ditmars,
John Coombes,	John Cock,	David Colden,
John Higbie,	Joseph Ludlum,	Jabez Woodruff,
Timothy Flower,	Henry Ludlum, Jr.,	Thomas Willett,
Abraham Demott,	John Tredwell,	Daniel Remsen,
Benjamin Hewlett,	William Hall,	Douw Van Dine,
James Southard,	Joseph Hall,	Cornelius Rappalie,
Richard Brewer,	William Cock,	Daniel Rapelje,
Israel Carman,	Daniel Noorstrandt,	Martin Rapelye,
Amus Smith,	Isaac Remsen,	Casper Spring Steen,
Samuel Place,	Gilbert McCoun,	Jacobus Riker.
Pearson Langdon,	Abraham Remsen,	John Suydam,
Archibald Langdon,	Daniel Youngs,	Christopher Ramsen,
Elijah Cornell,	John Van Norstrandt,	George Brinkerhoff,
Moses Cornelius,	Cornelius Hoogland,	Richard Berger,
Wm. Van Norstrandt,	Thomas Goings,	James Marr,
William Cornell,	Robert Allen,	Samuel Townsend,
Silvester Biddle,	Timothy Titus,	James Walters,
William Smith, *Rock.*	Absalom Townsend,	Albert Coles,
John Smith, *Rock.*	Jacob Lambertson,	Obadiah Lawrence,
Townsend Jackson,	Simonds Verity,	Daniel Alberson,
Thomas Seaman,	Benjamin Fish,	Joseph Weekes,
Thomas Jackson,	David Ludlow,	John Fleet,
Samuel Carman,	Joseph Doty,	Baruch Underhill,
Jacob Jackson,	Robert Sutton,	Solomon Powell,
Joshua Birdsall,	Isaac Pettit,	Daniel Allen,
Lawrence Fish,	Joseph Thorne,	Daniel Youngs, Sen.,
John Pratt,	Jonathan Cornelius,	George Weekes, Jr.,
John Haviland,	Charles Hicks,	Edmond Weekes, Jr.,
Thomas Birdsall,	Cornelius Hartt,	John Legross,
John Duryee,	William Burtis,	John Hewlett,
Pelham Sands,	Benjamin Burtis,	Michael Weekes,
Nicholas Ludlum,	Isaac Denton,	Philip Platt,
Johannes Covert,	Joseph Birdsall,	Garret Snedicker,
Thomas Featherby.	John Jackson,	Douwe Ditmars, Jr.,
Daniel Hendrickson,	Israel Rogers,	Paul Amerman,
Hend. Hendrickson,	Joseph Hewlett,	John Polhemus,
William Covert,	George Hewlett,	Rem Remsen,
Stephen Willis,	Joseph Kissam,	John Remsen,
Stephen Powell,	Henry Jackson,	Jacob Dean,
Richard Green,	Samuel Tredwell,	John Foster,
Benjamin ——,	James Smith,	Aury Burom,
Zebulon Smith,	John Hauxhurst,	Johannis Snedecker,
Daniel Abrams,	Levi Cocock,	William Pitt,
Elijah Smith,	George Rhoades,	Stephen Higbie,
Penn Weekes,	Samuel Mills,	Joseph Dunbar,
John Martio,	Jacob Adriance,	Nathaniel Townsend,
Tunis Covert,	Eibert Adriance,	William Cornel.
William Monfort,		

We, *Samuel Clowes* and *John Polhemus*, do acknowledge ourselves to be indebted to Colonel *Nathaniel Heard*, in the sum of five hundred Pounds, *New-York* money, to be paid to the said *Nathaniel Heard*, his executors, administrators or assigns, and for the payment thereof, we bind ourselves jointly and severally, and our heirs, firmly by these presents to the said *Nathaniel Heard*.

Sealed with our seals, dated this 29th day of *January*, 1776.

The condition of this obligation is such, that if the above-said *Samuel Clowes*, shall, and do surrender himself up to the said *Nathaniel Heard*, at *Jamaica*, in *Queen's* County, on *Tuesday*, the 30th instant, then the above obligation to be void, otherwise in full force.

S. Clowes, [seal.]
John Polhemus, [seal.]

Sealed and delivered in the presence of,
Az. Dunham,
John Kissam.

COLONEL MOYLAN TO THE GENERAL COURT OF MASSACHUSETTS-BAY.

Cambridge, January 26, 1776.

Sir: I am desired by his Excellency to know from you, what mode he is to make use of, previous to his drawing for the money this Province has been pleased to offer to advance him, for the use of the *United Colonies*. Your pointing out the same to him will be complied with. I have the honour to be, sir, yours, &c.,

Stephen Moylan.

To the Honourable *James Warren*, Esq., Speaker, &c.

[GENERAL WASHINGTON] TO WILLIAM BARTLETT.

Cambridge, January 26, 1776.

Wrote him that Captain *Ayres* would have the command of a schooner to be fitted out, in order to supply the place of such whose cruises may be out, and to give Captain *Ayres* every assistance he can.

To *William Bartlett*, Esq., *Beverly*.

To the Honourable the Council of the Colony of Massachusetts-Bay:

Reading, January 26, 1776.

Honourable Gentlemen: It being generally reported that a number of warlike vessels are to be fitted for sea for the protection of our trade, likewise to take, seize, and destroy, all enemies to the liberties of *America*, as it is not doubted but that a number of gentlemen will make applications to your Honours, we beg leave to recommend Mr. *John Lambert*, a gentleman who has followed the seas for fourteen years past, whose character in private life has been unexceptionable, and his publick conduct merits the esteem of all the friends to *America*.

We are your Honours' most obedient, humble servants,

David Green,
Benjamin Holden, *Lieutenant-Colonel.*
Israel Hutchinson, *Colonel.*
Jeremiah O'Brien, *Captain of the Machias Privateer.*
John Brooks, *Major of Nineteenth Reg't.*
Nathaniel Barber,
Abiel Ruddock,
Caleb Prentice, *Clerk First Parish, Reading.*
John Goodwin, *Captain.*
Joseph Bryant, Jr., } *Selectmen and Committee of Correspondence for the Town of Reading.*
Benjamin Brown, }
Jacob Emerson, }
John Hutton, }
Jonas Parker, }
Ebenezer Francis, *Captain.*
Benjamin Kimball, *Captain.*
Enoch Putnam, *Captain.*
Nathaniel Oliver, *Surgeon's Mate, Twenty-Seventh Regiment.*

GENERAL SULLIVAN TO NEW-HAMPSHIRE ASSEMBLY.

Winter-Hill, January 26, 1776.

May it please your Honours: I have this day had the pleasure of seeing the worthy gentlemen you were pleased to appoint as a Committee. They relieved me much, when they informed me that you had voted to advance the money for the new regiment, and that you approved of my plan for raising it, which, by information received before, I thought was not the case. I had not time before, nor have I even now, to assign all the reasons for such an attempt, one weighty reason was, that all the new troops that come in are bound to pay a tax to the climate by sickness; this the present Militia have gone through, and, therefore, will much better endure the severities of the next campaign. I hope to have a great part of the regiment from those, but lest a deficiency should happen, I obtained leave to furlough some officers for the purpose of inlisting some in the country.

I have now no doubt upon my mind about the completing the regiment by the time, since you have been kind enough to advance the month's pay. This money, I entreat you, to put into the hands of Major *Coffin*, that he may forward it to *Waldron* and *Chesley*, as soon as possible, and I will be answerable for the disbursements after the regiment is on the ground. Shall send you a list of the men and officers, and beg you to grant the commissions, and in this and every other matter shall cheerfully acquiesce in your determination, and exert myself to obey any of your commands.

Gentlemen, I am with much respect, your most obedient servant,

JOHN SULLIVAN.

To the Honourable General Assembly of *New-Hampshire*.

WILLIAM WATSON TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Plymouth, January 26, 1776.

SIR: This, per express, comes to inform your Excellency that Commodore *Manly* took, yesterday, off *Cohasset-Rocks*, after an hour's engagement, (having one man wounded in the breast, not dangerous,) two ships from *White-Haven*, bound for *Boston*,* laden with sea-coal, potatoes, &c., enclosed are bills of lading.

Your Excellency will please to direct in what manner I shall conduct with these vessels. The prisoners will be treated with kindness, and will be sent forward to-morrow. I am getting the ships to the wharf, and shall secure the small articles from pilferers, who frequently infest vessels in these circumstances. I congratulate your Excellency on this reiterated instance of Commodore *Manly's* success, and wish sincerely that all the servants of the *American* Republick were equally industrious with *Manly*.

I am, most respectfully, your Excellency's most obedient, much obliged, very humble servant,

WILLIAM WATSON.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

N. B. The express brings all the papers taken in the ships.

P. S. I would acquaint your Excellency that the engagement referred to in my letter, was with a tender of eight guns, and full of men, which had these ships under convoy, which circumstance I forgot to mention through hurry. Yours as before,

WILLIAM WATSON.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

COSMOPOLITAN, NO. VI.

To the Inhabitants of the AMERICAN *Colonies:*

It has been asked, "What was become of *Cosmopolitan?*" What of his promise, that a further catalogue of vices, which blackens the escutcheons of an *Hutchinson*, and gives him a plenitude of infamy, should be the subject of some future number? The reasons of that engagement, and the motives for its present performance, are of a similar nature. Truth is his object, freedom his wishes, and seasonable, manly exertions the scope of all his lucubrations. I shall not attempt to trace the vestiges that mark the character of our hero from early to more advanced life: this would be both tedious and useless. As a child of ambition, and tainted with avarice, I might describe him a wretched compound of plausibility and hypocrisy, shrewdness and weakness, cordiality and deceit, extravagancy and rapacity, artifice and sophistry, in those very Departments in which he was placed by the mistake of his countrymen, and in which he dazzled his friends by a blaze of counterfeit virtues. But the event has proved what many suspected, that he was then cankered at heart. From a vain conceit, and an arrogant superciliousness, they suspected the dark, crafty, and designing inhabitant within, and presaged that great duplicity and treachery lurked in an uncommon complaisant, simpering phiz. His abilities, to do him justice, though not of the greatest size, were sufficiently ample. Had they been employed in the service of his country, the cause of virtue, and the support of liberty, he had been respected, and raised monuments to his memory. But a prostitution of the faculties of the head has rendered the qualities of his heart the more formidable, the more to be hated and despised. His perversion of private confidence and abuses of publick trust are what every man of honour despises, and every lover of his country is bound to execrate. I doubt whether those who have been the most distinguished by the sunny beams of his beneficence, and drank the largest from the cup of servility, have any reason for benedictions. His talents were well calculated to take hold on minds cast in the mould of an easy credulity, and of those of a grasping and grappling complexion. By the insinuation of address, by a feigned sanctity of manners, and an hypocritical gravity of deportment, he practised upon those who could not fathom the dark train of his laboured dissimulations. By the proffered charms of the insolence of office, and the sweets of increasing emolument, he fettered the souls of the aspiring and the avaricious, and chained them fast to his measures. Thus had he paved the way for opening that tragical scene in which all *America* is interested. Pollution, and the expanded influence of the venal, were his means, and slavery his object.

In my third number, to which this is an appendix, I asserted that *America* had for several years been trembling under the rod of oppression; that her neck had been galled by the yoke, and her spirits greatly depressed; that the shackles have been forged, and even put upon our hands, though unriveted; that we have enjoyed little more than the formality, without the real essence of liberty; that under the habits of regularity, real anarchy, confusion, and concealed abominable tyranny, had made an amazing progress; that the condition of war, the consequence of an independency, that no situation can be more depressing to the spirits of freemen, than the state we have been in. Instances were then adduced to evince the assertions. In obedience to the voice of the publick, the calls from the Congress, I now add to their number, and ask once more for the attention, patience, and candour of my abused, wretchedly abused, countrymen.

When riches and lawless domination are made the standard of good and evil, the object of pursuit, and the idol of the times, the Prince and his Court are seized with the infection. The strength of Government, the force of the Treasury, and the arts of minions, are perverted to turn subjects into property, and to command their possessions for profit or for pleasure. Military force is employed to extort, ingenuity, policy, and fraud to decoy and seduce, or the hire of the venal, the wages of prostitution, to buy an accession to their interest. Hence is (says a great Court writer) the speedy change of Governours, which obliges those temporary tyrants to be more expeditious and rapacious, that they may accumulate sufficient wealth before they give place to their hungry successors. Made by their master with a separate interest, they have been strangers to the checks of the governed, the direction of law, the restrictions of justice, the confidence of the people, and the welfare of the community. Rapacity and instructions have been their predominant motives. Nor is it strange that, under the sway of a needy dependant, whose errand is the reparation of a ruined, or the acquisition of a needed fortune, a quarrel for the extension of prerogatives, and a pilfering of rights, the oppressor and the oppressed should form the only division in the State. We might illustrate this by the petty tyranny of a *Barnard*, influenced by his plotting insidious successor. The then polity was the mere practice of rapine to enrich individuals; chartered prerogatives the forms of peculation to rob the publick; commerce too much a system of snares and impositions; legislation, by turns, feeble and divided, cruel and oppressive; and the meetings of the Assemblies little more than a quarrel between their several branches, and the mere conception of necessary law, which, by the barbarity of the instructed *Egyptian*, was sure to die a fœtus. The bridle of despotism was put into our jaws, and a military force threatened to chill our feelings and benumb our spirits. Restrictions and impositions on trade, with fines and forfeitures, were multiplied for the emolument of a Governour and Admiralty-Judge, a Commissioner, or a wretched informer: and even these profits accumulated, and plunder increased by compositions, bribery, and intrigue. These animals have been the incessant drains to our wealth and plagues to our Provinces.

* CAMBRIDGE, *February* 1, 1776.— Last *Thursday* morning Captain *Manly* being on a cruise in the Bay discovered a ship a league or two southeast of *Boston* light-house; he immediately gave chase to, and took her within sight of the ships in *Boston* harbour. He then stood for a snow, which he espied off *Cohasset*, and soon coming up to her, she struck to him without hesitation. Just as Captain *Manly* had manned his last prize, a schooner of eight carriage guns, with many swivels, and full of men, convoying two little provision vessels from *Halifax*, came up, and began an engagement with Captain *Manly*, but being soon convinced of her error, she sheared off for *Boston*. Captain *Manly* would undoubtedly have taken her also, with the two provision vessels, had not his crew, (which was at first much short of the complement,) been weakened by manning the two prizes. In the engagement his gunner was wounded, and his rigging something damaged. We have not heard what loss the enemy sustained. Both of the prizes, which were loaded with coal from *Whitehaven*, in *England*, Captain *Manly* got safe into *Plymouth* the ensuing night.

This was the period in which the present stain to humanity, the detestation of *America*, paved his way to the first seat of magistracy, by showing a head replete with dangerous designs to his country, and an inveterate hatred to the rights of civil society. Well educated in the *Machiavelian* school, he begun his exalted career flushed with the expectation of certain success. His revering disciples were exceedingly docile under his culture. The lessons he taught them may be learned from his letters. The schemes that he laid were as deep as the centre, and as black as they were deep. His accession to the chair filled many an honest heart with anxious concern, and almost every discerning head with a vigilant distrust. While congratulatory addresses were cooked up to his delicate taste by the deceiving and deceived, the Representatives of the people nobly spurned at the fawning servility, and proposed, in its stead, an address of condolence for the misfortunes of their country. This was very humiliating to one who so eagerly catched at the empty trash or unmerited applause. His sublimated system began gradually to creep from under its mask. The supreme inherent right of *Parliament* was totally denied. How to establish it, and punish its bold (and, to be sure, its traitorous) opposers, was his unwearied study. For the latter, the penalties of a premunire were thought an adequate measure.* The man who had the unparalleled presumption to deny that himself, his wife, his children, his property, his life, his conscience, and his very all, were at the entire disposal, and bound in all cases whatsoever by the subjects of *Great Britain*, was to be put out of the protection of the law, his lands and tenements, goods and chattels forfeited to the King, and his body to remain in prison at the King's pleasure, or during life. The former was to be effected by disguising, abusing, twisting, extending, and perverting the prerogatives of the Crown and the right of regulating trade, as founded upon the consent of the Colonies. From these premises was deduced his pitiful policy. These materials formed one of his infernal engines. With these instruments he was determined to coerce the nauseous dose. The prostituted hand of Royal prerogatives was sorely pressed on every side. The gripings of this he expected would blunt our senses, and render us unfeeling to the less obvious weight of Parliamentary pressure. We were to be familiarized to acts of Parliament, by constant and abominable expansions of the regulating power. By a pious, fraudulent delusion the principle was to be established. And then its exertions were too wanton in all their rigour. The experiment was tried: it failed of success. The *Americans*, says the *European Cicero*, augur misgovernment from principle, and snuff the approach of tyranny in every tainted breath. In the meantime, whole Colonies were to be annihilated, and swallowed up by their reluctant neighbours; Constitutions prostrated, and Charters puffed away. Broils, contentions, discords, and animosities were to be increased between Colony and Colony, and their attendants, rancour and revenge, maintained and cherished in every quarter. For the fomenting of the one, and food for the other, the benevolent, the humane, and the sanctified Mr. *Hutchinson* pledged his most engaging genius. The following are words taken from his published letters: "I wish every other Government may desert us, and that we may go to quarrelling one Government with another. I think," says he, under the conscious intoxication of his matchless genius, "I could find bones to throw among them, to continue contention, and prevent a renewal of their union."

A stranger to the comforts of unsullied purity, deaf to the voice of honest sincerity, hot in the pursuit of honour and wealth, tormented by the sight of *American* liberty, he was determined to sap her foundation by his insidious wiles, or perfidious stratagems. Those failing, his next resort was by open storm. Determined as he was, at any rate, that sooner or later she should strike to the displayed banner of despotick sway, he opened his doors to Court adulators, and his ear to his servile minions. Together they formed their plans, and hugged the expectations of riotously wantoning on the spoils of the subjugated. Together they turn their backs on virtue and the tenderest ties of the social connexion. The misfortunes and pains of their bleeding country nourish their suspended souls, and sooth their tedious toils. The menaces of tyrants, arms and bayonets, racks and tortures, gibbets and halters, lords and manors, masters and vassals, are the sweet, animating topicks of their confidential communion. In the rapturous enjoyment of these delicious morsels, I shall leave them for the present, and produce, for their increasing consolation, a line or two from *Euripides:*

> "*God* hates the violent, commanding all
> To live on what their honest pains procure,
> And not to feed their wants on mutual spoils.
> Oppressors should be banished human race,
> Unworthy of the name. One common Heaven
> Gives light and air to man; one earth a seat,
> A scene of industry, where all may strive
> To raise their stock, and spread their fortunes wide;
> But not to rob, or force the publick rights."

* Vide his Letters.

D. SANTERRE TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Cape St. Domminique, January 27, 1776.

My General: I am a *French* officer, First Captain of my regiment. I have served twenty-four years. I have been in *Germany* all the last war. When I thought to have reaped the fruits of my long service and my fatigue, I have been most cruelly used by a puissant chief, against whom I have it not in my power to take my revenge. I have demanded justice. Intrigue, money, and the great credit of my adversary, have rendered my complaints of no effect. I have quitted, forever, a country where I have experienced such heart-breaking vexations.

I pray you, my General, to let me know whether you will grant me an asylum, and, in your service, I will devote to your nation my blood, and the little fortune which I can pluck from the greedy hands which persecute me. I will serve your country with all that zeal and fidelity which you have a right to expect from an officer, whom honour has been the only cause of his misfortunes.

Give me, my General, the power, the glory, to die in defence of your laws and your liberty, I will become one of your citizens. I will, with pleasure, seal with my blood this title which I now solicit from you. If the war should spare me, I will finish my days amongst your countrymen, to whom I make account of attaching myself by the most sacred ties.

I burn to open the next campaign with you, nor do I desire that you will put the least confidence in me, until I have, in the field of battle, deserved it.

I am, with profound respect, my General, your most obedient, and most humble servant,

D. Santerre,
First Captain of the Regiment of Martinique.

To the General of the Confederated Provinces of *New-England.*

VIRGINIA COMMITTEE OF SAFETY TO COUNCIL OF SAFETY OF MARYLAND.

In Committee of Safety, Virginia, January 27, 1776.

Gentlemen: As we are so closely connected, by inclination as well as interest, our situation strongly points out the propriety of attending to the operations which may be necessary for our mutual defence. We are desirous of establishing, and keeping up, a constant intimate correspondence with you.

We think it proper to inform you, that we have resolved to build, for the protection of the *Potomack-River*, two row-gallies, one of them to carry one twenty-four-pounder, the other a twelve-pounder, and both swivels; also, three vessels, carrying, one of them, four six-pounders and some four-pounders, the other two vessels four-pounders and swivels.

We do not conceive this adequate to the importance of that great river, but we have three other rivers, to which we must extend the like care; and, as your Province is equally interested in the safety of *Potomack-River*, we could not doubt it would be the wish of your body to participate in its protection.

Our determination on this head is yet subject to alteration, and we shall cheerfully consult and advise with you

on this, or any other subject conducive to the interest of both, and to our mutual defence.

We are, with great respect, your most humble servants,

JOHN PAGE, *Vice-President.*
DUDLEY DIGGES,
JOHN TABB,
P. CARRINGTON,
THOMAS WALKER,
JAMES MERCER.

To the Honourable Committee of Safety.

COLONEL SMALLWOOD TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Annapolis, January 27, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I observe the gentlemen of the Convention have allowed the soldiers as a uniform, hunting-shirts, but no spatterdashes, which renders the regimentals incomplete; this they certainly have not adverted to, otherways am persuaded they must have seen the impropriety of allowing one and not the other, for you must be sensible that clean spatterdashes as well as hunting-shirts, must cover a multitude of blemishes in the dress and appearance of the regiment, which I would most earnestly wish to appear as respectable, and to become as formidable as might be, under our present disadvantageous situation respecting military matters; this, therefore, I hope you will take under consideration. Flatter myself, as the expense will be trifling, you will be induced to purchase as much osnaburghs, or (what will be much better, if to be had,) *Russia* sheeting as will answer this purpose.

I know the publick business is very pressing, and that you will be much engaged, yet I must entreat you to purchase what cloths are to be had in *Baltimore*, suitable for soldiers' clothing; also, sail-duck, for tents. The men inlisted must be very bare, as the Captains are continually pressing me to know how they are to be furnished with clothes, urging that they cannot march them to their station till clad.

Intrenching tools, &c., imagine may be made here at any time.

I think you must judge it essentially necessary to request Mr. *Johnson*, or some other of our Congress members, to write General *Washington* to send us a good Adjutant or two, for the use of the Province in general, who, as an encouragement, might be allowed more than the common wages.

I am, with much diffidence, gentlemen, your very obedient, humble servant,

W. SMALLWOOD.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety.

COLONEL ST. CLAIR TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read January 31, 1776.]

Lancaster, January 27, 1776.

SIR: On my arrival here, I found the Committee of this place, and the officers of the Twenty-Sixth Regiment, in some dispute, occasioned by one of my officers having inlisted a Sergeant and a Drummer belonging to that corps. The officers had applied to the Committee to order them to be dismissed, alleging that the inlisting them was a breach of the capitulation.

It is rather my sentiment that the inlisting the prisoners is improper; but, as we were much in want of sergeants and drums, and had no directions respecting these people, and as the thing was done, I put it on this issue, that I should write the matter to you, and if the inlistment was disapproved of, the men should be returned.

If you will please, sir, to inform the Committee of *Lancaster*, they will acquaint Captain *Watson*, with whom the recruits are.

I am, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

ARTHUR ST. CLAIR.

To *John Hancock*, Esq., President of the Continental Congress.

LORD STIRLING TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

Elizabethtown, January 27, 1776.

SIR: My letter to you of the 24th, from on board of the ship *Blue-Mountain-Valley*, off *Amboy*, I hope you received. The next day we got her into the Sound, near *Blazing-Star*, where she grounded; but, by lightening her, we got off again yesterday morning, and brought her up to *Elizabeth-Point*, where she now lies, under the care of Captain *Rogers*, in whose charge, for the use of the Continental Congress, I have put her, and is guarded by a detachment of my regiment. I thought it most prudent to unbend her sails, and to have her unladen as soon as possible, and have given directions to have the cargo and stores brought into this town as soon as possible.

Captain *Rogers*, who was recommended to me by the *New-York* Committee of Safety, has been very alert and steady throughout this whole affair, is well worthy of the confidence they placed in him.

I would now give a more particular relation of this transaction, but the cold and fatigue I have been exposed to for the last fortnight, has almost got the better of me; it is with difficulty I can set up to write this.

I shall enclose a copy of the manifest and bill of lading of the cargo of this ship. A strange cargo! And twenty-odd similar ones sailed about the same time. The Captain is a brother to *George Dempster*, Esq., a valuable friend to *North-America*, in the House of Commons; he is a sensible, genteel young man; all his property (about one hundred pounds sterling) is on board; a trifle, also, belongs to the Mates. I must beg it as a favour of the Congress to order me to restore it to them, for they have all behaved extremely well, and were very useful to us in working the ship, and the sailors are now assisting the soldiers in unlading her.

I have great reason to believe that more of these ships will come on this coast, and try to get into *New-York*. Four or six small vessels kept ready, and in good weather to run between *Sandy-Hook* and *Egg-Harbour*, might pick them up, and prevent their receiving any assistance from Captain *Parker*.

Major *De Hart* returned yesterday from *Long-Island*, with the detachment of my regiment, and has brought me four colours of the *Long-Island* Militia; the arms they took they have delivered up to Colonel *Heard*. I shall enclose a copy of Major *De Hart's* report to me.

I am your most obedient, humble servant,

STIRLING.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq.

Ship BLUE-MOUNTAIN-VALLEY:—*Manifest of her cargo.*

Shipped in *London*, at different times, as follows:

September 26, 1775, twenty-five chaldrons coals; *September* 28, fourteen ditto; *September* 28, fourteen ditto; *September* 28, nineteen ditto; *September* 29, fourteen ditto; *September* 29, twenty-one ditto. Total, one hundred and seven chaldrons.

October 2, thirty bundles hoops; *October* 3, porter, marked *Calvert*, seventy butts; *October* 4, porter, marked *Calvert*, thirty butts. Total, one hundred butts.

October 6, eighteen empty puncheons; *October* 9, two hundred and twenty-five bags beans; *October* 9, one hundred and fifty-six sacks potatoes; *October* 10, ten casks sour-krout; *October* 10, eighty live hogs; *October* 11, seventeen empty puncheons.

October 13, completed ship's sea-stores and proceeded on the voyage to *America*.

Sundry stores of the ship, viz: masts, sails, rigging, cables, anchors, &c., quantity uncertain.

Copy from the Mate's books: STIRLING.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER TO A GENTLEMAN IN NEW-YORK, DATED MONTREAL, JANUARY 27, 1776.

The remnant of our battalion are to hold themselves in readiness, and expect marching orders to-morrow.

I am, for some time, to be stationed at the *Three-Rivers*, some matters being necessary to be settled with the Tories, who, in different parts, begin to be insulting since our late misfortunes at *Quebeck*. This makes the third visit I have had amongst this kind of people. I expect soon to be called down to *Quebeck*.

Your old friend, Captain *Mott*, behaved well in the attempt to storm, and in the retreat brought up the rear with great reputation. Our blockade at *Quebeck* is yet main-

tained. On the 25th instant, Captain *Seaborn*, from *Massachusetts*, the first hero that has appeared to our assistance since the repulse at *Quebeck*, arrived, with twenty-seven men. His arrival had a very good effect, for on the morning of the same day was found, at the Church door, an anonymous seditious paper, very artfully written, calculated to stimulate the inhabitants to rise and cut us all off. However, I believe few of them had as much courage as the writer had ingenuity. They are now convinced the Lakes are frozen, and think the *Bostonians* are coming as thick as the trees in the woods. The Tories now seem quite crest-fallen.

Let not one small disaster, among so many noble deeds, discourage the Sons of Liberty; especially, considering how the small remnant of the Army left before *Quebeck* dare to stand their ground, and form a blockade against that almost impregnable fortress. But I perceive it is open over head, and with the help of *God*, and a speedy reinforcement, we shall yet catch the fox in his den.

GENERAL WOOSTER TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

Montreal, January 27, 1776.

Sir: Your favour of the 30th *November* I have just received.

To a man who engages in this glorious struggle from the pure principle of love to his country, if he meets with the applauses of his countrymen for any services, it must certainly give him very sensible pleasure.

My brethren, in *America*, were not only entitled to any little services I may have rendered them, but ever will be to my most strenuous efforts to serve them, and I shall always think myself exceeding happy, and most amply rewarded, if they prove successful.

Long before this reaches you, you will have received the news of the unhappy attack upon *Quebeck*. I most sincerely condole with you for the loss of the brave and most amiable General *Montgomery*, and the rest of the brave officers and soldiers who fell gloriously with him.

Colonel *Arnold* still keeps up the blockade. I have sent him all the troops that could possible be spared from this garrison. I should have immediately gone there myself, but it was thought unadvisable for me, at that time, to leave this place, which it was necessary to secure as a retreat.

Troops now begin to come in from the Colonies, and, as I have got matters nearly settled here, I intend, in a little time, to proceed on to *Quebeck*.

We shall want every thing; men, money, heavy cannon, mortars, shot and shells, and a large supply of powder, as we have not more than four tons in the Province. I have wrote General *Schuyler* my sentiments fully, upon what may be necessary in carrying on the siege; also, the state of the Province, and what measures have been taken in it, which suppose he has communicated.

To remedy the evil of sinking so much hard cash in this country, I have advised that every article wanted in this country from the Colonies, especially all kinds of *West-India* goods, and liquors, and *New-England* rum, be brought over the Lakes, which I am convinced may be done, and sold lower than what we are now obliged to give. These articles may be then paid for in Continental money, and that, in my opinion, will go a great way towards giving it a currency.

I am, with the greatest esteem and respect, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

David Wooster.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq., President of Congress.

GENERAL WOOSTER TO GENERAL SCHUYLER.

Montreal, January 27, 1776.

Dear Sir: Your favour of the 14th instant, with the money, was delivered to me by Captain *Benson*, and the other gentlemen. I was very happy to receive the cash, which was greatly wanted, and more so, to hear that a large reinforcement are coming on; a few have already arrived as volunteers, which adds fresh spirits to our men. With what assistance I have already supplied Colonel *Arnold*, and the recruits which I shall soon send him, I have great hopes he will be able to continue the blockade till we are prepared to prosecute, vigorously, different measures. By what information I have been able to procure, I fear that their provisions will last them till they can be relieved in the Spring; you will, therefore, see the necessity of forwarding heavy cannon, mortars, shells, and shot, with a large supply of powder. Colonel *Ritzema*, who will hand you this, will inform you how necessary a large supply of those things will be to us, in carrying on our operations.

We have, in this Province, many of the officers of the *New-York* battalions, who are desirous of continuing in the service, but their regiments are broken to pieces; many are returned home, and some, when their term of inlistments were out, inlisted into other corps. I could wish that those battalions could be speedily filled up, for which purpose I have consented that Colonel *Ritzema* should proceed to *Albany*, and there he will receive your directions.

I have called in most of the commissions which *Carleton* had given to the officers of Militia in this part of the Province, (that is, down as far as *Three-Rivers*,) and given out new ones, under the Congress. Those who refuse to give up their commissions under *Carleton*, (and I expect some will,) I shall consider as enemies to us, and as such shall make prisoners of them. I allow each Parish to choose their own officers, which, I find, pleases them much. I hope it will be attended with happy consequences, as those who take commissions under the Congress will be afraid to desert our cause, and no principle operates so strongly upon the minds of the *Canadians* as fear.

I am, also, about establishing a Committee of Safety in this town, which will be, also, a Committee of Correspondence. They will, by settling a thousand trifling disputes, ease me of a very great burden. But I have something further in view: when it is once established in this town, perhaps other places in this country will be inclined to follow the example, and by degrees they may possibly be led to choose a Provincial Congress, and, of course, Delegates for the Continental Congress. I confess, to me there appears at least a plausibility in the scheme. What we wish, we easily believe.

I have already wrote you, that I think it of importance to send Sutlers into this Province. You are sensible that it will be next to impossible to procure hard money sufficient for maintaining an army here, and I am convinced that many articles may be brought over the Lakes, into this Province, to great advantage. Will it not, therefore, be well to give every possible encouragement for the bringing of every article wanted in this Province from the Colonies, not only for the use of the Army, but for the people of the country. Possibly, by that means, we may gain a currency for our Continental money.

I expect, in a little time, to get matters in such a way here as to be able to leave this place, when I shall immediately proceed to our camp before *Quebeck*, and can then be under better advantages to determine what measures to pursue.

Mr. *Pelissier*, of *Three-Rivers*, tells me that he shall not be able to cast any shells for us till the 1st of *May*.

Colonel *Arnold* has not, as yet, sent me General *Montgomery's* letters and papers. When they arrive, I shall forward to you all such as are not necessary for the rule of my conduct, and shall certainly take particular care of the baggage of the dear, deceased General, and of your worthy Aid-de-camp.

Major *Lockwood* and Captain *Rensselaer* desire me to present their respects to you. I have appointed Captain *Rensselaer* Deputy Mustermaster-General. I found that it was impossible, consistently for the good of the service, to do any longer without one. Hope it will be approved of.

I am, dear sir, most respectfully, your very humble servant,

David Wooster.

To General *Schuyler*.

P. S. I could wish that the Paymaster may be sent over as quick as possible, as we shall be able to make some little use of Continental money in paying the troops here. As we shall be obliged to make use of a considerable part of the hard cash now received, in paying sums that we have borrowed for a few days only, we shall, in a very short time, be in very great need of more.

*

Colonel *Campbell* sent in to Governour *Carleton*, by the flag of truce which came out for the prisoners' baggage, that he would gladly pay the value of General *Montgomery's* watch, if it could be procured, the consequence of which was, they sent out the watch without requiring pay, and I now send it to you by Colonel *Ritzema*.

LEVI ALLEN TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Salisbury, in Connecticut, January 27, 1776.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY: I have rode some hundred miles in consequence of my brother *Ethan Allen* (commonly called Colonel *Allen*) being taken prisoner near *Montreal*, 25th *September* last, waited on your Excellency at Head-Quarters, in *Cambridge*, in *December* last; since that waited on General *Schuyler*, on the same business. He read me a paragraph of your Excellency's letter, directing him to inquire what was become of Colonel *Allen*, and desired me, if possible, to get some evidence of the treatment he met with after being taken prisoner. Accordingly have spared neither trouble nor cost to accomplish the same. One affidavit only have been able to obtain, which here enclose.

There is a number of the Ministerial troops in this and the neighbouring Colonies, prisoners, but few of them have seen my brother since a prisoner; only those taken on board the *Gaspee*, brig, and, it is next to impossible to get any of them to say *Allen* or any other prisoner was used ill, for fear of retaliation, besides they have been charged by *Prescott*, and all the officers, not to mention *Allen's* being put in irons on pain of death.

The soldier that made the affidavit here enclosed, was very loath, and I should not have obtained it, but he had previously dropped words to the same import of the affidavit. I then brought him before proper authority, and told him he must declare on oath whether Colonel *Allen* was put in irons or not; then he declared on oath what the affidavit says, at the same time begged none present would mention his name.

Have some thoughts of going to *England, incognito*, after my brother, but am not positively certain he is sent there, though believe he is. Beg your Excellency will favour me with a line, and acquaint me if any intelligence concerning him, and, if your Excellency pleases, your opinion of the expediency of going after him, and whether your Excellency would think proper to advance any money for that purpose, as my brother was a man blessed with more fortitude than fortune. Your Excellency may think, at first thought, I can do nothing by going to *England;* I feel as if could do a great deal, by raising a mob in *London*, bribing the jailer, or by getting into some servile employment with the jailer, and over-faithfulness, make myself master of the key, or at least be able to lay my hand on it some night. I beg your Excellency will countenance my going; can muster more than one hundred pounds, my own property; shall regard spending that no more than one copper.

Your Excellency must know *Allen* was not only a brother, but a real friend, that sticketh closer than a brother. Have two brothers in the Continental Army, one a Captain, the other a Lieutenant—the latter with the army before *Quebeck*. Whether he is there now or with General *Montgomery*, in Heaven, cannot tell. We look up to your Excellency as our political father, and head of a great people.

Your Excellency's most obedient, ever faithful, and very humble servant,

LEVI ALLEN.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

N. B. If your Excellency chooses I should wait on you personally, I only wait your commands. Cannot live without going to *England*, if my brother is sent there. Beg your Excellency will not discover this letter, lest the adverse party know my design.

ULSTER *County*, ss:

Peter Rammon, of lawful age, testifieth and saith, that sometime the latter end of *September*, or forepart of *October* last past, he, this deponent, was on board the *Gaspee*, brig, near *Montreal*, when a man called Colonel *Allen* was brought on board, and put in irons, and continued so for more than thirty days, not free from his irons one minute, day or night, to the best of this deponent's knowledge and belief, as this deponent see said *Allen* often every day, and often every night, during the thirty days and something more, and that said *Allen* was very sick during the whole time with the yellow-jaundice, and was attended by Doctor *Huntley* every day; and further, deponent saith not.

PETER RAMMON.

Sworn before me, the 19th day of *January*, 1776.

WILLIAM ELSWORTH, *Justice of the Peace*.

Levi Allen, of lawful age, testifieth and saith, that on the 19th day of *January*, 1776, this deponent was at *Kingston*, in *Ulster* County, and Province of *New-York*, when a soldier belonging to the Twenty-Sixth Regiment, (the No. 26 marked on his coat buttons,) named *Peter Rammon*, as he said, personally appeared before *William Elsworth*, Esq., one of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace, and being duly deposed on the Holy Evangelist of Almighty *God*, made solemn oath to the truth of the above deposition, in the presence of this deponent; and further this deponent saith not.

LEVI ALLEN.

CANAAN, LITCHFIELD *County*, ss: } *January* 28, 1776. }

Then personally appeared the above signer, *Levi Allen*, and made solemn oath to the above before me.

SAMUEL FORBES, *Justice of Peace*.

ULSTER *County*, ss:

This is to certify, that on the 19th day of *January*, 1776, a soldier belonging to the Twenty-Sixth Regiment, and taken prisoner at *Montreal*, appeared before me, *Johannis Snyder*, one of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace for said County, and declared upon his honour, that he saw one Colonel *Allen*, belonging to the Continental Army, and taken prisoner by the regular troops, and put aboard the *Gaspee*, brig, under guard, with a bar of iron fixed to one of his legs, and iron fixed to his hands, and was sent in that situation down the river to *Quebeck*. I then asked him whether he would be so kind as to make affidavit of the truth of the matter; he answered he could not undertake such, for these particular reasons: For if the officers should know that he had made affidavit, or even said so, (and undoubtedly they would hear of it,) they would punish him to death, and begged of me not to mention his name, for fear of severe punishment, and I promised him not to discover him.

Witness my hand the day and year above written.

JOHANNIS SNYDER.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GENERAL SCHUYLER.

Cambridge, January 27, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Your favour of the 22d instant, enclosing Colonel *Arnold's* letter of the 2d, explained the doubt we were in, respecting his detachment, is received. Happy would it have been for our cause, if that party could have got out of the city of *Quebeck*, as I am much afraid, from the complexion of the letters from that place, that there is little hope of *Arnold's* continuing the blockade without assistance from *Wooster*, which he is determined not to give, whether with propriety or not, I shall not, at this distance, undertake to decide.

The sad reverse of our affairs, in that quarter, calls loudly for every exertion in your power to restore them to the promising aspect they so lately wore. For this reason, notwithstanding you think the necessity of troops from hence is, in some measure, superseded, I will not countermand the order and appointment of officers which are gone forth from this Government, *Connecticut* and *New-Hampshire*, for raising a regiment each, till Congress, (who are informed of it,) shall have decided upon the measure. I consider that the important period is now arrived, when the *Canadians*, and, consequently, their *Indians*, must take their side. Should any indecisive operations of ours, therefore, give the bias against us, it is much easier to foresee than to rectify the dreadful consequences which must inevitably follow from it. I consider, also, that the reinforcement under the command of Colonel *Warner*, and such other spirited men as have left the western parts of the *New-England* Governments, is only temporary, and may fail when most wanted; as we find it next to impossible to detain men (not fast bound) in service after they

get a little tired of the duties of it, and home-sick. These, my dear sir, are the great outlines which good men use in this affair. If Congress mark them as strongly as I do, they will not wish to starve the cause at so critical a period. If they think differently, they will direct accordingly, and I must stand corrected for the errors my zeal hath led me into.

Colonel *Porter*, said to be an exceeding active man, is appointed to the command of the regiment from this Government; Colonel *Burrell* to the one from *Connecticut;* Colonel *Biddle* to that from *New-Hampshire*. The two last are represented to me as men of spirit and influence; so that, from these accounts, I have no doubt of their getting into *Canada* in a very short time, as I have endeavoured to excite the spirit of emulation. I wish, most ardently, that the state of your health may permit you to meet them there. The possession of *Quebeck*, and entire reduction of *Canada* this Winter, so as to have leisure to prepare for the defence of it in the Spring, is of such great and extensive importance to the well-being of *America*, that I wish to see matters under the direction ——— But I will say no more, you will come at my meaning.

I am a little embarrassed to know in what manner to conduct myself with respect to the *Caughnawaga Indians* now here. They have, notwithstanding the treaty of neutrality, which I find they entered into with you the other day, (agreeable to what appears to be the sense of Congress,) signified to me a desire of taking up arms in behalf of the *United Colonies*. The Chief of them, and whom I understand is now the first man of the nation, intends, as it is intimated to me, to apply to me for a commission, with assurances of raising four or five hundred men when he returns. My embarrassment does not proceed so much from the impropriety of encouraging these people to depart from their neutrality (accepting their own voluntary offer rather) as from the expense which probably may follow. I am sensible that if they do not desire to be idle, that they will be for or against us. I am sensible, also, that no artifices will be left unessayed to engage them against us; their proffered services, therefore, ought not to be rejected; but how far, under the little knowledge I have of these people's policy and real intentions, and your want of their aid, I ought to go, is the question that puzzles me. I will endeavour, however, to please them by yielding, in appearance, to their demands, reserving, at the same time, the power in you to regulate their numbers and movements, of which you shall be more fully informed when any thing is fixed. At present, what they have mentioned is a kind of out-door's talk. They expect and are waiting to see Colonel *Bedel* (who promised to meet them here) before they open themselves fully.

What can you do in compliance of *Arnold's* request of mortars, &c.? If *Knox* disfurnished you, I am almost sorry for it, as I believe I shall never get wherewithal to feed them here. I congratulate you upon the success of your expedition into *Tryon* County. I hope General *Lee* will execute a work of the same kind on *Long-Island*, &c. It is high time to begin with our internal foes, when we are threatened with such severity of chastisement from our kind parent without.

That the Supreme Disposer of every good may bestow health, strength, and spirits to you and your army, is the fervent wish of, dear sir, your most affectionate and obedient servant,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To General *Schuyler*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GENERAL WOOSTER.

Cambridge, January 27, 1776.

SIR: On the 17th instant I received the melancholy account of the unfortunate attack on the city of *Quebeck*, attended with the fall of General *Montgomery* and others, and the misfortune of Colonel *Arnold* being wounded. This unhappy affair affects me in a sensible manner, and I condole with you upon the occasion.

Having received no intelligence later than the copy of Colonel *Arnold's* letter to you of the 2d, I would willingly hope, that he is in no worse situation than he then was, though I confess my fears have been great, lest these misfortunes should have been succeeded by others.

I need not mention to you the importance of *Canada* in the scale of our affairs—to whomsoever it belongs, in their favour, probably, will the balance turn. If it is ours, success will crown our virtuous struggles; if our enemy's, the contest, at best, will be doubtful, hazardous, and bloody. Government being fully convinced of these facts, will, most assuredly, send a strong and considerable reinforcement to *Quebeck* early in the Spring, which will render the reduction of it exceedingly difficult if not impracticable. The great and important work must, then, be accomplished in the course of the present Winter, or the rights of *America* may be lost forever. I must, therefore, entreat you, in case General *Schuyler's* indisposition should not permit him to act, to exert yourself upon the occasion as much as you possibly can, and to give every assistance in your power for completing our conquest in that quarter. Three regiments are raising in this and the Governments of *Connecticut* and *New-Hampshire*, with all possible expedition, and two from *Pennsylvania* and the *Jerseys* have been ordered by Congress for this purpose, besides a number of men under the command of Colonel *Warner*. When these arrive and join the troops already there, I confidently hope that, should the command devolve upon you, you will not only reinstate our affairs in their former pleasing situation, but will be the happy means of adding the only link wanting in the grand chain of Continental Union. You will then have an opportunity of employing your abilities for your country's weal, and rendering her services never to be forgotten.

I am, &c.

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To General *Wooster*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO COLONEL ARNOLD.

Cambridge, January 27, 1776.

DEAR SIR: On the 17th instant I received the melancholy account of the unfortunate attack on the city of *Quebeck*, attended with the fall of General *Montgomery* and other brave officers and men, and your being wounded. This unhappy affair affects me in a very sensible manner, and I sincerely condole with you upon the occasion. But in the midst of distress I am happy to find that suitable honours were paid to the remains of Mr. *Montgomery;* and our officers and soldiers, who have fallen into their hands, treated with kindness and humanity.

Having received no intelligence later than the copy of your letter of the 2d, to General *Wooster*, I would fain hope that you are not in a worse situation than you then were, though I confess I have greatly feared that their misfortunes would be succeeded by others, on account of your unhappy condition and the dispirited state of the officers and men. If they have not, I trust when you are joined by three regiments now raising in this and the Governments of *Connecticut* and *New-Hampshire*, and two others, ordered by the Congress from *Pennsylvania* and the *Jerseys* with the men already sent by Colonel *Warner*, that these misfortunes will be done away, and things resume a more favourable and promising appearance than ever.

I need not mention to you the great importance of this place, and the consequent possession of all *Canada* in the scale of *American* affairs; you are well apprized of it. To whomsoever it belongs, in their favour, probably, will the balance turn. If it is in ours, success, I think, will most certainly crown our virtuous struggles; if it is in theirs, the contest, at least, will be doubtful, hazardous, and bloody. The glorious work must be accomplished in the course of this Winter, otherwise it will become difficult, most probably impracticable. For Administration knowing that it will be impossible ever to reduce us to a state of slavery and arbitrary rule without it, will certainly send a large reinforcement there in the Spring. I am fully convinced that your exertions will be invariably directed to this grand object; and I already view the approaching day, when you and your brave followers will enter this important Fortress with every honour and triumph attendant on victory and conquest. Then will you have added the only link wanting in the great chain of Continental Union, and rendered the freedom of your country secure.

Wishing you a speedy recovery, and the possession of those laurels which your bravery and perseverance justly merit, I am, dear sir, &c.,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To Colonel *Arnold*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO WILLIAM WHIPPLE.

Cambridge, January 27, 1776.

SIR: There were three accounts exhibited against the *United Colonies*, by different persons in your Province:

One by *Jonathan Burnham* for - -	£40	7	5
One for horse hire, &c., per *Sam'l Hobart*,	8	5	0
One by yourself for sundry expenses, - -	26	2	5
	£74	14	10

I think it will be more regular that the accounts above mentioned should be settled by Agents, that will doubtless be appointed by the Congress, to settle the accounts that are or may be depending with the different Provinces. This is the reason that I do not at present enter upon an examination of these accounts.

I am, sir, your most humble servant,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To *William Whipple*, Esq.

[GENERAL WASHINGTON] TO THE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY AT NEWBURYPORT.

Cambridge, January 27, 1776.

I am commanded by his Excellency General *Washington*, to inquire from your Committee about two hundred and fifteen stand of arms which belonged to the Province, and were sent by General *Sullivan* to *Portsmouth*. As this Army stands much in need of good arms, the General would be glad to know from you, whether these arms are returned or not; if they are, it will be doing great service to the country that they be with all speed forwarded to this camp. I am, &c.,

To the Committee of Safety, at *Newburyport*.

THOMAS PALMER TO PHILIP LIVINGSTON.

Newburgh, January 28, 1776.

SIR: I cannot account for the conduct of our Committee of Safety with respect to the fortification to be erected at *Pooploop's Point*, in the *Highlands*. It was seven days after my return from *Philadelphia* before any letter was sent to the Commissioners; and when they received it, it contained only the resolve of the Continental Congress, without any instructions accompanying it. The Commissioner then at the post not judging proper to proceed, sent off a person express to the Committee for instructions. This express returned but yesterday, and (as I am informed) the instructions now are, to finish a piece of work now begun at *Martelaer's Point*, which, I suppose, will take up near a month. Whether the Committee of Safety has received any further advice from the Continental Congress which may justify their conduct, I know not. If they have not, I think their conduct most unaccountable. The season of the year is no argument why they cannot proceed, as there is now lying at *New-Windsor* the timber and other materials for a barrack; the boards already dressed, those for the floors grooved, and the shingles prepared for the roof. Besides, a more favourable season than the present cannot be, at this season of the year, for transporting the same down to *Pooploop's Point*, as the river is now so froze, that sleighs go frequently on the ice with great safety, and teams may easily be collected to carry it down in one day to the spot. And the carpenters can have lodgings in the neighbourhood of *Pooploop's Paint*, while they may be putting this barrack up, which can be done in a very short time, and, when finished, will be a sufficient cover for one hundred and sixty men, (or more, if necessary.) And should the present opportunity be neglected until the river begins to break up, another chance may not happen until the middle of *March* or the first of *April*, and, by that means, all work at this important post must be neglected, until such a season as that we may be daily exposed to the enemy, with no other place of defence than that at *Martelaer's Point*, which I think nothing of, even with the little addition they are now erecting, for, when that is done, not a single gun can command the reach of the river. Moreover, if this barrack were carried down and covered, the season would not prevent throwing up the battery at *Martelaer's Point;* and a better season cannot be than the present, to collect, from the country back, such timber as may be necessary for carrying on the work. Another most material article, and that is, two and a half inch plank, for the platform of the fortification, which ought now to be engaged at the mills, to be ready early in the Spring.

If, therefore, a fortification at *Pooploop's Point* is of real importance for the security of part of this and the other Provinces, it ought by no means to be delayed, especially when there is no kind of difficulty in prosecuting of it. I gave my sentiments to the Committee before I left *New-York*; and have since mentioned it in the postscript of a letter to them on another occasion; and as nothing is yet done, and our time wasting, I thought proper to communicate my sentiments to you, and desire you will confer with Mr. *Jay* on the matter; and should you be of opinion with me, I think you ought to consult with Colonel *McDougall*, and some other principal gentlemen of the Provincial Congress now at *New-York*, that a matter of so much importance as this may happen to be, may not any longer be neglected.

I am, sir, with due respect, your most humble servant,

THOMAS PALMER.

To *Philip Livingston*, Esq.

EDWARD MOTT TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Salisbury, January 28, 1776.

HONOURED SIR: Since my last I have been through the town of *Canaan*, as well as in this town, and have had some opportunity with the inhabitants, and find that when I wrote to your Honour I had not the true and genuine sentiments of the people in these parts, as they inform me. They say that they had been taught to believe that I never held any commission till last year, and that I knew nothing of my duty without first inquiring of Captain *Buel*. I was surprised to hear the suggestion, as I am sure I never went to inquire after my duty from that quarter; and I find that the people are not uneasy, as I then supposed, but that a small dust hath been struck up by some designing persons. My rank is as I hinted to your Honour in my last, but still desire that things may be so conducted as shall be for the best good of the service. If I should go in the service, and Captain *Buel* should not, should be glad that Captain *John Stevens* might be thought of in *Canaan*. I should also think that Mr. *Strong*, the bearer of this, might be serviceable, if appointed to be an officer in the service. If your Honour should think proper to raise any more of the regiment in the eastward part of the Colony, there are Captain *Belcher* and Captain *Witter*, both of *Preston*, who would be glad of an appointment, and I should think would soon raise men for subalterns. Captain *Throop* will be able to advise. I mention this, as Captain *Starr*, and some others your Honour appointed, are in other service.

I am, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

EDWARD MOTT.

To His Honour *Jonathan Trumbull*, Esq., Governour of *Connecticut*.

P. S. HONOURED SIR: I should have wrote more, but this is all the paper that I can obtain. Would just mention, that I never disputed rank with Captain *Buel*, last year, as General *Schuyler* gave me an appointment soon after his arrival, which was above any single Captain in the Army, so that I never did duty with him.

EDWARD MOTT.

JOHN FOWLER TO NEW-YORK COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

New-York, January 28, 1776.

HONOURED SIR: In doing a good natured action to oblige one of my customers, I have been unhappily drawn in to be suspected of being unfriendly to the country that gave me existence, although what I did was without any other design than to serve my neighbour, and, therefore, innocent; yet, as I get my livelihood by keeping a publick house, and as this matter of my having been suspected of being an enemy to my country, will become publick, and spread abroad, even among my customers and country friends, and they, not knowing my innocence, may avoid me, and, therefore, it may become prejudicial to my business; I, therefore, entreat it as a favour, that whenever your honourable Board shall be fully satisfied of my innocence in the matter, that you will be pleased to give me such certificate, for me to publish to the world, of your being

so satisfied, as shall restore me to the good opinion of the publick, at least, that I may be left as I was found.

Which would greatly oblige, honoured sir, your most obedient, and very humble servant,

JOHN FOWLER.

To the Chairman of the Honourable Committee of Safety, for the Province of *New-York*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO CAPTAIN MANLY.

Cambridge, January 28, 1776.

SIR: I received your agreeable letter of the 26th instant, giving an account of your having taken and carried into *Plymouth*, two of the enemy's transports. Your conduct in engaging the eight-gun schooner, with so few hands as you went out with, your attention in securing your prizes, and your general good behaviour since you first engaged in the service, merits mine and your country's thanks.

You may be assured that every attention will be paid to any reasonable request of yours, and that you shall have the command of a stronger vessel of war; but, as it will take up some time before such a one can be fitted out, my desire is, that you continue in the *Hancock*, until the end of the cruise. When that is out you will come to Head-Quarters, and we will confer together on the subject of the other ship.

I wish you could engage men at *Plymouth* to make your complement at least forty strong. It would enable you to encounter the small tenders that may fall in your way, though I would rather have you avoid an engagement, until you have a ship that will place you upon a more equal footing with your enemy. I need not recommend to you to proceed again and pursue your good fortune.

I wish you could inspire the Captains of the other armed schooners under your command with some of your activity and industry. Cannot you appoint such stations for them, where they may have the best chance of intercepting supplies going to the enemy? They dare not disobey your orders, as it is mentioned in the instructions I have given to each of them, that they are to be under your command as Commodore; and, as such, I desire that you will give them such instructions in writing, as to you will appear proper for the good of the service.

I am, sir, wishing you a continuance of success, yours, &c.,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To Commodore *John Manly*, of the *Hancock*, Armed Schooner.

[GENERAL WASHINGTON] TO COMMITTEE OF NEWBURYPORT, MASSACHUSETTS.

Cambridge, January 28, 1776.

SIR: The great need this Army is in for good arms makes it necessary to endeavour to procure them in any place where his Excellency thinks they may be had without great inconveniency; he has commanded me, to beg your consent that the arms you was pleased to lend General *Sullivan*, on his last excursion to *Portsmouth*, may be sent to this camp, for which the appraised value will be cheerfully paid. Colonel *Parsons* will deliver you this, and has the General's instructions to send them to *Cambridge*, provided your honourable Committee have no objections to parting with them. When they know that it will be of the greatest service to the glorious cause we are engaged in, that these arms should be put into the hands of our soldiers, I dare say they will readily comply with his Excellency's request, and give Colonel *Parsons* an order for them, which will very much oblige the General.

I have the honour to be, &c.

To *Jonathan Jackson*, Esq., Chairman, &c.

[GENERAL WASHINGTON] TO THE COMMITTEE OF PORTSMOUTH, NEW-HAMPSHIRE.

Cambridge, January 28, 1776.

SIR: Colonel *Parsons* has instructions from his Excellency to get an order from the Committee at *Newburyport*, for the delivery of two hundred and fifteen stand of arms, which General *Sullivan* ordered in his name should be delivered for the service on which he last went to *Portsmouth*. It is the General's request that these arms be delivered up to Colonel *Parsons*. I am, &c.

To —— ——, Esq., Chairman, &c.

ROBERT H. HARRISON TO WILLIAM WATSON.

Cambridge, January 28, 1776.

SIR: Your letter to his Excellency of the 26th, is come to hand, with the papers found on board the *Norfolk*, and *Happy-Return*, transports, taken by Commodore *Manly*. You will please to libel them immediately, and the sooner they are brought to trial the more agreeable it will be to the General. You will take notice that the private property of the Captains and crews are to be carefully guarded for them, and that his Excellency approves much of your precaution in getting the ships to the wharf in order to secure the small articles from pillagers.

I hope the *Harrison* is out on her cruise, and wish she may make a successful one. The General writes by this conveyance to the Commodore. If he is in port you will please to give him the letter. Yours, &c.

To *William Watson*, Esq., *Plymouth*.

SUSSEX COUNTY (VIRGINIA) COMMITTEE.

Committee Chamber, January 29, 1776.

This Committee from tender feelings for their poor suffering and distressed brethren of the Borough of *Norfolk*, (who, from their small possessions, and daily labour, were enabled to support themselves, their wives, and tender infants,) are by the tyrannical, cruel, and destructive executioner of Ministerial vengeance, Lord *Dunmore*, and his banditti of Blacks, and *Scotch* Tories, and Jacobites, reduced to the most affecting wants of every necessary support of life, have resolved to exert themselves (in which they have the pleasure to find their constituents zealously joining them) in providing houses for the reception of as many poor people as they can, with a sufficient quantity of land to cultivate; to which the Committee, in the most affectionate manner, invite them, hoping thereby, in some measure, to alleviate anxiety, and remove their distresses, in being thus provided for by their brethren beyond the reach of Lord *Dunmore's* oppressive hand, and the dreadful effects of his nocturnal design, and robberies, declaring at the same time, that this invitation does not proceed from those base, ungenerous, and selfish views suggested by his Lordship, in his late publication, but from motives that his Lordship and his abetters appear to be entire strangers to.

AUGUSTINE CLAIBORNE, *Chairman*.

HANOVER COUNTY (VIRGINIA) COMMITTEE.

At a meeting of the Committee, on *Monday*, the 29th of *January*, the following gentlemen were chosen Officers to the Company of Regulars to be raised in this County, viz: *Richard Clough Anderson*, Captain; *John Anderson*, First Lieutenant; *William Bentley*, Second Lieutenant, and *Robert Tompkins*, Ensign.

Extract from the Proceedings:

WILLIAM BENTLEY, *Clerk*.

JOHN HANCOCK TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Philadelphia, January 29, 1776.

SIR: The Congress have received your letter of the 19th instant, and highly commend your prudence and zeal, in applying to the Governments of *New-Hampshire*, *Massachusetts-Bay*, and *Connecticut*, to raise forces for the service of *Canada* at this exigency. They have fond hopes, by the zeal and alacrity of those Colonies, troops will be forwarded with such expedition as will not only succour our friends, but in some measure retrieve our loss, and put us in possession of *Quebeck* before our enemies can receive reinforcements.

The Congress have agreed to add the *Massachusetts* Regiment to the forces they at first destined for *Canada*; this is the more necessary, as it is now uncertain whether two battalions, as was expected, can be raised out of the troops in that country; but they do not, by this, mean to weaken your Army. They have, therefore, ordered that

the three regiments you applied for from *Massachusetts-Bay*, *New-Hampshire*, and *Connecticut*, shall be exclusive of the thirteen wanted for the Army at *Cambridge*.

By the latest advices from *England*, it appears that Administration are determined to exert themselves, and send a considerable force against us next Spring, though, at the same time, they pretend to say that they will offer terms of accommodation, and mean only, by their armament, to enforce their terms. It behooves us, therefore, to be ready to receive them; for, should an accommodation take place, the terms will be severe, or favourable, in proportion to our ability to resist.

The Congress highly approve your sending General *Lee* to the assistance of *New-York*, as a measure judicious and necessary, and have also appointed three of their body to repair to *New-York*, and confer with General *Lee* and the Committee of Safety of *New-York*, on the subject of putting that Colony in a posture of defence.

General *Prescott* arrived here last *Thursday*, and is this day ordered into close confinement in the jail of this city. I must beg leave to refer you to the enclosed resolutions.

I send, by this express, commissions for the *Massachusetts* battalion, and the money ordered, to the Assembly.

I have the honour to be, with the greatest esteem, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO ASSEMBLY OF MASSACHUSETTS-BAY.

Philadelphia, January 29, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The Congress highly approve the prudence and zeal of the General, in applying to you and the other Colonies, to raise forces for the service of *Canada* in the present exigency; and, at the same time, highly commend the ready attention you have shown to his application, and the alacrity with which you undertook, and the expedition with which you proceed in, the business. These they consider as additional proofs of your meritorious attachment to the common cause, and may produce signal advantages.

There is the greatest reason to hope that the speedy arrival of troops in *Canada* will not only repair the losses our troops have met with there, but, in all probability, put us in possession of *Quebeck* before our enemies can send reinforcements.

It is easy to perceive how much this will advance our cause, and disappoint our enemies. It is, therefore, the earnest desire of the Congress that you would continue to exert your utmost endeavours, with all possible expedition, to raise and forward both the regiment and matrosses. That no time may be lost, I am directed to forward to you blank commissions, and to inform you that twelve thousand five hundred dollars are drawn for, and will be sent you, for defraying the expenses of raising, equipping, and paying the men, which you will please to despatch by companies as fast as they can be got ready. The Congress have adopted the recommendation of your House to the General, respecting the arms of the soldiers, as you will perceive by the enclosed resolutions.

I would just observe that, important as the service in *Canada* is, it cannot be carried on without specie. It is, therefore, earnestly recommended to the several Legislatures on the Continent to collect whatever silver and gold they can, and inform Congress thereof, that they may send Continental bills in exchange for it. In this business I trust your zeal will not be wanting.

I have the honour to be, &c.,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

To the Assembly of *Massachusetts-Bay*.

PETER T. CURTENIUS TO NEW-YORK COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

New-York, January 29, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Agreeable to your desire, I have inquired about raven's duck, and found some at Mr. *Grant's*, for which he asks five pounds ten shillings per piece, which is forty-five shillings per piece higher than I gave for the same sort last Summer. Should be glad to have your orders how much to purchase, as Mr. *Grant* has had an offer for the whole he has, which is about twenty-five pieces.

I am, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

PETER T. CURTENIUS.

To the Committee of Safety.

P. S. Enclosed is a calculation which Mr. *Grant* sent me, by which it appears it costs four pounds one shilling and six pence per piece.

WILLIAM PALFREY TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Stamford, January 29, 1776.

SIR: General *Lee*, being unfortunately visited with the gout or rheumatism, has directed me to enclose to your Excellency the copy of a letter he has just received, by express, from the President of the Continental Congress. General *Lee* would have wrote you, but the position of writing is so very painful that he hopes you will excuse him. Notwithstanding his illness, he is determined to go forward to-morrow in a litter, which he has ordered to be prepared for that purpose. He begs his compliments to Mrs. *Washington* and the family, to which we beg leave to add those of Mr. *Byrd*, and your Excellency's most obedient and humble servant,

WILLIAM PALFREY, *Aid-de-camp*.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read February 9, 1776.]

Albany, Monday, January 29, 1776.

SIR: Yesterday, at four o'clock, I had the honour to receive your despatches of the 20th instant.

Congress will perceive by the copy of General *Washington's* letter, which I had the honour to enclose you in my last, that a regiment is raising in the *Massachusetts-Bay*; and yesterday I received a letter from Colonel *Fellows*, who was to have raised and commanded a regiment in consequence of my consent given to the Committee of *Berkshire*. I hope my answer to that letter will prove satisfactory to Congress.

On *Sunday*, *January* 14, I wrote to General *Wooster*. The following is an extract of my letter:

"DEAR SIR: At six last night, Mr. *Antill* delivered me your despatches. It is much easier to conceive than to describe the distress it has occasioned me. In the gallant and amiable General *Montgomery* the Continent has suffered a vast loss. May Heaven graciously be pleased to extricate you out of the perilous situation you are in. At this distance it would be presumption in me to direct what measures should be taken; these can only be determined by events as they turn up. May *God* guide your councils and bless your operations.

"Expresses are already gone to Congress and General *Washington*. I have proposed to the latter, to detach three thousand men to your assistance by the way of *Number Four*, *Onion-River*, and *Missisque-Bay*. I have furnished Colonel *Warner* with money to engage all the men he possibly can, and to send them on to you without the least delay. I am in great hopes from that gentleman's zeal, that he will be able to procure men.

"As I have by repeated letters observed to Congress the necessity of sending troops immediately into *Canada*, it is probable that some are on their march from *New-Jersey*; the moment they arrive here, I shall push them forward, or conduct them myself, if my health will permit. I shall arrange matters in such a manner that I make no doubt they will arrive in *Canada* in six or seven days from this.

"I am very happy that you have issued orders not to let any men depart, although the term for which they are inlisted is expired. You may rest assured, sir, that a conduct so prudent, will meet with the fullest approbation.

"By all means secure a retreat for Colonel *Arnold* at *Montreal*; and should *Carleton* follow you there, as you may certainly expect succours, I do not doubt but you will suffer every hardship before you will give up the town. Our cause, sir, is just, and I trust that Divine Providence will dispel this untoward cloud, and that we shall again receive its smiles."

As I have no return of the arrangement made in *Ca-*

nada, I cannot fill up the commissions; I sometime ago wrote to General *Montgomery* for it, and should probably have had it, had we been so happy as not to have lost him. I have reminded General *Wooster* of it, and am in hopes I shall soon receive the proper returns.

I am making every preparation in my power to facilitate the march of the troops into *Canada*. Biscuit is baking here, at *Fort-George*, and *Ticonderoga;* and I have had a quantity of the most portable pork boiled, to be used on the march. I am much put to it to procure a sufficient number felling-axes, but hope to receive some from *New-England*, to which I have sent.

Permit me to observe, that intrenching tools of every kind will be wanted in very considerable numbers, whether we do or do not possess ourselves of *Quebeck* in the course of the Winter.

The hint General *Wooster*, has given of sending Sutlers to *Canada*, is a very good one. If I can get any good men to go, I will venture to assist them, on proper security, with money out of the military chest here, to purchase the necessary articles, and let them repay it in *Canada*.

From all the inquiries I have made, I have reason to conclude, that the want of a small circulating medium greatly distresses our people in *Canada*. Perhaps it will have a good effect, and tend to introduce the circulation of all our paper currency in *Canada*, if Congress was to furnish some persons, such as may be depended upon, with ten thousand pounds in specie, and send them to *Canada* with twice or thrice that amount in small bills, none exceeding a dollar, and a great proportion of them of one shilling only. When a soldier receives his pay in Continental money, he might go to those persons and get small change, and if it was then promulgated that any holder of such small bills might immediately receive cash for them, and that being punctually complied with for a little time, their credit, I fancy, would be so well established, that very few more would be brought in. The expense in emitting these bills would, I conceive, be compensated to the publick by the wearing out of the bills. I am the rather induced to believe that this plan would have the effect I expect from it, as the bills emitted last Spring by the Committee of this County, and which were small, are not brought in for redemption, although the Committee have repeatedly advertised for them. Many of the bills should be one shilling and six pence, two shillings and six pence, and three shillings and six pence, as with these six pence may be paid, where no more is due, by changing.

The expense that arises by the officers that are prisoners is extremely high. I have desired them to pay the bills, and promised to repay as much as Congress should allow. In future I shall allow only fire-wood, candles, and lodgings. I shall order the expense that has attended them to be made out, and transmit it as soon as I can. The transportation of the clothing should be charged to them, as also that of such women as are above what each company is allowed. It is even a great burden that we are to furnish these with provisions.

The six *Highland* chiefs will leave this next *Monday*. The others whom the *Tryon* County Committee have sent down, appear to me to have no influence. I have desired that the charges against them should be reduced to writing. If they should appear frivolous, which I suspect to be the case, I will take security for their forthcoming whenever Congress shall please to direct it.

I am, most respectfully, your obedient, humble servant,

PHILIP SCHUYLER.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq., &c., &c.

P. S. Mr. *Trumbull* has delivered me the enclosed this moment, and as none of the *Connecticut* people have been paid, a considerable sum will be wanted for that purpose. What I have still in hands may amount to about twenty-five thousand dollars. P. S.

—

Sheffield, January 27, 1776.

SIR: Your letter of the 22d, this instant by *Timothy Edwards* and *Theodore Sedgwick*, Esquires, I received, with the money for paying the men their bounty and the officers their advance pay.

Being fully apprehensive of the importance of getting men into *Canada* as soon as possible, I immediately directed the officers, nominated by the Committee of this County, to inlist the men with all speed, and, agreeable to your orders, gave them money to pay forty shillings, lawful, to each inlisted soldier, as a bounty; and I find, by the returns made before this day, about two hundred and eighty-six men have been inlisted, one hundred and ten of which, I am informed, have marched and joined to Colonel *Warner's* Regiment, who had received part or all of their bounty, from the money sent to me. The remainder, I have ordered to march immediately to *Albany*, with a part of the officers, there to receive further orders from yourself.

While I was proceeding in this matter as fast as possible, I received information from Colonel *Williams* (who was nominated to be the Lieutenant-Colonel of this regiment now raising) that General *Washington* had applied to the Assembly of this Colony, to raise a regiment of men from this County and the County of *Hampshire*, to march immediately into *Canada*, (the men to be inlisted for a year,) with which requisition the Assembly have complied, and said Colonel *Williams* has received a commission for Lieutenant-Colonel in that regiment; upon the receipt of which information, I thought it my duty to give you notice thereof immediately, that I may have your further orders upon this occasion, whether I shall proceed and endeavour to fill up my regiment, pay the men their bounty, and march them forward, as fast as may be, or whether I shall forbear inlisting more men?

The speediest information of your orders, by the bearer hereof, will much oblige your most humble servant,

JOHN FELLOWS.

To Major-General *Schuyler*.

P. S. I conclude there are a large number of men inlisted of which I have received no return, as yet. I, also, would inform you, that our Assembly have directed that three companies be raised from this County, as a part of the regiment which they have directed to be raised as aforementioned; and if my regiment is raised, I apprehend those three companies cannot be inlisted in this County. I, therefore, beg leave to propose to you, whether the men already inlisted had not better proceed under Colonel *Williams*, and join with the other regiment when it shall arrive at *Canada*, and no more be inlisted. If so, I myself, and Major *Cady*, may stay at home, and thereby save publick expense.

I write this with the advice of several gentlemen of the Committee of this County. Yours, &c., J. F.

—

Albany, half after ten o'clock, A. M., January 28, 1776.

SIR: Your favour of yesterday's date was this moment delivered to me. I thank you for the information it contains, and am happy to learn that you have already inlisted so considerable a number of men.

As the Assembly of *Massachusetts-Bay* have ordered a regiment to be raised, and the men to be inlisted for a year, it will supersede the necessity of raising any more in consequence of my directions to you; but I do not wish that those already inlisted (who, I suppose, will not serve beyond the 15th of *April*,) should be considered as part of the regiment to be raised by virtue of the act or order of your Assembly, unless they would, also, engage for a year. I, therefore, hope they will march without delay, and the whole to be under the command of Major *Cady*, as Major-Commandant of the corps, unless you should think proper to take the command of them.

It is with infinite satisfaction that I learn the alacrity with which my countrymen step forth on this occasion; it will at once redound much to the honour of the persons who engage in this service, and those who have been active in promoting it, and, also, evince to our enemies that no obstacles can deter *Americans* from prosecuting their righteous cause.

Your zeal, sir, on this occasion, merits the thanks of your country: if mine are worth accepting, you have them, most sincerely, and I shall not fail of doing myself the pleasure to mention you and the respectable Committee of *Berkshire* to Congress in honourable terms.

I am, sir, with much respect, your most humble servant,

PHILIP SCHUYLER.

To Colonel *John Fellows*.

WILLIAM WATSON TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Plymouth, January 29, 1776.

SIR: I must ask your Excellency's pardon for omitting, in my last, some very material circumstances relative to the capture of Commodore *Manly*'s last prizes. I had not, when I wrote, got an exact account of the matter, since which the Commodore tells me that he had taken the prizes, and had put his people on board them some time before the tender came to their assistance; that there were two other vessels from *Nova-Scotia*, with stock, in company with these ships, and that the whole fleet, with the tender, would have been taken, had it not been for the cowardice of one of our Continental armed vessels, who was very near them, but dared not engage, and who made the best of his way off.

Commodore *Manly* fought in very disadvantageous circumstances, not having more than sixteen of his own people on board; but then he received considerable assistance from his prisoners, more particularly from the Captains, who did as much as they dared do in such circumstances.

Your Excellency will please to direct me in what manner I shall conduct with these Captains, relative to what they brought with them on their own account, memorandum of which is enclosed. If these people are indulged to return to *Plymouth* to take care of their effects, (provided their private adventures are given them,) will it be any disadvantage to the publick? However, your Excellency will much oblige our people, particularly the people belonging to the armed vessels, if you will permit the baizes and checks to be stopped here, as they are greatly wanted to make them shirts.

Commodore *Manly* is now in our harbour; has been puzzled with the ice, with which we are now blocked up, but has received no damage.

The *Harrison*, Captain *Dyar*, is now in the ice, has lost an anchor and cable, but we hope to find them again; we are now cutting the ice, and hope to get him out without further damage.

I shall do every thing in my power to forward getting these vessels to sea, as a large number of ships, from *England*, are expected, with provisions, and but one of them is of any force.

Captain *Morton*, of the Artillery, the bearer of this, takes charge of the prisoners, Captains *Hall* and *Grindall*, who would have been sent forward before, had not the extreme cold weather prevented.

I am, most respectfully, your Excellency's most obedient, much obliged, very humble servant,

WILLIAM WATSON.

To His Excellency *George Washington*, Esq.

Tuesday morning, eight o'clock.—The *Hancock*, *Manly*, and the *Yankee*, *Burnes*, are now under sail, bound on a cruise.

Memorandum of Sundries, belonging to the Captains HALL *and* GRINDALL, *viz:*

Twelve pieces checked lining, cost 36*l.* 12*s.* 2*d.*; ten pieces red baize, cost 14*l.* 1*s.* 6*d.*; four pieces coarse lining, cost 6*l.* 1*s.* 4*d.*; two ullages *Jamaica* rum; one handgun; twenty barrels of beef; eight ditto pork.

The above on board the ships *Norfolk* and *Happy-Return*, at *Plymouth*, *January* 30, 1776.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM A GENTLEMAN AT BOSTON TO HIS FRIEND IN EDINBURGH, DATED JANUARY 29, 1776.

I imagine, by being so long of hearing from me, you must think I had forgotten my promise of writing you from this place, as, at leaving *Scotland*, I expected to have been in *Jamaica* long before this; but I had a very tedious passage out, having only got here the 23d of *December*, and, indeed, I thought myself very lucky I got in at all, as I lost the convoy upon the passage, and the Rebels have a good many vessels cruising about, that have taken several ships bound to this place; besides, there has been such blowing weather, that I believe there are a good many vessels drove off the coast, which will be obliged to winter in the *West-Indies*; however, there are so many got safe here, that both army and navy have plenty of salt provisions. They were a little short of firing when I arrived, which was attended with no other inconvenience than the trouble of pulling down some of the Rebels' houses to burn, which has thinned them a little; but now we have got a large supply of coals, which it is expected will serve the remainder of the Winter.

We are so close shut up here, that we know very little of what is doing any where. Fresh provisions are very scarce; but I hope it will not be the case long, as there are more troops and transports expected very soon.

The General has detained most of the ships that came with provisions for the army, and the Admiral those that came with provisions for the navy; so that we make up a large fleet, I believe the finest ever seen here. I imagine they will find employment for us all in the Spring, as it is reported we are to have three different armies in the field. At present, we have nothing to do but keep ourselves as warm and merry as we can.

The Rebels have been very quiet ever since I arrived. They gave a small alarm about a fortnight ago, which occasioned a little confusion, but was soon over. The officers have fitted up a play-house, and some of them had wrote a farce, called *The Blockade of Boston*. The first night it was to be acted the house was very full. The play being over, the curtain was hauled up for the entertainment to begin, when a Sergeant came in and told the officers the alarm guns were fired at *Charlestown*, which made no small stir in the house, every one endeavouring to get out as fast as possible; and immediately we heard a pretty smart firing of small arms. It being dark, and the rascals making a great huzzaing, I did not know what to make of it at first, but it was soon over, so that I went quietly to sleep about eleven o'clock, and next morning found all the mischief had been done was three or four men taken, who had been among the old ruins of *Charlestown*, a mill burnt down, and the company disappointed of their entertainment.

CAROLINE COUNTY (VIRGINIA) COMMITTEE.

January 30, 1776.

The Committee of the County of *Caroline*, averse to rendering any person a publick spectacle of contempt, except for a flagrant breach of the General Association, and having once excused a certain *Rodham Kenner*, of the said County, for deviating from the rules prescribed by the Congress, now find themselves under the necessity of publishing to the world the infamous behaviour of the said *Kenner*, who, forgetting the former clemency of this Committee, has a second time violated the Association, by continuing to game unlawfully, and to entice others, first by making them drunk, to become partakers of his guilt. These circumstances being fully proved to the Committee, they would be forgetful of their duty, if they did not advise the people of their own County in particular, and of the Colony in general, to avoid all manner of dealings with the said *Rodham Kenner*, and to treat him in future as every enemy to *American* liberty deserves.

ANTHONY THORNTON, *Chairman pro tem.*
SAMUEL HAWES, JUN., *Clerk.*

CHARLOTTE COUNTY (VIRGINIA) COMMITTEE.

In Committee, held for *Charlotte* County, *January* 30, 1776:

The Reverend *Thomas Johnston* presented the following concessions to this Committee, expressing his contrition for his former behaviour; which were approved, and ordered to be published in the *Virginia Gazette*, viz:

"GENTLEMEN: My having drunk success to the *British* arms, in company with Mrs. *Tankersly* and Mr. *Edmund Read*, as well as having continued to deal with Mr. *McConnico*, a then violator of the Association, which gave offence to the good people of this County in general, and to you in particular, gives me real concern. However, I solemnly declare it was done inadvertently. All my dependance, my nearest and dearest connexions, are in this country, and I expect to share with the *Americans* in the present unhappy contest, whether the event proves good or bad. If the most unfeigned sorrow for having made use

of an unguarded expression, joined to the most determined resolution of promoting the interest, happiness, and prosperity of *America*, (according to the best of my power and capacity,) can obtain your forgiveness, I shall then think myself extremely happy in being re-established in the good graces of my country.

THOMAS JOHNSTON.

To Mr. ALEXANDER PURDIE:

SIR: Please to insert the above in your paper at the request of the Committee of *Charlotte*.

By order of the Committee:

WILLIAM JAMESON, *Clerk*.

STEPHEN WEST TO MR. BURGESS.

Woodyard, January 30, 1776.

SIR: I wrote to you pretty fully from *Fredericktown*, to the care of Mr. *Sprigg* and Mr. *Hall*, and wrote also to those gentlemen. I hope you, and your spouse and family have been happily situated this Winter. I have just received a letter from your brother-in law, Captain *Robinson*, who is gone out Lieutenant in an armed vessel in the service of the Province. I shall give you his words: "I have another request to make you about a matter I am very anxious for, viz: that you will please to countenance my brother-in-law, Mr. *Burgess;* he is come over at an unlucky time for himself, as to what he primarily intended, but he is remarkably ingenious, and well versed in drawing and in military matters; he may be a very useful hand at this time, should there occur any thing in which he could be employed. I am confident his conduct would give satisfaction."

So far your brother. Now, sir, in conformity to his letter, I have wrote to the honourable Council of Safety at *Annapolis*. If you have any desire of being employed, it will be your best way, I think, to wait upon them and offer your service; and if you have interest enough with Mr. *Hall*, either to go with you or unto the Council of Safety in your behalf, I think it might be of service. The small acquaintance between us prevents my saying further. My respect for *Isaiah* and all his friends is sincere.

And I am, with very good regard, sir, your friend and servant,

STEPHEN WEST.

To Mr. *Burgess*, at *Hagerstown*.

P. S. If you come this way, I shall be glad to see you.

STEPHEN WEST TO DANIEL OF ST. THOMAS JENIFER.

Woodyard, January 30, 1776.

MY GOOD SIR: Having occasion for some money this week, I have sent up my son with the agreement, order, and certificate, relative to my powder and lead, with the amount. I shall be much obliged to you for your favour in despatching him, as he proposes to return the same day. I have wrote to the honourable Council of Safety upon this and other matters. From my agreement with the Committee of Secrecy, the Treasurer, I think, ought to pay me at once; but you know best whether you or your clerk must first give an order. What is the highest exchange you give for good bills? Please tell *Willy*. I enclose the papers.

I am, with sincere respect, your faithful and obedient servant,

STEPHEN WEST.

To the Honourable *Doniel of St. Thomas Jenifer*, Esq.

STEPHEN WEST TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Woodyard, January 30, 1776.

HONOURABLE GENTLEMEN: I think it my duty to acquaint you that I have received a letter from Captain *Isaiah Robinson*, Lieutenant of the *Hornet*, Captain *Stone*, dated off *Annapolis*, desiring me to recommend him to your favour. I know him to be a very honest, sensible, faithful man; it will be seen how he behaves in his present station. He writes to me on another subject. I shall give you his words:

"I have another request to make you about a matter that I am very anxious for, viz: that you will please to countenance my brother-in-law, Mr. *Burgess;* he is come over at an unlucky time for himself, as to what he primarily intended, but as he is remarkably ingenious, and well versed in drawing, and in military matters, he may be a very useful hand at this time, should there occur any thing in which he could be employed. I am confident his conduct would give satisfaction."

So far Captain *Robinson;* and as to the gentleman in question, Mr. *Burgess*, I have seen him; he is a sensible, clever, middle-aged man, from *Ireland;* brought his wife and children, and is now at *Hagerstown*. His intention was for *Fort-Chartres*, on the *Illinois*, in the view of a grant there, where he has friends. I believe he is both a sea and land officer—perhaps of the Marines. He appears to me to be a man of great spirit and understanding; and, if he was to engage in the *American* service, would be of use. Captain *Stull*, or some of the officers there, might sound him, but I would rather wish that the honourable Council themselves were to examine him. I enclose a letter to him, which may be forwarded or not, as you judge proper.

Last night, about eight o'clock, came here a drummer, engaged by Colonel *Murdock* for Captain *Sims's* Company, on foot. He had a letter for Colonel *Sims*, and being resolute to proceed, I sent a servant and horses with him to Colonel *Sims*.

The man informed me that one of the Minute officers from *Alexandria* had wrote to his wife that Lord *Dunmore* was on his way up to *Alexandria*, and would be up as soon as the river permitted, therefore desired her to remove; that thirty wagons were constantly employed at *Alexandria*, removing their effects, &c. Colonel *Sims* wrote me late last night, that *John Murdock*, from *Georgetown*, wrote him by the drummer that *Dunmore* was above or about *St. Mary's*, in his way up to *Potomack*, and that they were there preparing to receive him; but whether the *there* related to *Georgetown* or *St. Mary's*, I cannot tell; possibly *Georgetown*. This intelligence I thought it my duty to communicate.

When I was at *Annapolis*, in *December*, I received an order from the Committee of Secrecy to keep what powder and lead I had for their use, and they took an obligation from me so to do till they ordered a person to view it, when I was to have an order for my money. The Convention ordered Colonel *Sims* for that purpose, who sent here Messrs. *Crawford* and *Lee*. They saw it, took samples, sent them to *Annapolis*, were proved, and found good. Since then, the same gentlemen came here upon some disturbance on the *Potomack*, and desired, in the name of the Committee of Observation, that for safety it might be removed, under their inspection, to *Marlborough*. Accordingly, the next day I examined and weighed it all; had it put into good tight barrels, well coopered, carefully packed with hay, in trunks, well corded, and sent to *Marlborough*, according to the gentlemen's directions. There the whole lies ready for removal, and I desire to be paid, for which reason I send the necessary papers and authorities. I have an immediate occasion for the money, or I should not, just now, have sent. I apprehend the trunks and cording are absolutely necessary for the safe-keeping and transportation, but if thought otherwise, I will very readily keep them. I have been very exact and careful in this business, which I hope the honourable Council will approve of.

At a time when there is so much to be done as I think would employ every zealous man, I wonder to see so little stirring hereabouts, and my own busy head and fingers without a task—it is a very happy circumstance for me at this time, and I rejoice that matters are in other and abler hands. My good wishes and endeavours shall never be wanting on any occasion.

With the greatest esteem and respect, I am, honourable gentlemen, your most faithful and obedient servant,

STEPHEN WEST.

To the Honourable Council of Safety.

P. S. Mr. *Crawford* this day examined the powder and saw the lead weighed, of which he has given a certificate annexed to this order of the Committee of Secrecy. My son will wait on you, and receive the money, and take in my obligation of delivering, if necessary. S. W.

*

ROBERT ALEXANDER TO THE COUNCIL OF SAFETY OF MARYLAND.

Philadelphia, January 30, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: You have, enclosed, two resolutions of Congress, one respecting the collector of gold and silver for the pay of the troops in *Canada*, the other on the case of Mr. *Juge*, referred to Congress by the Convention of your Province.

In consequence of the resolve of the Convention, we made application to Congress to grant permission to consume the tea imported before the 1st of *February* last. The application was referred to a Committee of the Whole House, where the subject was debated for two days, and overruled by a majority of seven Colonies to five, (the last *New-York*, *Jersey*, *Pennsylvania*, *Delaware*, and *Maryland*,) and a report made by the Chairman that it was inexpedient to alter the Association. This report now lies on the table.

The loss of General *Montgomery*, with the particulars of his unfortunate attack on *Quebeck*, you will have heard. Measures are now taken by Congress which, I trust, will reduce *Carleton* and his few troops before the end of *February*. Had one-third of the succour been sent *Montgomery*, in all human probability the life of that brave and gallant officer had been saved, and *Quebeck* long ere this in our possession.

The instructions of the Convention are come to hand, but not as yet laid before Congress. I am much pleased with them. They entirely coincide with my judgment and that line of conduct which I had determined to pursue. The *Farmer*, and some others, to whom in confidence they were shown, say that they breathe that spirit which ought to govern all publick bodies, firmness tempered with moderation.

I am, gentlemen, with respect, your humble servant,

ROBERT ALEXANDER.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety.

GEORGE LEE TO COLONEL JOSHUA BEALL.

Gisborough, January 30, 1776.

SIR: Had I known on *Sunday* evening, when I received it, that the enclosed commission was intended for the Upper Battalion in this County, I should have then returned it. I was nominated by the officers of the companies of which the Lower Battalion is composed as a Field-Officer of that battalion; and as the gentlemen thought me unworthy of a commission there, I beg leave to return the one they sent me. I never aspired after a commission any where; but as the gentlemen officers aforesaid thought proper to mention me in their return, I should have done all in my power to render them satisfaction, had I been appointed.

I hope my refusal to act under this commission may not be construed into any disrespect shown to you and those under your command, as I can assure you nothing of the sort is intended.

I am, respectfully, your humble servant,

GEORGE LEE.

To Colonel *Joshua Beall.*

BERKS COUNTY (PENNSYLVANIA) COMMITTEE.

Reading, January 30, 1776.

The Committee of *Berks* County being justly alarmed at the attempts of the enemies of *America*, in the different parts of this Province, to depreciate the Continental Currency, and having received information that *Gaius Dickenson*, a publick Friend, has been one of the instruments in propagating so fatal a measure, the Committee, being determined to support the said Currency, sent for the said *Gaius Dickenson*, who, being brought before them, made the following Declaration, which was voted satisfactory:

"Whereas, I, the subscriber, have unfortunately been guilty of endeavouring to depreciate the Continental Currency, but being now convinced and satisfied that such a conduct is highly unbecoming the duty of an *American*, and tends immediately to obstruct the measures calculated to preserve the liberties of this country from the cruel and unrelenting oppressions of the *British* Court, do most sincerely acknowledge the heinousness of such offence, do beg pardon of my offended countrymen, and do also hereby solemnly engage and promise not to be guilty of a like offence in future, but to conform to such measures as shall be adjudged necessary for the preservation of the rights of *America*, trusting and confiding that nothing will be expected from me inconsistent with the religious principles of the Society with which I profess. And as a further atonement for my misconduct, I request this acknowledgment to be made publick, in hopes it may deter others from committing the like offence.

"Witness my hand, this thirtieth day of the first Month, in the year of our Lord 1776.

"GAIUS DICKENSON."

At the same time, one *William Gilliland*, who had been some time in confinement by order of the Committee, was brought up and discharged, after subscribing the following Acknowledgment of his misconduct:

"Whereas, I, the subscriber, have been so very wicked and abandoned as to speak at sundry times disrespectfully of the honourable the Continental Congress, and also have endeavoured to depreciate their Currency, for which detestable conduct I have, deservedly, been confined in the jail of this County by the Committee of said County, but being now fully convinced of the heinousness and horrid tendency of such conduct, do hereby, in the fullest manner, most sincerely beg pardon of my justly incensed countrymen, and do promise hereafter never to be guilty of the like, but in all instances to conform to such rules and regulations as may be instituted by that very respectable body for the preservation of our invaluable, but invaded, rights and liberties; and do further request that this my acknowledgment may be made publick, that others may be deterred from following my shameful and wicked practices.

"In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand, this thirtieth day of *January*, in the year of our Lord 1776.

"WILLIAM GILLILAND."

By order of the Committee:

MARK BYRD, *Chairman.*

SAMUEL TUCKER TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read January 31, 1776.]

Trenton, January 31, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I was last *Saturday* in *Burlington*; went to the Barracks to take a view of that part of Colonel *Maxwell's* Battalion, which I found in want of many necessaries, which must be provided for them before they can march. They are really, generally, likely men. On examining, I found the four companies had arms about sufficient for one. On my return, I received, per Captain *Scott*, the four thousand dollars granted by Congress; on which applied to Colonel *Maxwell*, and informed him that any of his Captains might now be furnished with money to purchase arms for their company. The Colonel replied, it was now too late, that his battalion was under marching orders, unless the arms could be got at *Philadelphia*, to which place he would immediately go for that purpose, and to whom, for further information, I must beg leave to refer you.

I called at *Bordentown*, and endeavoured to procure quarters for the officers who are prisoners in this town, but was disappointed, for I could neither hire a house nor get them boarded on any terms in that town. So that, if Congress are determined to remove them from this town, which to me appears undoubtedly right, for too many reasons for me to enumerate.

I shall, if well, set off for *New-Brunswick* to-morrow morning, to meet our Provincial Congress, and shall pay due attention to your several letters and the resolutions therein enclosed, in particular the officers' baggage directed to be forwarded, &c.

If a quantity of arms are to be got, I have desired Colonel *Maxwell* to call on me for money to pay for them. I must beg leave to refer you to the Colonel for further particulars; and believe that I am, with great sincerity, your most obedient, humble servant,

SAMUEL TUCKER.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq.

To the Honourable the Congress of the Colony of NEW-YORK.

The humble Petition of sundry of the Militia of MARBLETOWN, *in the County of* ULSTER, *showeth:*

That some time past they were formed into a company, consisting of about one hundred men, and pursuant to the resolves of the Congress, chose their officers, of which *Cornelius E. Wynkoop* was Captain, who accordingly had their commissions from the honourable Congress.

That since their being commissioned, the said Captain hath been promoted to be a Major, by which there is now a vacancy of the Captain's post in this company. That since the vacancy happened, we have requested election to fill up said vacancy; but the Committee of *Marbletown* have denied us the privilege of voting in a Captain, and appointed three of the Committee of *Marbletown*, to advertise, and call the company together, which accordingly was done, and requested the opinion of the company in this manner, to wit: That if the majority of the company were for choosing an Ensign, and the Subaltern officers to be preferred, they would allow election for an Ensign, but if the majority were for choosing a new Captain, then to allow them no election, and requested their opinion in this manner, whether they chose a new Ensign, and the Subaltern officers preferred, or whether they chose a new Captain? and the majority was for a new Captain, fifty-nine to twenty. We, therefore, pray the directions of this House therein, and we, as in duty bound, shall ever pray, &c.

John Hasbrouck,	Silv'r.Van Dormerck,	Frederick Keyzer,
Jacobus Rosa,	John Beaty,	Johannis Bartlefolk,
Moses Teruilliger,	Corn. Van Dermerck,	Thomas Camer,
John Keater,	John Van Denmerck,	Jacob Sidlie,
Solomon Johnson,	Sol. Van Denmerck,	Anderis Keyzer,
Samuel Frame,	Petrus Smith,	Petrus Van Leuven,
Samuel Gibson,	John Van Vlict,	William Johnson,
William Dunlap,	Casparus Shurter,	Dirick Bush,
Corn. Van Demerck,	Anderies Davis,	Tunis Rosa,
Severyne Hasbrouck,	Allick M. Ginnis,	Dirick Sluyter,
Johannis Smith,	William M. Ginnis,	Daniel Van Leuven,
Jacob Keater,	William Benson,	Johannis Keater, Jr.,
William Keater,	Alexander Munro,	John Ennis,
Cornelius Conneway,	Abraham Rosa,	Gysbert Rosa,
Jonas Smith,	Joseph Clarwater,	John Franciska,
Hugh Rass,	Frederick Clarwater,	Anderis Fiere,
John Phinlison,	Thomas Clarwater,	John Van Wagenen,
Jacobus Conner,	Isaac Clarwater,	Martin Middagh,
John Conner,	Daniel Clarwater,	Johannis Middagh,
William Conner,	Jacob Clarwater,	George Middagh,
William Hardly,	Cornelius Ceyzer,	Abraham Middagh,
Martin Bogart,	Hans Sluyter,	Robert Beatty.
Petrus Smith, Jr.,	Joseph Keyzer,	

MARBLETOWN, *January* 30, 1776.

WILLIAM BEDLOW TO NEW-YORK COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

January 30, 1776.

SIR: I have taken the liberty of enclosing to you my accounts with the honourable Provincial Congress of *New-York*, as a Commissioner of Fortifications, at the rate the honourable House fixed the same, and beg you will lay the same before the Committee of Safety, humbly requesting they will favour me with an order for the amount. My health being restored, I propose to return to the fort in a day or two, and shall be glad to receive any orders the honourable Board may have to give me.

I am, with respect, sir, your humble servant,

WILLIAM BEDLOW.

To *Pierre Van Cortlandt*, Esq., Chairman of the Committee of Safety.

To the Honourable the Provincial Congress for the Colony of NEW-YORK, *convened in the City of* NEW-YORK.

The Memorial of the subscribers, being non-Commissioned Officers of the First Battalion of Minute-Men, of the City of NEW-YORK, *in behalf of themselves and the Privates of said Bottalion, humbly showeth:*

That the memorialists, for the defence of their invaluable rights and privileges, formed themselves into different companies, under different officers, whose commands they have at all times with cheerfulness obeyed.

That sometime after they had formed themselves into different companies, the companies to which they severally belonged were formed into one battalion, by the style and title of the First Battalion of the Independent Companies.

That after they had so formed themselves into a battalion, Field-Officers were appointed. That after the appointment of Field-Officers, pursuant to an order or recommendation of the honourable the Continental Congress, and of the honourable the Provincial Convention, for this Colony, they jointly and severally became Minute-Men.

That agreeable to their orders, as Minute-Men they have at all times been ready, and have actually turned out to do their duty as such, both by day and night, when so required to do by this honourable body.

That the memorialists have been at great expense, and loss of time, in equipping themselves pursuant to the aforesaid recommendations. That besides the loss of time, the expenses they have incurred in the purchase of regimentals, arms, ammunition, and accoutrements, is much more than their circumstances can bear.

That the memorialists have been informed, that this honourable Convention intend putting them on pay, to do the duty of soldiers in defending this Colony.

That the memorialists have already been at a great deal of expense and trouble in turning out as Minute-Men, for which they have not received any reward. That the memorialists are ready and willing to continue and remain in the service of their country, as Minute-Men, provided they are paid for their former services, and are allowed a sufficient pay, to enable them to do themselves and their country justice, and that their duty be confined to the city and County of *New-York*, only; many of them having wives and families, who they would choose to defend, together with their country, and think the proper place for them to do duty is in this city and County only, where their nearest and dearest friends and relations are.

Your memorialists, therefore, humbly pray, that this honourable body will take their case into your most serious consideration, and enable them to receive such reward as their former services entitle them to; and, also, to put them on such footing, and suffer them to remain, and do duty in defence of their country, and of this city in particular, in this city and County only.

And your memorialists, as in duty bound, shall ever pray, &c.

Samuel Johnson,	Adm. Dolmage,	Garret Kip,
Richard Tole Hazard,	Stephen Smith,	Zellis Mandevell, Jr.,
Jacob Brouwer,	Cornelius Backer,	Peter Myers,
Robert Barry,	Christopher Hutton,	Alexander Anderson,
John Remmey,	Thomas Warner, Jr.,	John J. Myers.
Benjamin Brown,	John Brouwer, Jr.,	John Van Dyk,
Leonard Fishe,	Walter Moffatt,	Abraham Brevorte,
Nich. Van Antwerp,	Frederick Stynets,	John Russel,
Wm. Ten Broeck,	Anthony Byvanck, Jr.,	Peter Taulman,
Benj. Griffith,	Benjamin Burras,	James Armitag.

NEW-YORK, *January* 30, 1776.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read February 9, 1776.—Referred to Mr. Chase, Mr. S. Adams, Mr. Penn, Mr. Wythe, Mr. Edward Rutledge.]

Cambridge, January 30, 1776.

SIR: Your favours of the 6th and the 20th instant I received yesterday, with the several resolves of Congress alluded to, for which I return you my thanks. Knowing the great importance *Canada* will be of to us in the present interesting contest, and the relief our friends there stand in need of, I should be happy, were it in my power, to detach a battalion from this camp, but it cannot be done. On the 19th instant I had the honour to write you, which will fully convey the resolutions of a Council of War, and the sentiments of the General Officers here, as to the propriety and expediency of sending troops from these lines, for the defence of which we have been, and now are obliged to call in the Militia, to which I beg leave to refer you. You may rest assured, that my endeavours and exertions shall not be wanting to stimulate the Governments of *Connecticut* and *New-Hampshire* to raise and forward reinforcements as fast as possible, nor in any other instance that will promote the expedition.

I shall, in obedience to the order of Congress, though interdicted by General *Howe*, propose an exchange of Governour *Skene* for Mr. *Lovell* and family, and shall be happy to have an opportunity of putting this deserving man (who has distinguished his fidelity and regard to his country to be too great for persecution and cruelty to overcome) in any post agreeable to his wishes and inclination.

I do not know that there is any particular rank annexed

to the office of Aid-de-camp; generally, they are captains, and rank as such; but higher rank is often given on account of particular merit, and particular circumstances. Aids to the King have the rank of Colonels. Whether any distinction should be made between those of your Commander-in-chief and the other Generals, I really know not. I think there ought.

You may rely that *Connolly* had instructions concealed in his saddle. Mr. *Eustice*, who was one of Lord *Dunmore's* family, and another gentleman who wishes his name not to be mentioned, saw them cased in tin, put in the tree, and covered over. He, probably, has exchanged his saddle, or withdrew the papers when it was mended, as you conjecture. Those that have been discovered are sufficiently bad, but I doubt not of the others being worse, and containing more diabolical and extensive plans. I hope he will be taken proper care of, and meet with rewards equal to his merits.

I shall appoint officers in the places of those which are in *Canada*, as I am fully persuaded they will wish to continue there, for making our conquest complete in that quarter; I wish their bravery and valour may be attended with the smiles of fortune.

It gives me great pleasure to hear of the measures Congress are taking for manufacturing powder. I hope their endeavours will be crowned with success. I too well know and regret the want of it. It is scarcely possible to describe the disadvantages an army must labour under, when not provided with a sufficient supply of this necessary. It may seem strange, that after having received about eleven tons, added to about five tons which I found here, and no general action has happened, that we should be so deficient in this article, and require more. But you will please to consider, besides its being in its nature subject to waste, and whilst the men lay in bad tents, was unavoidably damaged by severe and heavy rains, (which could not have been prevented, unless it had been entirely withdrawn from them, and attack hazarded against us without ammunition in their hands,) that the armed vessels, our own occasional firings, and some small supplies I have been obliged to afford the seaport towns threatened with destruction, to which may be added the supply to the Militia, and going off of the old troops, have occasioned, and ever will, a large consumption of it, and waste, in spite of all the care in the world. The King's troops never have less than sixty rounds a man in their possession, independent of their stores. To supply an army of twenty thousand in this manner, would take near four hundred barrels, allowing nothing for stores, artillery, &c. I have been always afraid to place more than twelve or fifteen rounds at a time in the hands of our men, lest, any accident happening to it, we should be left destitute and be undone. I have been thus particular, not only to show our poverty, but to exculpate myself from even a suspicion of unnecessary waste.

I shall inform the Paymaster-General of the resolution of Congress respecting his drafts, and the mode and amount of them.

The Companies at *Chelsea* and *Malden* are, and have always been regimented.

It was not my intention to replace, with Continental troops, the independent Companies at *Hingham*, *Weymouth*, and *Braintree*; these places are exposed, but not more so than *Cape-Ann*, *Beverly*, *Salem*, *Marblehead*, &c., &c., &c.

Is it the intention of Congress that the officers of the Army should pay postage? They are not exempted by the resolve of the 9th instant.

The Congress will be pleased, I have no doubt, to recollect that the five hundred thousand dollars now coming, are but little more than enough to bring us up to the first day of this month, that to-morrow will be the last of it, and by their resolves the troops are to be paid monthly.

I wish it was in my power to furnish Congress with such a General as they desire to send to *Canada*. Since the unhappy reverse of our affairs in that quarter, General *Schuyler* has informed me that though he had thoughts of declining the service before, he would now act.

My letter of the 11th, will inform them of General *Lee's* being at *New-York*. He will be ready to obey their orders should they incline to send him; but if I am not greatly deceived, he, or some other spirited, able officer, will be wanted there in the Spring, if not sooner, as we have undoubted intelligence that General *Clinton* has sailed with some troops; the reports of their number are various, from between four hundred and five hundred to nineteen companies of Grenadiers and Light Infantry. It is also imagined that the regiments which were to sail the 1st of *December*, are intended for that place or *Virginia*. General *Putnam* is a most valuable man and a fine executive officer, but I do not know how he would conduct in a separate department; he is a younger Major-General than Mr. *Schuyler*, who, as I have observed, having determined to continue in service, will, I expect, repair into *Canada*. A copy of my letter to him on this and other subjects, I enclose you, as it will explain my motives for not stopping the regiments from these Governments.

When Captain *Cochran* arrives I will give him every assistance in my power, in obedience to the orders of Congress, but I fear it will be the means of laying up our own vessels, as these people will not bear the distinction; should this be the consequence, it will be highly prejudicial to us, as we sometimes pick up their provision vessels, and may continue to distress them in this way. Last week Captain *Manly* took a ship and a brig bound to *Boston*, from *Whitehaven*, with coals, chiefly, and some potatoes for the army. I have, for his great vigilance and industry, appointed him Commodore of our little squadron, and he now hoists his flag on board the schooner *Hancock*.

I congratulate you upon the recovery of *Smith*, and am exceedingly glad to hear of the measures Congress are taking for the general defence of the Continent. The clouds thicken fast; where they will burst I know not, but we should be armed at all points.

I have not succeeded in my application to those Governments for arms; they have returned for answer, that they cannot furnish any. Whether I shall be more lucky in the last resource left me in this quarter, I cannot determine, not having received returns from the officers sent out to purchase from the people. I greatly fear that but very few will be procured in this way, as they are exceedingly scarce, and but a small part of what there are fit for service; when they make their report, you shall be informed.

The Quartermaster-General has just received from General *Schuyler* clothing for the soldiery, amounting to about one thousand seven hundred pounds, *York* currency It has come very seasonably, as they are in great want, and will contribute a little to their relief.

Since writing the above I saw Mr. *Eustice*, and mentioning that nothing had been found in the tree of *Connolly's* saddle, he told me that there had been a mistake in the matter, that the instructions were artfully concealed in the two pieces of wood which are on the mail pillion of his portmanteau saddle; that by order of Lord *Dunmore*, he saw them contrived for the purpose, the papers put in, and first covered with tin, and over that with a waxed canvass cloth. He is so exceedingly pointed and clear in his information, that I have no doubt of its being true. I could wish them to be discovered, as I think they contain some curious and extraordinary plans.*

In my lettter of the 24th instant, I mentioned the arrival of thirteen of our *Caughnawaga* friends; they honoured me with a talk to-day, as did three of the tribe of the *St. John's* and *Passamaquoddy Indians*, copies of which I beg

* At *Fredericktown*, I was told that I need not expect to get clear, for I was a noted friend to *Britain*, and they had long endeavoured to get me in their power.

Here we were stripped and searched again, and examined separately before the Committee, where one of the most illiberal, inveterate, and violent Rebels, named *Samuel Chase*, (son of a respectable and very worthy clergyman of this Province,) a lawyer and a member of the Congress, presided.

At this place, we were not a little alarmed lest they should discover our instructions, papers, &c., as they examined every thing so strictly as to take our saddles to pieces, and take out the stuffing, and even rip open the soles of our boots, in vain, for the object of their search was not found, although they so frequently handled what contained it. However, by some neglect of Colonel *Connolly's* servant, an old torn piece of paper was found in his portmanteau, which discovered some part of our design; and then Colonel *Connolly*, to prevent our falling immediate sacrifices to a frantick mob, acknowledged our commissions. The servant, however, who was faithful to his trust, being allowed to go at large from the first of our confinement, took care to destroy the mail pillion-sticks, containing the papers, commissions, and instructions, which we dreaded so much being discovered, as soon as he could effect it with safety, which put an end to our anxiety and alarms on that account.—*Smith's Tour.*

leave to enclose you. I shall write General *Schuyler* respecting the tender of service made by the former, and not to call for their assistance unless he shall at any time want it, or be under the necessity of doing it, to prevent their taking the side of our enemies.

I had the honour of writing you on the 19th *November*, and then informed you of having engaged two persons to go to *Nova-Scotia*, on the business recommended in your letter of the 10th, and, also, that the state of the Army would not then admit of a sufficient force being sent for carrying into execution the views of Congress respecting the dock-yards, &c.

I would now beg leave to mention, that if the persons sent for information should report favourably of the expediency and practicability of the measure, that it will not be in my power to detach any men from these lines; the situation of our affairs will not allow it. I think it would be advisable to raise them in the eastern parts of this Government. If it is attempted, it must be by people from the country.

A Colonel *Thompson*, a member of the General Court, from the Province of *Maine*, and who is well spoken of by the Court, and a Captain *O'Brien*, have been with me; they think the men necessary may be easily engaged there, and the measure practicable, provided there are not more than two hundred *British* troops at *Halifax*. They are willing and ready to embark in the matter, upon the terms mentioned in their plan, which I enclose you. I would wish you to advert to the considerations inducing them to the expedition, as I am not without apprehension, should it be undertaken upon their plan, that the innocent and guilty will be involved in one common ruin. I presume they do not expect to receive more than five or ten thousand pounds, mentioned in their scheme, and to be at every expense. If we had men to spare, it might be undertaken for less than either, I conceive. Perhaps, if Congress do not adopt their proposition, they will undertake to raise men for that particular purpose, which may be disbanded as soon as it is effected, and upon the same terms that are allowed the Continental troops in general.

Whatever may be the determination of Congress upon the subject, you will please to communicate it to me immediately, for the season most favourable for the enterprise is advancing fast, and we may expect, in the Spring, that there will be more troops there, and the measure be more difficult to execute.

I have the honour to be, sir, your most humble servant,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*.

The Talk of sundry Sachems and Warriors of the CAUGHNAWAGA NATION, *with His Excellency General* WASHINGTON, *the* 31*st* JANUARY, 1776.

Jean Baptist or *Ogaghragighte*, the Chief, present:

We were sent by the Five Tribes of *Canada Indians*, consisting of the *Caughnawagas*, &c., &c., to see General *Schuyler*, at *Albany*, and then to come to you, to inquire into the cause of the quarrel between the people of *England* and our brothers in this country.

This is a treaty of peace, entered into between General *Schuyler*, &c., and our people, and we shall be very glad if you will put your name to it, and certify that you like it, and the promise mentioned in it. [This being done.]

We are very glad that a firm peace is now made between us and our brothers. We now look upon ourselves to be free, and like our brothers of *New-England*. The rest of our people staid at home, to take care of our Castle and publick concerns, and sent us to do this work, which they will abide by, and hold as strong as if they had been all here.

I am now in my own country, where I was born, [being a *New-Englander* taken prisoner in his infancy,] and want liberty to raise men to fight for its defence. We wish that you would give us a letter to General *Schuyler*, and inform him that if he wants men to call upon us, and we will join him.

Another of the Chiefs:

St. Luke La Corne is a very bad man, and we shall be very glad if he was sent from *Canada;* he is always making mischief there.

A Talk of one of the ST. JOHN'S TRIBE, *attended by two of the* PASSAMAQUODDY INDIANS, *with His Excellency General* WASHINGTON, JANUARY 31, 1776.

We are very glad to see you, and that we have met our *Caughnawaga* friends here. The *English* people are mad, and very cross, and want us to fight against the *New-England* people. *God* is on the side of our brothers, and they will beat them. There is a Providence in our meeting our *Caughnawaga* friends at this time, who have come so far from *Canada*.

We want to go home quick, to tell our friends what we have seen and done here, and next Spring many of our Nation will come and help the *New-England* people.

We are in much want of powder to hunt with. The old *English* people will not let us have any, unless we will fight against our brothers and countrymen.

PLAN PROPOSED BY COLONEL THOMPSON AND CAPTAIN O'BRIEN.

For the expedition purposed, one thousand men including officers, four armed vessels, and eight transports, the men to be raised at the Eastward, the fleet to be made up at *Machias*, and then proceed to *Windsor*, captivate the Tories, make all the proselytes we can, and then proceed to *Halifax*. If possible, destroy the King's dock-yard, and town, if thought proper. It may be undertaken for five thousand pounds, lawful money, and all that can be procured from the Tories, or ten thousand, and the one-half of what is taken from them. At *Windsor*, we understand, there is abundance of goods, which is the next capital town to *Halifax*. We are lately informed that there is not to exceed two hundred *British* troops in *Halifax*.

A true copy: STEPHEN MOYLAN, *P. T. S.*

GENERAL ORDERS.

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, January 26, 1776.

(Parole, *Detroit.*) (Countersign, *Springfield.*)

The Captains, or commanding officers of the Militia Companies, are to have their pay abstracts ready by the first of *February*, in order for payment, the General having borrowed as much money as will answer this purpose, rather than suffer them to return without. In making up the pay abstracts the following method is to be observed: Upon one side of an entire sheet of paper is to be the roll, (or names of the officers and men of the whole company,) on the other side (or back of this) is to be the pay abstract, in the usual form; at the foot of the abstract is to be a deduction of the money which has been advanced to any of the companies, and proof annexed of the justice of the demand; this being necessary for the General's satisfaction in drawing the warrants.

The Captains, &c., are to be particularly careful not to charge pay for any of their men who have inlisted into any of the regiments, after such inlistment took place, as the pay of those men will be drawn by the Colonel of the regiment they are now in, or respectively belong to. The form of the oath and warrant (as it would take too much time to draw the whole at Head-Quarters) may be had at the Adjutant-General's office, for each Captain to copy.

The *New-Hampshire* Militia are to be allowed (by the Commissary) one penny a mile, coming and going, in lieu of rations, as this allowance has already been made by the *Massachusetts* Government to their Militia.

Brigadier-General *Thomas*, with the three Colonels of his brigade, now at *Roxbury*, to wit: *Learned*, *Bailey*, and *Ward*, are to repair to Head-Quarters, to-morrow by eleven o'clock, to have the commissions for those regiments issued.

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, January 27, 1776.

(Parole, *Cumberland.*) (Countersign, *Gloucester.*)

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, January 28, 1776.

(Parole, *Cleaveland.*) (Countersign, *Lowther.*)

As the General is consenting to, and desirous of the Militia drawing the same pay as the Continental troops, the officers of those companies are hereby informed, that since the first of *January*, their pay will be the same as those officers of equal rank upon the new establishment, but before

that date no more than what was drawn under the old establishment can be allowed them; of this, they are to take particular notice, that no mistake may happen.

When the Militia are discharged, the Colonels, or commanding officers of the regiments, with whom they have done duty, are to take especial care that every ounce of ammunition is received from them, (belonging to the publick,) as also such men as joined the regiments for a month. If any man attempts to carry off a single grain of ammunition, not known to be his own, he will be pursued, brought back and severely punished.

The Colonels, or commanding officers of regiments, are requested to buy any good arms, which the Militia may voluntarily incline to sell; they are also to make out pay abstracts for those men who joined their regiments for the month of *January;* confining it to that month, that warrants may issue accordingly.

Brigadier-General *Heath*, with the Colonels of his Brigade, to attend at Head-Quarters to-morrow for commissions to be filled up.

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, January 29, 1776.

(Parole, *Manly.*) (Countersign, *Salem.*)

Some doubts having arisen amongst the Militia Companies, whether the two Subalterns are to be paid as Lieutenants, or as Lieutenant and Ensign, the General informs them that he cannot (where there are only two Subalterns to a company) consider the youngest of them as entitled to more than Ensign's pay, as they were all the last campaign, notwithstanding they are denominated Second Lieutenants, and desires the rolls may be made out accordingly.

The Colonel, or commanding officer of each regiment, is to make out pay abstracts for the month of *January*, and lodge them with the Adjutant-General, that proper settlements may be made. In doing this, they are to be exceedingly careful (by causing proper inquiry to be made into the matter of the Militia Captains) to prevent any mistakes happening with respect to the men, who have been inlisted by any of their officers out of the Militia Companies; that in the first place they may have their pay secured to them, and in the next, that it may not be doubly drawn.

Brigadier-General *Spencer* is to attend at Head-Quarters to-morrow, with the Colonels, or commanding officers of the regiments of his brigade, in order to obtain the commissions for their officers.

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, January 30, 1776.

(Parole, *Sydney.*) (Countersign, *Hampden.*)

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, January, 31, 1776.

(Parole, *Belhaven.*) (Countersign, *Lancaster.*)

Richard Thompson, of Captain *Nutting's* Company, in Colonel *Prescott's* Regiment, tried at a late General Court-Martial for "theft and desertion," is found guilty of both those crimes, and sentenced to receive thirty-nine lashes for each, and mulcted twenty-four shillings and eight pence out of his pay, twelve shillings thereof to be paid to the prosecutor, *Samuel Keys*, and the rest to the persons who brought the prisoner back to camp.

The General approves the above sentence, and orders it to be executed, at such time and place as the commanding officer of the regiment shall think proper.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GENERAL LEE.

Cambridge, January 30, 1776.

Dear Sir: I wrote you the 23d instant, and then informed you that General *Clinton* had gone upon some expedition with four or five hundred men. There is good reason to believe that *Tryon* has applied for some troops, and that he would join them with a great number of inhabitants, so that you will see the necessity of your being decisive and expeditious in your operations in that quarter.

The Tories should be disarmed immediately, though it is probable that they may have secured their arms on board the King's ships, until called upon to use them against us. However, you can seize upon the persons of the principals. They must be so notoriously known, that there will be little danger of your committing mistakes; and happy should I be if the Governour could be one of them.

Since writing the above, your favour of the 24th came to hand, with the sundry enclosures, which I have with attention perused, and very much approve of your conduct.

I sincerely wish that the letter you expect to receive from Congress may empower you to act conformable to your own and my sentiments, on this occasion. If they should order differently, we must submit, as they, doubtless, will have good reasons for what they may determine on.

The Congress desire I should send an active General to *Canada*. I fancy, when they made the demand that they did not think General *Schuyler* would continue in that station, which he has given me to understand, by some late letters from him, that he would. Should they not approve of the *New-York* expedition, and think another General necessary for the Northern Department, it is probable they will fix on you to take the command there. I should be sorry to have you removed so far from this scene, but, if the service there requires your presence, it will be a fine field for the exertion of your admirable talents.

There is nothing new here. Let me hear often from you, and believe me, &c.,

George Washington.

To Major-General *Lee*.

GEORGE MASON AND JOHN GALTON TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Fairfax County, Va., January 31, 1776.

Sir: Being empowered and directed by the Committee of Safety for this Colony to build two row-galleys, one to carry a twenty-four, and the other an eighteen-pounder, and provide three armed cutters for the protection of *Potomack-River*, we think it proper to inform your Board that this measure will be carried into execution with all possible expedition, and that we hope to have your co-operation in adopting some similar plan for the same purpose.

We beg the favour of an answer by the first opportunity, and are, with the greatest respect, sir, your most obedient, humble servants,

George Mason,
John Galton.

To the Honourable the President of the Council of Safety.

Baltimore-Town, January 31, 1776.

Sir: As we are desirous of knowing what number of muskets are in the hands of the Militia in your brigade, either belonging to the publick or to individuals, we request that you will furnish an account of them as soon as you conveniently can, distinguishing to what companies they respectively belong, and those which are good and serviceable from what are unfit for use; and that you recommend it to, and earnestly admonish those of your Militia, whose guns are out of repair, when circumstances will admit of it, to have them immediately put into good order; but, that if the owners of any such guns cannot, from their poverty, repair them, and they are only defective in the locks, that you have the same repaired and rendered fit for service at the publick expense.

Writing immediately to the Colonels and other inferior officers we recommend, as the best method of gaining information in the above particulars.

We are, very respectfully, sir, your most obedient servants,

D. of St. T. Jenifer,
Charles Carroll, *Bar.*,
John Hall,
James Tilghman.

Philadelphia, January 31, 1776.

Whereas, I, *William Jarret*, of *Horsham* Township, *Philadelphia* County, have refused Continental Currency, and was led thereto from an opinion of its value and legality, but, on mature consideration, and being showed the resolves of Congress, am fully of opinion such money is both legal and of equal value with any other currency now passing among us, and that I shall in future receive such money, and am heartily sorry for my past refusal of it.

William Jarret.

COLONEL MAXWELL TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

Trenton, January 31, 1776.

SIR: I am favoured with yours of the 25th instant; I would have answered it sooner, but some of the Committee of this town was absent when I received it, and it was necessary to stay for them.

I do assure you I am not at all absent from the regiment, and although I cannot make arms and other necessaries for the men, I am endeavouring to make them soldiers, as quick as I can. The Congress seem to think I have mistaken their orders with respect to marching them by companies. I have the pleasure to assure them I understood it perfectly, but, until the 8th instant, we had no thoughts of going to the northward, and of course got clothing accordingly. We have many frocks made, but nothing like half enough for the regiment. They might be taken for a Southern regiment, and cloth given to us.

I must really think, that the Committee appointed to inquire what was wanting to prepare us for our march had not all the necessary letters laid before them. It has been my chief object, since I had the honour to command this battalion, that they might be well armed. I have urged the Committee of this place on that head, and I saw Mr. *Tucker's* letters, wrote very pressingly for arms and blankets. You have now sent money, but it is too late—before the officers go to the different parts of the Province, gather them up, and have them repaired, it will be too late; there will nothing do at present, but about three hundred stand of good arms put into their hands under stoppages. The Committee have entirely forgot canteens and camp-kettles; camp equipage I suppose will follow us. I do assure you I think they are as likely a battalion of men as any in the Continental service, and I hope they will do their duty with any that is not more experienced. For *God's* sake do not let them be disgraced for want of their necessaries. If I might advise, I would have the Congress to send two or three men from *Philadelphia*, as a Committee to examine the regiment immediately, and make report to the Congress what they want, and let some of these gentlemen be taken out of the Committee that fitted out the *Pennsylvania* Battalion. The four companies here might not be filled up, but those at *Burlington* want every thing.

I am determined to march off the four companies that are here, with what little fitting I can get here for them. They will make but a poor figure, but I cannot help it. The first company I hope will set off the end of this week, and the others follow as soon as they can. I should be glad to have the orders of Congress with what company I shall march. I hope with the first, for I am distressed beyond measure to have so fine a parcel of men under my command, and yet so unfit for doing their country service when it is so much wanted.

I have the pleasure to inform you that I sent out one of my Lieutenants in the country to purchase blankets; he has in a few days bought of different farmers about fifty; those, with what he picked up a few days ago, completed Captain *Stout's* company in this article. Blankets may be had in plenty through the country.

I am, gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servant,

WILLIAM MAXWELL.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, President of the Continental Congress, at *Philadelphia*.

COLONEL MAXWELL'S MEMORIAL RELATING TO NECESSARIES WANTED FOR HIS BATTALION.

January 31, 1776.

Memorandum.—The West *New-Jersey* Regiment are in want of the following articles, before they can be properly equipped for marching, viz:

Near one half their arms; leggins; a number of warm waistcoats; some coats and breeches; stockings to make two pair per man; some shirts; *Canada* caps for the whole regiment; canteens and camp-kettles; mittens for the whole regiment; moccasins, may be had at *Albany*. About one pair of stockings per man are furnished by Mr. *Lowrey*. The other articles he has no orders from Congress to provide, and if he had, they could not be purchased in *Jersey*. Money in advance is required. Such articles as come from *Philadelphia* were furnished by Mr. *Clement Biddle*. WILLIAM MAXWELL.

FREDERICK HARTELL TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

To the worthy Gentlemen of the Congress, &c., &c., the Petition of FREDERICK HARTELL, *humbly showeth:*

That your petitioner hath been many years in the King of *Hungary's* service, as a Captain-Lieutenant, sold out in the month of *May*, 1755, and was in several field-battles; afterwards, entered in the *English* Royal *American* service, as a non-commissioned officer, on condition of being preferred, and after the siege at *Havana* the regiment was broke; and hath ever since followed the tobacconist business in the city of *New-York*.

Your petitioner, therefore, most humbly prays, as he is ready and willing to serve in his former calling, for the good of *American* liberty, to place him into some station, and give him a birth, that you, worthy gentlemen, shall think proper, after being examined.

And your petitioner shall ever pray.

FREDERICK HARTELL.

New-York, January 31, 1776.

JOHN WYLLEY TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

New-York, January 31, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: If you should think me worthy of a Captain's commission, I would be willing to engage in the service of my country.

JOHN WYLLEY.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read February 9, 1776.]

Albany, January 31, 1776.

SIR: I detained your express in hopes of some intelligence from General *Wooster*. The post is arrived, but I have no letters from the General. All was well when the post left it, which was on the 22d. He met the gentlemen with the money at *Point-au-Fer*, and supposes they arrived at *Montreal* on the 23d.

A number of Tories, in no less than forty sleds, are, I am informed, on their way from *Canada*. I shall dispose of them agreeable to the resolutions of Congress.

This morning Mr. *Deane* is returned from *Oneida*, and brought the enclosed speech in answer to mine.

A grand meeting of the *Six Nations*, and those of *Canada*, is to be held very soon at *Onondaga*. I have ordered Mr. *Deane* to return, and attend it, that we may know what passes. Colonel *Butler* is at *Niagara*, where he has had a conference with the *Indians*. Mr. *Deane* will try to discover what has passed there.

Although the number of Commissioners in this Department is sufficient, yet it might be proper to add some who can attend upon all occasions; strictly, a majority only can act, but necessity drives me too often to act solely. Mr. *Douw* is removed out of town, and the other gentlemen reside at a considerable distance, so that I must not only do the business, but have the burden of all that come, and they are very troublesome visitants to a man that has something to do.

Major *Hughes* is still here, labouring under a fistula. As I could not permit him to go to any seaport, I have consented that he should go to *Elizabethtown*, that Doctor *Jones* may attend and perform an operation on him there. I should not have been under apprehensions if he had been permitted to go to *New-York*, as he has a family in *Canada*, and dare not go off. If Doctor *Jones* will not attend him at *Elizabethtown*, I could even wish he was sent to *New-York* under proper restrictions, lest it should give occasion of charging us with want of humanity.

I am, sir, most respectfully, your obedient, humble servant,

PHILIP SCHUYLER.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq., &c., &c.

P. S. The express came here a passenger from *Peekskill*. I, therefore, send this by the *New-York* post, and he goes down with the prisoners.

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO GENERAL SCHUYLER.

Lebanon, January 31, 1776.

SIR: Your letter of the 23d instant, by *Bennett*, he delivered me last evening. We shall depend that our men who come to *Albany* without arms, be supplied with them. Hope there will be more than half who will provide them-

selves with such as are good. I readily believe that the difficulties attending the march and fatigue of our troops to *Canada* will be nothing like so great as are generally imagined. General *Washington* desired me, by his letter of the 21st instant, "to have provision made upon the best terms I could, for such necessaries as are requisite for the march of the regiment from hence." I have, accordingly, appointed Mr. *Strong*, of *Salisbury*, to make the necessary provision for their march to *Albany*, and Captain *Throop*, who raises one company in this part of the Colony, to take care for the necessaries for them, until he gets to *Canaan*, from whence that company may be supplied with the rest of the battalion; a regular account with the vouchers thereof to be kept, that payment may be made. It is expected that the regiment from this Colony will march forward by divisions, and some of them will be at *Albany* soon. It gives me pleasure to find that Colonel *Warner* and Colonel *Fellows* are in so great forwardness to go for the relief of our friends in *Canada*. I do sincerely congratulate you on your success in disarming the Tories in *Tryon* County. Suppressing such enemies to *American* liberty is of very great importance.

The account of the money advanced to the battalion now raising here, shall be transmitted to the Paymaster-General, agreeable to your request. I informed you that *Edward Mott* was appointed Lieutenant-Colonel of this regiment, since which some uneasiness, arising from the appointment of a Field-Officer in this part of the Colony, remote from the place where most of the battalion is raised. *Nathaniel Buel* is appointed Lieutenant-Colonel, on the generous resignation of Colonel *Mott*, and *John Sedgwick* Major. This alteration was made in expectation of forwarding the inlistment in that quarter.

The roll of Colonel *Hinman's* Regiment, and the one of Colonel *Waterbury's* not sent, shall forward when received. Hope some of them will come by *Bennett*. Am unable to say much concerning General *Lee's* expedition into the Colony of *New-York*. The constant hurry prevents my entering into further particulars.

I am, sir, &c.,

JONATHAN TRUMBULL.

To General *Schuyler*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO JOSEPH REED.

Cambridge, January 31, 1776.

DEAR SIR: In my last, by Mr. *John Adams*, I communicated my distresses to you on account of my want of your assistance. I have since been under some concern at having done it, lest it should precipitate your return before you are ready for it, or bring on a final resignation, which I am unwilling to think of, if your return can be made convenient and agreeable. True it is, that from a variety of causes, my business has been, and now is, multiplied and perplexed, whilst the means of execution are greatly contracted. This may be a cause for my wishing you here, but no inducement to your coming, if you hesitated before.

I have now to thank you for your favours, and for the several articles of intelligence which they convey. The account given of your navy, at the same time that it is exceedingly unfavourable to our wishes, is a little provoking to me, inasmuch as it has deprived us of necessary articles, which otherwise would have been sent hither, but which a kind of fatality, I fear, will forever deprive us of. In the instance of *New-York*, we are not to receive a particle of what you expected would be sent from thence; the time and season passing away, as I believe the troops in *Boston* also will, before the season for taking the field arrives. I dare say they are preparing for it now, as we have undoubted intelligence of *Clinton's* leaving *Boston* with a number of troops, believed to be designed for *Long-Island* or *New-York*, in consequence of assurances from Governour *Tryon* of powerful aid from the Tories there.

I hope my countrymen of *Virginia* will rise superior to any losses the whole navy of *Great Britain* can bring on them, and that the destruction of *Norfolk*, and the attempted devastation of other places, will have no other effect than to unite the whole country in one indissoluble bond. A few more of such flaming arguments as were exhibited at *Falmouth* and *Norfolk*, added to the sound doctrine and unanswerable reasoning contained in the pamphlet "Common Sense," will not leave numbers at a loss to decide upon the propriety of a separation.

By a letter of the 21st instant, from General *Wooster*, I find, that *Arnold* was continuing the blockade of *Quebeck* on the 19th, which, under the heaviness of our loss there, is a most favourable circumstance, and exhibits a fresh proof of *Arnold's* ability and perseverance in the midst of difficulties. The reinforcement ordered to him will, I hope, complete the entire conquest of *Canada* this Winter; and except for the loss of the gallant chief and his brave followers, I should think the rebuff rather favourable than otherwise; for had the country been subdued by such a handful of men, it is more than probable that it would have been left to the defence of a few, and rescued from us in the Spring. Our eyes will now be open, not only to the importance of holding it, but to the numbers which are requisite to that end.

In my last I think I informed you of my sending General *Lee* to *New-York*, with the intention of securing the Tories on *Long-Island*, and preventing, if possible, the King's troops from making a lodgment there; but I fear the Congress will be duped by the representations from that Government, or yield to them in such a manner as to become marplots to the expedition. The city seems to be entirely under the government of *Tryon* and the Captain of the man-of-war.

Mrs. *Washington* desires me to thank you for the picture sent her. Mr. *Campbell*, whom I never saw to my knowledge, has made a very formidable figure of the Commander-in-chief, giving him a sufficient portion of terror on his countenance. Mrs. *Washington* also desires her compliments to Mrs. *Reed*, as I do, and with the sincerest regard and affection, I remain, dear sir, your most obedient servant,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

P. S. I had written the letter, herewith enclosed, before your favour of the 21st came to hand. The account given of the behaviour of the men under General *Montgomery* is exactly consonant to the opinion I have formed of these people, and such as they will exhibit abundant proofs of, in similar cases, whenever called upon. Place them behind a parapet, a breastwork, stone wall, or any thing that will afford them shelter, and from their knowledge of a fire-lock, they will give a good account of the enemy; but I am as well convinced, as if I had seen it, that they will not march boldly up to a work, nor stand exposed in a plain; and yet, if we are furnished with the means, and the weather will afford us a passage, and we can get in men, for these three things are necessary, something must be attempted. The men must be brought to face danger; they cannot always have an intrenchment or a stone wall as a safeguard or shield; and it is of essential importance that the troops in *Boston* should be destroyed, if possible, before they can be reinforced or removed. This is clearly my opinion. Whether circumstances will admit of the trial, and, if tried, what will be the result, the all-wise Disposer of events alone can tell.

[GENERAL WASHINGTON] TO THE GENERAL COURT OF MASSACHUSETTS-BAY.

Cambridge, January 31, 1776.

SIR: Mr. *Glover* called upon the General this day, informing him that the Legislative power of this Province were about making some alterations or amendment in the act relative to captures made by armed vessels, fitted out of this Colony, so as to make that act conformable to the resolutions of Congress. He also mentioned that some difficulties may arise after condemnation, respecting the sale of prizes made by the Continental vessels, as it seems the Deputy Sheriff is ordered to take charge of, and sell the prizes made by vessels fitted out by individuals, or otherwise. That will certainly militate with the agreement entered into by his Excellency with the agents appointed by him, who are to have a certain commission and no more, for transacting that business. Now, sir, I am ordered by the General to lay the matter before you, requesting that no future impediments may arise, after condemnation of these vessels, to interrupt the sale of them and cargoes. A clause, in this particular, enacting that all vessels, taken by the cruisers fitted out at the Continental expense, shall

be given up to the agents appointed for negotiating that business, immediately after condemnation, will answer every purpose of this application to you.

I have the honour to enclose you a resolve of Congress, empowering the Paymaster-General of this Army to draw bills on the President, with an extract from his letter to his Excellency on the same subject.

I am, sir, your most humble servant,

To the Honourable *James Warren*, Esq., Speaker, &c.

NEW-HAMPSHIRE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY TO MAJOR BELLOWS.

Exeter, January 31, 1776.

Sir: We have just received a packet from the Continental Congress, informing us nine regiments are to be sent forthwith to *Canada*, all which are raising, and some on their march by this time, desiring our regiment may be forwarded with all speed, and that when any one or two companies are ready, to march forward. They likewise direct forty shillings, lawful money, to be given each soldier well accoutred, as a bounty, and one month's pay advance; therefore, you may assure all the men you muster that forty shillings of the money you pay them is a bounty, and the other one month's pay advance. Pray do every thing to forward the men, and hurry Colonel *Waite* as much as possible. The necessaries are gone and going from *Exeter* to *Cohass*. Colonel *Bedel* will set off from here, we expect, to-morrow. Three or four companies at *Plymouth* and *Cohass* are inlisted.

In behalf of the Committee of Safety, I am, sir, your most humble servant, Meshech Weare.

P. S. Pay the commission officers two months' wages.

INSTRUCTIONS TO COLONEL MOREY AND MAJOR BELLOWS.

In Committee of Safety, Exeter, January 31, 1776.

To Israel Morey *and* John Bellows, *Esquires:*

As you, by vote of the Council and Assembly of this Colony, are appointed Mustermasters and Paymasters to the regiment raising for *Canada*, you are hereby directed, out of the money you have received from the Treasury, to pay each soldier you shall muster, being an able-bodied, effective man, and well accoutred, forty shillings, lawful money, as a bounty, and two months' wages to each commissioned officer, also one month's pay to each non-commissioned officer and soldier, at the rates established by the Continental Congress, and assist in providing for and forwarding the regiment with all speed, and make return of your doings as soon as may be to the General Court of this Colony, or Committee of Safety. You are likewise to observe that the soldiers that receive the Colony guns are to be informed that they are to allow one dollar for the use of the same; and should they not be returned at the end of the campaign, they are to pay therefor forty-five shillings, lawful money, each; and the officers are to take care that the above stoppages are to be made upon making up the muster-rolls.

By order of the Committee: Meshech Weare.

COMMITTEE OF SAFETY TO SELECTMEN OF THE TOWNS OF NEW-HAMPSHIRE.

In Committee of Safety, January 31, 1776.

Gentlemen: We have received intelligence from our Delegates at *Philadelphia*, that if the numbers of all the people in each town are not speedily sent, we run the hazard of being doomed much beyond our proportion of the Continental expenses. As yours has not come to hand, we pray you to despatch it with speed, according to the request made last Fall. If you have sent, and it hath miscarried, we must entreat your sending again.

By order of the Committee: Meshech Weare.

P. S. Pray let the return be made on oath.

ADDRESS OF THE GENTRY, CLERGY, ETC., OF THE BOROUGH OF SUDBURY.

Address of the Gentry, Clergy, Principal Inhabitants, Manufacturers, and Freemen, of the Borough of *Sudbury*, in the County of *Suffolk*, presented to His Majesty by Sir *Walden Hanmer*, Bart., one of their Representatives in Parliament, introduced by the Lord of His Majesty's Bedchamber in waiting; which Address His Majesty was pleased to receive very graciously.

To the King's Most Excellent Majesty.

The humble Address of the Gentry, Clergy, Principal Inhabitants, Manufacturers, and Freemen, of the Borough of Sudbury, in the County of Suffolk.

Most Gracious Sovereign:

We, your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, beg leave to express our detestation and abhorrence of the most unnatural rebellion now subsisting in your Majesty's Colonies in *America*, encouraged, we fear, by disaffected persons as well on this, as the other side of the *Atlantick*, who at the same time boast of the liberty and laws of the most excellent Constitution in the world; yet, misled by faction and supposed injured rights, forget their natural duty and allegiance, and disown their subjection to the Legislative authority of this Kingdom, in defiance of all order and government. These unprecedented measures, subversive of every civil establishment, must excite the indignation of every friend to his country, and, we are sorry to say it, call aloud for the decisive exertions of your Majesty's arms. In times so critical, we think it our indispensable duty to profess our hearty zeal and attachment to your Majesty's person, family, and Government. Confiding in the wisdom of your Majesty's Council and the spirit of Parliament, we presume to hope that a period will soon be put to these calamities. Amongst many of your faithful subjects, we, deeply sensible of the many inestimable blessings we enjoy under your Majesty's mild and happy reign, most heartily and cheerfully offer our best services, assuring you, sir, that in this, and every part of this Kingdom, where we have any connection, we shall, at the peril of our lives and fortunes, maintain, support, and defend, to the utmost of our power, your Majesty's Crown and Government, against all the secret or avowed disturbers of the publick peace. And we further hope and trust that your fleets and armies, with the assistance of Divine Providence, will soon chastise and bring back to their duty and obedience those deluded persons who may have dared to violate the peace and good order of your Majesty's dominions in *America*.

LORD GEORGE GERMAINE TO MAJOR GENERAL HOWE.

Whitehall, February 1, 1776.

Sir: Since my letter to you of the 5th of *January*, every effort has been exerted in the different Departments to bring forward the preparations for the ensuing campaign in *North America;* and, though the severity of the weather, almost beyond what has ever been known in this country, very much obstructs the service in the Naval Department, yet I am encouraged to hope that the reinforcement for the army under your command will be embarked before the end of *March*, and that the armament intended for *Quebeck* will be ready much sooner.

The unfortunate events which have happened in *Canada* make it necessary that we should not only exert every endeavour for the relief of *Quebeck* as early as possible, but also for having a force there ready to commence its operations as soon as the season will admit.

The great attention which the King shows, upon all occasions, to the rank and merit of his officers, would have led His Majesty to have appointed Major-General *Clinton* to command upon this service, under Major-General *Carleton;* but as His Majesty's pleasure has been already signified that he should command the body of forces to be employed upon an expedition to the southward, and he is by this time probably sailed for *Cape-Fear*, in order to wait their arrival, His Majesty has thought fit that Major-General *Burgoyne* should act as second in command to General *Carleton* in *Canada*, and that he should proceed thither with the eight regiments from *Ireland*, which I hope will be ready to sail by the 20th of next month.

If *Quebeck* should fall before any relief can be got thither, and Major-General *Carleton* should unhappily not survive the loss of it, the King's intentions are, that in such an event, the command of the whole of His Majesty's forces in *North America* should devolve upon you. It is also His Majesty's intentions immediately to appoint

Major-Generals *Clinton*, *Burgoyne*, Lord *Percy*, and Lord *Cornwallis*, Lieutenant-Generals in *America*. The old Colonels who now act as Brigadiers are to have commissions as Major-Generals, and the other Colonels will be appointed Brigadiers.

In case of Major-General *Carleton's* death, it will remain with you to dispose of the different commands as you, in your discretion, shall think fit. It will, consequently, be in your power to leave the command of the troops on the side of *Canada* to Major-General *Burgoyne;* or, if you think it more advisable, you may appoint General *Clinton* to that service; and it being His Majesty's pleasure that Major-General Lord *Cornwallis* should be employed in *Canada*, he and his regiment are to be sent thither as soon as he joins the army under your command.

In the present state of affairs in *North America*, the security of *Nova-Scotia* and *Newfoundland* are objects of attention; and I am commanded by the King to signify to you His Majesty's pleasure, that the two battalions of marines now serving under your command, or any part of them you shall judge necessary, should be posted at *Halifax;* and that a detachment of Major *Gorham's* corps be posted at *St. John's*, in *Newfoundland*, as a garrison will be wanted there. It is also His Majesty's pleasure that as many of the private men of the Sixty-Fifth Regiment as are fit for service should be turned over to the Twenty-Seventh Regiment, and, if there are more than will complete it, you will incorporate them in any other corps; that the Twenty-Seventh Regiment, when so completed, be joined to the army under your command; and that the commissioned and non-commissioned officers and invalids of the Sixty-Fifth be sent home to *England*.

I must not omit to acquaint you, before I leave the subject of military arrangement, that the officers of the Guards have expressed such spirit and zeal for His Majesty's service, that His Majesty has ordered a detachment of a thousand men, rank and file, with officers in proportion, to serve under you in *America;* and I have only further to add, that the King is so desirous of expressing, upon every occasion, his Royal approbation of the General Officers serving in the principal ranks in *America*, that he has declared his intentions that he will not employ any General Officer from hence who may be superior in rank to Major-Generals *Clinton*, *Burgoyne*, Lord *Percy*, or Lord *Cornwallis*.

This letter will be intrusted to the care of the commander of His Majesty's ship *Greyhound*, who will also deliver up to you the officers of the privateer fitted out by the Rebels, under a commission from the Congress, and taken by one of Admiral *Graves's* Squadron. The private men have all voluntarily entered themselves on board His Majesty's ships; but the officers having refused so to do, it has been judged fit to send them back to *America*, for the same obvious reasons that induced the sending back the Rebel prisoners taken in arms upon the attack of *Montreal*, in *September* last.

It is hoped that the possession of these prisoners will enable you to procure the release of such of His Majesty's officers and loyal subjects as are in the disgraceful situation of being prisoners to the Rebels; for, although it cannot be that you should enter into any treaty or agreement with Rebels for a regular cartel for exchange of prisoners, yet I doubt not but your own discretion will suggest to you the means of effecting such exchange, without the King's dignity and honour being committed, or His Majesty's name used in any negotiation for that purpose; and I am the more strongly urged to point out to you the expediency of such a measure, on account of the possible difficulties which may otherwise occur in the case of foreign troops serving in *North America*.

I am, &c., GEORGE GERMAINE.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO DELEGATES IN CONGRESS.

[No. 7.] Annapolis, February 1, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The enclosed memorandum was intended to be delivered personally to Mr. *Chase* whilst in *Baltimore* Town, but his going sooner than we expected, prevented its being done; we should be obliged to you to advert to the contents thereof, as if addressed to all the Deputies, and be pleased to give us an answer, as soon as you can, with convenience to yourselves. We find that blankets, strouds, camp equipage, and cannon, to say nothing of powder, will be much wanted, and we doubt, are not to be procured in this Province. When any thing occurs in the news way, we should be glad to have a line from you, and are, your most, &c.

To the Deputies of *Maryland*, in Congress.

The following is a copy of the enclosed Memorandum above-mentioned.

Mr. *Chase* is requested by the Council of Safety to furnish them with the price and dimensions of the chevaux-de-frise lately made at *Philadelphia*.

To inform them whether any thing, and what, has been done in Congress, in consequence of a resolve of the late Convention, relative to the canvass imported into this Province by Mr. *Jugé*, a foreigner.

Whether Messrs. *Willing* and *Morris* have received a letter from Messrs. *Chamberlaine*, *Hooe*, and *Ringgold*, or either of them, advising them that this Province would receive five tons of the saltpetre imported by said *Willing* and *Morris*, manufactured into gunpowder, in part discharge of the powder to be furnished by them, and whether they have taken any measures in consequence of it.

Whether there are any match coat blankets or strouds to be got in *Philadelphia* or *New-York*, and to transmit the plates and paper directed by the money bill, to be procured at *Philadelphia*, as soon as possible.

Also, to inform them whether there be any probability of getting knapsacks, haversacks, and canteens, for the soldiers, and at what prices, respectively, and in what time they can be furnished.

JOHN D. THOMPSON TO BENJAMIN RUMSEY.

Cecil County, February 1, 1776.

DEAR SIR: By Captain *Craig* I inform you Mr. *Nathaniel Rumsey* is arrived. I called on him yesterday, he tells me he has (in partnership with a gentleman of *Philadelphia*) about eight tons of gunpowder, and five tons of saltpetre; he has engaged to supply this County with one ton of powder, at the same price the Committee of *Philadelphia* will, provided the money will be immediately advanced. This County has very little powder; I am sure not more than sixty pounds; the people are very uneasy on that head, and seem much distressed. I most earnestly beg that you will represent this matter to the Council of Safety, and request of them to advance to the Committee of this County such a sum of money as will purchase one ton, at the rate of twenty-five pounds per hundred. Captain *Craig*, if the Council pleases to advance the money, will receive it, and deliver it to Colonel *John Veasey*, Chairman of the Committee.

I am, dear sir, your very humble servant,

JOHN D. THOMPSON.

To *Benjamin Rumsey*, Esq.

DORCHESTER COUNTY (MARYLAND) COMMITTEE TO COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Dorchester County, February 1, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Captain *Joseph Robson*, who commands the Minute Company of this County, applied last week to us, and informed us, that he had, upon his receiving orders from the last Convention to march his company to *Virginia*, examined the guns belonging to the men in his company, and could not make out more than ten that were in any sort fit for service; and as the Convention had ordered that the company should be supplied with arms from *Chestertown*, we advised the Captain immediately to make application to the Committee of that County, for that purpose, which he has since accordingly done, but has been able to procure from thence only ten muskets, with three bayonets, and not one cartridge or cartouch-box, of which articles the company are also entirely in want.

It, therefore, under the resolve of the Convention, becomes our duty to endeavour to borrow as many guns as will supply this deficiency, and this duty we would, with

great pleasure, readily comply with, was it in our power; but the scarcity of all kinds of arms in this County in such that we are convinced they are neither to be borrowed nor bought, were we empowered to purchase them.

As this is the condition Captain *Robson's* company is in, and it is impossible for us to supply their wants, we have thought it incumbent on us, immediately to lay the matter before your Honours, in order that you may give such orders as you may think proper on this occasion. We believe Captain *Robson* and his company are ready and willing to march, if they can be supplied with arms, and any service that is in our power upon this, or any other occasion, we shall also be ready, with great cheerfulness, to perform.

We are, with great respect, gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servants.

Signed by order of the Committee of Observation for *Dorchester* County.

JAMES MURRAY, *Chairman.*

To the Honourable the Council of Safety, of *Maryland.*

QUEEN-ANNE (MARYLAND) COMPANY OF MILITIA TO COLONEL ROBERT TYLER.

SIR: At the same time that we regard the loss of you as our chief, it affords us infinite pleasure that you are appointed Colonel to our battalion, to which truly honourable and exalted station we beg leave most sincerely to congratulate you.

Prompted by gratitude, we cannot omit this opportunity to express our thanks for your uniform, steady, and manly opposition against every attempt of tyranny and usurpation, from whatever quarter, to destroy the constitutional rights and privileges of the subject; you having early in life distinguished yourself as a bold and forward leader of opposition, and a most daring champion in the publick cause, gained so much the esteem and confidence of the publick that you were elected a Burgess for this County, since which you have eminently appeared an independent agent for the people, and a faithful trustee of that sacred charge committed to a Representative by his constituents. Your conduct last war, a war truly national, demands the acknowledgments of all good men and friends to *America;* for at a time when others were spending their time in idle dissipation, and wallowing in sensuality and excess of ease, though blest with so large a fortune that you might have staid at home and basked in the sunshine of affluence, you entered a volunteer in the service of your country, and generously took up arms and risked your life in a wilderness against cruel Savages, in defence of our glorious Constitution, and to the relief of the poor distressed frontier inhabitants.

Being fully persuaded, that without the most perfect harmony and union among ourselves, the great events which have happened in our favour, will not have those permanent good consequences so much wished for, be assured of our most earnest desire, that all party heats, dissensions, and broils, may be finally abolished from among us; our salvation most clearly depends upon it; at a time when we are all afloat in the same bottom, and must inevitably sink or swim together, surely we ought now, more particularly, above all things, to love one another. May we all heartily unite, hand in hand, against the common enemy, (who would rejoice to see divisions among us,) is the prayer of yours, &c.

It is agreed that this Address be published.

COLONEL TYLER'S ANSWER.

To the Gentlemen, Officers, and Soldiers, belonging to the QUEEN-ANNE *Company of Militia:*

GENTLEMEN: Be pleased to accept my best thanks for your very neighbourly and most friendly congratulatory address, on my being raised to so honourable a station as that of Lieutenant-Colonel in the battalion to which you belong. You have expressed your approbation of my promotion in terms that do me much honour. We are all of us, at this time, unhappily forced into a most unnatural civil war, by the vile machinations of a despotick Minister, whose aim is to exchange the laws and maxims of our happy Constitution for the exercise of tyranny and arbitrary power over us, learned from the most despotick Courts of *Europe.* I have, therefore, drawn my sword with you in defence of invaded liberty, our very best inheritance; and you may be assured in such a contest, I will prefer even death itself to an unmanly, base submission. May the Great *God* of Heaven stretch forth his arm to us in the day of so hard a trial, is the prayer of,

Gentlemen, your much obliged, faithful servant,

ROBERT TYLER.

P. S. You may be assured that I will, as you have desired, use my best endeavours to cultivate harmony and a good understanding between our officers and brother soldiers, as the only sure way to save us from destruction; and as to all matters that have been unwarily thrown out to create disturbance, I am for burying them in oblivion. As your address is to be published, request you will publish my answer. I am, &c., R. T.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO JOHN McKESSON.

Albany, February 1, 1776.

SIR: Mr. *Hancock* had already transmitted me like copies of the resolutions of Congress, as were enclosed in yours of the 25th ultimo, which I received yesterday.

I have more reasons than one for wishing that no commissions may be sent to me from the Committee of Safety, to be delivered to the officers they may please to name. The Colonel of the regiment will be the proper person to distribute them.

I am, sir, your humble servant,

PHILIP SCHUYLER.

To *John McKesson,* Esq., Secretary to the Provincial Convention of *New-York.*

THOMAS YOUNGS TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

Sag-Harbour, February 1, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Enclosed, we send you the most correct map of the east end of *Long-Island,* and the islands adjacent, we were able to take at this difficult season. The bearings and distances of the points of land are chiefly taken by the compass; the soundings and shoals taken from the most experienced coasters we have here. The ice prevented us from taking them ourselves.

I am, gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servant.

By order of the Committee:

THOMAS YOUNGS, *Chairman.*

To the Honourable Provincial Congress.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

Albany, 10 o'clock, A. M., February 1, 1776.

SIR: Just now Colonel *Easton* arrived from *Montreal* with the prisoners mentioned in the enclosed list; they immediately go to *Lebanon.*

General *Wooster,* in a letter of the 20th ultimo, says:

'I have just received intelligence from our army before *Quebeck;* they still continue the blockade with spirit, yet are greatly distressed for want of men, being alarmed almost every night, and having so few men, if not assisted in a little time, good as they are (and men never behaved better) they must be worn out. I have sent them a reinforcement of a hundred and twenty, who, I expect, will arrive there to-morrow, and another party of seventy will set off from this place this morning.

"What our people at *Quebeck* will do, or what any of us can do for want of money, *God* only knows. Money we must have, or give up every thing. Every engine is set at work to discredit us with the people of the country. Our friends are already drained. If the Lakes are not so taken as to render it prudent to venture the military chest across, cannot some trusty person come on with a thousand or two pounds for present use, and in the meantime we shall make every shift to promote the service.

"I mentioned in my last, that cannon, mortars, and ammunition might be wanted. Should be glad of your thoughts upon the subject, and to know what quantity of powder can be forwarded, and how many cannon and mor-

tars, and what size. Mr. *Pelissier*, of *Three-Rivers*, has sent to me to know the size of our mortars and cannon, as he is about casting shells and shot.

"I think it of importance that whatever is sent, should be here by the first of *March*; by that time, if properly assisted, we shall be able to erect batteries. They must be cannonaded in earnest; the place is strong, and they are determined to hold out desperately, you will, therefore, see the necessity of spirited measures in order to take possession of it before they can be reinforced from *Great Britain*."

Mr. *Antill* has this moment delivered me your favour of the 20th ultimo.

I believe there is left, at the posts above, one eighteen-pounder, nineteen twelve-pounders, twenty-nine of nine, twenty-three of six, twenty-five of four, and some swivels.

I shall immediately employ people to cut and draw timber for repairing *Ticonderoga*, provided I can get forage for horses. It will be much less expensive now than in Spring or Summer; but an Engineer should be sent up for the business; nor can I, without the assistance of such a person, ascertain the number of cannon necessary for its defence. They should all be of the largest size that can be had.

I have already transmitted General *Wooster* the former resolutions of Congress; those by Colonel *Hazen* will send on by that gentleman.

I am, sir, most sincerely, your obedient, humble servant,

PHILIP SCHUYLER.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq., &c., &c.

State of the Military Chest, ALBANY, JANUARY 28, 1776.

Received at two different times, - - -	$240,000 00
Issued to various persons, - - - - -	174,089 25
Remain in Chest, - - - - -	$65,910 75

JONATHAN TRUMBULL, JR., *Paymaster-General.*

To the Honourable Major-General *Schuyler*.

GENERAL ARNOLD TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

Camp before Quebeck, February 1, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I have the pleasure of acquainting you we still hold our ground before *Quebeck*, and keep the enemy closely blockaded, though we have received but a small reinforcement of one hundred and fifty men from *Montreal*. The enemy have, within this ten days, sallied out twice at *Palace-Gate*, with about four or five hundred men, with a view of seizing two field-pieces we have on that side; our men advanced briskly to attack them, when they made a precipitate retreat under cover of their guns. I make no doubt of holding our ground, as we expect a reinforcement daily, which we are anxiously waiting for, as the duty is very severe.

I have taken the liberty, in former letters to the honourable Continental Congress, to give my opinion in regard to men and measures necessary for the reduction of *Quebeck*. The necessary ways and means for supporting those men I have omitted, as General *Montgomery*, in his life time, transmitted you his sentiments on the matter, as well as on the necessary measures for forming a lasting union between this country and the Colonies. I have only to observe, if the capital is taken I believe paper money will soon have a currency.

Major *John Brown*, who came down with General *Montgomery*, with about one hundred and sixty men collected from different regiments, now assumes and insists on the title of Colonel, which, he says, the General promised him at *Montreal*. That the General promised him promotion, he told me sometime before his death. When Major *Brown* wrote to remind him of his promise, the General handed me his letter, and told me, at the same time, as Colonel *Easton* and Major *Brown* were publickly impeached with plundering the officers' baggage taken at *Sorel*, contrary to articles of capitulation, and to the great scandal of the *American* Army, he could not, in conscience or honour promote him, (Major *Brown*,) until those matters were cleared up. He then sent for Major *Brown*, and told him his sentiments on the matter very freely; after which I heard of no further application for promotion. This transaction Colonel *Campbell*, Major *Dubois*, and several gentlemen, were knowing to. As Colonel *Easton* and Major *Brown* have, doubtless, a sufficient share of modest merit to apply to the honourable Continental Congress for promotion, I think it my duty to say the charge before-mentioned is the publick topick of conversation at *Montreal*, and among the officers of the Army in general; and, as such conduct is unbecoming the character of gentlemen or soldiers, I believe it would give great disgust to the Army in general if those gentlemen were promoted before those matters were cleared up.

This will be delivered you by Mr. *David Hopkins*, a gentleman who came out a volunteer with me; his spirited conduct, both on march and since our arrival in this country, merit my recommendation to your notice, of which I think him worthy.

I am, with the greatest respect and esteem, dear sir, your most obedient and humble servant,

BENEDICT ARNOLD.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq.

P. S. The contents of the enclosed letter I do not wish to be kept from the gentlemen mentioned therein; the publick interest is my chief motive for writing. I should despise myself were I capable of asserting a thing in prejudice of any gentlemen without sufficient reasons to make it publick. B. A.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GENERAL SCHUYLER.

Cambridge, February 1, 1776.

DEAR SIR: On the 27th ultimo, I had the pleasure of writing you, and then mentioned my being under some embarrassments respecting the application which I expected from our *Caughnawaga* friends. I have now the pleasure to inform you, that in a talk they honoured me with yesterday, they put the matter upon the footing I wished; that is, to join the forces in *Canada* whenever you shall call for their assistance.

They requested me to certify my approbation of the treaty they had concluded with you, which I did. Upon the occasion they expressed much satisfaction, and said that they were now happy that a firm peace was made between them and their brothers, and that they were now free like the *New-England* people. I heartily wish that this union may be lasting, and that nothing may cast up to interrupt it. The expediency of calling upon them I shall leave to you. Circumstances and policy will suggest the occasion. I promised them to write you by Colonel *Bedel* of what they had done, and shall submit it to your discretion to communicate to them such parts of this as you may think necessary.

I have advanced one hundred pounds, lawful money, to Colonel *Bedel*, for the expenses attending their return home. This he will account with you for.

I am, dear sir, your affectionate, humble servant,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To the Honourable Major-General *Schuyler*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO COLONEL BEDEL.

Cambridge, February 1, 1776.

SIR: The Continental Congress having called upon the Government of *New-Hampshire* to raise a regiment for the service of the *United Colonies*, which they have accordingly complied with, and appointed you to the command of, I have to desire that you will use your utmost diligence and despatch possible, to raise the said regiment, and march it into *Canada* by the way of *Number Four* and *Onion River*, on which communication a supply of provisions will be laid by order of Major-General *Schuyler*. This regiment is to be raised upon the Continental establishment, and agreeable to the terms and requisition of the Congress, as transmitted to *New-Hampshire*.

As the necessity of reinforcing our troops, posted before, and forming the blockade of *Quebeck*, is too apparent to need description, I would have you order each company to march as fast as they are raised, the whole putting themselves under the General, or commanding officer in *Canada*, as fast as they arrive there. Such necessaries as are indispensably necessary for the use of your regiment, will, I expect, be procured for you by your Colony, in the

doing of which, and on your march, I recommend the utmost economy that can be used consistent with despatch.

You will take under your care, *Jean Baptist*, together with the other *Indians*, (now at this place,) of the *Caughnawaga* tribe, and conduct them in the safest and most agreeable manner to themselves into *Canada*. You will receive a warrant upon the Paymaster for one hundred pounds, lawful, with which you are to bear their expenses, rendering an account of the just expenditure thereof for their use, to the Commissary of the Northern Department when you get there, who will be advertised of this matter, and directed to settle with you.

These, are, sir, my instructions, to which I doubt not you will pay a proper attention. I must again recommend your making all possible despatch; and that you may have a share in the glory of expelling the instruments of Ministerial tyranny from that fair Province, is the sincere wish of, sir, your most obedient servant,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To Colonel *Timothy Bedel*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO TIMOTHY PICKERING, JUN.

Cambridge, February 1, 1776.

SIR: Your favour of yesterday, I received, and am sorry to hear that the quota of Militia, which the town of *Salem* was to furnish by resolve of the honourable General Court, cannot be had.

The generous tender of services made by you, sir, and the rest of the volunteers, claims a return of my sincere thanks. Should I have occasion to call upon them, I shall do it; at present I wish them to continue at *Salem*, and to hold themselves in readiness.

I am, sir, your and their humble servant,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To *Timothy Pickering*, Jun., Esq., *Salem*.

ROBERT H. HARRISON TO WILLIAM WATSON.

Cambridge, February 1, 1776.

SIR: Major *Hobart* will want one hundred tons of the coals taken in the two prizes sent into your place by Commodore *Manly*. As it is for the publick service, his Excellency is willing to let him have them, he paying as much for them as any one else would.

His Excellency desires you would be careful to prevent a waste of this article, as it will be very much wanting for the publick works. He is informed that there has been some pilfering already. I am, sir, yours, &c.

To *William Watson*, Esq., *Plymouth*.

ROBERT H. HARRISON TO WILLIAM WATSON.

Cambridge, February 1, 1776.

SIR: Your favour of the 29th ultimo, is come to hand. There must be an inquiry made into the conduct of that Captain, who so shamefully deserted his Commodore. Please to let the General know which of the schooners it was.

The General thinks it will be proper that the Captains of these vessels prove upon oath their private property; after which you may deliver to them all except the beef and pork, which he thinks most probably belongs to the vessels. If it does not, it is clear that they must be meant for supplying the enemy. Upon that principle, he does not think it will be proper to give them unto the Captains.

His Excellency has no objections to these gentlemen's returning to *Plymouth*; nor has he any objections to their disposing of the checks and baize at your place, if they choose it. He is pleased that the schooners got under way. Yours, &c.

To *William Watson*, Esq., *Plymouth*.

By His Excellency GEORGE WASHINGTON, *Esq., Commander-in-chief of the Army of the* UNITED COLONIES.

To WILLIAM BURKE, *Esq.*

By virtue of the powers and authorities to me given by the honourable Continental Congress, I do hereby constitute and appoint you Captain and Commander of the schooner *Warren*, now lying at *Beverly* Port, in the service of the *United Colonies* of *North America*; to have, hold, exercise, and enjoy the said office of Captain and Commander of the said vessel, and to perform and execute all matters and things which to your said office do, or may of right belong or appertain, until further order shall be given herein by the honourable Continental Congress, myself, or any future Commander-in-chief of said Army; willing and commanding all officers, soldiers, and persons whatsoever, any way concerned, to be obedient and assisting to you in the due execution of this commission.

Given under my hand and seal, at *Cambridge*, this 1st day of *February*, *Annoque Domini* 1776.

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

By His Excellency's command:

To Captain *William Burke*, of the *Warren*.

Officers of the Armed Vessels, fitted out by order of General WASHINGTON, *on the 1st of* FEBRUARY, 1776.

HANCOCK.

John Manly,	- Captain and Com.	1 January, 1776.
Richard Stiles,	- 1st Lieutenant,	1 January, 1776.
Nicholas Ogilby,	- 2d Lieutenant,	1 January, 1776.

LEE.

Daniel Waters,	- Captain,	20 January, 1776.
William Kissick,	- 1st Lieutenant,	20 January, 1776.
John Gill,	- 2d Lieutenant,	20 January, 1776.
John Diamond,	- Master,	20 January, 1776.

FRANKLIN.

Samuel Tucker,	- Captain,	20 January, 1776.
Edward Phittiplace,	1st Lieutenant,	20 January, 1776.
Francis Salter,	- 2d Lieutenant,	20 January, 1776.

HARRISON.

Charles Dyar,	- Captain,	20 January, 1776.
Thomas Dote,	- 1st Lieutenant,	23 January, 1776.
John Wigglesworth,	2d Lieutenant,	20 January, 1776.

LYNCH.

John Ayres,	- Captain,	1 February, 1776.
John Roche,	- 1st Lieutenant,	1 February, 1776.
John Tiley,	- 2d Lieutenant,	1 February, 1776.

WARREN.

William Burke,	- Captain,	1 February, 1776.

Cambridge, February 1, 1776.

We hear, that as Captain *Manly* was coming out of *Plymouth*, *January* 30, an armed brig, (which went from *Boston* for the purpose of taking him, as he supposed,) gave him chase, upon which he ran his vessel on shore a little south of the *North-River*, in *Scituate*. The brig came to anchor, and fired not less than four hundred times upon the privateer; but, very remarkable, no man was even wounded. One ball entered the stern, and passed but about six inches from Captain *Manly*, who was confined by sickness in his cabin. The next day one hundred and thirty balls were found upon the adjacent shore.

Besides the above, which is from a correspondent near where the affair happened, we hear, that after the brig ceased firing she manned her boats, boarded Captain *Manly's* vessel, (the people being ashore,) and endeavoured to set her on fire; but seeing our people coming upon them, they were glad to get off without effecting their design. She has since been got off, is refitting, and nearly ready for another cruise.

JAMES OTIS TO COUNCIL OF MASSACHUSETTS.

Barnstable, February 1, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: This encloses the examination of one *William Heath*, the master of the sloop *Betsey*, taken and brought into this harbour the 31st of *January* last, by Captain *Jonathan Howes*, &c., bound from *Nova-Scotia* to *Boston*, to supply our enemies, and who has been in that employ for a considerable time. He appears to me to be a surly, inimical fellow to this country, and he destroyed all his papers, save the register and shipping paper, (and as I am told, that was his orders, if he was likely to be taken.) It is reported that he beat one of his foremast men so that his life is in danger. Some others of them frozen, that I

have had the examination of. But three of them which I also enclose. They are, also, unable to travel as yet, and so are gone on board again to be subsisted there out of the cargo, by Captain *Howes's* consent, until they are able to travel to Court, or otherwise. *Mott* and *Peters*, belong to this country, and *Peters* has a wife and family at *Salem*.

If the Council have occasion for them, they shall be sent to them, but it appears to me that they were forced into the service. But *Heath* appears to me to be a bad man, and ought to have good care taken of him. My son, Colonel *Otis*, has ordered him to your Honours, with a proper guard.

I am, gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servant,

JAMES OTIS.

To the President of the Honourable Council, in *Watertown*.

JOSEPH OTIS TO COUNCIL OF MASSACHUSETTS.

Barnstable, February 1, 1776.

HONOURED SIR: By Captain *Daniel Howes*, I have the pleasure to send to the Council a master of a vessel taken off our harbour. The papers Captain *Howes* has will inform as to the circumstances. The hands that are aboard appear to be very honest men, and forced into the service, and are about entering aboard an armed vessel fixing from here.

Colonel *Elisha Doan* has sent two vessels from *Chatham* to the *West-Indies*, within a fortnight, and Captain *Solomon Davis* is fixing two from here. I hope the honourable Council and House will inquire whether these men have leave, if not, I hope there will be proper orders about them.

I have the honour to be yours, and the honourable Council's obedient servant,

JOSEPH OTIS.

To the Honourable the President of the Council, at *Watertown*.

Williamsburgh, Virginia, February 2, 1776.

We have the pleasure to inform the publick, that Colonel *Charles Carter*, of *Stafford*, goes prosperously on with his manufactory of Saltpetre, and gives it as his opinion, that were people in general to pay proper attention to that business, *Virginia* might pay her quota of the expenses of the war by it, as every housekeeper can, with much ease, make more or less. That gentleman writes on the 21st instant: "I have got the following Saltpetre Works established, and am now on my way to many estates, where I hope that more will be set on foot in a very short time; and can with truth aver, that nothing but the neglect of the overseers can frustrate the scheme. No proper directions for making saltpetre having appeared in print, it may be expected that I should publish my own process; but as it would take up too much of your paper, I shall only mention, that any person may be taught by applying to any of the following gentlemen: Messrs. *Gilpin* and *Hartshorn*, *Alexandria*; Mr. *Robert Bailey*, *Colchester*; Mr. *John Murray*, *Dumfries*; Mr. *John Smith*, *Aquia*; Mr. *Joshua Brown*, at *Ludlow Farm*, in *Stofford*; Mr. *William Nelson*, in *Caroline*; and Mr. *William Griffin*, of *King and Queen*. At *Aquia* we now make about twelve pounds of refined saltpetre per day, at *Dumfries*, eight pounds; at *Ravensworth*, twenty pounds; at *Alexandria*, ten pounds; at *Colchester*, six pounds; and, when the whole gets in motion, I do not doubt making from five hundred to one thousand weight per day, which I hope will add spirit to our glorious cause."

THOMAS JOHNSON, JUN., TO DANIEL OF ST. THOMAS JENIFER.

Fredericktown, February 2, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I yesterday received yours, advising me of your meeting in *Baltimore* the 29th past. My family's being several of them indisposed, the badness of the weather, and the probability of your breaking up but a little after the time I could get to *Baltimore*, has prevented my setting out. Mr. *Stand's* inability to go to *Philadelphia* will shorten my stay here.

I am told that *Clapham*, of *Virginia*, agreed yesterday with our gunsmiths for a number of rifles, and that the *Virginians* are purchasing us all they can. I fear, unless what useful guns that can be bought are purchased immediately for our troops, we shall have soldiers without arms. The one hundred pounds sent me by Mr. *Ford*, will buy only twenty rifles.

Mr. *Hughes* has sanguine expectations of complying with his contract for cannon.

I am, dear sir, your very affectionate friend,

THOMAS JOHNSON, JUN.

To the Honourable *Daniel of St. Thomas Jenifer*, Esq.

FIELD-OFFICERS OF ELK-RIDGE BATTALION TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Elk-Ridge, February, 2, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The honourable Convention having been pleased to appoint us Field-Officers for the *Elk-Ridge* Battalion of Militia, and we, well knowing the situation of said battalion respecting fire-arms, many being without any, and others in such order that, were we called to action, would not be able to make a proper defence; and we, considering that at a very small expense to the Province many of the guns belonging to the poorer people, who cannot conveniently pay for the repairing and putting them in proper order, could be made fit for use, beg leave to request of your Honours, that, should you think it expedient that said arms should be repaired, to signify the same to us, and we will have them done in the most speedy, cheapest, and effectual manner.

We are, respectfully, gentlemen, your most obedient servants,

THOMAS DORSEY,
JOHN DORSEY,
EDWARD GAITHER, JUN.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety for the Province of *Maryland*.

LINDENBERGER AND McCLELLAN TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Baltimore-Town, February 2, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: At the sitting of the last Convention we brought a sample of gunpowder made by us. *Thomas Johnston*, Esq., acquainted us it was approved of, and a resolve was made, and entered, to lend us (if required) any sum of money, not amounting above one thousand pounds, without interest, for two years; but, as the gentlemen in Convention and we did not know on what terms we should agree, we were informed the matter should be left to the consideration of the Council of Safety, which would sit in *Baltimore*, and we, therefore, beg leave to acquaint the gentlemen, whenever they shall think proper, we shall attend.

Gentlemen, we are, with due respect, your very humble servants,

GEORGE LINDENBERGER,
JOHN McCLELLAN.

To the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

SAMUEL CHASE TO DANIEL OF ST. THOMAS JENIFER.

Charlestown, February 2, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Captain *Nathaniel Ramsey* informs me, that he can procure about one hundred and forty yards of country-made cloth, at about eight shillings, currency, per yard, and linen, country-made, from two shillings four pence, to two shillings eight pence, fit and proper for hunting-shirts, enough for his company. The cash will be necessary. I once more take the liberty to remind you of the gun-locks in the hands of Mr. *S. West*.

I shall be glad to render the Province, or you, any service in the city of *Philadelphia*.

I am, sir, with regard, your obedient servant,

SAMUEL CHASE.

To the Honourable *Daniel of St. Thomas Jenifer*, Esq.

MARYLAND DELEGATES TO COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Philadelphia, February 2, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Last night we received your letters by *Maynard*, covering the resolutions of Congress relative to the plates and paper for the present currency. As the furnishing devices is a business to which we are entire stran-

gers, we have advised with Doctor *Benjamin Franklin*, and shall, with his assistance, set the engraver to work in a few days.

As the Convention have ordered both plates and paper here, we submit to you, whether it would not be expedient to have the printing, also, done by *Hall & Sellers*. Of this we are certain, that the business would be done with much greater expedition. But in this shall be governed by your directions.

With respect to cannon, so far as we can form any opinion, from the short time to make the inquiry, none can be had here, or from any of the Eastern Governments; they are very scarce through the whole Continent.

A Committee of Congress, of which Mr. *Rogers* is a member, have been appointed, to make inquiry into the quantity of cannon on hand, and what will be wanted, and where, and on what terms they can be had. No report is yet made, but a letter from Mr. *Chase* to Mr. *Paca*, mentioning that *Hughes*, in *Frederick*, had contracted with the Convention to supply our Province at thirty-two pounds ten shillings, being communicated to Congress, the members of the Committee were immediately very desirous to see Mr. *Hughes*, to know whether he would make the like contract for supplying the demands of Congress. This will convince you that a supply cannot be had from hence, and that you must rely on your own resources, by casting them in the Province.

Mr. *Paca* purchased from Mr. *Marris* twelve guns, of six-pound balls, for six hundred pounds, by order of Mr. *Johnson;* they would have been sent down, had not the ice stopped the navigation.

William Paca,
R. Alexander.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

P. S. Agreeable to your request, a passport was granted *Maynard*, who proceeded immediately to *New-York*.

Mr. *Purviance* enclosed us affidavits of two skippers, who had been taken by Lord *Dunmore*, mentioning that a pilot-boat, with a clergyman from *Maryland*, had arrived at *Norfolk*, who gave information of the outfit of the store and provision vessels. If you have heard of this business, be pleased to advise us; we are desirous of knowing the truth, a difficult task at present.

LORD STIRLING TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Referred to Mr. Chase, Mr. Rutledge, Mr. Wythe.]

Elizabethtown, February 2, 1776.

Sir: The cargo of the ship *Blue-Mountain-Valley*, is now chiefly unladen and brought up to this town, except the coal, which it will be best to take out as it is disposed of.

I have, as yet, received no orders from Congress relating to this ship, nor no answer to the three letters to you relating to her, since her capture, and of which it was impossible for me to keep copies.

Captain *Dempster* is very desirous of returning to *England*. Two of his Mates, and the foremast-men, would be glad of working their passage home, or through the *West-Indies*. It will, perhaps, be best to send them to *Philadelphia* for that purpose, in preference to any of the ports to the eastward.

I am told that the Congress has established some rules with regard to prizes, and, also, some Admiralty jurisdiction; but, as I have not seen them, I cannot tell whether this ship is comprehended within them, and shall be glad to be instructed with regard to that point.

I now enclose a copy of the orders I gave to Captain *Rogers* when I put the ship into his charge. This Captain *Rogers* was well recommended to me by the *New-York* Committee of Safety. He is, I believe, as fit a man as any to command a ship of force; or, if it should be thought proper to keep three or four small sloops, to run in and out of *Sandy-Hook*, and the inlets of *Egg-Harbour*, *Barnegat*, &c., I believe he would be a very proper person to command them.

Some attempts have been made, in this Province, to break through the prohibition ordered by Congress to the shipping of lumber and provision. I have taken every step in my power to prevent it, and have laid the whole proceedings before the Convention of this Province, which is now sitting at *Brunswick*.

Enclosed is a copy of my letter to them on that subject, as, also, copy of my letter to them on the subject of arms, and I hope they will come into the measure I have recommended to them.

I now, also, enclose copies of the orders I sent to Colonel *Maxwell*, with regard to preparing his regiment for marching to *Albany*, and his answer thereto. These would have been transmitted sooner to you, but my absence a few days from this place, on the little naval excursion, and my illness in consequence of it, for a day or two more, has thrown me behind hand in my correspondence, which I find swells to such a size that it will be impossible for me to get through it with any regularity, without the help of one or two good clerks.

I just hear that seven hundred men, from *New-England*, arrived in *New-York* this afternoon, and that General *Lee* is at *King's Bridge* with a like number.

I have the honour to be, with great respect and regard, your most humble servant,

Stirling.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq.

In Committee of Safety, New-York, January 25, 1776.

My Lord: Since the last communication between your Lordship and us, concerning the arms we undertook to supply you with for the troops under your command, we have orders from Congress to raise four new battalions, besides one which before that time we were under orders to raise.

We are, also, informed that there are still thirty stands of publick arms in the town of *Newark*, which are not appropriated to the use of your troops. There may be others in the same situation in other parts of your Colony, and we conceive it a hardship to be obliged to forward a department of service out of our Colony, by supplying those arms which we intended for you, and which, with many more, will be wanted for equipping our own battalions. We can assure you, my Lord, with the greatest truth, that we are totally at a loss how to supply our new levies with arms, without taking them from our Militia, which nothing but the most urgent necessity will justify, as by that means the defence of this important post will be weakened.

We, therefore, earnestly request you to release us from our former engagement to you, and are, my Lord, most respectfully, your Lordship's obedient, humble servant.

By order of the Committee:

Joseph Hallett, *Chairman*.

To the Right Honourable the Earl of *Stirling*.

Elizabethtown, January 28, 1776.

Sir: I received your letter of the 25th, respecting the one hundred stand of arms which you were to have supplied me with. I shall lay the letter before the Continental Congress, and the Convention which meet this week at *Brunswick*, in hopes that some other means may be taken for providing an equal number.

A certain ship is lately arrived here with stores, some of which, perhaps, may be of use to the publick service under your direction. I, therefore, subjoin a list of her cargo, in order that you may know whether any part of it will be useful for that purpose. The ship is about one hundred feet long on the main deck, and will commodiously carry twenty six and ten three-pounders. *W. R.* is well worthy of your confidence.

I have the honour to be, your most humble servant,

Stirling.

To the Chairman of the Committee of Safety, at *New-York*.

Elizabethtown, February 2, 1776.

Sir: Some time ago I obtained a promise from the Congress of *New-York* to supply my regiment with one hundred stand of arms, to be paid for out of the moneys advanced by the Continental Congress for purchasing arms for the *New-Jersey* troops. Four more new regiments being ordered to be raised in the Province of *New-York*, has put the Committee of Safety of that Province under the necessity of desiring to be released from their promise, as

will appear from the enclosed copy of a letter which I have received from them. This disappointment, together with others, will leave my battalion deficient upwards of two hundred stand of arms, notwithstanding the seventy-nine which I have received from *Hackensack*, and thirty-six from *Newark;* and how to remedy the deficiency I know not, unless the Congress of *New-Jersey* will order that such of the Provincial arms, imported during the last war, as are not yet disposed of by the counties or towns, to which they were sent, be immediately collected and paid for, to such counties or towns, out of the moneys advanced by the Continental Congress. This, I have reason to believe, would produce a considerable number, as I am informed the Counties of *Monmouth* and *Middlesex* have never yet disposed of their quota of these arms. Be pleased to lay this matter before the Congress of *New-Jersey*.

And am, sir, your most humble servant,

STIRLING.

To *Samuel Tucker*, Esq.

Elizabethtown, January 27, 1776.

SIR: I do now deliver into your custody and charge, and you are hereby authorized and directed, in behalf and on account of the Continental Congress, to take charge of the ship *Blue-Mountain-Valley*, lately commanded by Captain *John Hamilton Dempster*, and now lying at or near *Elizabethtown-Point*, in *New-Jersey*, with all her cargo and stores, and the same to preserve and secure in the best manner you can, until further order from the Continental Congress, their General or Commander-in-chief in this Province, for the time being.

And you are, in the most exact way in your power, to see that the said Captain *Dempster's* private property on board said ship, and that of each of his officers and men be secured and preserved until such further order as aforesaid. I shall, in the mean time, send on board, and in the neighbourhood of said ship post such guards as I find necessary to preserve her from any attempts that may be made on her.

In behalf of the Continental Congress of the *United Colonies* in *America*.

STIRLING.

To Captain *William Rogers*.

Elizabethtown, February 2, 1776.

SIR: By the enclosed copies, which I must beg the favour of you to lay before the Congress of *New-Jersey*, they will see the informations I received with regard to vessels loading in this Province with provisions and lumber, contrary to the rules established by the Continental Congress, and the steps I have taken in order to prevent the same. I am very lately informed that there are now two or three vessels loaded, or loading, with those articles at or near *Brunswick;* they have never produced any permit or license to me. These attempts will convince the Congress of the necessity of some persons being appointed to have a general superintendency of this matter, to whom all permits or licenses should be produced. I have hitherto acted from the necessity of keeping so consequential a rule of Congress inviolate. I shall always be ready, while I remain in this Province, to give the best assistance in my power to all publick measures.

I am, sir, your most humble servant,

STIRLING.

To *Samuel Tucker*, Esq.

Elizabethtown, January 12, 1776.

DEAR SIR: In consequence of orders I have received from Congress, I shall, I believe, very soon be obliged to order your regiment to the east part of this Province, and, probably, farther. I must, therefore, request that you will, as soon as possible, put your regiment in order for actual service, and hold them in that order, and in readiness for marching, in twenty-four hours after notice.

I now send you two dozen of the last edition of the Articles of War, and have directed Captain *Conway* to send you from *Brunswick* one of the frocks of his Company, which you may use as a pattern.

STIRLING.

To Colonel *Maxwell, Trenton*.

Elizabethtown, January 18, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I hope you received my letter of the 12th instant, desiring you to put your regiment in order for actual service, as soon as possible. I have since received orders from Congress immediately to direct you to put your regiment in a state of readiness to march to *Albany*, and, as soon as ready, to inform Mr. *Hancock*, the President, thereof, that the particular orders of Congress may be transmitted for your proceedings. I must, therefore, request that you will immediately inform Mr. *Hancock* of the present state of your regiment, and send a duplicate thereof to me. As soon as the regiment is ready to march, you will inform him, as well as myself thereof; and afterwards, as frequently as you can, you are to inform me of your proceedings.

STIRLING.

To Colonel *Maxwell*.

Trenton, January 22, 1776.

MY LORD: I had the honour of receiving yours of the 18th instant, this day, as also yours of the 12th, some days ago; at the same time the Mustermaster came here, with whom I was obliged to go to *Burlington*, from which place I despatched an officer, with a party, to the Congress, with the same directions you sent me, with additional orders for flints. I expected them from *Philadelphia* before this time, with which I intended to have answered yours, and which I hope, in some measure, will plead my excuse for not having done it before; but whenever they come, you may depend I shall immediately transmit them to you.

I have received from Mr. *Livingston*, the orders of the Congress for my march to *Canada*, but no orders to transmit to them the state of my regiment, but shall now do it as soon as possible; and when done, send your Lordship the duplicates, according to your request, and, also, an account of any thing besides that may be worthy your notice. I must acknowledge that, to manage a new regiment left in winter quarters, amongst their friends, and so much in want of every necessary, is a task much harder than I thought. Your drums and fifes have been here two or three days. I endeavoured to get an empty wagon to send them on to *Brunswick*, but could not. I informed Mr. *Lowrey* of their being here, who promised to send them with the stockings, as they should come. Five hundred pair came here *Saturday* evening; they are all to go off in the morning. I wish them safe to hand.

And am, your Lordship's most obedient, humble servant,

WILLIAM MAXWELL.

To the Right Honourable the Earl of *Stirling*.

ARENDT VAN HOOK TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

New-York, February 2, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Having been active in discipline from the earliest period in which it was thought expedient to call us forth in the defence of our country, and willing to be as extensively useful as possible, at this time of embodying more troops, am induced to deliver in my name to the House for a Captaincy, and am led to hope that the letter recommendatory, put into the hands of *Joseph Hallett*, Esq., will be a strong motive to induce the honourable House to grant my request.

I am, gentlemen, with the greatest deference, your obedient, humble servant,

ARENDT VAN HOOK.

To the Honourable the Provincial Congress of *New-York*.

New-York, February 1, 1776.

Mr. *Arendt Van Hook*, Gentleman, of this place, lately belonging to the Independent Company of Fusiliers, having served as a private in said company, and received his discharge from the same with intent, as he informs us, to enter into the Provincial service as Captain, we do, therefore, most heartily recommend him to the attention and favour of the Congress, being fully convinced that (from the cheerful and unwearied attention which he has always paid to his duty, and those mental qualifications of which he is possessed) he will fill, with honour, the station for which he solicits.

HENRY G. LIVINGSTON,
WILLIAM S. LIVINGSTON.

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Lebanon, February 2, 1776.

SIR: In compliance with the requisition of the honourable Continental Congress and of your Excellency, we are, with the greatest cheerfulness, making our utmost exertions to raise and despatch one battalion to *Canada* and three to your camp; and have much satisfaction to inform you, that there appears a great freedom in our men to engage in each of those important services; and the regiments are filling up very fast; and some companies have marched for your camp about two days since; but am just informed of a very material difficulty, which must greatly retard the march of both, unless it can be removed, viz: that our Treasury is entirely exhausted of money; without which it will be impossible to persuade the men to set forward to *Canada*, nor can it be reasonable to expect it. In this exigency we know not what to do, and the cause must greatly suffer unless your Excellency can relieve us; and have, therefore, by advice of my Council, sent one of the Committee of our Pay-Table to wait on, and request of your Excellency, the replacing the sum which they lately paid some of our troops in your camp, with no other view than to quiet and induce them more freely to re-engage in your service; in doing which, I trust, they had your approbation. The same bills they made use of for that purpose, were just before brought, at our instance and expense from the Continental Treasury, towards reimbursing our expenses in the great cause; and, judging it could not be better used, we improved it for that purpose. But I need use no arguments with your Excellency; your own truly publick spirit and zeal for promoting this unspeakably important cause, will be abundantly sufficient to induce you to comply with our request, founded only on principles of general good, if it be in your power.

I am, sir, with the highest esteem and regard, your most obedient and very humble servant,

JONATHAN TRUMBULL.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO GENERAL SCHUYLER.

Lebanon, February 2, 1776.

SIR: The three prisoners, bearers hereof, were sent to this Colony in *October* last from *Montreal*. They have ever complained extremely of the hardship of their being imprisoned, having as they allege, and by all I can learn, never acted any inimical part, but were peaceable inhabitants about their own business. They appear to behave like persons not disposed to injure us; have complained much of their detention, and have long been pushing very hard for liberty to return home, but have hitherto been put off and detained; and now on the repetition of their pressing importunity, I have laid the matter before my Council of Safety for advice. They are of opinion, and advise me, to give them a permit, to return as far on their way as to you, for your further direction, though, so far as we are able to judge, they are of opinion, that it will be of no advantage to keep them here, having reason to think they are not unfriendly, and that the report they will carry home, must be of advantage to our common cause; and would, therefore, recommend it to your Honour, unless you know of special reasons against it, that you would be pleased to permit them to return to their respective homes.

Monsieur *Orillat*, who was sent with them, (an opulent merchant, appeared very stubborn, refractory, and inimical, and was carefully watched, and at a good deal of expense, but not imprisoned, lest it might disgust the *Canadians*,) made his escape six or seven weeks since, and could not be found. These had given their parole, which he refused. I doubt not of your favour to them, as far as you shall be able, consistent with the common safety.

I am, sir, with esteem and regard, your most obedient, and very humble servant,

J. TRUMBULL.

To the Honourable Major-General *Schuyler*.

COSMOPOLITAN, NO. VII.

To the Inhabitants of the AMERICAN *Colonies:*

FRIENDS AND FELLOW-CITIZENS: If rebellion against hiscountry, can mar the retired repose of our hero, he must be consummately wretched. If treason, if carnage, if the tears of widows, and the cries of orphans; if the laying waste whole towns, and mowing down whole communities; if the sacrilegious pilfering, and prostitution of dissenting churches; if the din of war, and garments rolled in blood; if poverty, anguish, barbarity, cruelty, and a distressed Continent, as it were, with indignant contempt, starting from its foundations, to repel the hostile stroke of the procuring hand, can arrest his feelings, it will, it must plant daggers in his heart, and harrow up his soul.

Ministerial measures against *America*, since the year 1763, are the declared, and true causes of present calamities. The wretch who procured those measures, together with their aiders and abetters, are by every principle of law and of logick, equity and common sense, justly chargeable with their nefarious and sanguinary consequences. Their origin, their qualities, their progress, their ends, their authors, planners, supporters, and abetters, are made as conspicuous as the meridian beamings of the sun, by a number of original letters, which the Representatives of the people gave the publick in the year 1773, which then discovered the infernal scheme that was laid for the total destruction of the liberties of all *America*, and by the recent publication of another series of detestable letters from the same author. This number will have for its subject-matter the contents of the former.

The shades with which our unmatched bashaw arrayed himself, are too dark and complicated to admit of a complete description. With a legion of merely imputed virtues, dead to the feelings of gratitude, and the principles of common integrity; deaf, deaf as an adder to the tongue of truth and the voice of justice; his first returns to that munificent country that gave him being, yielded him nourishment, loaded him with honours, furnished him with wealth, raised him to importance, and crowned him with applause, were a laboured concatenation of aspersions, calumnies, and as abominable falsehoods as ever were propagated by a child of *Adam*. The past mistaken confidence of his countrymen, bore a lying testimony to the goodness of his heart, and the purity of his conduct. This he perverted to complete the ruin of those who made him what he was, and even what he wished to be. It gave villany a varnish, and untruth the blush of credibility. It gave a sanction to those vile, repeated misrepresentations, which, under the ostensible, hypocritical ardours of loyalty, and the bare-faced pretensions to an attachment to the happiness of his countrymen, and the rights of mankind, he was incessantly making; that the reins of Government were totally relaxed; that society was unhinged; that all was chaos, confusion and anarchy; the friends to good order and government insulted; the Constitution subverted, and the laws under the feet of a licentious insatiated rabble. This trafficking in lies was carried on by cargoes at a time, when, in point of loyalty and good order, we stood unrivalled by any people on the face of the earth. I dare to appeal to all mankind; to Mr. *Hutchinson* himself; to challenge every individual in the Province, to produce an instance in which Government was enfeebled, the laws obstructed, guilt unpunished, or innocency unguarded, where it did not connect with the usurped authority of the King or his Parliament. How infamously base, how preposterously infamous was it then, to represent the natural and necessary effects of oppressive laws, as the pre-existent causes that produced them, and to justify the destruction of a peaceable and regular Government, by the jarrings and distresses of tyranny.

This was his policy: First to wrong and injure the subject, and then to make the least opposition or complaint a justification for the injury done them, and even a reason for increasing the pressure. Good *God!* what slavery to be denied not only the liberty of acting, but the privilege of speaking? At this period, was not our internal Executive Government in its full vigour, and every purpose of society completely answered? Was there even an attempt to screen a felon, to cover a trespasser, or other transgressor from the lash of the law; to defraud the publick, oppress the individual, bias the jury, or to derogate from the dignity of the upright judge? Cannot every town, every County, evince the contrary? Will not every unprejudiced peace-officer, and the recorded transactions of every impartial court, fly in his face, and give the lie to the wicked aspersion? The people looked up to the civil

magistrate with a reverential awe while clothed with the urim and thummim of freedom and rectitude. They considered juridical courts, until their shameful prostitution, as the *sanctum sanctorum*, the ark of tabernacles, in which their most valuable treasures were deposited. To these they repaired, like the *Israelites* of old, to hear from the lips of the judges the great things of the law, and of the testimony.

From whence then were those repeated declarations: That "Government had been so long in the hands of the populace, that it must come out of them by degrees." That "it is not strange that measures should be immediately taken to reduce the Colonies to their former state of Government and order." That "principles of Government absurd enough spread through all the Colonies." That "the Legislative powers have been influenced by them, and the Executive powers entirely lost their force." That, "there is continual danger of mobs and insurrections." That, ignorant as they be, yet "the heads of a *Boston* town meeting influence all publick measures." That, "it is not possible this anarchy should last always." That, "it is not possible that provision for dissolving those combinations, and subjecting all who do not renounce them to penalties adequate to the offence, should not be made the first week the Parliament meets;" (meaning the Non-Importation Agreement.) That "the resentment of Parliament will most certainly be placed some where, because I think it ought to be so, that those who have been the most steady in preserving the Constitution, and opposing the licentiousness of such as call themselves Sons of Liberty, will certainly meet with favour and encouragement." That, "if no measures are taken to secure the dependance, or nothing more than some declaratory acts or resolves, it is all over with us." That, "the friends of Government will be utterly disheartened, and the friends of anarchy will be afraid of nothing, be it ever so extravagant." That "all the aid you (meaning *Great Britain*) can give to the officers of the Crown, they will have enough to do to maintain the authority of Government, and to carry the laws into execution. If they are discountenanced, neglected, or fail of support from you, they must submit to every thing the present opposers to Government think fit to require of them," &c., &c. The reader will recollect, that the letters from whence these extracts were taken, were officiously wrote in the years 1768 and 1769, during Governour *Bernard's* administration. That it is a part of the same dark scheme that has since grown into more open exertions. The observations and inquiries upon these extracts, that naturally present to view, are many and obvious; but lest I should anticipate the judgment of my readers, I waive the fertile subject. By his unremitting assiduity, and the force of banded auxiliaries, these egregious falsehoods are imposed upon the willing credulity of the best and the most discerning of Kings, i. e. the reigning Prince. Having thus treated the offence, and fixed the imputation; the next step is to devise an adequate remedy for an evil that never existed. The grand difficulty in the mind of our jesuitical politician, was to establish the barriers against popular efforts, and to take from the body the power of thinking; to silence the voice of mankind, to lay the political spirit at rest, and to confine their active virtues in chains and in fetters. At all events, there must be an abridgement of *English* liberties. Power that the wisdom of the Constitution had placed in the hands of the subject must be transferred to lawless usurpers.

Not to mention the Royal bribes he received as first pensioner; his overbearing insolence in power; the many black scenes he ran through for the sake of greatness; his inglorious contempt of the two branches of the legislature, and of men much better than himself; his gross partiality to the avowed enemies of constitutional rights; his virulence to all who opposed his destructive measures; and his outrages, when as First Justice of the Province, with a band of red coats, he attacked in a riotous and tumultuous manner the house of manufacturing, and attempted violently to wrest it from the hands of its only proprietor, to make it a place of arms, a cage for mercenaries, the strong hold of civil robbery, and the grave of every principle of justice and of law, both human and divine. This was enough to evince the eminent villany that lurked in the folds of his forehead, or the doublings of his heart; and the complacency with which he reflected upon the crimes he had perpetrated, proved him steeled against the keenness of remorse; that a pension had fettered his soul, that corruption had polluted his lips, and that he was equally eager to sacrifice every sentiment of equity, and principle of social freedom, to the force of arms.

ROBERT C. NICHOLAS TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Virginia, February 3, 1776.

Dear Sir: I have to acknowledge the receipt of your very obliging favour by Captain *Matthews*. Your former letter, in answer to mine, by Mr. *Byrd*, I received in due time, and took the earliest opportunity of recommending it to our Delegates to fix upon some method to defray the expenses incurred by this country in the Northern Colonies. This they tell me that they have not been able to effect, so that I have been obliged to stretch my own credit in *England* to furnish them with bills of exchange for their immediate purposes. I particularly recommended to them to try at reimbursing you, what you might be in advance for Mr. *Byrd*, but I do not believe they have had it in their power yet. Indeed, I know they have been obliged to borrow money towards paying for arms, &c., purchased for us at *Philadelphia*. These inconveniences, however, I hope will soon be remedied, as the Congress hath agreed to take part, at least, of our troops on Continental pay, which will enable us to exchange our money for that of the Continent. Indeed, considering our Union in other respects, it has been matter of wonder to me, that our currency should want equal credit in other Colonies. I shall write to Colonel *Harrison* about Mr. *Byrd's* affair, and desire the favour of you to send him Mr. *Byrd's* account.

I cannot but condole with you on the loss of General *Montgomery*, and the other brave officers and soldiers before *Quebeck*. This will be matter of great triumph to our enemies, but I hope of not long continuance.

Our sentiments on the situation of this country, and the measures necessary to be pursued, coincide exactly; but we are much puzzled how to manage those amphibious animals we have to deal with. The different occurrences here, you no doubt have pretty regular accounts of through the channel of our newspapers, as the printers never fail publishing every incident of the least importance. You must have heard of the destruction of the greater part of *Norfolk* by the men-of-war, and their infernal crews, and I expect that the remains will soon be laid in ashes.

I hope your lady is safe, and well with you. I beg my respectful compliments to her, Mr. *Custis* and his lady. That the Almighty may take you and your whole corps under his protection, and crown your endeavours to preserve the liberties of *America* with success, is the ardent wish of, dear sir, your affectionate and most obedient servant,

Robert C. Nicholas.

To General *Washington*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO STEPHEN WEST.

[No. 8.] Annapolis, February 3, 1776.

Sir: The Council of Safety have been informed that you have a number of gun-locks to dispose of; if that be the case, you will be pleased to let them know by the first opportunity what number you have, and the price; also, whether they are single or double-bridled locks. You wrote for an order on the Treasury for powder delivered the Committee; send up their receipt for the quantity delivered, and your order will be made out at any time, when your receiver may attend for the cash. We are, &c.

To Mr. *Stephen West*.

TO THE PEOPLE OF PENNSYLVANIA.

Philadelphia, February 3, 1776.

When the little pamphlet, entitled "Common Sense," first made its appearance in favour of that so often abjured idea, of independence upon *Great Britain*, I was informed that no less than three gentlemen of respectable abilities were engaged to answer it. As yet I have seen nothing which directly pretends to dispute a single position of the author. The oblique essay in *Humphreys's* paper, and solemn Testimony of the Quakers, however intended,

having offered nothing to the purpose, I shall take leave to examine this important question, with all candour and attention, and submit the result to my much interested country.

Dependance of one man or State upon another is either absolute, or limited by some certain terms of agreement. The dependance of these Colonies, which *Great Britain* calls constitutional, as declared by act of Parliament, is absolute. If the contrary of this be the bugbear so many have been declaiming against, I could wish my countrymen would consider the consequence of so stupid a profession. If a limited dependance is intended, I would be much obliged to any one who will show me the *Britanno-American* Magna-Charta wherein the terms of our limited dependance are precisely stated. If no such thing can be found, and absolute dependance be accounted inadmissible, the sound we are squabbling about has certainly no determinate meaning. If any say we mean that kind of dependance we acknowledged at and before the year 1763, I answer, vague and uncertain laws, and, more especially, Constitutions, are the very instruments of slavery. The Magna-Charta of *England* was very explicit, considering the time it was formed, and yet much blood was spilled in disputes concerning its meaning.

Besides the danger of an indefinite dependance upon an undetermined power, it might be worth while to consider what the characters are on whom we are so ready to acknowledge ourselves dependant. The votaries for this idol tell us, upon the good people of our mother country, whom they represent as the most just, humane, and affectionate friends we can have in the world. Were this true, it were some encouragement; but who can pretend ignorance that these just and humane friends are as much under the tyranny of men of a reverse character as we should be could these miscreants gain their ends? I disclaim any more than a mutual dependance on any man or number of men on earth; but an indefinite dependance upon a combination of men, who have, in the face of the sun, broken through the most solemn covenants, debauched the hereditary and corrupted the elective guardians of the people's rights; who have, in fact, established an absolute tyranny in *Great Britain* and *Ireland*, and openly declared themselves competent to bind the Colonists in all cases whatsoever—I say, indefinite dependance on such a combination of usurping innovators is evidently as dangerous to liberty, as fatal to civil and social happiness, as any one step that could be proposed, even by the destroyer of men. The utmost that the honest party in *Great Britain* can do is to warn us to avoid this dependance at all hazards. Does not even a Duke of *Grafton* declare the Ministerial measures illegal and dangerous? And shall *America*, no way connected with this Administration, press our submission to such measures, and reconciliation to the authors of them? Would not such pigeon-hearted wretches equally forward the recall of the *Stuart* family, and the establishment of Popery throughout Christendom, did they conceive the party in favour of those loyal measures the strongest? Shame on the men who can court exemption from present trouble and expense, at the price of their own posterity's liberty! The honest party in *England* cannot wish for the reconciliation proposed. It is as unsafe to them as to us, and they thoroughly apprehend it. What check have they now upon the Crown, and what shadow of control can they pretend, when the Crown can command fifteen or twenty millions a year, which they have nothing to say to? A proper proportion of our commerce is all that can benefit any good man in *Britain* or *Ireland*; and *God* forbid we should be so cruel as to furnish bad men with power to enslave both *Britain* and *America*. Administration has now fairly dissevered the dangerous tie. Execrated will he be by the latest posterity who again joins the fatal cord!

But, say the puling, pusillanimous cowards, "we shall be subject to a long and bloody war if we declare independence." On the contrary, I affirm it the only step that can bring the contest to a speedy and happy issue. By declaring independence, we put ourselves on a footing for an equal negotiation. Now, we are called a pack of villanous Rebels, who, like the *St. Vincent's Indians*, can expect nothing more than a pardon for our lives, and the sovereign favour respecting freedom and property to be at the King's will. Grant, Almighty *God*, that I may be numbered with the dead before that sable day dawns on *North America!*

All *Europe* knows the illegal and inhuman treatment we have received from *Britons*. All *Europe* wishes the haughty Empress of the main reduced to a more humble deportment. After herself has thrust her Colonies from her, the maritime Powers cannot be such idiots as to suffer her to reduce them to a more absolute obedience of her dictates than they were heretofore obliged to yield. Does not the most superficial politician know that, while we profess ourselves the subjects of *Great Britain*, and yet hold arms against her, they have a right to treat us as Rebels, and that, according to the laws of nature and nations, no other State has a right to interfere in the dispute? But, on the other hand, on our declaration of independence, the maritime States, at least, will find it their interest (which always secures the question of inclination) to protect a people who can be so advantageous to them. So that those short-sighted politicians, who conclude that this step will involve us in slaughter and devastation, may plainly perceive that no measure in our power will so naturally and effectually work our deliverance. The motion of a finger of the Grand Monarch would procure as gentle a temper in the omnipotent *British* Minister as appeared in the *Manilla* ransom and *Falkland Islands* affairs. From without, certainly, we have every thing to hope, nothing to fear: from within, some tell us the Presbyterians, if freed from the restraining power of *Great Britain*, would overrun the peaceable Quakers in this Government. For my own part, I despise and detest the bickerings of sectaries, and am apprehensive of no trouble from that quarter, especially while no peculiar honours or emoluments are annexed to either. I heartily wish too many of the Quakers did not give cause of complaint, by endeavouring to counteract the measures of their fellow-citizens for the common safety. If they profess themselves only pilgrims here, let them walk through the men of this world without interfering with their actions on either side. If they would not pull down Kings, let them not support tyrants; for, whether they understand it or not, there is, and ever has been, an essential difference in the characters.

Finally, with *M. de Vattel*, I account a State a moral person, having an interest and will of its own; and I think that State a monster whose prime mover has an interest and will in direct opposition to its prosperity and security. This position has been so clearly demonstrated in the pamphlet first mentioned in this essay, that I shall only add, if there are any arguments in favour of returning to a state of dependance on *Great Britain*, that is, on the present Administration of *Great Britain*, I could wish they were timely offered, that they may be soberly considered before the cunning proposals of the Cabinet set all the timid, lazy, and irresolute members of the community into a clamour for peace at any rate. CANDIDUS.

TO THE PRIVATES OF THE MILITARY ASSOCIATION BELONGING TO THE PROVINCE OF PENNSYLVANIA.

Philadelphia, February 3, 1776.

The Committee of the Privates of the Association belonging to the City and Liberties of *Philadelphia* are of opinion that the best thing which can be done at present for the good of the general cause of *American* liberty, and the support of our Military Association, is, that the Associators sign the Articles of Association given out by the honourable House of Assembly, with all convenient expedition, and they do most heartily recommend the same to every Associator throughout the Province; and as the honourable House of Assembly have expressed an intention of changing or altering the Articles as occasion may require, and as the defects and imperfections of any law are best ascertained by experience, and a reciprocation of sentiments upon it, the Committee would gladly enter into a friendly correspondence with the privates of those battalions throughout the Province which sign the Articles, that they may know the sense of the Associators in general on any part of the Articles which may need amendment, and that any future application to the honourable House of Assembly may express the desires of the whole body of Associators. But they most earnestly recommend the most per-

fect, cheerful, and implicit submission to the present set of Military Articles, until they be hereafter altered or amended by Legislative authority, as the most effectual means of giving strength and energy to the operations of the friends of liberty and *America* who are intrusted with the care of the publick.

Signed by order of the Committee:

JAMES CANNON, *Clerk.*

N. B. *Frederick Hagener, Michael Shubert, William Adcock, Edward Ryves, George Nelson, Robert Bell, Andrew Porter, Patrick Logan,* and *James Cannon,* are appointed a Committee of Correspondence for the foregoing purpose, and every letter to the Committee, directed to either of them, shall be attended to with care, and answered with punctuality.

WILLIAM LIVINGSTON TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

Woodbridge, February 3, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I had the pleasure last evening to see Colonel *Heard* returning with his troops from his *Queen's* County expedition, which he has, by all accounts, conducted with the greatest prudence and zeal for the cause. This morning he drew up his troops, and they really made a fine figure. Among his prisoners are some of the most dangerous Tories in the County. Having no particular orders how to dispose of his prisoners, he is resolved to conduct them to *Philadelphia,* unless he meets with the order of Congress to the contrary. The party of the Continental troops he had with him behaved in so disorderly a manner that he was obliged to dismiss them. The Colonel has really great merit in the conduct of the affair, and I hope he will receive the approbation of the Congress.

You will excuse the badness of the paper, there being no better to be had here. I am, sir, your most humble servant,

WILLIAM LIVINGSTON.

To the Honourable *John Hancock,* Esq.

COLONEL MAXWELL TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

Trenton, February 3, 1776.

SIR: I have the pleasure to inform you, (beg you will lay this information before Congress,) that things are much altered since I waited on you. I arrived in *Trenton* the evening of that day. I waited on the Congress (though late) the next morning. I waited on our Provincial Congress at *Brunswick.* They have sent orders to the different Counties, that have not parted with their Province arms, to deliver them to such officers as I may appoint to receive them, and they will pay the County their price or replace them with others as soon as possible. I despatched officers for that purpose this day, and assure you I have rode night and day to expedite the business.

Mr. *Lowrey* had not received yours of the 25th ultimo, till I found it and delivered it to him, with your further resolves of the 31st ultimo. He was to the eastward with the other regiment; he is now furnishing us with every thing in his power; those things that the Congress had ordered him to furnish before, are all complete. Canteens and camp-kettles are not to be had here for more than two companies. Mr. *Clem. Biddle* promised me he would apply to Congress for leave to send us some that belonged to companies of Militia in town.

One of my companies sets off to-morrow, the other will follow as soon as possible. If the arms are sent to us, I make no doubt of being able to march agreeable to orders. Had I been allowed to judge of the necessaries fit for my regiment at first, I do imagine I should have given such representation to Congress as would have had it completed before now, as the Commissary has ever been indefatigable in his department to complete the troops under my command. I am, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

WILLIAM MAXWELL.

To the Honourable *John Hancock,* President of the Continental Congress, at *Philadelphia.*

JOHN GRAHAM TO NEW-YORK COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Upper-Barrack, February 3, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I hope you will please to excuse me for giving the honourable Committee so much trouble, but as I have been in close confinement for sixteen days, and have already acquainted the honourable House with my reasons of leaving this town, in a letter dated the 23d of *January,* and that I never have been heard by any body of men, either at *Freehold,* in the *Jerseys,* where I was first made prisoner the 29th of *December,* 1775, nor here—I beg leave, gentlemen, to say, that I think it very cruel, as I have never seen a precedent of the kind, even in the most inveterate war with the *French,* to keep a prisoner in close confinement for a crime of my nature, if it can be called one.

I can further say that I have been an inhabitant here, for this six years and upwards, and my principle never was to injure either country or town, but rather to serve them. For the first place, I made myself under an obligation to borrow two guns of Colonel *James,* of the Royal Artillery, to teach Captain *Samuel Tudor's* company, as well as others in this city. I likewise did show them the nature of proving of guns; and did myself prove the first brass six-pounder you now have mounted, as well did attend and give directions how to furnish the carriages, with no other view than serving the country. Now, gentlemen, I shall beg leave you will please to hear me, or set me at liberty, as another inhabitant.

I am, gentlemen, with the greatest respect, your very humble servant,

JOHN GRAHAM.

To the *New-York* Committee of Safety.

CONNECTICUT COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

At a meeting of the Governour, &c., *Friday, January,* 26, 1776, present:

His Honour the Governour, *Jabez Huntington, William Williams, Nathaniel Wales, Jedediah Elderkin, Joshua West,* and *Benjamin Huntington,* Esquires.

Colonel *Burrell,* and *Nathaniel Buel,* appointed a Major in the Regiment for *Canada,* &c., were present, wanting several regulations, &c., about said Regiment; and said *Buel,* it seems, refuses the birth, because Lieutenant-Colonel *Mott* is put before him.

Mr. *Stanley,* with a Letter from Colonel *Lee,* about their Minute-Men, wants Commissions for the officers, &c.

Letter wrote in answer, that Commissions will soon be sent; but cannot be now, for the hurry, &c.; and advising that the Minute-Men may freely inlist into this service; and when they return, also into the Minute service, &c.

It appearing, by the representation of Colonel *Burrell,* that the appointment of Lieutenant-Colonel *Mott,* being remote in that eastern part of the Colony, distant from the Regiment to which he is appointed, causes great uneasiness and dissatisfaction in that County of *Litchfield,* where the men are to be raised, and is likely to retard and impede the inlisting there, and that it is of great importance to raise and send forward said Regiment to the relief of our friends in *Canada.* And said Lieutenant-Colonel *Mott,* having been apprized of the said uneasiness, and the reasons of it, and written to his Honour the Governour his apprehensions that the service may be injured by his holding said commission, and requesting that he may not be held in any situation to the hurt of the service, and generously resigning said commission for those reasons;

On consideration thereof, it is thought best to accept said resignation, and excuse him from said service; and do, therefore, release and excuse said Lieutenant-Colonel *Mott* from the same, and appoint *Nathaniel Buel,* of *Salisbury,* who was before appointed Major, to be Lieutenant-Colonel of said Regiment in the room of said Lieutenant-Colonel *Mott,* resigned.

A good deal of time yesterday hearing Colonel *Burrell,* and Major *Buel,* about the affair of fitting out the Regiment, &c. to *Canada.*

Saturday, January 27, 1776.

Letters and Resolutions came in from Congress by express, directing, &c., in the same, for keeping up nine Battalions in *Canada,* &c., and that one of them be raised here, &c., and commissions sent blank, &c.; and the whole plan and regulations, &c., to consist of eight Companies, &c., &c., somewhat different from our plan, and the matter taken up and considered, &c., &c.

Gave orders, by letter, to the Pay-Table, that they must examine and settle the Pay-Rolls of the Officers of the late Northern Army, and pay the balances, taking proper receipts and orders on the Paymaster of the Northern Department for the money, to replace in the Treasury, in consideration of the great uneasiness of the people who served and claim their pay.

Passed an Order for Captain *Harding* to go to *Saybrook*, and assist in forming the plan of the Ship, &c., as on paper by itself. (And copy sent by *B. H.*, Esq.)

Drafted a Proclamation on the Congress plan of raising a Battalion, &c., for *Quebeck*, and passed, &c.; to be eight Companies, ninety men each, including officers.

Adjourned until *Monday* next, nine o'clock, A. M.

—

Monday, January 29, 1776.

Met again, P. M., present:

His Honour the Governour, the Honourable *Matthew Griswold*, Esq. *Jabez Huntington*, *William Williams*, *Nathaniel Wales*, *Jedediah Elderkin*, *Joshua West*, and *Benjamin Huntington*, Esquires.

Captain *Lester* came in from viewing the Row-Galleys at *Philadelphia*, and, also, Mr. *Winslow*, from the same view at *Providence;* and reported the construction, &c., and showed plans, and were consulting about them, &c., A. M.

P. M., the said builders came in, having consulted a plan of building two of said Row-Galleys, and considered the same, and agreed that two to be built, one by said *Lester*, and one by said *Winslow*, shall be sixty feet keel, eighteen feet beam, and five feet hold, four inches dead rising; and agreed with them that they, as master-builders, shall have one dollar per day for themselves, and they employ good workmen, at the best and easiest rate they possibly can, and faithfully do and discharge every part of the duty, by their best skill and fidelity.

Captain *Lester* moves, that he should have some allowance for the use of his yard and tools, and is willing to submit it to our future consideration; and that they may allow their workmen liquor necessary, and as they used to do when they employed men for themselves. And that Captain *Lester* procure the necessary iron work, and apply, as occasion shall be, to Colonel *Huntington* and *Benjamin Huntington*, Esq.; and they withdrew.

And Colonel *Elderkin* gave in his Account and Report of the circumstances, &c., of the Furnace, &c., at *Salisbury*, and the Works thereabouts, *Colebrook*, &c., for which he was appointed 9th instant. Among many other things, that a lot of about two hundred acres of Land lies near the Furnace, with about one hundred and fifty acres of wood upon it, and may be bought in order for coal; and very difficult to get it any other way, &c. And, on consideration, is

Voted and agreed, That Captain *Elijah Hyde*, of *Lebanon*, be appointed to repair to Colonel *Hamlin* and the Reverend Mr. *Whittlesey*, whose Ladies are owners of said Lands, to know upon what terms the Land may be purchased, or part of it, or how the wood, or any part thereof, may be had, and to obtain the terms under the hands of those gentlemen and their wives, and make report to this Board.

Sundry Regulations, relating to arming the people, &c., and on the question about making Scabbards and Belts for the Bayonets for the Guns, &c., made or fixed for the Colony:

Voted, That they ought to be provided.

Adjourned till to-morrow morning.

—

Tuesday, January 30, 1776.

Met again the same as yesterday.

Colonel *Saltonstall* came in, and the time taken up in considering how and in what manner the Fortifications at *New-London* and *Groton* shall be made and carried on; the subject discoursed, &c., &c.

P. M. On application, &c., Doctor *Robert Usher*, of *Chatham*, is appointed Surgeon and Physician for Colonel *Wadsworth's* Regiment, in the recruits raising for *Cambridge*, &c.; and Doctor *Elias Norton*, Surgeon's Mate for the same Regiment.

Doctor *Elisha Perkins* is appointed Surgeon and Physician for Colonel *Douglas's* Regiment, in the same service, and Doctor *Thomas Gray*, Surgeon's Mate for the same Regiment; and this Board do appoint the Rev. *John Fuller*, Chaplain of said Colonel *Douglas's* Regiment.

A number of Officers came in, moving sundry questions about Guns, Blankets, &c., for the Recruits, &c., and on the question,

Voted, That each Officer and Soldier, or other person, supplying a Gun and Bayonet for the service, shall be allowed one Shilling and six Pence for the use of it; and each person supplying a Blanket be allowed three Shillings for the use of the same. And if either be lost, without any default of the Soldier, the owner shall be paid for it, they being both appraised before hand; if by his default, to be borne by the carrier.

That in case any shall not be able, and with assistance of their Officers, to provide themselves with Gun and Blanket, the Selectmen of the several Towns are directed to use their utmost endeavours and speed to procure them. And, if they cannot be otherwise obtained, that they procure warrants to impress them.

Voted, That an Armourer be provided for each Regiment.

Adjourned to nine o'clock, to-morrow morning.

N. B. Colonel *Porter* came in just before, and talked with him about the Furnace, &c., at *Salisbury*.

—

Wednesday, January 31, 1776, A. M.

Met according to adjournment.

Present the same as yesterday; and, also, Colonel *Dyer* came about ten o'clock.

Captain *Uriah Hayden*, present, being sent for, &c., to conclude about building the Ship for defence, &c., and have and do agree that he shall, and he undertakes to build said Ship, to be eighty feet keel, twenty-seven feet beam, and twelve feet hold; to have six Shillings per day for, and finding himself; and that he shall employ good and faithful workmen, and on the best and easiest terms he possibly can, and discharge every part of the duty with the greatest fidelity, care, and despatch, and is to advise and consult Captain *Harding*, who is sent for that purpose, or any other person, or persons, who may be appointed by this Board, and to attend every direction he may receive from the Governour and this Council, about the moulding and manner of building and finishing the same, and keep and render careful and exact accounts of his doings in the premises.

The foregoing agreed to. URIAH HAYDEN.

(Copy given him of the same.)

Agreed with *Benjamin Williams*, Esq., of *Saybrook*, that he be employed to do the work (all the necessary Iron work) for the War-Ship Captain *Hayden* is employed to build; that is to say, all the Smith's work, larger and smaller, as low, and including deck-nails, and the same deliver at said *Hayden's* Ship-Yard, at the rate of twenty Shillings per hundred weight, and to do the same in good and workmanlike manner, and in good and due season, as fast as it shall be wanted for its proper use and uses, and to do and perform the whole in good, faithful, and upright manner, to be done and wrought of Iron, to be found and delivered at his Shop, at or near said Yard.

Said *Williams* agrees to the above.

BENJAMIN WILLIAMS.

(Copy given him.)

On further consideration, *Voted*, That the dead-rising for the Row-Galleys ordered to be built by Captains *Lester* and *Winslow*, be about seven inches instead of four, as before agreed.

Sundry Letters prepared for General *Schuyler*, Colonels *Wolcott* and *Wadsworth*, Governour *Cooke*, &c., and consideration had about supplying Colonel *Burrell's* Regiment on their march, &c., to *Albany*, and many things for promoting the general service.

Mr. *Harpin* came A. M., and heard him P. M., to have orders, &c., about Fortifications at *Milford*, &c., and as no orders had been given by the Assembly, save that they

ought to have six cannon there from *New-Haven*, if to be obtained, &c. Declined giving any special directions, and referred them to the General Assembly.

Voted, That Mr. *Adonijah Strong*, of *Salisbury*, be, and he is hereby, appointed and directed to make necessary provision upon the best terms he can, for such necessaries as are requisite for the march of the Regiment raising under the command of Colonel *Burrell*, for the relief of the Continental Army in *Canada*, that is to say, for their march as far as *Albany*, agreeable to the request of General *Washington* to the Governour for that purpose, and to keep a regular account, with proper vouchers, that payment may be made.

(Copy given for said Mr. *Strong*, present.)

—

Thursday, February 1, 1776.

Met again. Present, the same as yesterday, except Colonel *Dyer* absent.

Voted, In so far compliance with the request of the General Congress, received a few days since, for a ton of Powder, to be sent to *Canada*, &c., having very little, &c., that about seven hundred and twenty-eight pounds Powder be forwarded from this Colony, at the discretion and direction of his Honour the Governour, for the use of the Army in that quarter.

Whereas, it is necessary that the bounty, wages, pay for blankets, knapsacks, provisions, for the march of the Battalion now raising for the reinforcement of the Northern Army, &c., according to the Proclamation of his Honour the Governour, of the 27th *January*, 1776, issued in consequence of the Resolve and Order of the honourable Continental Congress, should be paid and advanced; and said Congress having ordered twelve thousand five hundred Dollars to be put into the hands of, and forwarded by the Delegates of this Colony with all expedition, for the use of said Battalion, for the purpose aforesaid, which is expected to arrive soon, but, as it is possible it may not come in season, and the service must not be delayed, it is, therefore,

Resolved and ordered, That the Committee of the Pay-Table draw on the Colony Treasurer for such sum as they shall find necessary, for payment of all the sums ordered to be paid and advanced as by said Proclamation is provided, and by the same may appear, keeping particular and separate accounts of expenditures in this service; and that the aforesaid sum shall be put into the hands of Mr. *William Lawrence*, of *Hartford*, who is hereby directed and ordered to receive the same, and, as soon as necessary, repair to *Canaan*, or elsewhere, if it should appear proper, and pay off each officer and soldier of said Battalion such sums as shall be due, and to be advanced and paid to them, respectively, before their march, according to the terms of said Proclamation, and taking proper receipts, or signing, of every person to whom for, and expressive of the sum, and use for which the same is paid; and keeping clear and perfect accounts of his doings in the premises, and to make return of his original doings to his Honour the Governour, and lodge a duplicate thereof with the Committee of the Pay-Table: for which service the said *Lawrence* is to have twenty-six and two-thirds Dollars per month, and his reasonable expenses borne.

(Two copies given, for Committee of Pay-Table and for said *Lawrence*.)

Voted and resolved, That Mr. *Jesse Root*, of *Hartford*, be added to the Committee appointed by the Assembly to take care of the Prisoners who are in, or may be sent to this Colony; and,

Voted, That the Committee for taking care of Prisoners be, and they are, directed to make out a proper and clear account of the charge and expense arising and incurred for the expense and support of all Prisoners in this Colony, from their first coming to the 1st *February*, instant, with the proper vouchers, together with the charges of taking care of them, and the same transmit to his Honour the Governour, to be laid before Congress for payment.

On request of the Commissaries, viz: Colonel *Jonathan Fitch* and Captain *Samuel Squier*, for direction and orders for money necessary to make provision for the march and support of the men raised to aid General *Lee* in his expedition to *New-York*, &c., to which they were appointed by this Board the 22d *January*, 1776, it is

Voted and resolved, That the Pay-Table Committee draw on the Treasurer of this Colony, for and in favour of said Commissaries, for the sum of five hundred Pounds each, to be by them improved in the most careful and frugal manner, to make the necessary provisions for that purpose, they keeping exact accounts of their doings, and proper vouchers thereof, and the same fairly stated, transmit to his Honour the Governour, that they may be laid before General *Washington* for reimbursement.

(Two copies given, one to each.)

Voted, That Captain *Isaac Sears* be appointed and employed to purchase and procure a suitable quantity and assortment of Duck, for a Ship of about two hundred and sixty tons, building for the use and defence of this Colony; and, also, about seven tons of suitable Iron for said Ship, and send forward in the most prudent and careful manner, and deliver the Iron to the care of Captain *Benjamin Williams*, and the Duck to the care of Captain *Uriah Hayden*, both of *Saybrook*, in this Colony.

And adjourned to to-morrow morning.

—

Friday, February 2, 1776, A. M.

Met according to adjournment. Present, the same as yesterday, and, also, Colonel *Dyer*.

On motion from Colonel *Wadsworth*, for direction about three prisoners in his care, who have been long pressing for leave to return home, and think themselves unjustly detained, &c., and on consideration of the circumstances attending them, it appears highly probable that said persons had never shown themselves inimical to, or been active against the *United Colonies*, and, therefore,

Voted, That his Honour the Governour be advised to give them a Permit to pass and return, to Major-General *Schuyler*, at *Albany*, and that it be recommended to said General, unless he knows of special reasons against it, to permit them to return to their respective homes, apprehending their dispositions to be favourable, and that their report will be no disadvantage to the common cause. And Papers, Letters, &c., to General *Schuyler* made and sent Colonel *Wadsworth*, per *Brownson*.

A good deal of consideration being had about getting along with and carrying on Fortification sat *New-London*, *Groton*, &c., according to directions of Assembly, &c., &c.,

Voted, That Colonel *Dyer* and Esquire *Wales* be, and they are hereby, appointed a Committee, and instructed to repair to *New-London* and *Groton*, view, and examine the ground and places where Fortifications are proposed to be erected, and where some are begun, for defence of those places, and form the best judgment they shall be able of the particular places and parts where the same ought to be made and carried on to the best advantage, and to consider how many men ought to be raised and employed to carry on said Works, at each of said places, for proper security, and how soon said Works may be undertaken and carried on to advantage, and under whose conduct and command, and to consider of proper persons to oversee and direct the Works. Also, to consider of the expediency of removing some, and how many, of the Cannon, the Ball, Powder, and necessary implements from *New-London*, to Works erected, or to be erected on *Groton-Hill*, and whether any part of the Company now raised at *New-London* should be discharged; and, also, of the propriety and safety of the Colony's Powder and other Military Stores remaining where they are, in a Magazine near the water, in *New-London*, and whether any part, and how much, ought to be removed, and where to be safely deposited, and such other matters as they may judge to concern the safety and interest, and defence of those places, so far as respects the common good, and of facts, with their opinion, make report to this Board as soon as may be.

Voted, also, That Colonel *Samuel Mott* be desired to attend with said Committee. (Copy given.)

Mr. *Bushnell* was here, by request of the Governour and Council, &c., and gave an account of his Machine, contrived to blow Ships, &c.; and was asked many ques-

tions about it, &c., &c. And being retired, on consideration, *Voted*, That we hold ourselves under obligations of secrecy about it; and his Honour the Deputy-Governour is desired to reward him for his trouble and expenses in coming here, and signify to him that we approve of his plan, and that it will be agreeable to have him proceed to make every necessary preparation and experiment about it, with expectation of proper publick notice and reward.

This Board having been empowered and authorized by the General Assembly in *December* last, to supply the Batteries at *Groton*, *Stonington*, *New-Haven*, &c., with Cannon and suitable Ammunition, from time to time, as they shall find necessary, and having considered and examined how, and in what manner, the same can be effected; and after the greatest care and inquiry can find no expedient to obtain them, unless by causing them to be cast and founded in the Furnace of Mr. *Richard Smith*, at *Salisbury;* and having made proper inquiry into the circumstances, &c., of said Furnace, and finding them to be such that there is a probability of success, and the matter being of so much importance, it is on consideration thought advisable to make the attempt; and is, therefore, considered, ordered, and resolved, by this Board, to improve said Furnace in the best manner for the purpose of casting Cannon and Cannon Ball, of such size and dimensions as shall be found practicable; and we directed that all proper preparations of materials of Ore, Coal, and all necessary implements for the use aforesaid, be forthwith made and provided in the best, and speediest, and most prudent manner.

And Colonel *Jedediah Elderkin* is hereby appointed a Committee to repair forthwith to *Salisbury*, and give proper orders and directions for providing every necessary material for setting forward and promoting said business, and getting every thing into the best readiness to carry on the same. And he is directed to improve, or cause to be improved for Coal, the Wood on fifty acres of land, near said Furnace, belonging to Mrs. *Hamlin* and Mrs. *Whittlesey*, heirs of the Honourable Colonel *Newton*, deceased, or so much thereof as shall be necessary, in manner and according to the terms and liberty given by the Reverend Mr. *Whittlesey* under his hand. And said Colonel *Elderkin* is allowed to take his son *Bela*, with him, to assist in any necessary services he shall be able to do, and is to make report of his doings in the premises to this Board.

This Board being informed that the Treasury of this Colony is exhausted of Money, by the many expenditures thereof, in various ways, for the support of the common rights of the *United Colonies*, and in particular by a considerable sum being drafted and expended for payment of the *Connecticut* Forces under his Excellency General *Washington*, near *Boston*, with a view to quiet the soldiery, and engage them more cheerfully to re-engage in the service; and there being at this time very pressing demands upon the Treasury for considerable sums, in order to furnish and fit out the Battalion now raising, for reinforcing the Continental Army in *Canada*, and, also, three Regiments raising for recruiting said General *Washington's* Army, and without a present supply it will be impracticable to send off said now raising Troops, and there being no other apparent way to obtain it,

It is, therefore, *Resolved, and Ordered*, That any one of the Committee of Pay-Table, viz: *William Pitkin*, *Thomas Seymour*, *Ezekiel Williams*, *Oliver Ellsworth*, Esqs., or either of them, with such assistance as they shall judge necessary, repair forthwith to his Excellency General *Washington*, set before him the nature and necessity of the case, and request of him to pay and replace the sum and sums which said Committee lately paid and advanced out of our Treasury, towards the pay and wages of said Forces in his camp by his approbation. And said *Pitkin*, &c., or either of them, is hereby authorized and empowered to receive the said sum, and the same, as soon as possible, lodge with the Treasury of this Colony, for the uses aforesaid, taking his receipts therefor.

—

Saturday, February 3, 1776.

Met according to adjournment—Present, as yesterday, except the Deputy-Governour, gone to *Litchfield* Court, and Esquire *West*, not come.

Moved by the Governour, by motion to him from Governour *Griswold*, that some encouragement should be given, to enable Mr. *Bushnell* to pay expenses incurred in preparing his Machine for the design projected, &c., and to carry forward the plan, &c., &c., it appearing to be a work of great ingenuity, &c., &c. A prospect that it may be attended with success, and being undertaken merely to serve the publick, and of considerable expense and labour, &c. It is thought reasonable that something should be done, &c.

Voted, and Ordered, That the Treasurer pay and deliver to his Honour the Deputy-Governour, the sum of sixty Pounds, to be by him improved for the use of the Colony and publick, according to instructions from this Board. (N. B. Order drawn 25th *May*, 1776; delivered Deputy-Governour at *Hartford*.)

Voted, and Ordered, That the Committee of Pay-Table draw on the Treasurer in favour of Colonel *Elderkin*, for the sum of one hundred Pounds, to enable him to do the necessary to forward the Works to be done at the Furnace, at *Salisbury*, whither he is going by order, to prepare said Furnace for the casting of Cannon, &c.

(It is done, and the Governour lent him the Money, and his order endorsed.)

Passed an Account of Captain *Harding*, for service in going round the Sea-Coast to see about buying or building a Ship for defence, &c., at six Shillings per day, and expenses, two Pounds seventeen Shillings.

Appointed the Rev. Mr. *Perry* Chaplain for Colonel *Wolcott's* Regiment.

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read February 9, 1776.]

Lebanon, February 3, 1776.

Sir: Your two letters of the 12th and 20th *January* last, enclosing the resolves of Congress of the 8th, 18th, and 20th of the same month, the first and last relative to a battalion for *Canada*, the other concerning Doctor *Church*, with the bundle of blank commissions, *John Walker*, your express, delivered me on the 27th.

We received on the 18th, the disagreeable news of the repulse of our troops in their attempts on *Quebeck*, and the fall of the brave and gallant General *Montgomery*, with others. On considering the necessity of reinforcing our troops in that quarter with all possible despatch, did immediately set forward raising and equipping a battalion in the northern part of this Colony. My Proclamation and orders were issued and sent thither the 20th of *January*. After receiving your resolves a second Proclamation was issued. I hear men inlist cheerfully, particulars of their progress, being at a distance from me, am unable to inform.

On the request of General *Washington*, had just before finished orders for two regiments to be raised to aid and assist General *Lee* in his expedition into the Colony of *New-York*. I hear they are filled, and numbers of gentlemen besides gone on that service; wish them success. General *Washington* not receiving the intelligence from *Canada* so early as it came to me, I received from him a requisition to raise four battalions to be marched to his camp near *Boston*, to reinforce the lines till 1st of *April* next; soon after this, he desired one to be raised for *Canada*, and but three for his camp; of these last, two companies are marched, and the rest of these three regiments will go forward next week.

As there appears a cheerful spirit to assist and succour our friends at *Canada*, I depend that some divisions of that battalion will begin their march very soon.

A difficulty arises from the want of money, our Treasury is very nigh exhausted. The twelve thousand five hundred dollars, ordered by Congress for this service, I find, since beginning to write, is received.

We have for the benefit of the common cause advanced far the greatest part of the money received from the honourable Congress, in pay of our troops at General *Washington's* camp, but through hurry have not had time to liquidate and prepare our accounts to lay before your body. The sum of fifty thousand pounds, requested in my latter letters, should think very safely advanced to the Colony, to be accounted for and delivered to our Delegates, to forward

with despatch, as our necessities require it, or shall greatly suffer by delay.

The Proclamations issued on the several above-mentioned occasions are enclosed, to show our proceedings, without enlarging, only that I am, with great truth and regard, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

JONATHAN TRUMBULL.

To the Honourable President *Hancock*.

Proclamation for raising one thousand five hundred Men for General LEE, *&c.*

COLONY OF CONNECTICUT.—BY THE GOVERNOUR.

Whereas, his Excellency General *Washington*, by his letter of the 7th *January*, 1776, has signified to me that he has great reason to believe that the Ministerial troops are about to attempt possessing themselves of the City of *New-York*, or *Long-Island*, or both, strengthen themselves there and get the command of the country, and the communication with *Canada*, &c., a matter of the utmost importance to be prevented; and has, therefore, despatched the Honourable Major-General *Lee* through this Colony, to that city, &c., to counteract their designs; and has, also, signified his desire, that ten or fifteen hundred volunteers may be forthwith raised in the western parts of this Colony for that important purpose; and that every necessary expense, attending their march and stay, will be borne by the publick, and requesting my aid to encourage the raising of said volunteers for this important business; and, therefore, I have thought fit, by and with the advice of my Council of Safety, to issue this my Proclamation, and do hereby earnestly recommend it to all the good people of this Colony, in the western and most contiguous parts of *New-York* especially, whose circumstances will admit, freely and cheerfully to engage in this most important service, to the number of fifteen hundred men, to be formed into two distinct Regiments, under the command and discretion of the Honourable *Charles Lee*, Esq., Major-General of the Army of the *United Colonies*; and of Colonel *Waterbury*, Lieutenant-Colonel *Bradley*, and Major *Hobby*, Field-Officers of one regiment, and Colonel *Ward*, Lieutenant-Colonel *Lewis*, and Major *Douglas*, Field-Officers of the other regiment; and such Captains, and other subordinate Officers, worthy of trust and confidence, who have been employed in the present war, or are now in commission in the Militia of this Colony, as may be agreed on by the said Field-Officers, respectively; and do further encourage them, both officers and soldiers, to expect the same pay and billeting allowance, as the troops now in the service of the *United Colonies* near *Boston* are entitled to, and that they may also expect to be soon released and discharged from said service.

Given under my hand, &c., at *Lebanon*, in said Colony, the 12th day of *January*, *Anno Domini* 1776.

JONATHAN TRUMBULL.

Proclamation for raising, &c., a Northern Regiment, &c., January 19, 1776, *respecting* CANADA.

COLONY OF CONNECTICUT, ss:—BY THE GOVERNOUR.

Whereas, I have authentick intelligence, that the Army under the command of the late General *Montgomery*, has been repulsed in attempting to dispossess the enemies of *American* liberty of the City of *Quebeck*, the General slain, with several officers and soldiers, and a number taken prisoners, whereby reinforcements are become indispensably necessary, in order to maintain the advantages already gained in that country, an object of vast importance for the safety of the Northern Frontiers, and for the protection of our friends belonging to that Province, and the security of their and our rights and liberties. And the complement of troops designed by the honourable Continental Congress for that station, not being complete, and it appearing at this critical juncture of the greatest necessity, that measures should be taken, without delay, to reinforce the Army there, for the great and salutary purposes aforesaid. And also, having the highest reason to expect the approbation of said honourable Congress, and that they will take any necessary recruits into their pay; but their distance being so great, that a delay for their orders might be attended with dangerous, if not fatal consequences:

On consideration of the matters aforesaid, by and with the advice and assistance of my Council of Safety, I have thought it necessary, that at least one Regiment of Foot should be raised by voluntary inlistment in this Colony, as soon as possible, to consist of a number not exceeding seven hundred and fifty effective men, officers included, and to be formed into ten companies, of seventy-five each, including officers; each company to have one Captain, two Lieutenants, one Ensign, and non-Commissioned Officers as usual, to be marched with all possible expedition to the relief and succour of the Continental Army in that quarter, and to continue in service until the first day of *November* next, unless they can be sooner released, consistent with the common safety; and do hereby appoint, order and direct the same accordingly, and thereupon issue this Proclamation for that purpose, hereby declaring and engaging, that all such officers and soldiers, who shall undertake and inlist, pursuant to the orders aforesaid, shall have, and receive the same pay, wages, billeting and allowance, as other officers and soldiers of that Army are entitled to; and shall have one month's pay advance, before they march out of this Colony; and each non-commissioned officer and soldier finding himself a good blanket, shall be entitled to two dollars therefor, and the property of it be his own. And I do hereby earnestly recommend it to, and invite all persons able for said service, to a sufficient number, freely and cheerfully to engage in, and undertake the same for the sake of the love of their country, and all the dear-bought rights and privileges thereof, the happiness of themselves and all posterity. And on the most mature and deliberate consideration, doubt not, but I am warranted further to encourage them to hope for and expect the protection and blessing of Almighty *God*. The righteous Lord loveth righteousness, and will, I doubt not, own and succeed this just and righteous cause.

Given under my hand at *Lebanon*, in said Colony, the 18th day of *January*, *Annoque Domini* 1776.

JONATHAN TRUMBULL.

COLONY OF CONNECTICUT.—BY THE GOVERNOUR.

A PROCLAMATION.

Whereas, I have received advice from his Excellency General *Washington*, at the camp near *Boston*, of the 16th *January*, instant: That by reason of the slow progress in raising men for the Army, &c., their lines are in so defenceless a state, that he, with the advice of the General Officers of his camp, is of opinion that it is expedient, and absolutely necessary, that a number of new Regiments by him mentioned, should be forthwith raised in several Colonies, equal to those of the new establishment, and to be officered by said Colonies according to their mode, and to repair to that camp by the last day of *January*, instant, if possible, to be in readiness to act as circumstances may require, until the first day of *April* next, and requesting that four of said regiments might be furnished by this Colony, as their proportion; and that every exertion and influence may be used for complying with said requisition.

And having immediately laid said requisition before my Council of Safety for their consideration and advice, and being unanimously of opinion that the reasons enforcing said request are indisputably well-founded, and that our compliance is of great importance for our and the common safety, for the present and all future time, and have, therefore, voted and resolved, that four Regiments be forthwith raised in this Colony by voluntary inlistments, each regiment to consist of seven hundred and twenty-eight men, officers included, divided into eight companies of ninety men each, including officers; each regiment to be commanded by one Colonel, one Lieutenant-Colonel, and one Major, and each company by one Captain, two Lieutenants, and one Ensign, with non-Commissioned Officers as usual; to be on Continental pay, and the same as other officers and soldiers on that station are entitled to, and to be marched forthwith to the camp near *Boston*, for the purposes and for the term aforesaid; and do, therefore, by and with the advice of my said Council, issue this Proclamation, hereby declaring and promising, that all able-bodied, effective men, to a sufficient number, who shall engage and inlist into this necessary service, and shall furnish and equip him and themselves with sufficient clothing, arms, and accoutrements,

shall have and receive the same pay, wages, billeting, and allowance, as the officers and soldiers in said Army are entitled to, and shall have one penny per mile for marching expenses out, and home, allowed them, and be discharged by the first day of *April* next.

And the said four regiments are to be commanded as follows, viz: The first by Colonel *James Wadsworth*, Lieutenant-Colonel Com'dt *Sage*, and Major *Dyar Throope;* the second by Colonel *Erastus Wolcott*, Lieutenant-Colonel *Fisher Gay*, and Major *John Chester;* the third by Colonel *John Douglas*, Lieutenant-Colonel *William Danielson*, and Major *Thomas Brown*, or such other Field-Officers as, on the failure of either of them, shall be, with advice aforesaid, by me appointed; and each company by such Captain, Lieutenants, and Ensign, as shall be nominated by the Colonel or Chief, and other Field-Officers of the several Militia regiments from whence they may be taken, and according to the rules given them by me, they advising with the Captains of their respective regiments.

Every Captain and Subaltern Officer of such Volunteers, obtaining a writing under the hand of the Colonel, or chief officer of such Militia regiment, certifying his or their nomination to either of said offices, or an appointment from me, the same shall be a sufficient warrant for such nominated officer to engage and inlist men for the purpose aforesaid, and to take upon him and them, and exercise the respective commands aforesaid, and to march to said camp by direction of their Colonel, or chief officer, with all possible despatch.

And all officers and soldiers are to yield all due obedience to their superior officers, and to the Commander-in-chief of said Army, according to the rules and discipline of war, for the time being.

And all able-bodied men for said service, to a sufficient number, are hereby earnestly called upon and invited, laying aside all warm dispute about rank, pay, and every lesser consideration, to strive only to emulate each other in a virtuous love of their country, and zeal to serve its cause, in this great and critical juncture, when all that is dear to freemen is threatened and vigorously attacked.

Having great reason to hope, that laying aside every lesser contest and dispute, a cheerful and free exertion of our strength and ability for one ensuing campaign, by the blessing of Almighty *God*, which we have reason to expect, will lay a sure and happy foundation for putting an end to the present unhappy war, into which we are forced by oppression, for defending those rights which are worth our every effort to maintain and preserve.

Given under my hand, at *Lebanon*, in said Colony, on the 20th day of *January*, 1776.

JONATHAN TRUMBULL.

—

We, the subscribers, do hereby acknowledge, each for himself, to have voluntarily inlisted to serve in a regiment raised according to the direction of the foregoing Proclamation of his Honour the Governour, dated the 20th *January*, 1776, for the purposes therein expressed, and until the first day of *April* next, in a Company of which . . . . . is appointed Captain.

Witness our hands, the day and date of our names, respectively, affixed, in the year 1776.

—

On the General hearing of the repulse before *Quebeck*, &c., he was willing to release one of the regiments asked for, on account of another requested for *Quebeck*, the raising of which was begun before the General's second letter, and thereon it was reduced to three for his camp.

—

COLONY OF CONNECTICUT.—BY THE GOVERNOUR.

A PROCLAMATION.

Whereas, on receiving intelligence of the repulse and death of the late General *Montgomery*, in attempting to dispossess the enemies of *American* liberty of the city of *Quebeck*, and from a sense of the great importance of supporting the Continental Army in the Northern Department, in order to maintain the advantages gained, the protection and safety of the Northern frontiers, of our friends belonging to that Province, and the security of their and our rights and liberties; and sensible the complement of troops on that station was not complete, and having great reason to expect the approbation of the honourable Continental Congress, and that they would take any necessary recruits into their pay, but fearing a delay for their orders might be attended with dangerous or fatal consequences, I did, therefore, by and with the advice of my Council of Safety, order and direct the raising one Regiment of Foot, by voluntary inlistments in this Colony, to be marched with all possible expedition, for the relief and succour of the Continental Army in the Province of *Quebeck*, and did, accordingly, issue my Proclamation and Orders for that purpose, bearing date the eighteenth day of *January*, *Anno Domini* 1776, therein setting forth the number, regulation, encouragement, pay, wages, and term of service for said regiment, as by the same may appear, and immediately gave notice thereof to his Excellency General *Washington*, to which his Excellency has been pleased to say, in answer, "That the early attention paid by this Colony to this important business, had anticipated his requisition, and claimed, in a particular manner, the thanks of every well-wishing *American*."

And before the time permitted to advise and receive an answer from the honourable Continental Congress relating to the premises, I have received authenticated information and instruction from said Congress, that in order to prevent the execrable designs of our enemies, and defeat their fond expectation of being able, by means of the *Canadians* and *Indians*, to spread desolation through the *New-England* Colonies, and for many important reasons, that honourable body have thought fit that a number of battalions, out of several Colonies, should be supported in that Province the present year, for its defence, and that the *American* Army there be reinforced with all possible despatch, as well for the security and relief of our friends there, as for the better securing the rights and liberties of that and the other *United Colonies*, and requesting that one of said battalions be raised and furnished in this Colony; and for the more speedy raising and forwarding the same, I am warranted by said Congress to issue this, my second Proclamation, and to declare and promise as therein contained, and do, therefore, by and with the advice of my said Council, issue this Proclamation, and do hereby, for and in behalf of said Congress, declare and engage, that all able-bodied, effective men, to a sufficient number, who shall voluntarily engage and inlist into this necessary service, shall have and receive from the Paymaster-General of the Northern Department the following pay, wages, and encouragements, viz:

The Colonel fifteen pounds per month; the Lieutenant-Colonel twelve pounds; the Major ten pounds; a Captain eight pounds; a Lieutenant five pounds eight shillings; an Ensign four pounds; a Sergeant forty-eight shillings; a Corporal forty-four shillings; a Drummer and Fifer forty-four shillings; and a Private forty shillings per calendar month, each; a Chaplain six pounds; an Adjutant five pounds ten shillings; a Quartermaster three pounds; a Surgeon seven pounds ten shillings; Surgeon's Mate four pounds each, per month, as aforesaid.

And as a further encouragement for non-Commissioned Officers and Privates more cheerfully and speedily to enter into this important service of their country, every such able-bodied and effective man inlisting into the same, being properly clothed therefor, and having a good firelock with a bayonet, and other accoutrements, shall have and receive, as a bounty, the sum of six dollars and two-thirds; and every such soldier not having such arms and accoutrements, shall have four dollars as a bounty, and his arms and accoutrements shall be provided by the Colony, and the cost to be deducted out of the soldier's pay. And, also, each soldier to provide himself a blanket and knapsack, for which he shall receive a reasonable value.

And all officers and soldiers shall, also, receive one month's advance pay before their march, to enable them to provide necessary clothing. Arms lost in the service without fault of the soldiers, shall be paid for.

The said Battalion is to consist of eight companies, and to be commanded by one Colonel, one Lieutenant-Colonel, and one Major; and each company to consist of ninety men, officers included; and the undertaking and inlistment is to be for the term of twelve months, or until the first day of *February*, 1777, unless they may be sooner discharged, which shall be, if consistent with the common safety.

*

This foregoing Proclamation, and the plan and regulations therein contained, to be instead and in lieu of my first Proclamation, dated as aforesaid, and is to be understood and practised accordingly; and all who have undertaken by virtue of said first Proclamation are hereby released therefrom.

And considering the generous encouragement aforesaid, granted by said honourable Congress, the nature and importance of the service most immediately affecting the Northern Colonies, the justice of the cause, &c., I repeat the invitation contained in my former Proclamation, to all able-bodied, effective men, to a sufficient number, for the sake of all that is dear to freemen, and for security of those rights which render life desirable, freely and cheerfully to exert themselves on this great occasion, in which we have much reason to hope for the blessing of Almighty *God*, and that our vigorous exertion, for one ensuing campaign, will lay a happy foundation for putting an end to the unnatural contest into which we are forced by cruel oppression, and secure the lasting peace and tranquillity of this then happy land, on the sure and permanent basis of religious and civil liberty.

Given under my hand, in *Lebanon*, in said Colony, the twenty-seventh day of *Jonuary*, *Anno Domini* 1776.

JONATHAN TRUMBULL.

RETURN OF WINTER-HILL BRIGADE.

Camp, February 7, 1776.

DISTRIBUTIONS.	REGIMENTS.	COMMISSIONED OFFICERS.						STAFF.				NON-COMMISSIONED EFFECTIVE RANK AND FILE.								WANTING TO COMPLETE.			SINCE LAST RETURN.			
		Colonels.	Lieutenant-Colonels.	Majors.	Captains.	Lieutenants.	Ensigns.	Chaplains.	Adjutants.	Quartermasters.	Surgeons.	Mates.	Sergeants.	Corporals.	Drums and Fifes.	Present fit for Duty.	Sick Present.	Sick Absent.	On Command.	On Furlough.	Total	Sergeants.	Drums and Fifes.	Rank and File.	Enlisted.	Dead.	Discharged.	Deserted.
Total.....	Colonel Reed.....	1	1	1	5	12	5	-	1	1	1	1	27	-	14	303	55	4	10	-	372	5	2	268	7	3	-	1
	Colonel Nixon.....	1	1	1	5	10	6	-	1	1	1	1	22	-	12	320	47	13	40	2	429	3	1	218	6	-	-	-
	Colonel Stark.....	1	1	1	7	14	8	-	1	1	1	1	21	-	13	269	42	8	101	5	435	3	3	215	10	-	-	1
	Colonel Poor.....	1	1	1	8	15	8	-	1	1	1	1	29	-	15	362	64	11	48	2	507	-	1	133	11	-	1	6
	Total.....	4	4	4	25	51	27	-	4	4	4	3	99	-	54	1254	228	36	199	9	1726	11	7	834	34	3	1	10

For Detail and Roster.

ALEXANDER SCAMMELL.
Brigade Major.

To the Honourable Brigadier-General *Sullivan*, Esq.

DISTRIBUTIONS.		
	Cols.	3
	Lieut. Cols.	4
	Majors	4
	Capt's.	24
	Sub.	72
	Serg't's.	99
	Corp's.	92
	D. & F.	52
	Priv's.	950
Total.....		1301

Medford, February 3, 1776.

A Return of the number of Men in Brigadier-General SULLIVAN'S *Brigade, last* THURSDAY *and* FRIDAY, *viz:*

	Men.
Colonel *Nixon's* Regiment, - - - - -	444
Colonel *Baldwin's* Regiment, - - - -	331
Capt. *Hatch's*, of Col. *Bond's* Regiment, -	85
Capt. *Miller's*, of Col. *Thompson's* do. -	82
Wood Cutters.	
Captain *Francis's* party, - - - - - -	21
Lieutenant *Hill's* party, - - - - - -	26
Lieutenant *Cutter's* party, - - - - -	10
Ensign *Nichols's* party, - - - - - -	22
Lieutenant *Bizzel's* party, - - - - -	28
Lieutenant *Andros's* party, - - - - -	10
Lieutenant *Collins's* party, - - - - -	14

Friday.

	Men.
Colonel *Reed's* Regiment, - - - - - -	444
Colonel *Stark's* Regiment, - - - - -	404
Colonel *Poor's* Regiment, - - - - - -	553
B. M. *Scammell's* mess, - - - - - -	5
Armourer's mess, - - - - - - - - -	4
Smith's mess, - - - - - - - - - -	11
Mr. *Gray's* mess, - - - - - - - - -	2
Total, - - - -	2496

This may certify, that the above number of men as annexed, drew provisions from my store last *Thursday* and *Friday*.

Attest: MOSES EMERSON.

To the Honourable Brigadier-General *Sullivan*, Camp.

ARTEMAS WARD TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

Roxbury, February 3, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I am to acknowledge the receipt of your favour of the 21st ultimo; am very glad to hear that Colonel *Frye* is appointed a Brigadier-General; doubt not he will do good and great service for his country. As to news we have but little. The enemy refuse to let Master *Lovell* come out of *Boston*, he having been detected of carrying on a prohibited correspondence as they say.

Captain *Manly* took two prizes last week, and to save himself, was obliged to run his vessel ashore at *North-River*, and left her; the enemy boarded her, but *Manly* gave them such a heavy fire, that they were obliged to quit her, taking nothing, save one swivel gun, which gun he sometime before borrowed of them. The ground is froze near two feet deep, and prevents some business being done. We are in great want of the needful, pray *God* to send us a supply. Accounts respecting that dwindle to almost nothing; if you have it, I beg you will impart to us that want, or what shall we do, or rather what can we do. Col. *Porter*, of *Hadley*, is ordered with a regiment to *Canada*. I hope the next news from that Colony, will be that *Quebeck* has submitted to the *United Colonies*. Please to give my compliments to the gentlemen of the Congress from this Colony; my best wishes attend you and them.

I am, dear sir, your most obedient servant,

ARTEMAS WARD.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq., &c.

P. S. *February* 14.—The enemy this morning burnt the buildings on *Dorchester-Point*, don't hear that they have killed or taken any person.

CAPTAIN VAN ALSTYNE TO ABRAHAM VAN ALSTYNE.

St. Eustatia, February 4, 1776.

DEAR BROTHER: I this moment heard of an opportunity, and thought proper to acquaint you that I am this night going to *St. Christopher's*, to take charge of Captain *Sanders's* brig, to go to *Cork*, rather than come home, for the sea is full of all kinds of cruisers. There is not one in ten that escapes, going or coming. On my arrival here, I wrote up to my friends at *St. Christopher's*, and related my misfortune of being taken; and they immediately sent word down to me to take charge of this brig. Thank *God*, I am not in want of friends in this part of the world. Mrs. *Van Alstyne* is well, and likewise myself.

We both join in our best respects to my beloved mother, &c., &c. Am your ever loving brother,

MATTHEW VAN ALSTYNE.

To Mr. *Abraham Van Alstyne*, Merchant, *New-York*.

N. B. This morning I heard that two privateers are fitted out at the Island *Dominico*; therefore, you can relate, &c.

CUTHBERT BULLITT TO MR. PURDIE.

Prince-William, Virginia, February 4, 1776.

SIR: With the utmost reluctance I trouble the publick with any thing relating to myself; but as a report has gone forth, that I have endeavoured to injure the credit of the money issued by the Convention, justice to my character requires that I should set the matter in its true light. At

first, I was contented with an inquiry by the Committee of the County, and expected it would have rested there; but, having transmitted a copy of the first deposition, and other proceedings, to one of our Delegates, for his private satisfaction, together with the copy of an instruction to him and his colleague, he thought himself obliged to lay the matter before the honourable the Convention; and I am informed some ill-natured inferences were drawn from the circumstance that only one deposition appeared. I now submit the whole to my countrymen, and hope they will have charity enough to suppose what I said proceeded from the dictates of an honest mind, anxious for the publick weal. I have only to observe that the conversation happened before the defeat of Colonel *Hutchins*, and was in the company of several of the late Committee of the County, who I thought could not have mistaken my meaning. They knew I had, from the beginning of our disturbances, exerted myself within the small circle of my acquaintance in raising a spirit of opposition to Parliamentary tyranny. They knew I had formed, and carried into Committee, two resolves, the one for purchasing ammunition, the other for raising volunteer companies.

I am, sir, your obedient, humble servant,

CUTHBERT BULLITT.

To Mr. *Purdie*.

SAMUEL PURVIANCE, JR., TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Baltimore, February 4, 1776.

SIR: The bearer, Captain *Allen*, having called on me to know if I had any commands to *Annapolis*, I take the liberty to advise you that he will be a very safe opportunity, and, if it be agreeable to the gentlemen of the Council, I should be glad you would send us by him one thousand pounds of the money granted for the defence of the town, as cash will very soon be wanted, it being agreed last night to send people to the woods to cut down timber, and to set the smiths at work. At the same time, I am to inform you we have not yet fixed the plan of conducting the business, and that what I now write is without authority from the Committee, whom I cannot consult before tomorrow, our stated day of meeting; but, as the opportunity is so favourable, I am certain the Committee will approve of what I do.

If you think proper to send the money, please to take a receipt from Captain *Allen*, for the Committee of *Baltimore*, by order of the Chairman.

I am, with respect, sir, your most humble servant,

SAMUEL PURVIANCE, JR.

To the Honourable *Daniel of St. Thomas Jenifer*, Esq.

COMMITTEE OF READING TO PENNSYLVANIA DELEGATES.

Reading, February 4, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: A number of the *English* soldiers who were lately taken in *Canada* have arrived here, with their wives and children. The Committee were immediately assembled, and, although they were much surprised at so large a party being ordered here without any previous notice, and without any person attending them to supply them with necessaries, yet, understanding it was the pleasure of Congress the said soldiers should be quartered here, they immediately appointed Mr. *Henry Hollar*, a member of the Committee, to provide houses, fire-wood, and provisions for the party, who must have otherwise suffered much at this severe season. As we are totally unacquainted with the pleasure of the honourable Congress as to the particular quantities of provisions to be allowed these prisoners, we have despatched an express to you, gentlemen, desiring you will, by his return, be pleased to procure and send to us the directions of Congress to govern us in the matter.

As Mr. *Hollar* has been an active member of this Committee, and is a very suitable person, we beg leave to recommend him to be continued as Commissary for the soldiers stationed here.

We are, gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servants.

By order of the Committee of Correspondence:

MARK BIRD, *Chairman*.

To the Honourable the Delegates of the Province of *Pennsylvania*, in the Continental Congress at *Philadelphia*.

LORD STIRLING TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

Elizabethtown, February 4, 1776.

SIR: I have this moment received General *Lee's* commands to join him, with five hundred men of my Regiment, at *New-York*. I purpose setting out to-morrow morning, with about half that number, and now send orders for the remainder to follow me from *Brunswick* to *Amboy*. We have, as yet, received no powder. I was obliged to borrow for the two last excursions, and will now try to do the best we can on this occasion.

I am your most humble servant, STIRLING.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*.

To the Honourable Provincial Congress of the Colony of NEW-YORK, *assembled at the City of* NEW-YORK.

The humble Petition of GUERT SPT. DE WINT, *Esq., of the Island of* ST. THOMAS, *in the* WEST-INDIES, *now at* ORANGE *Town, in the County of* ORANGE, *sheweth:*

That your Petitioner arrived here in *May* last, and has since that time, laid out a good deal of money in the purchase of horses, carriages, and household furniture, for his and family's use, while he remained in this Province; that your Petitioner prays your permit to carry the same to the Island of *St. Thomas*, his place of abode, times being bad for selling the same.

That your Petitioner prays your permission to take with him a generous supply of the good things of this country, for their use at sea, his family consisting of fourteen in number.

That your Petitioner has an estate, or plantation, on said island, with a crop now standing on the fields, which must perish for the want of lumber; your Petitioner, therefore, prays your permit to carry with him ten thousand staves, and five thousand hoops, for the sole use of said plantation.

They must, in a short time, be in the utmost distress for the want of provisions; he, therefore, prays your permit to carry with him one hundred barrels flour, fifty tierces bread, fifty barrels rye-flour, ten barrels pork, for the sole use of his negroes and family.

Your Petitioner promises, (if in his power,) to remit the amount of said goods, as soon as possible, in those articles recommended by the Continental Congress, as published under date of the 25th of *July*, 1775.

Your Petitioner makes not the least doubt of your humane indulgence, in this his petition, as he is convinced the humanity of your honourable Congress would not suffer the innocent and helpless to remain in distress.

Any instructions in the sailing of the vessel, or courses you may be pleased to order him to steer, shall, with the utmost punctuality, be observed, and your Petitioner shall forever pray.

GUERT SPT. DE WINT.

February 4, 1776.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

Albany, February 4, 1776.

SIR: Since my last, I have recollected that Mr. *Francis Phisster*, who is a half-pay Lieutenant in the Royal *Americans*, was last war employed by the Crown as an Engineer, and I have often been informed that he was esteemed as capable in that branch as any that was employed. He has bought an estate, and resides in this County, and has a contract to supply the carriages on the *Niagara* Carrying-place, by which I have been informed he clears between three and four hundred a year. What his political principles are I know not, but if he could be induced to enter into our service I should be under no apprehensions, as he has a wife and family, which he is excessively fond of, who would be a sure pledge. I shall immediately send a gentleman to sound him on the occasion, and to hint that a genteel appointment would take place if he will engage. Should Congress think proper to employ him, they will be so good as to let me know what offers to make him, in case I should find him in a disposition favourable to our wishes.

I have caused the *Canadian* officers, who are prisoners, to pay their own bills for subsistence, having only paid for their lodgings, fire-wood, and candles, and advanced them some money, the accounts whereof I shall transmit to the

Treasury. I have done the like to five of the *Highland* chiefs. The last prisoners from *Canada* I have sent to *Ulster* County, as I had an opportunity by returning sleds. They will remain there until further orders. Enclose the return of them. I have now only two officers left here, who are indisposed.

I think small quantities of provision should be stored in different places, near *Hudson's River*, between this and the *Highlands*, as an immediate supply in case there should be a necessity to call out the force of the country.

So long a march as that from *Pennsylvania* and *Jersey* into *Canada*, will disable many of our men. I have offered, if this County will push them on twenty or thirty miles beyond *Crown-Point* in sleds, to pay for each sled four shillings a day, to enable the sledmen to find forage.

All the stores that were here are already gone to *Fort-George*, and I have sent off a number of carpenters to procure the timber for the batteaus.

Such is the scarcity of forage, that I am at my wits' end to procure what will be necessary for the Spring work at *Ticonderoga*.

February 6.

Yesterday Colonel *Ritzema* arrived from *Canada*, and brought me a letter from General *Wooster*, copy whereof enclose. Colonel *Ritzema* does not think it possible to complete two regiments out of the last campaign's troops, now in *Canada*. I shall be agreeably disappointed if one can be raised there. I have advised Colonel *Ritzema* to proceed to *Philadelphia*, that Congress may have an opportunity of examining him as to our affairs in *Canada*. The civil police of that country, I am very certain, claims immediate attention. Its arrangements ought not to be left to any military commander, who must necessarily have his hands full of other business.

Enclose an account that has been sent me by Governour *Skene's* overseer. He supposes that by this time a much greater quantity of staves than what he has charged, are destroyed. I have so many applications of the like kind that I am ashamed of the conduct of our troops. Tories and Whigs are indiscriminately the object of plunder whenever a fair opportunity offers. You cannot, sir, imagine, how detrimental this is to our cause; and what remedy to apply, I know not. I have given orders, I have entreated the officers to attend and prevent such scandalous depredations, but all in vain.

I believe there are very few arms left in *Canada*, either of those found in the garrisons taken, or those left by the soldiers. What is become of them? They are stolen and brought down the country. Very few, fit for any thing, are left in store here. Half the regiment raising in *Connecticut* is to be supplied here. If I should have a number sufficient, they will hardly be worth the carrying. The arms of the two companies from *Pennsylvania*, that are arrived, are also much out of repair. Could not the arms taken from the Tories on *Long-Island*, be immediately sent up?

I conceive that the quantity of powder Congress has ordered up is vastly short of what will be wanted in *Canada*. Let the fate of *Quebeck* be what it will, fifteen tons would not be too much.

I am, most respectfully, and most sincerely, sir, your obedient, humble servant,

PHILIP SCHUYLER.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq., &c.

ROBERT H. HARRISON TO WINTHROP SARGENT.

Cambridge, February 4, 1776.

Acknowledged receipt of his letter, of the 2d instant, giving an account of the brig *Henry and Esther*, laden with sixty-two cords of wood, one hundred and fifty butts with water, forty suits of soldiers' bedding, taken by Captain *Waters* and Captain *Tucker*, and sent in to *Swan-Harbour*. Ordered the private property to be given up, after Captain *Nelles* proves the same on oath; to libel her immediately. If the harbour is unsafe, to remove her to a place more secure. If the sailors will engage on board of any of our armed vessels for twelve months, they will be entitled to one month's pay advance; but they must be dispersed, so that many of them may not be on board any one vessel.

To *Winthrop Sargent*, Esq., *Cape-Ann*.

BRITISH FLEET IN JAMES RIVER.

Nansemond, Virginia, February 5, 1776.

Saturday night last, we received intelligence of six tenders sailing from *Norfolk* the day before, and that three of them were on their way up this river, which was confirmed about nine o'clock by three vessels anchoring, one near *Sleepy-Hole* Ferry, and two more, two or three miles higher up, having come as far as the flood tide served. Their boats were moving about the remainder part of the night, one up the river, since supposed as high as *Goodrich's*, five miles higher up, and just within the Narrows, but returned a little before day. They attempted nothing till the morning, when a boat full of armed men approached the shore within half a mile of the tenders, and were fired upon by four men from the bank, at one hundred yards distance; they returned the fire, and rowed wide of the place, when the four men were honoured with a salute of well-directed cannon, but without any bad consequence. This first effort seemed of singular service, as they never attempted landing after, except at one desolate place, which they effected in the night, and burnt a house with some corn in it belonging to Mr. *Cowper*. It appears, by indubitable proof, that this incursion was partly intended, with the concurrence of *Goodrich* and sons, to get possession of two vessels loaded with pork, bacon, and other provisions, which, to the discredit of his neighbourhood, those avaricious, false men have been suffered to collect and put on board, and with all expedition put themselves under the protection of the tenders. Though it was with a good deal of difficulty the last of them effected it, (from the fire of our men, and the tenders' boats being repulsed,) they weighed, ran up, and took possession, under a heavy fire of our brave men, who had nothing but small arms, and a scanty portion of ammunition to oppose their cannon and musketry. There was one occurrence happened, which, had we foreseen, a tender and her prize would have fallen into our hands. The wind being ahead on their return, they were obliged to come within sixty yards of a high bank; fifty men, with a plenty of ammunition, could have drove them below decks, and prevented them from tending the sheets, by which they must have come ashore. A few regulars, with the help of ammunition to our own men, would secure us in such a manner, that the fertile lands on this river may be cultivated to the no small advantage of the community; whereas, if we are drove back, the lands are so indifferent, for near one hundred miles, that a famine must be the inevitable consequence.

SURRY COUNTY (VIRGINIA) COMMITTEE.

Surry County, February 5, 1776.

At a meeting of the Freeholders of the said County, at the Court-House, agreeable to an Ordinance of the last Convention, the following gentlemen were chosen to serve as a Committee for the said County:

William Hart, Allen Cocke, William Brown, William Clinch, N. Faulcon, Jun., *Etheldred Gray, Charles Judkins, John Cocke*, Jun., *John Watkins*, Jun., *John H. Cocke, William Simmons, Benjamin Putney, James Kee, John Cocke, John Watkins, Willis Wilson, William Hamlin, Henry Howard, William Nelson, Lemuel Cocke*, Rev. *B. Blagrove*.

In Committee, February 6, 1776.

Allen Cocke, Gentleman, was unanimously chosen Chairman of the said Committee, and *John Wesson*, Clerk thereof.

Resolved, That the Clerk of this Committee do transmit a copy hereof to the Publick Printer, to be published in his Gazette.

JOHN WESSON, *Clerk*.

CAPTAIN DUNCAN CAMPBELL TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

Philadelphia, February 5, 1776.

SIR: The state of my private business, and the unfavourable season of the year, to move a sickly woman and a very young family, hath induced me to apply to the Congress, for leave to go to the Province of *New-York*, and reside at my own house. This indulgence will save me a very heavy expense, and enable me to settle some debts that I owe.

I shall always hold myself in readiness to move to any place the Congress may think proper. I do assure you, sir, that I will esteem it a particular favour, if you will move the Congress to grant my request.

I am, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

DUNCAN CAMPBELL.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*.

To the Honourable the Committee of Safety of the Province of PENNSYLVANIA.

The Petition of the Committee of Privates of the Association, belonging to the City and Liberties of PHILADELPHIA, *humbly sheweth:*

That as it is of the utmost consequence, in the prosecution of our present most righteous opposition to tyranny and arbitrary power, that none be commissioned as officers in the Continental service, but those who manifest the most sincere and warm attachment to the cause of liberty; and as the honourable Continental Congress has intrusted the appointment of all inferior, and the recommendation of all superior officers, for this Province to this honourable Board, your Petitioners do pray this honourable Board to appoint or recommend none, but such as have signed the Articles of Association given out by the honourable House of Representatives of the freemen of this Province, seeing this ought, at this time, to be considered as the strongest mark of attachment to the cause which our present circumstances will admit of.

As your Petitioners have the pleasure to assure this honourable Board that the signing the Articles of Association aforesaid is become very general in the City and Districts, and like to be universal among those who have heretofore associated, and as the Association is principally composed of tradesmen and others, who earn their living by their industry, they do further pray this honourable Board, that such of them as may be capable of performing such publick works as this honourable Board may have in charge to see executed, and have signed the Association aforesaid, may be employed, in preference to all others, and that such works may be as equally distributed among the signers of the Association as conveniently can.

The propriety of this application, your Petitioners humbly conceive, will speak for itself; and as they assure themselves that this honourable Board will consider the Associators, who sign the articles, as better to be depended on, and more worthy of encouragement, than those who do not, they take the liberty to request this honourable Board to show them these marks of their favour and countenance. And your Petitioners will pray, &c.

Signed, on behalf of the Committee of Privates.

SAMUEL SIMPSON, *Chairman*.

Philadelphia, February 5, 1776.

The Petition from the Committee of Privates being read, this Board resolved, that the matters therein prayed are reasonable and proper, and this Committee will pay a due regard to the same.

Extract from the Minutes:

WILLIAM GOVETT, *Secretary*.

PHILADELPHIA COMMITTEE.

In Committee of Inspection and Observation, February 5, 1776.

Whereas the Continental Congress did lately resolve, "That if any person should be so lost to all virtue and regard for this country, as to refuse to receive the Bills of Credit emitted by the authority of Congress, or should obstruct or discourage the currency thereof, and be convicted by the Committee of the City, County, or District, where he should reside, such person should be deemed, published, and treated as an enemy of his country, and be precluded from all trade or intercourse with the inhabitants of the Colonies."

And whereas *John Drinker*, hatter, *Thomas* and *Samuel Fisher*, of the house of *Joshua Fisher & Sons*, merchants, all of this city, having been charged with a breach of this Resolve, in refusing to receive the above Bills of Credit in payment, appeared before this Committee, acknowledged the truth of the charge, and alleged, in their defence, scruples of conscience thereupon, as being money emitted for the purpose of war;

This Committee, pursuant to the trust reposed in them, proceeded to consider the charge and defence, and are of opinion, that if such allegation was true, yet as the Congress have made no exception, and as such conduct tends to subvert the most essential rights and liberties of their fellow-citizens, and by destroying the means of defence, to expose their lives and properties to unavoidable ruin, it ought not to be admitted; but it appears to this Committee, by their own acknowledgments, that the above persons have heretofore received, and do continue to receive Bills of Credit emitted in this and the neighbouring Provinces, though frequently issued for the purposes of war, therefore, such objection is not well founded, nor the present pretence consistent with their former conduct. This Committee, therefore, (the parties having declared they did not mean to appeal to any other Board) do hold up to the world the said *John Drinker*, *Thomas* and *Samuel Fisher*, as enemies to their country, and precluded from all trade or intercourse with the inhabitants of these Colonies.

Ordered, That the above be published.

Extract from the Minutes:

PETER Z. LLOYD, *Secretary*.

Kingwood, Hunterdon County, Committee Chamber, February 5, 1776.

Whereas, *Nathaniel Blinko*, merchant, of the township of *Kingwood*, aforesaid, hath extorted upon his merchandise, from time to time, contrary to the Resolves of the honourable Continental Congress, though often admonished to the contrary by the members of this Board, when he hath declared that he would ask what he pleased, in spite of the Committee; Therefore, *Resolved*, That we will break off all dealings or commerce with the said *Nathaniel Blinko*, and hold him up as an enemy to the glorious struggles for *American* liberty; and we request that none may deal with him, on pain of being treated in the same manner.

By order of the Committee:

WILLIAM COOLBAGH, *Clerk*.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM NEW-YORK, TO A GENTLEMAN IN PHILADELPHIA, DATED FEBRUARY 5, 1776.

Yesterday, about the same time, Generals *Lee* and *Clinton* arrived. The Committee of Safety met immediately, and we expected something like a commencement of hostilities to-day. The Mayor went on board, and the Governour and General both assured him not a man was to be landed here. A twenty gun ship, said to be the *Mercury*, and a transport, came into the harbour yesterday. *Clinton* came in the frigate, and is going to the Southward, I believe to *Virginia*. A Dr. *Gilson* has been taken into custody at *Newport*, and sent to Head-Quarters for treasonable practices at *Rhode-Island*. *Lee* says, he will send word on board the men-of-war, that if they set a house on fire, in consequence of his coming, he will chain one hundred of their friends together by the neck, and make the house their funeral pile.

GENERAL LEE TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

New-York, February 5, 1776.

MY DEAR GENERAL: I arrived here yesterday, but not without some difficulty. My disorder increased, rather than diminished, so that I was under the necessity of being carried in a litter a considerable part of the way. I consider it as a piece of the greatest good fortune that the Congress have detached a Committee to this place; otherwise I should have made a most ridiculous figure, besides bringing upon myself the enmity of the whole Province. My hands were effectually tied up from taking any steps necessary for the publick service, by the late resolve of the Congress, putting every detachment to the Continental forces under the command of the Provincial Congress where such detachment is.

I should apprize you that General *Clinton* arrived almost at the same instant with myself. He has brought no troops with him, and pledges his honour that none are

coming. He says it is merely a visit to his friend *Tryon*. If it is really so, it is the most whimsical piece of civility I ever heard of. He informs us that his intention is for *North-Carolina*, where he expects five regiments from *England*; that he only brought two companies of light-infantry from *Boston*. This is certainly a droll way of proceeding; to communicate his full plan to the enemy is too novel to be credited.

The Congress Committee, a certain number of the Committee of Safety, and your humble servant, have had two conferences. The result of these conferences is such as will agreeably surprise you. It is, in the first place, agreed, and justly, that to fortify the town against shipping is impracticable; but we are to fortify lodgments, in some commanding part of the city, for two thousand men. We are to erect enclosed batteries, on both sides the water, near *Hellgate*, which will answer the double purpose of securing the town against piracies through the *Sound*, and secure our communication with *Long-Island*, now become a more capital point than ever, as it is determined to form a strong fortified camp of three thousand men in that island, immediately opposite to *New-York*. The pass in the *Highlands* is to be made as respectable as possible, and guarded by a battalion. In short, I think the plan judicious and complete. The two brass pieces, and other articles, will be sent down as you require. You have heard of the fate of the cannon near *King's Bridge*.

As I write with pain, you will excuse my abrupt conclusion. Yours, dear General, C. Lee.

To General *Washington*.

P. S. My love to *Gates* and the rest, female and male.

THOMAS LYNCH TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

New-York, February 5, 1776.

Dear Sir: You have doubtless heard of my being here, on a Committee of Congress. The object was to consult with General *Lee* and the people of this place, on the best manner of securing it. *God* knows there is ample room for it. Every thing is wanting. The strong apathy that holds Congress in fetters is still more forcible here. However, luckily, *Clinton* is come without force. He has none but the *Mercury* and one transport brig.

I mentioned to you, some time ago, some propositions which Lord *Drummond* had been talking to me of. General *Robinson* writes to him by *Clinton*, that he (*Clinton*) is very desirous of being instrumental in bringing about the same end. It is mysterious to me how such a man should be sent on such an errand. Be it as it may, it will not produce any remission of our using the present moment to strengthen ourselves and weaken our enemies. Lord *Drummond's* great point is to get some Member of Congress to go home to inform the Cabinet of the real desires and intentions of that body respecting the re-establishment of peace. To promote this purpose, he has desired me to enclose you a letter, which, after you have read, if you think it can do no harm, you will be so kind as to forward to *Robinson*, and to send his answer to his Lordship, under your cover. *Robinson* will, doubtless, send it open to you.

Were I to guess at my Lord's motives, it would be that Lord *North* and his *Scottish* friends found that their places were in danger, and that there is no way left to secure them, but by restoring the nation to that state in which alone little minds can rule it with peace and quiet. Indeed, every paper I have seen seems tending that way.

I am, dear sir, your most obedient servant,

Thomas Lynch.

LORD DRUMMOND TO BRIGADIER-GENERAL ROBINSON.

New-York, February 5, 1776.

My Dear Sir: Just as I was sitting down to write to you, I received yours, by General *Clinton*, but have not as yet had an opportunity of seeing him.

During the very few months I was with you at *Boston*, I expressed my wish of being able to make known at *Philadelphia* the disposition in *England* towards an accommodation, upon liberal terms, and such as were founded in equity and candour.

You then concurred with me in thinking that, however much those gentlemen whose province it now is to think for the publick might be held up as aiming at a total separation, they had as their sole object such a reconciliation as would give a constitutional security to their children. In this opinion I think we were not deceived. From all the conversation I had at *Philadelphia* with those gentlemen, (who allow me, I hope, to rank myself among the number of their friends,) I have every reason to think them most seriously disposed towards reconciliation. From a conviction of this, I have pressed the setting on foot a negotiation; nor am I without hopes of success. Should such an event take place, it is not impossible but a deputation from hence may be found expedient, and, in that case, a passport requisite for a security against *English* cruisers. Such a passport must be left blank, for filling up names, and sent by the same conveyance that this passes through. It will be needless to caution you against delay.

My slight acquaintance with General *Howe* and Admiral *Shuldham* will furnish you with an apology for not making a more direct application.

I continue, my dear friend, yours, &c.

Drummond.

Brigadier General *Robinson*, *Boston*.

P. S. Let me guard you against letting this go to the publick, till we see how far my hopes are well-grounded.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Albany, February 5, 1776.

Sir: Your Honour's favour I had the pleasure to receive by Colonel *Mott*, and just now Mr. *Bennett* has handed me one of the 31st.

As the number of Captains appointed to the Regiment to be commanded by Colonel *Burrell* exceeds the Continental arrangement, I conclude your Honour had not received the resolutions of Congress on that head. If the alteration can be made so as to correspond with the intentions of Congress, without detriment to the service, would it not be best to do it?

I have not been honoured with a line from Congress, in answer to mine requesting their direction how I was to order the payment for the troops. Through the multiplicity of their weighty affairs, I suppose it has slipped their attention. Apprehensive, however, that the service may suffer, I shall venture to order payment to the men, from the times they were discharged until they returned to their respective habitations, which I propose doing by allowing at the rate of fifteen miles per day from where they were dismissed to their respective Captain's place of abode. I hope it will prove satisfactory to Congress: it cannot fail of being so to the men.

Although the troops raised in *Berkshire* have made large calls upon me for arms, yet I hope to be able to furnish the number for Colonel *Burrell's* Regiment, which I mentioned in my last. I wish, however, that as many may be completely furnished as possible. As I am not possessed of an appraisement of the arms that were delivered into the Continental stores by soldiers from your Colony, I cannot fall upon any mode with propriety, other than to request that your Honour will be pleased to authorize persons to pay the several Captains, on producing the receipts, and when the whole are paid, to transmit the account and voucher; on the receipt of which, I will immediately issue a warrant for the reimbursement to the Colony.

When I pointed out to General *Washington* the route by *Number Four*, for the march of troops into *Canada*, it was on a supposition that they might be detached from his camp. Colonel *Burrell's* march will, undoubtedly, be much the easiest through this city; but when the men arrive here, they must be supplied out of the Continental stores, and be provided with sleds for their baggage by the Commissary-General. If the sleds that convey the baggage from *Connecticut* here choose to proceed, they may go on. I mention this, that we may not labour under the confusion of so many different Commissaries, and variety of accounts. I have had a quantity of hard bread baked here, at *Fort-George*, and *Ticonderoga*; and have caused the most portable pork to be picked out, and a good part of it dressed, for the greater convenience of the men on their march. As soon as Mr. *Trumbull*, the Paymaster-General, can finish the rolls, he will send them, with a

Deputy, to pay the Captains. I hope a very few days will accomplish this.

Colonel *Mott's* motives for resigning the Lieutenant-Colonelcy do him great honour, and evince his zeal for our righteous cause. By letters from General *Wooster*, of the 20th ultimo, I learn, with pleasure, that all is safe in *Canada*, and that our brave little corps before *Quebeck* hold their ground and continue the blockade. Can *Europe* any longer doubt of the virtue, perseverance, and spirit of *Americans*, when they see a city invested, in the depth of Winter, in a country which, at that season, is almost uninhabitable; when they see citizens become soldiers, regardless of the comforts they might enjoy in their own habitations, and quitting them with alacrity, to undertake a march of many hundred miles, through snow and over frozen seas, without tents, without any shelter from the inclemency of the weather, but the azure canopy of Heaven? What a striking lesson to tyrants! What a glorious instance of what the spirit of liberty can do! Our cause, sir, I boldly pronounce, cannot sink whilst the present unanimity subsists; whilst we continue resolved, with a steady perseverance, to make use of those means which indulgent Heaven has put into our power for our defence. I have not heard a word from General *Lee* since his arrival in this Colony. Mr. *Bennett* showed me a copy of a line of his, which gives me great uneasiness. I hope no obstacles will be thrown in his way to prevent the execution of his orders. It is of much importance to us that all the Malignants, in every Colony, should be secured. I learned, with pleasure, the effectual steps your respectable Government has taken. I wish the Convention of *New-York* may follow so fair an example.

I am in better health than I have latterly been. I hope the approach of Spring may restore it; that I may be able to take an active part. A close attention to business in the closet I find more prejudicial to my cough than the fatigues of out-door work.

I am, sir, with very great esteem and regard, your Honour's most obedient, humble servant,

PHILIP SCHUYLER.

P. S. Our military chest is very low; we will, however, try to furnish your Colony, as far as possible, as I can easily conceive that you must be distressed for money.

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Lebanon, February 5, 1776.

SIR: Enclosed is account of the charges and expenses incurred by providing for Messrs. *Penet* and *De Pliarne*, in their journey to *Philadelphia*, by your Excellency's direction. I have sent forward to you the bills, showing how the account arose. Please to order payment to be made, and sent to me by the post who brings this.

The battalion raising in this Colony, to march to the assistance of our friends at *Canada*, are inlisted to serve until the 1st of *February* next, with bounty, pay, wages, and allowances, agreeable to resolve of Congress, sent me by the express who last came to you this way.

Our Treasury was exhausted, and knew not how to set the troops forward, until *Saturday*. Intelligence came to me that twelve thousand five hundred dollars was received from the honourable Congress for that purpose. My Proclamation was out sometime before, and hear that men inlist freely, and hope they will be on their march soon; have ordered them go off by divisions, and hope nothing will retard them.

Through fear of delay, wrote last week to you on the head of our payment of the troops that served under you last season; the pay-rolls are to meet your approbation and order for payment; and, although provision is received for those going to *Canada*, yet there remains innumerable calls we are unable to answer without further supplies, and apprehend payment is to be made by you, on those rolls.

Three battalions raised and marching to your camp will come on soon; three dollars a man was paid, in part of wages, to enable them to make necessary provisions. I hear that two or three companies are gone forward, and the rest going this week.

I received a letter from Major-General *Lee*, dated at *Stamford, January* 31st, wherein he writes: "A most unexpected and severe attack of the rheumatism, or gout, has seized me here and prevented me personally proceeding. I have sent Colonel *Waterbury* on, as he is sufficiently strong in numbers betwixt his own regiment and the volunteers. I thought it prudent to order back *Ward's* Regiment till they received your Honour's further orders." In another scrip, he says: "There is a late resolve of the Continental Congress, which had I seen before, would have stopped me. It is, that every detachment of the Army is to act under the direction of the Provincial Congress where it is. What then will be the use of a detachment at *New-York?* I answer, by asking, is *New-York* to be left to be more inimical to us than even the Province of *Quebeck?* The policy of many there is strained to the utmost against our rights. However, I hope better things of their Congress, if not perverted by artful threats and craft."

Since writing thus far, I am informed that General *Lee* was carried into *New-York* in a litter, and three members of the Continental Congress are to meet him there, to settle measures of conduct.

I am, with great truth and regard, sir, your obedient, humble servant,

JONATHAN TRUMBULL.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

Marblehead, February 5, 1776.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOUR: The subscribers, in conformity to the resolves of the General Court, handed us for the inlistment of ninety-one men out of this town, beg leave to acquaint your Honours we have made use of our utmost exertions to effect the same, but to no purpose, as the men were almost all before engaged in the service.

We are your Honours' humble servants,

JOSHUA ORNE,
JOSEPH HOMAN,
STEPHEN PHILLIPS,
EDWARD FETTYPLACE,
WILLIAM KNIGHT,
WILLIAM DOLIVER,
Committee of Correspondence.

To the Honourable Council and House of Representatives for the Colony of the *Massachusetts-Bay*.

Penobscot-River, February 5, 1776.

To the Honourable the Council and House of Representatives in General Council assembled:

Keahawit and *Pierre Toma*, heads of the *St. John's*, and in behalf of the *Miccamae* Tribe, send health to you, and to inform you that we received your letter, dated the 16th *October* last. We thank you for the kindness you have done us, in providing ammunition and provisions for the Winter season, and for granting liberty for a Priest to pray with us to *Almighty God*, to make us strong, to oppose the wicked people of Old *England*. The *Penobscot Indians* are all of one heart, though of different tribes, and we are willing to assist you with our lives to oppose the wicked people of Old *England*, and we are ready to come up in the Spring, if we are wanted, and you to send us a letter to desire us to come.

We put all in one head and heart, and shall always keep it there, in remembrance of your kindness.

We thank you by kissing our hand, and shall always stand by you and keep that kiss in our hand in remembrance of it.

We pray *God* to bless you in your present war with the wicked people of Old *England*, to drive them out of our lands.

Williamsburgh, Virginia, Friday, February 9, 1776.

By advices from the army under Colonel *Howe*, we learn that they abandoned *Norfolk* last *Tuesday*, after removing the poor inhabitants, with what effects they could carry along with them, and demolishing the intrenchments which Lord *Dunmore* threw up a little before he fled on board the fleet now lying before that place. What few houses remained after the late bombardment were, likewise,

destroyed, after being valued, to prevent our enemies taking shelter in them.

Thus, in the course of five weeks, has a town which contained upwards of six thousand inhabitants, many of them in affluent circumstances, a place that carried on an extensive trade and commerce, consequently affording bread to many thousands, been reduced to ashes, and become desolate, through the wicked and cruel machinations of Lord *North* and the junto, aided by their faithful servants, my Lord *Dunmore*, with his motley army, and the renowned Captain *Bellew*, Commodore of his *Britannick* Majesty's fleet in *Virginia*, and his generous and valiant crew. Truly may it be now said,

"Never can true reconcilement grow,
Where wounds of deadly hate have pierc'd so deep."

The troops are now stationed at *Kemp's Landing*, the *Great-Bridge*, and in and about *Suffolk*.

H. HOLLINGSWORTH TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

The subscriber will engage to have made any quantity, from two hundred to two thousand muskets, on the same plan, and at the same price they are made in this or the adjacent Provinces, and finish one hundred by the tenth day of *April* next, and one hundred per month after, till the quantity engaged are finished, provided I am furnished with locks for said muskets at least twenty days before said day, (for which shall be allowed fifteen shillings for each lock, out of the price of the muskets so finished,) and providing I am advanced the sum of three hundred and twenty-five pounds immediately, (or as soon as good security is offered,) and a further sum of one hundred pounds at the delivery of said hundred muskets, towards defraying the expense of the second hundred; and for each hundred after to have the sum of fifty pounds advanced, till the quantity wanted are completed: as witness my hand, this sixth day of *February*, 1776.

H. Hollingsworth.
Cecil County.

To the Honourable Council of Safety, now sitting.

P. S. It is meant that said muskets be completed with stock, bayonet, rammer, and brass mounting.

SAMUEL CHASE TO DANIEL OF ST. THOMAS JENIFER.

In Congress, Philadelphia, February 6, 1776.

Dear Sir: The Congress just now received the letter from the Council of Safety of *New-York*. Pray despatch copy to *Virginia* by the post, or, if gone, by express to their Convention.

A brig is arrived to Mr. *Morris*, with fifteen tons of powder, and fifteen hundred stand of arms; five tons, and five hundred arms belonging to our Province.

Adieu. Samuel Chase.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO GENERAL SCHUYLER.

Philadelphia, February 6, 1776.

Sir: Your letters of the 22d and 25th of last month, together with the narrative of your proceedings in *Tryon* County, and the several enclosures, have been duly received and communicated to Congress, in answer to which I am directed to forward you the enclosed resolutions.

It is with great pleasure I inform you that the prudence, zeal, and temper manifested in your late expedition, met with the warmest approbation of Congress, though, at the same time, I cannot forbear expressing my grief for your relapse. I hope your exertions in the cause of your country will not make you forget the necessary attention due to your health.

As the operations in *Canada*, which are so important in their consequences, cannot be carried on without a large supply of specie, the Congress have recommended it to the several Colonies to employ proper persons for collecting all the gold and silver they can, to be exchanged for Continental bills, and have recommended to you to encourage sutlers to attend the Army in *Canada*, and the money arising therefrom to be disposed of agreeable to the resolve enclosed, which mode will be very advantageous, and doubt not your exertions to effect it.

I must refer you to the resolutions of Congress herewith transmitted, and being much pressed for time cannot add but that I am, with much esteem, sir, your very humble servant,

John Hancock.

To Major-General *Schuyler*, at *Albany*.

NEW-JERSEY CONGRESS TO PRESIDENT HANCOCK.

In Provincial Congress, New-Jersey, Brunswick, February 6, 1776.

Sir: Pursuant to the direction of your honourable House, signified to us by your letter, this Congress have this day unanimously agreed to recommend the gentlemen named in the within resolve, for the commissions of Field-Officers of the third battalion of forces now raising in this Colony for the Continental service.

And it is with great pleasure that I am able to inform you, sir, that from the active zeal of the gentlemen now recommended, who are persons of family and great reputation in *New-Jersey*, we doubt not but they will do honour to themselves and very essential service to the common cause.

By order of the Congress.

I am your humble servant,

Samuel Tucker, *President.*

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq.

In Provincial Congress, New-Jersey, Brunswick, February 6, 1776.

By motion made, *Resolved unanimously*, That the following gentlemen be recommended by this Congress to the honourable the Continental Congress, as proper persons for Field-Officers of the Third Battalion, to be raised in this Colony, to wit: *Elias Dayton*, Colonel; *Anthony Walton White*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Francis Barber*, Major.

A true copy: William Patterson, *Secretary.*
Samuel Tucker, *President.*

Ordered, That the President do sign an attested copy of this Resolution, and transmit the same to the Continental Congress. A true copy.

Attest: William Patterson, *Secretary.*

NEW-JERSEY CONGRESS TO PRESIDENT HANCOCK.

In Provincial Congress, New-Jersey, Brunswick February 6, 1776.

Gentlemen: Induced by a report current in this Province that the honourable the Continental Congress have agreed to allow the use of *East-India* Teas, many persons have publickly sold that article, and the use of it is, therefore, in danger of becoming more general.

We did not hesitate to determine that common report, often deceitful and always uncertain, ought not to be sufficient to contravene a known and established regulation; but, on a resolve being proposed for the purpose of putting a stop to this growing evil, one of the members informed us that he heard several of the Continental Delegates publickly declare, it was agreed in Congress that no notice should be taken of the sale or use of *East-India* Teas in the Eastern Colonies.

Here, indeed, we hesitated; and, it being of great moment that every regulation of the honourable Representative body of the Continent should be preserved inviolate, we must request that you will speedily inform us whether any, or what agreement has been made by you respecting the sale and use of *East-India* Teas.

By order of Congress.

Your most humble servant,

Samuel Tucker, *President.*

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq.

ABRAHAM LOTT TO NEW-YORK COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

New-York, February 6, 1776.

Yesterday at 2 ho., P. M., Mr. *Lott* received the enclosed order for sea-provisions for His Majesty's ship *Mercury*, which he thinks he is at liberty to supply, pursuant to the order of the honourable Congress in *August* last; but being desirous to act so as not to give offence in these difficult times, humbly begs the advice and direction of this

honourable Committee, whether the command shall be complied with or not.

To the Honourable the Committee of Safety for the Colony of *New-York*.

Mercury, February 5, 1776.

Sir: Please to supply His Majesty's ship *Mercury*, with the following Provisions, to complete her to three months, viz: Two thousand pounds bread; two hundred gallons spirits; two thousand pounds flour; two hundred pounds butter; four hundred pounds cheese; eleven bushels peas; eleven bushels oatmeal.

The above to be sent on board as soon as possible.

From, sir, your most obedient servant,

John Herring.

In Committee of Safety, New-York, February 6, 1776.

Abraham Lott, Esq., attended, and informed the Committee that the Purser of His Majesty's ship *Mercury*, had sent to him (as Agent-Victualler of His Majesty's ships in this port) a list of sundry Provisions required for the said ship *Mercury*, and Mr. *Lott* desired to know whether he be at liberty to supply the said ship *Mercury*, with Provisions:

Ordered, That Mr. *Lott* be informed that it is the sense of this Committee that he ought not to supply the said ship *Mercury* with Provisions.

WILLIAM A. FORBES TO NEW-YORK COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

New-York, February 6, 1776.

Gentlemen: Your petitioner having understood that several battalions are to be raised, in defence of our inestimable rights and liberties, and being duly sensible of the justness of the cause in which we are all embarked, humbly begs leave to offer himself to serve in one of said battalions. He flatters himself his conduct hitherto, as an officer, will recommend him to the honourable Board, and boasts he could fill the commission of a captaincy, with that truly patriotick spirit becoming an *American* soldier.

Your petitioner, therefore, humbly prays the honourable gentlemen will take it in their serious consideration, and remains, with the utmost respect, gentlemen, your very humble servant,

William Alexander Forbes.

To the Honourable Provincial Congress.

LORD GEORGE GERMAINE TO MAJOR-GENERAL HOWE.

Whitehall, February 7, 1776.

Sir: Since my letter to you of the 1st instant, I have received your despatches of the 19th and 26th of *December*, by which I had the satisfaction to find that four victualling ships from *England* were arrived at *Boston*, and I have just now learned by a note from Mr. *Robinson* to Mr. *Pownall*, that there is advice of two others having got in.

This seasonable relief to the Army under your command is of great importance, at the same time the King very much approves the measures you have taken for procuring a supply of provisions from *St. Eustatia*, and of rice from the Colony of *Georgia*.

His Majesty observes, that you have very properly declined sending the remainder of the Sixty-Fifth Regiment to *Halifax* upon the advice you had received of the Twenty-Seventh being arrived there; this arrangement, however, does not make any alteration with regard to His Majesty's intention that the commissioned and non-commissioned officers and invalids should be sent to *Great Britain*, but you will consider yourself at liberty to incorporate the private men of that regiment fit for service, either into the Twenty-Seventh Regiment, or any other corps that you shall think proper. I am, &c.,

George Germaine.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER TO A GENTLEMAN IN PHILADELPHIA, DATED CHARLESTOWN, SOUTH-CAROLINA, FEBRUARY 7, 1776.

The troubles in the back parts are entirely subsided. Their ringleaders, with about one hundred and thirty others, were taken. All to about twenty have been dismissed, and sent safe to their own houses, being convinced of their mistake, and well satisfied with the treatment they received when taken. They had been persuaded to take up arms to preserve their lives and properties, which they heard had been sold to the *Indians*, who were to butcher them all on a fixed day, when the Liberty People, (as they call them,) were to go into forts, and leave them open and defenceless to the enemy, to be destroyed entirely. Some villains swore before a magistrate, that powder had been sent to the *Indians* for this diabolical purpose. Upon this they collected a second and third time, but were attacked by Colonels *Richardson* and *Thompson* at the break of day, after a forced march of twenty-five miles in the night, surprised and taken.

About thirty of the prisoners work at a battery six miles from town, on *Sullivan's Island*, at the mouth of the harbour. I did myself the honour of going down as a volunteer with the detachment. Here I got acquainted with several of the insurgents, who were plain, honest, sensible fellows; and as I assumed no character above a digger or spadesman, in which, without vanity, I excelled the whole corps, they looked upon me as their brother, and heard me gladly. I gave them a full and proper account of every thing concerning the ground of the war. This, with three or four gallons of rum, was of infinite service to our cause.

The reason of deferring the battery on *Sullivan's Island* was the *Tamar* and *Cherokee*, sloops-of-war, lay close alongside of this Island, which was made a den for runaway slaves, who were encouraged and protected by the people belonging to the ships. The departure of them, occasioned by want of provisions, which we refused to supply them with, the moment we had it in our power to prevent them from plundering, gave us an opportunity of fortifying the Island. I went twice down, and worked the first time three, and the second two days, the only volunteer. The ships were but a few days gone, when three others sent from *England*, appeared off our bar, the *Syren*, of twenty-eight, *Raven*, of twenty guns, and a transport. They several times attempted coming in, but the wind for three or four days prevented them. One of our pilot boats fired upon their barge, which was several times returned without damage. They at last sailed for *Georgia*, where they and the other men-of-war are now striving to procure provisions, after which we expect a visit from them, and are pretty well prepared. We have above one hundred heavy cannon mounted for the defence of the town and harbour, and the Militia from all parts are marching into town.

Upon the return of the *Georgia* Delegates, the Sons of Liberty assembled, unrigged all the vessels that were ready to sail for *England*, set up a Liberty Pole, seized upon the persons of the Governour and Council, and sent to us for two hundred men. Some Tories there are striving to bring on an *Indian* war, and recruiting for Government in the back parts of that Province.

The town is surrounded with seven batteries, two on *James's Island*, viz: Fort *Johnston* of twenty, and a new one of eleven guns; and two on *Sullivan's Island*, one of twelve, and another of four guns; so that we can rake the whole harbour from the bar. But I suppose this is nothing to what your Council of Safety has done for the defence of *Philadelphia*, which is so easily defended on account of the length of your river. You must be impregnable by this time. You are happy, my dear friend, in not being exposed to the more than diabolical machinations of Government tools, and the dread of insurrections from your Slaves. Hell would be ashamed of such mean and more than brutal attempts to destroy us, and the *Devil* would blush at the impudence of the man who would have the effrontery to recommend a re-union with so barbarous a Government.

WILLIAM SPEAR TO DANIEL OF ST. THOMAS JENIFER.

Baltimore, February 7, 1776.

Sir: Enclosed you have invoice of the osnaburghs you directed me to keep for you, which I have ready to deliver to your order. By the enclosed account, it appears there is a balance in my favour of one hundred and sixty-eight pounds, twelve shillings and two pence, which sum please to give the bearer, Mr. *Cummings*, an order on the Treasurer for, and oblige, sir, your obedient, humble servant,

William Spear.

To the Honourable *Daniel of St. Thomas Jenifer*.

*

P. S. There is accounts come to *Philadelphia* from the *West-Indies*, that there is a number of our vessels seized. Mr. *Neill's* schooner from this place is said to be one of that number. I tremble for such vessels as is destined for *St. Eustatia* and *Martinico*, on account of their vicinity with *St. Christopher* and *Dominico*. If you should have any thing to add to my captain's orders, I will attend you with him. The time of his sailing is very uncertain, as our navigation is entirely stopped by the ice.

WILLIAM SPEAR.

PHILADELPHIA COMMITTEE TO MARYLAND COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

In Committee of Safety, February 7, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The manufacturing of Saltpetre, so peculiarly favoured by the great quantities of nitre with which the earth in and about tobacco houses and works is so plentifully impregnated, is a subject too plainly pointed out by this circumstance, that we should deem it impertinent to hint the necessity of increasing so important an article to our Southern brethren, so distinguished for their zeal in the opposition to the unjust encroachments on our liberties, but that we fear the vigorous endeavours for the increase of Saltpetre through this city and Province may encourage an undue dependance on this or any other Colony, which has erected Publick Works, to the injury of the publick cause; and desirous to diffuse the spirit of making so necessary and profitable an article, permit us to offer you our service in instructing any persons, at our Publick Works in this city, that you or any Committee through your Province may recommend to us for that purpose, whereby the knowledge of this so necessary branch may be spread through your Colony.

We are, gentlemen, your obedient and very humble servants,

By order of the Committee:

JOHN NIXON, *Chairman*.

To the Committee of Safety, *Maryland*.

AMOS WILKINSON TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

Philadelphia Barracks, February 7, 1776.

SIR: In consequence of your orders to the commanding officer of this garrison, I was ordered, with a party of men, to convey General *Prescott* from the jail of this city to some private lodgings, which orders I accordingly executed to the best of my abilities, and had him lodged this night at *Smith's* tavern. Nothing material occurred to the guard until about twelve o'clock the same night, when a certain Mr. *Richeson*, (one of the *British* prisoners,) came in the guard-room, at Mr. *Smith's*, and tantalized the guard, in the following manner: Pray, gentlemen, what are you bearing arms for? The Sergeant of the guard made answer, To defend our rights and properties. Mr. *Richeson* then said, What do you think of getting a good whipping in the Spring? The Sergeant made answer, He supposed they would, if it laid in their power to give it. Before the discourse between them, I laid down by the stove, and took no notice of him, the said *Richeson*, until he showed a quantity of gold to the men, and said, Here is the right coin, damn your Continental money, and the first promoters of it; or words to that effect. With that, I jumped up, seized hold of him, and pitched him out of the room, and ordered him to be taken to his room. He immediately after sent me word by the Sergeant, that he was a gentleman, and expected I would show myself as one, by calling on him in the morning, and give him satisfaction. Accordingly, I waited on him, (first sending him word by the landlord, I should wait on him, with either a good horse-whip or ratan,) with a whip, but on my entering his room, he immediately asked my pardon, and begged I would take no notice of what had passed, as he had been in liquor.

AMOS WILKINSON, *Lieutenant*.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq.

TO THE PEOPLE IN GENERAL.

Philadelphia, February 7, 1776.

When the Prophet *Samuel* was sent to *Bethlehem* to anoint a King out of the house of *Jesse*, and had the eldest son of the family brought before him, his lofty stature and goodly appearance made the Prophet cry out, "Surely the *Lord's* anointed is before him." But he received this gentle reproof from his Divine conductor: "Look not on his countenance, nor on the height of his stature, because I have refused him. For the *Lord* seeth not as man seeth, for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the *Lord* looketh on the heart."

Were man to set about the destruction or dissolution of a great empire, he would begin with making choice of one of the mightiest Powers upon earth to effect it. Then vast warlike preparations would succeed; nor would he enter upon the grand design until his armies were so numerous, and his instruments of war so terrible and destructive, that they might well be styled the Invincible. All would now begin to move, and the whole world would tremble at his approach; but a few months would convince him that without *God* he could do nothing. On the other hand, he who sets up and pulls down, confines, or extends empires at his pleasure, generally, if not always, carries on his great work with instruments apparently unfit for the great purpose, but which in his hands are always effectual. By this means the part he takes appears visible, and the glory of success is given to whom it is due.

It always gives me sensible delight when I see publick calamities affect mankind with a sense of religion, and earnest desire of reformation; and I most heartily concur in sentiment with the Representatives of a certain people "that our minds ought to be affected with the most awful consideration of the dispensations of Divine Providence to mankind in general in former ages," that we know how to conduct ourselves in like circumstances, and avoid as much as possible the appearance of resisting the Divine Will, as publickly declared in His providential proceedings, lest we should be found to fight against *God*.

The *Assyrian*, one of the first and greatest empires recorded in antiquity, arose to such an height as nearly to command the then inhabited world; the consequence was that her rulers became corrupted and arbitrary, and forgetting the Divine designs in appointing them, they forsook the paths of justice and equity, and looked upon their people as made for their pleasure. This brought down the Divine vengeance upon her, which was executed by the *Medes* and *Persians*, two nations at that time of small consideration. On the ruins of the *Assyrian* arose the *Persian* empire, which grew to equal, if not superior height and iniquity. It too was destroyed by the *Macedonians*, a people of no political signification a few years before they were called by Divine Providence to effect this great work. The next great empire we read of was the *Roman*, which, having arrived at the height of luxury, pride, and arbitrariness, fell by the hands of savages, who to this day have scarcely any historical existence. The *Turks* and the *Saracens*, of all the people at that day the least in the opinions of mankind, divided the Eastern and Western Empire between them. Thus, most if not all of the great empires in the world have successively been overthrown by nations, which, in their time, were of no political consequence. And there are few if any examples of one great empire being employed in the overthrow of another. The contest between *Rome* and *Carthage* was that of two great cities aiming at universal dominion, neither having at that time arisen into empire. Thus deals the Divine Providence, always taking steps which appear strange and wonderful, that the whole may bear the evident marks of his hand.

To apply this to our present circumstances, and receive instruction thereby, let us take a view of the present state of *Great Britain*, and the conduct of Divine Providence towards this country, and it will enable us to discover the designs of Providence, and what measures we ought to pursue, that we might effectually co-operate with the Divine intentions.

It must be allowed by every one who has the least knowledge of the *English* nation, that there is no degree of vice, folly, or corruption, now wanting to fill up any measure of iniquity necessary for the downfall of a state. From the King on the throne, to the meanest freeman in the nation, all is corrupt. The Crown, far from regarding its duty in the political world, only uses the publick money to bribe the publick officer. The legislator grants the money

of the people with a degree of cheerfulness proportioned to the prospect he has of handling it through the fingers of corruption. The freeman sells the importance he possesses in the state for the good of himself and his neighbours, for a belly full of porter, and gives his vote to the man, who by the largess he offers, shows he is the most unfit person in the nation to be possessed of the trust. Thus men, guilty of the worst of vices, possess the places of power and trust, which ought to be filled by none but those of the greatest integrity and virtue. And the consequence is, that the nation is ruled with a rod of iron, and there is no part of the empire free from oppression. Her princes are corrupt, her nobles degenerate, and the representatives of the people are bought and sold. The Government moves on the springs of iniquity, and the measure of their conduct is directed alone by their power of execution, and not by justice or equity; so that it is, perhaps, impossible in all history, to produce a more complete state of corruption in Government. *Omnia sunt venalia Romæ*, is nothing to this, for bribery is descended to the lowest dregs of the nation, and nothing is free from the touch of its pollution. The omnipotence of the Almighty is arrogated by men who rule with the tyranny of the *Devil*. This is *Great Britain's* true, but melancholy condition. The eye of partial affection may cast a veil over it; but ingenuity and candour will acknowledge the facts. Tell me, then, ye devotees of religion, the intentions of *God* to a nation like this, and point out the advantages of being reconciled to such a Government.

Suffice this, for the present, on the part of the state of *Great Britain*. Now let us return to the conduct of Providence towards these Colonies.

Shortly before the present contest began, the Divine counsel and wisdom permitted *Great Britain* and *France* to carry on a long and bloody war in this country, whereby the whole was reduced under the power of *Great Britain*, many of us were trained to arms, and all familiarized to a war at our doors, and taught to view, without dread or dismay, the banners of hostility waving in the air.

Through the course of this war, we gave such incontestible proofs of our loyalty and affection, as drew from *Great Britain* the most unequivocal acknowledgments of the same, and having performed more than could be reasonably expected of us, she returned large sums which she then thought we had expended beyond our just proportion. In this situation of affairs, we had reason to expect that we should meet with nothing but the warmest return of gratitude for our services. But they, who wasted that time and treasure in folly and dissipation, which ought to have been expended in acts of gratitude and praise for the unmerited favours of Heaven in the success of the war, would scarcely remember what they owed to their fellow-subjects. Accordingly, our limbs were scarcely rested from the toils we endured in her service, until we were called upon to exert ourselves against her oppressions. And for more than twelve years we have laboured by prayers, entreaties, non-importations, and every other peaceable mode of opposition to prevent her enslaving us; but all to no pupose. Our petitions from Assemblies and Congresses, from Towns and Provinces, and from separate and united bodies of men, were all of no avail. The King despised and rejected them; the Parliament treated them with contempt, and the people, disregarding the justice of them, moved not in our behalf. Thus after affectionately assisting *Great Britain* through a very bloody, dangerous, and expensive war, and after a twelve years' unsuccessful endeavour to remain reconciled to her on principles of right, equity, liberty, and consanguinity, we are at last reduced to the necessity of becoming independent, and entering into a war with her to preserve our privileges.

The *American* quit-rents can do little as yet, but in a few years they alone would provide the King with a fund sufficient to raise and support any army necessary to enslave us, let us then be united to *Britain* on what principles we please. We are at present such a numerous, sober, hardy, and industrious people, as in all ages have been the ablest to contend with, and most successful in opposing tyranny and oppression. How long we may remain so, is only known to the Deity. All parties, even the Ministry itself, agrees that we must one day become independent, and to become independent without a struggle for it, is absurd to imagine. We have now gone through the first year of the war, which may forever put a period to the contention. When we seriously consider the foregoing chain of events, and our present happy union, it is impossible to imagine a conjuncture more favourable to the independence of this country. Less than Divine wisdom could scarcely have fixed on a fitter occasion; and I may defy any person to point out one link of the foregoing chain which can well be wanted at the time an independency is to take place. Any one who considers these things attentively, and recollects how many opportunities she has had of setting every thing right at no greater expense than hearkening to our prayers, and repealing a few obnoxious acts, must believe, that the designs of Providence in this affair are not trivial. *God*, it is generally acknowledged, sends no extraordinary messenger on an ordinary errand. We may, therefore, safely believe, that all this is not for the breaking up of a junto, or gratifying the ambition of a Prince. No, brethren, it cannot be so. You will say it is a judgment of *God* upon us for our sins. Be it so. It is like all his other judgments sent upon a people which has not yet been incorrigible. It is a judgment in mercy, which will leave us infinitely better than it found us, if we remain not invincibly attached to a people from whom we receive little besides the contagion of vice and folly, not to say slavery and oppression.

The peace, happiness, and prosperity we once enjoyed in connection with her, is as small a proof of any obligation we are under to seek a reconciliation, as an old friendship and correspondence would be, that we ought to seek a cell in *Bedlam* with an ancient acquaintance. Her own madness and folly have driven us from her, and *God* has mercifully secured our retreat. It would be rendering ourselves unworthy of His future protection to throw ourselves back upon her. She is not now what she was in those happy days of former connection, nor can we remain the happy people we then were, if we seek a reconciliation. Circumstances are materially altered.

It need not be asked, Are we able to support the measures which will secure independency? The answer is plain and easy. Though all the world may think we are not, yet, *God*, it appears, thinks otherwise. I say, *God* thinks otherwise, because every part of his providential proceedings justifies the thought. We may then know what part we ought to take. *God* does the work, but not without instruments, and they who are employed are denominated his servants; no king nor kingdom was ever destroyed by a miracle which effectually excluded the agency of second causes. Even *Herod*, himself, was devoured by vermin. We may affect humility in refusing to be made the instruments of Divine vengeance, but the good servant will execute the will of his master. *Samuel* will slay *Agag*; *Moses*, *Aaron*, and *Hur* will pray in the mountain; and *Joshua* will defeat the *Canaanites*.

A Religious Politician.

GENERAL LEE TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Head-Quarters, New-York, February 7, 1776.

Sir: The late resolve of the Continental Congress, putting every detachment of the Continental Army immediately under the direction of the Provincial Congress or Committee of Safety where such detachment were to act, and of course the uncertainty of my being admitted into this city with the troops under my command, induced me to send Colonel *Ward's* Regiment to their respective homes, and thereby to save a very considerable immediate expense to your Colony, and ultimately to the whole *United Colonies*. Contrary to my expectations, we are not only admitted, but it is determined to take strong possession of the city as well as of its most important environs; in short, to put the Province in such a situation as to render any attempts of the enemy to establish themselves in it ineffectual. For this purpose, some additional battalions are ordered to be levied in this Province. But from the great scarcity of men, and greater of arms, I apprehend it will be a considerable time before they can be completed and equipped in such a manner as to form a corps in whom any great reliance can be placed; the enemy may, perhaps, very soon appear, and we ought immediately to be ready to receive them. I could, therefore, sir, wish, that if Colonel *Ward's* Regiment is not already disbanded, and your

Colony can spare them, that they may be immediately detached for this place; but if it is disbanded, that you would, if possible, send to this place a body of volunteers, equal in number to that regiment, completely armed and accoutred. I am sensible, sir, that it must be extremely teazing both to the men and officers, to be thus eternally counter-ordered, marching and counter-marching, but I hope they will do me the justice to attribute it, not to any indecision or uncertainty of mind in me, but to several whimsical circumstances in our situation, which cannot, at present, be explained to them.

I am, sir, with the greatest respect, your Honour's most obedient, and very humble servant,

CHARLES LEE.

To His Honour Governour *Trumbull*.

P. S. General *Clinton* arrived almost in the same instant with myself. He has brought no men with him, at least that we can discover, and has given his word of honour that none are intended. Says that it is only a friendly visit to Mr. *Tryon*. But the fact is, (I suppose,) he came only to reconnoitre whether the coast was clear, and his friends, the Tories, ready for his reception.*

The gentlemen of the Committee of Safety of this city are with me this moment; they entreat you would, without delay, forward and complete those powder mills which are now erecting, and as many others as you can possibly set on foot. I congratulate you on the arrival of sixty tons more of saltpetre. Thirty tons of powder, and thirteen hundred small arms at *Philadelphia*. Such an important acquisition will, I hope, enable us to face our enemy on more equal terms.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read February 14, 1776.—Referred to Mr. Wythe, Mr. J. Adams, and Mr. Chase.]

Albany, February 7, 1776.

SIR: Since my last to you, by Colonel *Ritzema*, Major *Ogden* is arrived from *Quebeck* with the enclosed to you from General *Arnold*. He also delivered me a letter from General *Wooster*, copy whereof, with copy of a return of the military stores in *Canada*, I also enclose.

By the return of the military stores, you will see how vastly deficient we are in almost every article, and how necessary it is that a supply should be sent. I have it not in my power to send any thing, for I have nothing.

Mr. *Trumbull's* Deputy goes to *Canada* with what little money there is in chest. I have desired him to take all the money he can get in *Canada*, and draw upon his principal here; a considerable sum I believe will be got in that way, as a number of merchants are gone with vast quantities of *West-India* goods. I have encouraged them to bring blankets, and such things as our army may stand in need of, and that whatever might be wanted, would be purchased of them.

By Colonel *Hazen*, I sent General *Wooster* a plan to officer the two regiments to be raised in *Canada*, and desired that he would send down recruiting officers.

The Captains of the two *Pennsylvania* Companies have this moment informed me that their men are without mittens and moccasins. Of the latter, I have only been able to procure about one hundred and twenty pair; of the former I have none. I shall try to supply them somehow or other. I could wish that every Colony, in which troops are raised, supplied the men with all these necessaries. It caused a long detention here, and after all, they cannot be equipped as they should be.

The troops in *Canada* will be in great want of shoes. Major *Ogden* informs me that none are to be had there, nor can I get any here. I have employed people to purchase what they can get.

Be so good as to send up money, that the *Connecticut* troops may be paid. I have been under the necessity of allowing the pay from the places where they were dischaged until they got home, and for their subsistence on the way; if I had not done this, the recruiting service would have gone on very tardily.

The accounts of moneys advanced to any of the regiments for the Northern Army should be transmitted to the Deputy Paymaster-General as soon as the regiments march, otherwise the same confusion will take place that has distressed us so much last year. I shall take the liberty to make this request to all the different Colonies.

I am, sir, with the most respectful sentiments, your most obedient, and very humble servant,

PHILIP SCHUYLER.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq., &c.

STEPHEN MOYLAN TO MATTHEW THORNTON.

Cambridge, February 7, 1776.

SIR: As you presided at the honourable Convention, when a complaint was made against Colonel *John Stark*, by his Excellency's command, I address myself to you upon that subject. A Court of Inquiry has been held, in the process of which Colonel *Stark* has seen that he was very blameable, and sent an acknowledgment of his fault in writing, which I have the honour to enclose you. His Excellency wishes that this may prove satisfactory to the members of your honourable Congress, as the Colonel is a good officer, who understands and does his duty; but if you, and the gentlemen who have been ill treated upon this occasion, insist that he should be brought to a trial by Court-Martial, his Excellency will, on receipt of your answer to this, order one to try this affair; though, as I before mentioned, it would give his Excellency great satisfaction that it was made up in an amicable manner.

I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient servant,

STEPHEN MOYLAN, *P. T. S.*

To the Hon. *Matthew Thornton*, Esq., President, &c.

Copy of the Paper, referred to in the above Letter, sent by Colonel STARK.

Whereas, on the 30th day of *December* last, some persons belonging to my Regiment, without orders or warrant from me, for so doing, proceeded under arms from their barracks on *Winter-Hill*, to the lodging of *Samuel Hobart*, Esq., at *Medford*, and there assaulted and took him prisoner, and brought him to my encampment at *Winter-Hill*, and I being at that time much perplexed with business, and not knowing the many aggravated circumstances attending said assaults, and not considering at that time the dangerous tendency of such an insult offered to him, while in the execution of his office, as Paymaster of the troops from the Colony of *New-Hampshire*, neglected to confine and punish those offenders, but being before wearied with their complaints for want of pay, and much perplexed with other business, hastily, and inconsiderately, threw out some warm and illiberal reflections upon some of the members of the Congress, in that Colony, for which I am sincerely sorry, and heartily ask their forgiveness, and beg leave to assure them that those reflections proceeded only from heat and passion, and not from any settled design to slander or defame them.

JOHN STARK.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO DELEGATES IN CONGRESS.

[No. 9.] Annapolis, February 8, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Immediately on the receipt of Mr. *Alexander's*, of the 30th *January*, with the resolution of the Congress, we appointed gentlemen in each County of this Province, to collect all the gold and silver they could in their several Counties, the amount of which you shall be acquainted with as soon as we are informed of it by them.

We have, also, received a letter from Messrs. *Paca* and *Alexander*, of the 2d of this month, and are sorry to find we are likely to be disappointed in our prospect of getting cannon from *New-York* or *Philadelphia*, as they are now

* NEW-YORK, *February* 7, 1776.—The town is in the greatest confusion. The Congress have recommended for the inhabitants to move out. The *Mercury*, man-of-war, has demanded three months' provision, which is refused. Lord *Stirling* came to town this morning with *Jersey* forces.

The Governour sent for the Mayor, and desired him to assure the publick, that General *Clinton* was only come to pay him a visit on his way, and that the troops should not land here; nevertheless, it was thought necessary to keep a strict look out, for fear they should land by surprise; in consequence of which, half of our battalion kept guard all night, the other half the next, and the second battalion are doing the same. Nothing hostile has yet commenced, but *God* knows how soon it may. The ice obliges the ships to warp close to the wharf. This day the ice, in large cakes, were chock from side to side, and many people upon it.

immediately wanted for carrying into execution the resolution of the Convention for fortifying the city of *Annapolis* and *Baltimore* Town; and as we are not certain whether Mr. *Hughes* (though he has already begun casting the nine-pounders with some success) may be able to comply with his contract for the heavy cannon with the Convention in time, those purchased by Mr. *Paca* we intended for the ship *Defence*, which is getting ready with all possible expedition.

We are obliged to you for the attention you have given to our request, and the resolution of the Convention, relative to the plates and paper for the new emission of paper currency, and should most readily conform to your advices, and agree to the striking the money at *Philadelphia*, by the persons you mention, but we think ourselves, in that particular, tied up by the resolve of the Convention, which requires that "the bills be printed and struck under the direction of two freemen of this Province, to be appointed as supervisors, by the Council of Safety, who are to receive twenty shillings per day;" and it would be difficult to get two that would attend at *Philadelphia* during the time of printing.

We have been long in expectation of receiving the powder from Messrs. *Willing* and *Morris*, which they engaged to supply us with, and for which the money was lodged in their hands, but have not, as yet, been favoured by them with any thing on that head. We need not acquaint you that it is an article we stand much in need of, and that the Convention, to relieve our present necessity, had agreed to take five tons of that made at *Philadelphia* from the saltpetre lately imported, in part of what we were to have had from those gentlemen. We shall be obliged if you will know of them when we may expect the five tons, and what prospect they have of procuring the rest contracted for by them, and favour us with their answer.

While the Convention was sitting, Mr. *Samuel Purviance* sent down two depositions, to the purpose of what you mention in your last. The subject was considered by the Convention, and it was resolved that no further notice should be taken of the affair, and that the proceeding should be kept secret. We suppose the two depositions sent you by Mr. *Purviance* are in substance the same, and we cannot but think it extraordinary that he should presume to trouble you with a matter that had been agitated and settled in Convention. If it be not too much trouble, we request you will send us copies of them, and a copy of his letter enclosing them to you. We are, &c.,

To the Deputies of *Maryland*, in Congress.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO VIRGINIA COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

[No. 10.] Annapolis, February 8, 1776.

Gentlemen: We are much obliged by your favour of the 27th ultimo, and shall most cheerfully co-operate with you in every measure that may contribute to our mutual defence against the invaders of our reciprocal rights, that may be in our power; and shall also be happy in keeping up a constant, intimate correspondence, which our common cause at this time renders necessary.

Our inexperience in naval preparations prevents us, at present, from either approving or disapproving your plan of row-galleys for the protection of *Potomack River*. We have a ship, which we call *The Defence*, that mounts twenty-two six-pounders, besides swivels, and will be ready to proceed to her station by the 1st of *March*. She will cruise in the Bay, and, as occasion may require, proceed up *Potomack*; and the Captain shall have orders to contribute every thing in his power to the common defence, on all occasions. The powder necessary for this ship, and for fortifications which we are building, will diminish our stock so much as to prevent us from attempting an increase of our marine, till we receive a supply of that necessary article, more than sufficient for our troops and Militia, on whom we chiefly rely for protection; and when this happens we shall advise you of it.

We have adventured very extensively to procure arms and ammunition, but are fearful, from the advices that we have lately received, our endeavours will not be attended with the success we wished, and had reason to hope for.

We are, &c.

Committee-Chamber, New-York, February 8, 1776.

To the Inhabitants of the neighbouring Counties and Colonies:

In the course of Divine Providence, (to whose righteous dispensations it becomes us at all times to submit,) this city is now become a scene of confusion and distress, occasioned by an apprehension that unmerited hostilities will shortly be commenced by the ships-of-war lying in this harbour. Under the influence of this belief, many of our poor are abandoning their habitations, and flying for protection into the arms of their brethren in the neighbouring Counties and Provinces. This Committee, therefore, earnestly entreat all those among whom such poor may come, to exercise great kindness and lenity towards them, by furnishing them with habitations, and other necessaries of life for their present subsistence, on the easiest terms, and accommodating them in any other way which their duty to the poor, as Christians, may direct.

By order of the Committee:

Henry Remsen, *Chairman*.

COLONEL WAYNE TO JOHN MORTON.

Philadelphia, February 8, 1776.

Sir: When I intimated to Congress that quarters could be had for one battalion in the vicinity of *Chester*, my idea was that empty houses, stores, &c., might be procured by way of barracks for the troops; and as I understand the Congress have resolved that we shall be stationed until further orders, I must request that you would appoint some proper person, or persons, for that purpose, as well as for providing provisions, firing, &c.

Several of the companies are to rendezvous at *Chester* to-morrow, and the whole in the course of three or four days. Pray let something be immediately done in the premises; otherwise we shall be in the utmost confusion.

Interim, I am, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

Anthony Wayne.

To *John Morton*, Esq.

P. S. I have summoned the Committee of *Chester* County to meet on *Monday* next. If the Congress should be of opinion that we should apply to the inhabitants for blankets, in the manner that the Committee of the city and Liberties have done, this affords a favourable opportunity for the purpose.

A resolve of Congress, requiring the several Committees of Inspection to assist in apprehending deserters, will be of the utmost utility, as the Tories will conceal them.

MAJOR CONNOLLY TO PRESIDENT HANCOCK.

Philadelphia, February 8, 1776.

Gentlemen: I have for some time past been indulged with the privilege of walking in the jail, for the benefit of the air, and flattered myself that such enlargement would tend to facilitate my recovery; but, unhappily, find myself disappointed. My infirm state of health, and present condition, cannot fail to touch the humanity of every feeling individual; and, in whatever light I may appear as an enemy, yet my distress as a prisoner, aggravated by the cruel addition of pining sickness, must command the attention of every generous heart.

My difference in political opinion, and the causes instigating me to action, however criminal they may appear, I can, with the integrity of a man of honour, assert, arose from a sense of duty and gratitude too powerful to be combatted by any contrary arguments.

I have now languished near four months in close confinement, and my physician has even given over his visits, as ineffectual towards my recovery, without exercise in the open air. I shall not presume to dictate to you, gentlemen, but cannot avoid intimating that my treatment appears particularly severe. Conscious of unblemished honour, where the security of my person is demanded, my sensibility is deeply wounded to find you prefer the strength of a jail to effect that purpose. Political reasons may urge this severity; but permit me to assure you that, whatever may be your determination with regard to me hereafter, I shall be equally ready to obey your summons, if enlarged upon parole, as immured within these walls.

If you will be good enough to allow me to attend my

brother into the country, for the benefit of health, and prescribe such bounds as you may judge proper, my honour shall inviolably determine me to pursue your directions. However different we are in sentiments, there remains no doubt of the sincerity of his political professions; and, therefore, in the hands of such a person, who will become responsible for my appearance, whenever demanded, my person will be perfectly at your disposal.

Whether I am to be admitted to the chance of recovering my health, or sentenced to drag on a miserable existence (possibly) for a few weeks longer, is what I flatter myself you will be kind enough speedily to determine upon.

I am, gentlemen, respectfully, your most obedient, humble servant,

JOHN CONNOLLY.

To the Honourable President of Congress.

Monday, 9th. I visited Major *Connolly* yesterday, and found him still so much disordered, that I fear nothing will effectually cure him, but such exercise as cannot easily be had within the enclosure of the jail. Riding on horseback, I believe, is the only remedy that will remove the cause of his disorder, which is occasioned entirely by a relaxation of his nerves.

W. RUSH.

Connolly's Application to Congress, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The low state of my health, added to the most rigorous confinement, urges me to write to the Committee of Safety, requesting an enlargement, on such honourable terms as they might conclude adequate to my circumstances.

A prejudice, universal as it is groundless, seems to have rendered me particularly odious to my countrymen; conceiving that I was to have been the base instrument of instigating the Savages to desolate the frontiers, to sacrifice the defenceless women and children, and to introduce the utmost scene of calamity and distress, appears to render my situation peculiarly severe. But, when I assure you that a design so inhuman never entered my breast, and that no earthly consideration could ever induce me to promote so dishonourable and inglorious a proceeding, I flatter myself I shall gain your credit.

At the same time that justice to myself calls upon me to make this declaration, I am in honour, also, to acquaint you, that in discharge of the trust reposed in me, I should most ardently have exerted every ability consistent with humanity and the law of arms. The peculiarly delicate ground on which I stood at the commencement of this unhappy dispute, the infinite obligations I owed to his Excellency Lord *Dunmore*, and a perfect conviction of acting with becoming propriety, determined my conduct. I cannot imagine that gentlemen of your education and unconfined ideas would even wish to punish a man whose actions originated from the warmest gratitude and a sense of honour.

Sequestered from the world, and borne down with infirmity of body, I entreat you to alleviate my distress, by an enlargement from this severe confinement, so destructive to health, and my honour shall inevitably bind me to pursue such orders as you may think necessary to direct, until this calamitous contest subsides, or until I may be exchanged by mutual consent.

I am, gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servant,

JOHN CONNOLLY.

Cameron's Application to Congress.

Philadelphia Jail, February 7, 1776.

Mr. *Cameron* would be glad to acquaint the gentlemen of the Congress, that he was lately brought before the Committee, who referred him to the Congress for obtaining parole; in the hope that the gentlemen of the Congress will believe he acted from principle, and grant him the same enlargement they have given others of His Majesty's officers, and on such honourable terms, he will engage to be equally bound.

Thursday, February 8, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I have visited Doctor *Connolly*, by order of the Committee of Safety, and have found that he labours under an obstinate nervous disorder, for which there is no remedy equal to fresh air and gentle exercise. As a citizen of *America*, I view his conduct with horror, and can foresee many dangerous consequences upon his enlargement upon his parole, but, as a physician, I should be wanting in my duty, if I did not declare that some mitigation of his sentence is absolutely necessary for the recovery of his health; this, I believe, may be effected by granting him the liberty of walking for an hour or two every day through the prison entry or yard.

You may read the above declaration, if it should be necessary, in the Congress.

I am, dear sir, yours, most affectionately,

BENJAMIN RUSH.

To Colonel *Wilson*, or, in his absence, to Mr. *Penn*, of Congress.

SAMUEL AVERY TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

New-York, February 8, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The dispute between the mother country (or rather, the Ministry,) and these devoted Colonies, has arisen to such a height of desperation, that I conceive every person is loudly called upon to stand forth and exert themselves in the defence of their country, and the general cause of mankind.

And, having understood that there are four battalions to be immediately raised in this Province, to act as occasion may require, for the general safety and preservation of the *United Colonies*, and being desirous to join with my friends, brethren, and fellow-countrymen, in the defence of the liberties and privileges of this once happy land, on which I conceive much depends—the fate of our once boasted Constitution and the *English* empire; therefore, when an arrangement of officers for the aforesaid battalions shall be made by your honourable House, I should be glad to be appointed a Lieutenant-Colonel of one of those battalions, if you shall judge me a fit person for the office. You may be assured I do not want zeal in the cause of the Colonies, and I flatter myself I do not want capacity, but for courage, which is a very material matter, I cannot promise, but am willing to try.

I am, gentlemen, with the greatest respect, your most obedient, and very humble servant,

SAMUEL AVERY.

To the Honourable the Provincial Congress for the Province of *New-York*.

RECOMMENDATION FOR APPOINTMENTS.

New-York, February 8, 1776.

Messrs. *John Wiley*, *John Van Winkle*, *John Sanford*, and *James Barrett*, all of the Second Independent Battalion, represent that they are desirous to enter the Continental service, provided they are appointed to one company, which we will engage to raise.

Mr. *Wiley* is a Lieutenant, the others Sergeants, and in their several stations they have discovered military abilities, zeal for the cause of liberty, and on every occasion such prudent and becoming conduct, as justifies our recommending them according to the above request; and we are of opinion that, if the Congress think proper to employ them, they will render ample satisfaction.

WILLIAM HEYER, *Colonel.*
CHRISTOPHER BANCKER, *Lieut. Colonel.*
WILLIAM MALCOM, *Major, 2d Battalion.*
ISAAC STOUTENBERGH, *2d Major, 2d Batt.*
GEORGE LINDSAY, *Captain.*
JONATHAN BLAKE, } *Lieutenants.*
JOHN STAGG, }

To the Honourable the Provincial Congress, or whom it may concern.

TO THE ARMY OF THE UNITED STATES.

Cambridge, February 8, 1776.

MY DEAR COUNTRYMEN: When I address myself to so deserving a part of the community as I esteem you to be, who have generously offered yourselves, at your country's call, to defend, at every hazard, her dearest privileges; when I consider that many of you have exchanged com-

fortable livings and very valuable enjoyments of domestick life, for the hardships of a Winter's campaign, that your brethren at home might dwell safely, and have none to make them afraid. I feel towards you the most grateful sentiments; and I should think myself happy if one, whose purse can do but little to reward you, might contribute in some other way to your encouragement.

Give me leave, in the first place, to congratulate you on the dignity of the cause in which you are acting. Between you and those you contend with, there is, in this respect, an infinite difference. Unhappy troops of *Britain!* In better days they were a protection to the oppressed; they were employed with honour in resisting the attempts of lawless ambition. The world saw and acknowledged their superior merit, and faithful history recorded their glorious deeds. But modern councils, that have turned all things out of course, have found other employment for a *British* soldiery; and who does not pity their disgraceful destination? To be the supporters of as unprovoked and as arbitrary a system of domination as has been heard of in any country; to be the executioners of the unmanly rage of a most abandoned Administration; to plunder the property, burn and destroy the dwellings, and attempt the ruin of as deserving a set of Colonists as any nation ever was concerned with; and who, *God* knows, would have been as peaceable, had they been well treated.

You, my countrymen, have taken a part that is worthy of you, and which Heaven itself must approve. If ever men had just cause for taking up arms, you have. The unjust claims of *Britain;* the unlimited submission demanded of the Colonists, which would have left them nothing they could call their own; the intemperate and merciless regulations made to bring you to submission; the inefficacy of peaceable measures taken on our part; the long patience of the Colonists when insulted by little handfuls of *British* troops, stationed among them; and the advantage which has been basely taken of that patience, (of which the strong garrison at *Boston*, and the sufferings of its worthy inhabitants, are a standing monument.) In fine, the haughty contempt with which the united and respectful petitions of so many respectable States, asking for peace, liberty, and safety, have been treated; and the unrelenting rage with which the sword of *Britain*, already bathed in the blood of our countrymen, is still brandished; leaving us no alternative between the most abject submission, and a resolute resistance. These things being all before you, you could not but judge, that duty to *God* and to all posterity ought to determine us for resistance at all events; and a review of the just and important reasons for such resistance must give you an inward satisfaction in the part you are acting which your enemies cannot have, and such courage, one would think, as a bad cause never did and never can inspire.

This infinite difference between your cause and that of your enemies, in the grand point, infers most interesting consequences, which I could wish every *American* Soldier to be often refreshing his mind with; it would alleviate every hardship; it would strengthen you when you are weary, and give vigour to all your exertions. One is, that while on their side the condition of the highest officer is disgraceful, and the more, if he is a volunteer in the service; on your part, the station of a private soldier is a post of honour; the more so, by how much more freely he has offered himself; more still, if he has many a hardship to undergo, and is often destined to the post of danger. For my own part, when I consider the super-eminent dignity of this cause, I almost envy the very least of you his honourable station, and those glorious hardships and perils in which the duty of a different department forbids me to take part with you; and doubt not the day will come when many a gentleman will think himself unhappy that he was not with you, and many a rising youth shall tell, with conscious pride, that his father was in the Continental Army.

In this cause every brave man may appear with advantage; which is another mighty difference in your favour. Those who act in a bad cause, either do it wilfully or ignorantly, or else they act by constraint against the sense of their own minds. In the first case they must be actuated by base passions, which will naturally carry them into a disgraceful conduct. In the second, they must be under the power of prejudices which contract the soul, and render them incapable of appearing like men. In the last case, whatever they are, they must have foolish and dastardly feelings, and those who cannot pity, will laugh at them.

The cause you are engaged in gives full room for the display of the best human qualities, and naturally awakens them into exercise. It inspires a dignity of sentiment, a generous zeal for the rights of mankind, a noble ardour of compassion for the oppressed, and indignation against tyranny. Hence will proceed the best of courage, self-denial, patience, perseverance, indifference to rank, and high pay, and all the virtues that adorn the character of a soldier. One of the best wishes I can form in your favour is, that you may be inspired with sentiments that are answerable to so great and good a service. But what is more than all, in this cause you may, with a clear conscience, look to Heaven to protect and prosper you. Reduced, as this country is, to the hard necessity of either taking up arms, or of surrendering life, liberty, and every valuable privilege into arbitrary hands, the resistance we are now making is not only justifiable, but must be considered as an indispensable duty, to which Heaven itself calls us. It is, therefore, no enthusiasm to hope, that Heaven will be pleased to favour it; whereas, on the other side, it would be even impious to ask the Divine aid. Think of this, and pity your enemies: nor let the dread of them disturb you, though you should be called to attack them in the strongest of their holds. Nor envy them their boasted skill, nor all their apparatus for the war: it is all they have to depend on. But the young warrior, who could say to his boastful foe, "Thou comest to me with a sword, and with a spear, and with a shield; but I come to thee in the name of the *Lord* of hosts, the *God* of the armies of *Israel*," 1 *Sam.* xvii, 45; he, doubtless, had the advantage, though his furniture for the combat was not so showy; and this advantage, ye dear *Americans*—if ye will but avail yourselves of it—this advantage is yours. X.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Cambridge, February 8, 1776.

Sir: I last night received intelligence of the arrival of some powder in your Colony, by the sloop *Maccaroni*, and the report is that she brought arms too. As my last letters from *Philadelphia* do not promise me an immediate supply of these necessaries, and as the exigency of this Army at this particular crisis calls for much more than what we have, I beg the favour of you to interest yourself that they may be sent to this camp as expeditiously as possible. If they belong to the Colony, I will take them on the Continent's account, and pay for them, or replace the powder if that shall be thought more advisable, as soon as I have an opportunity of doing it, which I hope will not be long. If to private gentlemen, I shall be much obliged by your friendly exertions, that I may have it. I should not have made this application did not the state of our affairs at this time require all that can be collected. Not doubting of your best endeavours that my requisition may be complied with, I am, sir, with much esteem, &c.,

George Washington.

To the Honourable Governour *Trumbull.*

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Cambridge, February 8, 1776.

Sir: I received your favours of the 2d and 5th instant, and agreeable to your request have ordered payment of the balance of the expenses attending the journey of the two *French* gentlemen to *Philadelphia*, to be made *William Bacon*, post-rider, for your use, which I hope will come safe to hand.

I am happy to hear of your having received twelve thousand five hundred dollars from Congress for the troops going upon the *Canada* expedition, and heartily wish that no other difficulties may occur to impede their march, and prevent their giving early and timely succour to our friends there, which they certainly stand in great need of.

As to replacing the money advanced by your Colony to the regiments which served the last campaign, it is not in my power. It is what I did not expect, and, therefore, have made no provision for it. I should have paid them in the same manner I did others, had I not been prevent-

ed by the Colonels, who expressed their inclination to receive the whole at one time, after the expiration of the service, and on their return home. This being the case, I always imagined that the sum advanced by you would be taken in, when Congress came to form a general account against the Colonies, and be applied to your credit, which I presume they will shortly do, as I have wrote to them, and pointed out the necessity of having all the accounts, respecting this Army, adjusted and liquidated at proper periods. Had I conceived that this application for repayment would have been made to me, I should certainly have included the sum advanced by you in my estimates, and taken care to have had a sufficiency of money to discharge it; but as I did not, I am unprovided, and have not more than will answer the claims I was apprized of antecedent to the last day of *December*. They are large and numerous, and in a few days will drain our Treasury of every shilling now in it. I am exceedingly sorry that matters should be so circumstanced as to give you the least disappointment or trouble, but I doubt not Congress, upon your application, will refund what you have advanced, or settle in such a way as shall be perfectly agreeable to you.

I shall take care to have the three battalions of Militia paid, which are coming here for the defence of our lines, in the same manner that the rest are, when the time of their engagement expires. They certainly might have come thus far without the advance you have been obliged to give.

Having lately examined into the state of our powder, and finding the deficiency to be much greater than what I had any idea of, and hearing that the Militia from your Colony, and I fear from the others too, are coming without any, or with but very little, I cannot but confess my anxiety and concern to be very great. I, therefore, again repeat the request I made this morning, and beg and entreat your most strenuous and friendly exertions to procure what we are told is imported, or such part as you possibly can, and send it to me with the utmost expedition. I am already much alarmed on account of the scarcity, and the Militia coming in without a proper supply, fills me with apprehensions of the most disagreeable nature. This I would mention in confidence, as it might give great uneasiness if it was generally known. And trusting that nothing in your power will be wanting to relieve us at this alarming and important crisis, I am, &c.

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To Governour *Trumbull*.

JAMES SULLIVAN TO THE COUNCIL OF MASSACHUSETTS.

Biddeford, February 8, 1776.

SIR: The resolve of Court for reinforcing General *Washington's* Army with four thousand three hundred and seventy-eight men, was sent me on the 29th ultimo, accompanied by a letter from Colonel *Sayer*, Chairman of the Committee of the County of *York*, wherein he gave me notice that he and Major *Goodwin* had ordered that I should assist in raising and forming those in the towns of *Biddeford*, *Buxton*, *Arundel*, and *Pepperelborough*. I then thought, as so many were already gone in the service, and as three of these towns were on the sea-shore, the raising them would be impracticable. However, I have accomplished it, and, after giving Colonel *Sayer* notice, to the intent that *Wells* might join us, this day called the men together to choose their officers, and march to Head-Quarters; and while waiting for *Wells*, the people have received advice from Colonel *Sayer*, that he and Major *Goodwin* had agreed that the four towns before mentioned should join with *York*, and make up a company, and that *Wells* should have one of their own—have four officers and ninety men instead of thirty-five, while five towns in the County should be but equal to *Wells* in privileges in this matter. Our people living remote from, and being unacquainted with *York*, and humbly conceiving, notwithstanding the wise determination of the Committee for that County, that four towns might presume to hope for privileges equal to the town of *Wells*, filled up the company, excepting a few, who will be inlisted to-morrow, and have chosen for their Captain, *John Elder*, who has been at the head of the Militia in *Buxton* seven years, *Amos Towns*, of *Arundel*, and *Samuel Scammon*, of *Pepperelborough*, for their Lieutenants, and *Jeremy Cale*, of *Biddeford*, for their Ensign, and they to-morrow lead off a company of brave men, with good fire-arms. These officers are men of repute and estate, and go in reliance of being commissionated by the honourable Board.

Your humble servant, JAMES SULLIVAN.

To *Perez Morton*, Esq., Deputy-Secretary.—To be communicated to the honourable Board.

NEW-HAMPSHIRE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY TO PRESIDENT HANCOCK.

[Read March 4, 1776.]

Exeter, February 8, 1776.

SIR: Before the reception of your letters of the 12th and 20th of *January*, an account of the unfortunate affair at *Quebeck* came to hand, with a requisition from his Excellency General *Washington*, for this Colony to raise a regiment for that service, which was immediately attended to, the Field-Officers appointed, and orders for inlisting the men given out. As so great a proportion of the men in the eastern, and the middle part of the Colony, were engaged at the grand Army, and to guard our sea-coast, it was judged best to endeavour the raising this on the western frontiers, and every thing that was thought expedient had been done to forward the purpose.

We hear some companies have marched, and expect the whole battalion, consisting of the number desired, will follow them in a few days. Before our design of raising this regiment was known in the western parts, upwards of one hundred men from this Colony had inlisted under officers appointed by Colonel *Warner*, of the *Green-Mountain* Boys, and marched, and are, we suppose, before this time at *Quebeck*.

By order of the Committee.

I have the honour to be, sir, your most humble servant,

MESHECH WEARE, *Chairman*.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq.

Colony of NEW-HAMPSHIRE *to the Honourable Congress of the* UNITED COLONIES *of* NORTH AMERICA.

The Council and Assembly of said Colony of NEW-HAMPSHIRE, *humbly shew:*

That, by reason of the vicinity of the port of *Boston* (the general rendezvous of our enemies) to this Colony, and their men-of-war often hovering around our harbour, have been, ever since the destruction of *Falmouth*, kept in continual alarms, which hath occasioned a prodigious expense in erecting fortifications, and keeping a large body of men in pay to guard our sea-coast and Metropolis, (some part of the time upwards of fourteen hundred;) being sensible our enemies have a particular view in getting possession of our harbour, as it is very commodious for their shipping, and, if once in their possession, will prove of the greatest consequence to them in annoying the Eastern country; and this Colony ever dependant on the more Southern ones for a considerable part of their bread, and in shipping off lumber to raise money to pay therefor, are now very much distressed: Wherefore, as you have been pleased to order several battalions to defend our sister Colonies, we humbly pray you would direct so many men to be raised for our defence as you, in your wisdom, shall see fit. And we shall ever pray, &c.

By order of the Council and Assembly:

MESHECH WEARE, *President of the Council*.

Exeter, February 8, 1776.

SAILING OF THE FIRST AMERICAN FLEET.

Newbern, North-Carolina, February 9, 1776.

By a gentleman from *Philadelphia*, we have received the pleasing account of the actual sailing from that place of the first *American* fleet that ever swelled their sails on the *Western Ocean*, in defence of the rights and liberties of the people of these Colonies, now suffering under the persecuting rod of the *British* Ministry, and their more than brutish tyrants in *America*. This fleet consists of five sail, fitted out from *Philadelphia*, which are to be joined at the *Capes of Virginia* by two ships more from *Mary-*

land, and is commanded by Admiral *Hopkins*, a most experienced and venerable sea-captain. The Admiral's ship is called the *Columbus*, after *Christopher Columbus*, the renowned discoverer of this Western world, and mounts thirty-six guns, twelve and nine-pounders, on two decks, forty swivels, and five hundred men. The second ship is called the *Cabot*, after *Sebastian Cabot*, who completed the discoveries of *America* made by *Columbus*, and mounts thirty-two guns. The others are smaller vessels, from twenty-four to fourteen guns. They sailed from *Philadelphia* amidst the acclamations of many thousands assembled on the joyful occasion, under the display of a *Union* Flag, with thirteen stripes in the field, emblematical of the Thirteen *United Colonies;* but, unhappily for us, the ice in the river *Delaware*, as yet, obstructs the passage down, but the time will now soon arrive when this fleet must come to action. Their destination is a secret, but generally supposed to be against the Ministerial Governours, those little petty tyrants that have lately spread fire and sword throughout these Southern Colonies. For the happy success of this little fleet, three millions of people offer their most earnest supplications to Heaven.

GENERAL LEE TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

New-York, February 9, 1776.

SIR: A transport is this instant arrived in this harbour with troops, although it is said that General *Clinton* gave his honour that not a soldier was destined for this place. As we have, sir, a great deal to do, many works to throw up, *Long-Island* to secure, and a considerable deal of duty necessary for the safety of the city, and as the four battalions ordered to be raised in this Province cannot possibly be prepared for any sort of service in a very short space of time, it is requisite to provide ourselves with an adequate force immediately. It is true, the Committee of Safety (whose zeal and alacrity seem most fervent) have ordered three regiments of Minute-Men into the city; but I apprehend even this addition will not enable us to accomplish the measures resolved upon. If, sir, a battalion of the *Philadelphia* Associators, or a detachment from the several battalions, amounting to the number of a complete battalion, could be spared us, they would not only be of infinite use to us, but of considerable to themselves, as it will afford them an opportunity of instructing themselves in the construction of field-works, and the method of fortifying and intrenching camps. I confess I am the more solicitous of being immediately put into force, as I am extremely apprehensive that a very large body of the Ministerialists will be here in a very few days, either from *Boston* or from *England*. I think, sir, likewise, as probably the number of troops will be increasing here every day, the Congress would do well, without loss of time, to establish an Hospital in this Colony.

I am, sir, with the greatest respect, your most obedient servant, CHARLES LEE.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq., President of the Continental Congress.

LORD STIRLING TO NEW-YORK COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Broad-Street, New-York, February 9, 1776.

SIR: As I doubt not it will afford some satisfaction to the Committee of Safety of *New-York* to be informed what steps are taken for regulating the trade of *New-Jersey*, I now enclose you a letter I last night received from the President of the Congress of that Province, with the resolves therein mentioned, which you will be pleased to communicate to them.

I have the honour to be, sir, your most humble servant, STIRLING.

To the President of the Committee of Safety, *New-York*.

In Provincial Congress, New-Jersey, February 5, 1776.

MY LORD: This Congress have before them your Lordship's several letters, relative to vessels exporting produce and lumber from this Colony, and have come to the enclosed resolutions thereon, which are designed to be immediately published.

The Congress and Committee of Safety of this Province have licensed several vessels to carry out produce, on security having been given to return the amount of nett proceeds thereof in military stores, particularly the vessel mentioned as loading in *Longfield's Creek;* but none of the others you mention have such license. The one at *Amboy*, being under very singular circumstances, will, with others loading without permits, be particularly attended to by this Congress, as soon as convenience admits.

We cannot help observing, that your Lordship's information came from two of the *New-York* Delegates, who, by a clause in one of your Lordship's letters, appear to have licensed several vessels in *New-York* to export produce. The legality of such license it is not necessary for this Congress at present to make any observation upon.

Your Lordship hath the thanks of this Congress for your attention and trouble in the several matters mentioned in your letters.

I am, my Lord, your Lordship's most obedient servant.

By order of the Congress:

SAMUEL TUCKER, *President*.

To Lord *Stirling*.

In Provincial Congress, New-Jersey, New-Brunswick, February 5, 1776.

On motion made, *Resolved, unanimously*, That all County or Town Committees in this Province exert themselves to prevent any vessel within their several Districts taking in any lading, or departing therewith, from any Port in this Province, contrary to the General Association of the Continental Congress, unless the master of such vessel produce a special license therefor, duly authenticated, from said Congress, agreeable to a subsequent Resolve thereof, or from the Congress, or Committee of Safety, of this Province, signed by the President or Vice-President; and also particularly attend to all imports into this Colony, that the Resolutions of the Continental Congress be duly observed; and that the Militia of this Province do give all necessary assistance to said Committee in their exertions above-mentioned, when called upon for that purpose. And it is hereby recommended to the Officers of the Continental Troops, which are or may be in this Colony, also to assist in the above measures, when thereto particularly requested by the Committees aforesaid.

And it is further Resolved, That no County or Town Committee, within this Province, presume to grant any license or permit for the exportation of any produce, provisions, lumber, or merchandise whatsoever, contrary to the aforesaid General Association; and that a copy of the foregoing Resolves be immediately transmitted to the Printers at *New-York* and *Philadelphia*, to be inserted in the publick papers.

A true copy: WILLIAM PATTERSON, *Secretary*.

R. YATES TO COLONEL SWARTWOUT.

New-York, February 9, 1776.

SIR: You will see by the enclosed resolution that Major-General *Lee*, now at *New-York*, is authorized to call in as many of the Minute-Men of this Colony as he may think necessary.

I am directed by the General to have some regiments of Minute-Men called here immediately. Your regiment is fixed on by the Committee of Safety of this Colony as proper to be called; you are, therefore, on receipt hereof, to march with your regiment to *New-York*, with all possible despatch. Take care that your men have their knapsacks and blankets with them, and provision for their march. The Quartermaster ought, by all means, to come with the regiment.

It is not doubted but you will give orders that your troops observe the greatest regularity in their march, and if you order the several companies to precede each other a few miles in their march, they will be more easily accommodated. Suffer no delay in bringing in your regiment.

I am, respectfully, yours, &c.,

R. YATES, *Chairman*.

To Colonel *Jacobus Swartwout*.

P. S. It is expected that Colonel *Drake* will leave a sufficient guard of his regiment at the cannon beyond *King's Bridge*. He will be a proper judge how many will be necessary for that small service.

*

Goshen, February 9, 1776.

To the Honourable the Provincial Congress, in the City of New-York, *convened:*

Whereas, the County of *Orange* have agreed to raise three companies of men upon the late establishment of the honourable the Continental Congress; and as four battalions are to be raised within this Province, we hope your honourable Body will favour this County with part of the Field-Officers for one of the battalions. If that should be your pleasure, we, the subscribers, take the liberty to recommend for one of the Majors, Mr. *Israel Wells*, a man of good character and estate in said County, and a hearty friend to the liberties of *America*. And are, with great esteem, your obedient, humble servants,

Samuel Jones, *Captain*,	Daniel Everett,
James Sawyer,	Joseph Wood,
Jacob Arnout,	John Denton,
Geo. Thompson, *Captain*,	William Thompson,
Moses Hetfield, *Captain*,	John Wood,
John Jackson, *Captain*,	Jacob Dunning,
	Peter Gale.

To the President of the Provincial Congress, *New-York*.

THOMAS PALMER TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

Newburgh, in Ulster County, February 9, 1776.

Gentlemen: The bearer hereof, Mr. *John Burnett*, being desirous of raising a company in the standing army, to be raised in this Province for the ensuing season; and has applied to us for a recommendation to the honourable House, in order that he may obtain a warrant for inlisting his men. Mr. *Burnett* being a gentleman with whom we are fully acquainted, and knowing him to be well-disposed to the liberties of his country, and otherwise a person under a good character, and having had considerable experience in the service the last war, we, therefore, recommend him for one, as fit a person as we know of, at present, in this County, to have the command of a company; and make no doubt his interest is very good for inlisting men. We must, therefore, beg you will indulge him with a warrant for that purpose.

We are, very respectfully, gentlemen, your most humble servants,

Thomas Palmer.
Samuel Brewster.

To the Honourable the Provincial Congress for the Province of *New-York*.

CONNECTICUT COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

At a meeting of the Governour and Council of Safety, &c., *Friday*, *February* 9, 1776, Present:

His Honour the Governour, *Eliphalet Dyer*, *Jabez Huntington*, *William Williams*, *Nathaniel Wales*, and *Joshua West*, Esquires.

Sundry things about the publick affairs considered, and discoursed, &c. And sundry present from *Stonington*, moving for directions about Fortifications, &c.

Determined the size and dimensions of the Row-Galley at *New-Haven*, and sent by Mr. *Hood*, viz: Keel, sixty feet; beam, eighteen feet; hold, five feet; dead-rising, seven inches.

Colonel *Dyer* and Mr. *Wales* reported the execution of their commission at *New-London*, as appointed 2d instant, &c., and consideration and discourse about the subject-matter, &c.

Saturday, February 10, 1776.

Met again. Present, the same as yesterday.

A long Letter from Colonel *Burrell*, complaining greatly about Mr. *Strong's* appointment to supply his Regiment to *Albany*, &c., was taken up, considered, and a long Letter prepared, and copied, in answer, adhering to the appointment, &c.; and,

P. M. Considered and discoursed about the affair of Fortifications at *New-London* and *Groton*, according to the orders of the General Assembly, and the number of men to be raised at each, and how regulated, &c.

Captain *B. Gollup* came, and moved to have the command at *Groton*, &c. Came to no determination.

Captain *Throop* came for advice, &c., about his affair of his Company for *Canada*, &c.

Adjourned to *Monday* morning next.

Monday, February 12, 1776.

Met according to adjournment. Present:

His Honour the Governour, *Eliphalet Dyer*, *Jabez Huntington*, *William Williams*, *Nathaniel Wales*, and *Joshua West*, Esquires.

Letters received since *Saturday* from General *Washington*, General *Lee*, General *Schuyler*, and number of others, read, &c., &c.

On General *Washington's* pressing request in his Letter for Powder,

Voted and Ordered, That about three tons of that article, lately imported by Mr. *Shaw*, by Captain *Hinman*, into *Dartmouth*, and thence by Governour's &c., order brought to, and lodged at *Providence*, be forthwith sent from said *Providence* to General *Washington*. Three thousand of it to be on account and for Major *Thompson*, a Committee of Supply for *Massachusetts*, with whom said *Shaw* had contracted, and the remainder on our account, suppose three thousand, or better, or more, to be paid for or replaced, as we shall choose.

And Letters wrote to General *Washington*, and said Major *Thompson*.

On motion from General *Lee*, signifying that he is not only admitted into *New-York*, but that they have resolved to take strong possession of the city, &c., to prevent the enemy getting any possession, &c., and requesting Colonel *Ward's* Regiment to be sent back, &c., who had been released on the discouraging prospects at first,

Voted and Ordered, That said Regiment be ordered forthwith to return to *New-York*, and be under the command of said General *Lee*, and that their wages be continued on as if they had not returned, &c.

And the Orders prepared, and a Letter, also, to Colonel *Ward*, informing him the reasons, and enforcing his immediate compliance; and copies also made.

Letter, also, to Captain *Swift*, of the Northern Expedition, confirming ——— *Murry* a Lieutenant, in room of Lieutenant *Grant*, declined.

Letters prepared to General *Washington* about Powder, &c., &c., and enclosing copy of General *Lee's* Letter; and to Major *Thompson*, to whom of part of the Powder belonged, &c.; and copies made, &c.

Letter, also, to General *Lee*, prepared, and many other things.

Mr. *Ellsworth* having been to General *Washington*, by order, &c., to obtain the Money lately paid by our Committee to the soldiers, &c., and not able to get it, is returned and present, and conversed with about it, &c., and being in great want of money, considered what should be done. And advised and directed that the Committee of Pay-Table prepare, soon as may be, the Pay-Rolls of the Troops which they have paid, and he, or some other, repair to the Continental Congress, and apply for a repayment of said sums, &c.; and to have further orders.

And adjourned to to-morrow morning.

Tuesday morning, February 13, 1776.

Met, &c. Present:

His Honour the Governour, Colonel *Eliphalet Dyer*, Colonel *Samuel Huntington*, *William Williams*, *Nathaniel Wales*, and *Joshua West*, Esquires.

Allowed several Accounts of *David Lothrop*, viz:

For going Express to *Stamford*, to stop the Troops, *August*, 1775, - - - - - - -	£2	17	4
October, 1775, going Express to *New-Haven*,	2	1	8
December, 1775, going Express to warn the Assembly, - - - - - - - - - - -	2	11	8
December, 1775, going Express to the Lieutenant-Governour, - - - - - - - - -		11	0
December, 1775, going Express to *Cambridge*, &c., - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	3	9	0
	£11	10	8

And ordered to be drawn for. And done.

Letter prepared and sent to Governour *Cooke*, (by Captain *Clark*,) requesting him to send forward our Powder, &c., to General *Washington*, &c.; and enclosed General *Lee's* Letter. And copied, &c.

And again took into consideration the affair of fortifying *New-London* Harbour, &c., according to the orders of the General Assembly, and what number of Men might be raised and employed to carry on said Works, and for their defence, and necessary Tools and Materials, also, to be provided; and judging it of great importance that Forts be erected at the three places hereafter provided, not only for the defence of *New-London*, but to render said Harbour a place of safety for all friendly shipping of this or any of the *United Colonies*.

It is considered, *Resolved and Ordered*, by this Board, That three Companies of men be raised by voluntary inlistments, to consist of ninety men each Company, including officers, for the term, and until the 1st of *December* next, unless sooner dismissed by the General Assembly or this Board, to be improved and employed as labourers in erecting proper works of defence, under such directions, in such manner as are ordered, or may be ordered and given, at three different places, viz: One at *Groton-Hill*, facing *New-London* Harbour, one at a place called *Winthrop's Point*, or *Neck*; and the other at a place called *Mamacock*, or *Shaw's Point*, both in *New-London*; and, also, as soldiers for the defence of those places and Works, if need be, or such other as shall be necessary in those parts. And, at proper times, at the discretion of their officers, to be exercised in the use of arms, and of cannon, or any other proper military exercises. And that said three Companies be stationed at said three places, viz: That under the command of . . . . . , at *Winthrop's Point*; that under the command of (Captain *Mott*, as p.) at said *Groton Hill*; and that under the command of (Captain *Ely*, as p.) at said *Mamacock*; yet, so as that any party or detachment of either one or more of said Companies, under proper officers, shall be liable, and may be called off from their proper station, to labour, or do any duty, at any or either of said Fortifications and places, as may be judged necessary and expedient, and shall be ordered by the Engineer appointed to direct and superintend all said Works, and to such orders as may be made by this Board and the General Assembly. And that if any of said soldiers shall be deficient in such reasonable labour and duty as shall be required, such deficiency shall be deducted out of his wages.

And it is further provided, That the aforesaid Troops, or three Companies, shall be subject to, and regulated by the rules of an Act of the General Assembly of this Colony, passed in *May*, 1775, entitled, "An Act for Regulating and Ordering the Troops that are, or may be raised for the defence of this Colony," so far as they are capable of being applied to their circumstances and situation.

And it is further Resolved, That said Officers and Soldiers shall be entitled to, and shall have and receive the same Pay and Wages as the officers and soldiers in the Continental Army near *Boston*; and shall be furnished and supplied with good and sufficient rations of Provisions for their support, in the same manner, as near as may be, or equivalent thereto. And the Soldiers shall be allowed one gill of Rum per day, when on labour or fatigue, and three Shillings each for the use of their Blankets. And said Companies shall be furnished by the Colony with such Arms as shall be judged necessary.

And it is further provided and Resolved, That all necessary Timber to be used in and about said Forts, be provided as soon as may be.

That one convenient and suitable Barrack for one Company, shall be built at a proper place for such Company, on *Groton-Hill*. And, on representation by our Committee, that *New-London* are willing their Pest-House, standing near, shall be removed and properly placed to serve as a Barrack for the Company at said *Mamacock*, it is ordered, that the same shall be so removed, placed, and fitted for such Barrack by the Company to be stationed there, or other troops in the Colony service, provided the town of *New-London* make no demand on account of such removal, the property to remain as before.

It is also *Resolved and Ordered*, That three stone Sledges, and three Hammers, thirty Shovels, thirty Spades, ten iron Crow-Bars, twenty Pick-Axes, two Draught-Chains, one long Log-Chain, and one Cart, with two pair of Oxen, be purchased and improved for carrying on the Works aforesaid; and that all said Tools, &c., be properly taken care of and secured, by the Commanding-Officer where they shall be used.

And Colonel *G. Saltonstall* is appointed a Committee to provide necessary timber and materials, according to order, for the Works on *Winthrop's Point*.

Ebenezer Ledyard, Esq., is appointed a Committee to provide timber and necessary materials, according to order, for the Works on *Groton-Hill*. (Copy given.)

Mr. *Nathaniel Shaw*, Jun., is appointed to provide timber and necessary materials, according to order, for the Works at *Mamacock*.

Adjourned to *Friday* morning next.

—

Friday, February 16, A. M., 1776.

Met accordingly. Present:

His Honour the Governour, *Eliphalet Dyer*, Esquire, *Jabez Huntington*, *William Williams*, *Nathaniel Wales*, *Joshua West*, Esquires.

Many Letters, &c., &c.

A pressing request from General *Washington*, by Colonel *Gay*, at the Governour, yesterday, for more Powder, &c., is laid before us and considered, and the circumstances being represented so urgent, &c.,

Voted and agreed, That two tons, of the four lately imported into *New-London* by Mr. *Shaw*, in the *Maccaroni*, be sent to General *Washington*, to be by him replaced as he engages.

(Said Powder is with Colonel *Jabez Huntington*.)

On motion, that Captain *Lester*, builder of a Row-Galley, at *Norwich*, has bought of Constable *Hough* a quantity of Provisions to support his workmen, and *Hough* owing money to the Treasury, &c., and that an order may be given to pay it that way, &c.

(Order given to Colonel *H.*)

Voted, That an Order be given on the Pay-Table for one hundred Pounds, for said *Lester*, so as to be allowed and discounted with said *Hough* by the Treasurer, and accounted for by said *Lester*, on account of building said Galley for the Colony.

Voted, That an Order be drawn in favour of Mr. *David Trumbull*, for one hundred and fifty Pounds, towards fixing the Gun-Barrels brought from *Crown-Point*, &c.

(Order given 17th.)

Voted, That an Order of four hundred and sixty Pounds be drawn on the Pay-Table, out of the Continental Money sent for that purpose, to be improved to pay the advance Wages and Bounty, &c., for Captain *Throop's* Company, going to *Canada*; that Mr. *David Trumbull* receive the same, and pay out according to Proclamation.

(Order given 17th.)

On a representation and request from the authority, &c., of *Fairfield*, by Letters from Colonel *Silliman* and Mr. *Burr*, setting forth their exposed situation, and necessity of defence, &c., and the circumstances of their harbour, the second best in the Colony, &c., and requesting Powder, Cannon and Ball, &c., and at least twenty-five Men to be raised, and sundry things; and in part compliance with their request, on consideration of the case, it is

Voted, allowed, and Ordered, That twenty-five able-bodied, effective Men be raised, by voluntary inlistment, at the discretion of the authority and Selectmen of said Town, under the command of a Lieutenant and two Sergeants, to be improved in erecting works of defence, at such place and manner, in said Town, as the said authority shall direct, and for watching, &c., as shall be necessary, to continue until the first day of *November* next, unless sooner released by the General Assembly or this Board; and to have the same pay and wages as the Army near *Boston*, and to be allowed eight Pence per day for their provision and support during said term; and

Voted, That on sending to General *Washington* the wo tons of Powder, ordered this day, a Letter be written to him, informing of it, &c., and requesting him that four tons, in the whole, be replaced by him, of what he may have coming from *Philadelphia*, or otherwise, viz:

one ton to be lodged at *Fairfield*, one at *New-Haven*, and two tons at *Middletown*, in lieu of so much received from us.

Voted, That thirty stand of Arms, fitted out of the barrels received from *Crown-Point*, be sent to General *Washington*, having been earnestly requested by him, &c.

Voted, That Mr. *Lemuel Bryant*, of *Middleborough*, as a Cannon-Founder, at *Salisbury*, and *David Carver*, *Zebulon White*, and *David Oldman*, in those parts, as Moulders, and that said *Bryant* procure four Moulders for Shot, and he to come by 15th *March*, and the rest by 1st *April*. (And wrote accordingly.)

—

Saturday, February 17, 1776.

Met again, from last night's adjournment. Present, the same as yesterday.

Sheriff *Williams* was here, representing much trouble and difficulty with the Prisoners at *Hartford*, &c., &c., and moves again that an addition be made to the Committee, and *Benjamin Paine*, Esq., and Captain *Jeremiah Wadsworth*, are added to said Committee for taking care of Prisoners, four of said Committee being absent in the Army, and on other publick business.

The subject of the Companies, and Forts, and Proclamation, &c., respecting the *New-London* defence, and the matter and manner discoursed.

Voted, An Order on the Pay-Table for nine Pounds thirteen Shillings and five Pence, for *W. Torrey*, for going with wagon and *Indian* Chiefs, 14th *January* last, to *Cambridge*, as per account allowed, and for six Shillings for *Daniel Throop*, for going to *Windham* with them, &c., and ditto for Captain *Hyde*, two Pounds seven Shillings and nine Pence, for going two journeys to *New-Haven*, &c., about *Salisbury* Furnace, &c. (A very moderate charge.)

Orders given, and sent by *Loomis* this day.

And, also, an Order for *Jude Alden*, for two Pounds five Shillings and two Pence, for use of Horse twice for *John Walker*, Congress Post, and keeping his Horse in his absence, &c. (A high account.)

Order given, sent by *Loomis*.

And appointed Mr. *Edward Mott* to be Captain of the Company to be raised and stationed at *Groton-Hill* and Fort, and Commandant of said Fort.

And appointed Doctor *John Ely*, of *Lyme*, to be Captain of the Company to be raised and stationed at *Mamacock* Fort.

Samuel Mott, Esq., and Mr. *Josiah Waters*, are appointed Engineers, to superintend and direct the building works of defence and Forts ordered to be erected at *New-London* and *Groton*.

(Copy given Mr. *Waters*, 8th *March*.)

Considered, voted, and passed, a Proclamation for raising, and encouraging said three Companies, according to the Resolve and Vote of the 13th instant.

And dismissed, (being near night,) to meet again next *Friday* morning.

—

Friday, February 23, 1776.

Met according to adjournment. Present:

His Honour the Governour, *Eliphalet Dyer*, *Jabez Huntington*, *William Williams*, *Nathaniel Wales*, *Joshua West*, Esquires.

Letter just received by Captain *Clark* from General *Washington*, complaining of the deficiency of Powder.

Major *Smith*, of *Stonington*, present, moving that the *Stonington* Company of forty, for defence of the Harbour and Town, &c., may be augmented, for reasons by him urged, and is considered; and, on consideration,

Voted and Resolved, That the Company of forty men, now stationed at *Stonington*, for defence of the Harbour and Works erected and building there, be augmented by voluntary inlistment, to ninety men, including Officers, to be continued until the 1st *December* next, unless sooner dismissed by the General Assembly or this Board, to be on the same plan, and under the same regulations, as the Companies raising for the defence of *New-London* Harbour, saving that their station is fixed at or near said Fortification, at *Stonington*, till further orders from said Assembly or this Board.

Sundry Letters from sundry persons relating to the publick affairs of the times.

Said *Stonington* Company had been raised by this Board 14th *September* last, (as p.) to consist of fifty men, and afterwards by the Assembly, in *October*, 1775, reduced to forty, is now augmented to ninety, as above, and Major *Oliver Smith* is appointed Captain of said Company, *Nathan Palmer*, Jun., is appointed First Lieutenant of the same, *John Belcher* Second Lieutenant of the same, and *Clement Miner* is appointed Ensign of the same. And said Captain *Smith* is authorized and empowered, by all proper ways, to raise and inlist said Company with all convenient speed, and make return to his Honour the Governour, whois desired to give said Officers proper warrants or commissions.

And *Nathaniel Miner*, Esq., is appointed a Commissary, to provide the proper supplies of Provisions for support of the Company now ordered to be raised, under the command of Captain *Oliver Smith*, to be stationed at *Stonington* Fort, and the Governour is desired to give said *Miner* a proper warrant accordingly. The Provisions to be according to the Regulations of the Army near *Boston*, as mentioned in a Proclamation referred to in the Order for raising said Company.

(Copy given said Major *Smith*.)

Mr. *Simeon Davis* is present, commissioned and authorized by Governour *Cooke* to go to the foreign *West-Indies* for a cargo of Powder, and liberty of taking a cargo from this Colony if he can obtain leave, &c., and urges the necessity of the article, and the probability of success, &c.; and on being asked, &c., this Committee consent to, and advise his Honour to permit him to purchase and ship two thousand pounds Cheese, two thousand pounds Hogs' Lard, sixty barrels of Pork, and thirty barrels of Beef in this Colony, for the purpose aforesaid.

And on consideration of supplying Officers for the Company to be stationed at *Winthrop's Point*, in *New-London:*

Colonel *G. Saltonstall* is appointed Captain of this Company, to be stationed at *Winthrop's Point*, and to raise such Company by inlistment, by all proper ways, as soon as may be, and make return to his Honour the Governour.

And *Ebenezer Ledyard*, Esq., is appointed a Commissary, to make and provide Provisions for the Company to be raised and stationed at *Groton-Hill*, according to the Proclamation for raising them, &c.

And Captain *John Deshon* is appointed a Commissary, to provide for the two Companies to be raised and stationed at *Winthrop's Point* and at *Mamacock*, in *New-London*, according to Proclamation. (Copies sent.)

Took into consideration the affair of appointing Captain and other officers for the Brig *Defence*, now lying at *New-Haven*, and talked largely upon it, and appointed *Seth Harding* to be Captain of said Brig *Defence*, and concluded upon the others almost, but deferred till next day the appointment.

Appointed *Jehiel Tinker*, Captain of the Row-Galley, now building at *East Haddam*. And adjourned until to-morrow morning.

—

Saturday, February 24, 1776.

Met, &c.—Present: His Honour the Governour, *Eliphalet Dyer*, Esquire, *Jabez Huntington*, Esquire, *Nathaniel Wales*, Esquire.

Esquire *West*, and *S . . . .* at *Windham* Court, had agreed to the officers hereafter appointed for the Brig. Appointed *Ebenezer Bartram*, of *Fairfield*, to be First Lieutenant; *James Hopkins*, of *Middletown*, Second Lieutenant; and *John McCleave*, Master of the Brig *Defence*, according to the proposal last night. A letter prepared and sent to Captain *Harding*, informing of his appointment as Captain of said Brig. And, also, to Lieutenants *Bartram* and *Hopkins*, as Lieutenants. And, also, to Captain *McCleave*, informing his appointment as Master of the same.

Captain *Ely* appeared, and accepted the office of Captain of the Company to be raised and stationed at *Mamacock*, and proposed *Martin Kirtland* for First Lieutenant, and *Dan Platt* for Second Lieutenant of said Company, who were appointed.

Captain *Edward Mott* appeared, and accepted of his appointment as Captain of the *Groton* Company. And *Oliver Coit* is appointed First Lieutenant, and *William Latham* Second Lieutenant of said Company, and *William Whiting* Ensign.

Letter sent to Colonel *Easton*. And dismissed.

Tuesday, February 27, 1776.

At a meeting of the Governour and Council of Safety, Present: His Honour the Governour, *Eliphalet Dyer*, *Jabez Huntington*, *Jedediah Elderkin*, *Joshua West*, *Nathaniel Wales*, Jun., *Benjamin Huntington*, Esquires.

Voted, That *Adriel Ely* be, and he is hereby appointed Ensign of the Company under the command of Captain *John Ely*.

Wednesday, February 28, 1776.

At a meeting of the Governour and Council of Safety, Present: His Honour the Governour, and the rest, as yesterday.

Voted, That *Nathaniel Green* and Company, of the Colony of *Rhode-Island*, be permitted to purchase three cargoes of the produce of this Colony, in such proportion (as to particulars) as his Honour the Governour shall direct, in order to be transported to the *West-Indies* to purchase warlike stores, in pursuance of a contract made between the said *Green* and Company and the Committee of Secrecy of the Continental Congress, for the benefit of the *United Colonies*. One of said cargoes to be shipped on board a Brig, in *Norwich*, belonging to some gentlemen in the Colony of *Rhode-Island*. And the other two cargoes to be shipped on bottoms, to be taken up in this Colony.

Voted, That Captain *Ephraim Bill*, be, and he is hereby appointed to repair to *Saybrook*, and there inspect the building the Colony's Ship-of-War at Captain *Hayden's* Yard, and to do whatever is needful to promote the work in the best and most speedy manner. And the Builders, Riggers, Blacksmiths, and Sailmakers, &c., are hereby directed to consult him in their several branches of the work as shall be convenient for the service.

Voted, That this Committee will, at a proper time, take up the matter of the taking of *Ticonderoga*, &c., and come into some measures to represent the same to the Congress, that the persons, to whom reward for their service is due, may be considered; and that the persons who have received money to disburse in that service, shall, in a proper way, be called to account.

N. B. One *Thomas Lurk* was a Captain at *St. John's*, and is to be remembered for reward.

Ordered, That Team and Tools, for the use of the Fortifications at *New-London* and *Groton*, shall be provided by Colonel *Saltonstoll*, Mr. *Nathaniel Shaw*, Jun., and *Ebenezer Ledyard*, Esquire.

His Honour the Governour is desired to write to the northward for as many Gun Barrels as can be obtained, in order for repairs.

ROBERT H. HARRISON TO SPRINGFIELD (MASSACHUSETTS) COMMITTEE.

Cambridge, February 9, 1776.

Gentlemen: I have it in command from his Excellency General *Washington*, to inform you, that on *Tuesday* last he received a petition from the Marines, in *Springfield* Jail, signed by *David Scurrey* and *Patrick Clark*, suggesting the severity of their confinement, without fire, and the want of necessary clothing, at that inclement season. His Excellency doubts not, but you have paid proper attention to their wants, if you have been apprized thereof, and I have only to add, that it is his earnest desire, that the prisoners in our hands should be treated with humanity and kindness, and have every thing, really necessary, for their support. I am, gentlemen, your very humble servant.

To the Committee of *Springfield*.

ROBERT H. HARRISON TO LEVI ALLEN.

Cambridge, February 9, 1776.

Sir: I have it in command from his Excellency, to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 27th ultimo. There is little doubt but that Colonel *Allen* has been sent to *England*. The General has inquired of General *Howe* about him, but received for answer, that his command did not extend to *Quebeck*, and that he knew nothing of your brother. As to your going to *England* after him, his Excellency cannot give you any opinion thereon; he cannot think there would be even a probability of success in your scheme; it would be running yourself in danger, without a prospect of rendering service to your brother. I am, &c.

To Mr. *Levi Allen*.

ROBERT H. HARRISON TO GEORGE GREGORY.

Cambridge, February 9, 1776.

Sir: Your letter to his Excellency, of the 31st ultimo, is come to hand. I have it in command from him to inform you, that he has laid it down as an invariable rule (for the present) not to grant liberty to any prisoners of war, to remove from the place to which they are, by their parole, confined; the many applications to the General were become troublesome, he was, therefore, necessitated to come to this resolution. If the gentlemen, whom the fortune of war has placed in our hands, will compare their situation with that of those of ours who have been made prisoners, they will not think their case very hard; they are not confined in a loathsome prison, nor are they sent in irons to a distant part. His Excellency is sorry that any gentlemen should suffer in his private affairs, but the fortune of war must be submitted to. I am, sir, &c.

To *George Gregory*, Esq.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read February 22, 1776.]

Cambridge, February 9, 1776.

Sir: In compliance with the resolves of Congress, I have applied to General *Howe* for the exchange of Mr. *Lovell*; a copy of my letter and his answer thereto you have enclosed.

Captain *Waters*, and Captain *Tucker*, who command two of the armed schooners, have taken and sent into *Gloucester* a large brigantine laden with wood, one hundred and fifty butts for water, and forty suits of bedding, bound from *La Have*, in *Nova-Scotia*, for *Boston*. She is one of the transports in the Ministerial service; the Captain says that he was at *Holifax* the 17th *January*, and that General *Massey* was arrived there with two regiments from *Ireland*.

The different prizes were all libelled immediately on receipt of the resolves of Congress, pointing out the mode, but none of them yet brought to trial, owing to a difference between the law passed in this Province and the resolutions of Congress. The General Court are making an amendment to their law, by which the difficulties that now occur will be removed, as I understand it is to be made comformable to your resolves. The unavoidable delay attending the bringing the captures to trial is grievously complained of by the masters of these vessels, as well as the captors; many of the former have applied for liberty to go away, without waiting the decision, which I have granted to them.

I beg leave to recall the attention of Congress to their appointing a Commissary in these parts, to attend the providing of necessaries for the prisoners who are dispersed in these Provinces. Complaints are made by some of them, that they are in want of bedding, and many other things. As I understand that Mr. *Franks* has undertaken that business, I wish he was ordered to send a Deputy immediately, to see that the prisoners get what is allowed them by Congress; also, to supply the officers with money, as they may have occasion; it will save me much time, and much trouble. There are yet but few companies of the Militia come in; this delay will, I am much afraid, frustrate the intention of their being called upon, as the season is slipping fast away when they may be of service.

The demands of the Army were so very pressing before your last remittance came to hand, that I was under the necessity of borrowing twenty-five thousand pounds, lawful money, from this Province; they very cheerfully lent it, and passed a vote for as much more, if required. I have not repaid the sum borrowed, as I may stand in need of it before the arrival of another supply, which the demands of the

Commissary-General, Quartermaster-General, and paying off the arrearages, will very soon require.

Your esteemed favour of the 29th ultimo, is just come to hand; it makes me very happy to find my conduct hath met the approbation of Congress. I am entirely of your opinion, that should an accommodation take place, the terms will be severe or favourable, in proportion to our ability to resist; and that we ought to be on a respectable footing to receive their armaments in the Spring; but how far we shall be provided with the means, is a matter I profess not to know, under my present unhappy want of arms, ammunition, and I may add, men, as our regiments are very incomplete. The recruiting goes on very slow, and will, I apprehend, be more so, if for other service the men receive a bounty, and none is given here.

I have tried every method I could think of to procure arms for our men; they really are not to be had in these Governments, belonging to the publick; and if some method is not fallen upon in the Southern Governments to supply us, we shall be in a distressed situation for want of them. There are near two thousand men now in camp without firelocks. I have wrote to the Committee of *New-York* this day, requesting them to send me those arms which were taken from the disaffected in that Government. The Congress interesting themselves in this request, will doubtless have a good effect. I have sent officers into the country with money to purchase arms in the different towns; some have returned, and brought in a few, many are still out; what their success will be I cannot determine.

I was in great hopes that the expresses resolved to be established between this place and *Philadelphia*, would ere now have been fixed; it would in my opinion rather save than increase the expense, as many horses are destroyed by one man coming the whole way. It will certainly be more expeditious, and safer than writing by the post, or private hands, which I am often under the necessity of doing.

I am, with great respect, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq.

Cambridge, January 30, 1776.

SIR: I have it in command from the honourable Continental Congress, to propose an exchange of Governour *Skene* for Mr. *James Lovell*, and family. If the proposition is agreeable, you will please to signify as much to me, and Mr. *Lovell*, that he may prepare for his removal, whilst I cause Mr. *Skene* to be brought to this place.

I am, sir, your most humble servant,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To General *Howe*.

Boston, February 2, 1776.

SIR: In answer to your letter of the 30th ultimo, which was delivered with the seal broken, I am to acquaint you, that having lately discovered a prohibited correspondence to be carried on by Mr. *James Lovell*, the liberty, which I fully intended to have given him, cannot take place.

I am, sir, your most humble servant,

W. HOWE.

To *George Washington*, Esq.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read February 22.—Referred to a Committee of the Whole.]

Cambridge, February 9, 1776.

SIR: The purport of this letter will be directed to a single object. Through you I mean to lay it before Congress, and at the same time that I beg their serious attention to the subject, to ask pardon for intruding an opinion, not only unasked, but in some measure repugnant to their resolves. The disadvantages attending the limited inlistment of troops is too apparent to those who are eye-witnesses of them, to render any animadversions necessary; but to gentlemen at a distance, whose attention is engrossed by a thousand important objects, the case may be otherwise. That this cause precipitated the fate of the brave and much to be lamented General *Montgomery*, and brought on the defeat which followed thereupon, I have not the most distant doubt of, for had he not been apprehensive of the troops leaving him at so important a crisis, but continued the blockade of *Quebeck*, a capitulation, from the best account I have been able to collect, must inevitably have followed; and that we were not obliged at one time to dispute these lines, under disadvantageous circumstances, (proceeding from the same cause, to wit: the troops disbanding of themselves before the Militia could be got in,) is to me a matter of wonder and astonishment, and proves that General *Howe* was either unacquainted with our situation, or restrained by his instructions from putting any thing to a hazard till his reinforcements should arrive. The instance of General *Montgomery*, I mention it because it is a striking one—for a number of others might be adduced—proves that instead of having men to take advantage of circumstances, you are in a manner compelled, right or wrong, to make circumstances yield to a secondary consideration.

Since the 1st of *December*, I have been devising every means in my power to secure these encampments, and though I am sensible that we never have, since that period, been able to act upon the offensive, and at times not in a condition to defend, yet the cost of marching home one set of men, bringing in another, the havock and waste occasioned by the first, the repairs necessary for the second, with a thousand incidental charges and inconveniences which have arisen, and which it is scarce possible either to recollect or describe, amounts to near as much as the keeping up a respectable body of troops the whole time, ready for any emergency, would have done. To this may be added that you never can have a well disciplined army. To bring men well acquainted with the duties of a soldier, requires time; to bring them under proper discipline and subordination, not only requires time, but is a work of great difficulty, and in this Army, where there is so little distinction between the officers and soldiers, requires an uncommon degree of attention. To expect then, the same service from raw and undisciplined recruits, as from veteran soldiers, is to expect what never did, and perhaps never will happen; men who are familiarized to danger meet it without shrinking; whereas, those who have never seen service often apprehend danger where no danger is. Three things prompt men to a regular discharge of their duty in time of action: natural bravery, hope of reward, and fear of punishment; the two first are common to the untutored and disciplined soldier, but the latter most obviously distinguishes the one from the other. A coward, when taught to believe that if he breaks his ranks, and abandons his colours, will be punished with death by his own party, will take his chance against the enemy; but the man who thinks little of the one, and is fearful of the other, acts from present feelings, regardless of consequences. Again, men of a day's standing will not look forward; and from experience we find, that as the time approaches for their discharge, they grow careless of their arms, ammunition, camp utensils, &c., nay, even the barracks themselves have felt uncommon marks of wanton depredation, and lays us under fresh trouble and additional expense, in providing for every fresh set, when we find it next to impossible to procure such articles as are absolutely necessary in the first instance. To this may be added the seasoning which new recruits must have to a camp, and the loss consequent thereupon. But this is not all; men engaged for a short, limited time only, have the officers too much in their power; for, to obtain a degree of popularity, in order to induce a second inlistment, a kind of familiarity takes place, which brings on a relaxation of discipline, unlicensed furloughs, and other indulgences, incompatible with order and good government, by which means the latter part of the time for which the soldier was engaged is spent in undoing what you were aiming to inculcate in the first.

To go into an enumeration of all the evils we have experienced in this late great change of the Army, and the expense incidental to it, to say nothing of the hazard we have run, and must run, between the discharging of one army and inlistment of another, (unless an enormous expense of Militia is incurred,) would greatly exceed the bounds of a letter.

What I have already taken the liberty of saying, will serve to convey a general idea of the matter, and, therefore, I shall, with all due deference, take the freedom to give it as my opinion, that if the Congress have any rea-

son to believe that there will be occasion for troops another year, and, consequently, of another inlistment, they would save money, and have infinitely better troops if they were, even at a bounty of twenty, thirty, or more dollars, to engage the men already inlisted, (till *January* next,) and such others as may be wanted to complete to the establishment, for and during the war. I will not undertake to say that the men can be had upon these terms, but I am satisfied that it will never do to let the matter alone as it was last year, till the time of service was near expiring. The hazard is too great in the first place; in the next, the trouble and perplexity of disbanding one army, and raising another at the same instant, and in such a critical situation as the last was, is scarcely in the power of words to describe, and such as no man, who has experienced it once, will ever undergo again. If Congress should differ from me in sentiment upon this point, I have only to beg that they will do me the justice to believe, that I have nothing more in view than what to me appears necessary to advance the publick weal, although, in the first instance, it will be attended with a capital expense, and that I have the honour to be, with all due deference and respect, their and your most obedient and faithful, humble servant,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq., &c.

General Return of the Army of the UNITED COLONIES, *commanded by His Excellency* GEORGE WASHINGTON, *Esq., General and Commander-in-chief, Head-Quarters at* CAMBRIDGE, FEBRUARY 4, 1776.

REGIMENTS.	OFFICERS PRESENT.												RANK AND FILE.							Wanting to complete.		Since last Return.			
	Commissioned.						Staff.				Non-commissioned.														
	Colonels.	Lieut. Colonels.	Majors.	Captains.	Lieutenants.	Ensigns.	Chaplains.	Adjutants.	Quartermasters.	Surgeons.	Mates.	Sergeants.	Drums and Fifes.	Present, fit for duty.	Sick, present.	Sick, absent.	On Command.	On Furlough.	Inlisted, and not joined.	Total.	Sergeants.	Drums and Fifes.	Privates.	Inlisted.	Dead.	Discharged.	Deserted.
1. Riflemen	1	1	1	8	27	–	1	1	1	1	1	36	10	512	84	41	48	2	–	687	–	–	–	–	1	2	–
2. Colonel Reed's	1	–	–	7	13	7	–	1	1	1	1	25	13	297	46	3	11	1	–	358	–	–	282	–	1	–	1
3. Colonel Learned's	1	1	1	8	16	8	1	1	1	1	1	29	15	368	67	17	44	–	–	496	–	–	144	–	2	–	4
4. Colonel Nixon's	1	1	1	5	11	6	1	1	1	1	1	27	13	289	42	10	59	7	–	407	–	–	233	–	–	–	12
5. Colonel Stark's	1	1	1	6	9	6	–	1	1	1	1	14	10	258	33	6	79	4	–	380	–	–	260	–	–	–	–
6. Colonel Whitcomb's	1	–	1	7	13	7	–	1	1	1	1	21	11	301	34	4	12	4	23	378	–	–	262	–	–	3	5
7. Colonel Prescott's	1	1	1	6	14	7	–	1	1	1	1	24	11	285	40	15	19	12	–	371	–	–	269	–	1	–	3
8. Colonel Poor's	1	1	–	7	16	7	–	1	1	1	1	20	13	386	48	7	40	8	–	489	–	–	151	–	–	–	5
9. Colonel Varnum's	1	–	1	6	9	4	1	1	1	1	1	23	16	237	32	4	54	3	22	352	–	–	288	–	–	–	1
10. Colonel Parsons's	1	1	1	5	15	6	1	1	1	1	1	30	15	378	51	11	17	–	34	491	–	–	149	–	–	–	2
11. Colonel Hitchcock's	1	1	1	4	10	7	–	1	1	1	1	20	13	267	30	3	14	–	8	322	–	–	318	–	–	1	1
12. Colonel Little's	1	1	1	6	14	6	–	1	1	1	1	28	12	354	35	16	51	5	9	470	–	–	170	–	–	–	1
13. Colonel Read's	1	1	1	8	15	8	–	1	1	–	1	28	14	417	45	10	37	4	26	539	–	–	101	–	1	–	1
14. Colonel Glover's	1	1	1	8	16	8	1	1	1	1	1	–	–	–	–	–	218	–	–	218	–	–	422	–	–	–	–
15. Colonel Patterson's	1	1	1	6	11	6	1	1	1	1	–	19	14	297	47	5	4	18	20	391	–	–	249	–	–	–	3
16. Colonel Sargent's	1	1	1	6	9	6	1	1	1	1	–	14	18	232	59	11	100	3	–	405	–	–	235	–	2	1	1
17. Colonel Huntingdon's	1	1	–	6	12	7	1	1	1	–	1	26	13	276	52	–	119	2	50	499	–	–	141	–	–	–	–
18. Colonel Phinney's	1	1	–	8	12	8	1	1	1	1	1	23	14	251	55	11	13	–	–	330	–	–	310	–	–	–	1
19. Colonel Webb's	1	–	1	6	14	7	–	1	1	–	1	29	11	412	42	7	27	6	23	517	–	–	123	–	3	–	3
20. Colonel Arnold's	–	1	–	6	10	8	1	1	1	1	1	29	11	293	22	15	49	3	–	382	–	–	258	–	1	–	–
21. Colonel Ward's	1	1	–	7	16	7	1	1	1	1	1	25	13	418	48	5	3	–	–	474	–	–	166	–	–	–	8
22. Colonel Wyllys's	1	1	–	5	13	6	–	1	1	1	1	25	15	327	54	4	53	5	40	483	–	–	157	–	1	–	–
23. Colonel Bailey's	1	1	1	8	16	8	1	1	1	1	1	31	15	435	41	16	43	1	9	545	–	–	95	–	2	–	–
24. Colonel Greaton's	1	1	1	8	10	5	–	1	1	1	1	21	14	285	42	7	11	9	–	354	–	–	286	–	–	–	–
25. Colonel Bond's	1	1	–	6	10	7	1	1	1	1	1	21	14	364	27	16	32	1	14	454	–	–	186	–	–	–	6
26. Colonel Baldwin's	1	–	1	8	16	7	–	1	1	1	1	30	14	425	41	6	3	–	–	475	–	–	165	–	–	–	6
27. Colonel Hutchinson's	1	1	–	6	13	8	–	1	1	1	1	27	15	499	36	20	73	1	–	629	–	–	11	–	1	–	2
Total	26	22	18	177	360	177	13	27	27	24	25	645	347	8,863	1,153	270	1,233	99	278	11,896	–	–	5,431	–	16	7	66

HORATIO GATES, *Adjutant-General.*

Return of the Regiment of Artillery in the service of the UNITED COLONIES, *commanded by* HENRY KNOX, *Esq.*, FEBRUARY 4, 1776.

	Colonel.	Lieutenant-Colonels.	Major.	Captains.	Captain-Lieutenants.	First Lieutenants.	Second Lieutenants.	Adjutant.	Quartermaster.	Surgeon.	Mate.	Sergeants.	Corporals.	Bombardiers.	Gunners.	Drums and Fifes.	Matrosses.	Total.
Present, fit for duty	1	2	1	11	12	11	22	1	1	1	1	25	26	42	36	16	338	547
Sick, present	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	2	-	20	25
Sick, absent	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	5	8
On command	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	2	-	1	12	20
On furlough	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	4
Total	1	2	1	12	12	12	24	1	1	1	1	29	27	46	38	17	379	604

HORATIO GATES, *Adjutant-General.*

GENERAL ORDERS.

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, February 1, 1776.

(Parole, *Richmond.*) (Countersign, *Doncaster.*)

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, February 2, 1776.

(Parole, *Winchester.*) (Countersign, *Stamford.*)

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, February 3, 1776.

(Parole, *Chelsea.*) (Countersign, *Cork.*)

Lieutenant *Dustin*, of Captain *Farrington's* Company, in the Sixteenth Regiment of Foot, tried at a General Court-Martial, whereof Colonel *Patterson* was President, for cowardice, on the 7th *January* last, when on command with a detachment sent towards *Bunker's Hill*, is unanimously acquitted, with honour, by the Court. The General approves of the proceedings, and orders Lieutenant *Dustin* to be released from his arrest.

The General Court-Martial, whereof Colonel *Patterson* was President, is dissolved.

All arms purchased by the Officers sent upon that duty are to be first delivered to Mr. Commissary *Cheever*, for inspection, who is to report their number and goodness to the General, before they are delivered out of his store.

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, February 4, 1776.

(Parole, *Cumberland.*) (Countersign, *York.*)

The Colonel of each Regiment to make a return on *Tuesday*, at Orderly time, of the number of arms wanting to complete the men now in his Regiment, and to signify the method which appears to him most likely to procure them.

General *Putnam*, General *Sullivan*, and General *Greene*, with the Colonels of their Brigades, to attend at Head-Quarters to-morrow, in the forenoon, to receive commissions for their Officers.

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, February 5, 1776.

(Parole, *Newport.*) (Countersign, *Cooke.*)

The Colonels upon the old establishment will, this day and to-morrow, receive the warrants for their pay abstracts,

for the months of *November* and *December*, of which all persons concerned are to take notice, and govern themselves accordingly.

For the future, when a warrant is granted, and paid for any sum on account of pay of the Regiments or Corps, to any of the commanding officers thereof, there will be no allowance afterwards for any neglect or supposed mistake. It is the duty of every Colonel and Captain to be exact in their abstracts and returns, and the consequences of being otherwise must fall upon themselves.

—

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, February 6, 1776.

(Parole, *Greenwich.*) (Countersign, *Kent.*)

The Court of Inquiry, whereof General *Greene* was President, appointed to inquire into the complaint of Colonel *Hobart*, Paymaster-General of the *New-Hampshire* forces, against Colonel *Stark:* The Court have reported the state of the evidences given in before them, by which it appears that Colonel *Hobart's* complaints were well-founded. All further proceedings are suspended, Colonel *Stark* having made such acknowledgments to the injured parties, as will, in all probability, be accepted as satisfactory.

The Colonel, or officer commanding each Regiment, is to examine minutely into the quantity and condition of their ammunition, and make report of the average number of rounds they are possessed of, to their respective Brigadiers, without delay, and immediately thereupon the Brigadiers are to lay this, their report, before the General.

The Armourers are required to be very exact and diligent at their business. If they are known to do work for any others than those of the Army, they will be brought to the severest punishment; or, if they presume to charge a soldier for any repair done to his arms, they will also be called to a strict account.

An exact report to be made of all the cartridges in the different Magazines. Those now employed in making cartridges are to be constant and diligent at their work.

The arms which have been delivered out of the publick stores are not to be put in the hands of commissioned officers. The Colonels of the several Regiments are to be answerable that this order is duly attended to.

—

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, February 7, 1776.

(Parole, *Coventry.*) (Countersign, *Beverly.*)

The Continental Congress having been pleased to order and direct that there shall be one Chaplain to two Regiments, and that the pay of each Chaplain shall be thirty-three dollars and one-third per calendar month, the Reverend *Abiel Leonard* is appointed Chaplain to the Regiment of Artillery, under the command of Colonel *Knox*, and to the Twentieth Regiment, at present commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel *Durkee*.

As there can be but fourteen Chaplains, under this establishment, to the twenty-eight Regiments, (including the Artillery and Rifle Regiments,) and as preference will be given to those Chaplains who served last year, provided their conduct and attendance have been unexceptionable, the Brigadiers are to inquire into this matter, and, with the Colonels and commanding officers of the several Regiments, arrange them agreeable to the above direction, and make report thereof, that orders may issue accordingly.

The commanding officers of the Regiments upon the new establishment are, each of them, to apply to Commissary *Cheever*, to-morrow morning, for one barrel of powder, with a proportionable quantity of ball and cartridge-paper, which they are to order to be immediately made up in cartridges, and put up in a proper manner, according to the directions Commissary *Cheever* will give. This ammunition the commanding officers are to keep in a safe place, under their immediate care, to be ready to be delivered when occasion may call for its being distributed.

A General Court-Martial to sit to-morrow morning, in *Cambridge*, to try such prisoners as shall be brought before them. All evidences, and persons concerned, to attend the Court. The Court to assemble at Mr. *Pomeroy's*, at ten in the forenoon.

—

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, February 8, 1776.

(Parole, *St. Eustatia.*) (Countersign, *Mason.*)

ADDRESS OF THE MAGISTRATES, ETC., OF SANQUHAR.

To the King's Most Excellent Majesty.

The humble Address of the Magistrates, Common Council, Burgesses, and Inhabitants of the Town and Burgh of SANQUHAR.

MOST GRACIOUS SOVEREIGN: We, your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Magistrates, Common Council, Burgesses, and Inhabitants of the Town and Burgh of *Sanquhar*, beg leave, on the present critical and important conjuncture, to address the Throne, with hearts deeply sensible of the many invaluable blessings we enjoy as *British* subjects, and to assure your Majesty of our inviolable attachment to your sacred person and Government.

Convinced that the dignity of the Crown, and the strength and prosperity of the *British* Empire must depend on the firm and vigorous maintenance of the constitutional authority of Parliament over every part of your Majesty's dominions on the part of Administration, and a respectful and universal subordination on the part of the subject, we cannot behold, without the warmest indignation and regret, that spirit of independence and unjustifiable opposition to the supreme power of the *British* Legislature, which hath for some time prevailed amongst a considerable number of your Majesty's subjects in *America*, and which at last hath broke out into open acts of hostility and rebellion; a spirit which, if not timeously and effectually checked, bids fair to unhinge our excellent Constitution, and to prove fatal to the commercial interests of these Kingdoms.

We abhor the seditious principles of the authors and abetters of this unnatural rebellion. We detest their views, and the execrable measures they are pursuing to accomplish them. We are shocked at the shameful prostitution of the sacred names of religion and liberty for purposes evidently subversive of both. We commiserate the unhappy situation of the deluded multitude, whose allegiance and attachment to Government have been industriously debauched by designing and desperate men. We sympathize with our amiable Sovereign, whose paternal heart must bleed over his froward and obstinately disobedient children. We feel for our country, and dread the consequences to our posterity. It is our ardent wish, therefore, that the melancholy breach may be speedily closed, and that publick tranquillity, union, and mutual confidence, in every part of your Majesty's dominions, may be soon established on the lasting foundations of justice and sound policy.

We cheerfully confide in your Royal wisdom, and in the wisdom of Parliament, that every necessary and constitutional measure will be concerted and vigorously executed for effectuating these important ends; and we are proud on this occasion to join the rest of our loyal fellow-subjects in assuring your Majesty that we are heartily disposed to stand by our Sovereign and the Constitution, with our lives and fortunes, in opposition to all the machinations and treasonable practices of rebellious subjects, as well as the attempts of foreign foes.

That Almighty *God* may long preserve your Majesty's sacred life for a blessing to these lands; and that the descendants of the same Royal family, which at present fills the Throne with so much dignity, may sway the *British* sceptre over a free, a united, a loyal and virtuous people, to latest posterity, is the ardent prayer of

Signed at *Sanquhar*, upon the 10th day of *February*, 1776, by

ROBERT WHIGHAM, *Provost.*
JAMES CRICHTON, *Dean of Guild.*
JOHN LORIMER,
EDW'D WITHERINGTON, } *Baillies.*
WILLIAM JOHNSTON,
JOHN MAXWELL, *Treasurer.*
JOHN THOMSON, *Minister.*

—

NORTH-CAROLINA, ss.

By His Excellency JOSIAH MARTIN, *His Majesty's Captain-General, Governour, and Commander-in-chief, in and over the said Province.*

A PROCLAMATION.

Whereas a most daring, horrid, and unnatural Rebellion has been exerted in the Province against His Majesty's Government, by the base and insidious artifice of certain

traitorous, wicked, and designing men, and the same is now openly avowed and declared, and actually threatens the sole subversion of the laws and Constitution of the said Province, and the liberties and privileges of His Majesty's subjects, inhabitants thereof, I have thought fit to issue this Proclamation, hereby to signify to all His Majesty's liege subjects within this Province, that I find it necessary, for the safety and preservation of the rights, civil and religious, and for the maintenance of His Majesty's Government against the said desperate, unnatural Rebellion, to erect His Majesty's Royal standard, and to collect and unite the force of His Majesty's people under the same, for the purpose of resisting and subduing, with the assistance of the Almighty, the said impious and unnatural Rebellion, and to restore the just rights of His Majesty's Crown and Government, and the liberties of his people; and I do, hereby, exhort, require, and command, in the King's name, all His Majesty's faithful subjects, on their duty and allegiance, forthwith to repair to the Royal standard, hereby promising and assuring every aid, encouragement, and support to all such as shall come to vindicate and support the violated laws and Constitution of their country; at the same time pronouncing all such Rebels as will not join the Royal banner, Rebels and Traitors; their lives and properties to be forfeited. All such as will join shall be forgiven any past offences, even admitting they had taken up arms, not doubting that every man who knows the value of freedom and the blessings of a *British* subject, will join his heart and hand to restore to his country that most glorious, free, and happy Constitution and form of Government, which the most desperate and abandoned Traitors only can wish to disturb or alter; or, in times of danger, like the present, forbear to hazard every thing that is dear to support it.

Given under my hand and seal-at-arms, on board His Majesty's Sloop *Scorpion*, in *Cape-Fear River*, this 10th day of *January*, 1776, and in the sixteenth year of His Majesty's reign.

JOSIAH MARTIN.

God save the King.

His Excellency JOSIAH MARTIN, *&c., &c., &c.*

To *Allen McDonald, Donald McDonald, Alexander McLeod, Donald McLeod, Alexander McLean, Allen Stewart, William Campbell, Alexander McDonald,* and *Neal McArthur,* Esquires, of the County of *Cumberland* and *Anson; John Pile,* Esquire, of the County of *Chatham; William Fields, James Hunter, Robert Fields, Jeremiah Fields,* and *Saymore York,* Esquires, of the County of *Guilford; Michael Holt* and *James Munroe,* Esquires, of the County of *Orange; Paul Barringer,* of the County of *Mecklenburgh; William Spurgian, William Bryan, Samuel Bryan,* and *Matthias Sappingfield,* Esquires, of the County of *Rowan; Gideon Wright* and *James Glyn,* Esquires, of the County of *Surry;* and *Philemon Hawkins,* Sen., and *Philemon Hawkins,* Jun., Esquires, of the County of *Bute, Greeting:*

I, reposing especial trust and confidence in your loyalty, courage, prudence, and fidelity, do, by virtue of the powers and authorities in me vested by His Majesty, hereby commissionate, authorize and empower you, whose names are above written, and each and every of you, to erect the King's standard, and to raise, levy, muster, and array in arms, all His Majesty's loyal and faithful subjects within your respective Counties, or in any part or parts of this Province, who are willing and ready to repair to the Royal banner, for the support of the laws and Constitution thereof, against the most horrid and unnatural rebellion that has been excited therein by traitorous, wicked, and designing men, and now threatens the subversion of His Majesty's Government, and the utter destruction of the rights and liberties of His Majesty's people. And I hereby give and grant to you power and authority to form the forces you shall so raise, into companies of fifty men each, and to appoint one Captain, one Lieutenant, and one Ensign, to every company so formed, whose appointment, as well as this commission, shall be good, valid and effectual, during my pleasure; and I do, hereby, give to you, and every of you, full power and authority to seize and take whatsoever may be necessary of arms, ammunition, provisions, horses, and carriages, for the subsistence and accommodation of His Majesty's faithful subjects, whom you shall assemble in arms for the purpose aforesaid, you giving receipts for the same, or keeping account thereof, that satisfaction may be made to the owner or owners, if they are not engaged in rebellion. And I do, hereby, give to each and every of you, all power and authority to resist and oppose all Rebels and Traitors against His Majesty and his Government by force and arms, and to apprehend, seize, and detain them, their accomplices and abetters; and you are hereby required immediately, and with all possible secrecy, to concert a place of general rendezvous for your forces, thence to march in a body, by such route as you shall judge proper, to *Brunswick,* so ordering your movements that you may reach that town on the 15th of *February,* next ensuing, making prisoners in your way all such persons as you know to be principals or active in rebellion, taking all possible care that women and children are unmolested; that no cruelty, whatever, be committed to sully the arms and honour of *Britons* and freemen, employed in the glorious and righteous cause of rescuing and delivering their country from the usurpation of rebellion, and that no violence be done against the laws of humanity but what resistance shall make necessary, to the end that the people who have been deluded into rebellion may be made sensible it is His Majesty's most gracious and Royal intention, and my earnest desire, to reclaim them to a proper sense of their duty and obedience to lawful Government, without involving the country in the horrors of war, if, by timely and dutiful submission, they make such extremities avoidable.

And whereas, there may be many of His Majesty's faithful subjects in this Province, whose merits and influence may qualify them to take part in the execution of this Commission, whom I have omitted for want of knowledge of them, and their principles and their good disposition, I do, hereby, give full power and authority to you who are herein named, to join with you in the execution of the powers granted by this Commission, every such person or persons as you shall deem worthy of such high trust and confidence, hereby declaring that each and every such person as you shall think fit to join with you in the execution of these presents, shall have equal power and authority as if they were herein particularly named, in pursuance of the trust reposed in you.

Given under my hand and seal-at-arms, on board His Majesty's Sloop *Scorpion*, in *Cape-Fear River*, this 10th day of *January*, 1776, and in the sixteenth year of His Majesty's reign.

JOSIAH MARTIN.

Rowan County, ss.

This day came *John Reynolds* before me, one of His Majesty's Justices assigned to keep the peace for said County, and being duly sworn, made oath, that he, this deponent, heard papers read in the camp of *William Fields,* to be of the same import, and, to the best of his knowledge, in the same words of the within; and that he heard, from the officers and men, declared free plunder wherever they went.

JOHN REYNOLDS.

Sworn to before me, this 10th day of *Febuary,* 1776.

JOHN OLIPHANT.

By His Excellency Brigadier-General DONALD MCDONALD, *Commander of His Majesty's Forces for the time being, in* NORTH-CAROLINA:

A MANIFESTO.

Whereas, I have received information that many of His Majesty's faithful subjects have been so far overcome by apprehensions of danger, as to fly before His Majesty's Army as from the most inveterate enemy; to remove which, as far as lies in my power, I have thought it proper to publish this Manifesto, declaring that I shall take the proper steps to prevent any injury being done, either to the person or properties of His Majesty's subjects; and I do further declare it to be my determined resolution, that no violence shall be used to women and children, as viewing such outrages to be inconsistent with humanity, and as tending, in their consequences, to sully the arms of *Britons* and of soldiers.

I, therefore, in His Majesty's name, generally invite every well-wisher to that form of Government under which they have so happily lived, and which, if justly considered, ought to be esteemed the best birth-right of *Britons* and *Americans*, to repair to His Majesty's Royal standard, erected at *Cross-Creek*, where they will meet with every possible civility, and be ranked in the list of friends and fellow-soldiers, engaged in the best and most glorious of all causes, supporting the rights and Constitution of their country. Those, therefore, who have been under the unhappy necessity of submitting to the mandates of Congress and Committees—those lawless, usurped, and arbitrary tribunals—will have an opportunity, (by joining the King's Army,) to restore peace and tranquillity to this distracted land—to open again the glorious streams of commerce—to partake of the blessings inseparable from a regular administration of justice, and be again reinstated in the favourable opinion of their Sovereign.

DONALD McDONALD.*

By His Excellency's command:

KENN. McDONALD, *P. S.*

—

By His Excellency Brigadier-General DONALD McDONALD, *of His Majesty's Forces, for the time being, in* NORTH-CAROLINA:

A MANIFESTO.

Whereas, powers and authority have been invested in me, to array in arms His Majesty's loyal subjects in this Province, I hereby command all His Majesty's loyal people to repair to the Royal banner, agreeable to the Governour's Royal Proclamation of date the 10th day of *January* last. I do hereby declare it is my intention, that no violation whatever shall be offered to women, children, or private property, to sully the arms of *Britons* or freemen, employed in the glorious and righteous cause of rescuing and delivering this country from the usurpation of rebellion, and that no cruelty whatever be offered against the laws of humanity, but what resistance shall make necessary; and that whatever provisions and other necessaries be taken for the troops, shall be paid for immediately; and in case any person, or persons, shall offer the least violence to the families of such as will join the Royal standard, such person, or persons, may depend that retaliation will be made; the horrors of such proceedings, it is hoped, will be avoided by all true Christians.

Given under my hand and seal, this fifth day of *February*, 1776.

DONALD McDONALD.

—

Rowan County:

This day came *John Reynolds* before me, one of His Majesty's Justices assigned to keep the peace for said County, and being duly sworn upon the Holy Evangelists of Almighty *God*, made oath, that on *Tuesday* last, in *Fields's* Camp, at *Dillos*, he, this deponent, heard *William Spurgian* read a paper of the same purport, and, to the best of his knowledge, in the same words, of the within written.

JOHN REYNOLDS.

Sworn and signed, this 10th day of *February*, *Anno Domini* 1776, before me. JOHN OLIPHANT.

* Brigadier-General *Donald McDonald* was in rebellion in the year 1745, against his lawful sovereign, and headed many of the same clan and name, who are now his followers. These emigrants, from the charity and benevolence of the Assembly of *North-Carolina*, received large pecuniary contributions, and, to encourage them in making their settlements, were exempted from the payment of taxes for several years. It is a fact, that numbers of that ungrateful people, who have been lately in arms, when they arrived in *Carolina*, were without the necessaries of life—their passage even paid by the charitable contributions of the inhabitants. They have since, under every encouragement that the Province of *North-Carolina* could afford them, acquired fortunes very rapidly, and thus they requite their benefactors.— *Va. Gaz.*

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO CAPTAIN NATHANIEL RAMSAY.

[No. 11.] Annapolis, February 10, 1776.

SIR: We are advised by a letter, which Mr. *Chase* favoured us with from *Charlestown*, the 2d instant, that you can procure about the quantity of one hundred and forty yards of country cloth at about eight shillings per yard; and linen, (country made,) from two shillings and four pence to two shillings and eight pence, fit and proper for hunting-shirts, sufficient for your company. The cloth we request you will immediately purchase for the use of the Province, unless, from its narrowness, you should think it dearer than broadcloth of equal quality, at fifteen shillings, currency, per yard; and if the linen should exceed oznaburghs in width, so as to reduce the price nearly to that of two shillings per yard, we would have you buy the linen also, as we presume it is superior to osnaburghs, and as we would give the preference to what is manufactured among ourselves, where we can do it consistently with the relation in which we stand to the publick. The money shall be either transmitted you by the first safe conveyance you may apprize us of, after we are furnished with the amount of those articles, or paid to your order, as shall be most agreeable to you. Colonel *Smallwood* will direct what shall be done with the cloth and linen, and we think you had better defer making them up for your men, until you hear from him.

We have drawn an order on the Treasurer in favour of Mr. *Gassaway*, for the sum of thirty pounds currency, as you requested. And are, sir, yours, &c.

To Captain *Nathaniel Ramsay*.

—

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO ST. MARY'S COUNTY COMMITTEE.

[No. 12.] Annapolis, February 10, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: We request that you will immediately send to the Council of Safety, at *Annapolis*, what gun-locks you have in your County belonging to the Province.

We are, &c.

—

EDMUND PENDLETON TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Williamsburgh, February 10, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: We think it our indispensable duty to inform you, that a fifty gun man-of-war is just arrived, and lying with the *Kingfisher*, and several tenders, off *Old-Fort Point*, below *Hampton*. What ship, or from whence she came, we have not yet discovered.

We are, with great regard, gentlemen, your most obedient servants,

By order of the Committee: EDMUND PENDLETON.

To the Honourable Council of Safety.

—

C. F. WEISENTHAL TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Baltimore-Town, February 10, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: According to your orders, I have examined and received into my care the medicines and shop of Doctor *Stenhouse*, for the use of the troops, the invoice of which I have thought requisite to enclose for your examination. The medicines are all of good quality, and saleable in case they should not be wanted. The price is less than what medicines at present sell for, and that considerable. I thought it was necessary to take the whole shop, with its furniture, not only because the drugs must be contained in something, but more particular, that they can be kept in a proper order and regularity, since, as they must occasionally be divided, there ought to be a proper repository for the whole. This furniture has increased the sum to more than was at first expected; it is still as saleable as the rest of the medicines. There are but few drugs which are useless for the army, and some are in a greater quantity than what we may, for the present, want, which can serve to exchange for others which we may want in future. I have likewise taken some necessary surgeon's instruments, which likewise enhance the sum. Upon the whole, it is my opinion, that if the war should continue, and, consequently, our troops take the field, we shall find abundant use for these medicines, and not have enough; but, should we be so happy as to conclude a peace, and not want many of the medicines, they will always bring the money laid out; again, another consideration is, that the ship *Defence* will most certainly want a considerable chest, and as it can be supplied from this shop, will take off a good deal thereof.

I have the honour to be, with due respect, gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servant,

C. F. WEISENTHAL.

To the Honourable Major *Jenifer*, President of the Council of Safety.

GEORGE DASHIELL AND WILLIAM HORSEY TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Somerset County, February 10, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The enclosed certificate serves to inform you, that the company to which Mr. *George Wailes* was appointed Captain, by the Convention, has been displeased at their not having been previously informed of that appointment, that they might have had an opportunity of re-electing their officers, to fill up the vacancy in the company.

We are to inform you that Captain *Wailes* has declined to act in that station, and the company have chose their officers by ballot, as will appear by the enclosed certificate. As it appears inconsistent to rank those gentlemen in battalion, with the officers who are honoured with commissions by the Convention, before they receive their commissions, (or, in fact, that they cannot, we presume, exercise in battalion before they receive commissions,) it becomes our duty to acquaint you, that we apprehend the granting commissions to the gentlemen mentioned in this certificate would have a good tendency, as it would enable us to exercise them in battalion, and we have reason to believe it will prevent a dissolution of the company.

We have the honour to be, gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servants,

GEORGE DASHIELL,
WILLIAM HORSEY.

To the Council of Safety.

Certificate.—On the 9th *February*, 1776, we happened at a Militia company, to which *George Wailes* was appointed Captain by the Convention, where a discontent appeared among the whole company, upon which Captain *Wailes* resigned his commission, and the company proceeded to choose, by ballot, their officers; who were, *Robert Hitch*, Captain; *Jacob Beall*, First Lieutenant; *Thomas Humphreys*, Second Lieutenant; and *George Tull*, Ensign. We being, by the company, appointed to receive the ballots and attend to the election, do certify that the abovementioned gentlemen were duly appointed officers by the ballots of the people.

URIAH FORREST.
ROBERT DASHIELL.

SAMUEL BARRETT TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Fredericktown, February 10, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I had the honour to receive from the Delegates of the freemen of this Province, a commission as Captain of one of the Independent Companies in the regular service. No one would be more happy than myself in the acceptance of it, had the gentlemen who were appointed Lieutenants been known to the men I would wish to carry into action.

It is twenty years since I first had the honour to command a company in defence of my country. Since that time I have commanded many. And being apprehensive at the beginning of this unhappy, cruel, and unnatural contest between the mother country and her Colonies, that I might be once more called on to stand forth in defence of our liberties, I had frequently conversed with and informed my Militia company, and many others of my neighbourhood and acquaintances, that it was highly probable I might again solicit them to follow me to the field of battle. They, in the general, most cheerfully agreed to march whenever I should call on them; but, as it was possible I might fall if we went into action, they desired that two gentlemen, which they had agreed on, might be appointed Lieutenants; and, as it had been customary with me to nominate the subalterns, I promised that those gentlemen (did I accept of a commission) should be my Lieutenants, and had wrote to Mr. *Johnson*, while at the Convention, mentioning the names of the gentlemen, and informing him of my promises; but, unfortunately, my letter miscarried.

One of those gentlemen was a Lieutenant of mine in a late expedition against the *Indians*, who behaved himself much to the satisfaction of my company, as well as to myself.

I have come this far in consequence of a letter from Mr. *Johnson*, who enclosed my commission, with an intent to accept it, and to return and inlist a company of riflemen, which I flatter myself I could have done, at farthest, in a week, not knowing but my letter had got safe to hand, and the Lieutenants (if appointed at all by the Convention) were the gentlemen I had mentioned. From this disappointment, after my engagements, I am reduced to a disagreeable necessity of betraying the confidence of my company and friends, or to reject the acceptance of my commission. To do either is highly distressing; but, as one must be done, and it is too probable I may be much wanting in our own part of the country, upon a similar occasion, I must beg you will appoint some gentleman to command in my stead.

My resignation, I hope, will by no one be imputed to a thirst after a more honourable appointment than my present. I am ready and willing, whenever my country's cause demands it, to march with my rifle in the ranks, whenever I am commanded. I am actuated solely by the reasons above assigned, nor could any thing but a breach of confidence with my friends prevent my acceptance of the appointment with which I have been honoured.

I am, gentlemen, your obedient servant,

SAMUEL BARRETT.

To the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

SAMUEL CHASE TO DANIEL OF ST. THOMAS JENIFER.

Philadelphia, February 10, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Enclosed you receive a proposal to furnish our troops with the new invented knapsack and haversack; and of cartouch-boxes, &c.

The blockade of *Quebeck* is continued. *Arnold* has seven hundred men with him; daily aids are going. He expects to take the command in six weeks. No news of consequence.

Your obedient servant,

SAMUEL CHASE.

To the Honourable *Daniel of St. Thomas Jenifer*, Esq.

CONGRESS OF NEW-JERSEY TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read February 13.—Referred to Mr. Smith, Mr. Bartlett, and Mr. Adams.]

In Provincial Congress, New-Jersey, Brunswick, February 10, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Sensible of the importance that the battalions raised in this Province should be as speedily as possible furnished with arms, we collected, for the supply of the First and Second Battalions, all the arms fit for service that could be obtained in this Province. We have, therefore, no resource of providing arms for the Third Battalion, but from our own manufactories or importation. How soon they can be manufactured is uncertain, and we have no present prospect of receiving them from abroad; but, being informed that two thousand stand have been lately imported, and that they are within your disposal, we should be glad that part of them may be ordered for the use of the Third Battalion, unless some more immediate publick service calls for them.

We beg leave to propose, whether it would not be advisable to clothe the battalion now raising in uniform, deducting the expense attending it out of the men's wages.

We are informed that considerable quantities of powder are lately arrived, and it being probable that the assistance of the Militia of this Province may be speedily wanted, for the defence of this, or a neighbouring Colony, we request the favour of your assistance in supplying us with ten tons of gunpowder, and twenty tons of lead, or as much as may be spared.

On a requisition from Lord *Stirling*, the Committee of *Elizabethtown* have furnished him with six thousand cartridges, *Somerset* County four quarter-casks of powder, *Woodbridge* a considerable quantity, and *Brunswick* one hundred and fifty weight of lead.

Our Militia are very illy supplied with ammunition; those who have given the above supplies to Lord *Stirling* are, therefore, very desirous that they may be immediately replaced.

By order of Congress:

I am, gentlemen, your obedient servant,

SAMUEL TUCKER, *President*.

To the Honourable Continental Congress.

ELIZABETHTOWN (NEW-JERSEY) COMMITTEE TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read February 14, 1776.]

Elizabethtown, February 10, 1776.

SIR: I am ordered by the Committee of *Elizabethtown*, to acquaint the Congress of the capture and state of the ship *Blue-Mountain-Valley*, now lying at *Elizabethtown Point*, and to desire particular directions from the Congress, what is to be done with the said ship, cargo, officers and seamen.

On *Monday*, the 22d of *January*, between eleven and twelve o'clock, Lord *Stirling*, with about thirty men of his regiment, being near all that were then armed at this place, the rest being at *Long-Island*, set out for *Amboy* on a serious enterprise. In the evening of the same day, an express arrived in this town, with a letter directed to Lord *Stirling*, and, in his absence, to the Chairman of the Committee of this place, informing that an armed vessel, with a detachment of marines and seamen, was sent off from *New-York* that day from the ships-of-war in *New-York*, to the transport-ship.

On the Chairman's receipt of this letter, he immediately called the Committee; which met about six o'clock in the evening, and from the letter and express, collected and concluded, that Lord *Stirling* left this place with an intention to procure a vessel at *Amboy*, and go in quest of the transport-ship, which he then thought was in a defenceless condition, not knowing of the reinforcement sent from *New-York*, and that if the intelligence should reach him that night, he would not be able to procure vessels and assistance in season at *Amboy* to secure success, and might be repulsed with loss. On which the Committee resolved to send a detachment of one hundred volunteers, in three or four boats, by the way of the Narrows, to take, or assist Lord *Stirling* to take, the armed vessel or transport, of which they immediately notified Lord *Stirling* by an express; and to encourage volunteers to enter, assured them they should share of the prize, or prizes, according to the regulations that were, or should be made by the Continental Congress. Volunteers were soon procured, and furnished by the Committee with ammunition, provision, and what arms were wanting; of the townsmen, about eighty, and of the Continental troops, about thirty. The Committee also procured three boats, and fitted them in the best manner the night and hurry would admit of. Between twelve and one o'clock at night, the armament was ready to sail, but on account of the tide and ice, they could not proceed by the way of the Narrows; they, therefore, set out with a fair wind by the way of *Amboy*, where they stopped, and called upon Lord *Stirling*, who, with a boat by him procured for the purpose, and about forty of his regiment, set out with them in quest of the ship and armed vessel. At sunrise, from the mast-head they descried the ship at sea, stood for, met and boarded her, without opposition, at ten o'clock in the morning; they found her to be a transport from *London*, with coals, porter, potatoes, hogs, and horse-beans, designed for the Ministerial troops at *Boston*, commanded by *John H. Dempster*, brother to *George Dempster*, member of Parliament for *Dundee*, &c., in *Scotland*. But the armed vessel, by great good fortune, saved herself by returning to *New-York*, not having discovered the ship, to the great disappointment of our people. Lord *Stirling* gave the command of the ship to Mr. *Rogers*, a sea-captain, with orders to proceed for this place, but being detained by tide and contrary winds on *Wednesday* near *Amboy*, the Committee being apprehensive of an attempt by the man-of-war to retake her, on *Wednesday* evening sent a reinforcement, of about eighty men, to secure her against any such attempt, and on *Friday* she arrived in safety at *Elizabethtown Point*, where she remained under the care of Lord *Stirling*, guarded by some of the troops under his command until *Tuesday* last, when he and his troops were ordered to *New-York*, since which time she hath been, and now is under the care of the Committee. By order of Lord *Stirling*, and the Committee, the porter and beans are stored, the sails and rigging are taken on shore. The potatoes, which are chiefly rotten, and coal, remain on board the ship. The Captain and seamen remain prisoners at large in this town. The Committee expected Lord *Stirling* would have, before this time, procured the particular directions of the Congress for the disposition of the ship and cargo, but in this they are disappointed, and every thing respecting the ship is in suspense. The hogs remaining, being only seven, (out of eighty,) and the remaining potatoes, they have concluded to sell. The coal is in great demand for making of arms, and is liable to be destroyed with the ship, by an armed force which may be despatched privately in the night from *New-York*, which is but about fourteen miles distance. The seamen, who are boarded out by the Committee, are uneasy, and soliciting the Committee for their wages, which, they say, were promised by Lord *Stirling*. The Captain is anxious to know how long he is to be detained, and the Committee are desirous that he may be soon dismissed, and be at liberty to return home and inform his friends and countrymen of the usage he has received from the *Americans*. This, sir, is the state of affairs relating to the store-ship called the *Blue-Mountain-Valley*, taken and brought to this place.

The Committee earnestly request that the Congress will immediately take the same into consideration, and will fully determine in what manner the said ship and cargo shall be disposed of, and that they will very speedily give directions particularly for the same. That if the Congress shall determine that the ship and cargo, or any part thereof, shall be distributed among the captors, that they will order very particularly the manner and proportion of such distribution, for which purpose a list of the officers and men, as near as the Committee can find, is enclosed. The Committee are also desirous, that the Congress will determine what is to be done with the Captain, officers, and seamen, belonging to the said ship, and also, respecting their private property due. A bill of the wages is enclosed. The Committee are informed, and believe, that Lord *Stirling*, soon after taking the ship, assured the Captain and men, that their property, then on board, should be restored to them, and that they should receive all their wages that were then due. The Captain's adventure amounts to about one hundred and twenty pounds sterling, sixty pounds of which are insured. The Committee do not know whether that sum should be allowed him, or whether he should be referred for the same to the insurers in *England*. They desire direction from the Congress. Here is also enclosed a copy of the bill of lading of the ship's cargo, which, among other things, proves the ship's destination.

The Committee desire you will be pleased to lay this matter before the Congress immediately, and hasten an answer as soon as possible.

I am, with the greatest esteem, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

ROBERT OGDEN,

Chairman of the Committee of Elizabethtown.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq., Chairman of the Congress.

P. S. Since writing the above, the Committee have received from Lord *Stirling* a copy of the resolves of Congress, of the 29th of *January* last, relating to the ship *Blue-Mountain-Valley*; but, as they then did not fully determine the matter, they, therefore, beg the Congress will now resume the consideration, and send their particular determinations on each head, which will be cheerfully submitted to, and give full satisfaction to all concerned.

—

An Account of Wages due to the Captain, Officers, Seamen, &c., of the BLUE-MOUNTAIN-VALLEY, *from the time of their coming on board, in the river* THAMES, *until the arrival of the Ship at* ELIZABETHTOWN.

	£	s.	d.
1. *J. W. Dempster*, from the 1st of *October* until the 25th of *January*, at £8 sterling per month, - - - - - - - - - -	30	8	0
2. Chief Mate, from 25th of *September* until the 25th *January*, at £3 5*s.* per month,	13	0	0
3. Second Mate, from 20th of *September* until the 25th of *January*, at 40*s.* per month,	8	6	7
4. Third Mate, from 1st of *October* until the 25th of *January*, at 31*s.* per month, -	5	18	6
5. Carpenter, from 25th of *September* until the 25th *January*, at £3 5*s.* per month,	13	0	0

6.	Boatswain, from 1st of *October* until the 25th of *January*, at 40*s.* per month, -	7	12 0
7.	Stewart, from 1st of *October* until the 25th of *January*, at 31*s.* per month, - - -	5	18 0
8.	*James McKinnon*, Seaman, from 25th of *September* until the 25th of *January*, at 31*s.* per month, - - - - - - - -	6	4 0
9.	*Alexander Watson*, for same time, - -	6	4 0
10.	*George Wilson*, for same time, - - -	6	4 0
11.	*James Brice*, Boy, for four months, - -	5	8 0
12.	*Emanuel Patterson*, from 10th of *October* until the 25th of *January*, at 31*s.* per month, - - - - - - - - - - -	5	8 0
13.	*Nicholas Eliat*, for same time, - - -	5	8 0
14.	*Caligan Bastian*, for same time, - - -	5	8 0
		£123	3 7

The above persons are all that did belong to the ship *Blue-Mountain-Valley*, two apprentices excepted, they drawing no wages from the ship.

The Captain says that there has been paid to the sailors, of the above amount, £23 6*s.* 7*d.*

—

Shipped, by the Grace of *God*, in good order and well-conditioned, by *Mure*, *Son*, and *Atkinson*, by order of the right honourable the Lords Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury, in and upon the good ship called the *Blue-Mountain-Valley*, whereof is Master, under *God*, for this present voyage, *John H. Dempster*, and now riding at anchor in the river *Thames*, and, by *God's* grace, bound to *Boston*, one hundred and seven and a quarter chaldrons of coals; one hundred butts of porter, branded "*Calvert;*" one hundred and twelve and a half quarters of beans; fifteen tons twelve hundred weight of potatoes; ten casks of sour-krout; eighty hogs; thirty-five puncheons for water; which are to be delivered, in the like good order and condition, (the danger of the seas, mortality of the crew, and consumption of their provender, only excepted,) unto the Commander-in-chief of His Majesty's forces in *America*, or to his order, at the aforesaid port of *Boston*, or at any other port in *America* which he shall direct, free of freight. In witness whereof, the master or purser of the said ship hath affirmed to four bills of lading, all of this tenour and date, one of which being accomplished, the other three are to stand void. And so *God* send the good ship to her desired port in safety. Amen.

Dated in *London*, the 30th day of *September*, 1775.

—

A List of the Officers and Men, belonging to the Militia of *Elizabethtown*, who entered on board of the different shallops as Volunteers, in order to take the Ship *Blue-Mountain-Valley*, *January* 22, 1776, under the command of *Elias Dayton*, Colonel:

Elias Dayton, *Colonel*,	Adam Lee,	Elihu Pursons,
Edward Thomas, *Lieutenant-Colonel*,	Thomas Quigley,	Daniel ——,
Oliver Spencer, *Capt.*,	—— Macarty,	Robert Spencer,
William Britton, *Capt.*,	Henry M. Munagal,	William Ramsden,
Francis Barber, *First Lieutenant*,	Price Parcel,	Samuel Scalcy,
Aaron Hatfield, *First Lieutenant*,	Barney Ogden,	Samuel Lee,
Thomas Morrel, *Second Lieutenant*,	Timothy B. Stout,	Thomas Hoyt,
George Evcrson, *Quartermaster*,	Joseph Meeker, Jun.	Lewis Woodruff,
Smith Helfield, *Capt. Boat*,	George Wecks,	Isaiah Gray,
John Thomas, *Captain Bout*,	Edward ——,	William Livingston, Jr.
John Trail, *Capt. Boat*,	—— Beaty,	Broust Livingston,
William Barnet, *Surgeon*,	David Stewart,	John Hendrix,
William Hegins, *Sergeant*,	Daniel Craig,	Samuel Morehouse,
David Ross, *Sergeant*,	Thomas Lee,	Jacob Carle,
Henry Baker, *Serg't*,	Stephen Wheeler,	Benjamin Woodruff,
Samuel Smith,	Farrington Price,	Jonathan Woodruff,
Lewis Blanchard,	Elijah Woodruff,	Benjamin Hinds,
Edmund Thomas,	Daniel Woodruff,	John Gray,
Thomas Elstone,	Aaron Ogden,	James Clenchy,
Ephraim Marth,	Edward Jones,	John Miller,
	William Clark,	John Rungon,
	Jonathan Clark,	Nicholas Deane,
	Jonathan Nichols,	Moses Connel,
	Samuel Mann,	Godfrey Blackney,
	Silas Freeman,	Timothy Burns,
	William Meeker,	Simon Simonsnn,
	Samuel Ogden,	Richard Miller,
	Gabriel Meeker	John Miller, 2d.
	Jonathan Pierson,	

The above is a true list, to the best of my knowledge and belief. EDWARD THOMAS.

Elizabethtown, February 9, 1776.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read February 21.—Referred to Mr. Wythe, Mr. Harrison, and Mr. Adams.]

Albany, February 10, 1776.

I have received no accounts from *Canada* since I had the honour to write you on the 7th instant. The post came in yesterday, but had no letters for me.

Colonel *Burrell*, who has the command of the Regiment raising in *Connecticut* for the Northern service, advises me that no blankets, and very few arms, are to be had there. These articles, I perceive by the resolutions of Congress, are to be furnished by the respective Colonies who sent troops here; but, as they cannot proceed without these articles, and several others that they stand in absolute need of, I shall supply them, as far as I have it in my power, and charge the several companies. I have made such arrangements that there will be no difficulty in making the stoppages; and I hope also to get the army in such order as to prevent that horrid confusion of accounts which prevailed last year, and to introduce a little more subordination and discipline. I hope none of the officers will receive any other commissions than those from Congress.

Half of the arms of what *Pennsylvania* troops are yet arrived here want repairs. I am very confident we shall want a considerable number. I have, therefore, ordered all to be purchased in the vicinity of this place that can be procured.

The Committee of this County, on my application, have recommended to the inhabitants of the several districts to forward the troops gratis. The lower districts will bring them to this place, and from hence they will be sent on in the same way, by others, as far as *Fort-George*, and perhaps to *Ticonderoga*. This will be of considerable advantage to the troops, and a saving to the Continent.

The men from *Pennsylvania* are greatly infected with the venereal disease. Captain *Dorsey* has left no less than fourteen in the Hospital. These, with two deserted between *Pennsylvania* and this, and seven more which, I am informed, left him on his first day's march, have reduced his company to a small body.

All the medicines in the Hospital are nearly expended, and Doctor *Stringer* cannot procure any. Is it not possible to despatch a small vessel, or two, to *Portugal*, or the *Islands*, for a supply?

We are greatly at a loss for steel; not an ounce is to be had here. My armourers have nearly expended theirs, and the blacksmith who goes to the *Indians* cannot do without it. Could none be sent, by water, from *New-Jersey* to *Constitution-Fort*, from whence what may be immediately wanted may be forwarded by land; the remainder when the river shall open?

The *Indian* goods that were sent up are all expended, and a very few left of one hundred and seventy pounds' worth, which I bought from the *Canadian* officers at *Ticonderoga* for the troops, and upwards of one hundred pounds' worth from Mr. *Brown*, of the *Massachusetts*. None are to be had here, and I am daily tormented by parties of *Indians* from all quarters. I am apprehensive that some Tories encourage them to make applications, and they are sufficiently inclined to it without being spurred on. If I can convict any person of this crime, I shall do my endeavours to provide him with a lodging in *Simsbury* mines.

A considerable number of the *Pennsylvania* soldiers mutineered. I ordered a Court-Martial, and half-a-dozen of the ringleaders were punished. I hope this will put a stop to it in future. They complain of want of pay. I wish an account of all the moneys paid them, and for what was transmitted to me, that they may be charged with it, and their accounts regularly kept. This is very necessary.

Pray let the Mustermaster be sent up. He may be of much service, as I hope we shall have none but Continental troops.

After the death of the gallant *Macpherson*, I appointed Captain *Henry Livingston* my Aid-de-camp. He wishes to belong to some regiment as a Field-Officer.

Enclose a paper that was delivered me by a Mr. *Fraser*, a Judge of the Common Pleas in *Montreal*, and who has been sent down a prisoner here.

I fear General *Wooster* pays too much attention to the advice of Mr. *Walker*, who has been so ill used by the

King's officers that his private resentment will hurt our cause; and I dare confidently venture to prophecy, that unless a respectable Committee of Congress be with all expedition sent to *Canada*, our affairs will not only greatly suffer, but that, in all probability, we shall lose the affections of the *Canadians*.

The Committee, if any is sent, should be enabled to live with that splendour which, with *Frenchmen*, creates respect. I do not know how General *Wooster* lives; but if he does not, in the country where he is, live at least equal to the utmost of his pay and allowance, he will not do honour to his constituents.

The disorder in my breast and cough was occasioned by an imposthume which had formed, and a few days ago discharged itself. I feel myself greatly relieved from pain, and much better, and I have reason to believe that it is healing. If so, I shall be able to take the field.

I am, sir, most truly, your obedient, humble servant,

PHILIP SCHUYLER.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq.

—

Albany, February 4, 1776.

SIR: You will receive herewith copies of letters that passed between Brigadier-General *Wooster* and me. To explain them, and give at the same time some idea of the treatment I have met with, I must go as far back as the taking of the vessels near the river *Sorel*, in the river *St. Lawrence*. I was on board, but being only a passenger, and not belonging either to the King's troops on board, nor to the ship-of-war, I was at liberty, by Brigadier-General *Prescott's* treaty of surrender, to return to my family in *Montreal* unmolested. Twenty-four hours, however, after my arrival, I received a letter from Brigadier-General *Montgomery*, wherein he required I would retire to any village on the other side of the river *St. Lawrence;* this I might have complained of; however, I had so little desire of remaining in town, that I made no other representation to Brigadier *Montgomery*, than to acquaint him that I had a farm five miles off, on the same side with the town, where I had a house, and all the necessary conveniences for myself and family. I was, however, in answer thereto, still requested to cross the river, which I immediately did, leaving my family behind. I was not above eight days in my quarters, with my father-in-law, Mr. *Dechambaud*, at *Longueil*, when, it seems, some information was given to Brigadier *Wooster*, who then commanded at *Montreal*, that some arms and ammunition were concealed in Mr. *Dechambaut's* house at *Longueil*, and that some plot was hatching against the Continental troops by the *Canadian* seignieurs. In consequence of this information, Mr. *Dechambaut* and I had a visit from an officer, and a great number of armed men, about eleven at night. They took us from our house, with our papers, to a tavern near hand, where we found a Colonel, when he explained to us the cause of our treatment. This gentleman seemed soon convinced of the false alarm. He would not look at our papers; but the house was searched up and down when we got home. Some other gentlemen had been informed against, with as little truth. The party went likewise to examine them that night. The Colonel and party returned next day, told me I was ordered for *Chambly*, however, that I was to remain where I was till further orders. In about ten days after, without any application from me, I received a letter from the Acting Town-Major in *Montreal*, in General *Wooster's* name, that I was at liberty to return to the town, whenever I pleased, which I accordingly did, and even before I saw my family, I called on Brigadier *Wooster*. At parting he told me he would be glad to see me again about business. I called two days after, and Brigadier *Wooster* then observed his knowing that several friends of constitutional liberty in *Montreal* had been ill used from depositions, bonds, &c., and that, therefore, he now demanded these instruments. To this, I replied, that I was sorry he should ask me any thing that I thought I could not grant, that I apprehended the requisition he was now making, was of that nature; and, therefore, that I begged to be excused. Some time was then spent in argument; I at last observed, that I answered the demand in general, perhaps did we come to particulars, we would sooner agree; in short what papers did he want? As for a bond, I only then recollected one that Mr. *Haywood* had given, but that it was of such a nature as to be now cancelled of itself, therefore, that I would send to him that sort of instrument from this reason only, that I looked on it as of no further use; but upon second thought, after I got home, I apprehended it was not worth while sending, and I then wrote to Brigadier *Wooster*, what follows:

"Montreal, December 14, 1775.

"SIR: The sort of recognisance that Mr. *Haywood* entered into with sureties, I have just found, and I am now more convinced than before, that it is of no further use. It is the only instance of the kind that occurred before me. There was no information laid against him, therefore, no charge, and if I took bail for him, it was because he came to offer it himself. From the nature of it, it is now at an end, as his bail could only be bound for him while the Governour's authority was entire, the condition being that he should not depart from hence without the Governour's leave, and that he would behave himself true and faithful to the same cause. For the above reasons I did not scruple to say, that I would send to you the said instrument, but I do not now really think that it is worth while sending, and I hope you will excuse me in withdrawing my promise. If the bail desire it, I will satisfy them at any time that their obligation is at an end. I now recollect that some other papers may be under my care, but they are of a different nature from the aforementioned, and they have been early taken care of. In my opinion, I cannot, and will not on any account deliver them, nor any paper of any transaction prior to the capitulation of *Montreal*. Since then I will always be ready to account for my conduct, but not for any thing done before. This resolution I have taken from a conviction that I cannot act otherwise with any propriety, which will ever be the rule of my conduct.

"I am, sir, your most obedient and humble servant,

"JOHN FRASER."

This letter a short time after was followed by the next, viz:

"Head-Quarters, Montreal, December 18, 1775.

"SIR: Your breach of promise and insolent letter to me yesterday justly merit a set of iron ornaments, which you and your associates have very lately been so fond of bestowing on the friends of constitutional liberty, but as I disdain to follow your inhuman and infamous example, I shall only order, and I do hereby order and direct you on the receipt hereof to repair to the fort at *Chambly*, under such an escort as I shall direct, and there to remain in close abode till further orders from, sir, your humble servant,

"DAVID WOOSTER,

"*Brigadier-General Commanding at Montreal.*

"To *John Fraser*, Esq."

As soon as this letter was delivered sentries were placed in my house, within doors, till I was sent across the river to the fort of *Chambly* in close confinement, and in such a hole as not to be able to make use of my own bedstead. There I remained during five weeks, till I was ordered with other gentlemen for this place. These are, upon my honour, literally the facts antecedent, and subsequent to the letters; the letters will speak for themselves; I will make few observations. I cannot, however, help saying, that I have been treated very ill; the most savage have a tender regard and respect for women. Mrs. *Fraser* was very near lying-in; this General *Wooster* knew very well; therefore, placing sentries before her so abruptly, must be deemed rather cruel. The papers that Brigadier *Wooster* wanted are not of the smallest consequence, yet I apprehend that I could not with any propriety deliver them up, and I must be supposed to have acted from principle. Had I considered my own peace only, I might have expected to have better attained that by giving up the papers than by refusing them; but my rule of conduct is to endeavour to distinguish right from wrong, and then to act, be the consequence what it may. Exclusive of the sentries in my house under the circumstances, my being taken from my family, and sent across the river at the worst time, my close confinement in a hole for five weeks, I beg the letter from Brigadier *Wooster* may be attended to; I think for orthography, diction, and substance, to be a curiosity.

It was with pleasure that I found myself ordered for this place, although it further removed me from my family, as the constant report we had in *Canada* from the gentlemen who had been sent here, was that the greatest politeness was uniformly kept up towards them. I have, therefore, no doubt about the opinion you will entertain of my treatment, and I beg the favour, sir, you will lay the whole before the Congress. Men of education, and of understanding, I am confident, will consider such usage as it deserves, and will, I am hopeful, apply the proper remedy.

I am really sorry to engage so much of your time, I have endeavoured to be as short as possible, without omitting any material circumstance or fact, and nothing is here set forth but what is exactly true. I will now conclude, and remain, sir, your most obedient, and humble servant,

JOHN FRASER.

To General *Schuyler*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO JOSEPH REED.

Cambridge, February 10, 1776.

DEAR SIR: If you conceive that I took any thing wrong, or amiss, that was conveyed in any of your former letters, you are really mistaken. I only meant to convince you, that nothing would give me more real satisfaction than to know the sentiments, which are entertained of me by the publick, whether they be favourable or otherwise; and I urged as a reason, that the man who wished to steer clear of shelves and rocks must know where they lie. I know the integrity of my own heart, but to declare it, unless to a friend, may be an argument of vanity; I know the unhappy predicament I stand in; I know that much is expected of me; I know, that without men, without arms, without amnunition, without any thing fit for the accommodation of a soldier, little is to be done; and, what is mortifying, I know that I cannot stand justified to the world without exposing my own weakness, and injuring the cause, by declaring my wants, which I am determined not to do, further than unavoidable necessity brings every man acquainted with them.

If, under these disadvantages, I am able to keep above water, in the esteem of mankind, I shall feel myself happy; but if, from the unknown peculiarity of my circumstances, I suffer in the opinion of the world, I shall not think you take the freedom of a friend, if you conceal the reflections that may be cast upon my conduct. My own situation is so irksome to me at times, that, if I did not consult the publick good more than my own tranquillity, I should long ere this have put every thing on the cast of a die. So far from my having an army of twenty thousand men, well armed, I have been here with less than one-half of that number, including sick, furloughed, and on command, and those neither armed nor clothed as they should be. In short, my situation has been such that I have been obliged to use art to conceal it from my own officers.

The party sent to *Bunker's Hill* had some good and some bad men engaged in it. One or two courts have been held on the conduct of part of them. To be plain, these people are not to be depended upon if exposed; and any man will fight well if he thinks himself in no danger. I do not apply this only to these people. I suppose it to be the case with all raw and undisciplined troops.

You may rely upon it, that transports left *Boston* six weeks ago with troops; where they are gone, unless driven to the *West-Indies*, I know not. You may, also, rely upon General *Clinton's* sailing from *Boston* about three weeks ago, with about four or five hundred men; his destination I am, also, a stranger to. I am sorry to hear of the failures you speak of from *France*. But why will not Congress forward part of the powder made in your Province? They seem to look upon this as the season for action, but will not furnish the means. I will not blame them. I dare say the demands upon them are greater than they can supply. The cause must be starved till our resources are greater, or more certain within ourselves.

With respect to myself, I have never entertained an idea of an accommodation, since I heard of the measures which were adopted in consequence of the *Bunker's Hill* fight. The King's speech has confirmed the sentiments I entertained upon the news of that affair; and, if every man was of my mind, the Ministers of *Great Britain* should know, in a few words, upon what issue the cause should be put. I would not be deceived by artful declarations, nor specious pretences; nor would I be amused by unmeaning propositions; but in open, undisguised, and manly terms, proclaim our wrongs, and our resolution to be redressed. I would tell them, that we had borne much, that we had long and ardently sought for reconciliation upon honourable terms; that it had been denied us; that all our attempts after peace had proved abortive, and had been grossly misrepresented; that we had done every thing which could be expected from the best of subjects; that the spirit of freedom rises too high in us to submit to slavery; and that, if nothing else would satisfy a Tyrant and his diabolical Ministry, we are determined to shake of all connections with a state so unjust and unnatural. This I would tell them, not under covert, but in words as clear as the sun in its meridian brightness.

I observe what you say, in respect to the ardour of the chimney-corner heroes. I am glad their zeal is in some measure abated, because, if circumstances will not permit us to make an attempt upon *Boston*, or if it should be made and fail, we shall not appear altogether so culpable. I entertain the same opinion of the attempt now, which I have ever done. I believe an assault would be attended with considerable loss, and I believe it would succeed, if the men should behave well. As to an attack upon *Bunker's Hill*, unless it could be carried by surprise, the loss, I conceive, would be greater in proportion than at *Boston;* and, if a defeat should follow, it would be discouraging to the men, but highly animating if crowned with success. Great good, or great evil, would consequently result from it.

The Congress have ordered all captures to be tried in the Courts of Admiralty of the different Governments to which they are sent. Some irreconcileable difference arising between the resolves of Congress, and the law of this Colony, respecting the proceedings, or something which always happens to procrastinate business here, has put a total stop to the trials, to the no small injury of the publick, as well as the great grievance of individuals. Whenever a condemnation shall take place, I shall not be unmindful of your advice respecting the hulls. Would to Heaven the plan you speak of for obtaining arms may succeed. The acquisition would be great, and give fresh life and vigour to our measures. Our expectations are kept alive, and if we can keep ourselves so, and our spirits up another Summer, I have no fears of wanting the needful after that.

We have had a most laborious piece of work at *Lechmere's Point*, on account of the frost. We hope to get it finished on *Sunday*. It is within as commanding a distance of *Boston* as *Dorchester-Hill*, though of a different part. Our vessels now and then pick up a prize or two. Our Commodore, *Manly*, was very near being caught about eight days ago, but happily escaped with his vessel and crew, after running the former on shore, scuttling, and defending her.

I recollect nothing else worth giving you the trouble of, unless you can be amused by reading a letter and poem addressed to me by Miss *Phillis Wheatley*. In searching over a parcel of papers the other day, in order to destroy such as were useless, I brought it to light again. At first, with a view of doing justice to her poetical genius, I had a great mind to publish the poem; but not knowing whether it might not be considered rather as a mark of my own vanity, than as a compliment to her, I laid it aside, till I came across it again in the manner just mentioned. I congratulate you upon your election, although I consider it as the *coup-de-grace* to my expectation of ever seeing you a resident with me this campaign. I have only to regret the want of you, if that should be the case; and I shall do it the more feelingly, as I have experienced the good effects of your aid.

I am, with Mrs. *Washington's* compliments to Mrs. *Reed*, and my best respects, dear sir, your most obedient and affectionate servant, GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To *Joseph Reed*, Esq.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO NEW-YORK COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Cambridge, February 10, 1776.

SIR: Being in the greatest want of arms at this alarming and important crisis, for the Army under my command,

without the most distant prospect or hope of getting more from these Governments than what I already have, I beg leave to solicit the favour of your Committee of Safety in this instance, and earnestly request that they will use their exertions to get and send to me, in the most expeditious manner, all that they can possibly procure. I imagine that there are several belonging to the Colony, and have been informed of many Tories being disarmed, and, therefore, expect that it will be in their power to obtain me a considerable supply. Whatever quantity is sent me, I will take on the Continental account, and make payment for, with the expenses incident to their transportation.

This application being founded in necessity, and arising from the exigency of our affairs, I make no doubt will meet your most ready and early attention, and that nothing will be wanting on your part to give me the most speedy relief.

I am, sir, your most humble servant,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To *Pierre Van Cortlandt*, Esq., Chairman of the Committee of *New-York*.

P. S. I wish to have only such arms as are good and serviceable, and shall be glad to have bayonets with them.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO MASSACHUSETTS ASSEMBLY.

Cambridge, February 10, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Notwithstanding I have taken every method my judgment could suggest, to procure a sufficient number of firelocks for the soldiers of this Army, by applications to the Assemblies and Conventions of these Governments, as well as by sending officers out with money to purchase, I am constrained, by necessity, to inform you that the deficiency is amazingly great, and that there are not nigh enough to arm the troops already here. It is true, that all the officers gone upon the business are not yet returned, but, from the small success of those who have made report, I cannot promise myself many more. I must, therefore, beg leave to solicit your kind attention to this interesting and important concern, and would submit it to your consideration whether if your honourable Court were to depute some of their members to make applications to the different towns, they might not procure a considerable quantity. I will most cheerfully furnish them with money for the purpose, or pay for them on their delivery here, as you shall think most advisable.

I shall only add, that I hope the exigency of our affairs, at this critical crisis, will excuse this request, and my confidence of your readiness and zeal to do every thing in your power for promoting the publick good, and am, gentlemen, with great regard and esteem, your most humble servant,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To the Honourable General Court, &c.

P. S. I have heard that there are several King's muskets in the country; for every good one, with a bayonet, that has not been abused, I will give twelve dollars, and in proportion for other guns fit for service.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO COLONEL PORTER.

Head-Quarters, February 10, 1776.

SIR: The Continental Congress having confirmed my application to this Government to raise a regiment for the service of the *United Colonies*, which is now complied with, and you are appointed to the command thereof, I have to desire that you will use the utmost diligence and despatch possible, to complete the said regiment, and march it into *Canada* by the shortest and best way, that from your own knowledge of the country, and from the best information you can get, you think will be the most expeditious. I have to acquaint you, that if you take your route by *Number Four* and *Onion-River*, there will be a supply of provisions ready for you, laid in by order of General *Schuyler*.

As this regiment is to be upon the Continental establishment, agreeable to the terms and regulations of Congress, transmitted to the Legislative power of this Province, and the necessity of reinforcing our troops posted and forming the blockade of *Quebeck* is too apparent to need dwelling on, I would have you order each company to march as fast as they are raised, the whole putting themselves under the command of the General, or commanding officer in *Canada*, as fast as they arrive there.

Such necessaries as you will think really proper, and that you cannot do without, will be provided for you by the Commissary-General and Quartermaster-General, and I shall depend upon you that the strictest economy is used consistent with the despatch necessary upon this occasion.

These, sir, are my instructions to you, and from the character you bear, I doubt not you will pay due attention to them. I must again recommend your making all possible despatch, and that you may share in the glory of expelling the instruments of Ministerial tyranny from that fair Province, is the sincere wish of, sir, your most obedient servant,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To Colonel *Elisha Porter*.

[GENERAL WASHINGTON] TO MAJOR FRENCH.

Camp, Cambridge, February 10, 1776.

SIR: Your repeated letters to General *Gates*, desiring liberty to go to *Ireland* on your parole, were laid before his Excellency. I have it in command from him to inform you, that he does not think himself authorized to grant license to any one to depart this Continent; that power is lodged in the hands of the Congress.

I am, also, commanded to tell you, that the General is surprised a gentleman of Major *French's* good sense and knowledge should make such a request. Let him compare his situation with that of such gentlemen of ours, who, by the fortune of war, have fallen into the hands of their enemy. What has been their treatment? Thrown into a loathsome prison, and afterwards sent in irons to *England*. I repeat, let the Major compare his treatment with theirs, and then say whether he has cause to repine at his fate.

I am, sir, &c.

To Major *French*.

NEW-HAMPSHIRE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY TO COLONEL MOREY.

In Committee of Safety, February 10, 1776.

We send you, by Colonel *Bedel*, seven hundred and eighty-five pounds, lawful money, to pay off the troops; likewise, Colonel *Bedel's* roll. The balance due to each man you are to pay, with the price of the rations as set down to the Lieutenants *Palmer* and *Nelson*. You will observe, that the balance due to each man includes his coat money and blanket.

We also transmit the roll of Lieutenant *Wheeler's* men, the balance of which you will pay to each man. The staff-roll of Colonel *Bedel* you will, also, pay what is due, viz: the Adjutant, Quartermaster, Surgeon, and Sergeant-Major, their respective balances and price of rations.

In Captain *Osgood's* roll, you will take notice that against those names where it is wrote "paid," by Captain *Osgood*, the whole is paid; and those names where it is wrote against, "order on the Treasury for all but the coat-money," you will pay to them their coat money only, they having received their wages; and make return of your payments, together with the rolls, as soon as possible, that the accounts may be forwarded for payment.

By order of the Committee:

I am, sir, your most humble servant,

MESHECH WEARE, *Chairman*.

To Colonel *Israel Morey*.

NEW-HAMPSHIRE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY TO JOSIAH BARTLETT AND WILLIAM WHIPPLE.

Exeter, January 10, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Enclosed in this packet you will find a representation of the taking up Government, and difficulties that have arisen in the several Counties relating thereto. We desire you would lay them before Congress, and endeavour to obtain their opinion thereon, as we expect uneasiness will remain until the same is obtained, which we hope will settle the dust, and desire you will be assiduous in getting it decided and forwarded as soon as may be.

To the Hon. *Josiah Bartlett* and *William Whipple*, Esq.

Colony of New-Hampshire.

To the Honourable Congress of the United Colonies of North America:

The Committee of Safety of said Colony, pursuant to an order of the Council and Assembly, beg leave to lay before you some difficulties that have arisen among them, and request your determination thereon, being assured that your opinion on the premises will quiet the minds of those dissatisfied, and that all will acquiesce therein. We are very sorry that any misunderstandings among ourselves, should lay us under the necessity of diverting your minds from the important concerns which engross your attention. But no expedient could be found to satisfy many among us, but the laying the whole matter before your Honours. Soon after the commencement of hostilities by the King's troops at *Lexington*, the people in several of our Counties were so enraged against many of the Executive officers, supposing them inimical to the liberties of the country, that they would not suffer the Courts to sit, so much as to try criminal offenders. And the Congress, in the Summer past, finding the Courts, under the officers in commission, could not be held, and many complaints coming before them, against persons for high crimes, agreed to instruct their Delegates to request some direction from your Honours, relative to the regulating our Civil Police. Before the dissolution of the Congress, and previous to the reception of your recommendation about Government, a general plan of Representation was agreed on, to consist of eighty-nine persons, and precepts issued in consequence thereof; a copy of which we transmit herewith. After the meeting of the new Congress, the members appeared to agree in the necessity of assuming Government, but differed in the mode, after setting fifteen days, viz: On the 5th of *January*, the Resolve for assuming Government, passed by a majority of near two to one, a copy of which accompanies this, and the next day chose the number proposed for a Council, who took their seat, and proceeded on business according to the plan. A number of the members of the House being dissatisfied with the measures adopted, protested against them, a copy of which we also send herewith. Our brethren in the town of *Portsmouth* were also much concerned lest the proceedings should hurt the common cause; disaffect our friends in *Great Britain*—as savouring of independency. They wrote circular letters to a great number of towns, expressing their fears of the consequence of our taking up Government: soon after which, the towns of *Portsmouth, Dover, Rochester, Newington, Greenland, Rye, Stratham, Northampton, Kensington, New-Market*, with a number of individuals in the town of *Brentwood*, petitioned the General Court, setting forth, that they were greatly alarmed at the proceedings of the Congress in taking up Government, supposing it looked too much like setting up for independency; were exceeding fearful of the consequence; that we should lose the assistance of our friends abroad, and create a disunion among ourselves, and prayed that the two Houses would reconsider the Resolve for taking up Government, and proceed to business as the late Congress had done. The House of Representatives thinking it absolutely necessary, for the well being of the Colony, to proceed agreeable to the Resolves concluded to let the petitions lay. But, at the request of the Petitioners, it was agreed to have the proceedings laid before your honourable body. And this Committee under real expectation that your determination will settle the difference of opinion among us, humbly request you to transmit the same.

I have the honour to be, gentlemen, your most humble servant,

By order of the Committee:

Meshech Weare, *Chairman.*

Colony of New-Hampshire.

The Congress of said Colony, to the Selectmen of . . . . in said Colony—Greeting:

You are hereby required to notify the legal inhabitants paying taxes in the . . . . . (giving them fifteen days notice) to meet at some convenient place in your town, to elect . . . . . (having a real estate of the value of two hundred pounds, lawful money) to represent them in General Congress, to be held at *Exeter*, on the 21st day of *December* next, at three o'clock in the afternoon; and to empower such Representative for the term of one year from their first meeting, to transact such business, and pursue such measures as they may judge necessary for the publick good.

And in case there should be a recommendation from the Continental Congress, that this Colony assume Government in any particular form, which will require a House of Representatives, that they resolve themselves into such a House as the said Continental Congress shall recommend. And it is resolved, that no person be allowed a seat in Congress who shall, by himself, or any person for him, before said choice, treat with liquor, &c., any electors, with an apparent view of gaining their votes, or afterwards, on that account; and the person . . . . . who shall be elected. You are to notify that . . . . . attend at time and place above-mentioned, and make return hereof with your doings thereon. By order of Congress;

Matthew Thornton, *President.*

A true copy. Attest: E. Thompson, *Secretary.*

Exeter, November 14, 1775.

In Congress, at Exeter, January 5, 1776.

We, the Members of the Congress of the Colony of *New-Hampshire*, chosen and appointed by the free suffrages of the people of said Colony, and authorized and empowered by them to meet together, and use such means, and pursue such measures, as we should judge best for the publick good; and, in particular, to establish some form of Government, provided that measure should be recommended by the Continental Congress; and a recommendation to that purpose having been transmitted to us, from the said Congress, have taken into our serious consideration the unhappy circumstances into which this Colony is involved, by means of many grievous and oppressive acts of the *British* Parliament, depriving us of our native and constitutional rights and privileges; to enforce obedience to which acts, a powerful fleet and army have been sent into this country by the Ministry of *Great Britain*, who have exercised a wanton and cruel abuse of their power, in destroying the lives and properties of the Colonists, in many places with fire and sword, taking the ships and lading from many of the honest and industrious inhabitants of this Colony employed in commerce, agreeable to the laws and customs a long time used here.

The sudden and abrupt departure of his Excellency *John Wentworth*, Esq., our late Governour, and several of the Council, leaving us destitute of Legislation; and no Executive Courts being open to punish criminal offenders, whereby the lives and properties of the honest people of this Colony, are liable to the machinations and evil designs of wicked men:

Therefore, for the preservation of peace and good order, and for the security of the lives and properties of the inhabitants of this Colony, we conceive ourselves reduced to the necessity of establishing a form of Government, to continue during the present unhappy and unnatural contest with *Great Britain;* protesting and declaring that we never sought to throw off our dependance upon *Great Britain*, but felt ourselves happy under her protection, while we could enjoy our constitutional rights and privileges, and that we shall rejoice if such a reconciliation between us and our parent state, can be effected as shall be approved by the Continental Congress, in whose prudence and wisdom we confide.

Accordingly, pursuant to the trust reposed in us, we do *Resolve*, That this Congress assume the name, power, and authority of a House of Representatives or Assembly, for the Colony of *New-Hampshire*. And that said House then proceed to choose twelve persons, being reputable freeholders and inhabitants within this Colony, in the following manner, viz: Five in the County of *Rockingham;* two in the County of *Strafford;* two in the County of *Hillsborough;* two in the County of *Cheshire;* and one in the County of *Grafton*, to be a distinct and separate branch of the Legislature, by the name of a Council for this Colony, to continue as such until the third *Wednesday* in *December* next; any seven of whom to be a quorum to do business.

That such Council appoint their President; and in his absence, that the senior Counsellor preside.

That a Secretary be appointed by both Branches, who may be a Counsellor, or otherwise, as they shall choose.

That no act or resolve be valid, and put into execution, unless agreed to and passed by both branches of the Legislature.

That all publick officers for the said Colony, and each County, for the current year, be appointed by the Council and Assembly, except the several Clerks of the Executive Courts, who shall be appointed by the Justices of the respective Courts.

That all Bills, Resolves, or Votes for raising, levying, and collecting Money, originate in the House of Representatives.

That at any sessions of the Council and Assembly, neither Branch shall adjourn for any longer time than from *Saturday* till the next *Monday*, without consent of the other.

And it is further Resolved, That if the present unhappy dispute with *Great Britain* should continue longer than this present year, and the Continental Congress give no instructions or directions to the contrary, the Council be chosen by the people of each respective County, in such manner as the Council and House of Representatives shall order.

That General and Field-Officers of the Militia, on any vacancy, be appointed by the two Houses, and all inferior Officers be chosen by the respective Companies.

That all Officers of the Army be appointed by the two Houses, except they should direct otherwise, in case of any emergency.

That all Civil Officers for the Colony, and for each County, be appointed, and the time of their continuance in office be determined by the two Houses, except Clerks of Courts, and County Treasurers, and Recorders of Deeds.

That a Treasurer, and a Recorder of Deeds, for each County, be annually chosen by the people of each County respectively; the votes for such officers to be returned to the respective Courts of General Sessions of the Peace in the County, there to be ascertained as the Council and Assembly shall hereafter direct.

That Precepts, in the name of the Council and Assembly, signed by the President of the Council, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives, shall issue, annually, at or before the first day of *November*, for the choice of a Council and House of Representatives, to be returned by the third *Wednesday* in *December*, then next ensuing, in such manner as the Council and Assembly shall hereafter prescribe.

A true copy. Attest: E. Thompson, *Secretary*.

We, the subscribers, chosen by the people of several Towns in the Colony of *New-Hampshire*, to represent them in the Congress of said Colony, held at *Exeter*, on the 21st day of *December*, 1775, beg leave to enter and dissent to, and protest against the present plan of taking up Government, for the following reasons:

First. That the vote of the Continental Congress countenancing the same, was obtained by the unwearied importunity (both within doors and without) of our Delegates there, as appears by their letter.

Second. That the said vote does not appear to have been unanimous; but, we have reason to think, far otherway.

Third. Because the Colonies of *New-York* and *Virginia*, which are in similar circumstances with us, are much larger and more opulent, and we presume much wiser, to whom we would wish to pay all due deference, have not attempted any thing of the kind, nor, as we can learn, ever desired it.

Fourth. Because we have no ground on which to pretend to make a Council, as our neighbours of the *Massachusetts*, who act by charter, never vacated on any legal trial.

Fifth. Because it appears assuming for so small and inconsiderable a Colony to take the lead in a matter of so great importance.

Sixth. Because our constituents never expected us to make a new form of Government, but only to set the Judicial and Executive wheels in motion.

Seventh. Because the Congress, as such, could have done what was necessary, and their power could not be enlarged by any act of their own.

Eighth. Because the expense of the Colony is greatly augmented thereby.

Ninth. Because it appears to us to be absolutely setting up an independency on the mother country.

Levi Dearbourn, *North-Hill*,
Richard Downing, *Newingtown*,
Benjamin Barker, *Stratham*,
Stephen Evans, *Dover*,
Otis Baker, *Dover*,
Samuel Knowles, *Rochester*,
Herculass Mooney, *Lee*,
Ezekiel Worthin, *Kensington*,
Daniel Beedee, *Sandwich* and *Moultonborough*.
Samuel Sherburne, *Portsmouth*,
Pierce Long, *Portsmouth*,
Nathan Goss, *Rye*.

WILLIAM SMITH TO GENERAL HOWE.

New-York, February 11, 1776.

As I have not a doubt of my last letters to Administration, convincing them that this city and Province is the only spot in *America* for carrying on the war with effect against the Rebels, and that, in consequence, the forces expected this Spring, as well as those now under your command, will be ordered hither; it may be necessary and advisable to send the army through the Sound, between *Connecticut* and *Long-Island*. Of the latter, it will be proper to give a description: it is one hundred and thirty miles long, is very fertile, abounding in wheat and every other kind of corn, innumerable black cattle, sheep, hogs, &c.; is very populous, and *Suffolk* County in particular, as well as the other parts of it, all good and loyal subjects, of which they have lately given proof, and only wait to be assisted by the King's troops. The Island has a plain on it at least twenty-four miles long, which has a fertile country about it, is twenty miles distant from the city of *New-York*; *Connecticut* opposite to it; *New-Jersey* about thirty miles distant; *Philadelphia* one hundred and ten, *Maryland* one hundred and thirty, *Rhode-Island* one hundred and fifty miles; so that, in this fertile Island, the army can subsist without any succour from *England* or *Ireland*; and, from their encampment on the above plain, they can, in five or six days, invade and reduce any of the above Colonies at pleasure. Add to these great advantages, that the possession of the Narrows and *Nutten-Island*, would be the destruction of this city; but of this I think there would be no need, for all the principal inhabitants are, at heart, with the Crown, particularly all my brethren, the members of the Council, and most of the Assembly; but as the mob now commands, prudence forbids them to declare without a military force. You have many persons with you who are well acquainted with the navigation of the Sound. The spot which I advise you to land at is *Cow-Bay*.

William Smith.

GENERAL LEE TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

New-York, February 11, 1776.

Sir: As the *North-River* is now entirely clear of ice, I thought it imprudent to suffer the cannon and other stores to remain any longer upon the Battery, and in yards at the very water-edge, from whence the ships-of-war might have conveyed them at their pleasure, as it would have been impossible to have obstructed their manœuvres, almost within the very muzzles of their guns; this day, therefore, I ordered the whole to be removed to the ground before the Upper Barracks; it was effected without the least opposition, or show of opposition from the ships; indeed, I even consider their menaces to fire upon the town as idle gasconades. Enclosed is a list of the pieces and their appurtenances.

The *Mercury*, frigate, the transport, and brig, are sailed; if your fleet was out, they must certainly fall into your hands.

Colonel *Richmore* will deliver this. I wish, sir, you would be very particular in questioning him with respect to the state of your army, of your artillery, but, above all, with regard to the reputed abilities and popularity of your principal officers. I am sensible, sir, that it is a delicate subject to put an officer under the necessity of giving his

opinion of the capacity of others, but when the safety of the state depends upon a true knowledge of these circumstances, all delicacy must be dispensed with; and it may be asserted that the salvation or perdition of *America*, in great measure, depends upon the management or mismanagement of *Canada*. You will find Colonel *Richmore* a very clear-headed man and intelligent soldier, and capable of giving the fullest necessary lights. He is convinced, that any number of battalions may be raised in *Canada* to serve out of their own country. I would submit it to the wisdom of the Congress, whether the scheme should not be immediately adopted; it would answer a thousand good purposes, which must occur to every man. Firstly, we want men; secondly, out of their own country, they are capable of being excellent soldiers; but, above all, it will be a pledge of the fidelity of the whole Province; it will engage them so far that they cannot recede.

I beg your pardon, sir, for the length, and, perhaps, incoherence of this letter, for I perceive that, from want of sleep, my head is somewhat distracted. I am in hopes of walking out in a couple of days, and that my head will grow clear as my feet grow strong.

I am, sir, your most obedient servant,

CHARLES LEE.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq., &c., &c.

P. S. I have not been able to procure, (as thought and expected,) an exact list of the guns and stores this night, but will send it by the post.

GENERAL WOOSTER TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read March 4.—Referred to Mr. J. Adams, Mr. Wythe, Mr. Sherman.]

Montreal, February 11, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: This letter will be delivered you by Mr. *Walker* and Mr. *Price*, two gentlemen whose friendship and attachment to our cause is well known, and to whom the *United Colonies* are under many obligations. As they are the best acquainted with this Province of, perhaps, any two gentlemen in it, and as there are many transactions of great importance to be determined concerning it, I have requested them to wait upon the Congress, that you may know from them fully every thing necessary for your information.

I have permitted the merchants in this place, trading to the upper country, to choose a committee to prefer a petition to the honourable the Congress, concerning their *Indian* trade. You will have from them, and from Messrs. *Walker* and *Price*, what can be said for and against it; and your determinations in that, and every other matter, I shall strictly attend to.

Besides the operations of war, there are so many civil and political affairs that require the greatest care, and most delicate management, that I could wish a Committee of Congress might be sent into this Province.

General *Arnold* has, in a most surprising manner, kept up the blockade of *Quebeck*, and that with half the number of the enemy. He is now so well reinforced, that I apprehend but little danger from a sortie, should they make one. I intend to join him as soon as this place can be left with safety, and necessaries properly provided for forwarding the troops as they arrive from the Colonies. I fear we shall meet with difficulty in taking the place, for want of proper artillery, ammunition, &c., but every thing possible will be done. Unless we keep up a greater force in this Province, from the Colonies, than should be brought against us in the Spring, I fear we can place no great dependance upon the *Canadians*; and, in that case, it might be attended with very unhappy, if not fatal consequences. How great a force the Ministry will send here is uncertain, yet many imagine they will make this Province the seat of war. I hope we shall be able to keep the field against them.

I enclose you copies of several letters to General *Schuyler*, with a couple of his to me. He writes me that he had observed to Congress that I had wrote him with unbecoming subacity. I think he might have pointed out to me the exceptionable parts of my letters, before he made his observations to Congress. It gives me pain that I am obliged, in my own defence, to trouble you with examining and determining which of us has the greatest reason to complain of ill treatment. I am conscious that my conduct will bear the strictest scrutiny. I have ever studiously avoided entering into any altercation with him, fearing that the publick interest might suffer by it. He began to insult me immediately on my joining the Army, as you will see by his letter of the 23d of *October* last, though I know of no reason under Heaven why he should treat me thus cavalierly, but merely to indulge his capricious humour, which, in the course of the last year, he has dealt out very liberally upon many of the officers who have served in this Department, complaints of which have frequently been made to me. Happy would it be for him, and for our cause, if he could learn to bridle his passions. The letters between him and me will speak for themselves. I shall send him a copy of this letter, and also enclose with this a copy of my letter to him, of this date. No personal ill treatment will ever prevent my steadily and invariably continuing to pursue those measures which shall appear most conducive to the publick good, and shall think myself happy, if, by doing every thing in my power, I can be in the least instrumental in maintaining and preserving the rights and liberties of my country.

I am, with the greatest respect, gentlemen, your most obedient and very humble servant,

DAVID WOOSTER.

To the Honourable Continental Congress.

Montreal, January 14, 1776.

SIR: Your letter of the 31st ultimo I received per post, also a number of letters for General *Montgomery*, all which I opened, not knowing but they might contain something of a publick nature. The private letters I shall enclose with this; you will doubtless send them to his friends.

I am very glad to hear that we may soon expect a Paymaster. We have drained our friends here of all their cash, and, without it, it is exceeding difficult to do any thing. Some of the persons which you sent back have behaved very illy, indeed. One *Sears*, whom I have now in confinement, immediately upon coming into the country circulated a report that the Colonies had given over the thoughts of keeping this Province; that there were no soldiers at *Ticonderoga*, nor *Fort-George*, nor any expected, &c., &c.; a story very illy calculated for us at this time. Some others, I hear, have made themselves very busy with the people. I expect, therefore, to be obliged to return to you some of them, with the other prisoners who are in this country, in a few days.

The four fusils taken by Major *Lockwood* were put up in a box, according to capitulation, and are now at *St. John's*, ready to be sent over the Lake. It was a mistake of Colonel *Flemming's*, or the fusils would have been taken from all the officers. They capitulated upon the same conditions as the garrison of *St. John's*, and, if you look into that, you will see that the officers were allowed their side-arms, but their fire-arms were to be put up in a box, and delivered to them when these unhappy disputes were ended, unless they chose to dispose of them before.

I have great hopes that we shall, if reinforced in a short time, be able to keep up the blockade at *Quebeck*. I have sent them a hundred and twenty men, which was all that could with prudence be spared from this place. By the desire of the officers here, and the gentlemen in town who are our friends, the day after Mr. *Antill* left this place I despatched an express to *Onion-River*, in order to get a reinforcement from the *Green-Mountain* Boys. I wrote to Colonel *Warner*, in the most pressing manner, to bring a regiment into this Province, and remain here, under the Continental pay, till they can be relieved; a measure which the present exigency, I think, will justify. Whether they will come, or not, is yet uncertain.

I understand that *Quebeck* is very strongly fortified, and so well stored with provisions, that I fear we cannot starve them out, till they can have supplies in the Spring. The river at *Quebeck* is not yet taken so as to be passable, but, if this weather holds, it soon will be. It then will be very difficult, if not impracticable, with the few men we have there, to prevent their getting provisions, if they do nothing worse. How, then, will the place be taken? We have at *St. John's* two brass twenty-four pounders. Will it not be well to send a number of heavy cannon from *New-York*, if there are none at *Ticonderoga*, or *Fort-George*?

I understand they have a number of thirty-two pounders at *New-York*, and the thirteen-inch, and other mortars, from *Ticonderoga*, with shells, cannon, shot, carcasses, &c. We have at *Quebeck* a howitzer, which throws an eight-inch shell. I am informed that one *Pelissier*, at *Three-Rivers*, can cast shells and shot of any size, but whether he will be able to do it soon enough, I cannot yet find out.

Will it not be well, in order in some measure to remedy the great difficulty of procuring hard money, to encourage a number of sutlers to bring across the Lakes all kinds of *West-India* and other liquors, sugar, and other articles, which can be procured in the Colonies, and wanted by the Army, for which they can be paid in paper money? I am confident that rum, wine, sugar, &c., can be well transported from *Albany* here, and sold at a great profit, and yet be much cheaper than what we now give for it. For the same reason, would it not be well to send forward, as quick as possible, a quantity of rum, which is much wanted.

I am, sir, your most obedient servant,

DAVID WOOSTER.

To General *Schuyler*.

Albany, January 26, 1776.

SIR: Your letter of the 14th instant, with the papers enclosed, came to hand on the 24th. Copies of all I have sent to Congress; and on that part of your letter which respects the prisoners that I have given leave to return, I have made the following observations to Congress:

"From General *Wooster's* letter, one would be led to imagine that I had sent back vast numbers of dangerous persons. He has before wrote to me on the occasion, with an unbecoming subacity. I, therefore, trouble you with the detail: *Sears*, whom he mentions, was sent to me from *Connecticut*, with a recommendation to me from the Committee of ....., to permit him to return to *Canada*, which I did, ordering him to wait on the commanding officer. Captain *Goodwin* and Lieutenant *Schalk* I permitted to remain at *Ticonderoga*, at the request of General *Montgomery*, until they should be informed if their wives and children, whom they had left at *Quebeck*, were gone to *England*, or had come to *Chambly;* if to the latter, then he wished they might be permitted to return, and convey them into these Colonies. They (their wives and children) are at *Chambly*. Mr. *McCullough*, a Commissary, was another, a widower, who had left four small children in *Canada*, and whom I likewise permitted to return, on the same account. These, together with the *Canadian* peasants taken at *St. John's*, are all that I recollect to have sent back, and not even the least without the approbation of General *Montgomery* first had. The peasantry were too insignificant to have any influence, and there seemed, at that time, little danger from the others; and yet I had the precaution to take their word of honour not to say any thing on the subject of the controversy. If they have abused my confidence, they are scoundrels, and I will treat them accordingly, without repenting that I gave them the indulgence, for that was an act of humanity. If they are not culpable, they are injured, and I too. I shall sift the matter to the bottom, and my resentment, without any kind of exception, shall be experienced by those that deserve it."

Resolved, sir, to be treated with the respect due to me as a gentleman, and as an officer intrusted with a command by the honourable the Representatives of Thirteen Colonies, it is my positive order that you cause all such persons as have had my permit to return into *Canada*, to be called before you, and there confronted with their accusers, that they may have an opportunity to exculpate themselves, if they can, from the charges which are made against them, and, if you find them guilty, then to send them here in close confinement, together with the affidavits ascertaining their guilt.

You are hereby ordered immediately to send to this place all prisoners, whether they have my permit, or not, together with such persons as may be dangerous to our cause, if suffered to remain in *Canada*, and who cannot claim a right to remain by some capitulation.

You will also send me a return of the Army in *Canada*, with the names of the officers belonging to each corps; and you will cause such orders to be executed as I had given in charge to General *Montgomery*, and transmit the returns I had requested him to send me.

I enclose you certain resolutions of the honourable Continental Congress, which you will carry into execution, as far as you can.

I enclose you a bill on Mr. *Jacob Jordan*, for five hundred dollars, which you will please to receive, and credit the publick, advising me of its being accepted.

Colonel *Warner* has sent some men to your relief. I have ordered him to complete the number to seven hundred and twenty-eight. Colonel *Fellows*, of the County of *Berkshire*, in the *Massachusetts-Bay*, is also raising a regiment, some of which are already marched. Two regiments are on their way from *Pennsylvania* and *New-Jersey*, another is raising in *Connecticut*. Pray let an exact account be kept of the number of men sent by Colonel *Warner*, their names, and when they arrived at any post where provisions were issued to them.

I take the liberty to enclose you a letter for Mrs. *Harner;* her husband has gained the esteem of all the gentlemen in the country where he is quartered, by his prudence and politeness. I beg of you to have it safely conveyed to her, and to afford her your assistance in crossing the Lakes if she should incline to come this Winter.

I am, sir, your most obedient servant,

PHILIP SCHUYLER.

To General *Wooster*.

Montreal, January 19, 1776.

SIR: Enclosed with this you will receive the names of a number of prisoners who will accompany Colonel *Easton* across the Lakes, the most of them prisoners of war, but some few of them, such persons as have, by their base, ungenerous conduct, shown themselves to be our bitterest enemies. I, therefore, think it very improper to suffer them to remain in the country. As a specimen of their practices, I enclose you a copy of the affidavits of three very honest, well-disposed soldiers, concerning Mr. *De Rouville's* conduct. I shall, also, send *Sears* with them, who, as I wrote you in my last, began to spread stories of a very bad tendency, immediately upon arriving in the country.

And here suffer me to remark, that at this time I must think that *Albany* is not so proper a place as some others for the prisoners. I have heard that a number of them remain there, where they have an opportunity of seeing whatever is done by our Army, and of giving their friends in this Province the earliest intelligence.

Major *Campbell* has behaved himself in a very extraordinary manner, and has thrown out most ungenerous and illiberal invectives against my character. He told Captain *Benedict*, at *Chambly*, that I was a damned old scoundrel, and had broke my faith with him, for that he was promised, both by General *Montgomery* and me, that he might remain in this town through the Winter. Truth is, that General *Montgomery*, just before he left this town, made out an order for Major *Campbell* and some other prisoners to leave the town immediately, which order he gave to Major *Lockwood* to see executed; but, as Major *Campbell* represented to me that he had some business which would suffer if he was not permitted to remain in town a few days, I permitted it. Soon after, it was difficult to pass the river; of consequence he staid till about a fortnight ago, when I sent him and some other gentlemen to *Chambly*, for which he was pleased to bestow upon me those illiberal invectives.

I have just received intelligence from our Army before *Quebeck;* they still keep up the blockade with spirit, yet are greatly distressed for want of men, being alarmed almost every night, and having so few men, if not assisted in a little time, good as they are, (and men never behaved better,) they must be worn out. I have sent them a reinforcement of a hundred and twenty, who I suppose will arrive there to-morrow, and another party of seventy will set off to-morrow from this place. What they will do at *Quebeck*, or what any of us can do for want of money, *God* only knows. Money we must have, or give up every thing. Our friends are drained already. I hope the Paymaster is on the way. All that can be done will be done to procure it, but it is impossible to exist as an Army much longer without it.

I mentioned, in my last, that cannon and mortars might be wanted. Should be glad of your thoughts upon the subject, and to know what quantity of powder can be for-

warded, and what cannon and mortars. I think it of the greatest importance that whatever is sent should be here by the 1st of *March*, when we expect, if properly assisted, to erect batteries and cannonade the town, which will doubtless be desperately maintained.

Mr. *Pelissier*, of *Three-Rivers*, has sent to me to know the size of our mortars and cannon, as he is about casting shells and shot. You will, therefore, be good enough to inform me what size the mortars and cannon are of, which will be sent across the Lake.

I forgot to mention to you, in my last, that we have several prisoners from among the soldiery confined, whose crimes require a General Court-Martial, and, as I have never received your orders for calling one, they cannot be tried.

I am, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

DAVID WOOSTER.

To General *Schuyler*.

—

Montreal, January 27, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Your favour of the 14th instant, with the money, was delivered to me by Captain *Benson* and the other gentleman. I was very happy to receive the cash, which was greatly wanted, and more so to hear that a large reinforcement is coming on; a few have already arrived, as volunteers, which adds fresh spirits to our men.

With what assistance I have already supplied Colonel *Arnold*, and the recruits that I shall soon send him, I have great hopes he will be able to continue the blockade till we are prepared to prosecute vigorously different measures. By what information I have been able to procure, I fear that their provisions will last them till they can be relieved in the Spring. You will, therefore, see the necessity of forwarding heavy cannon, mortars, shells, and shot, with a large supply of powder. Colonel *Ritzema*, who will hand you this, will inform you how necessary a large supply of those things will be to us in carrying on our operations.

We have in this Province many of the officers of the *New-York* battalions, who are desirous of continuing in the service, but their regiments are broken to pieces, many are returned home, and some, when their term of inlistments were out, inlisted into other corps. I could wish that those battalions could be speedily filled up, for which purpose I have consented that Colonel *Ritzema* should proceed to *Albany*, and there he will receive your directions.

I have called in the most of the commissions which *Carleton* had given to the officers of Militia in this part of the Province, that is, down as far as *Three-Rivers*, and given out new ones under the Congress. Those who refuse to give up their commissions under *Carleton*, (and I expect some will,) I shall consider as enemies to us, and as such shall make prisoners of them. I allow each Parish to choose their own officers, which I find pleases them much. I hope it will be attended with happy consequences, as those who take commissions under the Congress will be afraid to desert our cause, and no principle operates so strongly upon the minds of the *Canadians* as fear.

I am, also, about establishing a Committee of Safety in this town, which will, also, be a Committee of Correspondence. They will, by settling a thousand trifling disputes, ease me of a very great burden. But I have something further in view: when it is once established in this town, perhaps other places in the country will be inclined to follow the example, and by degrees they may possibly be led to choose a Provincial Congress, and, of course, Delegates for the Continental Congress. I confess, to me there appears at least a plausibility in the scheme. What we wish, we easily believe.

I have already wrote you that I think it of importance to send sutlers into this Province. You are sensible that it will be next to impossible to procure hard money sufficient for maintaining an army here, and I am convinced that many articles may be brought over the Lakes into this Province to great advantage. Will it not, therefore, be well to give every possible encouragement for the bringing of every article wanted in this Province from the Colonies, not only for the use of the Army but for the people of the country. Possibly by that means we may gain a currency for our Continental money.

I expect, in a little time, to get matters in such a way here as to be able to leave this place, when I shall immediately proceed to our camp before *Quebeck*, and can then be under better advantages to determine what measures to pursue.

Mr. *Pelissier*, of *Three-Rivers*, tells me that he shall not be able to cast any shells for us till the 1st of *May*.

Colonel *Arnold* has not, as yet, sent me General *Montgomery's* letters and papers. When they arrive, I shall forward to you all such as are not necessary for the rule of my conduct, and shall certainly take particular care of the baggage of the dear, deceased General, and of your worthy Aid-de-camp.

Major *Lockwood* and Captain *Rensselaer* desire me to present their respects to you. I have appointed Captain *Rensselaer* Deputy Mustermaster-General. I found that it was impossible, consistently with the good of the service, to do any longer without one. Hope it will be approved of.

I am, dear sir, most respectfully, your very humble servant,

DAVID WOOSTER.

To General *Schuyler*.

P. S. I could wish that the Paymaster may be sent over as quick as possible, as we shall be able to make some little use of Continental money in paying the troops here. As we shall be obliged to make use of a considerable part of the hard cash now received, in paying sums that we have borrowed for a few days only, we shall in a very short time be in need of more.

Colonel *Campbell* sent in to Governour *Carleton*, by the flag of truce which came out for the prisoners' baggage, that he would gladly pay the value of General *Montgomery's* watch, if it could be procured, the consequence of which was, they sent out the watch without requiring pay, and I now send it to you by Colonel *Ritzema*.

—

Montreal, January 29, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: I wrote you the 27th instant, since which I have received the papers and letters of our dear deceased General *Montgomery*, all which, except some few, which contain instructions for our operations in this country I now forward you by Major *Ogden*. I am informed that he commonly burnt all confidential letters from friends as he received them, so that there are none left, unless there may be some in the packet to Mr. *Livingston*.

I shall take particular care of his effects and Captain *Macpherson's* when I receive them. The Army accounts, receipts, &c., I shall be obliged to keep, for a few days, till I can get them copied, to prevent impositions. I have also received letters from Colonel *Arnold*, with an estimate of such artillery stores, &c., as he thinks necessary for the reduction of *Quebeck*, together with an inventory of such artillery, ammunition, stores, &c., as are at *St. Foy's* and *Point-aux-Trembles*. As I find the return of stores which has been made from *St. John's* is an imperfect one, I shall, to-morrow, send Major *Lockwood* to *St. John's*, in company with Major *Ogden*, (who will be on his way to the Colonies,) where he will make out, and enclose to you, an exact inventory of all the artillery, ammunition, stores, &c., which are in this Province in our possession. We have but one piece of cannon larger than a twelve-pounder, and that is a brass twenty-four. If it is possible to send us a few heavy cannon across the Lake, I think they will be highly necessary, as our small ones will make but little impression upon such a strong fortified place as *Quebeck*; besides, it will hardly answer to strip this garrison and *St. John's* entirely.

I enclose you a letter from Colonel *Arnold* to Congress, with his estimate, &c. You will see its contents, and if you think proper, send with it the inventory which Major *Lockwood* will make out. There is no need of suggesting to you the almost infinite importance of taking possession of that town, before they can obtain a reinforcement in the Spring, and therefore, the most vigorous measures ought to be used, and the greatest expedition in forwarding every thing necessary; more especially, as the *Canadians* and our friends here assure me, that by the middle of *March* the roads from this to *Quebeck* are impassable.

Of the few men who have arrived here, I find several of them have bad arms, and are obliged to wait in this place to have them repaired, and even then they are but bad. I could wish they might be better furnished, if it were possible, before they come into this country. I hope, before

this reaches you, that the Rebels of *Tryon* County will be quelled, and their good arms put to a better use.

Accept of my best wishes for your health, success, and happiness, and believe me, respectfully, your most obedient and very humble servant,

DAVID WOOSTER.

To General *Schuyler*.

Montreal, February 11, 1776.

SIR: Your letter of the 26th ultimo I have received, in answer to which, give me leave to observe to you, that I also claim a right to be treated with the respect due to me as a gentleman and an officer intrusted with a command from the honourable the Representatives of Thirteen Colonies. Why, sir, are these positive mandates? Have I ever disputed your orders? Since I have been in the Army I have exerted every faculty to promote a union among the officers, and have carefully avoided every thing that might have the least tendency to cause jealousies; in short, sir, I have steadily and invariably pursued those measures that appeared to me conducive to the true interest of our country. How ungenerous, therefore, is it that an advantage should be taken of my conciliatory disposition. Yet, you will pardon me if I misjudge. I cannot account for your imperious conduct towards me upon any other principle. You will remember your letter to me while I was at *St. John's*, founded in falsehood, and which you could have no motive for writing but to insult me. I thought it, at that time, not worth answering, and shall, at present, take no further notice of it. I shall, however, send a copy of it to Congress, and of your last letter, together with copies of my own, except the one which you observe was wrote with unbecoming subacity; that is somehow mislaid, and I shall be obliged to you if you will forward it. I can remember nothing in it either disrespectful or subacid, and being confident nothing of that nature was intended, I presume the Congress will find that it is not expressed. As you have already complained to the honourable the Congress, I thought it my duty to show them what has passed between us, and they will judge which of us has the greatest reason to complain of ill treatment. For the present, let the matter rest, they will doubtless do justice. This is no time to altercate; the whole of our time is little enough to attend to the operations absolutely necessary for the defence of our country.

You will give me leave to inform you that the commanding officer who is with the Army is to give out orders, and is the only competent judge of what is proper, and what not, for the internal regulation of the Army, and for the immediate safety of this country.

Since the death of the worthy and brave General *Montgomery* (with whom I had the happiness to serve in the strictest harmony and friendship, and who ever treated me like a gentleman) the command devolves upon me, and I shall give out such orders as appear to me necessary for the publick good, and shall send out of the country all prisoners and such persons as may be thought dangerous to our cause, as soon as it can be done with convenience. The returns of the Army shall be made out and transmitted to you. I shall also take care that your orders to General *Montgomery* are executed as far as is possible, and shall do every thing in my power to carry into execution every resolve of the Congress.

Mr. *Jordan* has accepted the bill for five hundred dollars. When it is paid, I shall credit the publick. I mentioned to you, in a former letter, that I thought it very necessary that an Artillery company, as well as artillery stores, &c., should be sent into this country. Should be glad to hear whether they can be spared from the Colonies or not, and what assistance of that nature we may expect.

I shall send a copy of this letter to Congress, and shall also enclose with this a copy of my letter to Congress; if there are any misrepresentations, you will have an opportunity to correct them.

I am, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

DAVID WOOSTER.

To General *Schuyler*.

P. S. I will just observe further, that I think it would have been much more generous in you, to have pointed out to me the exceptionable part of my letters, before you complained to Congress.

Ticonderoga, October 23, 1775.

SIR: Being well informed that you have declared, on your way to this place, that if you were at *St. John's*, you would march into the Fort, at the head of your regiment, and as it is just that you should have an opportunity of showing your prowess and that of your regiment, I have desired General *Montgomery* to give you leave to make the attempt, if you choose. I do not wish, however, that you should be too lavish of your men's lives, unless you have a prospect of gaining the Fortress.

I am, sir, your most humble servant,

PHILIP SCHUYLER.

To General *Wooster*.

RUFUS PUTNAM TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Roxbury Camp, February 11, 1776.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY: You have enclosed a chart of some of the most important posts and rising ground in and near *Boston*, which is as exact as I am able to make from the little leisure I have had to take surveys of them. By this draft, it appears, that the enemy's works on the Neck is nearer the Causeway going to *Dorchester-Point* than *Bunker Hill* is to the covered way going on to *Lechmere's Point*. Therefore, if a covered way was necessary in that case, it will be in this. Should your Excellency think proper to order works thrown up on any part of the Point, how this covered way will be made is a question. To procure upland or marsh turf at this season, is, in my opinion, absolutely impossible, and nothing short of timber, instead of turf, will answer the purpose. The method I have thought of, is to side or hew the timber on two sides only, raising a single tier on the side of the Causeway, raising a parapet of stone and earth next the enemy, the timber to be well spliced together, and, if need be, a post with a brace in about fifty feet to support the timber against the stone and earth. I know stone are bad in a parapet, but as they are easily procured from the walls at *Dorchester*, and I think cannot be driven through the timber by any shot whatever, I would place them at the bottom, and cover the top with earth, which might be procured by opening a pit for that purpose. About two hundred rods is necessary to be made a covered way, which eighty tons of timber to raise one foot, and so in proportion to every foot the parapet is high.

I have been to the swamp I mentioned to your Excellency the other day, find it between twelve and thirteen miles from the lines of *Dorchester;* there is near one hundred tons already got out, besides a number of mill-logs; the carting from this place will be twelve shillings per ton. One hundred tons more may be had on these lands, if the swamp does not break, and, no doubt, but timber may be had in other places. What your Excellency may think of so costly a work I cannot tell, it is the only method I know of, but wish a better way may be found out. I hope your Excellency will pardon my officiousness in suggesting, that I think this work may be carried on with safety to the people employed, and to the cause in general, as the enemy cannot take possession of *Dorchester-Hill* at present. Can we, by any means, raise a covered way in this frozen season, it will be of no small consequence in taking possession of this ground in a favourable hour. The people who have been employed by Mr. *Davis* in getting the timber out of the swamp, will get no more unless your Excellency gives orders for it.

I remain, your Excellency's most obedient, humble servant,

RUFUS PUTNAM.

To General *Washington*.

MEMORIAL OF WEST-INDIA PLANTERS AND MERCHANTS, PRESENTED TO LORD GEORGE GERMAINE.

February 12, 1776.

Your memorialists, in consequence of your Lordships' inclination, publickly declared, to assist and relieve the Sugar Colonies, your memorialits held a general meeting on the 22d of *December* last, and another on the 7th instant, the result whereof has been to lay the following propositions before your Lordships.

That it is the opinion of your memorialists, that during the continuation of this calamitous war, and the interdic-

tion of commerce with the associated Provinces in *North America*, no adequate consumption can be found but in *Great Britain* and *Ireland* for those parts of the produce of the Sugar Colonies which used to be given in exchange for lumber and provisions, and consumed in *North America*.

That it is the opinion of your memorialists, that stopping the distillation of grain in *Great Britain* and *Ireland*, (in like manner as it was stopped in *Great Britain* by the acts of Parliament passed in the 30th, 32d, and 33d years of the reign of His Majesty King *George* the Second,) would materially promote such consumption, and thereby enable them to purchase some provisions and lumber wherever they may be found.

That it is the opinion of your memorialists, that reducing the duty of excise payable upon the importation of rum into *Great Britain* and *Ireland*, and from spirits drawn from molasses in *Great Britain* and *Ireland*, so far as to accommodate its price to the various uses of manufactures and consumption, to which spirituous liquors are commonly applied, would materially promote such consumption.

Your memorialists having thus submitted to your Lordships their sentiments of what may afford some immediate, though inadequate relief to their impending distress, are nevertheless of opinion, that peace only, and only such a peace as will restore the ancient intercourse between the *West-India Islands* and the Northern Continent of *America*, to the general harmony and lasting benefit of the whole *British* empire, can effectually prevent the evils with which they are more than threatened.

That your memorialists have informed your Lordships of their wants and their propositions for relief, are anxious to be forthwith enabled to give such directions to their agents abroad for the future management of their property and concerns as may correspond with the countenance and encouragement they hope to receive from Administration.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO WILLIAM SPEAR.

[No. 13.] Annapolis, February 12, 1776.

Sir: We are sorry to hear of the seizure of the vessels you mention in yours of the 7th; however, we hope the report about *Neill's* schooner may not be true. As we may probably think of giving some further instructions to your Captain, we shall take it as a favour if, when he comes down, you will accompany him. We are, &c.

To *William Spear*, Esq.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO DELEGATES IN CONGRESS.

[No. 14.] Annapolis, February 12, 1776.

Gentlemen: The Convention in consequence of the desire of the Congress, had ordered three companies of our Minute-Men to march to the assistance of the Counties of *Accomack* and *Northampton*, in *Virginia;* two of them are already, as we hear, at their stations, and you will see by the enclosed, the reason why the other is prevented from complying with the orders of the Convention. We would, were it in our power, with great readiness spare the arms wanted. Since the rising of the Convention till *Friday* last, we have not heard from the *Eastern Shore*. The communication having been cut off by the frost, we send you the letters, that you may know the state of the affairs, and, if necessary, apprize the Congress of it.

We are, &c.

To the Deputies for *Maryland*, in Congress.

STEPHEN WEST TO GABRIEL DUVALL.

Woodyard, Monday, February 12, 1776.

Sir: I received your letter of the 6th, by order of the Council of Safety, respecting my powder and gun-locks. As to the first, a certificate and receipt with the other papers were lodged some days past by my son with the Treasurer, who, as I wanted the money, was so civil as to pay it to my son. If any formality further is necessary, I must pray the favour of the honourable Council of Safety, and grant it, the powder and lead, upon producing my receipt, and their order will be instantly delivered. Mean time, it is under the care and eye of the Committee—the quantity five hundred and seventy-five pounds powder, sixteen hundred pounds of lead and shot. As to gun-locks, I was desired when I was at *Annapolis* to keep what I had, and what cuttoe knives also. I sent upon account of both, viz: ninety-two gun-locks, price from seven shillings six pence, to sixteen shillings six pence—the average, thirteen shillings three pence, which I believe you will find among the Secret Committee papers. The qualities are various—some plain, some single bridle, some double, but all pretty good as those prices can afford. We have some locks hereabouts that cost eighteen shillings, sterling, at *London*, and I have seen some at thirty-seven shillings six pence, sterling. Those I have will, I believe, do pretty well. I could have sold them to better advantage to the *Virginia* agents, but as I supposed sometime or other our people would prepare for defence, and my smith's repairing fire-arms, and wanting locks, I kept them. I am very indifferent about selling them, but if the honourable Council of Safety desire to have them they are at their service. I believe I may have one hundred. I bought most of them in the South Branch of *Virginia*. As to the cuttoes, I have two hundred and thirty-one, as you will see by the account. My brimstone cost me more than the publick offers. I lost not a moment in communicating the letter directed to *T. C., S. W.*, and *W. T. W.*, and setting engines to work, and I believe we shall succeed, but we want money to exchange. Of this more hereafter. My best respects attend the honourable Council, and am, sir, your very humble servant,

Stephen West.

To Mr. *Gabriel Duvall*, Clerk of the Council of Safety.

THOMAS CONTEE AND OTHERS TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Upper-Marlborough, February 12, 1776.

Gentlemen: We received yours of the 2d instant, with the appointment, and have immediately set about the business. We find it may be necessary to have cash in hand to give exchange for specie, as we shall get small sums in many hands, and people will prefer having the money at the time they give up their gold and silver. This mode would save us much trouble, and we presume that it would forward the business. If you was to send us down fifteen hundred pounds, common money, immediately, by some safe hand, and each of us would be accountable for five hundred pounds. We wish it may be in our power to collect a much larger sum in this County. If so, we shall apply for more when we return the former sum in specie.

We are, gentlemen, with great respect, your most obedient servants,

Thomas Contee,
Stephen West,
William T. Wootton.

To the Honourable Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

COLONEL H. HOLLINGSWORTH TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Cecil County, Head of Elk, February 12, 1776.

Gentlemen: On my return home, I find our commissions for this battalion are not come to hand, which induces me to conclude they are not made out, and in the return, now with you, I apprehend an Adjutant is omitted. I am this day desired (by Colonel *Charles Rumsey*, who is now called from home) to recommend to your Honours, Mr. *James Luker*, as a suitable person for Adjutant for this Battalion, and to pray in his behalf, that a commission be made out for said *Luker*, (as Adjutant), to come up with the other commissions for the battalion, with the bearers Messrs. *Ewing* and *Gilpin*, if convenient; as some of the companies are rather ticklish, the forwarding the commissions may be of particular service.

Permit me, in behalf of Colonel *Rumsey*, to style myself, gentlemen, your most obedient, and most humble servant,

H. Hollingsworth, *Lieutenant-Colonel*.

To the Honourable Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

GEORGE STRICKER TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Fredericktown, February 12, 1776.

Gentlemen: Mr. *Thomas Smyth*, my First Lieutenant, waits on you, to receive the money necessary to arm and

equip my company. The sum you will see by the enclosed estimate. I hope you will not delay sending the money, as we are retarded by nothing but the want of necessaries.

I am, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

GEORGE STRICKER.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

JOHN HARRISON, JUN., TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Fredericktown, February 12, 1776.

SIR: By direction of the Committee, I transmitted to the last Convention, an account of the expenses of conveying and guarding the powder, &c., sent by order of the Council of Safety to *Baltimore*, which, I am told, the Convention allowed. The persons employed by the Committee look to them for their money. I am, therefore, desired to request you will be pleased to send it up by the bearer, Mr. *Elia Williams*. The amount you have below, exclusive of the wages to the officer of the guard, whose allowance was left to the Convention, which I presume they settled.

I am, gentlemen, your most humble servant,

JOHN HARRISON, JUN.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

Three wagons hired, at four pounds each, - -	£12 00
Six men as a guard, at thirty-two shillings and six-pence, each, - - - - - - - - - -	9 15
	£21 15

Officer of the Guard.

THOMAS EWING TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Baltimore, February 12, 1776.

HONOURABLE SIRS: I now acquaint you, that agreeable to your orders directed to Major *Gist* and myself, I have proved all the guns made by the gunsmiths in town, as below, in company with Mr. *Vonbibber*, who has seen them several times tried in *England*. Mr. *Keener*, after seeing the rest tried, refused to have his proved; but upon my threatening a good deal, he complied. We charged all the guns with one ounce of powder, and two balls. I have a proof-stamp, with which I stamped all that proved good, which stamp I will not deliver to any, without your orders.

I have the honour to be, your most obedient, humble servant,

THOMAS EWING.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

1776, *Feb.* 7. *Peter Lydick*, 72 guns; 64 good, 8 bad.
" " *S. Missersmith*, 27 guns; 23 good, 4 bad.
" " *S. Keener*, 32 guns; 13 good, 19 bad.

WILLIAM NEILL TO CHARLES CARROLL.

Baltimore, February 12, 1776.

SIR: Before this, no doubt, you have heard of the ill fate of the schooner *Nancy*, at *St. Eustatia*. I have as yet no letters from my Captain or supercargo. I daily expect to hear from them; as soon as I do, shall advise you. As to the vessel's being taken, that account is confirmed different ways, which I am sorry for. I have provided a cargo of flour some time ago, expecting the schooner in, and had no doubt of her bringing ammunition, which would have got me a permission to have loaded her out on my own account. I have a good deal of money due me from *St. Croix*, a *Danish* Island, near to *St. Eustatia*. If your honourable Council would give me liberty to send a schooner I now have here, to that place, where I have a number of correspondents, which I know to be true friends to our cause, and will go any lengths to serve us with such things as we may want, I would load her with three or four thousand red-oak staves, some flour, and *Indian* meal, and corn, and send her immediately to *St. Croix*, where my Captain, with the assistance of my friends there, would get all the powder that could be got in that island, and could go over to *St. Eustatia;* leave my vessel at *St. Croix;* purchase such goods as I wanted; order powder, &c., if to be got, and take it to *St. Croix* in a small craft, where it might, with great safety, be put on board my vessel. The money that is due me there, and the cargo I would send out, would, I think, buy near two thousand pounds value of a back cargo. So eligible is this plan to me, that I have laid it before you, that if you give me permission, I will risk it all on my own account, and will give all the arms, ammunition, &c., I may get in, the first offer of all, to the Council of Safety. Should you be afraid, that by granting me this permission, you would be troubled with many other applications, it need not be known to any, but that she goes on account of the Province.

Sir, you will please excuse me troubling you, as you are the only gentleman of the Council I have the honour to be acquainted with.

Pray favour me with an answer by the first opportunity, and you will much oblige, sir, your very humble servant,

WILLIAM NEILL.

To the Honourable *Charles Carroll*, a Member of the Council of Safety.

CHESTER COUNTY (PENNSYLVANIA) COMMITTEE.

In Committee, Chester County, February 12, 1776.

Resolved, That *Benjamin Brannan*, *Walter Finney*, and *John Beaton*, be, and they are hereby, appointed to attend the Saltpetre Works in *Philadelphia*, in order to obtain a competent knowledge of the method of making that article, as practised there, that they may be qualified to exhibit the process to such of the inhabitants of this County, whose publick virtue and patriotism may lead them to enter into the manufacture of that useful and necessary commodity; and *Caleb Davis*, Doctor *Kennedy*, and *William Montgomery*, are appointed to receive all the Saltpetre that shall be made in this County, and also pay for the same agreeable to the Resolve of the Committee of Safety.

Resolved, That each Member of this Committee will go through their respective Townships, to collect good Blankets for the use of Colonel *Wayne's* Battalion, to be delivered in *Chester*, to Colonel *F. Johnson*, who will pay such price for the same, on account of the Congress, as the said Committee have agreed for with the Inhabitants.

Resolved, That the Inhabitants of *Chester*, *Marcus-Hook*, and the adjacent neighbourhood, be requested immediately to form one Artillery Company, to consist of forty-five Privates, one Captain, a Captain-Lieutenant, and a First and Second Lieutenant, and four Sergeants, who will be supplied with the necessary field-pieces, &c., for accommodating the same.

By order of the Committee:

F. JOHNSON, *Secretary*.

To the Inhabitants of the Northwest District of the County of CHESTER:

Pursuant to a Resolve of the Committee of Inspection for the County of *Chester*, the subscriber having attended at the Manufactory, in the city of *Philadelphia*, and having received all the necessary information and instructions respecting the process of making Saltpetre, hereby gives notice, that he will attend at the house of Mr. *Johnson*, in *East-Whiteland*, on the 1st and 2d of *March;* at the house of Mr. *Culbertson*, at the *Yellow-Springs*, on the 4th and 5th; at the house of Mr. *McKnight*, in *West-Nantmeal*, on the 7th and 8th; at the house of Mr. *Brumback*, in *Vincent*, on the 11th and 12th; at the house of Mr. *Gibbons*, in *West-Nantmeal*, on the 14th and 15th of said month, in order to teach and instruct all such persons as may be influenced by patriotism to engage in this laudable undertaking, so peculiarly necessary and interesting in the present critical juncture, at which several times and places the process is intended to be shown to all who may please to attend.

JOHN BEATON.

To the Inhabitants of the County of CHESTER.

Pursuant to the recommendation of the Committee of Safety for the Province of *Pennsylvania*, to the Committee of Inspection for the County of *Chester*, *Benjamin Brannan*, *Walter Finney*, and *John Beaton*, were appointed to attend the Saltpetre Manufactory, in the city of *Philadelphia*, in order to perfect themselves in said art. We having complied therewith, do hereby give notice to all those whose publick virtue and patriotick spirit would excite them to such a valuable and necessary undertaking at this crisis of time, that attendance will be given at the house of

Mrs. *Withy*, in the borough of *Chester*, on the 1st and 2d of *March*; at the house of Mr. *Hood*, in *Oxford*, on the 4th and 5th; at the house of Mr. *Miller*, in *Birmingham*, on the 6th and 7th; at the house of Mr. *Powell*, in *Newtown*, on the 8th and 9th; at the house of Mr. *Bell*, in *Kennet*, on the 12th and 13th; and at the house of *Walter Finney*, in *New-London*, on the 14th and 15th of said month, in order to teach and instruct all persons who may please to apply at the times and places above-mentioned.

BENJAMIN BRANNAN,
WALTER FINNEY.

PRESIDENT HANCOCK TO NEW-JERSEY CONGRESS.

Philadelphia, February 12, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The arrival of troops at *New-York*, the importance of that place to the welfare of *America*, and the necessity of throwing up a number of works to prevent our enemies from landing and taking post there, render it necessary that a number of troops should immediately join General *Lee*. I am, therefore, desired to apply to you, and request you would, with all possible expedition, send detachments of your Minute-Men, equal to a battalion, (under proper officers, and well armed and accoutred,) to *New-York*, there to be under the command of General *Lee*.

Your approved zeal in the cause of your country gives me the strongest assurance that you will with alacrity embrace this opportunity of giving aid to your neighbours, and that your people will cheerfully engage in a service by which they will not only render a very essential service to their country, but also have an opportunity of acquiring military skill and knowledge in the construction of field-works, and the method of fortifying and intrenching camps, by which they will be the better able, when occasion calls, to defend their rights and liberties.

I am, gentlemen, your obedient humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

To the Honourable Convention of *New-Jersey*.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO GENERAL LEE.

Philadelphia, February 12, 1776.

SIR: Your letter of the 9th instant I this morning received, and immediately laid before Congress, who, without delay, paying that attention to it which the intelligence therein contained required, despatched an order to the Convention of *New-Jersey*, and made application to the Committee of Safety of *Pennsylvania*, requesting them to send immediately to your assistance, from each of their respective Colonies, detachments from the Minute-Men and Associators equal to a battalion, from each Colony. The battalion from *New-Jersey*, which lies contiguous, will, I hope, be with you in two or three days. A ton of powder is, also, ordered to be sent forward to you, with all possible expedition. The four battalions ordered to be raised in *Pennsylvania*, are, I understand, in great forwardness. The Congress have given orders to have a return made of those inlisted.

That *God* may restore you to health, and crown your endeavours in defence of liberty with success, is the sincere and ardent prayer of, sir, your most humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

To Major-General *Lee*, at *New-York*.

P. S. The Congress will determine, as soon as possible, respecting an Hospital, and you shall know the result.

AN EARNEST APPEAL TO THE PEOPLE.

Philadelphia, February 12, 1776.

I cannot recall an idea to my mind more amazingly absurd and stupid, than the idea of Lord *North's* second attempt to gull the Colonists into a belief of his inclination to hold out to them terms of a safe and amicable reconciliation with *Great Britain*. No one is ignorant that the *Americans* have offered every thing that can possibly be devised, to bury the injurious and enslaving claim of Administration in perpetual oblivion, and leave matters on the same footing they were before the pretence was held up. Those generous proposals, however often repeated, have as often been rejected with an insolent contempt; and yet, the profound politician tells his opponents in the *British* House of Commons, that he is heartily inclined to a reconciliation with the Colonies, and willing to put them in the situation they so passionately desire; that is, (says he to a Courtier demanding explanation,) in a state of absolute dependance on the *British* Parliament in all cases whatsoever; for, says his Lordship, they were unquestionably thus dependant in 1763.

Had his Lordship entirely forgot the success of his former experiments, perhaps a trial of the same wretched trick over again, might have appeared less ridiculous; I may, indeed, say, less insulting to the lowest understanding. I would ask the most credulous votary for making up the dispute, what possible grounds they perceive to found their expectation of a permanent reconciliation upon? Has any thing lately turned up which has indicated a change of disposition in the Prince or his favourites? Can a majority which have been secured from one seven years to another, by pure force of corruption, be depended on to remain firm to a slaughtering, plundering, and desolating Court, and share the detestation of present and future ages for mere nothing? Has the Court resolved to cast *Bernard*, *Hutchinson* and daughter, *Richardson*, the murderer, crazy *John Malcolm*, and *Richardson*, the recent volunteer, out on the community? I tell you nay.

You have a fresh instance of the firmness of the Cabinet, in adding another three thousand pound pensioner to the list, in a conjuncture when all mankind will confess there is need of saving. These burdensome pensions must come from some part of the dominions. If *Great Britain* and *Ireland* have conceived such a mortal hatred to *America* that they can hug her most inveterate enemies in their bosom, and vote them such munificent rewards for drawing her into so destructive a civil war, we cannot be safe in the power of such enemies. If they abound in resources as largely as Mr. *Wedderburne* and others boast they do, let them cease complaining of their poverty, and contentedly discharge their own national debt, rather than go on augmenting it by their efforts to saddle it, with an unlimited pension list, on *America*.

Does the nation bear the weight of the present unnatural quarrel with *America*, on other terms than a firm assurance of the Court that millions of leading men's dependants shall be provided for in *America*, for whom places can by no means be found at home. Is not the very genius of the people of *Great Britain* and *Ireland* corrupted, insomuch that the views of young fellows of education, or any connexion with men of note, are altogether set on publick money? Can our peaceable men indulge a gleam of hope that this humour will alter, or that youths, bred in idleness and dissipation, will become industrious and disinterested patriots? If not, they must then be so weak as to conceit that Ministers will become less fond of fingering the publick money, and securing themselves in places of power and profit by means of it—indeed, that they will become more honest and saving of the national money than those the Constitution has appointed as a check upon them.

It is no wonder they tell of sending a formidable fleet and army to bring over their terms of reconciliation, when they are in no one article different from the terms they first aimed to impose. Had the Minister, or more properly the obstinate author of all our troubles, had the remotest idea of favouring us with a Government of laws, which had any respect to the security of our lives and properties, he had long since granted, with a good grace, petitions, made and repeated with the most dutiful and persevering affection, which asked for nothing more? *Sed aut Cæsar aut nullus*, seems the unalterable determination of the man, who soothed our already elated expectations, by an inaugural declaration that he gloried in the name of *Briton*, then a distinctive characteristick of the patrons of universal liberty. If, therefore, the whole body of the governing and influential part of the governed, in *Great Britain*, be unalterably set upon extorting tribute from the Colonies; and the better to secure the collection of it, claims right to impose laws, and executors of those laws, dependant only on themselves for appointment, continuance, and support, and all these to be extended at their sole pleasure, it may readily be determined in what condition the absolutely passive subjects of such an unnatural usurpation would quickly be. It is evident they have concluded on two things, viz:

*

to make a bold push for our entire subjection, as their ends would be thereby more readily answered; but that being found impracticable, we are to be tried with negotiation, in which all the craft, duplicity, and punick faith of Administration is to be expected. Pray *God*, it may be wisely and firmly guarded against! The honourable and worthy *John Collins*, Esq., of *Newport, Rhode-Island*, on the arrival of Lorth *North's* last conciliatory plan, observed, that notwithstanding the exposure of his large estate to whatever depredations the enemy saw fit to make upon it, he was more concerned for the probable success of their arts than arms. Had the *Americans* in general the wisdom and firmness of that gentleman, matters would never have come to the present melancholy lengths we find them. However, in the great and general plan of Him who putteth down and setteth up States, this is, doubtless, an indispensable part, and, therefore, not to be complained of; but it has amazed me to contemplate the numerous instances of disappointment our enemies have met with in every plot they have laid for our destruction. How did *Bernard* and *Hutchinson* flatter themselves with the number of friends they had in several towns of the *Massachusetts*, and thought that a very trifling force from the other side of the water, added to their minions, dependants, and expectants, would crush a little turbulent faction who disturbed their darling measures? Certainly, men intoxicated with a lust of absolute power, found something in the appearance of things to tole them on to an object so grateful to their fondest wishes; otherwise they would have been contented to augment and confirm their power by such unperceived degrees, that the happy days many tell us we have enjoyed under a continually invading usurpation, would not yet have been so sensibly interrupted. No less has the so often extolled Governour *Tryon* been disappointed in his benevolent intentions respecting *New-York*. His band on *Long-Island*, and on the east side of *Hudson's River*, with Sir *John Johnson* among his vassals, and the *Indians*, gave him great hopes of having matters in a fine train before the invincible Armada arrived in the Spring; instead of which, it is probable the active General *Lee* will so fortify that place, that all the force they can spend against it will be insufficient to reduce it. *Dunmore*, with all his wanton ravage, has done little more than exasperate the *Virginians*, and convinced that brave Colony, that they can be formidable to Savages on the east as well as the west side of their Dominion. *Carleton's Canadians* make no such figure in the harangues of the pensioner, as they did last year; and in case foreigners are to be procured to be poured in upon us, the greatest opposers of our total separation from *Britain* acknowledge they would then no longer defer a declaration of independency, and application to other powers for their protection. To this the whole scene appears rapidly advancing, in my view, as hastily as Infinite Wisdom thinks proper to conduct it; and if this be His most gracious design, He will work, and none shall hinder.

SINCERUS.

COLONEL DAYTON TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read February 13.—Referred to Mr. Smith, Mr. Bartlett, Mr. Adams.]

Philadelphia, February 12, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Being just honoured with the appointments of two of the Field-Officers of the Third *Jersey* Battalion, we take the freedom of requesting your attention to a very interesting matter. We are determined to exert ourselves in raising and equipping our regiment in the best and most speedy manner, but are well aware of the difficulty we shall meet with in procuring all the arms within our own Province; certainly it cannot be accomplished without disarming the Militia in such a manner as to leave the Province (a great part of which is a frontier country) in a very defenceless and dangerous situation, almost three regiments having been armed by it already. Being informed that a considerable number of arms have lately arrived, and others daily expected, we earnestly request you to grant us (if possible) such a supply, as to yourselves may seem meet, by which means our battalion will be armed as soon as raised. Should we be confined to the arms now in the Province, we shall strip our Militia, the recruits will long be inactive, and, when called to action, be unacquainted with the firelock. We shall, gentlemen, exert our utmost endeavours to procure what we can within ourselves, and should it please you to render us a small supply, we hope, as soon as our men are raised, to have arms to put into their hands.

We are, gentlemen, with the greatest respect, your very humble servants,

ELIAS DAYTON,
FRANCIS BARBER.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq.

SAMUEL BAYARD TO JOHN McKESSON.

At Mr. Nicholas Bayard's, February 12, 1776.

SIR: Soon after my coming here yesterday afternoon, having occasion to go out of the house, I was a little surprised at finding myself closely attended by a guard, and upon remarking this to the officer commanding, at being told that he looked upon me as a close prisoner. I never have any objections to a person's doing what he esteems his duty; and, therefore, readily submitted. But as this treatment is rather different from what I supposed to be the intention of the Committee, I thought it necessary to acquaint you with it. Their intention, I supposed, was that I should be in custody, with liberty, however, to use my recreation of walking about the house, upon my parole not to quit the records. This engagement I will readily give, and shall esteem it a favour if you will procure these orders to be explained. I shall also be obliged to you if you will send me a certified copy of the first order, by which the records, and my person, were taken into custody and removed hither.

I am, dear sir, your most obedient servant,

SAMUEL BAYARD, JUN.

To *John McKesson*, Esq.

THOMAS PALMER TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

Newburgh, in Ulster County, February 12, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Mr. *William Martin*, of *New-Marlborough* Precinct, in *Ulster* County, has inlisted fifty-seven men towards a company, for the standing troops to be raised for this Province the ensuing season. The enclosed papers will fully show the laudable principles he set out upon, which I recommend to your consideration. I have encouraged him that I did not doubt but they will meet with your approbation. Mr. *Martin* is a worthy man, much attached to the liberties of his country, and no doubt a good soldier, as he served three campaigns the last war, and was distinguished for a man of courage. You will understand by one of the enclosed papers, he has the recommendation of the Committee of his Precinct, and as he has been at considerable cost and trouble in raising those men for so necessary a purpose, I beg you will favour him with a warrant for filling up his company. People in general, in this County, are very spirited for the cause, and I make no doubt but one-fourth part of our Militia would inlist in the standing forces if wanted.

I am, very respectfully, gentlemen, your most humble servant,

THOMAS PALMER.

To the Chairman of the Provincial Congress for the Province of *New-York*.

ROBERT R. RANDALL TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

New-York, February 12, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Understanding that there is to be raised, in this Province, some battalions, and being desirous of serving my much injured country in a military capacity, (though totally unacquainted with any of its branches,) induces me to offer myself as a candidate for a company in the First Battalion, in expectation that the Field-Officers will be men of ability, and equal to the important charge of conducting a regiment, in the Cabinet as well as in the field, and doubt not but that such an appointment will be made as will do honour to the Province, as well as effectually serve our just cause.

I am, gentlemen, yours to serve,

ROBERT R. RANDALL.

To the Honourable the Provincial Congress for the Province of *New-York*.

GENERAL ARNOLD TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

Camp before Quebeck, February 12, 1776.

DEAR SIR: My last was of the 1st of *February*, since which nothing has occurred worth notice, except several desertions from the garrison, who are much distressed for fuel, and must soon burn their houses and shipping; they are at short allowance of provisions, and obliged to mount guard every other night, which has made great uneasiness among the seamen, who are the principal part of the garrison.

I have just received the resolves of the honourable Continental Congress as late as 10th of *Januory*, and beg leave to present them my respectful compliments and sincere thanks for the honourable mark of esteem they have been pleased to confer on me, which I shall study to deserve.

The multiplicity of accounts which daily arise here, and many which originated in the life of General *Montgomery*, together with those of the Commissaries and Quartermasters (which, in my opinion, ought often to be adjusted) as well as those of Colonel *Livingston's* Regiment, and many others, which are intricate, and do not immediately fall under my particular department, renders it impossible for a commanding officer to pay that attention to them which they deserve, and, at the same time, do his duty as a soldier. I have, therefore, to request that the honourable Continental Congress would take into their consideration, the directing the Paymaster to adjust those accounts, or appointing a Committee for that purpose, who, I make no doubt, would find full employment, prevent many frauds, and greatly accelerate the publick business.

We have been reinforced with only one hundred and seventy-five men; our whole force is about eight hundred effective men. We have about two hundred sick and unfit for duty, near fifty of them with the small-pox. The *Canadians*, in most of the Parishes, mount for their own safety.

I am, with great esteem, dear sir, your most obedient and very humble servant,

B. ARNOLD.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*.

GUVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Lebanon, February 12, 1776.

SIR: I received your two favours of the 8th instant; have also received, per *Bacon*, the remittance for the expenses of the *French* gentlemen to *Philadelphia*. I had no design to have ever called on you for the money paid our troops under your immediate command, but to have accounted with the Congress, had we not been unexpectedly drained of cash and had pressing calls upon us, two or three ways at once. That to the northward could not possibly have been answered, but for the seasonable arrival of the Continental supply, just sufficient for that purpose. Our other demands, for the common service, are many. The men, for the short service with you, could not have marched without some money, which they have, I trust, wholly expended for necessary clothing, &c. I, therefore, could have wished it had been in your power to have remitted the sum advanced by our Pay-Table, but shall do every thing in my power that the common interest do not suffer.

I am greatly concerned for the scarcity of powder and arms. We have not half a sufficiency for ourselves, as the circumstances may be, yet anxious to furnish you, for the common good, with every supply in our power, have ordered a quantity of gunpowder, lately arrived at *Bedford*, in *Dartmouth*, carted to and now lying at *Providence*, on account of this Colony, to be sent you with all possible expedition. Three thousand weight of this we conclude to order to Major *Thompson*, Agent for the *Massachusetts* Colony, on account of money he supplied to Mr. *Shaw*, the importer, for that end, and you will consult him or them concerning the use of it. I suppose the whole to be upwards of six thousand weight, the residue, on account of this Colony, for which shall expect payment, or to be replaced, as shall be hereafter chosen by us. I shall send you, this week, twenty or thirty stand of good arms. I have not certain advice from every quarter, but, I believe, our three regiments are all on the march to your camp, except those already arrived there.

I have much more agreeable intelligence from General *Lee* and the *New-York* Congress than I expected. I cannot but hope propitious Heaven will smile success on that most timely and judicious exertion of your Excellency to prevent our enemies possessing themselves of that important station. I have the pleasure to enclose you a copy of General *Lee's* letter. In compliance with his request, we have already sent orders to Colonel *Ward* to repair again, forthwith, to *New-York*.

I am, sir, with the greatest esteem and regard, your most obedient, humble servant,

JONATHAN TRUMBULL.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

ROBERT H. HARRISON TO WILLIAM BARTLETT.

Cambridge, February 12, 1776.

SIR: I laid your letter of the 10th instant before his Excellency. He was much surprised at your fresh demand for two thousand dollars; indeed, so was I. There is now upwards of ten thousand dollars advanced upon these armed vessels, and very few accounts yet brought in. It is his Excellency's will, that you send in yours as soon as possible. Let the owners of the schooners make out abstracts for their vessels, from the time of their being engaged in the service to the 31st *December*, for amount of which, warrants will be given them. Enclosed is a form for their government. By this means you will not want money to pay them, and when you send your account, if money is necessary, it will be given you. I am, sir, yours, &c.

To *William Bartlett*, Esq., *Beverly*.

NEW-YORK COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

In Committee of Safety for the Colony of New-York, during the recess of the Provincial Congress, Die Mercurii, A. M., January 3, 1776.

3 ho. P. M., January 3, 1776.

Several gentlemen of the Committee of Safety have attended daily since the recess of Congress, but have not had Members sufficient to form a Quorum, until this day, when the following gentlemen attended, to wit:

Colonel *Pierre Van Cortlandt*, Colonel *McDougall*, Mr. *Scott*, Mr. *Sands*, Mr. *Brewster*, Mr. *Clarke*, Mr. *Spooner*.

The gentlemen present unanimously chose Colonel *Pierre Van Cortlandt*, Chairman of the Committee of Safety.

Mr. *Nicholas Low*, attended on the Committee, and offered to them four hundred and sixty-five quarter casks of Gunpowder. The Committee agreed to pay Mr. *Low* twenty Pounds per hundred, for the said Gunpowder, which is the price Mr. *Low* requests.

Mr. *Low* agrees to deliver eighteen quarter casks of the said Gunpowder, to the order of this Committee, in *Elizabethtown*, and the residue in the City of *New-York*, to the order of this Committee, in two equal moieties, in two different nights.

The Committee adjourned to three o'clock, P. M.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *Pierre Van Cortlandt*, Esq., Chairman, Colonel *McDougall*, Mr. *Scott*, Mr. *Sands*, Mr. *Brewster*, Mr. *Clarke*, Mr. *Spooner*.

A draft of a Letter to *Jonathan Hampton*, Esq., Chairman of the Committee of *Elizabethtown*, was read and approved of, and is in the words following, to wit:

In Committee of Safety for the Colony of New-York, during the recess of the Provincial Congress, New-York, January 3, 1776.

SIR: We have obtained a very small supply of powder, which enables us to repay that so kindly lent us by the good people of your Colony, for the use of the Continental Army. We have directed eighteen quarter casks to be delivered to you, or your order, to repay the quantities borrowed of the respective Committees of *Elizabethtown*, *Woodbridge*, and *New-Brunswick*, and request you to take the trouble of delivering to each their proper quantity.

We were only a conveyance of that loan to the Continental Army, and we take this first opportunity in our

power to repay it, with our most grateful acknowledgments, which we pray you to communicate.

We are most respectfully, sir, your very humble servants.

To *Jonathan Hampton*, Esq., Chairman of the Committee of *Elizabethtown*.

Ordered, That a copy thereof be engrossed, and signed by the Chairman, and transmitted.

Ordered, That so much of the said Gunpowder, now purchased by this Committee, as shall be sold, be sold at the rate of five Shillings per pound, and that no greater quantity than half a pound be sold to any one person.

Colonel *McDougall* informed the Committee that some days ago he received a Letter from Mr. *Lewis Pintard*, informing him that a Vessel from *Hispaniola*, with Gunpowder on board, was on this coast; that he apprehended *Delaware-River* was so obstructed with ice that the Vessel would not be able to enter there; and that, therefore, there is reason to expect her to attempt coming into this port; and that Mr. *Pintard* had further informed him that if this Vessel succeeded in her voyage, an Armed Vessel was ready at *Hispaniola* to follow her with a like cargo.

Colonel *McDougall* further informed the Committee, that no proper Pilot-Boat could be obtained to go to *Sandy-Hook*, to look out for the said Vessel, to navigate her to a place of safety, and that by the advice of the other Members of the Committee then present, he had purchased a Whale-Boat, with oars, for twenty-seven Dollars, and had employed Captain *William Dobbs*, at ten Shillings per day, and four other men at five Shillings per day, each, besides their necessary provisions and expenses, and given to them proper directions, and sent them to *Sandy-Hook*, to watch and look out for the said Vessel, there to remain eight days, if the said Vessel did not arrive sooner.

The Committee of Safety fully approved of, and ratified the said agreement made by Colonel *McDougall*, and direct him to return an account of the expense to this Committee, as soon as he can ascertain the same.

Colonel *McDougall* further informed the Committee, that by advice of the other Members of the Committee then present, he had detained *Robert Barber*, *John Bain*, and *James Henry*, three persons experienced in preparing Artillery Stores, (and who had been determined to go to *Philadelphia*,) that he had agreed with them at three Shillings per day each, besides some allowance for provisions, and they are now gone to work in the Laboratory at the Upper Barracks.

The Committee fully approve of, and confirm this agreement.

Mr. *Bernard Romans*, the Engineer, attending at the door, was called in. He produced a Plan of the Fortifications at the *Highlands*, which, with Mr. *Romans's* explanations thereof were considered by the Committee. After some time spent therein, the Committee conceived it proper that Mr. *Romans* be permitted to lay his Plan, with his explanations thereof, before the Continental Congress, that they may have every information that can be offered them relating to the state of, and place of erecting the said Fortifications.

Thereupon a draft of a Letter to the honourable the Continental Congress, was read and approved of, and is in the words following, to wit:

Sir: As it is an object of great moment with us, as well as the Continental Congress, to have the important pass on *Hudson-River* properly secured and fortified, we think it our duty to furnish them with all possible information on the subject; for this purpose we send Mr. *Romans*, the Engineer, employed in that department, who is prepared to lay before Congress his drafts, with the necessary information. We beg leave to mention, that the place at which the works are erected, was fixed before Mr. *Romans* was employed in the service, and from his ideas of the matter, the place cannot be rendered sufficiently secure for a lodgment of troops, and to answer the end of a fortified pass, without more expense than our Commissioners, appointed to superintend that business, think prudent, besides which, they observe, that his scheme cannot be completely executed with that despatch the service may require. Mr. *Palmer*, in conjunction with the rest of the Committee appointed by our Congress, to remove the difficulties occasioned by a difference of opinion between the Commissioners and Engineer, has doubtless pointed out to Congress certain places on the river, which would better answer the purposes of a temporary defence, and at much less expense than will necessarily attend the execution of Mr. *Romans's* scheme. We are fully of opinion, that the places in Mr. *Palmer's* proposal ought by all means be covered with Fortifications, that will cost but little, and command two considerable reaches of the river. We at the same time submit it to the consideration of Congress how far the completion of the Fortifications already begun, ought to be carried on, either upon Mr. *Romans's* plan, or that which has doubtless been proposed by Mr. *Palmer*, as the sense of our Committee, who were sent to view the works. We hope that this application, while Mr. *Palmer* is attending on the Congress, will not be construed to his disadvantage. Had we been possessed of Mr. *Romans's* plan in its present complete state, and had he been in town at the time of Mr. *Palmer's* departure, we should have required his accompanying that gentlemen; and as there is some prospect that Mr. *Romans* may reach *Philadelphia* before the plan of Fortification is finally determined by Congress, we should think ourselves inexcusable in withholding from them any means for enabling them to determine so important a matter on the best lights in our power to furnish.

We are, sir, with the greatest respect, your most obedient, humble servants.

By order of the Committee.

To the Honourable the President of the Continental Congress, *Philadelphia*.

Ordered, That a copy thereof be engrossed, and signed by the Chairman, and transmitted.

Ordered, That *Peter V. B. Livingston*, Esq., as Treasurer of this Congress, advance to Mr. *Bernard Romans*, as Engineer at the Fortifications on the banks of *Hudson-River*, in the *Highlands*, the sum of fifty Dollars, on account of his pay, and take Mr. *Romans's* receipt for the same.

Ordered, That Mr. *William Lowther* be permitted to supply one hogshead of Rum, or Spirits, to the Purser, or Officers of His Majesty's Ship *Phenix*, and to have the same conveyed on board of the said Ship.

The Petition of *George Coffin*, expressing his contrition for his past conduct, asking pardon of his countrymen, and praying to be restored, was read and filed.

The Committee conceive they are not enabled to grant the prayer of the said Petition.

Ordered, That it be deferred for the consideration of the Provincial Congress, and recommended to the Congress by this Committee.

—

Die Jovis, 10 ho. A. M., January 4, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *Pierre Van Cortlandt*, Esq., Chairman, Mr. *Scott*, Colonel *McDougall*, Mr. *Sands*, Mr. *Brewster*, Mr. *Clarke*, Mr. *Spooner*.

A draft of a Letter to the Chairman of the respective Committees in several Counties, was read and approved of, and is in the words following, to wit:

New-York, January 2, 1776.

Sir: We are well informed that the late General Assembly of this Colony is dissolved, and that writs are already made out for electing Representatives in the several Counties so early, as that they may meet in General Assembly at *New-York*, on the 14th of next month, and that they will be summoned to meet on that day. Government for some reasons has thought proper as yet to delay the publication of the dissolution of the late Assembly. We will not take upon us to assign any reasons for this secrecy—you may easily conjecture the cause. We have thought it our indispensable duty to give you the above intelligence, that you and the friends to liberty in your County may not be taken unaware, and surprised into an election, without time to consult and prepare for it. We pray you to speak to the leading friends of liberty in your County, get some of them to meet and determine on men of zeal, spirit, and integrity, and friends to their country, to represent you in

this perilous day. When you have fixed on proper men, let no time be lost in taking every necessary care and pains to secure their election.

Ordered, That five several copies thereof be engrossed, and signed by the Chairman, and that one be directed to *Dirck Wynkoop*, Esq., at *Kingston*, another to *Abraham Yates*, Jun., Esq., at *Albany*, another to the Chairman of the Committee of *Tryon* County, another to *Jonathan G. Tompkins*, Chairman of the Committee of *Westchester* County, and another to Colonel *Joseph Drake*, at *New-Rochelle*; which was done accordingly.

Mr. *Thomas McFarran*, attending, was called in; the Committee conversed with him on the subject of shipping Flaxseed to *Ireland* to obtain Gunpowder.

Thereupon a draft of a Letter to the Continental Congress, was read and approved of, and is in the words following, to wit:

In Committee of Safety for the Colony of New-York, during the recess of Congress, January 4, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: We have engaged two vessels to despatch with produce to *Europe*, for the purpose of procuring arms and ammunition, but the season of the year has prevented wheat from coming to market to expedite them so early as we could wish, to have a return in proper time. In these difficulties, we are unable to get bills of exchange, or gold and silver, to despatch those vessels, which we fear will totally defeat our design. We have, therefore, been led to cast our attention on flaxseed, as the only commodity in our power which will rid us of our difficulties, but find that the resolution of Congress, permitting the exportation of produce for ammunition, is confined to the foreign Islands. As our safety depends upon the country being well supplied with powder, we submit it to you whether the sense of Congress should not be taken, without delay, on our exporting two cargoes of flaxseed, to purchase powder. The measure recommends itself by several considerations. There is the highest probability of procuring powder in *Ireland* at a moderate rate. If this should not be the case, the flaxseed will sell at an advance price there, and be a fund upon which we can draw from any quarter of the world; and if the enemy should take the vessels, the supply will not be so prejudicial to us, or beneficial to them, as the loss of provision vessels. We request you to get a speedy answer on this point, and transmit it to us, by express, for our government.

We are, with great truth and regard, gentlemen, your very humble servants.

By order of the Committee of Safety.

To the President of the Continental Congress, *Philadelphia*.

Ordered, That a copy thereof be engrossed, and signed by the Chairman, and transmitted.

A Letter from Mr. *Joseph Hallett* to *John McKesson*, one of the Secretaries, (in answer to a Letter by order of the Members,) excusing his non-attendance, by reason of indisposition, and accompanying his Accounts with the Provincial Congress, was read and filed.

A stitched Book, containing Mr. *Hallett's* said Accounts with the Provincial Congress, was also delivered to the Secretary.

—

Die Jovis, 3 ho. P. M., January 4, 1776.

The Committee of Safety met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *Pierre Van Cortlandt*, President, Mr. *Scott*, Colonel *McDougall*, Mr. *Sands*, Mr. *Brewster*, Mr. *Clarke*, Dr. *Spooner*.

The Petition of *Thomas Place*, of *Queen's* County, was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"*To the Honourable Committee of Safety of the Colony of* NEW-YORK.

"*The Petition of* THOMAS PLACE, *of* QUEEN'S *County*, LONG-ISLAND, *most humbly showeth*:

"That your petitioner, by the persuasion of those whom he looked upon to be his friends, voted against Provincial Delegates in the last election held in *Queen's* County, for which he is extremely sorry, and sincerely repents of his conduct.

"That your petitioner, without giving himself time to reflect upon the ill consequences of opposing the choice of Provincial Delegates, (the choosing of which, he is now well convinced, was highly necessary for the preservation of the liberties and properties of the inhabitants of *America*,) was, by the artful insinuations of designing men, led to oppose the election.

"That your petitioner is a sincere friend to the liberties of *America*, and would go as far as any man in the defence of those liberties.

"Your petitioner, therefore, most humbly prays that this honourable Committee would be pleased to take his case into consideration, and restore him to the good opinion of those who are friends to the liberties of this Continent, by declaring to the world that your petitioner is extremely contrite for his late conduct, in opposing the choice of Provincial Delegates, which your petitioner candidly acknowledges was occasioned by the artful persuasion of others, and not from a principle of opposition in your petitioner; or do such other things in the premises as to this honourable Committee shall seem meet for the restoration of your petitioner to the favour of his countrymen.

"THOMAS PLACE.

"New-York, January 3, 1776."

A like Petition of *Gabriel Van Cott*, of *Queen's* County, was also read and filed.

Upon due consideration of the submission tendered by the said Petitioners, and well knowing that the late Resolves of the Congress against the delinquents of *Queen's* County were intended to convince them of their demerits, and bring them to a just sense of their duty to the publick, it is hereby

Ordered, That the said Petitioners be restored to the state and condition in which they were before the passing of those Resolves, during their respective future good behaviour.

The nomination of the Field-Officers recommended for *Cumberland* County, by the Committee of the said County, being read and taken into consideration, as also the several Petitions of sundry of the Inhabitants of the Towns of *Fulham*, *Westminster*, and *Putney*, the Inhabitants of which Towns belong to the Lower Regiment of the Militia of the said County, and it appearing that no objections have been offered by the Inhabitants of the said County, who belong to the Upper Regiment of the Militia of the said County, to the nomination in which they are interested,

Ordered, That Commissions be immediately made out, and signed by the Chairman of this Committee, to the respective persons following, to wit: To Captain *Joseph Marsh*, as Colonel, *John Barrett*, Lieutenant-Colonel, Lieutenant *Hilkiah Grout*, First Major, Captain *Joel Matthews*, Second Major, Mr. *Timothy Spencer*, Adjutant, and Mr. *Amos Robinson*, Quartermaster.

Ordered, That Commissions be made out, and signed by the Chairman of this Committee, for the following persons, as Field-Officers of the Minute-Men of the said County, to wit: For *Joab Hoisington*, as Colonel, Mr. *Seth Smith*, Lieutenant-Colonel, Mr. *Joseph Tyler*, First Major, Mr. *Joel Marsh*, Second Major, Mr. *Timothy Phelps*, Adjutant, and Mr. *Elisha Howly*, Quartermaster.

Ordered, further, That it be recommended to the Committee of the three Counties of *Cumberland*, *Charlotte*, and *Gloucester*, to join in the nomination of a Brigadier-General of the Brigade of Militia of the said three Counties, and report the same, with all convenient speed, to this Committee, or to the Provincial Congress, to the end, that if they are approved of, their Commissions may be issued.

Ordered, further, That the Committee of the County of *Cumberland* do return, with all convenient speed, to this Committee, or to the Congress, a list of the Officers of the Militia of the said County, under the rank of Field-Officers, who have been, or shall be, elected pursuant to the Resolves of Congress, to the end that Commissions may be issued to them, respectively.

And, with intent to remove all ground of disquiet in the minds of those Inhabitants of the said County of *Cumberland* who belong to the Lower Regiment of the said County,

Ordered, That a full meeting be had of the Committee of the said County, after publick and sufficient notification of these several orders, and that, at the said meeting, such a nomination of Field-Officers for the Lower Regiment be

made by the said Committee, as may be best qualified for the service of their country, and as agreeable as may be to the general sense of the persons to be under their command, and reported as above-mentioned; this Committee hereby earnestly recommending peace and unanimity to the inhabitants of the said County, and giving assurance that, in default of such nomination, this Committee will, during the recess of Congress, commission such Field-Officers for the said Lower Regiment as they shall think proper. And, to the end that these orders may be made publick, as aforesaid, and serve as a rule of conduct to the Committee of the said County of *Cumberland*,

Ordered, That a copy of the same be enclosed by the Chairman of this Committee in a Letter directed to the Chairman of the Committee of the said County, and despatched without delay.

A Letter from Colonel *Jonathan Hasbrouck*, of *Ulster* County, dated the 18th ultimo, was read and filed. He thereby informs that, in obedience to the order of the Provincial Congress, he has fixed on and appointed the house of *Martin Wygond*, in *Newburgh*, as the place of rendezvous of his Regiment, in case of an alarm.—(Postage, one shilling.)

—

Die Veneris, 10 ho. A. M., January 5, 1776.

The Committee, pursuant to adjournment, met.

Present, *Pierre Van Cortlandt*, Esq., Chairman, Colonel *McDougall*, Mr. *Sands*. Mr. *Brewster*, Mr. *Clarke*, Mr. *Scott*, Mr. *Spooner*, Mr. *Tredwell*.

A Return from *Elihu Marvin*, Esq., Chairman of the Committee of *Orange* County, of the Field-Officers of the Regiment of Minute-Men in *Orange* County, was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"At a meeting of the County Committee of the County of *Orange*, the Committee took into consideration the appointment of the Field-Officers of the Minute-Men, and conceive that the former appointment was not legal, do recommend the following persons as proper men, and request the Provincial Congress to send the Commissions by the bearer, Mr. *John Carpenter: Isaac Nicoll*, Colonel, of *Goshen; Gilbert Cooper*, Lieutenant-Colonel, of *Haverstraw; Hendrick Vanderlinder Verbryck*, First Major, from *Toppen; Hezekiah Howell*, Jun., Second Major, of *Blooming-Grove; Ebenezer Woodhull*, Adjutant, of *Blooming-Grove; Nehemiah Carpenter*, Quartermaster, of *Goshen*.

"Signed by order of the Committee:

"Elihu Marvin, *Chairman*.

"To the Honourable the President of the Provincial Congress."

Ordered, That the said Commissions be made out and sent by the Messenger of Colonel *Isaac Nicoll*, and enclosed to Colonel *Marvin*, Chairman of the County Committee of *Orange* County.

A Letter from Colonel *Isaac Nicoll*, of *Goshen*, was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"Goshen, January 3, 1776.

"Sir: Enclosed you have the return for Officers in Captain *Hetfield's* Minute Company; by the date you will undoubtedly perceive, that justice has not been done to Capt. *Hetfield*, or his return would sooner have been made, so as to have it entered on the Minutes before the 19th of *October*, nor did Captain *Hetfield* know the reason of the commissions not coming, until the receipt of your letter to me, and Mr. *Clarke's* to Colonel *Allison*. Captain *Hetfield* is so far from making any disturbance about the affair, that he is quite willing to accept of commissions agreeable to the date you mentioned, and desires you will send them by the bearer, on doing which, you will greatly oblige your humble servant,

"Isaac Nicoll.

"To *John McKesson*, Esq., at *New-York*.

"N. B. You will be pleased to send the enclosed return back by the bearer, and commissions for the Field-Officers of Minute-Men, if they can be made out."

Ordered, That the Commissions for Captain *Hetfield* and his Officers, be issued and dated the 19th of *October* last, and enclosed to the Chairman of the Committee, at *Goshen*.

Similar Letters to those wrote yesterday, to several Committees, were wrote: One directed to *Elihu Marvin*, Esq., Chairman of the Committee of *Orange* County, and the other, directed to the Chairman of the Committee of *Goshen* Precinct.

Ordered, That the same Letters be signed by the Chairman, and transmitted by Colonel *Nicoll's* Messenger.

A Letter from *Samuel Stevens*, of the 18th ultimo, was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"Charlestown, December 18, 1775

"Sir: I am requested by some of the people of the County of *Cumberland*, to acquaint you, as Secretary of the Congress of the Colony of *New-York*, that the major part of the inhabitants of that County are desirous that the Congress do not make out commissions to any person, or persons, in either of the Regiments of Militia in that County, until a candid representation be made of the minds of the people, with respect to the several nominations and appointments made by their County Congress and Committee of Safety, except it be to those persons who were chosen by the people of the several towns, in *June* last, by order of the County Congress, when upwards of forty members were present; they recommended that the County be formed into two Regiments of Militia, for which purpose, ordered that the inhabitants of the respective towns in each Regiment, meet, and make choice of one Captain, one Lieutenant, and one Ensign in each town, that the said officers should afterwards meet, and make choice of proper persons for Field-Officers of each Regiment, which was accordingly done, and the people, in general, as well satisfied as the nature of such a proceeding will ever admit of. I suppose there may be a few disaffected persons who expected to have been chosen to office. The persons made choice of in the lower Regiment for Field-Officers, were, viz: *James Rogers*, Colonel; *Eleazer Pattison*, Lieutenant-Colonel; and one Mr. *Lovejoy*, Major. Upper Regiment, *Simon Stephens*, of *Springfield*, Colonel; *Joseph Marsh*, of *Hartford*, Lieutenant-Colonel; and *Benjamin Waite*, of *Windsor*, Major. A return of this proceeding was delivered to Major *William Williams*, and by him, to be delivered to the Congress at *New-York*, that the commissions might accordingly issue, if the choice was approved of by the Congress.

"I understand that about fourteen or fifteen of the said Congress met some time in *September*, and made a new choice of Field-Officers, and left out the most of those first chosen, at which time they made choice of a Standing Committee of Safety, and then dissolved themselves as a Congress. I am informed, that at a meeting of the said Committee of Safety, about three weeks ago, consisting of fourteen members, among other things, nominated another set of gentlemen to be Field-Officers of the Militia and Minute Regiments, so that if they are all commissioned, about one-third of the men in the County will be officers. The two last choices, have created a great deal of uneasiness in the County. I intend shortly to pay you a visit.

"I am, sir, in haste, your humble servant,

"Samuel Stevens."

—

Three ho. P. M. Die Veneris, January 5, 1776.

The Committee met, pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Colonel *Pierre Van Cortlandt*, Esq., Chairman, Mr. *Scott*, Colonel *McDougall*, Mr. *Sands*, Mr. *Brewster*, Mr. *Tredwell*, Mr. *Clarke*, Mr. *Spooner*.

A similar Letter to those wrote this morning to the Committees of *Orange* County, was wrote to *William Smith*, Esq., Chairman of the County Committee of *Suffolk* County.

Ordered, That the said Letter be engrossed, and signed by the Chairman, and transmitted.

A draft of a Letter to *William Smith*, Esq., Chairman of the Committee of *Suffolk* County, given him directions about the Gunpowder allotted to that County, was read and approved of, and is in the words following, to wit:

New-York, January 5, 1776.

Sir: Providence has favoured us with a small supply of powder. As your County is a frontier, and may be sooner called upon than others, we have sent you forty quarter-barrels, containing one-quarter hundred weight each, which

you are to put into the hands of a discreet person, to be sold at five shillings a pound, and for the present, no one should have any, but a friend to the cause, and none more than half a pound. You are to be careful, that the person into whose hands you put the powder be a man of substance, to be able to account for the money arising from the sale thereof, otherwise your County will be answerable for it, besides, we shall want the money to send for more of that necessary article.

By order of the Committee of Safety.

To *William Smith*, Esq., Chairman of the Committee of *Suffolk* County.

P. S. The powder is sent to *New-Rochelle*, and we have ordered the *Huntington* Committee to send for it.

Ordered, That a copy thereof be engrossed, and signed by the Chairman, and transmitted.

A draft of a Letter to *Thomas Wickes*, Esq., relating to the said Gunpowder, was read and approved of, and is in the words following, to wit:

In Committee of Safety, New-York, January 5, 1776.

Sir: When you have read the enclosed letters, please to seal and despatch them to Mr. *Smith*, the Chairman, without delay. It is hoped you will make the best use of the intelligence in your power.

The one thousand pounds of powder, mentioned in one of the above letters, is lodged at *New-Rochelle*, in the hands of Colonel *Joseph Drake*, and the Committee of *Huntington* are desired to despatch a vessel with a sufficient guard to transport it to your County. You will readily perceive the necessity of being as secret as possible in this matter. We enclose you an order upon Colonel *Drake* for the powder.

By order of the Committee.

To *Thomas Wickes*, Esq., Chairman of the Committee of *Huntington*.

Ordered, That a copy thereof be engrossed, and signed by the Chairman, and transmitted.

Thereupon an order to Colonel *Joseph Drake*, to deliver the said Powder, was made and signed by the Chairman, in the words following, to wit:

Ordered, That the Powder sent to Colonel *Drake* by this Committee, be delivered to the order of the Chairman of the Committee of *Huntington*, and that Colonel *Drake* take a receipt for the same.

Ordered, That the Colonels of the different Regiments of the Militia of the City of *New-York*, be requested to attend this Committee on *Thursday* next, at eleven o'clock in the morning, to give such information as may be necessary, of the state of their respective Regiments.

Mr. *Phœnix* and Mr. *William Denning*, of the City Committee, and two of the sub-Committee of Inspection, attended by request; they went to make inquiry about *British* goods, supposed to be imported from *St. Eustatia*; they returned and gave some information on that subject, and went to make further inquiry and report to-morrow.

—

Die Sabbati, 10 ho. A. M., January 6, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *Pierre Van Cortlandt*, Esq., Chairman, Mr. *Scott*, Colonel *McDougall*, Mr. *Sands*, Mr. *Tredwell*, Mr. *Brewster*, Mr. *Clarke*, Mr. *Spooner*.

Messrs. *Phœnix*, *Denning*, and *Abraham De Peyster*, three of the City Committee, attended and gave some further information relating to the *British* goods, supposed to be imported from *St. Eustatia*.

Whereas, Colonel *McDougall*, one of the members of this Committee, has been informed by *Thomas Cushing*, Esq., one of the members of the Continental Congress, that the Continental Congress will not make the loan to this Colony for which application was made by this Congress; and whereas, the publick service will greatly suffer for want of Money, and cannot be carried on without a further supply of current cash; whereby it is become necessary to issue the emissions of Paper currency, which was resolved on and ordered by the late and the present Provincial Congress:

Therefore, Ordered, That Mr. *Isaac Roosevelt*, be requested to get the said emission of Paper Money signed with all possible despatch, that the same may be ready to issue as soon as an answer shall be received from the Continental Congress.

Doctors *John Jones* and *Malachi Treat* have, agreeable to an order of the Provincial Congress of the 8th day of *December* last, returned an estimate of those Instruments and Utensils, which will be more immediately necessary for the Colony in its present alarming state. They also reported an estimate of Medicines for an Hospital, which were respectively read and filed.

Ordered, That the Committee appointed to despatch three Vessels for Ammunition, despatch two separate orders or invoices of the said Medicines to different ports, to wit: One to such port, or place, in the foreign *West-Indies*, as they shall think best, and another to *Europe*, to obtain the said Medicines, and to prevent a disappointment in obtaining them.

And Ordered, That Doctor *John Jones* and Doctor *Treat* be requested to speak to proper persons to make or procure the Instruments and Utensils mentioned in their said estimate, that they direct them to be good of their kind and quality, and that none be purchased or paid for but such as those gentlemen approve of.

The Committee took into consideration the defenceless state of this Colony and the Capital thereof, and that they have not any proper persons to use and manage the Field-Artillery of the Colony, or any other Artillery that may be necessary to be placed in other parts of the Colony. After some time spent thereon,

Resolved and agreed. That it will be useful and necessary for the general defence of the Colony, to raise and employ an Artillery Company, and put them immediately into pay for the defence of this Colony, that the said Company may be acquiring experience in their duty, and be employed in preparing necessary artillery stores.

And whereas, it is the opinion of this Committee, that an Artillery Company is absolutely necessary for the safety and defence of *Suffolk* County, and for the protection of the Continental Cruisers in the Sound, that some of the Inlets in that County be fortified with Cannon, and to those ends that a regular Company of Artillery be constituted out of the Militia of the said County;

Resolved, therefore, That it be, and it hereby is, most earnestly recommended to the Committee of the said County, without delay, to form such a Company as aforesaid, to consist of one Captain, one Captain-Lieutenant, two Lieutenants, one Lieutenant Fire-worker, and ninety-five non-Commissioned Officers and Privates, and that without delay the said Committee cause to be examined all the Inlets on the Sound, that may be thought necessary to fortify as aforesaid, and that the said Committee, without delay, make report as well of the officers of the said Company, to the end that they may be commissioned, as of the said Inlets, with such sketches of the said Inlets as may enable this Committee to judge of the propriety of fortifying the same, or any of them, this Committee hereby giving assurance that they will supply the Cannon necessary for that purpose, and that the said Artillery Company when formed, shall, to all intents and purposes, be considered as Minute-Men.

—

3 ho. P. M., January 6, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *Pierre Van Cortlandt*, Esquire, Chairman, Mr. *Scott*, Colonel *McDougall*, Mr. *Tredwell*, Mr. *Sands*, Mr. *Brewster*, Mr. *Clarke*, Mr. *Spooner*.

The Committee sent for Mr. *Peter T. Curtenius*, who attended. He informed that he had employed *Jecamiah Allen* to furnish him with Lead and Bullets. They directed him to make proper inquiry how far he can complete the last order of the Provincial Congress, and report thereon on *Tuesday*.

Ordered, That Colonel *McDougall* apply to Captain *Anthony Rutgers* concerning the small Cannon which he formerly declared his willingness to spare to the Continental Army; and if it is agreeable to the proprietors of those Guns, and they choose to spare them,

Ordered, That Colonel *McDougall* take proper measures to have those Guns forwarded to General *Washington*.

Captain *Kennedy*, attending at the door, was admitted. He informed the Committee that the Ships-of-War in the Harbour had despatched three boats up the *East-River* or Sound, with both sails and oars.

Thereupon a Letter was wrote to Colonel *Joseph Drake*, informing him thereof, and that the Committee are anxious for the safety of the Powder for *Suffolk* County, sent to his care, and requesting him to take means for its preservation, and to forward it, with a boat, to the Chairman of the Committee at *Huntington*.

Ordered, That the said Letter be sent to Colonel *Joseph Drake*, by *Sampson Dyckman*, as a Messenger,

And it was delivered to the said *Sampson Dyckman* accordingly.

Captain *John Hodge*, who arrived last night from *Lisbon*, by request attending this Committee. Notes of his information were taken, and read to him, and filed.*

Die Solis, 9 ho. A. M., January 7, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment, and spent one hour in the Chamber. No business appearing so urgent as to require the attendance of the Committee during this day, they adjourned till 10 o'clock to-morrow morning.

Die Lunæ, 10 ho. A. M., January 8, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *Pierre Van Cortlandt*, Esquire, Chairman, Mr. *Scott*, Colonel *McDougall*, Mr. *Brewster*, Mr. *Clarke*, Mr. *Sands*, Mr. *Tredwell*, Mr. *Spooner*.

Colonel *McDougall* delivered in three receipts for Gunpowder; which were read and filed, the substance of which are as follows, to wit:

A Receipt from Colonel *Joseph Drake*, dated at *New-Rochelle*, on the 5th instant, for forty quarter-casks, received of this Committee by the hands of *Joseph Crane*. Also a receipt of the same date, from *Jonathan G. Tompkins*, of *Searsdale*, Chairman of the Committee of *Westchester* County, for forty quarter-casks of powder, containing one thousand weight, delivered to him by *Thomas Ivers*; and also a receipt from *Robert Ogden*, Chairman of the Committee of *Elizabethtown*, for eighteen quarter-casks of powder, received of this Committee of Safety by the hands of *Christopher Duyckinck*, to replace the powder due to *Elizabethtown*, *Woodbridge*, and *New-Brunswick*, by them lent to the Congress of this Colony for the use of the Continental Army.

Mr. *Sands*, with leave, went to the City Committee as a member.

A draft of a Letter to the absent Members of the Provincial Congress of this Colony, and to the Chairman of such Committees as may be thought necessary, was read and approved of, and is in the words following, to wit:

Gentlemen: Although a certain day is fixed for the session of Congress, which we beg leave to remind you is the first of *February*, and although we have no prospect of a necessity of calling the Congress sooner, yet we have abundant reason to request that the meeting may be as full as possible on that day.

We have already notified you of the dissolution of the late Assembly, and of the issue of writs for an election, returnable the 14th day of *February* next.

From what you could not but have observed, the design of Government in calling an Assembly must be extremely obvious to you; its evident intention is, to take the sense of the good people of this Colony (in what the Governour calls "a constitutional way") on Lord *North's* motion, and the Parliamentary resolution thereon of the 20th of *February* last. You will remember our late resolves on that head. Should they have escaped your memory, we beg leave to remind you, that on the 14th *December*, 1775, it was resolved, as the opinion of the Congress, that nothing of a salutary nature can be expected from a separate declaration of the sense of this Colony on the aforesaid Parliamentary resolution, and that, as the motion whereon the same was grounded was confessedly framed to disunite the Colonies, it would be highly dangerous to, and totally inconsistent with the glorious plan of *American* Union, should this Colony express their separate sense on the supposed conciliatory proposal on the part of *Great Britain*, contained in the above-mentioned motion and resolution in Parliament . . . . and that on the same day it was resolved in Congress, that this Colony is fully and effectually represented in the Continental Congress, for the purpose of expressing the sense of its inhabitants on any overtures for a reconciliation, and that the Continental Congress has fully and dispassionately expressed the sense of the inhabitants of this Colony on the above-mentioned resolutions of the 26th *February* last.

The above resolves we cannot suffer to be rescinded by any body of men in this Colony, without betraying the high trust reposed in us. What members we shall have returned in Assembly we know not, nor, consequently, how successful the machinations of the enemies of *American* liberty may be in procuring such measures in Assembly as may destroy that Union of the Colonies, on the support of which our common safety entirely depends. That the session of a full Congress will effectually awe a corrupt Assembly (should we be so unfortunate in that representation) from interfering with political subjects, must be extremely evident, and we think it of the utmost importance to the publick safety that the Congress should meet punctually on the day to which they are adjourned, to the end that if Government should, by any steps on their part, compel our Assembly into those subjects, the Representatives of the people in that body should take their complexion from the Provincial Congress, so as to go into a similarity of sentiments with those expressed in the above-mentioned resolution of our body. And for this purpose, you must easily perceive that a full session of all the Deputies of every County in Congress, at the meeting of the Assembly, will be absolutely necessary, for these reasons—as you value the inestimable blessings of liberty—as you esteem the perfect Union of the Colonies under the Continental

* Captain *John Hodge*, of *New-York*, arrived in the last night from *Lisbon*, and left that place seven weeks ago to-morrow.

He says that on the 8th of *October* last, about southwest from *Cape Clear* about one hundred and twenty-five leagues, he met two *East-India* men and a Cat, or North Country Collier, very full of troops. The first division of seven sail, with five full regiments, bound from *Cork* to *Boston*, which first division had then been nine days from *Cork*. That in *Bordeaux* he afterwards met with sundry masters of vessels, who sailed from *Cork* with the last division of the said seven sail. That the three transports he met had not a convoy, and that he did not discover that they had any guns. That the said masters of vessels, at *Bordeaux*, informed him that officers were recruiting in *Ireland*, and had raised six regiments, all *Roman* Catholicks. That the Protestants would not inlist. That the said masters of vessels informed him that after the said First Division of transports had sailed from *Cork*, a vessel had been despatched after them, to order them to go to *Halifax* to winter.

That he was informed by Captain *Calder*, of this port, and Captain *Cussels*, of *Philadelphia*, and by Captain *Amory*, that two thousand fishermen were gone from *Newfoundland* to *Boston*, to cut down the woods before the Army, as was pretended.

That in *Lisbon* he understood that every *English* vessel would be seized, as soon as the consent of the King of *Portugal* could be obtained, who was then absent up the river *Otagus*. That Captain *Sandwich* (son of Lord *Sandwich*) arrived at *Lisbon*, in an armed ship-rigged yatch, on the day before the examinant left *Lisbon*, that his merchant waited on Mr. *Sandwich*, who informed him that if he (*Sandwich*) had met any of the *American* Rebels at sea, he would have seized them. That, to avoid a seizure, he came out of *Lisbon* the next morning, in ballast, together with Captain *Alexander Guy*, of *Philadelphia*, in a topsail schooner, also with ballast only. That no powder or arms can be obtained in the ports of *France* or *Portugal*, and that they cannot be obtained from the ports in the *Mediterranean*, as he was informed, on account of the *English* ships-of-war and cruisers.

That he did not hear of any *French* troops being in the *West-Indies*, or about to go there, until he arrived in *New-York*.

That five sail of fishermen were taken in and about the *Western-Islands*. That three of them, at least, were whalers. That the said five whalers, or fishing-vessels, were taken by Commodore *Banks*, in a seventy-four gun ship, and with two frigates in company.

That when the Captain of the man-of-war, or yatch, at *Lisbon*, examined *Guy*, to whom the vessel belonged, he concealed his register, and said she belonged to *Topar & Bulkley*; and that he, this examinant, said his vessel was his own property.

That by a packet-boat from *England*, which arrived at *Lisbon* the day before he sailed from thence, he obtained His Majesty's Speech to Parliament, and newspapers of the 28th of *October*.

That there has been great crops all over *Europe*. That *Lisbon* is the best market. Wheat and flour so low in *France*, that it will not bring the first cost.

That Captain *Cassels* had a letter, which he received at *Newfoundland*, from a gentleman there, informing him that he would be seized if he did not depart, upon which he fled from thence in ballast. That he (*Hodge*) left Captain *Jones* in *Lisbon*.

That by masters of vessels, both in *France* and *Lisbon*, he was informed that twenty-five thousand men were intended for the *American* service, but whether besides the troops now in *America*, or not, he did not understand, and that transports were arrived at *Gibraltar*, to take the *British* troops from thence.

A true copy of notes by me taken, of the information given by Captain *John Hodge* to the Committee of Safety.

John McKesson, *Secretary*.

Congress, as the grand Representative of the *United Colonies*, to be our only security in this dangerous and important crisis, and, as you ardently desire that a sameness of sentiment may prevail throughout the different Representative Bodies in this Colony, we beseech, we obtest, we adjure you, by a just sense of your duty, by your desire to promote the Union of the Colonies to the utmost of your power, and by that ardent love which you have for the liberties of *America*, that you meet punctually in Congress on the first day of the next month, that we may take such measures as will be necessary to secure the honour of the people of this Colony, and contribute to the firmest support of the common cause, by assisting our Representatives in Assembly to tread the path of Union and Continental Liberty.

Nevertheless, gentlemen, we mean not that you should give so punctual an attendance as to prevent such of you from superintending the business of election, whose presence in the country may be necessary for that purpose, but we beg leave once more to express the sentiment that a full session of Congress, at the meeting of the Assembly, is of the utmost moment.

We are, gentlemen, with the greatest respect, your most obedient servants.

Signed by order and in behalf of the Committee of Safety:

PIERRE VAN CORTLANDT, *Chairman.*

To the Members of the Provincial Congress of the Colony of *New-York*.

Ordered, That Colonel *McDougall* employ a Printer, to print one hundred and ten copies thereof for this Committee, under the strictest guard of secrecy, that when printed they may be signed by the Chairman, and transmitted to the absent Members respectively.

—

3 o'clock, P. M., Die Lunæ, January 8, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *Pierre Van Cortlandt*, Esquire, Chairman, Mr. *McDougall*, Mr. *Brewster*, Mr. *Clarke*, Mr. *Tredwell*, Mr. *Spooner*, Mr. *Scott*, Mr. *Sands*.

Whereas, Mr. *Isaac Governeur* has imported into this Colony four hundred and sixty-five quarter-casks, containone hundred and sixteen hundred weight and twenty-five pounds of Gunpowder, and by Mr. *William Cannon*, his consignatory, sold the same to this Committee for publick use; and whereas, the honourable the Continental Congress, by their resolve of the 15th day of *July* last past, that every vessel importing Gunpowder, within nine months from the date thereof, shall be permitted to load and export the produce of those Colonies to the value of such Gunpowder, and it is thereby recommended to the Committees of the several Provinces to inspect the military stores so imported, and to estimate a generous price for the same according to their goodness, and permit the importer of such Powder to export the value thereof, and no more, in produce of any kind. The Committee having by some of their members and other persons inspected the said Gunpowder, do estimate the same at the value of thirty Pounds, *New-York* money, per ton, and do hereby permit Mr. *Isaac Governeur*, by Mr. *William Cannon*, his Agent, to export the value thereof at that estimate, to wit: the amount of the sum of three thousand four hundred and eighty-seven pounds ten shillings, *New-York* money, and no more, in produce of any kind, which he may think proper.

—

Die Martis, 10 ho. A. M., January 9, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *Pierre Van Cortlandt*, Esquire, Chairman, Mr. *Scott*, Mr. *McDougall*, Mr. *Brewster*, Mr. *Clarke*, Mr. *Tredwell*, Mr. *Spooner*, Mr. *Sands*.

Whereas, full information has been given to this Committee, by Captain *Nathaniel Tylee*, of this city, and sundry other witnesses, that Lieutenant *Edward Tylee*, an officer of the Continental Army, now a prisoner on board the ship *Asia*, had planned a method to escape from thence, and for the purpose of effecting his escape delivered a Letter to *Lawrence Hartwick*, directed to *James Tylee*, of *New-York*, and that the said *Lawrence Hartwick*, betraying the trust reposed in him, had delivered the said Letter to Captain *George Vandeput*, whereby the said prisoner was prevented from making his escape; and whereas, this Committee has, also, been informed by the same witnesses, that the said *Lawrence Hartwick* affirms that he will continue to go on board of the King's ships-of-war, without leave of any Chairman, contrary to the order of the Provincial Congress of this Colony, and made many other declarations highly inimical to the measures pursued by the inhabitants of the *American* Colonies for the defence of their liberties, thereupon a draft of a warrant to Captain *Nathaniel Tylee* was read and approved, and is in the words following, to wit:

In Committee of Safety for the Colony of New-York, during the recess of the Provincial Congress, January 9, 1776.

Whereas, full information has been given to this Committee that *Lawrence Hartwick* betrayed a trust reposed in him by Lieutenant *Edward Tylee*, an officer of the Continental Army, now a prisoner on board the ship *Asia*; and whereas, further information has been given to this Committee of other particular conduct and declarations of the said *Lawrence Hartwick*, highly inimical to the present measures pursued by the inhabitants of the *American* Colonies for the defence of their liberties; therefore,

Ordered, That the said *Lawrence Hartwick* be apprehended by Captain *Nathaniel Tylee*, or by any other Militia officer of this city, with a sufficient Guard for that purpose, and carried to the Guard-House, at the Upper Barracks, in this city, and there confined until the further orders of this Committee.

Ordered, That a copy thereof be engrossed, and signed by the Chairman, and delivered to Captain *Tylee*.

A Letter to each of the following absent Members of the Provincial Congress, a copy of that drawn and agreed to on the 8th instant, was sealed and forwarded, to wit: To *Ezra L'Hommedieu*, Esq., at *Southold*; to *David Gelston*, Esq., at *Bridge-Hampton*; to *John Sloss Hobart*, Esq., *Manor of Eaton*; to Brigadier-General *Nathaniel Woodhull*, at *South-Haven*; to *Thomas Wickham*, Esq., at *Brookhaven*; to *David Brown*, Esq., at *Shelter-Island*.

An Introduction to the copies of the Petition of the Continental Congress to His Majesty, and the Address of the Lord Mayor and Livery of *London*, to the Electors of *Great Britain*, intended to be reprinted in this Colony, was read and approved of, and are in the words following, to wit:

To the Inhabitants of the Colony of NEW-YORK.

To prevent as much as possible the evil consequences which may arise from the assertion that the "Continental Congress have made no approaches towards an accommodation with *Great Britain*," the Committee of Safety of the Colony of *New-York* have directed the following Petition of the Continental Congress to His Majesty, and the Address of the Lord Mayor and Livery of *London* to the Electors of *Great Britain*, occasioned by that Petition, to be published.

In the present unhappy controversy, we can call for no evidence so unexceptionable to the deluded enemies of *America*, as the testimony of the inhabitants of the Capital city of *Great Britain*. Every information on this subject coming from among us might, perhaps, be considered as passing through a suspicious channel, but, when we appeal to those who, if we have engaged without grounds in the present contention, are immediately interested against us, every unprejudiced reader must be convinced that their voluntary testimony in our favour is full proof of the justice of our cause, and it is for this purpose that the abovementioned Address is recommended to the serious consideration of the inhabitants of the Colony of *New-York*.

By order of the Committee:

PIERRE VAN CORTLANDT, *Chairman.*

New-York, January 9, 1776.

—

3 ho. P. M., January 9, 1776.

The Committee of Safety met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *Pierre Van Cortlandt*, Esquire, Chairman, Colonel *McDougall*, Mr. *Scott*, Mr. *Brewster*, Mr. *Clarke*, Mr. *Tredwell*, Mr. *Sands*, Mr. *Spooner*.

Pursuant to return of an election in the presence of *Garret Abeel* and *Abraham Brinckerhaff*, two of the Committee of the City of *New-York*, commissions were issued for

the Officers of Beat No. 13, in the said City, to wit: to *David Wolf*, Captain; *Joseph Winter*, First Lieutenant; *Christian Wolf*, Second Lieutenant; and *Philip Phœnix*, Ensign.

A draft of a Letter to the Committee of *Cumberland* County was read and approved, and is in the words following, to wit:

In Committee of Safety for the Colony of New-York, during the recess of the Provincial Congress, New-York, January 9, 1776.

Gentlemen: We enclose you a certified copy of sundry resolutions of the Committee of Safety, as to your County; they are so plain they need no comment.

We are extremely sorry to find that jealousies and divisions subsist in your County at this late day, when your whole Militia ought to have been fully organized and regulated, and in the best order and discipline. This gives us the greater chagrin and anxiety, because we expected your County was so firmly attached to the cause of *American* liberty, that, in proportion to your numbers and strength, you would have been more forward, and in greater readiness than other parts of the Colony, where Ministerial measures might be expected to have spread their baneful influence.

We entreat, we pray, and obtest you, as you tender not only your own welfare and happiness, but, also, the success of the *American* Colonies in their present struggle for liberty, that you exert yourselves to put an amicable period to all dissensions in your County, and bring about a perfect union among the inhabitants, and for this purpose that you cause a large, respectable County Committee to be elected in your County, if that has not already been done. All the difficulties arising in smaller matters, we would hope your County Committee would easily accommodate, and that their determinations would be cheerfully acquiesced in.

At the same time that we earnestly recommend unanimity and harmony to all the good people of your County, and a proper spirit of prudence, discretion, and direction to your County Committee, and their sub-Committees, if they have any such, give us leave to press on you to distinguish yourselves by setting an example of obedience to your Military Officers, and of care in acquiring military discipline, and that you inculcate the same good conduct on all the people of your County.

Let every Son of Freedom employ his utmost efforts, that our attachment to the Rules of Congress, our military subordination and skill, according to their plan and directions, and our attachment to good order and Government, may distinguish us from our enemies, as much as the glorious cause we are engaged in.

We are, respectfully, gentlemen, your very humble servants.

By order of the Committee of Safety.

To the Chairman and Members of the County Committee, *Cumberland* County.

Ordered, That a copy thereof be engrossed, and signed by the Chairman, and transmitted by Doctor *Spooner*.

Mr. *Peter T. Curtenius* delivered in an account of the Lead which he has, as yet, been able to procure in obedience to the late Order of the Provincial Congress, amounting to eight thousand five hundred and eight pounds. The same was filed.

—

Die Mercurii, 10 ho. A. M., January 10, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *Pierre Van Cortlandt*, Esq., Chairman, Colonel *McDougall*, Mr. *Sands*, Mr. *Tredwell*, Mr. *Scott*, Mr. *Brewster*, Mr. *Clarke*, Mr. *Spooner*.

Mr. *Nicholas Low*, attending at the door, was admitted. He informed the Committee that he had received information that Lord *Stirling* had a design to use the Vessel of Mr. *Isaac Governeur*, now at *Elizabethtown-Point*, to seize Despatches from on board the Ship bound for *London*, and under the command of Captain *Cooper*.

Thereupon, a draught of a Letter to Lord *Stirling* was read and approved of, and is in the words following, to wit:

In Committee of Safety for the Colony of New-York, during the recess of Provincial Congress, New-York, January 10, 1776

My Lord: While we entertain the highest sense of your zeal in the publick service, permit us to inform you that we have this moment received advice of your design to employ a sloop, now loading at *Elizabethtown-Point*, under the protection of this Committee, and the direction of Mr. *Nicholas Low*, of this city, to seize the Despatches now on board Captain *Cooper*. Though we do not, altogether, rely on this advice, yet, lest it should be well-founded, we beg leave to inform you, that such an expedient will, in our opinion, be prejudicial to the common cause. You doubtless know, my Lord, upon what errand she came to this Continent. Should any steps be taken on our part that may embarrass those of our friends abroad, who are running risks to serve us, we must necessarily lose their assistance in an article of the utmost importance to us. We can divine no reason why that sloop should be preferred to many others in *New-Jersey* equally fit for the service, unless it is, that the few swivels she has mounted may denominate her an armed vessel. Should this be the reason for preferring her to any other, the purpose may be effectually answered by borrowing those swivels and mounting them in some other vessel. If your design should be such as we have mentioned, we beg that the expedient proposed by us may be adopted in preference to the one which will naturally discourage our friends abroad from continuing their friendship towards us.

We are, with great respect, my Lord, your Lordship's most obedient servants.

By order of the Committee of Safety.

To Lord *Stirling*.

P. S. We beg leave to inform your Lordship that we have understood the ship will be convoyed to sea by a company of Marines, in a pilot-boat.

Ordered, That a copy thereof be engrossed, and signed by the Chairman, and delivered to Mr. *Low*.

(N. B. Mr. *Low* having discovered that the information he had received was without any foundation, and this Letter unnecessary, returned it to the Committee of Safety on the 11th, and it was ordered to be destroyed.)

Thomas Merritt, who was apprehended and brought before the Committee by some of the Inhabitants, on information of persons from *Westchester* County that he had declared he had seen people casting great quantities of Bullets to kill the Whigs, and that he knew where great quantities of those Bullets were; was examined. Notes of his examination are filed.

The Witnesses against him were examined, in his presence, and *Merritt* and the Witnesses withdrew.

Thereupon, *Ordered*, That the said *Thomas Merritt* be discharged. And he was charged from the Chair to be more cautious of his declarations and reports for the future.

Pursuant to a return of an Election of Officers in Beat No. 14, of the City of *New-York*, in the presence of *Garret Abeel* and *Abraham Brinckerhoff*, two of the Committee of the said City, Commissions were issued to the following Officers, to wit:

Pardon Burlingham, Captain; *Henry York*, First Lieutenant; *Thomas Van Pelt*, Second Lieutenant; *Anthony Ford*, Ensign.

—

Die Mercurii, 3 ho. P. M., January 10, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *Pierre Van Cortlandt*, Esq., Chairman, Colonel *McDougall*, Mr. *Sands*, Mr. *Scott*, Mr. *Tredwell*, Mr. *Brewster*, Mr. *Clarke*, Mr. *Spooner*.

Letters to sundry Members of the Provincial Congress, each Letter being a copy of that drawn and agreed to on the 8th instant, were sealed, directed, and despatched.

Colonel *Palmer* returned from the Continental Congress, and brought to the Committee Chamber the Money sent from Congress by him and Colonel *Brasher*. The Deputy Treasurer being this evening from home, with the consent of Mr. *Sands*,

Ordered, That the said Money be deposited in a strong iron-chest at his house, and the key of the said chest given to Colonel *Palmer* or Colonel *Brasher*.

A certified copy of Resolutions of Congress, dated the 5th *January*, instant, respecting the Fortifications in the *Highlands*, were read and filed, and are in the words following, to wit:

"In Congress, January 5, 1776.

"The Congress resumed the consideration of the Report of the Committee on the state of *New-York*, and having consulted the gentlemen sent to Congress by the Convention of *New-York*, the same was agreed to as follows, to wit:

"*Resolved*, That for the reasons contained in the papers hereunto annexed, this Committee are of opinion that no further Fortifications ought to be erected at *Martelaer's Rock*, on the *Hudson-River*, and that a point of land at *Pooplopen's Kill*, on the said River, ought, without delay, to be effectually fortified.

"*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the Convention, or in their recess, the Committee of Safety of *New-York*, to carry into execution the above Resolution.

"Extract from the Minutes:

"CHARLES THOMSON, *Secretary*."

Colonel *Brasher*, who is a Member of the Committee of Safety, being returned from *Philadelphia*, Doctor *Spooner* renewed his solicitation for leave to return to his County, and which he had, for several days, been encouraged to expect when another Member should arrive.

The Committee being of opinion, unanimously, that it is necessary Doctor *Spooner* should return to his County to carry up the Writ for an election of Representatives in General Assembly; the Commissions for the Field-Officers of the Militia; and the Letter from this Committee; and to endeavour to restore unanimity and harmony among the inhabitants, it is agreed that he have leave of absence.

And, whereas, it is inconvenient for Doctor *Paul Spooner* to return to the County of *Cumberland*, which is very distant, without a small supply of cash for that purpose, and it appears to the Committee that his return there at present may be useful, and he has solicited aid from the Treasury of the Provincial Congress, on the credit of *Cumberland* County, for his relief, to be repaid in such manner as the Provincial Congress of this Colony shall direct.

Ordered, That *Peter Van B. Livingston*, Esq., as Treasurer of the Provincial Congress of this Colony, advance to Doctor *Paul Spooner*, or his order, the sum of twenty Pounds, on the credit of *Cumberland* County, and of himself, to be repaid in such manner as the Provincial Congress of this Colony shall direct, and that a copy of this Order be a warrant to the Treasurer for that purpose.

And Ordered further, That until such payment made, Doctor *Paul Spooner* be, and remain indebted unto the said *Peter V. B. Livingston*, Esq., for the sum of twenty Pounds, for so much cash lent, and, at all events, to be repaid by himself, if not repaid by the County of *Cumberland*.

It was suggested to the Committee that a few copies of the Proceedings of the Continental Congress, first published, and, also, of their late Proceedings, would be very useful in the Committees of the respective Towns and Districts in *Cumberland* County.

Ordered, That *John Holt* furnish thirty-five copies to Doctor *Spooner* for that purpose.

—

Die Jovis, 10 ho. A. M., January 11, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *Pierre Van Cortlandt*, Esq., Chairman, Mr. *Scott*, Mr. *McDougall*, Mr. *Sands*, Mr. *Tredwell*, Mr. *Clarke*, Colonel *Brasher*, Mr. *Brewster*.

A Letter from the Delegates of this Colony at Congress, was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"Philadelphia, January 5, 1776.

"GENTLEMEN: The Congress has been so much encumbered with business, that it has not, till now, been in our power to write to you decisively on the subject of your several favours, indeed, the appointment of an officer to command in the *Highlands* still remains undetermined, though we doubt not the recommendation communicated in your letter of the 8th of *December*, will have its due weight.

"We highly applaud the spirit, and, at the same time, respectful manner, in which you have supported the dignity and independence of our Colony, and demanded reparation on the subject of the *Connecticut* inroad. An interposition so rash, officious, and violent, gave us great anxiety, as it was not only a high insult to your authority, but had a direct tendency to confirm that fatal spirit of jealousy and distrust of our Eastern brethren, which has done so much injury to our cause, and which every wise and virtuous patriot should study to suppress. The Government of *Connecticut*, we are persuaded, will not only do you the justice which you have required, but adopt effectual means to restrain their inhabitants from similar attempts in future. In this expectation, we shall take the liberty to defer the application to Congress which you direct, until we are favoured with a copy of Governour *Trumbull's* answer to your letter.

"The enclosed resolution of Congress respecting the loan of forty-five thousand pounds on the credit of our Colony, will, we hope, be no disappointment. It is, in our opinion, founded on good reasons. The precedent would have justified every other Colony in soliciting the like indulgence, which could not, without gross partiality, have been refused. The faith of all must, in every instance, have been pledged to secure the payment, and, consequently, all exposed to the effects of mismanagement and want of economy in each separate Government. The quantity of paper money would not have been diminished. The sums thus borrowed must, in the course of the present contest, have become enormous. Those objections, among others, operated so strongly against the measure, that if we had thought ourselves at liberty to exercise discretion in the case of a positive instruction, we should have declined an application to which, in our judgment, we could not wish success.

"The deputation from your Convention, respecting the fortifications in the *Highlands*, was very proper and seasonable. They have conferred with a Committee of Congress, and been heard by the House, and will inform you of every thing which occurred, so that it is needless for us to be explicit.

"A copy of the resolution of Congress will be delivered to you by your Deputies, to which we have nothing to add.

"Mr. Secretary *McKesson* has furnished us with a copy of your resolutions respecting your Delegates. This arrangement, or something similar, we had much at heart, as the constant attendance of so large a quorum as five, would naturally be precarious, especially when only that number were in town.

"The defection of *Queen's* and *Richmond* is much to be lamented. A Committee of Congress has this subject now under consideration, and it will not be long before their resolutions on that head will be communicated to you.

"We have the honour to be, with great respect, gentlemen, your most obedient and humble servants,

"PHILIP LIVINGSTON, JOHN JAY,
"JAMES DUANE, HENRY WISNER,
WILLIAM FLOYD.

"P. S. You have likewise enclosed a resolution of Congress respecting the inlistment of soldiers."

The Resolution of Congress, on the request of a loan to this Colony, was read, filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"In Congress, December 23, 1775.

"The Committee to whom the application from the Convention of *New-York*, for the loan of forty-five thousand Pounds, was referred, brought in their report, which being read, was agreed to, as follows:

"That notwithstanding it appears to this Committee that the credit of the Colony of *New-York* is unquestionable, and their application for the loan of forty-five thousand Pounds was suggested by disinterested principles, yet that it would not be advisable in the opinion of this Committee for the Congress to make the loan proposed.

"Extract from the Minutes:

"CHARLES THOMSON, *Secretary*."

Resolutions of Congress respecting the Inlistment of Soldiers, therein enclosed, was, also, read and filed, and are in the words following, to wit:

"In Congress, December 26, 1775.

"The report of the Committee to whom was referred a paragraph of Lord *Stirling's* letter to the Congress, complaining that several of his recruits had been arrested and

imprisoned for trifling debts, being taken into consideration, was agreed to, as follows:

"This Committee have reason to believe that divers persons, either from inattention to the publick good, or with a design to retard the recruiting service, have arrested and imprisoned, for very trifling debts, many soldiers who had engaged to risk their lives in defence of the rights and liberties of *America*, and as it has always been found necessary in time of war to regulate and restrain a practice of such pernicious tendency, and in such cases to abate the rigour of law,

"*Resolved, therefore*, That it be recommended to the several Legislatures in these Colonies, whether Assemblies or Conventions, to pass acts, or ordinances, prohibiting the arrest of Continental soldiers for small debts, and in order that the same rule may pervade all the Colonies, that no such soldier be arrested at the suit of any of his creditors, unless the said creditor make oath that the said soldier is justly indebted to him in the sum of thirty-five dollars, over and above all discount, and that the estate of no such soldier be liable to attachment at the suit, or for the benefit of all his creditors, unless their debts in the whole, on being ascertained by their oaths, shall amount to more than one hundred and fifty dollars.

"Extract from the Minutes:

"Charles Thomson, *Secretary*."

Colonel *Brasher* and Colonel *Palmer* informed the Committee that they had obtained the sum of Fifty Thousand Dollars in Continental Bills at *Philadelphia*. That four of the Delegates of this City, being in want of cash, at *Philadelphia*, had requested a small sum thereof, in part of their respective demands for their services and disbursements as Delegates, which they had accordingly paid them, and taken their separate receipts. That they had brought with them Bills to the amount of Forty-Eight Thousand Four Hundred Dollars, and four receipts of the Delegates to the Treasurer, amounting together to Sixteen Hundred Dollars.

Ordered, That those gentlemen deliver the said Bills and Receipts of the Delegates, in the whole to the sum of Fifty Thousand Dollars, to *Peter V. B. Livingston*, Esq., Treasurer of the Provincial Congress, and take a receipt of the said Treasurer, or his Deputy, for the whole amount thereof.

Colonel *Lasher*, Colonel *Heyer*, and Colonel *Lott*, according to order, respectively attended the Committee, to give information of the states of their respective Regiments.

Colonel *Lasher* and Colonel *Heyer* respectively informed the Committee their Regiments were properly Armed, Accoutred, and Equipped.

Colonel *Lott* informed that a number of the Privates of his Regiment are without Muskets, or Firelocks, and some of them unable to purchase, and that Arms are so scarce, that it is difficult to purchase.

Those gentlemen further informed the Committee in substance, that the Privates of the two first mentioned Regiments in particular had done a great deal of duty, at much expense of time and money, that the whole City Militia, through the multiplicity and largeness of the guards required, have a considerable share of duty. That the least share thereof is borne, or done by the most wealthy. That many of their men are unable to purchase Gunpowder, and that others think they ought not to submit to that expense.

Thereupon, the Committee agreed on two Orders, introduced by a recital, all which are in the words following, to wit:

Whereas, it is the opinion of this Committee, that it will be necessary for the immediate safety of the Colony, that an half pound of Powder be delivered out at the publick expense, to the several effective Officers and Privates of the Militia and Minute-Men of this Colony, who are well affected to the publick cause, to the end that they may not have reason to complain of the want of means to answer the good purpose aforesaid;

It is therefore, *Ordered*, That such quantities of the publick Powder be delivered out for the purpose aforesaid, under the following regulations, that is to say:

1st. That every Colonel, or in his absence, the next commanding officer of Militia and Minute-Men in this Colony do, without delay, make a return of the effective Officers and Privates in their respective Regiments, to this Committee, distinguishing therein such as are well affected as aforesaid, to the end that such distribution as aforesaid may be made.

Secondly. And to prevent any unnecessary expenditure of Powder, it is hereby declared, that the Militia and Minute-Men are not to depend on any further supplies at the publick expense; and, it is further,

Ordered, That at every Regimental, or other Muster, Review, Training, or other Military service, each Militia and Minute-Man, whose duty it will be to attend the same, do attend, furnished with as many Cartridges, filled properly with Powder and Ball, as the quantity of half a pound of Powder will be sufficient to fill in manner aforesaid; and to prevent and punish neglects in those instances, that every Commanding Officer, do at every such Muster, Review, Training, or other Military service, cause strict search to be made, whether every person attending the same be duly provided in manner aforesaid.

A Letter from *Tryon* County Committee, received by the *Albany* Post-Rider, was read and filed. This Letter informs of their election of Deputies.

Ordered, That it be reported and read to the Provincial Congress, at their first meeting after the recess.

Sundry large Accounts of Captain *John Grenell* and Captain *John Hulbert*, who served in the last Northern campaign, were produced to the Committee, and payment thereof solicited.

The Committee took the said Accounts into examination and consideration, and after some time spent therein, are of opinion, that as to sundry disbursements charged therein, the Committee have not sufficient information to determine thereon. That of other parts of those Accounts they are not proper judges. That Major-General *Schuyler* only is competent, and this Committee incompetent for the settlement thereof.

That it is the business and duty of a Paymaster to pay those Accounts, and the payment of Military Accounts necessarily renders the accounts of the Congress of this Colony more complex and intricate, and may in the end be attended with loss to the Colony.

Thereupon, a draft of a Letter to Major-General *Schuyler*, was read and approved of, and is in the words following, to wit:

"Sir: We are sorry to be obliged to point out to you a defect in the conduct of the Paymaster under your department, which has in your multiplicity of business doubtless escaped your attention; and proves a subject of great inconvenience to us, and delay to the publick service. Our situation subjects us necessarily to the transaction of many matters purely of a Continental nature, in the course of which repeated applications to the Continental Congress for money, are unavoidable; to this, however, we cheerfully submit, but think it a great hardship, that while a Continental Paymaster is handsomely appointed, we should be under a necessity of making expenditures properly within the compass of his duty. By this means our accounts are rendered unnecessarily complex and intricate, which may in the end be attended with loss to this Colony. The disagreeable task of applying for money may be more frequent than we could wish, and the publick service properly within our department is too often delayed by the expenditure of large sums to uses not regularly under our direction. We, therefore, earnestly request you to direct, that the Paymaster do, for the future, attend at this important post, either in person, or by deputy, to the end that we may be rid of a very disagreeable service, which in no wise belongs to us, and by that means be enabled to forward, with more expedition, those matters which properly fall under our directions.

"We beg leave, also, to inform you that no resolutions of Congress for filling up and clothing the troops in your department have hitherto reached us, and to request of you to furnish us with such lights on this head, as may enable us most effectually to advance the publick service.

"We have the honour to be, with the highest respect and esteem, sir, your most obedient, humble servants.

"By order of the Committee of Safety.

"To Major-General *Schuyler*, *Albany*."

Ordered, That a copy thereof be engrossed, and signed by the Chairman, and transmitted.

Adjourned.

—

Die Jovis, 3 ho. P. M., January 11, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *Pierre Van Cortlandt*, Esq., Chairman, Mr. *Brewster*, Mr. *Clarke*, Mr. *Scott*, Mr. *Tredwell*, Colonel *McDougall*, Colonel *Brasher*, Mr. *Sands*.

The consideration of the great importance to the Colonies of having Powder-Mills for the manufactory of Gunpowder immediately, and the more especially, as a large quantity of Saltpetre, is confidently said to be arrived at *Philadelphia*; agreed to recommend to *Robert R. Livingston*, Esq., the re-erection of the Powder-Mill formerly built by the late Mr. Justice *Livingston*.

Thereupon, a draft of a Letter to *Robert R. Livingston*, Esq., on that subject, was read and approved of, and is in the words following, to wit:

In Committee of Safety for the Colony of New-York, in the recess of the Provincial Congress, New-York, January 11, 1776.

Sir: While we most heartily condole with you on the loss of so significant a publick character, as that of your late worthy father, your known attachment to the publick cause will readily excuse our intermixing a few considerations of publick utility with our sympathetick expressions on that distressing event.

We have full evidence of a large importation of Saltpetre into *Philadelphia*; our friends in *New-England* are pushing the manufacture of that article, and we hope our Congress at their next meeting will give all due encouragement to so useful a manufacture in this Colony. In this view, it is probable, that there will be full employ for Powder-Mills, and for this reason we beg leave to recommend the re-erection of the patriotick work of the late Mr. Justice *Livingston* to your immediate attention.

We are, sir, with great respect, your most obedient servants.

To *Robert R. Livingston*, Esq., at his seat, *Claremont*.

Ordered, That a copy thereof be engrossed, and signed by the Chairman, and transmitted.

The Committee consisting of only a Quorum, directed a Letter to be wrote to *Peter R. Livingston*, Esq., and request his attendance.

Thereupon, a draft of a Letter to *Peter R. Livingston*, Esq., was read and approved, and is in the words following, to wit:

In Committee of Safety, during the recess of the Provincial Congress, New-York, January 11, 1776.

Sir: The Committee of Safety by the absence of yourself and another member, and the indisposition of some other members, are generally reduced to a bare quorum.

Many things of importance are necessary, and ought to be taken into consideration immediately.

If any of the members present should be indisposed, the Committee may be without even a quorum, and the publick business entirely suffer. The Committee expected your attendance and assistance long before this day.

In case of your indisposition, or inability to attend, Mr. *Henry Oothoudt* was appointed in your stead.

We pray that you attend, or that you endeavour that Mr. *Oothoudt* attend without delay.

We are, respectfully, sir, your very humble servants.

A similar Letter, omitting those parts which relate to Mr. *Oothoudt*, was sent to Mr. *Imlay* and Mr. *Morris Graham*.

Sundry Accounts were produced to the Committee, for billeting and pay of Commissioned and non-Commissioned Officers and Privates of the Companies of Minute-Men, who have been stationed near the Fortifications in the *Highlands*, for payment, and requests were made whether any, and how much, if any thing, is allowed for the billeting of Officers. The billeting money for Officers in the late campaign, having, also, been in part the subject of some late applications, the Committee determined to write to the Delegates of this Colony on these subjects; and to request the resolutions of Congress as to the pay, clothing, and establishment of the new levies ordered to be raised.

Thereupon, a draft of a Letter to the Delegates of this Colony at Congress, was read and approved of, and is in the words following, to wit:

In Committee of Safety for the Colony of New-York, during the recess of the Provincial Congress, New-York January 11, 1776.

Gentlemen: The Winter is wearing away fast, and perhaps the approaching campaign may be an active one. In this view, we conceive that every attention should be paid to promote the publick service.

The commissioned and non-commissioned officers, and privates of the Minute-Men employed for the defence of the fortifications on *Hudson's River*, are left at an uncertainty with respect to their pay, and for their billeting money, until they are provided for at the post, for which they are now applying to us. How discouraging this uncertainty will be to the service, and how much it is out of our power to remedy the evil, must be obvious. We must, therefore, request the most immediate resolution of the Continental Congress on that head.

The commissioned officers in the late *New-York* battalions of Continental troops, think it a piece of justice to them to reimburse them for their billeting money, before they were supported upon the publick provisions. You will readily conceive how disheartening it must be to them to be left saddled with a certain loss, to which they must infallibly be subject if publick provision be not made for their reimbursement. Without this, they will engage afresh with great reluctance. They are continually applying to us on this head, but you well know we are incapable of giving them the relief sought for; this must be had from the Continental Congress. We beg you to procure their speedy resolution on this head.

The resolutions of the Continental Congress as to the pay, clothing, and billeting money, for recruiting the four battalions with the utmost despatch, we most ardently request.

We are, with the highest respect and esteem, gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servants.

By order of the Committee of Safety.

To the Delegates for the Colony of *New-York*, at Congress, *Philadelphia*.

Ordered, That a copy thereof be engrossed and signed by the Chairman, and transmitted.

—

Die Veneris, 10 ho. A. M., January 12, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *Pierre Van Cortlandt*, Esq., Chairman, Colonel *McDougall*, Mr. *Scott*, Mr. *Tredwell*, Mr. *Clarke*, Colonel *Brasher*, Mr. *Brewster*, Mr. *Sands*.

A Letter from *Egbert Benson*, Esq., Chairman of the Committee of *Dutchess* County, was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

(Letter not entered.)

A Bond of *Cornelius Atherton* and *Brinton Paine*, to Colonel *Alexander McDougall* and *Peter T. Curtenius*, in the penal sum of seven hundred Pounds, dated the 20th day of *December* last, and conditioned that the said *Cornelius Atherton* will fulfil his Contract made with the obligee, on behalf of this Congress, on the 23d day of *November* last, for the making and delivery of a certain number of Muskets, &c., was read and filed.

A Bond of the said *Cornelius Atherton*, and of *John Chamberlaine*, to the said obligees, and of the like tenour, date, sum, and condition of the Bond above recited, was read and filed.

Thereupon, *Ordered*, That the Secretary deliver to Colonel *McDougall* and Colonel *Curtenius* a certified copy of the Order of the Provincial Congress of this Colony on their Treasurer, made and passed on the 15th day of *December* last, for the sum of three hundred and fifty Pounds, which was to be advanced to the said *Cornelius Atherton*, when proper security was given to fulfil his Contract; and that the Secretary also give, therewith, a Certificate that the said Bonds are filed with him, that Colonel *McDougall* and Colonel *Curtenius*, or their order, may be enabled to receive of the Treasurer, as well the moneys by *Comfort Sands*, at their request, as the residue of the moneys now to be advanced, amounting, in the whole, to the sum of three hundred and fifty Pounds, agreeable to the said Order of the Provincial Congress.

The Committee of Safety then took into consideration the Report of a sub-Committee of the General Committee of the City of *New-York*, delivered in parole, some days past, to the following effect, to wit: "That a certain *Benjamin James*, who had been chosen Captain of one of the Companies of Militia in the City of *New-York*, had refused to subscribe the Declaration mentioned in his commission as necessary to his entering on the executing that office; that, on a new election being ordered in the said Company for a Captain, the Company re-elected the same person, and refused to elect any other; that there are some other instances of the like kind, and the persons exercising military offices in the predicament."

This Committee are of opinion that the best remedy for inconvenience would be a Resolution of the Continental Congress, or, in their recess, the Committee of Safety for the time being to exercise their discretion in appointing proper Officers, without such election, whenever occasion may require.

Thereupon, a draft of a Letter to the Delegates of this Colony, on the subject of appointing Officers in such cases, and on the subject of giving aids to Expresses or Messengers who travel without certificates, was read and approved of, and is in the words following, to wit:

In Committee of Safety, during the recess of the Provincial Congress, New-York, January 12, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: We apprehend, for reasons too tedious to mention, great danger of the want of a proper arrangement of the Militia in some of our Districts, from making the election of the people necessary for the appointment of officers under the degree of Field-Officers. We, therefore, earnestly request you immediately to procure a resolve of Congress to authorize our Congress, or the Committee of Safety for the time being, to exercise their discretion in appointing, without such election, whenever occasion may require.

We are put to repeated difficulties with applications, by expresses, to and from Congress, on the Continental service, in complying with which, without proper certificates, specifying the aids required of us to be given to such expresses, we apprehend ill consequences. By this means, our prudence in disposing of the Continental money may be exposed to be called in question, and abuses put upon the publick by taking advantage of our readiness to advance the service. For these reasons, we have been obliged to determine to give no such aids for the future to any person applying to us in the character of an express, unless he produce a certificate from Congress, specifying the particular aids required of us. Our late Congress wrote early in the Summer on this subject, but were not favoured with an answer.

We are, gentlemen, with great respect and esteem, your most obedient servants.

By order of the Committee of Safety.

To the Delegates for the Colony of *New-York* at Congress, *Philadelphia*.

Ordered, That a copy thereof be engrossed, and signed by the Chairman, and transmitted.

Colonel *Brasher* produced a Deputation from *Peter V. B. Livingston*, Esq., Treasurer of the Provincial Congress of this Colony, to Mr. *Gerard Bancker*, his Deputy, which was read, and is in the words and figures following, to wit:

"Whereas, the Provincial Congress have nominated me their Treasurer, I do hereby appoint my friend, Mr. *Gerard Bancker*, Jun., my Deputy, hereby promising to confirm every act he shall do in my name in the execution thereof. As witness my hand and seal, this twenty-eighth day of *August*, 1775.

"P. V. B. LIVINGSTON, [L. S.]

"Sealed and delivered in the presence of,

"STIRLING.

"PHILIP LIVINGSTON."

Ordered, That the said Appointment be returned to the Deputy-Treasurer.

Colonel *Brasher* and Colonel *Palmer* produced the Receipt of *Gerard Bancker*, the Deputy-Treasurer, for the cash, and receipts for cash paid the Delegates of this Colony, by them brought from *Philadelphia* for the Congress of this Colony, amounting, together, to the sum of Fifty Thousand Dollars; which receipt was read and filed, and is hereunto annexed, in the words and figures following, to wit:

"Received, *January* 12, 1776, from Messrs. *Thomas Palmer*, *Abraham Brasher*, and Captain *John Grenell*, Fifty Thousand Dollars, in Continental Bills, in behalf of *Peter Livingston*—Bills, $48,400—4 Receipts, $1,600—$50,000. "GERARD BANCKER."

Mr. *Christian Jacobson*, of *Richmond* County, attending at the door, was admitted. He alleged that a majority of the Inhabitants of *Richmond* County were not averse, but friendly to the measures of Congress. He attempted to state their difficulties and fears. Answers were given to him by the Members of this Committee.

Colonel *Brasher*, a Member of this Committee, informed the Committee that he had lately seen Mr. *Richard Lawrence*, one of the late Deputies of *Richmond* County; that Mr. *Lawrence* told him he expected that the Inhabitants of the said County would very speedily elect Deputies to represent them in Provincial Congress, and requested him to inform this Committee thereof.

Therefore, *Resolved*, That the late intended Interdiction of the Provincial Congress, against all delinquents in that County, be delayed until *Monday*, the 22d instant.

Ordered, That the Secretary deliver a certified copy of the information of Colonel *Brasher*, relating to the Inhabitants of *Richmond* County, and of the above Resolution thereon, to Mr. *Christian Jacobson*, one of the Committee of *Richmond* County.

Adjourned to three o'clock in the Afternoon.

Die Veneris, 3 ho. P. M., January 12, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *Pierre Van Cortlandt*, Esq., Chairman, Mr. *Scott*, Mr. *Tredwell*, Mr. *McDougall*, Mr. *Brewster*, Mr. *Clarke*, Mr. *Sands*; Colonel *Brasher*, the latter part of the evening.

Mr. *Richard Lawrence*, one of the Deputies from *Richmond* County to the former Provincial Congress, attended, and conversed with the Committee on the state of *Richmond* County, of his own mere motion, as he said, and without any request from the Committee, or the Inhabitants, to attend for that purpose.

After a full conversation with Mr. *Lawrence*, the Committee of Safety unanimously came to the following Resolutions, as to the Inhabitants of *Richmond* County, to wit:

Resolved, That, notwithstanding any thing contained in the Resolution of this day, respecting the County of *Richmond*, the same was not intended to give them any ground of assurance that their Deputies will be received in Provincial Congress, but only to enable them to put the conduct of the Inhabitants of that County in as favourable a light before the Continental Congress as the nature of their case will admit of, the same having been submitted by the Provincial Congress to the consideration of that respectable body, by whose determination the Inhabitants of that County must be bound.

Resolved, nevertheless, That, whether the Inhabitants of the said County should, or should not, proceed to an election of Deputies, in either case the Committee of the said County do report to this Committee the names of those who do, or shall, either directly or indirectly, oppose such election, as also the names of those who do not attend such election, in case a poll shall be opened for that purpose; and that the said Committee report their proceedings, and those of the County, in the premises, to this Committee, on *Monday*, the 22d instant.

Ordered, That the Secretary deliver to Mr. *Richard Lawrence*, or his order, certified copies of the Resolution of this Committee passed this morning, and of the two last preceding Resolutions, as to the Inhabitants of *Richmond* County.

Copies of three Affidavits, as to the ill conduct and threatenings of *Samuel Devine*, certified by Captain *John Wisner*, were read and filed, and are in the words following, to wit:

"ULSTER *County:*

"*Stephen Semour*, of full age, being duly sworn on the Holy Evangelist, this 4th day of *January*, 1776, saith,

that on *Monday* evening, the 1st instant, being at the house of *Daniel M. Giden*, he heard *Samuel Devine* repeatedly drink damnation to the Congress, and all the Whigs; that last year was Whig year, but this would be Tory year; and, likewise, that all the Whigs would be hanged in the Spring; and, furthermore, repeatedly called the Whigs a pack of damned Rebels; and further saith, that he would not obey his officers, more than he would a dog, or to that purpose. And further saith not.

"STEPHEN SEMOUR."

"ULSTER *County:*

"*George Lean*, of full age, being duly sworn on the Holy Evangelist, this 4th day of *January*, 1776, saith, that being sent with a warrant from Captain *Teerpany* to the house of *Samuel Devine*, to levy on his goods and chattels, for not appearing under arms according to military law, at which time he levied on two ox-chains. *Devine* then threatened, if he took the chains, he should immediately be a dead man. After going some rods from said *Devine's* house, was followed by him, who desired to see his warrant, which the deponent's brother had in his hand, and, showing it to him, said *Devine* snatched it out of his hand, and destroyed it; and further saith, that *Devine* said, if satisfaction was not made for his chains, he would come up and kill a half dozen of them. And further saith not.

"GEORGE LEAN."

"ULSTER *County:*

"*Henry Lockwood*, of full age, being duly sworn on the Holy Evangelist, this 4th day of *January*, 1776, saith, that on his way from *Newburgh* homeward, he met with some persons, among which was a certain *Samuel Devine*, who then asked him if he did not know there was a reward for taking up a Committee-man, and sending him on board the man-of-war?—who then threatened to take said deponent, he being one of the Committee of *New-Marlborough* Precinct, and that he could have forty pounds in cash, or fifty acres of land, for delivering a Committee-man on board the man-of-war. And further saith not.

"HENRY LOCKWOOD."

"A true copy of the oaths. Given under my hand:

"*Captain* JOHN WISNER."

Application was again made to this Committee on the subject of Captain *John Hulbert's* and Captain *John Grenell's* Accounts. *Hulbert* and *Grenell*, attending at the door, were admitted, with their Accounts. Many articles in their Accounts were pointed out to them, to the settlement whereof this Committee is by no means competent. Captain *Grenell* and Captain *Hulbert* withdrew. After some considerable time spent in attention to those Accounts, and sundry debates thereon, to enable those gentlemen fully to pay off and discharge all moneys due to the Privates and non-Commissioned Officers of their Companies, this Committee agreed and resolved to allow them one thousand Pounds on account, and came to a determination, in the words following, to wit:

Whereas, Captain *Grenell* and Captain *Hulbert*, of the Third Battalion of the *New-York* Continental Troops, under the command of Colonel *Clinton*, now in actual service in *Canada*, have applied to this Committee with their respective Accounts, that of Captain *Grenell* exhibiting a balance of six hundred and twenty-four Pounds four Shillings and eleven Pence, and that of Captain *Hulbert* a balance of eight hundred and twenty-six Pounds two Shillings and eight and one-fourth Pence, the liquidation of which Accounts, this Committee conceive, does not properly fall within their department; and whereas, for reasons unknown to us, no Paymaster attends this Post, to whom they can be referred for their respective balances, and as this Committee has strong apprehensions that any delay of the means to enable them to pay the men of their respective Companies, may prove a great discouragement to persons who would otherwise willingly engage in the service of the *United Colonies*,

Resolved, That the gross sum of four hundred and fifty Pounds on Captain *Grenell's* Account, and five hundred and fifty Pounds on Captain *Hulbert's*, be advanced to them, respectively, by the Treasurer of the Provincial Congress, on the account of the Continental Congress, and be accordingly passed to the debit of their account; and that a copy of this Resolve be transmitted to the Continental Congress, with a request to them to take effectual order that such advances by this Committee, or the Provincial Congress, may not be made necessary in future.

Ordered, That a certified copy of this Entry and Resolve be given Messrs. *Hulbert* and *Grenell*.

Mr. *Sands*, who had informed the Committee that he had been disappointed, as to the Vessels he was about to charter to proceed to the *West-Indies*, in pursuance to the Order of the Provincial Congress, and was then endeavouring to procure another suitable Vessel, reports that he has engaged a sloop belonging to *Stephen Thorne*, to go to the Island of *St. Eustatia*, at seventy shillings per ton, merchant's tonnage. The Congress to take the risk of seizure. Vessel valued at five hundred pounds.

That he could also engage *Abraham P. Lott's* schooner to go to *Martinico*, *Guadaloupe*, or *St. Eustatia*, at seventy shillings, the Congress to take the risk of seizures. Vessel valued at five hundred pounds.

The Committee approve of Mr. *Sands's* agreement for the first above-mentioned Vessel, made in pursuance of the directions of the Provincial Congress, and submit it to the care and prudence of Mr. *Sands* (with such advice as he may, from time to time, request of this Committee) to make the most advantageous agreement for the publick benefit as to the other Vessel.

A case of the Committee of *Huntington* was stated by Mr. *Tredwell* to this Committee of Safety, and the letters to Mr. *Tredwell* on that subject, and all the other certificates and writings relative thereto, produced by Mr. *Tredwell*, were read and considered, and after full consideration thereof, the Committee of Safety gave a state of the case, and a determination thereon, to be transmitted to the Committee at *Huntington*, in *hæc verba, videlicet:*

P. M., January 12, 1776.

The following case was stated on behalf of the Committee of *Huntington* for the Opinion of this Committee, to wit:

Captain *Barnabas Swain*, in the sloop *Bellona*, having taken in part of his lading for *Nantucket*, at *New-York*, with leave of the General Committee of the City and County of *New-York*, proceeded with the same to *Huntington*, with intent to complete his cargo there; the leave he obtained at *New-York* was founded on a permit produced by him from under the hands of the Committee of *Falmouth*, dated 2d of *October*, 1775; which permit was produced to the Committee of *Huntington*, to induce them to consent to the completion of his cargo there. This consent was opposed by some of the Committee of *Huntington*. Afterwards the Committee and Inhabitants became acquainted with the Resolutions in the House of Representatives of *Massachusetts-Bay*, of *November* 3d, 1775, and the Committee are still of opinion that, notwithstanding any thing contained in those Resolutions, Captain *Swain* should be permitted to complete his cargo; with which opinion the aforesaid inhabitants are displeased.

It is the opinion of this Committee that, notwithstanding the date of Captain *Swain's* Permit precedes that of the aforesaid Resolutions, and will be inconsistent with a just respect to the said House of Representatives and a due regard to the Union of the Colonies, to attempt to unravel the principles upon which the aforesaid Resolutions are founded, and that as by the said Resolutions the inhabitants of the other Colonies are desired to withhold further supplies of provisions, fuel, or other necessaries from *Nantucket*, until the further recommendation of the said Court of Representatives, and contains no saving in behalf of former permits, it is Captain *Swain's* misfortune that he did not complete his cargo before the receipt of the said Resolutions, and that the Committee of *Huntington* ought not to permit him to complete his said cargo, but that, nevertheless, he be permitted to depart on his voyage without molestation, with the provisions and other necessaries which he was permitted to take on board at *New-York*.

Ordered, That the Secretary deliver a certified copy of the aforewritten case, and opinion of this Committee

thereon, to Mr. *Tredwell*, to be by him transmitted to the Committee of *Huntington*.

Die Sabbati, January 13, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *Pierre Van Cortlandt*, Esquire, Chairman, Mr. *Scott*, Mr. *McDougall*, Colonel *Brasher*, Mr. *Sands*, Mr. *Brewster*, Mr. *Clarke*, Mr. *Tredwell*.

This day is set apart for the hearing and trial of Prisoners. Several prisoners in the Guard-house were ordered to be brought before the Committee to be heard, and a report from the Barrack-Guard delivered in and filed.

William Weyman, who had been confined by the City Committee for going on board the ship *Asia*, and procuring barrels, and assisting to ship a sloop load of Pork for the Ministerial army and navy. He acknowledged, voluntarily, that he was guilty of the whole charge, appearing contrite and penitent for his ill conduct, the tendency of which was fully represented to him, he was reprimanded, and charged to tarry at home and behave prudently, and give no offence to his fellow-countrymen. Thereupon a Certificate was given to him, in the words following, to wit:

William Weyman, of *Westchester* County, who has been confined in the Upper Barracks in *New-York*, was this day brought before the Committee of Safety and heard. He acknowledged, voluntarily, the charges against him, and appeared contrite and penitent for his past ill conduct, the tendency of which was fully represented to him, he was reprimanded, charged to tarry at home, behave prudently, and give no offence to his fellow-countrymen, and not to act against the liberties of his country, all which he has solemnly engaged to do; he is, therefore, hereby discharged and permitted to return to his place of abode, and it is recommended to all friends of liberty and their country, to keep a watchful eye on his future conduct.

Azor Betts was next brought before the Committee, and charged by *Christopher Duyckinck* with having, in his presence, damned the Congresses and Committees, both Continental and Provincial, and said that they were a set of damned rascals, and acted only to feather their own nests, and not to serve their country; that they had shut up his shop, but that he hoped to see the day when he would shut them up, or overturn them, and mentioned Captain *Buchanan* and others, as witnesses, to support the charge. The said *Azor Betts* does not, in general, deny the charge, or desire any other witnesses to be called, but alleges that he did not mean to include all the members of Congresses and Committees, and supposes there are some good men among them, and at same time confesses that Captain *Buchanan* will give the like testimony as *Christopher Duyckinck* has done.

Thomas Service, who had been committed for carrying some person on board of one of the ships-of-war without any permit. He was admonished for his bad conduct and informed of the consequences if he should be taken in the like act hereafter, and was discharged.

Robert Simmons, confined by the City Committee, was brought in before the Committee.

Simon Cox, a person recommended to the Committee for his integrity, was produced as a witness. He declares that *Simmons*, the prisoner, offered him two pair of Silver Buckles, which he said were worth forty Shillings, if he would suffer him to escape. *Robert Simmons* was recommitted.

Captain *John Buchanan* says he heard *Azor Betts* damn the Congresses and Committees, and say they had taken the bread out of his mouth; that his business was inoculation. That the said *Azor Betts* has taken great pains to prevent *Joseph Hunt*, an Ensign in Captain *Tylee's* Company, from taking his commission.

Peletiah Haws gives the like testimony as to *Azor Betts*.

Lawrence Hartwick, brought before the Committee. Captain *John Buchanan* says that he has heard that *Lawrence Hartwick* is very unfriendly to the liberties of *America*, and that he frequently went on board of the man-of-war, and it is reported that he carried the names of persons in this city on board, who are active for their country. Captain *Buchanan* says that he has heard *Lawrence Hartwick* declare that he had been on board of the man-of-war, would go on board again when he pleased, and would see who would hinder him.

Mr. *Scott* departed with leave.

Lawrence Hartwick says he wanted a Musket, and went on board to buy a Musket, and bought one of the Armourer and paid the money for it; that the gun was to be sent to him by the Pilot, but was not sent, and he went on board afterwards, at different times, for his money. That when he was on board the ship *Asia*, Mr. *Tylee* was there, who asked him if he knew Captain *Tylee* at the ship-yards, and answered yes, and told him that he wanted to speak to him; that he told him he was not yet going on shore, and he might have an opportunity to speak to him. That after he came on shore he found a letter in his pocket, directed Captain *Tylee*, which he delivered two days afterwards, but does not know how he received it. That he never showed the letter to Captain *Vandeput* or any of his Officers.

Captain *Nathaniel Tylee* says he received a letter from the prisoner on a *Sunday* morning, in *November* last; that *Hartwick* told him Lieutenant *Tylee* had put it in his pocket in the gun-room; that the letter had been sealed with a wafer and broken open, and re-sealed with a very large seal of wax. That on that evening the ship's decks were cleared, and some person informed him they expected a party and were in readiness. The letter was read; it has evident marks of being opened and re-sealed. That he charged *Hartwick* with breaking open the letter, and *Hartwick* denied it.

Captain *Tylee* gave the same information which was given to the Committee a few days ago, to wit: that Captain *Vandeput* told *Tylee*, the prisoner, in the ship *Asia*, that he had seen his letter, and his friend had betrayed him. That he would not use him ill, but that he set another Sentry over him.

John Rutter says that about the same time, *McDonald* and *Hampton* got on board the man-of-war, *Hartwick* came several times from on board the man-of-war. That one evening when *Hartwick* and *Leonard* came from on board, they were told it was very wrong, and they said they would go on board when they pleased, and they would see who would hinder them; that *Hartwick*, in particular, said so; that he has understood, in general, that *Hartwick* is very much opposed to the measures of the Congress. *Hartwick* denies that he told *Tylee* that the letter was put in his pocket in the gun-room.

John Hunter says, that *Hartwick's* wife declared that when he found the letter in his coat-pocket, he said he would send it back on board of the man-of-war.

John Kell says that, one day last fall, *Lawrence Hartwick* told him there was a fine wind, and troops expected; that they would give the Whigs a drubbing presently; that he had advised *Hartwick* not to go on board of the man-of-war, but he persisted that he would go.

The Committee then took into consideration the case of *Azor Betts*, and, after some time spent in consideration thereof, the Committee conceive that he is a dangerous person; and to prevent the bad tendency of his wicked practices, ought not to be permitted to go at large; and that, by the Resolutions of the Continental Congress, they are authorized, and that it is their duty to have him confined.

Resolved, therefore, That the said *Azor Betts* be sent to *Ulster* County Jail, to be there confined in close jail until the further order of the Continental or Provincial Congress, or of this Committee.

The Committee then took into consideration the case of *Robert Simmons*, and are of opinion that his many mischievous machinations and wicked practices are so dangerous, that he ought to be kept in safe custody, and that, by the Resolutions of the Continental Congress of the 2d *January* instant, they are authorized, and that it is their duty to have him confined in closed jail; and that as he has attempted to corrupt the Sentry at the Barrack, where he has been confined, that it will be unsafe to keep him as a prisoner without having him fettered or manacled.

Resolved, therefore, That the said *Robert Simmons* be conveyed to *Ulster* County Jail, to be there confined in close jail until the further order of the Continental or Provincial Congress, or of this Committee; and ordered that

Colonel *McDougall* cause the said *Robert Simmons* to be fettered or manacled, so as to prevent his escape until he can be sent to *Ulster* County.

—

Die Solis, 9 ho. A. M., January 14, 1776.

The Committee of Safety met at the City-Hall pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *Pierre Van Cortlandt*, Chairman, and the other Members in the city, except Mr. *Scott*.

As no business of so much importance appeared immediately necessary, as to require the Committee to continue their attendance this day, the Committee, therefore, adjourned to meet at ten o'clock to-morrow morning.

—

10 ho. A. M., Die Lunæ, January 15, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *Pierre Van Cortlandt*, Esq., Chairman, Colonel *McDougall*, Mr. *Scott*, Colonel *Brasher*, Mr. *Brewster*, Mr. *Sands*, Mr. *Clarke*, Mr. *Tredwell*.

The Committee of Safety are informed by a Member, that a fleet of eighteen sail of Transports, two Men-of-War, and two Bomb-ships, are sailed from *Boston*. That they sailed from *Boston* on last *Saturday* week, and that a Letter from General *Washington* advising this Committee thereof, is on the way, and may be hourly expected.

Thereupon, the Committee thought it necessary to have a proper person sent to the Narrows, with a glass, to look out for any fleet that may be approaching this port; and Captain *Austin Lawrence* being sent for, attended the Committee. He agreed to proceed to the Narrows immediately for that purpose; and proper directions were given to him, and signals agreed on, which shall be made at the *Ferry*, to give notice to the City.

Captain *William Dobbs* was also sent for, and attended. He was directed to take the Whale-Boat lately purchased by this Committee, with a proper number of men to row her, and proceed to the Light-House, and there observe carefully the approach of any Fleet, and to give immediate notice thereof to this Committee. Mr. *Dobbs* was directed to tarry one week, if no fleet appears sooner, and to be very frugal in his disbursements, which were particularly enumerated.

Ordered, That none of the Pilots at this Port shall go to *Sandy-Hook*, or to any other place towards the *Hook*, without the permission of this Committee, until the further order of this Committee.

And Ordered, That no Pilot do presume to pilot into the *Hook*, or towards this port, any Transport with troops on board, or any Ship-of-War, or Ministerial Armed Vessel whatever.

And Ordered, That the Pilots be directed to attend this Committee to-morrow forenoon, in order that they may be charged with the matter of this Order, and to keep the same secret.

A Letter from *James Duane*, *William Floyd*, and *Henry Wisner*, Esqs., of the 11th instant, was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"Philadelphia, January 11, 1776.

"GENTLEMEN: We are honoured with your favour of 4th instant, requesting the permission of Congress to export a quantity of flaxseed to *Ireland*, for the purpose you mention. However important the object, we are perfectly satisfied that it will be in vain to expect an indulgence so repugnant to the non-exportation system, and, particularly, to the motives of this article of our commercial restriction, which were thought to be very cogent. Not relying entirely on our own judgment, we have consulted several of the Members, and find them so averse to the proposition, that we despair of its being seconded by a single Colony. We think it bad policy, and an humiliation of our respectable constituents to ask, in their names, for what we foresee must be rejected. Upon these considerations, we shall take the liberty to defer any application till, informed of our apprehensions, we shall be favoured with your further commands. If you should still incline to hazard the attempt, we shall, most cheerfully, obey your directions.

"We enclose you two resolutions of this Congress which respect our Colony, and a third for the exchange of Lieutenant *Tylee*, of General *Wooster's* Regiment, now a prisoner on board the *Asia*.

"We are, with the highest regard, gentlemen, your most obedient, and very humble servants,

"JAMES DUANE,
"WILLIAM FLOYD,
"HENRY WISNER."

"To the Honourable Committee of Safety, *New-York*.

"P. S. We also enclose you several resolutions of Congress, which passed the 8th instant, which we are directed to communicate, since we closed the preceding letter."

The Resolves of the Continental Congress of the 8th instant, relating to the construction of Batteaus at *Ticonderoga*, and sending Salt thither, and relating to the practicability of lessening the depth of water at the Narrows, was read and filed.

The Resolve of the Continental Congress of the same date, on the subject of raising Troops for *Canada*, was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"In Congress, January 8, 1776.

"*Resolved*, That to make up the Battalions voted for the defence of *Canada*, one Battalion be immediately raised in *New-Hampshire*, one in *Connecticut*, and one in *New-York*; that two Battalions be formed out of the Troops now in *Canada*, and that General *Montgomery*, be desired to recommend proper persons for Officers in said Battalions.

"The other three Battalions to be sent from *Pennsylvania* and *New-Jersey*.

"That Colonel *Van Schaick*, Lieutenant-Colonel *Yates*, and Major *Gansevoort*, be continued in the service of the *United Colonies*, and that they take the command of the above Battalion to be levied in the Colony of *New-York*.

"Extract from the Minutes:

"CHARLES THOMSON, *Secretary*."

The Resolve of Congress of the 9th *January*, relating to the Militia of *Orange* and *Ulster* Counties at the New Garrison, was read and filed.

A Resolve of Congress of the 11th instant, recommending to procure the exchange of Lieutenant *Tylee*, was read and filed.

A Resolve of Congress directing General *Schuyler* to be furnished with an account of Moneys advanced to the Troops of his Department, was read and filed.

Philip Livingston, Esq., one of the Delegates of this Colony, came into the Committee and conferred with them on sundry matters, and delivered to them certified copies of sundry Resolutions of the Continental Congress, on different days, from 25th *November* to the 2d instant, which were read and filed, and are in the words following, to wit:

"In Congress, November 25, 1775.

"The Congress resumed the Report of the Committee on General *Washington's* Letter; and the same being debated by paragraphs, was agreed to as follows:

"The Committee to whom so much of the Letter from General *Washington* to the President, dated the 8th instant, as relates to the disposal of the Vessels and Cargoes belonging to the enemy, which shall fall into the hands of, or be taken by the inhabitants of the *United Colonies*, and so much of the Report of the Committee of Congress, which lately went to the Camp at *Cambridge*, as related to that subject, were referred, have examined the matter thereof, and directed the same, as it appears to them, together with the Resolutions of the Committee thereupon, to be reported as followeth:

"It appears to your Committee, from undoubted information, that many Vessels which had cleared at the respective Custom-Houses in these Colonies, agreeable to the regulations established by acts of the *British* Parliament, have, in a lawless manner, without even the semblance of just authority, been seized by His Majesty's ships-of-war, and carried into the Harbour of *Boston*, and other ports, where they have been rifled of their cargoes by order of His Majesty's Naval and Military Officers there commanding, without the said Vessels having been proceeded against by any form of trial, and without the charge of having offended against any law.

*

"It further appears to your Committee that orders have been issued in His Majesty's name to the commanders of ships-of-war, "to proceed as in the case of actual rebellion against such of the sea-port towns, and places being accessible to the King's ships, in which any troops shall be raised, or military works erected," under colour of which said orders, the commanders of His Majesty's said ships-of-war have already burned and destroyed the flourishing and populous town of *Falmouth*, and have fired upon, and much injured several other towns within the *United Colonies*, and dispersed at a late season of the year, hundreds of helpless women and children, with a savage hope, that those may perish under the approaching rigours of the season, who may chance to escape destruction from fire and sword, a mode of warfare long exploded amongst civilized nations.

"It, also, appears to your Committee, that the good people of these Colonies, sensibly affected by the destruction of their property, and other unprovoked injuries, have at last determined to prevent, as much as possible, a repetition thereof, and to procure some reparation for the same, by fitting out armed vessels and ships of force. In the execution of which commendable designs, it is possible that those who have not been instrumental in the unwarrantable violences above-mentioned may suffer, unless some laws be made to regulate, and tribunals erected competent to determine the propriety of captures, whereupon, your Committee came to the following Resolutions:

"'1st. That all such ships-of-war, frigates, sloops, cutters, and armed vessels, as are, or shall be employed in the present cruel and unjust war against the *United Colonies*, and shall fall into the hands of, or be taken by the inhabitants thereof, be seized and forfeited to, and for the purposes hereinafter mentioned.

"'2d. On motion made, and the question put,

"'*Resolved*, That the second article or resolution be recommitted. The same (as brought in and agreed to the 19th *December*,) is as follows:

"'*Resolved*, That all transport vessels in the same service, having on board any troops, arms, ammunition, clothing, provisions, or military or naval stores of what kind soever, and all vessels to whomsoever belonging that shall be employed in carrying provisions, or other necessaries to the *British* army, or armies, or navy, that now are, or hereafter shall be within any of the *United Colonies*, or any goods, wares, or merchandise, for the use of such fleet or armies, shall be liable to seizure, and with their cargoes shall be confiscated.

"'3d. That no master, or commander of any vessel shall be entitled to cruise for, or make prize of any vessel or cargo before he shall have obtained a commission from the Congress, or from such person or persons as shall be for that purpose appointed in some one of the *United Colonies*.

"'4th. That it be, and it is hereby recommended to the several Legislatures in the *United Colonies*, as soon as possible to erect Courts of Justice, or give jurisdiction to the Courts now in being, for the purpose of determining concerning the captures to be made as aforesaid, and to provide that all trials in such case be had by a jury under such qualifications as to the respective Legislatures shall seem expedient.

"'5th. That all prosecutions shall be commenced in the Court of that Colony in which the capture shall be made; but if no such Court be at that time erected in the said Colony, or if the capture be made on open sea, then the prosecution shall be in the Court of such Colony as the captor may find most convenient, provided that nothing contained in this resolution shall be construed so as to enable the captor to remove his prize from any Colony competent to determine concerning the seizure, after he shall have carried the vessel so seized within any harbour of the same.

"'6th. That in all cases an appeal shall be allowed to the Congress, or such person, or persons, as they shall appoint for the trial of appeals; provided the appeal be demanded within five days after definitive sentence, and such appeal be lodged with the Secretary of Congress within forty days afterwards; and provided the party appealing shall give security to prosecute the said appeal to effect; and in case of the death of the Secretary during the recess of Congress, then the said appeal to be lodged in Congress within twenty days after the meeting thereof.

"'7th. That when any vessel or vessels shall be fitted out at the expense of any person, or persons, then the captures made shall be to the use of the owner or owners of the said vessel or vessels; that where the vessels employed in the capture shall be fitted out at the expense of any of the *United Colonies*, then one-third of the prize taken shall be to the use of the captors, the remaining two-thirds to the use of the said Colony; and where the vessels so employed shall be fitted out at the Continental charge, then one-third shall go to the captors, and the remaining two-thirds to the use of the *United Colonies;* provided, nevertheless, That if the capture be a vessel of war, then the captors shall be entitled to one-half of the value, and the remainder shall go to the Colonies, or Continent, as the case may be; the necessary charges of condemnation of all prizes being deducted before any distribution is made.

"'8th. That the captures heretofore made by vessels fitted out at the Continental charge were justifiable, and that the distribution of the captors' share of the prizes by General *Woshington* be confirmed.

"'*Resolved*, That in case of recaptures, the recaptors ought to have and retain, in lieu of salvage, one-eighth part of the true value of the vessel and cargo, or either of them, if the same hath or have been in the possession of the enemy twenty-four hours; one-fifth part if more than twenty-four and less than forty-eight hours; one-third part if more than forty-eight, and less than ninety-six hours, and one-half if more than ninety-six hours, unless the vessel shall, after the capture, have been legally condemned as a prize by some Court of Admiralty, in which case the recaptor ought to have the whole; in all which cases the share retained, or prizes to be divided between the owners of the vessel making the recapture, the Colony, or the Continent, as the case may be, and the captors, agreeable to a former resolution.

"'*Resolved*, That in the present situation of affairs it will be very dangerous to the liberties and welfare of *America*, if any Colony should, separately, petition the King or either House of Parliament.'"

"In Congress, December 11, 1775.

"*Resolved*, That the Selectmen of the town of *Sherbourn*, in *Nantucket*, prepare an estimate of the quantity of Fuel and Provisions necessary for the use of the inhabitants of said Island, and lay it before three or more Justices of the Peace for the County of *Barnstable*, in the Colony of *Massachusetts-Bay*, attested by the oath or affirmation of the said Selectmen, and that the said Justices be empowered to grant licenses under their hands to any master or owner of vessels in the said Island to import Fuel and Provisions from the Colonies of *Massachusetts-Bay, Rhode-Island, Connecticut, New-York, New-Jersey, Pennsylvania*, Lower Counties on *Delaware*, or *Maryland*, not exceeding the quantities specified in said estimate."

"*December* 26, 1775.—Whereas, an estimate hath lately been formed of the publick expense already arisen, and which may accrue in defence of *America*, to the 10th day of *June* next, in pursuance whereof, this Congress on the 24th day of *November*, resolved, that a further sum of three millions of Dollars be emitted in Bills of Credit:

"*Resolved, therefore*, That the Thirteen *United Colonies* be pledged for the Bills of Credit so directed to be emitted; that each Colony provide ways and means to sink its proportion of the said bills in such manner as may be most effectual and best adapted to the condition, circumstances, and equal mode of levying taxes in each Colony. That the proportion or quota of each respective Colony be determined according to the number of inhabitants of all ages, including negroes and mulattoes in each Colony.

"That it be recommended to the several Assemblies, Conventions, or Councils, or Committees of Safety of the respective Colonies to ascertain by the most impartial and effectual means in their power, the number of inhabitants in each respective Colony, taking care that the lists be authenticated by the oaths of the several persons who shall be intrusted with this service; and that the said Assemblies, Conventions, Councils, or Committees of Safety do respectively lay before this Congress a return of the number of inhabitants of their respective Colonies as soon as the same shall be procured.

"That each Colony pay its respective quota in four equal

payments, the first to be made on or before the last day of *November*, 1783; the second on or before the last day of *November*, 1784; the third on or before the last day of *November*, 1785; and the fourth, or last, on or before the last day of *November*, 1786. And that for this the several Assemblies or Conventions provide for laying and levying taxes in their respective Colonies towards sinking the Continental bills; that the said bills be received by the collectors in payment of such taxes, and be by the collectors, paid into the hands of the Provincial Treasurers, with all such other moneys as they may receive in lieu of Continental bills; which other moneys the Provincial Treasurers shall endeavour to get exchanged for Continental bills, and where that cannot be done, shall send to the Continental Treasurers the deficiency in silver and gold, with the bills making up the quota to be sunk that year, taking care to cut by a circular punch of an inch diameter a hole in such bills, and to cross the same, thereby to render them impassable, though the sum, or value, is to remain fairly legible; and the Continental Treasurers, as fast as they receive the said quotas, shall, with the assistance of a Committee of five persons to be appointed by the Congress if sitting, or by the Assembly, or Convention of the Province of *Pennsylvania*, examine and count the Continental bills, and in the presence of the said Committee burn and destroy them; and the silver and gold sent them to make up the deficiencies of quotas they shall retain in their hands until demanded in redemption of Continental bills that may be brought to them for that purpose, which bills so redeemed they shall also burn and destroy in the presence of the said Committee; and the Treasurers whenever they have silver and gold in their hands for the redemption of Continental bills shall advertise the same, signifying that they are ready to give gold or silver for such bills to all persons requiring it in exchange.

"*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the several Legislatures in these Colonies, whether Assemblies or Conventions, to pass acts or ordinances prohibiting the arrest of Continental soldiers for small debts; and in order that the same rule may pervade all the Colonies, that no such soldier be arrested at the suit of any of his creditors unless the said creditor make oath that the said soldier is justly indebted to him in the sum of thirty-five dollars, over and above all discounts; and that the estate of no such soldier be liable to attachment at the suit, or for the benefit of all his creditors, unless their debts in the whole on being ascertained by their oaths shall amount to more than one hundred and fifty dollars.

"Whereas, this Congress by a resolution passed the 15th day of *July* last, did direct that every vessel importing into these Colonies, Gunpowder, Saltpetre, Sulphur, and other Military Stores therein specified, within nine months from the date thereof, should be permitted to load and export the produce of these Colonies to the value of such Powder and Stores aforesaid, the Non-Exportation Agreement notwithstanding, by permits from the Committees of the several Colonies; to the end, therefore, that this Congress may be the better informed of the quantity of military stores, which are or shall be so imported, and of the produce exported in consequence of the resolution aforesaid:

"*Resolved*, That it be recommended to all Committees by whom any permits under the said resolution have been or may be granted, to transmit to this Congress from time to time, a true account of the Military Stores, &c., imported, and of the produce exported, with the price and value of both."

"*December* 29, 1775.—*Resolved*, That as the importation of any universally necessary commodity, and the exportation of our produce to purchase the same, must give a proportionably greater opportunity to our enemies of making depredations on the property of the inhabitants of these Colonies, and of occasionally distressing them by intercepting such commodities, it is earnestly recommended to the several Assemblies or Conventions, immediately to promote by sufficient publick encouragements the making of Salt in their respective Colonies."

"*January* 2, 1776.—*Resolved*, That the Assemblies, Conventions, or Committees or Councils of Safety, be requested forthwith to transmit to this Congress, copies of all the Petitions, Memorials, and Remonstrances, which have been, by the respective Colonies, presented to the Throne or either House of Parliament, since the year 1762, and that they, also, inform the Congress whether any, and what answers were given to them.

"Extracts from the Minutes:

"CHARLES THOMSON, *Secretary*."

The Committee then spent a considerable time in examining a draft of the soundings of the most likely place to obstruct the navigation to this City, which had, on their first meeting, this morning, been produced to them by Colonel *McDougall*, and considering of means to carry that matter into execution.

—

Die Lunæ, 4 ho. P. M., January 5, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *P. Van Cortlandt*, Esquire, Chairman, Colonel *McDougall*, Mr. *Scott*, Colonel *Brasher*, Mr. *Sands*, Mr. *Brewster*, Mr. *Tredwell*, Mr. *Clarke*.

It being represented by Colonel *McDougall* to this Committee, that he has information from undoubted authority, which he also named, that *Alexander Lesslie*, of this city, peruke-maker, has been carrying on a correspondence, dangerous to the liberties of *America*, with some person, or persons, in *Philadelphia*,

It is *Ordered*, That Colonel *McDougall* do, without delay, cause the said *Alexander Lesslie*, and all other persons to be found in his house, to be apprehended and kept in safe custody till further order of this Committee; and, also, at the same time to cause diligent search for and to be secured, all papers that may be found in the said house, in any wise relating to such correspondence, and that Colonel *McDougall* make report in the premises with all convenient speed.

This Committee being informed that a number of the late Continental Soldiers, who were inlisted in Captain *Denton's* Company, are returned to *Orange* County with their muskets, bayonets, and cartouch-boxes, and accoutrements, which belong to the Colony,

Resolved and Ordered, That each Committee in the County of *Orange* be requested immediately to secure the Arms and Accoutrements of each of the said Soldiers, and from time to time, secure the publick Arms and Accoutrements of every discharged Soldier who shall come within their respective Districts, and place the same in the hands of the respective Chairmen of the said Committees, or such other prudent and trusty persons as by the said Committees, respectively, shall be appointed.

The Committee then heard the Letter from the Delegates of this Colony, now at Continental Congress, and the several Resolves of Congress lately received, read, and spent some time in consideration thereof.

—

Die Martis, 10 ho. A. M., January 16, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *Pierre Van Cortlandt*, Esquire, Chairman, Mr. *Scott*, Colonel *McDougall*, Mr. *Sands*, Colonel *Brasher*, Mr. *Brewster*, Mr. *Tredwell*, Mr. *Clarke*.

The Petition of Captain *Jacob Mott*, *Jackson Mott*, and *Jacob Weeks*, of *Queen's* County, acknowledging the imprudence of their past conduct, engaging their future attachment to their country, and giving a certificate of their having signed the Association, thereupon the Committee gave them a certificate in the words following, to wit:

The Petition of Captain *Jacob Mott*, *Jackson Mott*, and *Seaman Weeks*, of *Queen's* County, was read, setting forth that they, by the persuasion of persons conceived by them to be their friends, voted against the election of Provincial Delegates, in the late election in that County, for which they declare their extreme sorrow and sincere repentance; that they, without reflecting on the ill-consequences of opposing such election, (which they now are convinced was highly necessary to the preservation of *American* liberty,) were led to such opposition by the artful insinuations of designing men. They, therefore, pray this Committee to consider their case, and restore them to the good opinion of the friends to liberty on this Continent, by declaring to the world that the Petitioners are extremely contrite for their late conduct in opposing the aforesaid election, and to do such other things for restoring them to

the favour of their countrymen as to this Committee shall seem meet.

Which Petition was attended with a certificate of *Benjamin Sands*, Chairman of the Committee of *Cow-Neck* and *Great-Neck*, purporting that the Petitioners, since they were advertised by the Provincial Congress, had expressed their sorrow for their past conduct, and that they were led on by wicked and designing men, and that they have signed the General Association and promised obedience to all orders of Congress.

Upon due consideration of the premises, and well knowing that the late Resolves of the Congress against the delinquents of *Queen's* County, were intended to convince them of their demerits, and bring them to a just sense of their duty to the publick, it is

Ordered, That the said Petitioners be restored to the state and condition in which they were before the passing of these Resolves, during their respective future good behaviour.

The Committee then resumed the consideration of the Resolves of Congress relating to the Fortifications at the *Highlands*, and thereupon agreed upon Instructions to the Commissioners in the words following, to wit:

Instructions to the Commissioners for the Fortifications on Hudson's River.

In consequence of a Resolve of the Continental Congress, of the 5th instant, that no further fortifications ought to be erected at *Martelaer's Rock*, on *Hudson's River*, and that a point of land at *Pooplopen's Kill*, on the said river, ought without delay to be effectually fortified, it is

Ordered, 1st. That the timber designed for the additional Barracks at *Martelaer's Rock*, and not yet erected, be removed by the first opportunity to *Pooplopen's Kill*, there to be applied to use pursuant to some future order.

2d. That the timber now lying at *Martelaer's Rock*, destined for the line now under construction, be not removed or applied to any use till further order, and for that purpose.

3d. As this Committee is informed that the line for the intended Battery on *Martelaer's Rock*, is very near being finished, and as, perhaps, it may be completed with a base of fifteen feet thick, without much additional expense, that the Commissioners do immediately return a very particular and minute state and condition of the said line, describing its length and its thickness at the base, whether it be filled up to the height to which it is now raised, and all the materials of which it consists, with a computation of the extraordinary expense that may attend the extension of its base to the thickness of fifteen feet, and all other circumstances relating to the same that may tend to enable this Committee to judge whether it would be best to recommend to the Continental Congress the completing of the said line.

4th. That Colonel *Isaac Nicoll*, of the Minute-Men in *Orange* County, who is nominated to the command of the Fortification on *Hudson's River*, be received and obeyed in that command till the arrival of a proper Continental officer, or till further order, pursuant to a commission given to him by this Committee for that purpose.

5th. As this Committee is informed that the Powder lately sent to *Martelaer's Rock* cannot be, as yet, placed in the Magazine, on account of its dampness, that the Commissioners, in conjunction with Colonel *Nicoll*, take effectual means, by tightening the roof and keeping constant fires, and otherwise, as in their discretion shall seem fit, to fit it, without delay, for the reception of the Powder; and, in the mean time, that the Powder be kept with all due care from waste and damage.

—

Die Mercurii, January 17, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *Pierre Van Cortlandt*, Esq., Chairman, Mr. *Scott*, Colonel *McDougall*, Colonel *Brasher*, Mr. *Tredwell*, Mr. *Brewster*, Mr. *Clarke*. Mr. *Sands* a very short time.

Mr. *Curtenius* delivered in a state of his Accounts, and, also, a separate memorandum of moneys due from him on the publick accounts, whereby it appears that a balance of three thousand six hundred and fifty-eight Pounds three Shillings and nine Pence is due to him.

Ordered, That *Peter T. Curtenius*, as Commissary of this Congress, purchase, on Continental account, three thousand bushels of Salt, and forward the same to *Walter Livingston*, Esq., or his order, at *Albany*, with all convenient speed.

Ordered, That the said Commissary examine the Arms now at the gunsmiths, preparing for Lord *Stirling's* troops, and take care that they are good and properly finished, and that he direct the gunsmiths in this city not to sell any Arms to any person who resides out of this Colony, until the further order of the Provincial Congress or of this Committee.

Ordered, further, That the said Commissary purchase seventy Blankets for Soldiers, on the best terms which he can procure them.

Mr. *Curtenius* requested, by marks in Day-Book, and by every other proper method, to distinguish between Continental and Provincial charges, so as to keep them in separate accounts.

Ordered, That *Peter Van Brugh Livingston*, Esq., as Treasurer of the Congress of this Colony, advance to *Peter T. Curtenius*, as Commissary of the Congress of this Colony, the sum of six thousand Pounds, to enable him to comply with the orders given to him by the Provincial Congress and this Committee; that the said Treasurer pay this Order out of the Provincial Money of this Colony, and take Mr. *Curtenius's* receipt for the same.

Ordered, That *Peter Van Brugh Livingston*, Esq., as Treasurer of the Congress of this Colony, advance to Colonel *Alexander McDougall* the sum of five hundred Pounds, on account, for the subsistence of his Regiment; that the said Treasurer pay this Order out of the Provincial Money of this Colony, and take Colonel *McDougall's* receipt for the same.

This Committee being fully convinced that it is their indispensable duty to endeavour to encourage and procure the making of Saltpetre in this Colony, in order to supply the means of its defence, and that the manufacture of that article will ultimately tend to the great advantage of the Colony, conceive they cannot better discharge their duty on that matter, at present, than by having a small collection of the most plain and easy experiments for the manufacture of Saltpetre published; and Mr. *Tredwell*, one of the members, having collected copies of the said experiments, a draft of an Introduction or Preface to the same was read and approved of, and is in the words following, to wit:

In Committee of Safety during the recess of Congress, January 17, 1776.

The wicked practices of a corrupt Administration, and their hostile attempts to compel an obedience to several Acts of the *British* Parliament, evidently subversive of all the rights and privileges which as *God's* rational creatures we are entitled to, and have, as *Englishmen*, inherited by the laws of our country, have constrained the inhabitants of those Colonies to take up arms for the defence of their lives, liberties, and property. The Ministry, flattering themselves that so young a country, unused to manufactures of every kind, will not be able to procure the means of defence within itself, have made, and will undoubtedly continue to make it a principal object of their attention, to preclude us from foreign supplies of military stores. This Committee would, therefore, conceive themselves most culpably deficient in discharge of their important trust as guardians of the publick security, should they not do all in their power to promote the manufacture of those articles. Without these, the greatest unanimity, virtue, and fortitude, can afford us little prospect of success in the present interesting struggle. To that end, this Committee have thought it necessary to publish the following Essays upon the Manufacture of Saltpetre and Gunpowder, not doubting that a due consideration of the danger of resting the liberties and future happiness of this large and growing country upon foreign supplies, which will be extremely precarious, and at all events very expensive, will induce the inhabitants of this Colony to do every thing in their power to supply the Continent with those necessary ar-

ticles; and the more effectually to urge individuals to attempt those manufactures, this Committee have thought it proper to preface those Essays with the following Resolution of the Continental Congress.

By order of the Committee.

Ordered, That Mr. *Tredwell* call on one of the Printers in this city, and engage him to print three thousand copies thereof on the account of this Colony, and to send that number of copies to this Committee.

The Committee then resumed the consideration of the many Resolves received from the Continental Congress, and, thereupon, a draft of a Letter to General *Schuyler*, relating to Shipwrights, Carpenters, Scows, Batteaus, Salt, Provisions, reduction of old Troops and raising of new Levies, was read and approved of, and is in the words following, to wit:

In Committee of Safety, New-York. January 17, 1776.

Sir: Lest copies of the enclosed have not been forwarded to you, our attention to the publick service points out the necessity of communicating them with such observations as occur to us on their different subjects.

In the resolves respecting the transportation of troops, provisions, and stores, several things are left indeterminate, upon which, perhaps, it may be proper for us to have your particular sentiments, to enable us to execute such part of the business as may be within our department. The number of shipwrights for building batteaus are not mentioned, and we submit it to your consideration whether all, or how many should be shipwrights or house-carpenters. The wages of the latter will be lowest, and, therefore, ought to be preferred if they can sufficiently perform the service, and perhaps many may probably be engaged near you who are acquainted with that kind of work; yet, we would beg leave to mention it as necessary, to employ as many of the carpenters of this city as possible, to prevent them and their families from starving, by means of the stagnation of business, which is more severely felt in this city than in any other part of the Province.

With respect to batteau-men, many may probably be engaged in the upper part of the country. Such as may be necessary to be supplied by us we will endeavour to procure. We, also, beg leave to hint, that in the present declension of trade the seamen of this port ought to be employed upon this article of service, as well as that of building batteaus. We beg you to inform us of the number of hands you would desire us to procure, as, also, to know your sentiments about the pay we are to allow carpenters and batteau-men.

The large quantity of provisions mentioned in one of the resolves is entirely indeterminate. We beg to know what you expect of us on that head. We have given orders for the immediate purchase of three thousand bushels of salt, which we shall send up the river as far as the season will permit.

We would only add, that we beg leave to trouble you with forwarding the resolves relating to the reduction of the old troops to two battalions, and the new levies to General *Montgomery*, and to assure you that we are, sir, with great respect and esteem, your most obedient servants.

By order of the Committee.

To Major-General *Schuyler*.

Ordered, That a copy thereof be engrossed and signed by the Chairman, and transmitted by post, and that the Secretary enclose therein certified copies of the Resolves of the Continental Congress of the 8th instant, therein referred to.

The Committee then took into consideration Lord *Stirling's* Letter of the 12th instant, and the same being again read, a draft of an answer thereto was read and approved of, and is in the words following, to wit:

In Committee of Safety, New-York, January 17, 1776.

My Lord: We have to acknowledge your favour of the 12th inst., which we should have answered sooner, had the order necessary for despatching our multiplicity of business permitted it.

We shall this day appoint a Barrackmaster, leaving the settlement of his pay to Continental Congress, and shall give immediate orders, that the barracks be prepared for the reception of the troops under your command, and will inform you when they are ready; but we beg leave to hint, that the troops must come provided with the articles of bedding, except straw, as we shall not be able to supply them.

About seventy or eighty of the firelocks are ready, and we have given the necessary orders for their inspection. The rest we will get finished as soon as possible. But your Lordship has forgot to inform us, whether we are to look to the Continental Congress, or your Provincial Congress for their cost. We have already been at great charge in the purchase of arms for our own troops, and at whose expense it is still undetermined. It behooves us, therefore, to be cautious of extensive advances on that head.

With respect to the people of *Staten-Island*, we have for certain reasons suspended the interdiction against them, till next *Monday*, the 22d inst. Their cases are now before the Continental Congress, and we beg you to desist from any measures against those people till the expiration of that term, unless you shall have received orders concerning them from the Continental Congress.

We are, my Lord, your Lordship's most obedient, humble servant,

By order of the Committee.

To the Right Honourable Earl of *Stirling*.

Ordered, That a copy thereof be engrossed, and signed by the Chairman, and transmitted; and that the Secretary enclose therein a copy of his Lordship's Letter, agreeable to his request.

A Letter from *Peter R. Livingston*, Esq.,* of the 2d instant, assigning the ill state of health of Mrs. *Livingston*, and the particular circumstances of his family, as the reasons of his not attending this Committee.

—

Die Jovis 10 ho. A. M., January 18, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *Pierre Van Cortlandt*, Esq., Chairman, Colonel *McDougall*, Mr. *Scott*, Colonel *Brasher*, Mr. *Brewster*, Mr. *Tredwell*, Mr. *Clarke*. Mr. *Sands* a very short time.

Mr. *Nicholas Low* attending the Committee, delivered in an Account, in the words and figures following, to wit:

The Honourable the Provincial Congress of *New-York*,
Bought of *William Cannon*.

462 quarter casks of Powder (nine loads) twenty-five pounds each, is 115¼ cwt., at £20,	£2,310 0
Paid cartage nine loads to the lower Magazine,	3 8
	£2,313 8

New-York, January 18, 1776.

Ordered, That *Peter V. B. Livingston*, Esq., Treasurer of the Congress of this Colony, pay to Mr. *Nicholas Low* two thousand three hundred and thirteen Pounds eight Shillings, for the above account, and that he take Mr. *Low's* receipt for the same.

By advice received by Lord *Stirling's* Letter, that part of the Troops under his command are to be stationed in the City of *New-York*, as soon as the Barracks can be ready to receive them, and fire-wood and other necessary materials furnished for their lodgment; it is become necessary to appoint a Barrackmaster for the City and County of *New-York*, in the stead of *Gerard Bancker*, Esq., whose services to the publick are necessary in other departments; and Mr. *Garret Roorback* of the said City being recommended as very active and careful, and a proper person for that purpose,

*Manor Livingston, *January* 2, 1776.—Sir: I received a letter this day from three of the gentlemen, deputies for this County, desiring my attendance immediately at *York*, being appointed one of the members of the Committee of Safety for this County during the recess of the Convention, and am extremely sorry to inform you, that the situation of Mrs. *Livingston* is such, that it is impossible for me to leave her; am very sorry it is so. She is all alone here, in a bad state of health, with a large family, and no assistance near her; her situation is such, that I can by no means leave her alone, and she has not strength sufficient to undergo the fatigues of a journey with me. Therefore, must entreat the gentlemen to excuse me, till such time as Mrs. *Livingston's* health will permit my leaving her, or bringing her down with me.

Am, sir, with great respect, your very humble servant,

Peter R. Livingston.

To the President of the Committee of Safety for the Province of *New-York*.

Resolved, That the said *Garret Roorback* be, and he is hereby appointed, Barrackmaster for the said City and County of *New-York*, and that he apply to *Gerard Banckker*, Esq., and request of him an account of the Stores belonging to the said Barracks, and that a Letter be wrote to the Delegates of this Colony, or to the Continental Congress, requesting that the pay of a Barrackmaster may be fixed by that honourable body.

William Allen requested permission to go on board one of His Majesty's Ships, to take directions to make shoes for the crew on board. Thereupon an order was given to him in the words following, to wit:

Liberty is hereby given to *William Allen*, to go on board the man-of-war on business.

Francis Lewis, Esq., came into the Committee, and informed them, that the shipwrights who were to be applied on the Continental account, had fixed on a place, on the shore, a part of, or adjoining to the land of *James Livingston*, Esq., whereon to go to work; and that Mr. *Livingston* said he had not any objection to their using that place, but requested an order of the Provincial Congress or Committee of Safety for that purpose.

The Committee conceive they are not authorized for that purpose, but at Mr. *Lewis's* request, who urged it as necessary, they conceived they might recommend.

Thereupon a draft of a Letter to Mr. *Livingston* was read and approved of, and is in the words following, to wit:

In Committee of Safety, New-York, January 18, 1776.

Sir: We have been applied to by proper authority, to obtain for certain ship-builders, employed by order of the Continental Congress, a convenient spot on your shore for publick service.

We are also informed, that you make some difficulties about complying with the request made to you by the ship-builders. Though neither the Continental nor Provincial Congress would chose to possess themselves of any man's property against his will, yet you will readily see, that your refusal to comply with the request above-mentioned will render you obnoxious to all the friends of liberty.

It is, therefore, recommended to you by this Committee, to permit the ship-builders to occupy the spot they have applied for, and we engage to make you a proper compensation for the same.

We are, sir, your humble servants,
By order of the Committee.

To *James Livingston*, Esq.

Ordered, That a copy thereof be engrossed, and signed by the Chairman, and transmitted.

—

Die Jovis, 3 ho. P. M., January 18, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *Pierre Van Cortlandt*, Esq., Chairman, Mr. *Scott*, Mr. *McDougall*, Mr. *Brasher*, Mr. *Tredwell*, Mr. *Brewster*, Mr. *Clarke*, Mr. *Sands*.

A Letter from *Thomas Wickes*, Esq., Chairman of the Committee of *Huntington*, of the 12th instant, to the Chairman of this Committee, and which was received on the 15th instant, requesting Commissions for two Companies of the Militia there, was taken into consideration.

The Committee is of opinion that the return is not made agreeable to the directions of the Militia Law; that, therefore, the Commissions be delayed, and that Mr. *Tredwell* write a letter to Mr. *Wickes*, informing him of the irregularity of the return, that the same may be regularly returned.

Mr. *Brewster* produced a Letter from *John Young*, Chairman of the Committee of *Mamacoting* Precinct, requesting Commissions for two Companies of Militia in *Ulster* County, one of which Companies is the *Mamacoting* Militia Company of Foot, and alleging that the former Return sent to Congress of the election of Officers of that Company, was a counterfeit.

Ordered, That a Letter be wrote to Mr. *Young*, informing him of all the Returns on file signed with his name, and that the Commissions applied for by Mr. *Young* be delayed until Mr. *Young's* answer is received.

The Committee then ordered *Alexander Lesslie* to be brought before them, and Colonel *Van Cortlandt* and Colonel *Brasher*, by order, having examined *James Lesslie*, and made report that they had not thereby obtained any information, and the said *Alexander Lesslie*, in the strongest manner, averring his innocence, in the presence of *Philip Livingston*, Esq., one of the Continental Delegates, who, on request of the Committee, was attending to hear his examination, the Committee permitted the said *Alexander Lesslie* to go at liberty, on his parole, to return and appear before this Committee to-morrow, at noon, and prepared to give security for his future appearance, if such security should be required.

—

Die Veneris, 10 ho. A. M., January 19, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *Pierre Van Cortlandt*, Esq., Chairman, Mr. *Scott*, Mr. *Tredwell*, Mr. *Brewster*, Mr. *Clarke*, Colonel *Brasher*, Colonel *McDougall*, Mr. *Sands*.

A Return of Officers of a Company of Militia at the *White-Plains* and the *Manor of Scarsdale*, in *Westchester* County, was read and filed. *Anthony Miller*, Esq., is returned for Captain, *Nicholas Fisher*, First Lieutenant, and *John Crumpton*, Second Lieutenant.

A Return of Officers of a Company of Militia for the North end of *Salem*, in *Westchester* County, was also read and filed. The gentlemen returned are, *Jesse Trusdell*, for Captain, *Ezekiel Hawley*, First Lieutenant, *Solomon Close*, Second Lieutenant, and *Elijah Deane*, Ensign.

Ordered, That Commissions issue for those gentlemen immediately.

Lieutenant *David Reynolds*, from the Fortifications in the *Highlands*, brought Returns of Captain *Samuel Raymond's* and Captain *Burns's* Companies of Minute-Men, now on duty at the Fortifications in the *Highlands*.

Lieutenant *Reynolds* was also charged with mentioning to the Committee the want of bowls and plates, and some other necessaries, for the Troops at the Fortifications; and Letters from the Captains of the Minute-Companies to Colonel *McDougall* were read.

Thereupon, a draft of a Letter to Captain *Samuel Raymond* was read, and approved, and is in the words following, to wit:

In Committee of Safety, New-York, January 19, 1776.

Sir: Your several favours to Colonel *McDougall* have been communicated to the Committee of Safety, as well as the matters with which Lieutenant *Reynolds* was charged. The Continental and Provincial Congress having directed, by sundry resolutions, what shall be done with such persons as discover a temper unfriendly to the Colonies, you are to secure the violators of those resolutions, and send them, with the evidences, by a sufficient guard, to the Committee of the County where the delinquent shall reside.

It is the opinion of this Committee that the Minute-Companies now in the Fort do remain there, until they are relieved by the Continental troops, and that no change of Minute-Companies be made, unless any of the Companies now there should decline the service.

As Lieutenant *Reynolds* informs us you want some wooden platters and bowls for the troops, you are hereby requested to purchase a sufficient number in the neighbourhood, and draw an order on Mr. *Peter T. Curtenius*, our Commissary, and transmit the account for them, which he will be directed to pay. You may provide cider in the neighbourhood for the troops, and you are to be particularly careful to purchase those articles on reasonable terms. Shoes may be purchased cheaper in the country than in the city, and if the men provide them and their clothes, no stoppages will be made for them.

You have, herewith, copies of the resolutions of Congress above-mentioned. Colonel *Nicoll*, of the *Orange* County Minute-Regiment, is appointed by the Committee of Safety to command at the Fort, till a commandant shall be appointed by the Continental Congress, or till he shall be relieved by a Continental officer.

We are, sir, your very humble servants.

Signed by order and in behalf of the Committee of Safety.

Captain *Samuel Raymond*.

Ordered, That a copy thereof be engrossed, and signed by the Chairman, and transmitted by Lieutenant *Reynolds*.

The Committee, taking into consideration the distress this Colony may soon be reduced to for want of Canvass, or some other proper materials to make Tents of, and also the high probability of obtaining Gunpowder at *Curacoa*,

Ordered, That Mr. *Sands*, with all possible despatch, on behalf of the Congress of this Colony, and by order of this Committee, do employ a proper Vessel, and load her with Flour for *Curacoa*, with proper letters and orders to procure Gunpowder and Raven's Duck.

Alexander Lesslie attended, according to the order of yesterday. Mr. *Tobias Stoutenburgh* attended with the said *Alexander Lesslie*, and the said *Alexander Lesslie* engaged to attend on this Committee at any time when called on; and Mr. *Tobias Stoutenburgh*, here present in the Committee, engaged that the said *Alexander Lesslie* will attend this Committee when called on for that purpose, and that he, (the said *Tobias Stoutenburgh*,) on notice for that purpose, will bring the said *Alexander Lesslie* before the said Committee.

—

3 ho. P. M., Die Veneris, January 19, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present, *Pierre Van Cortlandt*, Esq., Chairman, Mr. *Scott*, Mr. *McDougall*, Mr. *Brasher*, Mr. *Tredwell*, Mr. *Sands*, Mr. *Brewster*, Mr. *Clarke*.

This Committee being informed by Lieut. *Tilghman*, of the Light-Infantry in the Third Battalion of the Militia of *Philadelphia*, of the repulse of the Continental Troops at *Quebeck*, and of certain disorders in the County of *Tryon*, in this Colony, which he received from General *Schuyler*, the Committee thought it necessary to order an half-ton of Gunpowder from the Fortifications at the *Highlands* to General *Schuyler*.

General *Schuyler* informed Colonel *McDougall*, by letter, that he had sent this Powder into *Canada*.

Thereupon, a draft of a Letter to the Commissioners and to the commanding officer at the said Fortifications, was read and approved of, and is in the words following, to wit:

New-York, January 19, 1776.

Sirs: You are, on sight of this, to procure as many sleighs as will carry an half-ton of powder to General *Schuyler*, at *Albany*, and despatch it with the utmost expedition, and with a guard; and the officer of the guard is to call on the Committees on the road for assistance of fresh horses and a guard. Great care should be taken to cover the powder, and no fire or other materials should be suffered to come near it, and the guard should be careful of their arms when they approach it.

We are, sirs, your humble servants.

Signed by order and in behalf of the Committee of Safety.

To Mr. *Thomas Grenell*, and to Colonel *James Nicoll*, and, in his absence, to the Commanding Officer at the Fortifications in the *Highlands*.

Ordered, That a copy thereof be engrossed, and signed by the Chairman, and transmitted by *Sampson Dyckman*, an Express.

A draft of a Letter to the Committee of *Albany*, to accompany the said half-ton of Gunpowder, was read and approved of, and is in the words following, to wit:

In Committee of Safety, New-York, January 19, 1776.

Gentlemen: The account of the unhappy disaster of our Army at *Quebeck* we fear will give heart to the enemies of *America* in *Tryon* County, against whom we understand General *Schuyler* has marched. Lest there should be a deficiency of ammunition in your quarter to supply his wants, we send you, by express, for his use, half a ton of powder. He may not be on the spot; therefore, either convey it to him, or send him intelligence of its arrival, according to your discretion. We need not recommend despatch.

We are, gentlemen, your most obedient servants.

By order of the Committee.

To the Committee of *Albany*.

Ordered, That a copy thereof be engrossed, and signed by the Chairman, and transmitted.

One *Decker*, a Boatman, from *Staten-Island*, applied to the Committee, and informed them that he was coming to market with a boat-load of wood, which had been taken from him by one of the ships-of-war. He and two other persons made oath, before Alderman *Filkin*, that the said wood was taken without his consent; and thereupon the Committee gave him a certificate, to prevent his being blamed in this instance.

..... *Johnson*, being recommended as a proper person, and having served as a Lieutenant of Artillery in the Continental Army,

Ordered, That he be appointed Second Lieutenant of the Artillery Company to be raised in this Colony, for the defence of the Colony.

—

Die Sabbati, 10 ho. A. M., January 20, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *Pierre Van Cortlandt*, Esq., Chairman, Colonel *McDougall*, Colonel *Brasher*, Mr. *Sands*, Mr. *Tredwell*, Mr. *Brewster*, Mr. *Clarke*, Mr. *Scott*.

The Committee being well informed that the Cannon beyond *King's Bridge*, near *Williams's*, are spiked up, and thereby rendered unfit for use, and as it is absolutely necessary to have those spikes drilled out, that the cannon be ready for use,

Ordered, That Colonel *McDougall* employ proper persons to have the Spikes drilled out of those Cannon, or such of them as are otherwise fit for use, and that Colonel *McDougall* be, and he is hereby empowered to employ a proper Guard of the Militia to take care of those Cannon, in such manner as he shall direct.

And Ordered, further, That Colonel *McDougall* be, and he is hereby authorized to have carriages and all other necessaries provided for the said Cannon, so as to have them ready for use with all possible despatch.

Colonel *Lott* came into the Committee, and conferred with them relating to his Vessel, which is to go to the foreign *West-Indies* for Gunpowder; and the material parts or outlines being fixed, the agreement was left to be completed by Mr. *Sands*.

Colonel *Lott* also produced a sample of Biscuit, by him prepared, as fit for a Magazine, agreeable to a former request of this Committee.

Thomas Henderson, Esq., a Major of Minute-Men in *Monmouth* County, in *New-Jersey*, attended on the Committee, and informed that he was sent by the Committee of Safety of *New-Jersey*, with a Guard, to conduct several Prisoners taken in *New-Jersey*, being inhabitants of this Colony, who had been proceeding in the sloop *Polly and Ann*, from this port to *Boston*.

Major *Henderson* delivered to the Committee the Affidavit of *James Webb*, which was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"*James Webb*, of full age, being duly sworn on the Holy Evangelist of Almighty *God*, deposeth and saith, that in *December* last, he, this deponent, with his wife, entered on board a small sloop in *New-York* harbour, called the *Polly and Ann*, whereof one *Hains* was captain, bound (as this deponent was then informed) to *Boston*, which vessel was laden with provisions; that on or about the 20th of said *December*, the said vessel sailed from *New-York*, and that he never heard that said vessel was bound to any other port than *Boston*, until said vessel soon after met with bad weather, when it was said on board said vessel, that she was bound to the *West-Indies*; that on the 23d *December*, the said vessel was stranded on the *Jersey* shore; that the captain of the said sloop, one *Isaac Gidney*, master, *Bartholomew Hains*, a passenger, one *Palmer*, who owned part of the cargo, all from *Mamaroneck*, in *Westchester* County, *Moses Mardin*, one *Graham*, this deponent, and his wife, with one *Sanford*, and two more, were on board said vessel when she stranded; that this deponent verily believes said vessel was bound to *Boston*; that since the said vessel was on shore, this deponent observed that the labels on the packages, casks, and boxes, were torn off, but that he does not remember to have taken notice of any marks or labels on any of the freight, so as to describe them, before taken off. That most of the persons on board left the said vessel to go by land to *New-York*, soon after they got on shore, among whom this deponent went to *New-York*, from whence he lately returned to this

Province for his wife, and several small effects he had on board; and further this deponent saith not.

"JAMES WEBB.

"Sworn, the 11th *January*, 1776, before me,

"JOHN DENNIS."

Major *Henderson*, also, delivered a copy of the Proceedings of the Committee of Safety of *New-Jersey*, with respect to those Prisoners, which was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"Committee of Safety, Princeton, January 11, 1776.

"This Committee received information from the Committee of the County of *Monmouth*, by Doctor *Scudder* and Doctor *Henderson*, and also, by letter from the Chairman of said Committee, that a small sloop called the *Polly and Ann*, one *Hains*, captain, was, on the 23d of *December* last, stranded on *Squan-Beach*, on board of which was a quantity of beef, pork, and other provisions; which vessel and cargo is now in the care and custody of Colonel *Furman*, except such articles as were perishable, which the Committee directed to be sold by Doctor *Scudder* and Doctor *Henderson*, an inventory of which cargo, as well such as was sold, as such as remain, was laid before this Committee; and one *James Webb*, a passenger on board said vessel, which is stranded, appeared before this Committee, by whose deposition it appears, that said vessel was bound from *New-York* to *Boston*, and from all circumstances, the provisions on board were destined for the Ministerial army. The Committee taking the above matters into consideration, think it proper that the whole of said cargo be immediately sold, and the vessel secured, which vessel, with the amount of the sales, after deducting the necessary expenses, be referred to the disposal of the Congress of this Colony at their next sitting, and that Colonel *David Furman*, Doctor *N. Scudder*, and Doctor *Thomas Henderson*, be, and are hereby authorized and empowered to secure the above said vessel, and complete the sales of the cargo, in some convenient time, and account for their sales, and report their proceedings to the Congress of this Province at their next sitting; and may deliver to the seamen and passengers belonging to said vessel, all such clothing and other effects as belong to them, (exclusive of the car go.) provided they, in a reasonable time, call for the same; and that the thanks of this Committee be returned to Colonel *Furman* for his extraordinary care and vigilance in securing the said vessel and cargo.

"And, whereas, it appears that the captain, master, and passengers of the said sloop *Polly and Ann*, stranded on *Squan-Beach*, are inhabitants of the Colony of *New-York*,

"*It is, therefore, Ordered*, That the said Captain, Master, and Passengers, or such of them as are in this Province, be conveyed under a guard, as Colonel *David Furman* may think proper, to *New-York*, and delivered to the Provincial Congress or Committee of Safety, to be dealt with as they may think proper.

"A true copy. By order of the Committee:

"ABRAHAM CLARK, *Deputy-Secretary*."

James Webb, being personally brought before the Committee, says, that he intended to go to *Britain* to take care of a relation and her estate, and expected to be enabled to return to this country at some future time and carry on his business with spirit. That he was going to *Boston* to obtain a passage from thence to *Britain;* that he went on board the sloop *Polly and Ann* before she sailed, that he did not then see the captain, but that a person then on board informed him, that the sloop was to go to *Boston*, and that they could take him and his wife passengers; thereupon, he went on board of the vessel the next day, which was the day before she sailed; that the vessel sailed on *Wednesday*, and was stranded on *Saturday* night following. That the captain told him that his cousin, *Bartholomew Hains*, fled from home, and that in running away he fell down and lost either his gun or bayonet, or both, and could not stay to take it up.

Major *Henderson* says, that *James Webb* appeared open and candid in his examination before the Committee of *New-Jersey*.

James Webb requested a Certificate to protect him while he tarries in this Colony. Thereupon a Certificate was given to him in the words following, to wit:

This Committee have heard and examined the case of *James Webb*, in his presence, and nothing appearing against him, he is discharged; and this Certificate is given to him as a protection whilst he tarries in this Colony, and demeans himself well and consistent with the liberties of this Colony.

Major *Henderson* says, that *Hains*, the captain of the said sloop, broke jail in *New-York* a few weeks ago, and stole a boat and got on board of a man-of-war, and was there protected until the vessel sailed; and the said *Hains* confessed this to one of the guard, on the way to *New-York*. He further says, that the casks and boxes found on board of the said sloop, had had labels nailed to them, but that all the labels were torn off. That among the labels torn off, he found one directed to General *Howe*, *Boston*, turnips; another, to Mrs. *Ann Wood*, *Boston*; another to General *Ruggles*, *Boston;* several to one *Willard*, at *Boston;* and a back of a letter directed to General *Howe*; that the directions to General *Ruggles* is lost, but that the directions to General *Howe* and Mrs. *Wood*, can be sent here.

That he was informed by *William Taylor*, that several persons who had been passengers in the sloop *Polly and Ann*, had informed *John Morris*, of *Shrewsbury*, that three quarter-casks of *Madeira* wine, and other things which were on board for General *Howe*, were shipped by Governour *Tryon*; and, by a bit of an invoice found, it cost twenty-two pounds ten shillings per quarter-cask.

That *John Graham* declared he had shipped on board to go to the *West-Indies*, but that he verily believes the sloop was bound to *Boston*.

Major *Henderson* says, that it appears to him, the sloop must have been intended to go only coastwise, for that it is testified by the late master and people on board, that they did not keep any reckoning or heave a log-line.

David Rhea says, that Captain *Hains* told him he was put in jail because he refused to deliver up his arms, and that his punishment had been determined, that he should not eat or drink until he had delivered them up; that he broke jail by breaking six grates out of a window, and stole a boat about midnight, and got on board of the man-of-war; that the sloop *Polly and Ann* was purchased for him about three days, or less, before the time of her sailing, and that she was purchased of *Isaac Gidney*.

—

Die Sabbati, 3 ho. P. M., January 20, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *Pierre Van Cortlandt*, Esq., Chairman, Mr. *Scott*, Colonel *McDougall*, Colonel *Brasher*, Mr. *Brewster*, Mr. *Tredwell*, Mr. *Clarke*. Mr. *Sands*, a very short time.

One *Pettit*, of *New-Haven*, by request, attended on the Committee. He informed, in substance, that General *Lee* is at *New-Haven;* that he is raising troops; that it is reported currently that he is to raise one thousand five hundred men, and to come to *New-York*. That he did not see General *Lee*, and has not any other information than common report; that General *Lee* did not bring any troops with him to *New-Haven*.

Ordered, That *Peter Van Brugh Livingston*, Esq., as Treasurer of the Provincial Congress of this Colony, advance and pay to Mr. *John Holt*, one hundred Pounds, on account of the moneys due to him from the Provincial Congress and Committee of Safety of this Colony; and that Mr. *Livingston* take Mr. *Holt's* receipt for the same.

Mr. *John Foster*, of *Suffolk* County, one of the Members of the late Provincial Congress, applied to the Committee to continue the permit given to him last Summer, to export live stock, in order to purchase gunpowder.

The Committee informed him it was not in their power. Mr. *Foster* then informed the Committee that he had a vessel, which he intended to offer for sale to the Continental Congress, and requested a letter to introduce him to the Delegates, as well relative to the sale of the said vessel, as to the said permission. And this Committee having occasion to write to the Delegates on other matters,

The following draft of a Letter was read, and approved of, and is in the words following, to wit:

In Committee of Safety, New-York, January 20, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: This will be delivered to you by Mr. *John*

Foster, who was a member of our last Provincial Congress, and is a warm friend to *American* liberty.

In the last Summer during the continuance of our Provincial resolves against the exportation of live-stock, and before the non-exportation, ordered by the Continental Congress, took effect, he obtained from the Provincial Congress license to export live-stock for the purpose of importing powder, the execution of which, he suspended until he could send his vessel out without danger of molestation from the men-of-war, and as the season of the year now gives him security against that danger, he is desirous of pursuing his object, for which end he has put himself to considerable expense. He, therefore, applied to us for a continuance of his permission, conceiving, that as it was originally granted before the non-exportation took effect, this Committee has a power to give such continuance. We informed him that we were clearly of opinion that he had lost his opportunity, and that we could not relieve him. He, thereupon, signified his intention of applying to the Continental Congress on that subject, as well as concerning a large ship, which he is now building, and which he intends to offer for sale to Congress, and requested our recommendation, in hopes it would give his application weight. We, therefore, beg leave to recommend him through you to the Congress, as a gentleman worthy of the notice of that respectable body.

We have it much at heart to prevent, as effectually as possible, the importation of *British* and *Irish* goods. To this object our attention has been called by a late importation by the way of *St. Eustatia*. According to the present regulation, the reshipping of the goods is the only punishment, in point of property, to be inflicted on the offender, and we think it absolutely necessary to substitute confiscation, instead of the reshipping of the goods, as the most effectual means to check offenders of that kind; and in this view we beg leave to recommend the proposed amendment to your attention.

We have thought it necessary to appoint a Barrackmaster for the City and County of *New-York*, in order that the barracks in this city may constantly be kept in a proper state for the comfortable accommodation of the Continental troops, that may from time to time be posted here, or be marching through this city. We have nominated *Garret Roorback* to that office; and, therefore, entreat you to procure the settlement of his salary by the Congress.

In the resolves of the Congress of the 8th instant, it is recommended to this Committee to inquire, "whether the depth of water in *Hudson-River*, below the Battery," may not be easily lessened, "so as to prevent large ships passing." We are at a loss to determine with any certainty what battery is meant, and request an explanation on that head.

We have appointed a person, agreeable to the resolves of Congress of the 2d instant, for collecting copies of all petitions, memorials, and remonstrances, which have been presented to the Throne, or either of the Houses of Parliament, since 1762, and the answers to them.

We agree that the reasons you assign against making application for liberty to export flaxseed, are sufficient; and, therefore, think it best to withhold such application.

The business recommended to us in the former part of the resolve of the 8th instant, for securing the port of *New-York*, has been some time under our consideration. We have had an accurate sounding of the channel, which, with the plan for securing the port, and a calculation of the expense that will attend it, we shall communicate to you as soon as possible.

On the subject of the resolve of Congress, for an exchange of Lieutenant *Tylee*, we beg leave to inform the Congress, that a few days before the receipt of that resolve, application was made to Captain *Vandeput*, under our direction, by a person connected with Lieutenant *Tylee*, to procure his exchange, Captain *Vandeput* answered, that it was not in his power to exchange him at present, that he had long since wrote to his Admiral for directions on that subject, the answer to which had miscarried, and that he had not any directions to exchange.

We have appointed a member to request the Mayor of this city to use his influence with Captain *Vandeput*, or Captain *Parker*, to make a second application to the Admiral on that matter.

We have received from you, gentlemen, sundry requests about our accounts. We are so few in number, and continually so overpressed with the despatch of publick matters, that it has not yet been in our power to give due attention to that affair. We will endeavour to employ assistance, and have the accounts prepared as soon as possible.

We are, most respectfully, gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servants.

By order of the Committee.

To the Delegates of the Colony of *New-York*, at Congress.

Ordered, That a copy thereof be engrossed, and signed by the Chairman, and transmitted by Mr. *John Foster*.

Die Solis, 9 ho. A. M., January 21, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *Pierre Van Cortlandt*, Esq., Chairman, Colonel *McDougall*, Colonel *Brasher*, Mr. *Tredwell*, Mr. *Brewster*, Mr. *Sands*, Mr. *Clarke*, Mr. *Scott*.

The Committee were informed by some of their members, that many of the inhabitants are removing their families and effects from this city, at great expense. That the inhabitants are alarmed by the confident reports, that General *Lee* is at *New-Haven*, or on his way thither, with a considerable body of troops. The Committee are of opinion, that it may occasion great difficulties and inconveniences to the inhabitants of this city, should any body of forces arrive here for active service; and it would tend to the peace and happiness of the inhabitants, for this Committee to obtain some information on that subject.

Thereupon a draft of a Letter to Major-General *Lee*, was read and approved of, and is in the words following, to wit:

In Committee of Safety, New-York, January 21, 1776.

SIR: The inhabitants of this city are much alarmed at various confident advices of your destination, with a considerable body of forces for active service here; confident, however, as those advices may appear to the people without doors, we cannot readily credit them, as we conceive it most probable, that were you preparing to execute any plan of that kind, it would be preceded by some intimations to us on the subject, from the Continental Congress, General *Washington*, or yourself. We, therefore, should not have troubled you with this application, had it not been to procure such information from you, as may enable us, in a prudent use of it, to allay the fears of our inhabitants, who, at this inclement season of the year, will continue, as they have already begun, to remove their women and children, and which, if continued, may occasion hundreds to perish for want of shelter.

This Committee, and the Congress, whose place we fill in their recess, are, we flatter ourselves, as unanimously zealous in the cause of *America*, as any Representative body on the Continent; so truly zealous, that both the one and the other will cheerfully devote this city to sacrifice, for advancing that great and important cause. But, to acquit ourselves in the judgment of the Continent, which, in point of publick aid, is deeply interested in the preservation of this metropolis, and to our constituents, who expect our prudent care of their lives and properties, we think it our indispensable duty to inform you, that, though we have advices that General *Washington* has been informed of the arrival of a large quantity of powder among us, we have not a sufficiency to enable you to act hostilely against the ships-of-war now in port. Our whole quantity of publick powder is less than three tons. No works are erected to annoy the enemy in their present situation. Should it be practicable at this juncture to erect hasty works for that purpose, to what shift are we to betake ourselves, after our trifling supply of ammunition shall be expended? The commencement of hostilities, for which we are now so unprepared, will preclude the possibility of a supply, even for our musketry, in the ensuing campaign. The strict guard against the exportation of ammunition from the foreign ports in *Europe*, we have great reason to fear, will cut off all hopes of supply from that quarter, as well to us, as the Continental Congress. We have sent sundry adventures thither, some of which have failed; for this reason we are daily pushing adventures to the *West-Indies*, with the article of provisions, as a necessary expedient in the present uncom-

mon scarcity of bullion. The ships-of-war give no interruption to our vessels despatched on those adventures, a favour we cannot expect should hostilities begin. And even should we be fortunate enough to oblige the ships-of-war to quit this port, by expending the little powder we have, (an event which our most sanguine hopes cannot promise us,) the attention of our enemies will effectually prevent our expected importations. For those reasons, we conceive that a just regard to the publick cause, and our duty, to take a prudent care of this city, dictate the impropriety of provoking hostilities at present, and the necessity of saving appearances with the ships-of-war till, at least, the month of *March*. Though we have been unfortunate in our disappointments, with respect to some of our adventures, yet be assured, sir, we have not been idle. Our intrenching tools are almost completed to a sufficient number; we are forming a magazine of provisions, for five thousand men, for a month, in a place of safety, and at convenient distance from this city. We have provided ourselves with six good brass field-pieces, have directed carriages to be made for our other artillery, and are raising a company of artillery for the defence of the Colony, on the Continental establishment. These things, when accomplished, with other smaller matters, and with the arrival of some gunpowder, the prospect of which is not unpromising, will enable us to face our enemies with some countenance. We, therefore, ardently wish to remain in peace for a little time, and doubt not we have assigned sufficient reasons for avoiding, at present, a dilemma, in which the present entrance of a large body of troops into this city, will, almost certainly, involve us. Should you have such an entrance in design, we beg, at least, that the troops may halt on the western confines of *Connecticut*, till we shall have been honoured by you with such an explanation on this important subject, as you conceive your duty may permit you to enter into with us, the grounds of which you will easily see ought to be kept an entire secret, and to assure you, that we are, with great respect and esteem, sir, your most obedient servants.

By order of the Committee.

To Major-General *Lee*.

Ordered, That a copy thereof be engrossed, and signed by the Chairman, and transmitted by *Garret Vandenbergh*, as an Express for that purpose.

That particular instructions be given to *Vandenbergh* to inquire on the road at proper stages for Major-General *Lee*. If he should meet him at any stage, or come near him, to deliver him the Letter with which he is charged. That if Major-General *Lee* was not at *New-Haven*, and in *Connecticut*, he should proceed to him with the Letter. But, that if General *Lee* had departed the Colony of *Connecticut*, he should return with the said Letter to this Committee.

—

Die Solis, 3 ho. P. M., January 21, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *Pierre Van Cortlandt*, Esq., Chairman, Mr. *Scott*, Colonel *McDougall*, Colonel *Brasher*, Mr. *Brewster*, Mr. *Tredwell*, Mr. *Sands*, Mr. *Clarke*.

Mr. *William Leary*, the Town-Major, came and informed this Committee of Safety, that part of the City Guard, under his direction, had apprehended a certain *Joseph Woolcombe*, who was come from on board of a transport ship off *Sandy-Hook* to go on board of the ships-of-war in port, and that he had, also, apprehended Captain *William Dobbs*, the Pilot, who had brought him on shore for that purpose, and that he had sent them to the Guard-House. That he caused the said *Joseph Woolcombe* to be searched, and had found in his custody five Letters, which he had brought to the Committee of Safety for their inspection or direction. The said several Letters being opened and read, appeared to be wrote and directed to the persons for that purpose hereinafter named, and to the following effect, to wit:

1st. A Letter from *J. H. Dempster*, Captain of the ship *Blue-Mountain-Valley*, dated *January* 22, 1776, and directed to his brother, *George Dempster*, Esq., *Oxford* Street, *London*. He therein informs him, "that he was now preparing to send an officer on shore, to be fully satisfied of the propriety of going into *New-York*. That he had been three weeks on the coast, without seeing, or speaking with any of the King's ships. That he was greatly amazed at not yet seeing any of the men-of-war, his instructions strictly forbidding him to enter *Boston*, or any other port or harbour in *America*, till he had spoke with some of His Majesty's ships—proper orders having been sent out for that purpose. That the ship was in a bad state; he feared that her rudder must be unhung before he could proceed any further, and that they were in want of water."

2d. Letter from the said *J. H. Dempster*, of the same *London*. In this letter he says, "they had been three date, directed to *Robert Hunter*, Esquire, *Coleman* Street, weeks on the coast, that they had not seen any of the King's vessels, though by the tenour of his instructions from the Board, he had reason to suppose he should, long ere this time, have met some of them."

3d. A Letter from the said *J. H. Dempster*, of the same date as the others, directed to *Richard Cardin*, Esquire, *Bucklersbury*, *London*, containing advices to the same effect as the letters before mentioned.

4th. A Letter from *J. H. Dempster*, of the same date, directed to his brother, *J. Townshend*, *London*, containing the like advices as the others.

5th. A Letter dated said 22d *January*, from *Joseph Woolcombe*, the Mate, (now in the Barrack,) to his father, containing advices of a long passage, very bad weather, loss of sails, ship in bad order, that they had eighty hogs when they sailed, and had now only ten left—that pork would come dear to the soldiers.

Captain *William Dobbs*, by order of the Committee, was brought before them and examined. He described the ship *Blue-Mountain-Valley*, says she is a transport from *England*, with porter and coal for the Ministerial army. That *Joseph Woolcombe* is mate of the said ship, that he did not promise to put said *Woolcombe* on board of one of the ships-of-war, but only promised to bring him to the city. That *Woolcombe* did not mention any thing about the going on board of the ships-of-war, or either of them, until he was near the city, and that he, the said *William Dobbs*, refused to put him on board.

Captain *William Dobbs* returned, with a Guard, to the Guard-House, at the Upper Barracks.

—

Die Lunæ, 10 ho. A. M., January 22, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *Pierre Van Cortlandt*, Esquire, Chairman, Colonel *McDougall*, Colonel *Brasher*, Mr. *Tredwell*, Mr. *Brewster*, Mr. *Clarke*, Mr. *Scott*. Mr. *Sands*, a very little time.

A Letter from Mr. *Thomas Grenell*, one of the Commissioners at the Fortifications, was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"Highlands, January 19, 1776.

"Sir: I received yours of the 16th instant, and shall endeavour to comply with the contents. The foundation of the intended Battery was completed on *Sunday* last, the length of which is one hundred and forty feet, the breadth at bottom twelve feet, and at the top is ten feet, and its height four feet on an average. The materials are chiefly large rocks, from five hundred to one thousand weight, and some much larger, filled in with the largest stones it would take, and the small vacancies filled with coarse gravel instead of mortar, as that could not be used at this season of the year. I had the misfortune to have the first range of timber for the breastwork laid, before I received your order to stop going on with the same. With respect to the extension of the base to fifteen feet, it may be done, if thought necessary, at a very small expense, as the materials are handy, and shall leave you to judge of, from the cost in wages of what has been done already, of which you have in the annexed account, with the first charge of timber and plank for the breastwork and platform. The breastwork was proposed to be three feet thick and well braced, trundled; the height will be suitable to the gun-carriages. As to the Magazine, it still continues very damp, though there has been three fires constantly in it, for three or four weeks; and I doubt whether it will be fit for use this Winter. The powder, I shall take all the care in my power of it, but am obliged to supply the Minute-Men out of our old stock, for they came here without any. I am, sir, your humble servant,

Thomas Grenell.

"P. S. I also mention that the intended Battery is seven hundred and fourteen yards from the *West-Point*, and from *Bunn's Hill* to the *West-Point* is seven hundred and forty yards.

"To *Pierre Van Cortlandt*, Esq., Chairman of the Committee of Safety, *New-York*.

"*An Account of what charge the intended Battery has, in some measure, already been.*

The wages to workmen and labourers completing the line, about, - - - - - - - -	£20 00
To twelve-inch square timber for the breast-work, 16,200 feet; Sleepers for the platform, 2,000 feet; Plank for ditto, 4,000 feet. First cost of the above timber 6*s.* per 100 feet, -	66 12
It may be finished by ten Carpenters we have here on the spot, in about ten days, 5*s.* 6*d.* per day, - - - - - - - - - - - -	27 10
	£114 2

"Some few other necessaries, such as deck-nails and trundles will be wanted.

"THOS. GRENELL."

A Letter from Lord *Stirling* was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"Elizabethtown, January 20, 1776.

"SIR: Your letter of the 17th I have received. What you mention with regard to the Barracks, at *New-York*, I shall communicate to the Continental Congress. The one hundred firelocks which your Congress have been so good as to spare us, will be paid for, by the Congress of this Province, at their next meeting, the 31st of this month, agreeable to an order of the Continental Congress of the 2d instant. Such of them as are finished, you will be pleased to order to be delivered to Major *De Hart*, of my Regiment, whom I shall desire to call for them in his way back from *Long-Island*.

"I am, sir, your most humble servant, "STIRLING.

"To the Chairman of the Committee of Safety of *New-York*."

Colonel *McDougall* informed the Committee that the Captains of the men-of-war had despatched a Pilot-boat, with mariners and marines, to the relief of the transport-ship at the *Hook*. The Committee are of opinion that notice thereof should be given to Lord *Stirling*, by express. Thereupon a draft of a Letter to his Lordship was read and approved of, and is in the words following, to wit:

In Committee of Safety, New-York, January 22, 1776—12 o'clock.

MY LORD: This minute the Captains of the men-of-war have taken a pilot-boat, and sent her down towards the *Hook*, with mariners and marines on board, from twenty to twenty-five in number.

If your party goes to secure the ship, they should secure the pilot-boat first, or, in our opinion, there should be two or more boats with men, to contain at least fifty or more men in the whole, otherwise they may fail of success.

We have the honour to be, most respectfully, your Lordship's most obedient, humble servants.

By order of the Committee of Safety.

To the Right Honourable *William*, Earl of *Stirling*, and in his absence to the Chairman of the Committee at *Elizabethtown*.

Ordered, That a copy thereof be engrossed and signed by the Chairman, and transmitted by *Sampson Dyckman*.

Hart Jacobs, a *Jew*, attending at the door, requests an exemption from doing military duty, on the City Watch, on *Friday* nights, which is part of his *Sabbath*. Thereupon a Certificate was given to him, in the words following, to wit:

Hart Jacobs, of the Jewish religion, having signified to this Committee, that it is inconsistent with his religious profession to perform military duty on *Friday* nights, being part of the Jewish *Sabbath*, it is

Ordered, That he be exempted from Military duty on that night of the week, to be subject, nevertheless, to the performance of his full tour of duty on other nights.

Colonel *McDougall* informed the Committee that he had purchased the sloop *Sally*, to be made an armed vessel, for the sum of three hundred and twenty-five Pounds, and requested an order for that sum.

Ordered, That *Peter V. B. Livingston*, Esq., as Treasurer of the Provincial Congress of this Colony, advance to Colonel *McDougall* the sum of three hundred and twenty-five Pounds, to enable him to pay for the sloop or vessel called the *Sally*, which he has purchased in pursuance of an order of Provincial Congress, of the 20th day of *December* last past.

And Ordered, further, That the said Treasurer advance and pay to Commodore *James Smith*, on Continental account, the sum of twenty-six Pounds thirteen Shillings and four Pence, for two months' pay, in part of his pay while in the Continental service at *Lake Champlain*, and that Mr. *Livingston* take a receipt, or receipts, for the same.

The Committee took into consideration the necessity and advantage of having sundry small armed Vessels to protect trade in this and the neighbouring Colonies, and also to seize transports with provisions intended for the Ministerial army and navy, and to prevent the same from being exported by persons unfriendly to the measures of the Colonies.

Thereupon a draft of a Letter to the Delegates of this Colony at Congress, was read and approved of, and is in the words following, to wit:

In Committee of Safety, New-York, January 22, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: With the utmost anxiety we have beheld the supply of provisions, collected last Autumn on board the ship-of-war, by the means of small boats from *Queen's* and *Westchester* Counties, for the purpose of supplying the Ministerial army at *Boston*. Our Congress, impelled by a desire to prevent so great a mischief, authorized Colonel *McDougall* to equip a small armed vessel to watch those and other dangerous supplies of the like kind.

We are informed by one of our Delegates, that Congress will readily take this vessel into the Continental service; should it be so determined her flag should be described to us, marine articles of war provided, with a roll of pay, and sent to us without delay. An acquaintance with the navigation in our neighbourhood points out the necessity of immediately equipping three other small vessels of easy draft of water, sufficiently manned and provided, both to attack and repulse the barges of the men-of-war with success, and constructed in such manner as to take shelter in coves and inlets, out of the reach of superior force, and under cover of the musketry of the country. Those vessels will effectually scour the navigation of this port and its environs, and, besides procuring offensive advantages, will prevent the above-mentioned mischiefs. One of them should be stationed at *Amboy*, to watch the navigation from thence to *Sandy-Hook*; another at *Elizabethtown*, to attend that between *Staten-Island* and *New-Jersey* and the southward-most parts of our Bay; another on *Hudson's River*; and the fourth, the parts of the Sound to the eastward of this harbour; and they all might be, occasionally, used as express boats. The one already provided is commanded by *James Smith*, who was Commodore on the Lakes the last Summer, with the rank of Major. He has approved himself a man of worth in the naval service of the Continent, and as he has yet received no pay, we shall advance him some money on that score for his last year's service.

Should the Congress approve of the proposed plan, we will cheerfully engage, under their direction, in the equipment of three more vessels. But, to answer the good ends proposed, their order should be handed to us without delay. The vessels completely equipped, except the artillery and musketry, which we will supply, will cost about six hundred pounds, each.

Egg-Harbour is now known to our enemies as a place of debarkment for certain necessaries; we, therefore, think that a small redoubt should be there built, garrisoned always by a proper Captain's guard, with Barracks to contain two hundred men, so situated as to command the entrance of the harbour, and provided with cisterns to take rain-water. Cedar wood is plenty there, which will answer all the purposes of wood-work; and to complete the defence, a galley, to mount a six-pounder in her stem, should, we think, be provided.

We have no grape-shot for our field-pieces, (six-pounders,) nor coals to manufacture them. We beg to be in-

formed if we can be supplied with that article at *Philadelphia;* if so, be pleased to send two tons to *Elizabethtown* without delay, to our direction, together with the amount of the cost, which we shall remit without delay.

We are, gentlemen, your most obedient servants.

By order of the Committee.

To the *New-York* Delegates in Continental Congress, *Philadelphia.*

Ordered, That a copy thereof be engrossed and signed by the Chairman, and transmitted.

Joseph Woolcombe, mate of the ship *Blue-Mountain-Valley,* was brought before the Committee and examined. He says he was chief mate of the ship *Blue-Mountain-Valley,* that she is laden with hogs, provisions, &c., for *Boston;* left *London* thirteen weeks ago; that he was sent up to *New-York,* by the Captain, to put some letters for *England* on board of the men-of-war and to return; that the ship was to lie off-and-on fourteen hours for him; that they have had bad weather; that thirty-six sail of transports, with stores and provisions, came out with them; that as many more transports were ready to sail; that they have had such weather that he believes many other transports are gone to the *West-Indies;* that the *Blue-Mountain-Valley* is a sharp-built ship, and would make as good weather on a winter coast as any ship; that two troops of Light-Horse came out in transports with their vessel, and were to winter in the *West-Indies.*

Ordered, That Mr. *Woolcombe* remain in custody in Captain *Ledyard's* room for further examination.

The Committee conceiving it too great a burden on the Minute-Men, or detachments from this city, to continue long on the duty of guarding the cannon near *King's Bridge,* concluded that it would be most convenient to have a guard of *Westchester* Minute-Men at that place.

Thereupon, a draft of a Letter on that subject to Lieutenant-Colonel *Graham,* of the Minute-Men in *Westchester* County, was read and approved, and is in the words following, to wit:

In Committee of Safety, New-York, January 22, 1776.

Sir: Having received information that some evil-minded persons have spiked up the cannon near *King's Bridge,* to prevent their being further damaged, or rendered entirely unfit for service, we think it necessary that a continual guard should be kept over them for their immediate security. We have sent out a company from one of the Independent Battalions of this city; but, as they are too much harassed with continual duty upon the large guards, it is necessary to keep up in this city, we desire that you would, as soon as possible, cause them to be relieved by a company of Minute-Men out of your regiment, to be upon constant duty till further orders; their pay and billeting to be the same allowed for the Continental troops now raising.

We are, sir, your very humble servants.

By order of the Committee.

To Lieutenant-Colonel *Lewis Graham,* of the Regiment of Minute-Men in *Westchester* County.

N. B. This business is committed to you, sir, as your Colonel's remote residence would make it inconvenient to direct it him. You will please to apologize to him for the same.

Ordered, That a copy thereof be engrossed and signed by the Chairman, and transmitted.

—

3 ho. P. M., Die Lunæ, January 22, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *Pierre Van Cortlandt,* Esq., Chairman, Mr. *Scott,* Colonel *McDougall,* Colonel *Brasher,* Mr. *Brewster,* Mr. *Tredwell,* Mr. *Clarke,* Mr. *Sands.*

Two Letters from *Thomas Grenell,* one of the Commissioners at the Fortifications in the *Highlands,* to Mr. *John Berrien,* were read, in order to obtain information of the state of the Fortifications in the *Highlands,* and of the people at work there.

Mr. *John Berrien* delivered in a Memorandum of Balances of Accounts and Moneys due from the Commissioners for the said Fortifications, as follows, to wit: Balance of Carpenter's Bill, one hundred and seventy-eight Pounds eleven Shillings; balance of Mason's Bill, two hundred and ninety-nine Pounds five Shillings; Draft of Commissioners at the Fort, to pay up Accounts of Provisions, &c., three hundred and fifty Pounds; Cash in advance, by *John Berrien,* two hundred Pounds. The Blacksmith's Draft in his favour, Coppersmith's Account, Ironmonger's and Nailer's Account not paid. He supposes these amount to seventy Pounds. That the Commissioners have not drawn any pay, and that any commissions are not included.

Ordered, That *Peter Van Brugh Livingston,* Esq., as Treasurer of the Provincial Congress of this Colony, advance to Mr. *John Berrien,* as Commissary of the Commissioners for erecting Fortifications at the *Highlands,* and one of the said Commissioners, the sum of one thousand two hundred and fifty Pounds, on account of the expenses and disbursements of erecting the said Fortifications, and that Mr. *Livingston* take Mr. *Berrien's* receipt for the same.

Ordered, That Captain *John Grenell,* who was recommended by the Provincial Congress of this Colony to the Continental Congress as a Captain of an Artillery Company, be, and he is hereby, appointed accordingly, and that a Warrant issue to the said Captain *John Grenell* for that purpose.

—

Die Martis, 10 ho. A. M., January 23, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Colonel *McDougall,* Colonel *Brasher,* Mr. *Scott,* Mr. *Hallett,* Mr. *Brewster,* Mr. *Clarke,* Mr. *Tredwell,* Mr. *Sands.*

Colonel *Van Cortlandt* being under a necessity to go to his seat in *Westchester* County, and the gentlemen present conceiving his attendance there will be of use to the publick tranquillity in that part of the country, consented to his departure, and, thereupon, unanimously chose Mr. *Joseph Hallett* Chairman *pro tempore,* in his stead.

Mr. *Sands* informed the Committee that Monsieur *Varras,* a *French* gentleman, came here from *Grenada* for his health, and requests a permission for himself and his Interpreter to travel to or through the Colony of *Connecticut;* thereupon, a passport was given to Mr. *Sands* for him, in the words following, to wit:

The bearer, Monsieur *Varras,* and his Interpreter, *Oliver Besly,* are permitted to pass unmolested.

A Bill of Sale from *Robert Wosan,* Master and part owner of the sloop *Sally,* and from *Isaac Scudder, Hooker St. John,* and *Sarah Isaac,* Executors of the last will and estate of *Benjamin Isaac,* deceased, the other owners, to Colonel *Alexander McDougall* and Captain *Anthony Rutgers,* for the said sloop and her appurtenances, was prepared, and delivered to Captain *James Smith* to take to *Norwalk* to have it executed.

John Fowler was taken and brought before the Committee, and charged with having purchased a parcel of old Files, which it is conceived were used for spiking up the Cannon in *Westchester* County. He readily declared that he purchased thirty old Files; that he was requested by *William Lownsbury,* of *Mamaroneck,* to purchase some old Files for him; that he purchased thirty; that they were all flat Files, to the best of his remembrance; that he bought sixteen pounds weight of *Michael Ganter,* and five pounds weight of a Brass-Founder, in the *Broadway,* near *St. Paul's* Church.

Peter Valentine says he was present when *John Fowler* spoke for the Files, and they were collected together, and that there were some rat-tails among them. *John Fowler* says that he took out the rat-tails, and did not buy them; that as soon as he heard the Guns were spiked up, he immediately told his wife that he should be blamed, and that *Lownsbury* had used him ill; that he knows not the use for which the said Files were purchased.

Ordered, That Lieutenant *Jecamiah Allen,* of the Light-Horse of the City of *New-York,* take with him a guard of twelve of the said Light-Horse, and proceed immediately to *Mamaroneck,* and take *William Lownsbury* and his accomplices, and bring them immediately before this Committee to be heard, and to answer such things as may be

charged against them concerning the Cannon that have been spiked up, beyond *King's Bridge*, in *Westchester* County; and

Ordered, That Mr. *Allen* call on Colonel *Joseph Drake*, at *New-Rochelle*, or on any other Officer of the Militia or Minute-Men in *Westchester* County, for any assistance he may want; and all the Officers of the Militia and Minute-Men of the said County are hereby requested to give all necessary aid of men, or otherwise, to Mr. *Allen* and his party in the aforesaid service.

And Ordered, further, That the said *John Fowler* be kept in safe and secure custody, at the Upper Barracks, until the further order of this Committee, and, in the interim, that no person be suffered to speak to him, but in the presence and hearing of the Officer of the Guard; and that no letters, or paper writings, be permitted to pass between the said *John Fowler* and any person out of the Barracks, and that he be denied the use of pen, ink, and paper, and that Colonel *McDougall* cause this order to be duly executed, with directions to treat the said *John Fowler* with as much courtesy as may be consistent with this order.

Mr. *John Berrien* and *Andrew McCormick*, by request, attended the Committee, and informed them of the state of ground within, or to the northward of, the line of Fortifications mentioned in Mr. *Thomas Grenell's* Letter of the 19th instant, and of such other matters relating to the timber and materials there as the Committee requested, and they could inform or explain, in order to enable the Committee to give an answer to the said Letter.

—

3 ho. P. M., Die Martis, January 23, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Mr. *Joseph Hallett*, Chairman, Mr. *Brewster*, Mr. *Tredwell*, Mr. *Clarke*, Mr. *Sands*, Colonel *McDougall*, Colonel *Brasher*.

Joseph Woolcombe, Mate of the ship *Blue-Mountain-Valley*, was brought before the Committee. He says he had not any other Letters than those taken from him when searched; that he was mate of the ship; that twenty-five or twenty-six transports sailed with their vessel, which was the whole number then in the *Downs:* there were other transports taken up; that their ship was loaded with porter and coals; that two transports, with horse, came out and went to the *West-Indies* for winter-quarters; that he had no verbal instructions, but to deliver the Letters on board of the man-of-war; that the ship was to stand-in, in the night, for him, which would be about twenty-four hours after he left her, and, if he did not arrive in four hours after, the ship was to put off for *Boston*.

Joseph Woolcombe says he chooses to go on board of one of the men-of-war. Thereupon, he was discharged, and the Letters found with him were delivered to him, and a permit was given to him, in the words following, to wit:

Ordered, That *Joseph Woolcombe* be permitted to go on board either of His Majesty's ships-of-war, now lying in the Harbour of *New-York*, unmolested.

Colonel *McDougall* informed the Committee that Captain *Benjamin Ledyard* has unavoidably been at sundry expenses, by reason of his having the care and charge of Prisoners committed to the Guard-House in this city.

Ordered, That *Peter V. B. Livingston*, Esq., as Treasurer of the Provincial Congress of this Colony, pay unto Captain *Benjamin Ledyard*, of Colonel *McDougall's* Regiment, the sum of eight Pounds, to reimburse him for sundry expenses he has necessarily been at, by having the charge of several Prisoners confined in the Guard-House in this city.

A Letter from the Committee of *Richmond* County, of the 19th instant, was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"Richmond County, January 19, 1776.

"GENTLEMEN: Whereas, the Committee for this County have caused, by advertisement, the freeholders to be convened on this day, in order to elect two Members to represent this County in Provincial Congress; accordingly a poll was opened for that purpose, without any opposition, at the close of which it appeared, by a majority, that Messrs. *Adrian Bancker* and *Richard Lawrence* were duly elected to represent this County in Provincial Congress, until the second *Tuesday* in *May* next, which we hope will be agreeable to the rest of that body.

"We are, gentlemen, your most obedient and most humble servants,

"CHRISTIAN JACOBSON,	MOSES DUPUY,
"LAMBERT MERRELL,	DAVID LA TOURETTE,
"JOHN TYSON,	DANIEL CORSEN,
"PETER MERSEREAU,	HENRY PERINE,
"GEORGE BARNES,	JOSEPH CHRISTOPH.

"To the Committee of Safety, in recess of the Provincial Congress, in *New-York*."

The Committee took into consideration the case of *Godfrey Hains*, lately apprehended and sent here by the Committee of Safety of *New-Jersey*. Are of opinion that his many and mischievous machinations are so dangerous, that he ought to be kept in safe custody and close jail; and that, by the Resolutions of the Continental Congress, of the 2d day of *January* instant, they are fully authorized, and that it is their duty to the country to have him confined; and as the said *Godfrey Hains* lately broke the jail of this city, and escaped, when he was there confined as a prisoner, and, continuing his evil practices, set off to navigate a vessel loaded with provisions to supply the Ministerial army and navy at *Boston*, they conceive it will be very dangerous to keep or convey the said *Godfrey Hains* to *Ulster* County Jail, unless he is fettered or manacled.

Therefore, *Resolved and Ordered*, That the said *Godfrey Hains* be conveyed to *Ulster* County Jail, to be there confined in safe and secure custody in close jail, until the further order of the Continental or Provincial Congress, or of this Committee.

And Ordered, That the said *Godfrey Hains* be sent, manacled or fettered, under guard, to *Ulster* County Jail, and that Colonel *McDougall* be requested to procure an Officer, with a proper guard of the Militia, or Minute-Men, of this city, to guard the said prisoner, and the other prisoners heretofore ordered to jail to *Kingston*, in *Ulster* County.

Thereupon, a draft of a Letter to the Committee of *Kingston*, in *Ulster* County, which was formerly drawn and read, and approved of, in the Committee, on yesterday, was again read, and is in the words following, to wit:

In Committee of Safety, New-York, January 23, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: By a determination of the Provincial Congress, with the consent of the Deputies from your County, then present, the jail of your County, at *Kingston*, was determined on to be the jail for such prisoners whose wicked practices forbid their being permitted to go at large.

In pursuance thereof, we send you, by this guard, three prisoners, to wit: *John Blackler*, who was ordered to be there confined by the Provincial Congress, and *Azor Betts* and *Godfrey Hains*, sent by us. We pray you to direct that they be kept in safe custody, to prevent their escape, and that very particular directions for this purpose be given as to *Hains*, as he formerly broke the jail in this city, and made his escape.

Take care to secure such part of the jail as you shall have them confined in, at your absolute command, and secure any person who may attempt to procure their escape. Appoint some person, whom you shall think proper, to supply them with the necessaries of life, at their own expense, if they can pay for them, and, if they cannot, then at the publick expense. If any, or all of them must be supported at the publick expense, let the accounts be laid before your Committee, and when you find them just and reasonable, let the person to whom the money is due make oath to the account, and let a certificate of your Committee, or Chairman, that the account is reasonable and due, be added, and the accounts sent to this Committee, or the Provincial Congress, that they may be ordered to be paid.

We are, respectfully, gentlemen, your very humble servants.

By order of the Committee.

To the Chairman and Members of the Committee of *Kingston, Ulster* County.

Ordered, That a copy thereof be engrossed, and signed by the Chairman, and transmitted.

The Committee further examined *Andrew McCormick*, on the subject of the situation of the new Line at the Fortifications in the *Highlands*. And thereupon an answer to *Thomas Grenell's* Letter, of the 19th instant, was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

In Committee of Safety, New-York, January 23, 1776.

SIR: We are favoured with yours of the 19th instant, by Mr. *Andrew McCormick*, to which we have paid due attention, and have also examined him, and conversed with Mr. *Berrien*, on the situation of the ground, to which we are in a great measure strangers. Upon the whole, we are of opinion that, as the foundation of the intended battery, mentioned in your letter, is completed, and the timber and materials so far prepared that the battery may be finished at small expense, it will be best to finish it. At the same time, we are of opinion that a breastwork of wood, of three feet thick, will by no means answer any good purpose. Therefore, we desire you to have the breastwork made about twenty feet thick, in the following manner, to wit: let the timber in front be at least three logs, or pieces, thick, and in the inside at least two pieces thick, and the inside of the parapet perpendicular; the distance between the front and the inside pieces of the parapet will be about fifteen feet, and that intermediate space filled up with fascines and earth.

We wish to expend as little money as possible, and, therefore, you need not employ labourers to get fascines, for, as we expect Continental troops to garrison the fort in a short time, it now is, and will be, the proper duty of the troops there to make the fascines, and fill up the parapet. Please to take care that the upper part of the parapet be made so sloped, or descending, that the guns may, when necessary, be brought to bear on the water nearest to the battery, and the ground there adjoining to the water; and the outer face or front of the parapet should be built battering, or tend inwards, to prevent the weight of the earth from forcing the timber out of its place. A work should also be added at the left of the line, to secure the troops on the line, and the cannon and carriages, from being flanked by an enemy on the left.

We are, respectfully, sir, your very humble servants.

By order.

To Mr. *Thomas Grenell*, at the Fortifications in the *Highlands*.

Ordered, That a copy thereof be engrossed, and signed by the Chairman, and transmitted by the said *Andrew McCormick*.

—

Die Mercurii, 10 ho. A. M., January 24, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Mr. *Joseph Hallet*, Chairman, Colonel *Brasher*, Colonel *McDougall*, Mr. *Tredwell*, Mr. *Sands*, Mr. *Brewster*, Mr. *Clarke*.

Captain *Van Wyck*, having by order prepared a Guard, at eight Shillings, each, per man, per day, defraying his own expenses, to proceed with the three Prisoners now in the Barracks, to *Ulster* County Jail; attended at the Committee to receive copies of the several orders, for the confinement of the respective Prisoners, and the Letter to the Committee of *Kingston*, which were delivered to him.

Thereupon a draft of a Letter to the Committees, and Militia Officers of this Colony, to be given to Captain *Van Wyck*, was read and approved of, and is in the words following, to wit:

In Committee of Safety, New-York, January 24, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Captain *Van Wyck*, with a guard under his command, is sent to conduct three prisoners to *Ulster* County Jail. Captain *Van Wyck*, and his guard, are hereby recommended to the aid of every Committee, and Militia officer in this Colony, for any assistance he may want at any time to strengthen or relieve his guard; and also, for any assistance he may want, to hire sleighs or other carriages.

By order of the Committee of Safety.

To every Committee, and to each and every Militia Officer in the Colony of *New-York*.

It being represented to this Committee, that Mr. *John Ramsey*, and Colonel *Isaac Stoutenburgh*, are willing to undertake to be Managers of employing the industrious Poor in this City, in spinning, and making manufactures, and the Committee being unanimously of opinion, that they cannot in any other way, so advantageously employ the sum of one thousand Pounds, which they, by Resolve of the Provincial Congress of the 22d day of *December* last past, were authorized to expend for the relief of the Poor of the City of *New-York*,

Therefore Ordered, That the said sum of one thousand Pounds, be paid into the hands of the said *John Ramsey* and *Isaac Stoutenburgh*, for the purpose aforesaid, and that a copy of this entry be a sufficient warrant to *Peter V. B. Livingston*, Esq., as Treasurer of the Provincial Congress of this Colony, to pay the said sum of one thousand Pounds, to Messrs. *John Ramsey* and *Isaac Stoutenburgh*, and take their receipt for the same.

Donald McLane, of the City of *New-York*, Druggist, attended with a Letter from Captain *Vandeput*, of the ship *Asia*, requesting him to receive the body of the late Purser of the ship, and have him buried in *Trinity* Churchyard.

Thereupon a permit was given to him, in the words following, to wit:

Mr. *Donald McLane*, of this city, Druggist, is hereby permitted to go on board of the *Asia*, ship-of-war, and also, to have the body of Mr. *George Claypen*, late Purser of the said ship brought on shore, and buried.

By order of the Committee.

Mr. *Jecamiah Allen*, the officer of the Light-Horse, who was sent out by order of this Committee, of yesterday, returned with *William Lownsberry* a prisoner; he informed, that the prisoner when taken, appeared struck with guilt; that some short time afterwards, he denied in the presence of sundry of the guard, that he ever employed *John Fowler* to buy files. That some time afterwards, he confessed, that he had employed *John Fowler* to buy the files, but had never brought them home. That they afterwards discovered, that the files went up in a boat with himself, and that his son brought them home. That the prisoner afterwards said, that he bought the files to shoe horses, and afterwards, that he bought them to make skeens for carts. That one *Hains*, told the prisoner to his face, that on last *Wednesday* night, he met him with three other persons, with handkerchiefs on their heads, about ten at night, going towards, and near the cannon.

William Lownsberry examined, says he lives at *Mamaroneck*, is a farmer by occupation; that Mr. *John Fowler*, bought thirty files for him; that he did not inform *Fowler* for what use they were purchased; that the files are not at his house, but are all in being; that he was not on the road with a handkerchief on his head on last *Wednesday* night; that he bought the files to make skeens for carts, and to lay axes; that he has a neighbour, one *Joseph Purdy*, who is a blacksmith, and poor, and in his debt, and intended to get him to work for him. Being asked at whose house the files are, says they are not at any house; being several times asked where they are, he obstinately sat silent, and refused to answer.

Ordered, That the said *William Lownsberry* be shackled and manacled, hands and feet, and kept in safe and secure custody at the Upper Barracks, until the further order of this Committee, and in the interim, that no person be suffered to speak to him, but in the presence and hearing of the officer of the guard; and that no letter, or paper-writings be permitted to pass between the said *Willian Lownsberry* and any persons out of the Barracks; and that he be denied the use of pen, ink and paper; and that Colonel *McDougall* cause this order to be duly executed.

And Ordered, That *John Fowler* be discharged out of custody, and charged to attend this Committee when directed.

And Ordered, That Mr. *Allen* cause the said *William Lownsberry's* horse to be taken care of.

Messrs. *Low*, *Bancker*, *John Reade*, and *Denning*, a sub-Committee from the City Committee attending, were admitted. They informed this Committee, that they were charged with two different matters from the Committee of the city. The one that the Military Night-Watch in this city is very frequently not to be depended on; that it very frequently happens, that the Captains or Officers do not

know the greater part of the ground; and that there are some Companies, many of which are not trustworthy; and Mr. *Denning* said, that when he lately had the care of the guard, he had many persons in his guard to whom he could not think it prudent to communicate the countersign. That the City Committee are of opinion that the most proper method to guard this city is to raise a Regiment in this city, in Continental pay; and Mr. *Denning* alleges, that there is a great number of men in this city, who would willingly inlist for that purpose, provided they can be ascertained, that they will not be ordered out of the Colony on any Continental duty.

The said sub-Committee mentioned that a great inconvenience arises from vessels loading in this port, by order of the Continental and Provincial Congress, and of this Committee of Safety, by their not having certificates for that purpose. That many of the inhabitants not knowing why any such vessels are lading, apply to the laders, and to the City Committee with complaints. That it is, also, in the power of the laders of such vessels to lade other produce, or greater quantities than they are permitted; and that, therefore, that it is the request of the City Committee, that some proper person be appointed to inspect and superintend the loading of all such vessels, and to report thereon to the Provincial Congress, or Committee of Safety.

The sub-Committee withdrew, and the Committee of Safety requested the Chairman to speak to Captain *William Mercier*, to know whether he will undertake to manage and inspect the lading of vessels laded at this port; and, also, whether he will inspect the work done, and materials used in making carriages for cannon.

A Letter from the Honourable *John Hancock*, dated the 12th *January*, instant, was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"Philadelphia, January 12, 1776.

"GENTLEMEN: The discoveries made of the designs of our enraged enemies, fully evince not only the propriety, but the absolute necessity of securing *Canada*, to prevent our frontiers from desolation and destruction.

"Providence has, hitherto, been pleased to crown our attempts with success. But from the steps taken by Governour *Carleton*, there is reason to apprehend our enemies, among their first attempts in the Spring, will endeavour to recover the possession of that country, as well to retrieve their honour, as to carry into execution their execrable designs against us. I need not mention the consequences that would ensue should they effect their purpose, and thereby be enabled to turn the force of that Province, as well as the Savages, against our defenceless frontiers.

"To counteract their designs, and prevent this calamity, the Congress have resolved to employ nine battalions, the present year, for the defence of *Canada*. One of these is to be composed of *Canadians*, under Colonel *J. Livingston*, who has so eminently signalized himself in the cause of *America*. Two are to be composed of the troops now serving there—an honour due to the merit of those brave men, to have an opportunity of defending a country which their valour has rescued from slavery. Three are to be sent from *Pennsylvania* and *New-Jersey*, of which, two are now under marching orders. The other three are to be raised to the Eastward, as you will see by the enclosed resolution, viz: one in your Colony under the command of Colonel *Van Schaick*, Lieutenant-Colonel *Yates*, and Major *Gansevoort*, who, as General *Schuyler* informs Congress, are desirous of continuing in the service; one in *Connecticut*, and one in *New-Hampshire*.

"As the arrival of the troops in due time will greatly conduce to the preservation of that country, and baffling the designs of our enemies; and, as the month of *February*, which is fast approaching, is the best, and, indeed, the only time before Summer, of crossing the Lakes, the Congress rely that you will, according to your usual zeal, exert your utmost endeavours to have the battalion from your Colony raised, and sent forward with all possible despatch.

"I am, gentlemen, your obedient, humble servant,

"JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

"To the Convention of *New-York*, or Committee."

Another Letter from the Honourable *John Hancock*, bearing date the 20th day of *January*, instant, was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"Philadelphia, January 20, 1776.

"GENTLEMEN: I have the honour of enclosing you sundry resolutions passed by Congress, as well for the defence of your Colony, as for repairing the loss lately sustained in *Canada*, and succouring our friends there.

"The shortness of the time will not permit me to enlarge. I must, therefore, beg leave to refer you to the enclosed extracts, and just inform you, the Congress rely with confidence on your zeal for the cause, that you will exert your utmost endeavours to hasten the march of the troops ordered to *Canada*, and to raise those destined for the defence of your Colony. Herewith, I send you blank commissions for the officers under the rank of Major, which you will please to fill up. On the recommendation of General *Schuyler*, the Congress have continued Colonel *Van Schaick*, Lieutenant-Colonel *Yates*, and Major *Gansevoort*, in the service of the *United Colonies*, and appointed them to the command of the battalion to be raised in your Colony for the defence of *Canada*; and they have directed me, agreeable to an established rule, to request you would please, as soon as possible, to transmit the names of a number of gentlemen whom you shall judge duly qualified, at least two for each command, out of whom they may elect Field-Officers for the other battalion.

"I am, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

"JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

"To the Hon. Convention or Committee of *New-York*.

"P. S. I enclose you the commissions for the officers under the rank of Major, for the *Canada* Battalion; those for your other battalions shall follow, as I am pinched for time."

A copy of the Resolves of Congress, of the 8th of *January*, which were before received and read, and forwarded to General *Schuyler* on the 17th day of *January*, instant, were read and filed.

A certified copy of sundry Resolves of the Continental Congress, of different dates, from the 8th to the 20th instant, was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"In Congress, January 8, 1776.

"*Resolved*, That General *Schuyler* be desired to have the River *St. Lawrence*, above and below *Quebeck*, well explored, and to determine upon proper places for opposing, by Armed Boats, or otherwise, any attempts of the enemy to penetrate that country by the River; and that he give orders for constructing, speedily, as many such Boats as he shall judge necessary.

"That two Shipwrights be immediately sent from *Philadelphia*, to be employed under the direction of the Committee of Inspection at *Albany*, in constructing Scows for facilitating the passage over *Hudson's River*.

"That the Convention of *New-York* be desired to send three thousand bushels of Salt, besides what General *Schuyler* hath already ordered to be brought to *Ticonderoga*.

"That this Congress does approve of the raising a Battalion of *Canadians*, and of the appointment of *James Livingston*, Esq., Colonel thereof.

"That nine Battalions, including that of *Canadians* under Colonel *Livingston*, be kept up and maintained the present year for the defence of *Canada*."

"In Congress, January 19, 1776.

"*Resolved*, That four Battalions be raised in the Colony of *New-York*, for the defence of that Colony, upon the same pay with those directed to be raised in the Colony of *Pennsylvania*, and that they be stationed as the Commanding-Officer of the *New-York* Department shall think best, to garrison the several Forts in that Colony, from *Crown-Point* to the southward, and to prevent depredations upon *Long-Island*, and promote the safety of the whole.

"*Ordered*, That a copy of the foregoing Resolution be transmitted to the Council of Safety of *New-York*, and that they be requested, with all possible expedition, to transmit to Congress the names of a number of gentlemen, at least two for each command, out of whom the Congress may elect Field-Officers for said Battalions.

"That General *Washington* be requested to detach from the Camp at *Cambridge*, one Battalion, if the service there will permit him to spare one, with orders to march, with the greatest expedition possible, to *Canada*.

"That for the more speedy raising the Battalions ordered, on the 8th of *January*, to be raised in the Colonies of *New-Hampshire*, *Connecticut*, *New-York*, and *Pennsylvania*, for the defence of *Canada*, it be recommended to the General Assemblies, Conventions, or Councils, or Committees of Safety of those Colonies, respectively, to exert their utmost endeavours in raising the said Battalions, upon the same pay and subsistence as the Army at *Cambridge*, and to furnish them with Provisions, Ammunition, and other necessaries, for expediting their march to *Canada;* and for further encouraging the men more cheerfully to enter into the service of their country, to give a Bounty of six and two-thirds dollars to every able-bodied, effective man, properly clothed for the service, and having a good Firelock, with a Bayonet and other Accoutrements; and four dollars to every Soldier not having the like Arms and Accoutrements; the Arms to be supplied by the Colony, and the cost to be deducted out of the Soldier's pay; and, also, to provide a Blanket and Haversack for every inlisted Soldier; and, moreover, to advance one month's pay to every Officer and Soldier before their march, that they may be able to purchase necessary clothing.

"That the first two Companies which shall be complete of every Battalion, do march to that country as soon as they shall be ready, and be followed in the same numbers, with like expedition, by the rest of the corps; and that it be recommended to the General Assemblies, Conventions, and Councils, or Committees of Safety, of the Colonies in which Battalions are directed to be raised, that they respectively attend to this business."

A printed copy of sundry Resolves of Congress, bearing date on the 17th instant, relating to the raising of Troops, was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"In Congress, January 17, 1776.

"*Resolved*, That the Colonels of the several Battalions ordered to be raised, do immediately order their Officers on Recruiting Service, to such parts where they are best known, and have the greatest probability of success.

"That the Recruiting Officers ought to be careful to inlist none but healthy, sound, and able-bodied men, not under sixteen years of age.

"That the Colonels of the several Battalions aforesaid, appoint some place, or places, of rendezvous, to which the Recruits may be sent, and where the Battalions may be quartered.

"That the greatest attention ought to be paid to the behaviour of the Troops in Quarters, that they may give no reasonable cause of complaint.

"That the Quarters of the Troops be duly discharged once every week.

"That an allowance of ten Shillings per man be made to the Recruiting-Officers in lieu of their expenses in recruiting, exclusive of the Subsistence-Money allowed them; and that, in case any man be inlisted contrary to the foregoing Regulations, the Pay they may have received, and the Subsistence-Money that may be paid for them, shall be stopped from the pay of such Recruiting-Officers.

"That no bought, indented Servants be employed on board the Fleet, or in the Army of the *United Colonies*, without the consent of their Masters.

"Extracts from the Minutes:

"Charles Thompson, *Secretary*.

Ordered, That the Letters and Resolutions of the honourable the Continental Congress, be taken into further consideration this afternoon.

A Letter from Major-General *Lee*, in answer to the one addressed to him by the Committee on the 21st instant, was received and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"Stamford, January 23, 1776.

"Sir: Yesterday, on the road, I had the honour of receiving yours, and ought to make a thousand apologies for not having answered it immediately, but the circumstance of being on the road, together with the necessity of finishing some despatches to General *Washington*, and to the Continental Congress, rendered it almost impossible.

"I should certainly, sir, have apprized you of my march, had I not concluded that you would have learned it time enough from the Congress. The letter I have from the General, directed to the Chairman of the Committee of Safety, I was ordered to deliver with my own hand. With respect, sir, to the alarms of the inhabitants, on the suspicion that my business was to commence active hostilities against the men-of-war in your harbour, I can assure you that they may be perfectly easy—such never was the intention of the General, and, I hope, you will believe that I never entertained a thought of transgressing the letter of my instructions. The motive of the General, for detaching me, was solely to prevent the enemy from taking post in your city, or lodging themselves on *Long-Island*, which, we have the greatest reason to think, sir, is their design. Some subordinate purposes were likewise to be executed, which are much more proper to communicate by word of mouth, than by writing; but I give you my word, that no active service is proposed, as you seem to apprehend.

"If the ships-of-war are quiet, I shall be quiet, but I declare solemnly, that if they make a pretext of my presence to fire on the town, the first house set in flames by their guns shall be the funeral pile of some of their best friends. But, I believe, sir, the inhabitants may rest in security on this subject. I am convinced, and every man who considers a moment must be convinced, that the destruction of the sea-port towns would, if possible, be a severer stroke to the Ministry, and their instruments, than to the inhabitants themselves. The sea-port towns are the only holds they have in *America;* they are considered as the pledges of servitude; the menacing destruction to them may, indeed, be of admirable use, but the real destruction of them must extinguish all hopes of success.

"In compliance, sir, with your request, I shall only carry with me into town a force just strong enough to secure it against any designs of the enemy, until it shall please the Continental Congress to take measures for its permanent security. The main body I shall leave on the western frontiers of *Connecticut*, according to your directions. I hope, sir, and persuade myself, that the Committee and inhabitants can have no objection to this plan. If Mr. *Tryon* and the Captains of the ships-of-war are to prescribe what numbers are, and what numbers are not to enter the town, they are absolute dictators to all intents and purposes. The condition is too humiliating for freemen to put up with.

"You take pains to assure me, sir, that your Congress and Committee are not less zealous in the cause of *American* liberty, than any representative body on the Continent. I give you my word, sir, that this assurance was unnecessary. I am not one of those who have entertained a bad opinion of the virtue of *New-York*, or made it my business to asperse them; on the contrary, I have condemned loudly the illiberal, impolitick, and unjust reflections I have heard frequently thrown out. I should not have taken the liberty of troubling you with the opinion, good or bad, which an unimportant individual like myself may entertain of so respectable a body as your Committee or Congress, had not this particular paragraph of your letter thrown the temptation in my way.

"I am, sir, your most obedient and devoted servant,

"Charles Lee.

"To *Peter V. B. Livingston*, Esq., Chairman of the Committee of Safety."

---

3 ho. P. M., Die Mercurii, January 24, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Mr. *Joseph Hallett*, Chairman, Mr. *Scott*, Colonel *McDougall*, Colonel *Brasher*, Mr. *Tredwell*, Mr. *Sands*, Mr. *Brewster*, Mr. *Clarke*.

A draft of a Letter to Colonel *Joseph Drake*, requesting him to endeavour to find out the persons concerned in spiking up the Cannon beyond *King's Bridge*, was read and approved of, and is in the words following, to wit:

In Committee of Safety, New-York, January 24, 1776.

Sir: *William Lownsberry* purchased a parcel of files, and had them carried up to your County in a boat; the boatman delivered them to his son. We have good reason to believe they were used to spike up the cannon in your County. *Lownsberry* declares that they are not in his house, but refuses to tell where they are. And *Hains*, who met our party of horsemen, told *Lownsberry*, in their presence, that he met him going towards the cannon, beyond the Bridge, in company with three other persons, last *Wednesday* night. This *Lownsberry* denies. We request

you to cause the son of *Lownsberry* to be apprehended, and examined before some Committee, or members of your Committee; and that you cause *Purdy*, the blacksmith, and all other suspicious persons in that part of your County, to be critically examined, and endeavour to have such discoveries made as to find out and fix on all the persons who were concerned in spiking up the cannon beyond and near *King's Bridge*; and secure all such persons against whom you shall obtain evidence, and send to us all the information that may be obtained in the premises.

We are, respectfully, sir, your humble servants.

By order of the Committee.

To Colonel *Joseph Drake, New-Rochelle.*

Ordered, That a copy thereof be engrossed, and signed by the Chairman, and transmitted.

Joseph French, Esq., of *Jamaica*, attended this Committee, and informed that he had been told that a citation had issued for him to appear before this Committee, and that he had engaged to Colonel *Heard* to attend; and Mr. *French* requested to know if there was any charge against him.*

Thereupon, a Certificate was given to Mr. *French*, in words following, to wit:

Joseph French, Esq., attended on this Committee, and informs that he has engaged to Colonel *Heard* to attend this Committee. This is to certify, that this Committee hath not issued any citation for Mr. *French*, and that no evidence has been offered to this Committee, nor to the Provincial Congress, against Mr. *French*. But as the case of the inhabitants of *Queen's* County is not before us, but before the Continental Congress, this certificate is not to be understood to interfere with any directions Colonel *Heard* may have from the Continental Congress, or from any other person under their authority.

Messrs. *James Reid*, *Robert Leonard*, *Francis Cunningham*, *John Burns*, and *Francis Dominick*, all of the City of *New-York*, personally appeared before the Committee, and engaged jointly and severally for *Lawrence Hartwick*, that the said *Lawrence Hartwick* will, from time to time, personally appear before the Provincial Congress of this Colony, or this Committee of Safety, when thereunto requested, and in the mean time that the said *Lawrence Hartwick* will demean himself peaceably, and be of good behaviour towards all the friends of liberty in this city, and not do any act contrary to the measures directed by the Continental Congress, or the Provincial Congress, or the Committee of Safety of this Colony.

Ordered, That the said *Lawrence Hartwick* be discharged, and it is recommended to all friends of liberty, that the said *Lawrence Hartwick* be not molested in his person or property, while he complies with the above-mentioned engagements.

The Committee took into consideration the subject of the second matter mentioned to them this morning by the sub-Committee of this city, and after consideration thereof, this Committee do hereby appoint Captain *William Mercier* to superintend and inspect the lading of all such Vessels, as shall lade in this port; and,

Ordered, That Captain *Mercier* be empowered, and he is hereby empowered, to inspect all permits to Vessels to lade in this port, and see that all such Vessels lade only agreeable to the resolves of the Continental Congress, and with such matters or produce only as may be agreeable to the said resolves, and their permits from the Provincial Congress, and Committee of Safety of this Colony; and, from time to time, to report to this Committee, or the Provincial Congress of this Colony, what Vessels are lading, or shall have laded, and with what particular commodities, and by what authority.

And whereas, this Committee of Safety have authorized Colonel *McDougall* to have Carriages made for Cannon, in order to prevent any impositions on the publick, by any person employed in making the same,

Ordered, That Captain *Mercier* be appointed, and he is hereby appointed to superintend the making of those Carriages, so as to see that they are made of good timber, and that the iron work be well made, and to see it weighed, and to take every other necessary caution to prevent any imposition on the publick in that business; and,

Ordered and agreed, That Captain *Mercier* be allowed twenty Dollars per month, as pay, while continued in this, and the service of inspecting the lading of Vessels in this port.

Ordered, That the Secretaries prepare and certify copies of all the Resolves and Letters this day received from the Continental Congress, and forward the same to Major-General *Schuyler*, to-morrow morning, by post.

—

Die Jovis, 10 ho. A. M., January 25, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Mr. *Joseph Hallett*, Chairman, Colonel *McDougall*, Colonel *Brasher*, Mr. *Scott*, Mr. *Brewster*, Mr. *Tredwell*, Mr. *Clarke*, Mr. *Sands*.

Francis Lewis, Esq., came into the Committee of Safety, and informed them that the schooner *Success*, *Jonathan Bowne*, Master, was laded by his order on Continental account, and requested a permit for her to sail; thereupon, a Certificate was given to Colonel *McDougall* in the words following, to wit:

The schooner *Success*, whereof *Jonathan Bowne* is Master, being laded on Continental account, by order and under the direction of some of the Continental Delegates, is hereby permitted to sail to sea.

Philip Livingston, Esq., *John Alsop*, Esq., and *Francis Lewis*, Esq., came into the Committee of Safety, and delivered in their respective Accounts of the time they have attended Continental Congress. And Mr. *Philip Livingston*, also, delivered in the Account of *John Jay*, Esq. The said Accounts were delivered to Colonel *Brasher* to be audited.

On reading the Resolve of Congress for payment of the Delegates of this Colony, are of opinion that they are not authorized, nor their Auditors authorized, to audit or order payment to any of the Delegates while at their places of abode, respectively, though then employed in the service of the Continent, and by order of Continental Congress.

A certain *Jonathan Booth* attended at the door, and complained to some members of the Committee that a drove of cattle, which he was driving to *New-York* market, was detained by the Committee of *Bedford*, in pursuance of an order of the Committee of *Bedford*, *Poundridge*, and *Salem*, and the said order of the Committee of *Bedford*, *Poundridge*, and *Salem*, being printed in *Holt's* newspaper, was read and taken into consideration; thereupon, this Committee came to a Resolution in the words following, to wit:

Whereas, by a publication in Mr. *Holt's* newspaper, (the *New-York Journal*,) of the 25th of *January*, 1776, dated at *Poundridge*, the 10th of the same month, it is purported that the Committee of Observation for the united Town of *Bedford* and Precincts of *Poundridge* and *Salem*, in *Westchester* County, conceiving that bad consequences do arise to this distressed County from supplying the markets at *New-York*, on supposition that the common enemy may by that means be furnished with Provisions, have

"*Resolved*, That from and after the date thereof, the said Committee do thereby strictly forbid any of the Inhabitants of the said Town and Precincts, directly or indirectly to carry, or cause to be carried, by land or water, Provisions of any kind to the said market, and do thereby direct the Minute-Men and all others that are friends to their country, to do their utmost to stop all drovers of Fat Cattle, Sheep, Hogs, Poultry, or any other Provisions whatsoever, and from being drove or carried through either said Town or Precinct for the purpose aforesaid, without leave

* New-York, *January* 24, 1776.—Gentlemen: I understand, by a citation Mr. *Jay* produced at *Jamaica*, that I am to appear before the Provincial Congress, to answer some complaints alleged against me. I now acquaint you that I am ready in waiting, to answer any thing laid to my charge, and should have done it before, had said citation come to my hand. If, gentlemen, you are not ready to hear me, I should be much obliged to you if you would give me a few lines, which I may produce to Colonel *Heard*, as a proof of my having waited upon you, and that I may return home, as I have, for this month past, been very much indisposed, and am so still. I shall be ready and willing at any time to wait upon you, to answer the charge alleged against me.

I am, gentlemen, your most obliged, humble servant,

Joseph French.

To the Honourable Provincial Congress, *New-York*.

N. B. I have obligated myself to Colonel *Heard* to wait upon you.

of the said Committee, on the penalty of being deemed enemies to their country."

And whereas, this Committee not doubting the good intentions of the said Committee met at *Poundridge*, do, nevertheless, conceive that the said Resolve has a manifest tendency to distress (in the article of Provisions) the inhabitants of this City, and other friends to liberty, whose business may call them hither,

Resolved, *therefore*, That it is the opinion of this Committee that no Committee of any City, Borough, Town, or Precinct in this Colony, ought to prevent any such supplies of Provisions to this City, as aforesaid, unless they shall have due proof that such supplies are intended to be furnished to persons engaged in service against the liberties of *America*, nor, in such case, any longer than until such Committees, respectively, shall, in cases where such proof shall have been made, have duly certified this Committee or the Provincial Congress thereof, and until order shall have been made thereon by this Committee or the Provincial Congress.

Ordered, That a certified copy of this Order be delivered to the said *Jonathan Booth*.

An Orderly-Sergeant of Major *De Hart*, having called on a member to be informed if the Muskets engaged to Lord *Stirling* are ready, the Committee conceive that, as the Colony are to raise several Regiments, in pursuance of the orders of Congress received yesterday, that it is their duty to request Lord *Stirling* to be released from the engagement of this Colony as to those Arms. Thereupon, a draft of a Letter to Lord *Stirling* was read and approved of, and is in the words following, to wit:

In Committee of Safety, New-York, January 25, 1776.

My Lord: Since the last communication between your Lordship and us, concerning the arms we undertook to supply you with for the troops under your command, we have orders from Congress to raise four new battalions, besides one which we before that time were under orders to raise. We are, also, informed that there are still thirty stand of publick arms in the town of *Newark*, which are not appropriated to the use of your troops, and there may be others in the same situation in other parts of your Colony; and we conceive it a hardship to be obliged to forward a department of service out of our Colony, by supplying those arms which we intended for you, which, wit many more, will be wanted for equipping our own battalions. We can assure you, my Lord, with the greatest truth, that we are totally at a loss how to supply our new levies with arms, without taking them from our Militia, which nothing but the most urgent necessity will justify, as by that means the defence of this important post will be weakened.

We, therefore, earnestly request you to release us from our former engagements to you, and are, my Lord, most respectfully, your Lordship's obedient, humble servants.

By order of the Committee.

To the Right Honourable the Earl of *Stirling*.

Ordered, That a copy thereof be engrossed and signed by the Chairman, and transmitted by Major *De Hart's* Orderly-Sergeant.

—

Die Jovis, 4to ho. P. M., January 25, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Mr. *Joseph Hallett*, Chairman, Colonel *McDougall*, Mr. *Scott*, Colonel *Brasher*, Mr. *Brewster*, Mr. *Tredwell*, Mr. *Clarke*.

The Committee being of opinion that prudence and care of this Colony, and of the Capital and inhabitants thereof, requires that a proper person be kept at the *Hook*, to keep a look-out if any fleet, or transports or ships-of-war should be approaching this Colony, and having, on considering that matter yesterday, thought it best to prevent jealousy among the pilots, and to give different persons among them a chance of earning a subsistence in the present times of difficulty, agreed to employ *Samuel Isleton* (who was recommended for that purpose) in the place of *William Dobbs*.

Samuel Isleton attending by request, received his instructions. He is directed to take the pilot-boat and oars lately purchased by this Committee, with four men to row her, and proceed to the *Hook* and stay there, and diligently look-out for one week, if no fleet, or transports, or ships-of-war, appear sooner. If any appear, he is to give the most immediate notice to this Committee.

Samuel Isleton is to have ten Shillings per day, and *James Burns*, *Robert Bennet*, *John Besly*, and *William Mullinger*, his Oarsmen, are to have eight Shillings per day, each, and they are to find themselves all necessaries and bear their own expenses.

The Committee took into consideration the necessity this Colony will be under of having a quantity of heavy Cannon, and that there is not, at present, any Furnace large enough and fitted to the purpose; that it will be vastly more expensive to have heavy Cannon brought from *Philadelphia*, than to have a Furnace made for the purpose, besides the advantage of establishing a work of that kind in the Colony, and of supplying the vessels building in this Colony for the Continental service, and the neighbouring Colonies.

After some time spent therein, they are of opinion that, considering the nature of the ore, and the advantages of transportation, such a work may most probably be effected by *Robert Livingston*, Esq.

Thereupon, a draft of a Letter to *Robert Livingston*, Esq., was read and approved of, and is in the words following, to wit:

In Committee of Safety, New-York, January 25, 1776.

Sir: In all probability this Colony will stand in need of a number of heavy ordnance (from twenty-five to fifty hundred weight) for its defence. On casting about for a place best calculated for erecting a foundry, yours appears to be the most proper.

You will please to take this matter into immediate consideration, and inform us, as soon as possible, whether you can prepare your furnace for casting such cannon and shot, as, also, the terms on which you would undertake to cast them, and when you will be ready for expediting this business.

As we are informed the Continental Congress have under consideration an estimate of the ordnance necessary for the defence of the different Colonies, we are desirous of being prepared with the terms on which they may be manufactured, and of preserving to our Colony the credit and advantage of such a manufactory.

We earnestly request your most speedy answer, and are, most respectfully, sir, your most obedient, humble servants.

By order.

To Colonel *Robert Livingston*, at *Calender House*, Manor *Livingston*.

Ordered, That a copy thereof be engrossed and signed by the Chairman, and transmitted.

The Committee spent the residue of the evening in considering the Resolves and Letters received yesterday from the Continental Congress.

—

Die Veneris, 10 ho. A. M., January 26, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Mr. *Joseph Hallett*, Chairman, Colonel *McDougall*, Colonel *Brasher*, Mr. *Tredwell*, Mr. *Brewster*, Mr. *Clarke*.

No other Members appeared, whereby the Committee could not proceed to any active business, and spent the whole morning in considering the Resolves of Continental Congress, and forming an extract of them for Regulations for Recruiting Officers, and considering of proper persons for Officers in the four Battalions ordered to be raised in this Colony.

—

3 ho. P. M., Die Veneris, January 26, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Mr. *Joseph Hallett*, Chairman, Mr. *Scott*, Colonel *McDougall*, Colonel *Brasher*, Mr. *Tredwell*, Mr. *Brewster*, Mr. *Clarke*. Mr. *Sands* came in half-past seven o'clock.

The Committee resumed the consideration of the Resolves and Letters received from the Continental Congress on the subject of raising Troops. After some time spent therein, the Committee sent for Colonel *Lasher*, to know his sentiments on a declaration lately made by him to one

of the members, that if any more troops were raised, the Battalion now under his command would, in general, be very desirous to be taken into the publick service and pay.

After a short conference with Colonel *Losher*, and delivering to him a copy of the Resolves of Congress for raising four Battalions for the defence of this Colony, he was desired to confer with the officers of his Battalion, and report the result thereof to this Committee.

This Committee conceiving that the speediest method of fixing on proper Officers for the four Regiments to be raised in this Colony, and of being informed of the number of men that may probably be inlisted in each County, is to write to the County Committee of the respective Counties in this Colony,

Thereupon a draft of a Letter for that purpose was read and approved of, and is in the words following, to wit:

GENTLEMEN: By resolves of the honourable the Continental Congress lately come to hand, this Colony is to raise four regiments, in Continental pay, for the defence of the Colony. We conceive that the troops will be most speedily raised by having proper officers taken from different Counties where there are proper men who will inlist.

We, therefore, request you, with all possible despatch, to inform the Provincial Congress, or this Committee, of the number of men which you have good reason to believe may be speedily raised and armed in your County; and at the same time, that you, with the advice of as many of the Deputies of your County to the Provincial Congress as may conveniently be obtained, recommend several proper persons for Captains, Lieutenants, and Ensigns, who will be most likely to raise the men. We request, in all cases where it can conveniently be done, that you recommend two proper persons for each office, that the Provincial Congress may have an opportunity to choose the one they think best qualified.

We are, respectfully, gentlemen, your very humble servants.

By order of the Committee.

Ordered, That copies thereof be engrossed and signed by the Chairman, and one copy directed to each County Committee.

Instructions for inlisting the Troops directed by the Continental Congress to be raised in this Colony, were read and agreed to, and are in the words following, to wit:

Committee of Safety, New-York, January 27, 1776.

Instructions to the Colonels and other Officers for Inlistment of Four New Battalions in the Continental Service, for the defence of the Colony of NEW-YORK.

Whereas, in order to the regular inlistment of the Troops intended to be raised for the Continental service, it was resolved in Continental Congress on the 17th instant, to wit:

"That the Colonels of the several Battalions ordered to be raised, do immediately order their officers on recruiting service to such parts where they are best known, and have the greatest probability of success.

"That the recruiting officers ought to be careful to inlist none but healthy, sound, and able-bodied men, not under sixteen years of age.

"That the Colonels of the several Battalions, aforesaid, appoint some place, or places, of rendezvous to which the recruits may be sent, and where the Battalions may be quartered.

"That the greatest attention ought to be paid to the behaviour of the troops in quarters, that they may give no reasonable cause of complaint.

"That the quarters of the troops be duly discharged once every week.

"That an allowance of ten shillings per man be made to the recruiting officers, in lieu of their expenses in recruiting, exclusive of the subsistence money allowed them, and that in case any men be inlisted contrary to the foregoing regulations, the pay they may have received, and the subsistence money that may be paid for them, shall be stopped from the pay of such recruiting officer.

"That no bought, indented servants be employed on board the Fleet or in the Army of the *United Colonies*, without the consent of their masters."

And whereas the Continental Congress, on the 19th of *January*, instant,

"*Resolved*, That four Battalions be raised in the Colony of *New-York*, for the defence of that Colony, upon the same pay with those directed to be raised in the Province of *Pennsylvania*, and that they be stationed as the Commanding Officer of the *New-York*, Department shall think best, to garrison the several forts in that Province, from *Crown-Point* to the southward, and to prevent depredations upon *Long-Island*, and to promote the safety of the whole."

The Pay and other Regulations of which said *Pennsylvania* Troops, and the said four Battalions, are established by the Continental Congress, as follows, to wit:

"That each battalion consist of eight companies, each company of one Captain, two Lieutenants, one Ensign, four Sergeants, four Corporals, one Drum, one Fife, and seventy-six Privates. The pay as follows: Colonel, 50 dollars per calendar month; Lieutenant-Colonel, 40 dollars; Major, 33⅓ dollars; Captain, 26⅔ dollars per calendar month; Lieutenants, 18 dollars; Ensign, 13⅓ dollars; Sergeant, 8 dollars; Corporal, Drum and Fife, 7⅓ dollars; Privates 5 dollars.

"Staff of Battalion: One Adjutant, 18⅓ dollars; one Quartermaster, 18⅓ dollars; one Chaplain, 20 dollars; one Surgeon, 25 dollars.

"The privates liable to be discharged at any time, on allowing them one month's pay extraordinary.

"That each of the privates be allowed, instead of a bounty, a felt hat, a pair of yarn stockings, and a pair of shoes; they to find their own arms.

"The men also to be furnished with a hunting-shirt, not exceeding in value one and one-third of a dollar, and a blanket, provided it can be procured, but not to be made a part of the terms of inlistment. Every man who furnishes himself with a good new blanket, to be allowed therefor two dollars, and have liberty to take it away at the end of the campaign.

"Each Captain, or other commissioned officer, while in the recruiting service, or on their march to join the battalion, shall be allowed two and two-thirds dollars per week for their subsistence; and the men who inlist while in quarters, before they join their battalion, one dollar per week, and when on their march to join their battalion, one and one-third dollar per week.

"That a ration consist of the following kinds and quantities of Provision, viz:

"One pound of beef, or three-quarters of a pound of pork, or one pound of salt fish per day. One pound of bread or flour per day; three pints of peas or beans, per week, or vegetables equivalent, at one dollar per bushel for peas or beans; one pint of milk per man, per day, or at the rate of 1-72 parts of a dollar; one quart of spruce beer or cider, per man, per day, or nine gallons of molasses per one hundred men, per week; half a pint of rice, or one pint of *Indian* meal per man, per week; three pounds of candles to one hundred men, per week, for guards; twenty-four pounds soft, or eight pounds hard soap, for one hundred men, per week. Men in barracks to be provided with crocus, and straw for bedding, fire-wood and iron pots.

"For their march or campaign: A camp-kettle for every six men, and a canteen for each man. Arms and accoutrements for the men, viz: each a good gun and bayonet, cartouch-box, tomahawk, knapsack or haversack, and two bills.

"Colours, drums, fifes, and a pitching axe, for every ten men, and intrenching tools, to be provided at the publick expense."

Ordered, That the Secretaries get three hundred copies of the said Instructions printed, with all possible despatch.

David Barclay, at the door, was admitted. He delivered a Letter from Colonel *Joseph Drake*, by order of some of the members of the Committee of that County, which was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"New-Rochelle, January 26, 1776.

"GENTLEMEN: Agreeable to your directions, which I received twelve o'clock, last night, I went with a number of the members of the Committee of this County and others, in search of the persons named in your letter, but have not had the good fortune to find them. The neighbours inform us that *Lownsberry's* son and *Joseph Purdy* are both in town; the first went down by land, the latter

by water, in *Flood's* boat. *William Armstrong* and *William Sutton*, both of *Mamaroneck*, are both suspicious persons, and also in town. We imagine they, with the two former, are there to hear what transpires from *Lownsberry*, in order to fly on board the man-of-war if suspected. To prevent their having information from this quarter, we send this, with all haste, by Mr. *Barclay*, that you may take such steps as you may think best.

"We shall use our utmost endeavours to find out the aiders and abetters of so diabolical piece of work, and are, gentlemen, your very humble servants,

"By order: "JOSEPH DRAKE.

"To the Chairman of the Committee of Safety for the Colony of *New-York*."

Thereupon an Order was made in the words following, to wit:

Information being received by letter, from *Westchester*, that *Isaac Purdy*, *William Armstrong*, *William Sutton*, and *James Lownsberry*, son of *William Lownsberry*, are all in this city, and are persons suspected of being concerned in spiking up the Cannon beyond *King's Bridge*, in *Westchester* County,

Ordered, That the said *Isaac Purdy*, *William Armstrong*, *William Sutton*, and *James Lownsberry*, son of *William Lownsberry*, be apprehended and kept in safe custody, until they are, respectively, brought before this Committee, to be examined, or the further order of this Committee; and,

Ordered, That Colonel *McDougall* cause this order to be duly executed.

Mr. *Sands*, who is managing the lading of the sloop *Sally*, requested a permit. Thereupon a permit was given to him, in the words following, to wit:

Mr. *Comfort Sands* is permitted to load the sloop *Sally*, *Wilkie Dodge*, Master, for the *West-Indies*, with flour, pork, hams, and bread.

—

Die Sabbati, January 27, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Mr. *Scott*, Colonel *McDougall*, Mr. *Brewster*, Mr. *Tredwell*, Mr. *Clarke*.

Mr. *Joseph Hallett*, the Chairman, much indisposed, is unable to attend, and Mr. *Sands* forwarding the lading of the sloop *Sally*.

The Members of the Committee present conceive it their duty to pay some attention to the introduction of General *Lee* into this city, as a Continental General, and they are also of opinion that it will be politick.

It was *Ordered*, That Captain *Leary* be requested to cause his Company of Light-Horse to hold themselves in readiness to ride out to meet General *Lee*, and attend him to this city.

John Flood, the boatman, at request, attended, and being examined, says, that soon after he came to town, *Oliver Roosevelt* pressed him to go to see *Lownsberry*; that he went with *Roosevelt*, and *Joseph Purdy* went with him; that *Lownsberry* asked *Joseph Purdy* to go to *Mamaroneck* to bring down the files, and insisted on his going. That the examinant was unwilling to spare *Purdy*, and *Purdy* did not appear inclined to go. That *William Sutton*, *Lownsberry*, *Armstrong*, and *James Vincent*, who assisted him as a boatman, went up with him in his boat last trip. That *Lownsberry* went ashore at *Frog's Point*. That he, the said examinant, afterwards delivered all the things *Lownsberry* left on board, to his son, *James Lownsberry*. That he does not recollect that he knew that *Lownsberry* had any files on board. That the examinant the other day, told *Lownsberry* he had used him unkindly to bring him into question, and asked him if he had carried up the files in his boat. That *Lownsberry* said yes, but that he believed that he (*Flood*) did not know it. That he, the examinant, left *Joseph Purdy* at the Barracks when he left *Lownsberry*. That *Joseph Purdy* afterwards informed him that *Lownsberry* told him the files were either at *Isaac Gedney's* shop, or at *Flood's* store-house, he did not know which. That his son had taken them from the boat, and he did not know at which of those places he had left them.

Joseph Purdy says that he was down at *New-York* between three and four weeks ago; that he does not remember who were passengers in the boat at the time; that *Lownsberry* was not on board; that he went with *Flood* to see *William Lownsberry*; that *John Flood* accused him with having carried up the files in his boat; that *Lownsberry* said *Purdy* could go and bring the files back; that *Lownsberry* whispered to him that the files were either at *Flood's* store-house or in *Isaac Gidney's* shop; that if he went up he could find them; that he is a smith by trade; that *Nicholas Morrell*, reputed a Tory, is intimate with *Lownsberry*; that he is not in debt a single copper to *Lownsberry*; that *Lownsberry* did speak to him to make skeens for a cart, or to do other work; that *Isaac Gidney* is reputed a Tory; that he has heard that *Lownsberry* has made himself very busy in publick matters.

William Sutton says, that *William Lownsberry* is reputed a Tory, and said to be warm on that side; that he does not know who are his most intimate friends now; that when last in town he came down with cattle. Never heard him say any thing about the files; has heard him disapprove of the present measures, and think them wrong; that *Isaac Gidney* has been very much opposed to the *American* measures, but, of late, is more quiet; that *Gidney* lives about a mile from *Lownsberry*. That he heard from a neighbour that one *Strang*, who was travelling in disguise, first mentioned the cannon being spiked in his neighbourhood. That *Strang* is of very indifferent character, and much in debt.

William Armstrong says, that he lives on *Rye-Neck*, went up with *Lownsberry*, lately, in *Flood's* boat; *Lownsberry* had a handkerchief on board; went on shore with *Lownsberry* and *Sutton*, at *Frog's Point*; left *Lownsberry* at Captain *Browne's*; that *Lownsberry* never took an active part in the present troubles, disapproves of the present *American* measures, lives a mile and a half from the examinant. That the examinant does not know who is intimate with *Lownsberry*.

Joseph Purdy, *William Sutton*, and *William Armstrong*, were respectively, and separately discharged, as they were examined.

Lieutenant *Jacob Wright*, of the Company of Minute-Men in *Jamaica*, on *Nassau-Island*, came into the Committee. He agreed with them to make two hundred Cartouch-Boxes and Pouches, and belts of the best sort; each of the cartouch-boxes to have holes for twenty-three cartridges, to be made of good leather, equal to the pattern given to him. The belts to have a convenience for carrying a sword. The price of the cartouch-box and belt to be sixteen shillings, each, and he is to have them ready in three weeks.

—

Die Lunæ, 10 ho. A. M., January 29, 1776.

The following Members met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Mr. *Scott*, Colonel *McDougall*, Mr. *Tredwell*, Colonel *Brasher*, Mr. *Brewster*, Mr. *Clarke*, Mr. *Sands*.

Mr. *Sands* informed the Committee, that the sloop *Sally* is ready to sail; and requested a permit for *Wilkie Dodge*, Master of the said sloop, to go on board of the ships *Asia* and *Phenix*.

Thereupon, a Certificate was given to him, in the words following, to wit:

In Committee of Safety, New-York, January 29, 1776.

Permit *Wilkie Dodge*, Master of the sloop *Sally*, to go on board of both His Majesty's ships in the harbour of *New-York*.

William Allen, cordwainer, attended, and informed the Committee, that agreeable to their permission, he had been on board of the ship *Asia*, that the Captain desired him to make twenty or thirty pair of shoes, and bring them on board, and informed him he should want an hundred pair. The said *William Allen* was told he might make those shoes, and take them on board.

A Letter from a sub-Committee of the Committee of *Westchester*, dated the 26th instant, was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"January 26, 1776.

"A sub-Committee of the Committee of Safety for the County of *Westchester*, met at the house of *James Besloy*,

New-Rochelle, to wit: *Abraham Guion*, Esq., Colonel *Joseph Drake*, *Stephen Ward*, *Jose Hunt*, *Henry R. Mire*, *Theophilus Bartow*.

"*John Gidney*, of *New-Rochelle*, yeoman, sworn, and examined; saith, that on *Wednesday*, (one day last week,) *William Lownsberry* was at his house a little before sunset; went away, and returned again late at night, he supposed about nine or ten o'clock, in company with one *Joshua Gidney*, son of *Isaac Gidney*, of *Rye*, and four others unknown to him, the deponent, and that they went from his house, he knew not where, but returned about a little before daylight the next morning.

"*John Hains*, of the same place, yeoman, sworn; saith, that on *Wednesday*, the 17th instant, he saw the said *William Lownsberry*, at the house of *John Gidney*, of *New-Rochelle*, tavern-keeper, a little before sunset; he saw him go away towards *Mamaroneck;* the deponent saith, he afterwards, the same night, about nine or ten o'clock, met the said *William Lownsberry*, with five other men, all on foot, in *New-Rochelle* aforesaid, going towards *New-York;* they all appeared to have handkerchiefs about their heads, and belts round their waists, over their coats.

"Gentlemen, we, also, examined several others, but could not discover any thing from them of any consequence. We, also, despatched a company of men in quest of *Joshua Gidney*, but could not find him; but we believe we shall be able to give some account of him before many hours. *John Gidney* has promised to appear before your honourable House, if called for.

"We are, gentlemen, your humble servants.

"By order of the sub-Committee:

"Joseph Drake.

"To the Chairman of the Committee of Safety for the Colony of *New-York*."

A Letter from the said sub-Committee of *Westchester* County, dated the 27th instant, was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"New-Rochelle, January 27, 1776.

"Gentlemen: We send you herewith under safe guard, the person of *Joshua Gidney*, whom we mentioned in our letter to you yesterday, which we doubt not you have received. He has passed through an examination by us, but will not give us the least information about the people that were with him and *Lownsberry*, at the house of *John Gidney*, though he acknowledges that he was there with *Lownsberry*. We think him guilty, from his evasive answers and obstinacy. Though we should be sorry that any person should suffer innocently, through our channel, yet we think he deserves to suffer, at least what he must in being conveyed to you, and probably a great deal more; for he said to us once, that he did not choose to discover his companions; he did not choose to bring trouble on his neighbours. It is needless to recite what has passed in every particular; therefore subscribe ourselves, your very humble servants,

"Joseph Drake,
"Theophilus Bartow,
"Henry R. Myer,
"Abram Guion.

"To the Chairman of the Committee of Safety for the Colony of *New-York*."

Ordered, That *Joshua Gidney* be brought before the Committee in the afternoon, to be examined.

A Letter from Lord *Stirling*, dated on the 28th instant, relating to one hundred stand of Arms, and other matters, was read, and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"Elizabethtown, January 28, 1776.

"Sir: I received your letter of the 25th, respecting the one hundred stand of arms, which you were to have supplied me with. I shall lay the letter before the Continental Congress, and the Convention which meets this week at *Brunswick*, in hopes that some other means may be taken for providing an equal number. A certain ship is lately arrived here with stores, some of which may, perhaps, be of use to the publick service, under your direction; I, therefore, subjoin a list of her cargo, in order that you may know whether any part of it will be useful for that purpose. The ship is about one hundred feet long on the main deck, and will commodiously carry twenty six and ten three-pounders. *W. R.* is well worthy of your confidence.

"I have the honour to be, your most humble servant,

"Stirling.

"To the Chairman of the Committee of Safety at *New-York*."

"107 chaldrons of Coal; 100 butts Porter, marked *Calvert;* 225 bags Beans; 156 sacks Potatoes; 10 casks of Sour-Krout; 80 Hogs; 35 empty Puncheons, for water."

—

Die Lunæ, 3 ho. P. M., January 29, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Colonel *McDougall*, Mr. *Scott*, Mr. *Tredwell*, Mr. *Brewster*, Mr. *Clarke*.

Joshua Gidney, who was ordered to be brought down to be examined, was brought in before the Committee and examined.

Joshua Gidney says that he lives at the hither end of *Rye-Neck*. Being asked where he was on last *Wednesday* night a week, says he does not remember; that he was in company with Mr. *William Lownsberry*, a day or two before he was apprehended; that he neither knows who spiked the cannon, and was not concerned in it. Being asked how he spent last *Wednesday* night a week, to wit, the night of *Wednesday* the — instant, and where, he refused to answer or discover; at length answered, that is nothing to cause; he was asked if he was with *Lownsberry* that night; he was frequently asked, but gave no answer; after a long time answered, he was with him one night, but does not know what night; was then asked at what time of the night, and at what place he was with him; after frequent asking, was silent; being asked if he was at *John Gidney's* house lately, in the night, with *Lownsberry*, answered yes, but does not know in what night; being asked who, also, was with him; after frequent asking, was silent, and did not answer; being asked where he was towards day that night, was silent; being asked if he has any estate, says yes, about five hundred pounds; he was repeatedly told not to accuse himself, but to answer as to all other persons; being asked if he was at *John Gidney's* about day-breaking, was entirely silent; being asked who was with him at *John Gidney's*, is silent; being asked whether he is under any oath to keep secret, says he is not; was charged not to accuse himself, or any innocent man; on appealing to *God* for his innocence, was asked if he would appeal to *God* that he does not know who was at *John Gidney's* with him, refused to answer. He was frequently assured of the protection of the Committee, and other protection that should be necessary if answered truly and frankly the questions asked of him.

Ordered, That *Joshua Gidney* be manacled and shackled hands and feet, and kept in safe and secure custody, at the Upper Barracks, until the further order of this Committee, and in the interim that no person be suffered to speak to him, but in the presence of the officer of the guard, and that no letter or paper writings be permitted to pass between the said *Joshua Gidney* and any other person, or persons, whomsoever, and that he be denied the use of pen, ink and paper; and,

Ordered, That Colonel *McDougall* see that this order be duly executed.

Colonel *Lasher* attending, informed the Committee, or Members present, that the greater part of his corps of Officers have agreed that it will not suit them to go into the Continental service on the terms offered.

William Lownsberry examined, says that he and *Joshua Gidney*, and others, went to disarm the cannon with sledges; that when they came to a house near the cannon, they heard people at work at them; that they waited some time, heard them at work, and turning them, as they judged by the noise; that when he came to the guns, he found them spiked, and the touch-holes turned downwards; that when he and the others went up towards the cannon, the men went off; that he called to them, but they went off down a hill towards the blacksmith's, and then into the road, and towards *King's Bridge;* that there was light in the smith's kitchen; that the people who went with him had caps on; that *Gidney* was concerned in the design, and went with him with the design to disarm the cannon with sledges; that he had the files bought with design to spike up the

cannon; that he is uncertain whether he, or *Joshua Gidney*, first concerted the design of disarming the cannon; that he does not know the other persons who went with him; that they were in *Mamaroneck*, on the road; that they were at *John Gidney's* about ten o'clock that night, and at daylight, as they returned; that he and *Joshua Gidney* had spoken and conferred on the subject; that *Joshua Gidney* spoke to the other persons of the party; that two of those persons were *Josiah Burrell* and *William Hains;* that he is not certain, but that he believes the two others were the sons of *James Hains;* that they had caps on; he had the cape of his coat about his head; that the light was at *Valentine's* kitchen, and about one or two o'clock in the morning; that he was not put on this scheme by any person; that he and his party had two sledges with them; that they got one sledge out of *Flandereau's* shop, and the other out of *Guion's* shop, at *New-Rochelle;* that some of the company went and got the sledges; that *Flandereau's* was taken without the consent of the owner; that he dropped the design of spiking the guns, because he found it would be troublesome, and thought the other would do as well; that he spoke to *Isaac Gidney* to work the files, and make the spikes, but he said it would be a great deal of trouble, and declined it; that there were five or six persons who went off from the guns; that this was on last *Wednesday* night was a week, a very cold night, so cold that men could not stand longer than half, or three-quarters of an hour in his opinion; that he intended to disarm the guns, that the communication between the country and city might be kept open.

Joshua Gidney, called in again to be examined, and asked how many sledges his party had? At first did not answer, and then said he did not do the fact. After some time, confessed that he went from *John Gidney's*, with a party, towards the cannon near *Valentine's*, with a party who designed to render them useless. Came there and found men at work at them; that there were two or three of his party went up towards the cannon, and the party went off to the westward from the cannon; that then he and his party came to the cannon, and found them spiked; that he heard of the scheme of disarming the cannon of *Josiah Burrell*, who came down to the man-of-war; that the first person he ever heard speak of rendering the cannon useless, was *William Lownsberry*, and, afterwards, *Josiah Burrell* spoke to him about it, and other people also. That *Josiah Burrell* lives at *Rye-Neck*. That *Josiah Burrell* went on board of a ship to the Governour, and said he spoke to the Governour, who said it must be done, to render those cannon useless; that *Lownsberry*, afterwards, told him the same, and, he believed, spoke to the Governour, also; that *Isaac Gidney* also spoke to him about having the cannon destroyed; that *Lownsberry* and *William Sutton*, Esq., spoke about disarming the cannon; that Esquire *Sutton* seemed to be fond of it; that this is since *Sutton* went home to appear before the Committee. That *William Lownsberry* was the first person he ever heard propose the disabling them with sledges; that this was soon after *Godfrey Hains* came home from on board of the man-of-war; that *Burrell* told him he had had conversation with the Governour, and that he advised disabling the cannon; that he heard *Lownsberry* had been on board of the Governour's ship about a week before this affair happened; that *Isaac Gidney* informed him of this; and that the Governour advised him to destroy the cannon, and said it would save the city and prevent its being burned down; that *Burrell* and *Lownsberry* told him, if it was done, they would be well paid for it. That there were six persons in his party to the cannon, to wit: *William Lownsberry*, himself, *Josiah Burrell*, *William Hains*, *James Hains*, Jun., and *Thomas Hains*. That one sledge was taken out of a shop at *Flandereau's*, and *John Gidney* borrowed the other sledge of *Guion*, a blacksmith; that they found the cannon near *Valentine's* spiked up; that he carried spikes a part of the way, which he received of *Lownsberry* to carry; that it is his opinion that *Isaac Gidney* made them; that *Isaac Gidney* and *Joseph Purdy* had been at work at night, and they gave him a bag with iron, and said, here is something for *William Lownsberry*; that he gave it to *Lownsberry*, and he assisted *Lownsberry* to carry them; that when they came to a parcel of guns on the hill near *Valentine's*, they found five or six men at work there, and the guns spiked up. That they returned and spiked those at *Williams's;* that *William Hains*, and *James Hains*, Jun., spiked them; that there were upwards of fifty spiked there; that he believes *William Lownsberry* had the management and direction of their party, and that he was called their General. That when they came to a little house near *Valentine's*, they heard people at work; that when he and his party came near *Valentine's*, there was light; that the party at work at the guns left them, and came towards *King's Bridge*, and passed by him, walking very fast and close together; that he did not before know that any party but his own were engaged to spike up the cannon; that he supposes they live in that neighbourhood. That he believes the bag of spikes he received were made in *Isaac Gidney's* shop; that *Isaac Gidney* and *Joseph Purdy* went in there to work one evening, and the next evening they were brought out of the shop and delivered to him, near *Isaac Gidney's* shop, a little time before he and his party set off to go to the cannon. That the party who left the cannon near *Valentine's*, were in dark coloured clothes; that he thinks they were countrymen of their County; and that *William Lownsberry* said he believed he knew one of them. That he believes it was, and took it to be, the same bag which he received of *Isaac Gidney* and *Joseph Purdy*, which they brought with them to the cannon; that he received it a little before they set off to the cannon; that it was a violent, cold night; that *Burrell* assisted to turn over the cannon; that *Lownsberry* had a hand-spike; that he assisted to turn over some of them; that they concluded it would make too much noise if they struck on the arms, to disarm them and break off the trunnions, and, therefore, spiked them.

William Lownsberry, being again called in and examined, says, the last time he saw Governour *Tryon*, was after new-year; that the first time he saw Governour *Tryon*, was on board of *Sutton's* sloop; that he went to see *Sutton*, and the Governour came there; that in *January*, when he came down with cattle, he went on board of the Governour's ship; went to see how things were; saw the Attorney-General there; that he had not any conversation about spiking up the cannon; that he does not remember that he told any person that he had had a conversation with the Governour about the cannon; that he was not concerned in spiking up any cannon. Being asked how many cannon his party spiked up, he was silent. At length, said, the guns at *Williams's* were spiked up; that *Joshua Gidney* and *Josiah Burrell* went down to spike up the cannon, and, as he understood, they found so many cannon they had not spikes enough; that *Joshua Gidney* told him so; that he had no hand in getting the spikes made, and does not know who made them; that he does not know who brought the spikes; that on the day before the spiking the cannon, *Burrell* spoke to him about, and said he had mind to have it done, and that he, the examinant, told him, that he did not think any smith in the County would make the spikes; that when he received the spikes, he did not know who made them; that he understood then, that all the guns at *Williams's* were spiked; that *Gidney* and the *Hains's* spiked the cannon at *Williams's*, and that he assisted in turning them. That he had not any business on board of the Governour's ship; did not go to sell beef, and went alone.

Ordered, That the said Prisoners be recommitted to the Barracks. That the order as to the confinement of *Joshua Gidney*, be mitigated as to his being manacled and fettered in the day.

The Committee are of opinion, unanimously, that *Josiah Burrell*, *William Hains*, *James Hains*, Jun., and *Thomas Hains*, the persons who assisted to spike the Cannon at *Williams's*, and *Isaac Gidney* and *Joseph Purdy*, the smiths who made the Spikes, ought to be apprehended and brought before the Committee. And that *Valentine*, and all the men in his family, should be examined, in order, if possible, to discover the persons concerned in spiking the Cannon at *Valentine's*.

Thereupon a draft of a Letter to Colonel *Joseph Drake*, requesting him to apprehend the first party above-named, and a draft of a Letter to the Officer of the Guard, at the Bridge, were respectively read and approved, and are, respectively, in the words following, to wit:

In Committee of Safety, New-York, January 29, 1776.

SIR: We have obtained evidence against *Josiah Burrell*, *William Hains*, *James Hains*, Jun., *Thomas Hains*, (sons of *James Hains*,) *Isaac Gidney*, the blacksmith, and *Joseph Purdy*, that they have been concerned in spiking up the cannon near *Williams's*.

We request you to have all those persons apprehended, and sent here under a proper guard. We send you this by express, to prevent delay, or any of them having a longer opportunity to escape.

We are, respectfully, sir, your most obedient servants.

By order of the Committee.

To Colonel *Joseph Drake*.

Ordered, That a copy thereof be engrossed, and signed by the Chairman, and transmitted by *Sampson Dyckman*, as an express.

A draft of a Letter to the Officer of the Guard at the Cannon, at *King's Bridge*, was read and approved of, and is in the words following, to wit:

SIR: You are hereby requested to apprehend *Isaac Valentine*, the blacksmith, with his servant or journeyman, and all the men which belong to his family, and send them down to this Committee to be examined. Endeavour to have them prevented from having any conversation with each other after they are apprehended, or on the way to *New-York*.

We are, respectfully, sir, your very humble servants.

By order of the Committee.

To the Officer commanding the Guard at the Cannon, near *King's Bridge*.

Ordered, That a copy thereof be engrossed, and signed by the Chairman, and transmitted by *Sampson Dyckman*.

—

Dio Martis, 10 ho. A. M., January 30, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Colonel *McDougall*, Colonel *Brasher*, Mr. *Tredwell*, Mr. *Brewster*, Mr. *Sands*, Mr. *Clarke*.

George Shannon was brought before the Committee with a number of Proclamations, and Papers, and Pamphlets, which, he says, he received of Governour *Tryon*. He says he lives at *Dover*, in *Dutchess* County; that a horse was stolen from one *Ross*, in *Dutchess* County; that they came to look for the horse; that the Governour gave him the Pamphlets, and King's Speech and Proclamation, to take to the country.

. . . . . *Ross*. That they were in pursuit of a thief who stole a horse; that they supposed the thief was on board of the men-of-war; that the thief stole oxen and sold them, and went off to *New-York;* that a horse of his brother is since stole, they suppose by the same thief; that they came to search after the horse and thief; supposed that the thief was on board the King's ships; that they asked if there was any harm to go on board, and was informed there was not; that they went on board, and waited till they had an opportunity to see the Governour and inquire if he knew any person who had come on board of his or the other ships, who had stole a horse; that he did not receive any papers of the Governour; that Governour *Tryon* inquired how the people stood affected in the County where he lived. That he is to bear the expense of *Shannon*.

John Buchanan and *Nicholas Carmer* were examined. Thereupon, the said *George Shannon* and *Ross* were discharged, and their papers redelivered to them.

Captain *John Sands*, from *Cow-Neck*, informed the Committee that *Jacob Mott*, who had made his submission to this Committee of Safety, and been restored, was taken into custody and detained by Colonel *Heard*, and is now under bonds of five hundred Pounds, and his arms demanded. The Committee are of opinion that it is not good policy to use those severities to *Jacob Mott*, unless he has misbehaved since his restoration.

Thereupon, a draft of a Letter to Colonel *Heard* was read, and approved of, and is in the words following, to wit:

In Committee of Safety, New-York, January 30, 1776.

SIR: *Jacob Mott*, of *Queen's* County, who, by the resolves of the Provincial Congress of this Colony, was advertised, and put out of protection, made his submission to this Committee, acknowledged his contrition for his past conduct, and engaged to behave amicably to the cause of his country. Whereupon, he was publickly restored to his former standing, during his good behaviour.

We have not the least information that the said *Jacob Mott* has, by any means, forfeited the protection of his country, or swerved from his engagements, since his restoration. In our opinion, sound policy dictates the most tender treatment of a reformed penitent.

We are informed that the said *Jacob Mott* has been in custody, and is under bonds to you. We request, sir, that the said *Jacob Mott* may be released, and permitted to retain his arms, unless you should find that he has forfeited his late engagements, and that the said *Jacob Mott* may be treated with as much lenity as you, in your prudence, may conceive to be consistent with your duty and instructions, with which we would by no means be thought to interfere, in any article whatever.

We are, respectfully, sir, your most obedient servants.

To Colonel *Heard*.

Ordered, That a copy thereof be engrossed, and carried to the Chairman, to be read and signed, and transmitted by Captain *John Sands*.

—

3 ho. P. M., January 30, 1776.

Present: Colonel *McDougall*, Colonel *Brasher*, Mr. *Brewster*, Mr. *Tredwell*, Mr. *Clarke*, Mr. *Sands*.

A Letter from *Jonathan Blake*, commanding the Cannon Guard beyond *King's Bridge*, was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"Tho Guard at the Liberty-Pole, January 29, 1776.

"GENTLEMEN: According to your desire, I have sent down Mr. *Valentine* and son, and journeyman, under guard of seven men, and should be glad of a small reinforcement, as the duty of the men is very hard, on account of their numbers.

"I am, with the greatest respect, your humble servant,

"JONATHAN BLAKE.

"To *Joseph Hallett*, Esq., Chairman of the Committee of Safety, *New-York*."

Ordered, That all the said persons be brought before this Committee for examination.

Isaac Valentine, being brought before the Committee to be examined, says, that he lives in *Westchester* County; that the guns lie about four hundred or five hundred yards from his house, in a field; that he does not know whether his son, or servant, was at home on last *Wednesday* night a week; that, on a *Sunday*, his brother, who lives near the guns, informed him that, if he had been at his house last night, he would have heard musick, and informed him that he heard the guns every now and then ring, sometimes at one end of the parcel of guns, and sometimes at the other; that he knows *William Lownsberry;* did not see him, or *Joshua Gidney*, at his house that night; does not know who spiked the guns; that *John Williams* came down to his house, and informed him that the guns at *Williams's* were spiked up; that, at his request, they went to the guns in his field, and found them spiked.

William Dickin: Says he is an *Englishman;* lives with *Isaac Valentine;* was at home on last *Wednesday* night a week; had not a light at one or two o'clock, that night; that he sleeps in the old house, now called the kitchen; that he thinks Mr. *Valentine's* son was at home that night; did not see any persons come in there late; that his young master says a drover came to their house, and first told him the guns at *Williams's* were spiked up.

Isaac Valentine, Jun.: That he has not signed the Association, but is hearty in the cause of his country; does not know *William Lownsberry;* has seen *Joshua Gidney* but once, to his knowledge; was at home last *Wednesday* night a week; does not know what light was in the house; knows nothing about spiking up the guns; that the guns are two hundred and fifty yards from his father's house; that a drover, from *New-England*, first told him, in an evening, that the guns were spiked; that, next morning, *John Williams* came down, and informed his father that the guns near his house were spiked; that they went and found them spiked.

Die Mercurii, 10 ho. A. M., January 31, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Mr. *Joseph Hallett*, Chairman, Colonel *McDougall*, Mr. *Scott*, Colonel *Brasher*, Mr. *Brewster*, Mr. *Tredwell*, Mr. *Sands*, Mr. *Clarke*.

A Letter from Colonel *James McClaughry*, of *Little-Britain*, *Ulster* County, dated 23d instant, was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"Little-Britain, January 23, 1776.

"Gentlemen: I received a letter from the honourable the Provincial Congress, bearing date the 16th *October* last, relative to fixing a place of rendezvous for the regiment under my command, in case of an alarm; in consequence of which, I called together all the officers of my regiment, and have fixed the place of our rendezvous at *New-Windsor*, but find, on examination, that it is impossible the men can appear properly equipped, for want of ammunition; therefore, request that a small magazine be formed at the place of rendezvous, under the direction of such persons as you shall judge proper.

"I am, gentlemen, with much esteem, your most obedient and very humble servant,

"James McClaughry.

"To the Committee of Safety for the Province of *New-York*, in *New-York*.

"P. S. Should have answered the honourable Congress sooner of this matter, but did not receive their favour until the 24th ultimo."

A Letter from *Judah Harlow*, of the 26th instant, covering a Receipt or Certificate from Captain *Daniel Denton*, late Captain in the Third Regiment of the *New-York* Troops, and also the said Receipt or Certificate, certifying that the late Company of the said *Daniel Denton* had eaten three hundred and fifteen meals of victuals at the said *Judah Harlow's*, for which he had not been paid, were read.

A Letter from *Moses Gale*, of the 27th instant, covering a Certificate of *Daniel Denton*, late Captain of the Third Regiment, dated 26th of *August* last, and also the said Certificate, certifying that the late Company of the said *Daniel Denton* had eaten one hundred and sixty-four meals of victuals at the house of the said *Moses Gale*, for which he had not been paid, were read.

The Committee are of opinion that, consistent with their late Resolution, and Letter to their Delegates, they ought not now to take up their time with, or interfere in, Accounts. The Committee further conceive that they are not authorized by any Resolve of Continental or Provincial Congress to pay for billeting, at one shilling per meal, and therefore ordered that the said Letters and Certificates be returned to the owners by Mr. *Brewster*.

Mr. *Nicholas Low* applied for a Permit to lade the Brigantine *New-York*, on account of Mr. *Isaac Gouverneur*. Thereupon, a Permit was delivered to him, in the words following, to wit:

In Committee of Safety, New-York, January 31, 1776.

The Brigantine *New-York*, Captain *John Walker*, Master, is herehy permitted to lade at this port with Provisions and Lumber.

A Letter from the Delegates of this Colony at the Continental Congress was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"Philadelphia, January 27, 1776.

"Gentlemen: The Congress this day received a letter from General *Lee*, apprising us of his intended march into *New-York*, in obedience to orders from General *Washington*, favouring us, at the same time, with a copy of your letter to him on this subject.

"As we perceived it was General *Lee's* intention immediately to proceed to your city, and that you thought such a measure dangerous to the lives of the inhabitants, and in other respects unseasonable, we thought it our duty to apply for a Committee of Congress to examine into the expediency of the expedition, and to give such directions as, upon consulting you and the General, might appear most prudent and advisable.

"Colonel *Harrison*, Mr. *Lynch*, and Mr. *Allen*, are intrusted with this important business, a choice which we approve, having the highest sentiments of their humanity, patriotism, and judgment. We are well satisfied that every mark of respect will be shown to them by your body, as well as by individuals, not only on account of their great merit, but because the employment in which they are now engaged immediately regards the safety and preservation of the Capital of our own Colony.

"We acknowledge the receipt of your favour, this day, respecting the scheme of protecting the navigation by cruisers, at the Continental expense. When you are made acquainted that this and other Colonies have engaged in a similar plan, at their own Provincial charge, you will perceive the proposition to be attended with difficulty as proceeding from us. The deputation from Congress will, however, give you an opportunity of representing the propriety of such a measure, as calculated to prevent the supply of provisions to the fleet and army employed for the enslaving these Colonies, and the necessity of stationing some of the Continental cruisers in the places you may suggest. This will bring on the inquiry where such vessels can most conveniently be had, and your purposes may be answered very effectually, as we are confident that every thing which they recommend will have the greatest weight with the Congress.

"The several matters communicated in your letter by Mr. *Foster* will be answered by that gentleman, when he returns, which will not be till the beginning of next week.

"We have the honour to be, with great respect, gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servants,

"James Duane,
"William Floyd,
"Henry Wisner.

"To the Honourable Committee of Safety, *New-York*."

A Letter from *William Floyd* and *Henry Wisner*, Esq., two of the Delegates at Congress, was also read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"Philadelphia, January 27, 1776.

"Gentlemen: We send you by favour of the Committee who are going to *New-York*, twelve thousand five hundred dollars, for the raising a regiment destined for *Canada*; the other is for Mr. *Lewis*, from the Marine Committee; which be pleased to deliver to him, and you will oblige your very humble servants,

"William Floyd,
"Henry Wisner.

"To *Pierre Van Cortlandt*, Esq., Chairman of the Committee of Safety, *New-York*.

"P. S. Also, one hundred and twenty-nine and four-tenths dollars, to be disposed of by Mr. *Lewis*."

Ordered, That Mr. *Scott* and Colonel *McDougall* be a Committee to wait on the honourable Committee of the Continental Congress, and inform them that this Committee is ready to wait on them, to confer with them at such time and place as they may please to appoint.

Messrs. *Scott* and *McDougall* returned, and informed this Committee, that the gentlemen from the Continental Congress request a copy of General *Lee's* Letter, as soon as possible; and that as soon as they shall have heard from General *Lee*, they will inform this Committee of the time and place to confer with them. Messrs. *Scott* and *McDougall* further informed the Committee, that *Philip Livingston*, Esq., is ready to take care of the money brought for *Francis Lewis*, Esq., and has directions from Mr. *Lewis* for that purpose.

Thereupon, *Ordered*, That *Peter V. B. Livingston*, Esq., as Treasurer of the Provincial Congress of this Colony, or his Deputy, wait on Colonel *Harrison*, Mr. *Lynch*, and Mr. *Allen*, the Committee from the honourable Continental Congress, and receive from them twelve thousand five hundred dollars, sent from Continental Congress, for the Regiment to be raised for the service in *Canada*, and give those gentlemen a receipt for the same.

And Ordered, further, That the said Treasurer, or his Deputy, receive of those gentlemen the further sum of one hundred and twenty-nine and four-tenths dollars, and pay the same to *Philip Livingston*, Esq., on account of *Francis Lewis*, Esq., and take Mr. *Livingston's* receipt for the same.

And Ordered, That the Secretaries furnish a copy of General *Lee's* Letter to the Committee of Congress, with all possible despatch.

Ordered, That *Jecamiah Allen* get the Cannon near the

house of *John Williams*, and also those near *King's Bridge*, removed to the larger parcel at *Valentine's*, so as to have them all brought together, for the greater convenience of guarding them, and drilling out the spikes. The Committee agrees with Mr. *Allen*, to allow him twenty shillings a piece for clearing, and unspiking the Cannon beyond *King's Bridge*, and removing the Cannon from *John Williams's* to the larger parcel, and Mr. *Allen* agreed to remove those Guns, and clear and unspike the whole, at twenty shillings each. Mr. *Allen* is also requested to remove the Guns, at or near *King's Bridge*, to the larger parcel, at as little expense as possible, for which he is to be paid the expense. And Mr. *Allen* is further directed, not to clear or unspike any Gun but such as, when cleared, will be fit for use.

Colonel *Lasher* delivered in a Memorandum of such Officers in his Regiment as are willing to go into the Continental service, which was read and filed.

Colonel *Lasher* was informed that a Committee of the honourable the Continental Congress are come to this city, on a service relating to this city and Colony only; that it would be a requisite honour to them to station a guard, of at least two sentinels, at their door in the day, and a sergeant's guard to attend there, as a guard, every night.

A Memorial of *Frederick Hartell*, setting forth his former rank and services in the Army; offering his services, and requesting a commission of not inferior rank to that in which he had formerly served, was read and filed.

A Memorial of *John Willey*, offering his service as a Captain in the Continental service, was read and filed.

Ordered, That the Memorandum delivered in by Colonel *Lasher*, and the Memorials of *Frederick Hartell* and *John Wylley*, remain on file, to be taken up again when an arrangement of Officers may be forming, for Officers of the Regiments to be raised in this Colony for the Continental service.

—

3 ho. P. M., January 31, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Mr. *Joseph Hallett*, Chairman, Colonel *McDougall*, Mr. *Scott*, Mr. *Tredwell*, Mr. *Brewster*, Colonel *Brasher*, Mr. *Clarke*, Mr. *Sands*.

A Return of an election of the Officers of a Company of Militia, signed by *Arthur Parks*, Chairman of a Committee in *Hanover* Precinct, was read and filed. The Officers thereby returned are *James Milligan*, Captain; *John Hunter*, First Lieutenant; *Matthew Hunter*, Second Lieutenant; and *Robert Burns*, Ensign.

Ordered, That Commissions issue for those gentlemen, according to the Return.

James Lattin, a Lieutenant in one of the Minute-Companies in *Ulster* County, who delivered in the above-mentioned Return, informed the Committee that *William Goodgion*, the Ensign of the Minute-Company, of which he is Lieutenant, had unfortunately lost his Commission, and earnestly requested that another Commission might be given to him.

Ordered, That the Secretaries make out another Commission for Ensign *William Goodgion*, of the same date and tenor as his former Commission.

Whereas, the Provincial Congress of this Colony appointed Messrs. *Jacobus Van Zandt*, *John Vanderbilt*, and *Comfort Sands*, to load certain Vessels on Provincial account, and despatch them in order to obtain articles necessary for the defence of the Colonies; and Mr. *John Vanderbilt* having undertaken, and nearly completed, the loading of one of the said Vessels, so that she will be speedily ready to sail, informs the Committee that he has advanced a large sum of money, and stands in need of cash, as well to reimburse the cash he has already advanced, as to complete the lading of the said Vessel, and requests an order on the Treasurer for one thousand eight hundred Pounds on account.

Thereupon, *Ordered*, That *Peter V. B. Livingston*, Esq., as Treasurer of the Provincial Congress of this Colony, advance to Mr. *John Vanderbilt* the sum of one thousand eight hundred Pounds, on account, and take Mr. *Vanderbilt's* receipt for the same.

A draft of a Letter to the Delegates of this Colony at Continental Congress, was read and approved of, and is in the words following, to wit:

In Committee of Safety, New-York, January 31, 1776.

Gentlemen: We have to acknowledge the receipt of your favour, by the Committee of the Continental Congress, who are arrived in this city. You may be assured of our readiness to pay them that attention which is due to them, both in office and person. We have ordered our Treasurer to receive of them the money which they had in charge to deliver to us; that part of it which is destined for raising the battalion intended for the *Canada* service, we shall despatch, under proper care, and without delay, to General *Schuyler*. The battalion must, for the most evident reasons, be raised in the northern quarter; and for the same reasons, the money must be there lodged. Lest General *Schuyler* should not have been furnished with the resolves of Congress on the subject of that battalion, we have long since transmitted copies to him. The other small sum we shall take care to have handed to the Marine Department.

The people of *Richmond* have been, so far, compliant, as will be seen by the enclosed papers. We mean not, nor do we suppose our Congress will determine on their case, which is now before the Continental Congress. We intend only to state to that respectable body the case as it now stands, and, on this head, would only add, that the interdict now operates against them, and that probably their Deputies will not be received by our Congress, till the sense of the Continental Congress can be had on the subject, which we beg to be furnished with as soon as possible.

We beg leave to renew your attention to the want of a Paymaster at this post, about which we wrote to you at least three weeks ago. We find inconveniences increase upon us daily, from our being obliged to go into that department of service, which gives us more pain from a consideration that we may, for want of due information, err, than from an unwillingness to do business that does not properly fall to our lot.

We are gentlemen, respectfully, your very humble servants.

By order of the Committee.

To the *New-York* Delegates in Continental Congress.

Ordered, That a copy thereof be engrossed, and signed by the Chairman, and transmitted by post.

A draft of a Letter to General *Schuyler* was read and approved of, and is in the words following, to wit:

In Committee of Safety, New-York, January 31, 1776.

Sir: We had the honour, sometime since, of transmitting to you a resolve of Congress, for reducing the battalions now in *Canada* to two, and for raising a new battalion for the *Canada* service, under the command of Colonel *Van Schaick*. This regiment must, for the most evident reasons, be raised in the northern quarter; and we flatter ourselves you will look to the appointment of the officers, for whom we shall, without delay, make out the necessary commissions, (for which we are possessed of blanks,) as soon as you will favour us with a roll for that purpose.

We have received from Congress twelve thousand five hundred dollars, to be employed in recruiting Mr. *Van Schaick's* Regiment. The same reasons which show the necessity of raising it in your country, points out to us the propriety of sending to you the money allotted for that service. We accordingly send it to you by Messrs. *Joseph Jadwin* and *Gilbert Giles*. We beg you will take the necessary receipt in duplicate, and transmit one to us.

We must beg leave to remind you of the inconvenience arising from the want of a Paymaster at this post. We cannot, as well from a regard to our own ease, as an attention to the safety and despatch of publick business, any longer engage in the discharge of a duty in which, for want of proper information, we may err, and which is totally without our department.

We are, sir, respectfully, your most obedient and very humble servants.

By order of the Committee.

To Major-General *Schuyler*.

Ordered, That a copy thereof be engrossed, and signed by the Chairman, and transmitted.

Die Jovis, 10 ho. A. M., February 1, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Mr. *Joseph Hallett*, Chairman, Col. *Brasher*, Mr. *Scott*, Colonel *McDougall*, Mr. *Brewster*, Mr. *Clarke*, Mr. *Sands*, Mr. *Tredwell*.

A Letter from *Jonathan Blake*, an officer of the guard at the Cannon beyond *King's Bridge*, was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"Head-Quarters, in Westchester, January 31, 1776.

"SIR: Colonel *Drake* having delivered *Joseph Purdy* into our custody, I take this early opportunity of sending him to *New-York*, under a proper guard, which I hope will meet with your approbation. I remain, sir, your humble servant, JONATHAN BLAKE."

Ordered, That the said *Joseph Purdy* be brought immediately before this Committee, to be examined.

Joseph Purdy examined; says he was going to *Mamaroneck*; that *Isaac Gidney* asked him to stop; that he stopped about two hours; that he was in the shop; that *Isaac Gidney* was making something of steel, which he said was hatchel-teeth; that they were as large as pipe-stales, or larger, like those now shown to him; that he assisted to make some; that it was in the latter part of the afternoon; that he does not know who they were for; that he does not know that he was not there next day, or next evening; that *Gidney* did not tell him who the spikes were for; that he drew the teeth out sharp; that he thought they were finished; that *Isaac Gidney* put the teeth in a bag, in the shop, and they went down together to *Mamaroneck*; that he does not know *Isaac Gidney's* business to *Mamaroneck*; that a cordwainer from *Westchester* was at *Flood's*, one that runaway on account of *Weyman's* boat; and *Joseph Todd* was there; that he did not ever hear any conversation about the cannon, until he heard they were spiked; that the spikes were in a two-bushel bag, and he supposes there were eight or nine pounds weight in it; that he did not then suspect what the spikes were designed for, but did afterwards suspect that they were designed to spike up the cannon.

Ordered, That the said *Joseph Purdy* be sent to the Guard-House, at the Upper Barracks, and that he be prevented from speaking to any person, or receiving, or giving out any paper writings whatever, or having the use of pen, ink or paper.

Colonel *Waterbury*, of *Connecticut*, being at the door, was introduced. He delivered a Letter from his Excellency General *Washington*; and Colonel *Waterbury* informed the Committee, that the gentlemen who are a Committee of the honourable Continental Congress, request that Mr. *Scott* and Colonel *McDougall* do wait on them immediately. Colonel *Waterbury* withdrew.

The Letter from General *Washington* was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"Cambridge, January 8, 1776.

"SIR: Having undoubted intelligence of the fitting out of a fleet at *Boston*, and the embarkation of troops from thence, which, from the season of the year and other circumstances, must be destined for some expedition south of this, and having such information as I can rely on, that the inhabitants of *Long-Island*, in your Government, (or a greater part of them,) are not only inimical to the rights and liberties of *America*, but, by their conduct and publick professions, have discovered an apparent inclination to lend an helping hand to subjugate their fellow-citizens to Ministerial tyranny, there is the greatest reason to believe that this armament, if not designed immediately against the city of *New-York*, is, nevertheless, intended for *Long-Island*.

"I have, therefore, thought it expedient to despatch Major-General *Lee*, with such volunteers as he can quickly assemble on his march, (for I have not troops to spare from hence, if the distance and time would admit of it,) in order to put the city of *New-York* in the best posture of defence the season and circumstances will admit of.

"To his instructions, which I have desired him to lay before you, I shall beg leave to refer, firmly persuaded that your honourable body will give every assistance in their power to facilitate the end of his coming, as there needs no other argument than a retrospective view of the conduct of the Ministerial troops in *Boston*, and the consequences resulting from it, to prove what a fatal stab it would give to the interests of *America*, to suffer the city of *New-York* to fall into the hands of our enemy.

"I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient, humble servant, "GEORGE WASHINGTON.

"To the Chairman of the Committee of Safety of *New-York*."

Colonel *McDougall* and Mr. *Scott* went to wait on and confer with the Committee of the Continental Congress.* After some time those gentlemen returned, and reported that the said Committee informed them that they were sent here by Congress, and that General *Lee*, with his troops, were coming here to take measures, and consult with this Committee, for the defence of this city and Colony, and not to commence any actual hostilities; that seven hundred men, of General *Lee's* troops, are on their march to this city; that part of those troops will be in town this evening, and the others to-morrow; and those gentlemen request to know whether this Committee will provide for the reception of those troops, and receive them into the Barracks.

Debates ensued on the said Report and Request, and thereupon,

Mr. *Sands* moved, that the Troops now on their march from *Connecticut* to this City, shall be stopped in their march, until this Committee shall confer with the Committee of the Continental Congress on that matter, and consider thereof.

Debates ensued on the said motion, and the question being put thereon, it was determined in the negative, in manner following, to wit:

For the Negative.	*For the Affirmative.*
Mr. Scott,	Colonel Brasher,
Mr. Brewster,	Colonel McDougall,
Mr. Clarke,	Mr. Sands—3.
Mr. Tredwell—4.	

Mr. *Scott* then moved, and was seconded, that General *Lee's* Troops be admitted to come into the City of *New-York*, and be lodged in the Barracks, as they cannot be otherwise provided for; but, that they come into this City upon condition that they be under the direction of this Committee or the Provincial Congress, until a full conference of this Committee or the Provincial Congress with the Committee from the Continental Congress, and Major-General *Lee*, and until further order to be taken thereon, with the consent of this Committee or the Provincial Congress, or further direction of the Continental Congress.

Debates arose on the said motion, and the question being put thereon, it was carried in the affirmative in manner following, to wit:

For the Affirmative.	*For the Negative.*
Mr. Scott,	Colonel Brasher,
Mr. Tredwell,	Mr. Sands—2.
Mr. Brewster,	
Colonel McDougall,	
Mr. Clarke—5.	

Ordered, therefore, That General *Lee's* Tronps be admitted to come into the City of *New-York*, and be lodged in the Barracks, as they cannot otherwise be provided for; but that they come into the City expressly upon condition that they be under the direction of this Committee or the Provincial Congress, until a full conference of this Committee or the Provincial Congress, with the Committee from the Continental Congress, and Major-General *Lee*, and until further order to be taken thereon, with the consent of this Committee or the Provincial Congress, or further direction of the Continental Congress.

**Notes of the Conference taken in the Committee-Chamber.*

Chairman—That their answer to the order of the Committee occasioned this conference. We think it inconvenient that the troops should come in without consent, unless under their direction.

Answer.—That they were sent by Congress to consult with General *Lee*, and the Committee in pursuance of having received from General *Lee* a copy of the letter of this Committee; that Congress were before unacquainted with the matter; that they were sent at the request of the Deputies of this Colony; that the troops coming into town to night, and something about stores were the reasons for sending them.

Scott.—We will always obey the orders of Congress.

1st. But the duty and dignity due to our constituents forbid the introduction of troops without our consent.

2d. It is our duty to guard against trouble and inconveniences.

We are surprised that troops should come in contrary to General *Lee's* promises.

We apprehend great difficulties, General *Lee* indisposed.

We cannot trust every man at the head of troops.

Tyranny from every quarter is equal.

The Committee produced their credentials, which give them the command.

A Letter from Colonel *Thomas Palmer*, dated 25th instant, was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"Newburgh, January 25, 1776.

"GENTLEMEN: The Convention for this County, at their last session, passed a resolve that no person shall inlist under a Minute-Captain in any other town or precinct within this County, except that in which he resides. What views the Convention had in passing this resolve, I know not; but the consequences resulting from it is already too conspicuous to our damage, as it is the only means whereby two Minute-Companies, now recruiting, (the one in *New-Windsor*, and the other in *Newburgh* Precinct,) cannot be filled up, as their former mode having been to fill up their companies out of the different precincts, in such manner as to be nearest their officers, and most compact and handy for exercising their men, which, in my opinion, is the most eligible; and, in that way, the companies which are already raised, and whose time wont expire until Spring, were filled up, and a considerable part of those companies made up out of the precincts of *New-Windsor* and *Newburgh*, so that the two companies now recruiting, being under the restriction of the said County resolve, cannot obtain a competent number of men. And, even suppose we were just now setting out to raise Minute-Men under the limits of such a resolution, it would be most absurd in its nature, as the number of the Militia are more or less according to the extent and popularity of the town and precincts, and the fourth of the Militia, in some, may not amount to a company, and, in others, more, and, perhaps, not quite two companies; so that it is absolutely necessary that the Minute-Captains may raise their companies any where, (at least,) within one Militia-Regiment, in which he may reside.

This affair is likely to make much uneasiness; and had this not happened, the companies would easily been made out, without the disagreeable necessity for balloting, agreeable to your late resolve, which will be a step that many begin to grumble at, for, some say, by that means there is a compulsion on men who are disaffected to the cause, as well as to such other persons as the circumstances of their families, &c., may render it disagreeable to be obliged to turn out; and acts of constraint ought, if possible, to be avoided. I must, therefore, beg you will take the premises into your immediate consideration; and, should you be of opinion with me, that the said resolve is attended with the consequences aforesaid, that you will be pleased, by a resolution of your House, to counteract the same by a line to the Chairman of the said Convention, or by some such other ways and means as, in your wisdom, you may judge best. I need not remind you that the resolves of the County Conventions and Sub-Committees within this Province, are ever subject to your approbation or disapprobation.

"I beg leave to observe, with the utmost concern, that no measures are yet going on for expediting our fortifications at *Pooplopen's Point*. The river being now frozen, so that the timber for the barrack, which now chiefly lies at *New-Windsor*, may be carried in sleds down to *Pooplopen's Point*, which is most necessary, in order for a house for labourers, and no better time than the present for collecting other necessaries back in the woods, and bringing them on the spot, in order for the fortification.

"I am, gentlemen, with due respect, your most obedient, and most humble servant,

"THOMAS PALMER.

"To the Honourable Committee of Safety, *New-York*."

Die Jovis, 3 ho. P. M., February 1, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Mr. *Joseph Hallett*, Chairman, Colonel *McDougall*, Mr. *Scott*, Colonel *Brasher*, Mr. *Tredwell*, Mr. *Clarke*, Mr. *Sands*, Mr. *Brewster*.

A Letter from the Delegates of this Colony at Continental Congress, was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"Philadelphia, January 30, 1776.

"GENTLEMEN: We had the honour of writing to you yesterday by Mr. *Lynch*. We now set down to say a word or two respecting the case of Mr. *Foster*. Sorry as we are that the privilege granted by our Convention to that gentleman has led him into inconveniences, yet the restraint upon exporting live stock is grounded upon such solid reasons, and appeared so essential to Congress, that we are persuaded it will be in vain to ask for a relaxation in this or any instance. We have consulted some of our Congress friends, who are of the same opinion, and have satisfied Mr. *Foster* that it will be to no purpose to make the proposition.

"We hope, however, you may think of some method of putting it in his power, in another way, to make up his losses, which will give us particular pleasure.

"The other matters contained in that despatch, we shall consider and act upon with all diligence.

"We have the honour to be, with the greatest respect, gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servants,

"JAMES DUANE,
"HENRY WISNER,
"WILLIAM FLOYD.

"To the Honourable Committee, *New-York*."

A Letter from the Committee of *Kingston*, in *Ulster* County, was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"Kingston, January 27, 1776.

"GENTLEMEN: We have received the prisoners sent to us by Captain *Van Wyck*. After perusing your letter and orders relative to the prisoners, we ordered a guard of our Grenadiers to take them, and sent them, pursuant to your orders, to our jail, where they will be safe, we think.

"In any respect, where we can be of service to the cause of *American* liberty, we cheerfully and willingly will do, to guard against the machinations, schemes, and stratagems, of the common foes of the *American* liberty.

"We respectfully remain, gentlemen, your most obedient. By order of the Committee present:

"WILLIAM ELSWORTH, *Chairman*.

"To the Honourable Committee of Safety, *New-York*."

A Letter from Messrs. *Harrison*, *Lynch*, and *Allen*, in answer to the order of this Committee, relating to the introduction of General *Lee's* Troops, was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"New-York, February 1, 1776.

"Messrs. *Harrison*, *Lynch*, and *Allen*, present their compliments to the Committee of Safety of this Colony. They have received the order of their Board, but are under a necessity of informing them that they cannot undertake that the troops commanded by General *Lee* shall be under the entire direction of the Committee or Provincial Congress, as that would be to exceed any powers lodged in them by the Continental Congress. They cannot see the propriety of this order, after the conference had by them with Colonel *McDougall* and Mr. *Scott*, and the assurances given those gentlemen this morning."

A Letter from Colonel *Waterbury*, on the same subject, was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"February 1, A. D. 1776.

"GENTLEMEN: I have received your orders respecting the admission of the troops under General *Lee* into the Barracks of this city, and, in reply, must inform you that I have no authority to give up the entire direction of them to the Committee, without orders from the General. In the mean time, the troops are hourly expected, and, as the weather requires that they should be put immediately under cover, I shall, on their arrival, march them into the Barracks. Every care shall be taken to preserve good order and exact discipline among them, until the General comes, when I shall submit this affair to his determination.

"This, by yours to serve,

"DAVID WATERBURY, JUN., *Colonel*.

"To the Honourable Committee of Safety, *New-York*."

On reading the Letter of Messrs. *Harrison*, *Lynch*, and *Allen*, a Committee of the honourable Continental Congress, and the Letter of Colonel *Waterbury*, now received, this Committee requests the favour of an immediate conference with Messrs. *Harrison*, *Lynch*, and *Allen*, and hereby inform them that they are now met in Committee, at the Assembly Chamber in the City-Hall, and are ready to attend such conference, at any place those gentlemen may please to appoint.

Ordered, That one of the Secretaries wait on Messrs.

Harrison, *Lynch*, and *Allen*, with a copy of the above request.

Mr. *Benson*, one of the Secretaries, returned, and informed this Committee that Messrs. *Harrison*, *Lynch*, and *Allen*, will wait on this Committee, in the Assembly Chamber.

Mr. *Sands*, one of the sub-Committee appointed by the Provincial Congress to freight a Vessel to the *West-Indies*, with provisions, &c., to purchase arms and ammunition, reports, that, in pursuance of said appointment, he has freighted the Sloop *James Richard*, *Pooler*, Master, for *St. Eustatia*, belonging to *Stephen Thorne*, and loaded her with provisions, as per invoice, amounting to seven hundred and seventy-seven pounds seven shillings and nine pence, consigned to Mr. *Samuel Curson*, merchant, there; that the freight of said sloop is, as per agreement, three pounds ten shillings per ton, merchant's tonnage; and in case said sloop is seized by the Ministerial army or navy, in consequence of carrying provisions to said Island, the Congress are to pay to *Stephen Thorne*, for said sloop, the sum of five hundred pounds, as per agreement annexed. He further reports that, by order of the Committee of Safety, he has loaded the Schooner *Polly*, *Matthew Van Alstyne*, Master, whereof *Abraham P. Lott* and *Matthew Van Alstyne* are owners, for *Martinico*, *Guadaloupe*, and *St. Eustatia*, with provisions, as per invoice, amounting to one thousand two hundred and seventy-eight pounds two shillings and ten pence, consigned to said master, to purchase arms and ammunition; that the freight agreed for is three pounnds ten shillings per ton, merchant's tonnage; and in case said schooner is seized in consequence of carrying provisions to said Islands, the Congress are to pay to *Abraham P. Lott* and *M. Van Alstyne* the sum of five hundred pounds, as per agreement, also annexed. As, also, has loaded the Sloop *Sally*, *Wilkie Dodge*, Master, whereof himself is owner, for *Curacoa*, with provisions, as per invoice, amounting to one thousand one hundred and thirty-two pounds eight shillings and eleven pence, consigned to Mr. *Isaac Governeur*, merchant, there, to purchase duck, flints, and ammunition; that the freight of said sloop is as the former, at three pounds ten shillings per ton, merchant's tonnage; and in case said sloop is seized in consequence of carrying provisions to said Island, the Congress are to pay for said vessel to said *Comfort Sands* the sum of six hundred and fifty pounds.

He further reports, that in order to get said vessels out of this port, he has been obliged to give bonds to the Custom-House to land said cargoes in some of the *English* Islands in the *West-Indies*, and requests the Committee of Safety will indemnify him from said bonds.

Mr. *Sands* delivered in the agreements made by him for the respective vessels above-mentioned, and the invoices and bills of lading, and papers relating to the said several vessels and cargoes, which are now filed.

The above Report being read, and fully approved of, the Committee agrees that the said Report, and the several agreements therein mentioned, stand confirmed, and be considered as the agreements of the Committee of Safety, made for and on behalf of the Provincial Congress of this Colony, and on their account and risk.

And Resolved, That the said *Comfort Sands* shall be, and hereby is, fully indemnified by this Committee of Safety, and the Provincial Congress of this Colony for the time being, against any bonds which he has entered into at the Custom-House for the said vessels and cargoes, or on account of lading and sending them to sea, or either of them; and that, in case any costs or damages shall accrue or be suffered by the said *Comfort Sands*, or his representatives, by means of entering into such bonds, or either of them, all such costs and damages as may arise, happen, or accrue by means thereof shall be borne by this Colony; and the said *Comfort Sands* having now delivered in the accounts of the cargoes or ladings of the said several vessels, amounting, in the whole, to the sum of three thousand one hundred and eighty-seven pounds eighteen shillings and eleven pence, and therein credited the sum of two thousand five hundred pounds, received by virtue of an order of the Provincial Congress, of the 19th *December* last, whereby a balance of six hundred and eighty-seven pounds eighteen shillings and eleven pence is stated as due the said *Comfort Sands*, the Committee not having hitherto had time to examine and audit the said account, that Mr. *Sands* may not continue so large a sum in advance for the publick service,

Ordered, That *Peter V. B. Livingston*, Esq., as Treasurer of the Provincial Congress of this Colony, pay to *Comfort Sands*, on account of the Moneys he has advanced for the publick service, by order of the Provincial Congress and of this Committee of Safety, in purchasing the Cargoes for sundry Vessels, the sum of six hundred Pounds on account, and that Mr. *Livingston* take Mr. *Sands's* receipt for the same.

Messrs. *Harrison*, *Lynch*, and *Allen*, the Committee of the Continental Congress, attended the Committee, and were introduced. The Committee of Safety informed those gentlemen that their answer to the order of this Committee occasioned this conference. The Committee of Safety, on their part, suggested that, as General *Lee*, by his letter, had informed them that he would delay the main body of his troops on the frontiers of *Connecticut* until after his arrival; that as those troops are introducing into the Colony, without any particular order of the Continental Congress known to this Committee, and Major-General *Lee*, who was to have preceded those troops, and had the command of them, detained by indisposition, the Committee of Safety conceive that those troops ought not to be introduced into the city on any other condition than under their direction; that the dignity of this Colony in the Continental Union, and their duty to their constituents to preserve their liberties, and prevent any manœuvre or accident that may endanger the safety of the city, or cause the removal of the inhabitants at this inclement season of the year, in their opinion, forbids the introduction of those troops on any other condition, for the present.

The gentlemen of the Committee of Continental Congress then informed this Committee that Congress, in consequence of having received a copy of the letter of the Committee of Safety to General *Lee*, had appointed them a Committee to confer with General *Lee* and this Committee; that no service or matter whatever should be undertaken by those troops, until such conference had. They then produced their credentials from Congress, whereby the directions of those troops are given to the gentlemen of that Committee. They further assured the Committee that General *Lee*, knowing that they were here, by his instructions to Colonel *Waterbury*, had directed those troops to be under their command; that they would, as far as in their power, take care that the troops should be kept under good government and discipline until General *Lee's* arrival, and for that purpose they had given particular directions to Colonel *Waterbury*.

The Committee thereupon were satisfied, and declared they were contented, as those troops are under the command of the Committee of Continental Congress.

—

Die Veneris, 10 ho. A. M., February 2, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Mr. *Joseph Hallett*, Chairman, Colonel *McDougall*, Mr. *Brasher*, Mr. *Brewster*, Mr. *Sands*, Mr. *Tredwell*, Mr. *Clarke*.

Colonel *Curtenius* attended by request. He informed the Committee that he had examined the one hundred Muskets at Mr. *Jecamiah Allen's*, which were directed for Lord *Sterling*, and that they are good and in order. The Committee being further informed that *Jecamiah Allen* has fifty other Muskets ready, and that he requests an order for one hundred Pounds on account,

Thereupon, *Ordered*, That *Peter V. B. Livingston*, Esq., as Treasurer of the Provincial Congress of this Colony, advance to Mr. *Jecamiah Allen* the sum of one hundred Pounds, on account of moneys due to him from the Provincial Congress for Muskets, and that Mr. *Livingston* take Mr. *Jecamiah Allen's* receipt for the same.

Ordered, That Colonel *Curtenius*, as Commissary of the Provincial Congress of this Colony, purchase all the good Muskets and Firelocks, fit for use, that he can procure, and that he direct the Gunsmiths not to sell any Muskets out of this Colony.

3 ho. P. M., February 2, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Mr. *Joseph Hallett*, Chairman, Colonel *McDougall*, Mr. *Brewster*, Mr. *Tredwell*, Mr. *Clarke*, Colonel *Brasher*, Mr. *Sands*.

A Letter from Colonel *Joseph Drake*, dated the 31st *January*, and received yesterday, was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"January 31, 1776.

"Sir: I received yours, per express, yesterday. Last night, sent and apprehended *Josiah Burrell*, *Thomas Hains*, and *Isaac Gidney*, whom I have sent forward to you, under guard. The others have not been apprehended yet, but shall endeavour to have them secured, if possible.

"I am, sir, your very humble servant,

"Joseph Drake.

"To *Joseph Hallett*, Chairman of the Committee of Safety, *New-York*."

Ordered, That the said *Josiah Burrell*, *Thomas Hains*, and *Isaac Gidney*, be brought down to this Committee for examination.

Josiah Burrell: Says he lives on *Rye-Neck;* that he knows *William Lownsbury*. Being asked, who was with him when he spiked up the guns, answered, that he does not know who was with him; that he knows nothing about spiking up the guns. On *Wednesday*, the 17th ultimo, in the night, *William Lownsbury*, *Joshua Gidney*, *Thomas Hains*, *James Hains*, Jun., *William Hains*, and himself, were at *John Gidney's;* that he did not carry any sledge or sledges; does not know whether any were carried; does not know who spiked up the guns. Being asked, if the company had any sledges, answered, that it could not be worth while to carry sledges.

Isaac Gidney: Says he lives on *Rye-Neck;* is a smith; never worked up any files for *William Lownsbury;* does not know of any person who did work them; that *William Lownsbury* and *Josiah Burrell* employed him to make hatchel-teeth; that he made them of steel; that he made about two hundred; made them of bar-steel; that he did part of the work in the day and part in the evening; that he worked only one evening; that *Joseph Purdy* assisted him that evening; that he had not any intimation from *Lownsbury* what those hatchel-teeth were for, or that they were for spiking the cannon. That he never delivered them in a bag; that he never declared to any person that they were in a bag; that *Joshua Gidney* came to his shop and took the bag; that after the hatchel-teeth were made, he had a mistrust what they were for; that *Lownsbury* asked him to work files to make hatchel-teeth; that he told them they were unhandy to work; that this was before *Lownsbury* brought him the steel; that he made about two hundred spikes; that he did not think they looked like hatchel-teeth, but that *Lownsbury* gave him a sample to make them by; that he never saw any hatchel-teeth so large; that people call him a Tory; that no other person, to his remembrance, was present when *Joshua Gidney* took the bag; that *Joshua Gidney* took the bag; that he is uncertain, but thinks he asked for *Lownsbury's* bag; that he, this examinant, answered it was there, he could take it; that *Joseph Purdy* assisted to make them.

Thomas Hains: That he lives at *Rye-Neck;* is a son of *James Hains;* that he did not go with *William Lownsbury* and others to spike up the guns; was not with them at *John Gidney's;* that he knows nothing about the matter; never was at the cannon.

Josiah Burrell being again examined, says, he never saw any cannon spiked, and does not know who spiked them; after some time, acknowledged that he did meet with *William Lownsbury*, *Joshua Gidney*, *Thomas Hains*, *Isaac Hains*, Jun., and *William Hains*, at *Joshua Gidney's;* that they came as far as *Valentine's*, and in return, some of their party went to the guns; that he did employ *Isaac Gidney* to make hatchel-teeth, very large; that he had about sixty made; that he afterwards threw them away, and does not know where they are. Being frequently asked, acknowledged that their party did set out with a design to spike up the guns; that he came to *New-York* when the vessel laid up in the *North-River;* that he went on board of a vessel there; that a person there spoke to him about spiking the guns; that he does not know the man; that he went on board of a sloop to see *Hains;* that he went on board of the Governour's ship, to deliver a letter for *Avery*, the Minister at *Rye;* that *James Hains* told that he afterwards went on board of the said sloop, and heard the same matter about spiking the guns spoke of by some person.

Thomas Hains called in, and confronted with *Josiah Burrell*. *Thomas Hains* says he knows *Josiah Burrell*. *Josiah Burrell* says he is the *Thomas Hains* who went with them to the guns, and was along with them.

Josiah Burrell says he never was promised any reward for spiking the guns; that he has signed the Association, soon after its first appearance for that purpose; that he does not know who got the spikes; they all assisted to carry them; that he does not know who got the sledge; that he never saw the guns spiked, and does not know who did it; that there were six of the party, and does not know which of them spiked them; that, after going from *Valentine's*, he threw the hatchel-teeth which he got made into *Bronx-River*.

Thomas Hains called in again and examined, acknowledges that he was at *Joshua Gidney's*, in the evening, about a month ago; that *James Hains* came in there; that they said they were going to take a walk; asked him to go, and did not know what they were going about; that they walked twelve miles from where they set out, and so far back; that he came to *Gidney's* about evening; that *William Lownsbury*, *Joshua Gidney*, *Josiah Burrell*, *William Hains*, and *James Hains*, were with him; that he does not know who spiked up the guns; that they had caps on; that he had a *Dutch Kilmarnock* cap on; wore it to keep his head warm; did not know that his party spiked up the guns.

Ordered, That the prisoners, *Josiah Burrell*, *Thomas Hains*, *and Isaac Gidney*, be remanded prisoners to the Barracks, and kept in safe and secure custody; and

Ordered, That the said *Josiah Burrell* and *Thomas Hains* be severally manacled and shackled, hands and feet, and strictly guarded until the further order of this Committee; and, in the interim, that no person be suffered to speak to them, or either of them, or to the said *Isaac Gidney*, but in the presence and hearing of the officer of the guard, and that no letter or paper writings be permitted to pass between either of the said prisoners and any other person, or persons, whomsoever, and that each of them be denied the use of pen, ink and paper.

Ordered, That Colonel *McDougall* see that this order be duly executed.

—

Die Sabbati, 10 ho. A. M., February 3, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Mr. *Joseph Hallett*, Chairman, Colonel *McDougall*, Mr. *Tredwell*, Mr. *Brewster*, Mr. *Clarke*, Mr. *Sands*, Mr. *Oothoudt*, Mr. *Scott*.

Colonel *McDougall* informed the Committee, that the Continental Congress have two pair of brass Field-Pieces here, but not entirely finished; that one pair of those Cannon are wanted, immediately, at the Camp, at *Cambridge;* that the Continental Guns are at least as good as those of this Colony; that it will forward the service to send off two of the brass Field-Pieces of this Colony, with their carriages, immediately, to be replaced by those now finishing for the Continent, if that should be agreeable to this Committee.

Thereupon this Committee freely consents that one pair of the brass Field-Pieces, with their carriages, be immediately forwarded to General *Washington*, in such manner as *Philip Livingston*, Esquire, shall think proper to direct.

A Letter from *Arondt Van Hook*, setting forth his merits, offering his service as a Captain in the Troops to be raised in this Colony, and a Letter from *Henry G. Livingston* and *William Smith Livingston*, recommending the said *Aaron Van Hook*, for his mental qualifications, were read and filed.

Messrs. *Garret Abeel*, *Patrick Dennis*, and *Abraham Brinckerhoff*, a sub-Committee of the City Committee, attended, and came into this Committee, and informed that a motion was yesterday evening made and seconded in their Committee, to delay the exportation of Flax-Seed, by

Smith Ramadge, who has purchased from *Nicholas Low* a privilege to export that article for *Ireland*, as part of the exports allowed for the Powder imported in a vessel of *Isaac Governeur's*, until the sense of the Continental Congress is known; that finally the City Committee had directed their sub-Committee to make inquiry on that subject, of all the Continental Delegates now in this city, and of this Committee of Safety. They, also, further inform, that Mr. *Harrison*, one of the Continental Delegates, had informed them that the Committee of *Philadelphia* had laid that matter before Congress very lately, but that no determination was given thereon when he left Congress.

The said sub-Committee further mentioned, as given to them in charge to inform this Committee, that their Committee have a sub-Committee to examine and inspect all exports; that sundry vessels are lading, and have been laded; that when called on by their Committee, the shippers only answer that they have leave of the Committee of Safety; by means whereof the Association may be eluded, and that attempts of that kind have been made.

Thereupon this Committee informed the sub-Committee that they would write to the Delegates of this Colony on the subject of the Flax-Seed, and

Ordered, That one of the Secretaries give a certificate to Messrs. *Bancker* and *Ray*, the sub-Committee of this City, for exports of the amount, in value, to which *Isaac Governeur's* consignatory is allowed to export produce, and that the like certificates be given by the Secretaries in any future cases of this kind.

Two Prisoners were brought to the door by several of the inhabitants, and were ordered to be brought in.

Thomas Vernon, one of the prisoners brought in.

Stephen Steel examined as witness, says, that last Summer, as he was returning at different times from training, this *Thomas Vernon* told him he hoped to see Light-Horse raised here, and that, as he had been formerly of such a corps, Governour *Tryon* would put him into the Light-Horse, and they would drive the *Americans;* that he has heard him often say he would take up arms against the *Americans* whenever he had an opportunity, and spoke of spilling their blood; that *Vernon* frequently goes on board of the ships-of-war; that since he was taken up and carried before the City Committee, he heard him, near Doctor *Jones's*, threaten the *Americans*, and very often speak against the *Americans*.

Thomas Vernon says, he went on board of the men-of-war by Governour *Tryon's* order, and was on board of them yesterday, and delivered two thousand oysters on board of each ship. *Vernon* says he will fight for either King or country, wherever he can get pay.

Stephen Steel further says, that *Vernon* was with his boat, at the off-side of the man-of-war, and laid alongside some time; that the man-of-war did not bring his boat to that evening, as she was returning to the city, though she brought the other boats to; that when he came on shore, *Vernon* acknowledged he had been on board, and said it was to carry his bedding on board. *Stephen Steel* further says, he saw sixty shot in his yard, and a boy told him afterwards that they were carried on board of the man-of-war, and that they were then gone out of his yard.

Lawrence Brasher, another witness, declares he has frequently, at different times, heard *Stephen Steel* declare the same facts about *Vernon* which he has now testified.

Guerney Ten Eyck: Says he was hired by *Thomas Vernon*, has been three days in the boat; that he assisted the said *Thomas Vernon*, and, by his order, to put two thousand oysters on board of the *Dutchess*, and two thousand on board of the *Asia*, and two thousand on board of the *Phenix;* that this was yesterday; that the night before last they lay with their boat alongside of the *Dutchess-of-Gordon*, and the ships' boats from the man-of-war came, and they delivered four thousand oysters on board of their boats; that yesterday *Vernon* with his boat went alongside of the different men-of-war; that he, the said *Guerney Ten Eyck*, went by order of *Vernon*, and hopes he is not culpable. *Ten Eyck* further says, that he did not know that the boat was to go on board of, or to the man-of-war, when he left the shore in the boat.

The prisoners were taken out.

Guerney Ten Eyck called in, was told from the Chair that if he is found going on board again he will be punished according to his demerits, as it is against a Resolution of Congress; that he be very careful, for the future, of his conduct.

He was, thereupon, discharged.

Ordered, That *Thomas Vernon* be conveyed to the Guard-House, at the Barracks, and that he be there confined in safe custody, and that he provide himself with provisions at his own expense, until the further order of this Committee.

—

Die Sabbati, 3 ho. P M., February 3, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Mr. *Joseph Hallett*, Chairman, Mr. *Scott*, Mr. *Brewster*, Colonel *Brasher*, Mr. *Tredwell*, Colonel *McDougall*, Mr. *Sands*, Mr. *Clarke*, Mr. *Oothoudt*.

Samuel Isleton, the pilot, returned from the *Hook*, and informs that he is just landed from the *Hook;* that about eleven o'clock, the day before yesterday, viz, on *Thursday* last, he saw a large ship off, about east-southeast from the light-house, twelve or fourteen leagues from the *Hook;* appeared so large that he took her for a man-of-war; that yesterday morning she lay at anchor without the outward middle; that yesterday afternoon about three or four o'clock, *Francis James's* pilot-boat came near said ship, and beat round under her lee, and, as he supposes, put a pilot on board; that the said pilot-boat beat round her several times, and about four o'clock the ship got under way, and came up within the middle, and came to an anchor about eight o'clock last night within the middle; that they saw a second large ship this morning, off about eight or nine leagues from the *Hook*, as he imagined; that the ship he left at anchor has bright sides and quarter-pieces, no head; has a mizen-topgallant yard across; does not appear deep loaded; that *James's* boat took the pilot out of the *Pennsylvania-Farmer* and proceeded to the ship; that *James's* boat came up yesterday and went down to-day; that the schooner *Tender* went down this morning with a pennant hoisted, and jack at bowsprit end; when the schooner came within a mile of the ship he hove her ensign out, and the ship hove her ensign out; that the schooner proceeded and anchored near the ship, and was there when he came away; that he met *James's* boat near the buoy, at the west bank, this day, as she was going down; that they heard one gun fired on their way up; *Killigrove*, or one of his company, carried out the *Farmer; Jack Squillion* was, also, taken out of Mr. *Lowther's* sloop by *James's* boat.

A draft of a Letter (at the request of *Philip Livingston*, Esq.,) to the Committee of *Stamford*, in *Connecticut*, was read and approved of, and is in the words following, to wit:

Gentlemen: By the bearers, whose names are underwritten, we send you two pieces of brass ordnance, with their carriages and harness, for the Continental service at *Cambridge*. Please to give a particular receipt for them to the bearers, and forward them with all possible expedition to General *Washington*, directing the persons by whom you forward them to take receipts for them as they deliver them.

We have been directed to forward them in carts or wagons, to prevent jarring the fellows of the wheels or injuring the carriages, and to forward them by land. It will be necessary to forward them by every means that will be most expeditious, and to take great care that the trunnions of the field-pieces are not broken or injured, nor the carriages defaced.

We are, respectfully, gentlemen, your very humble servants.

To the Committee for the Town of *Stamford, Connecticut.*

Mr. *Comfort Sands* informed the Committee that Mr. *John Ramsay* is willing to devote his whole time to manage and direct the manufacturing Linen and Tow-Cloth, and the employing the poor with the money put into his hands for that purpose, for five per cent. as a compensation for his trouble in the premises. The Committee are of opinion Mr. *Ramsay* is a very proper person for that business, and agrees to allow to him five per cent. for his trouble in the premises.

Ordered, That *Comfort Sands* purchase Wood in small parcels, as he may have opportunity, not to exceed, in the whole, the sum of fifty cords, and distribute the same among the very necessitous poor, and that he bring in the account to this Committee.

Ordered, That Mr. *John Foster* purchase all the good Tow-Cloth which he can procure, on account of the Provincial Congress of this Colony, not to exceed two shillings per yard in price, and that Mr. *Foster* send the same in small quantities, as fast as he can procure it, by safe conveyances, to Mr. *Peter T. Curtenius*, at *New-York*; and

Ordered, That *Peter Van Brugh Livingston*, Esq., as Treasurer of the Provincial Congress of this Colony, advance to Mr. *John Foster*, for the purchase of such Tow-Cloth, the sum of fifty pounds, upon account, and take Mr. *Foster's* receipt for the same.

—

Die Solis, 3 ho. P. M., February 4, 1776.

The Committee met on summons for that purpose.

Present: Mr. *Joseph Hallett*, Chairman, Mr. *Tredwell*, Mr. *Brewster*, Colonel *Brasher*, Mr. *Sands*, Mr. *Oothoudt*, Colonel *McDougall*. Mr. *Scott* came past four o'clock. Mr. *Clarke*, in ill health, came past six o'clock.

The Committee met on the account of the transport that came up into the harbour, and the report that the *Mercury* and two other transports are below.

A request in the words following was sent to the Honourable *Hugh Wallace:*

3 ho. P. M., February 4, 1776.

Sir: The Committee of Safety now met in the Assembly Chamber, at the City-Hall, present their compliments to the Honourable *Hugh Wallace*, and request the favour of him to call on the Committee as soon as possible.

A like request, *mutatis mutandis*, was sent to his Worship Mr. Mayor.

Ordered, That *John Atherton*, the pilot who was taken up by some of the inhabitants this morning, and sent to the Guard-House, be brought down for examination.

John Atherton being examined, says, in substance, that he went on board his boat to lodge; that some persons came on board of his boat, and took him on board of Governour *Tryon's* ship, and from thence on board of the armed schooner *Tender;* that he could not avoid piloting her down, and up again; that he did not pilot the ship *Sally*, or the transport Brigantine.

William Frundau, of the City of *New-York*, Branch Pilot: Says that two or three days he desired *John Atherton* and *Nicholas James* to draw their boat to the shore, and haul her up, and that he also desired *William Marriner* and *Robert Cocks* to speak to them, and give them the same advice; that they said the man-of-war had her in possession, and they could not do any thing with her; that he has very frequently seen the said *John Atherton* and *Nicholas James* going on board of the *Phenix*, and that they keep passing and repassing from the boat to the *Phenix* every day; that this morning he charged *John Atherton* that he went down with the schooner *Tender;* that *Atherton* at first denied it; that he, the examinant, said to *Atherton*, that he could prove it; that after some time, *Atherton* acknowledged that he had gone down with the schooner, and asked him what could he do, he would starve in the city without employ, and attempted to justify his conduct. That *Francis James* came, and took his clothes off the wharf, and has got his boat off, and told his sons there were two hundred men on board the brig, but that he, *Frundau*, thinks there are no troops on board; that the other day, after *Atherton* was sent to this Committee, after he returned, *Frundau* asked him, how he had settled with the Committee, and *Atherton* said he had clubbed with the Committee, and settled the account.

Mr. *Jacobus Van Zandt* came to visit the Committee; he then informed them that *Atherton* goes frequently on board of the *Phenix;* that he told him the other day he would not loose business, for any Committee, &c., &c. The substance of further particulars of Mr. *Von Zandt's* testimony could not be reduced to writing.

Ordered, That *Atherton* be sent back to the Guard-House.

The Honourable *Hugh Wallace* attended: Says he has not heard any thing but what he has heard on shore, as to any transports being below. That a Midshipman, who came with Captain *Parker* on board of the Governour's ship, told him the *Mercury* is below, and from *Boston*, in about a fortnight, and had letters on board for him. That a gentleman came on board of the *Dutchess*, with Captain *Parker;* the Governour was called out into *Harvey's* dining room; and that he, *Mr. Wallace*, was informed, that when that gentleman's cloak opened, he had red lapels; that he believes this brig is from *Boston*, and a transport; that he heard the address of the House of Commons read; that it re-echoes the King's speech; that he intends to go on board of the Governour's ship this afternoon; and has promised some gentlemen on the bridge that if he hears any thing of importance to the city, will inform of it.

Mr. Mayor: Says that he has not heard any thing but what he heard on the bridge; that he should have waited on the Governour, but that the Governour has sent him a card, requesting him to wait on him to-morrow; that if he hears of any thing necessary for the safety of the city, he will make the best use of it.

William Fundrau is directed to proceed immediately to the *Narrows*, and to take a trusty person with him, who can ride, and with a good spy-glass; that he stay at *Cortelyou's*, and that, on sight of any fleet, he immediately despatch his rider, with information, to this Committee; and a proper signal to be made in the day, and, also, a proper signal to be made in the night, in case the weather should not permit to cross the ferry immediately, were fixed on with the said *Fundrau*.

Samuel Isleton, the pilot, was, also, called in, and directed to proceed immediately, with the whale-boat, and his oarsmen to the *Hook*, and to keep the best look-out if any fleet is approaching; and to examine, if any fleet appears, whether there are any troops on board, and to give the most immediate notice of his discoveries to this Committee. *Samuel Isleton* is to tarry one week, if no fleet appears sooner; is to have the same pay as before, to wit, ten shillings a day for himself, and eight shillings a day for each of his men. They are to find their own provisions, and bear their own expense.

Colonel *McDougall* went to wait on General *Lee*, and to form an arrangement of duty for the night.

Mr. *Jacobus Van Zandt* came into the Committee, and informed them that he has good information, and to be relied on, that General *Clinton* is come; but, whether it was General *Clinton*, or his Aid-de-camp, who came on board of the Governour's ship, he has not yet discovered.

Philip Livingston returned to the Committee, with Messrs. *Harrison*, *Lynch*, and *Allen*, the Committee of the Continental Congress. After a short conversation on the present state of the city, and the intelligence received,

Ordered, That the Letter from General *Washington*, of the 8th of *January* last, be read.

And the same was read accordingly.

Thereupon, the Committee from the Continental Congress, together with *Philip Livingston*, Esq., from Continental Congress, and *John M. Scott*, Esq., from this Committee, and Mr. *Hobart*, of the Provincial Congress, departed to wait on Major-General *Lee*, and confer with him on the present situation of affairs, and an arrangement for the evening.

Mr. Mayor came into the Committee, and informed that the Governour had sent for him; that he waited on the Governour, and saw General *Clinton* there; that he is authorized by the Governour to assure the inhabitants that no troops are coming here; General *Clinton* declared the same; that the Governour said General *Clinton* called to pay him a short visit; that if any transports with troops should, by accident, or stress of weather, put in here, they are not intended to remain here.

Colonel *Brasher* was despatched to inform General *Lee*, and the gentlemen there assembled, of the information received from his Worship the Mayor.

Messrs. *Scott* and *McDougall* returned, separately, from General *Lee;* Colonel *McDougall* informed the Committee, that the arrangement of the duty and guard for the night is settled by General *Lee*, and that he has delivered the same to the Town-Major.

The Committee conceive it necessary to inform the Con-

tinental Congress, through the *New-York* Delegates, of General *Lee's* arrival, and of the arrival of the transports, and General *Clinton*, of the Ministerial troops.

Thereupon, a draft of a Letter to the Delegates of the Colony of *New-York*, was read and approved, and is in the words following, to wit:

GENTLEMEN: We think it our duty to inform the Continental Congress, through you, that General *Clinton*, of the Ministerial troops, and one transport, are this day arrived here, but we do not know that she contains any troops; that the *Mercury*, ship-of-war, is near *Nutten-Island*, coming into port. We are well informed that those vessels left *Boston* not more than fourteen days ago.

The Mayor has, this evening, declared to us, that he was then come from Governour *Tryon*, and is authorized by the Governour to assure the inhabitants that no troops are coming here; that General *Clinton* was present, and said that no troops are coming here; that Governour *Tryon* further told him, that General *Clinton* had only called to pay him a short visit; that if any transport, with troops, should, by accident, or stress of weather, put in here, they are not intended to remain here. We do not rely on this information, but if it be true, we conceive that the most natural conclusion is that he is going to the southward.

Major-General *Lee* is arrived here this day, ill with the gout. He has about seven hundred men now here, and has sent over for Lord *Stirling's* Regiment.

We are, most respectfully, gentlemen, your obedient, humble servants. By order.

The Colonels and Lieutenant-Colonels of three Regiments, of the city, being assembled, near the Hall, were requested to come into the Committee. After some conversation on the state of their respective regiments, they were requested and directed to call out their respective regiments to-morrow, to know the state and number of their arms, and of the men, in their respective regiments, fit for duty, and to enable them to make proper returns to this Committee.

Thereupon, *Ordered further*, That Colonel *Curtenius* be directed, and he is hereby directed, to deliver to the Colonels of the regiments of the Militia of this city, respectively, so many Flints as will enable them to provide each man in their respective regiments with three Flints.

And *Ordered*, That the Colonels, respectively, do, at their discretion, distribute three Flints to each such man, in their respective regiments, as they may think ought to be supplied therewith.

The Committee of Safety being informed that the First Battalion of the city of *New-York* is on duty this night, and considering that they cannot want the assistance of Lieutenant-Colonel *Brasher* to-morrow, and that he must attend the Committee sooner than usual, and having entire confidence in the other Field-Officers of that battalion, as equal to any emergency, the Committee enjoin Lieutenant-Colonel *Brasher* that he do not attend duty with his regiment this night.

—

10 ho. A. M., February 5, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Mr. *Joseph Hallett*, Chairman, Mr. *Scott*, Colonel *Brasher*, Mr. *Brewster*, Mr. *Tredwell*, Colonel *McDougall*, Mr. *Sands*, Mr. *Oothoudt*.

The Committee sent Mr. *McKesson*, one of their Secretaries, to inform Messrs. *Harrison*, *Lynch*, and *Allen*, the Committee of Congress, that they conceive, that as General *Lee* is to remove this morning, that it may be most agreeable to his situation to wait on him at three o'clock, or after, but that the Committee are ready to attend the General, and those gentlemen, at any hour.

The Secretary returned, and informed the Committee of Safety that the Committee of Congress would prefer the morning to wait on General *Lee*, and requests the Committee of Safety to send to General *Lee*, to know when he can receive them. The Committee of Congress request an express to be furnished to them to proceed immediately to *Philadelphia*.

Ordered, That the Doorkeeper go immediately and procure an Express; and.

Ordered, That Mr. *Benson*, one of the Secretaries, wait on General *Lee*, and know when it will be convenient for him to receive the Committee of Congress and this Committee.

Mr. *Benson* returned, and informed that he found General *Lee* in bed, and not yet removed; but that he said he would be taken out of bed, and be ready to receive both Committees in an hour.

Ordered, That Mr. *Benson* inform the Committee of Congress thereof.

John Lamb, the cartman, being here, ready to go express to *Philadelphia*, at the request of the Committee of Congress, was sent to the gentlemen of that Committee, (with Mr. *Benson*,) to receive their despatches. He returned with the despatches, and the Committee of Safety having nothing to transmit, he was ordered to proceed with all possible despatch.

The Committee being informed that Messrs. *Joseph Jadwin* and *Gilbert Giles* are going to *Albany*, and several of the Members being well acquainted with those gentlemen, believe them prudent and trusty, and very proper persons to take the care of and convey the money, designed for the use of the *Canadian* Regiment, to General *Schuyler*.

Therefore, *Ordered*, That *Peter V. B. Livingston*, Esquire, as Treasurer of the Provincial Congress of this Colony, or his Deputy, deliver to Messrs. *Joseph Jadwin* and *Gilbert Giles* the sum of twelve thousand five hundred dollars, and take their receipt for the same, to be conveyed to General *Schuyler*, for the use of the *Canadian* Regiment, and that they convey the same, with the greatest watchfulness, care and attention, and deliver the same to General *Schuyler*.

The Committee of the Continental Congress having called on the Committee of Safety, they proceeded to wait on General *Lee*. After some considerable time spent with General *Lee* in conference, General *Lee* informed the other gentlemen that Mr. *Smith*, the Engineer, had been out to view the ground about *Horn's Hook*, and that he is now gone to *Long-Island* for the same purpose. General *Lee*, also, proposed to go, to-morrow, to view *Hellgate;* and, thereupon, the conference was adjourned, till to-morrow evening.

—

5 ho. P. M., Die Lunæ, February 5, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Mr. *Joseph Hallett*, Chairman, Colonel *McDougall*, Mr. *Scott*, Colonel *Brasher*, Mr. *Tredwell*, Mr. *Brewster*, Mr. *Oothoudt*, Mr. *Sands*.

A Letter from *William Smith*, Esq., Chairman of the Committee of *Suffolk* County, was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"Suffolk County, January 24, 1776.

"GENTLEMEN: In pursuance to your order, we have appointed the Field-Officers for the Minute-Men in this County, and, also, the officers for the Artillery company; which companies, we trust, will be some security to this County, at the same time this Committee beg leave to mention, that the Militia of this County but little exceeds two thousand. The great exposedness of the east end, and the extensiveness of the County, induces us to desire such number of Continental troops may be stationed here as the Congress in their wisdom shall judge necessary; we make no doubt the Continent proposes to protect and defend this Island, and hope you will use your endeavours that a sufficient force may be posted here for that purpose.

"We have a number of poor men in this County, who are good soldiers, and friends to the cause, and would be glad to inlist as Minute-Men, but have no guns; we should be glad to know if a number can be procured at the publick expense, for such persons as are unable to purchase them.

"The situation of this County in many parts makes it extremely difficult to raise and train the Minute-Men; they complain they are not sufficiently paid, considering the great distance they have to travel, many eight, ten, and twelve miles, and that on foot, to exercise. The officers, also, on the same account, are at considerable expense, besides the expense raising their companies, and pray they may be considered. By order of the Committee:

"WILLIAM SMITH, *Chairman*.

"To the Honourable Provincial Congress, *New-York*."

"A list of the Officers of the Minute-Men approved and chosen by the County Committee:

"*Josiah Smith*, Colonel; *John Hulbert*, Second Colonel; *Isaac Reeve*, First Major; *Jonathan Baker*, Second Major; *Isaac Overton*, Adjutant; *Ebenezer Dayton*, Quartermaster.

"Officers of the Artillery: *William Rogers*, Captain; *John Franks*, Captain-Lieutenant; *Jeremiah Rogers*, First Lieutenant; *Thomas Baker*, Second Lieutenant; *John Tuthill*, Lieutenant Fire-Worker.

"By order of the Committee:

"WILLIAM SMITH, *Chairman.*"

Ordered, That Commissions issue for the gentlemen therein named, and that the residue of that Letter remain for the consideration of the Provincial Congress.

[Commissions issued, dated *February* 20, 1776.]

—

Die Martis, 10 ho. A. M., February 6, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Mr. *Joseph Hallett*, Chairman, Mr. *Scott*, Colonel *McDougall*, Colonel *Brasher*, Mr. *Sands*, Mr. *Tredwell*, Mr. *Oothoudt*, Colonel *Pierre Van Cortlandt*.

A Letter from Lord *Stirling*, sent by a Corporal of his Troops, was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"Elizabethtown, February 5, 1776.

"SIR: By the powder ordered for us by the Continental Congress not being yet arrived at this place, I am under the necessity of asking the favour of the *New-York* Committee of Safety to send five thousand cartridges, (of the size of the *New-Jersey* Provincial arms,) to *Paulus-Hook*, to be there by ten o'clock, to-morrow morning.

"I am, sir, your most humble servant, "STIRLING.

"To the Chairman of the Committee of Safety, *New-York.*"

Thereupon, a draft of a Letter to Lord *Stirling*, in answer to his Letter, was read and approved of, and is in the words following, to wit:

MY LORD: We are favoured with your letter of yesterday. We have examined the bearer, and cannot discover the bore of the arms of your troops, or the size of the cartridges that would be useful for them. We are informed that your troops are at present supplied with six rounds each.

If, sir, you will direct a cartridge of the size necessary for your troops to be sent over to us as a sample, we will send you the number desired, if so many of that size we have, or can procure.

We have the honour to be, with the highest respect and esteem, my Lord, your Lordship's most humble servants.

By order of the Committee.

Two of the Members being necessarily obliged to go out with Major-General *Lee*, on business of importance, for want of a sufficient number of Members to form a quorum, no material business could be done, and the Committee adjourned.

As soon as the Committee could form a quorum in the afternoon, they were requested to attend a conference at Major-General *Lee's*.

At a Conference held at Major-General *Lee's*, in *New-York*, *February* 6, 1776:

Present: Colonel *Harrison*, Mr. *Lynch*, Mr. *Allen*, a Committee of the honourable Continental Congress.

Major-General *Lee*, of the Continental Army.

Mr. *Hallett*, Mr. *Scott*, Mr. *Tredwell*, Mr. *Oothoudt*, Colonel *McDougall*, Colonel *Brasher*, Colonel *Van Cortlandt*, of the Committee of Safety of *New-York*.

It is the opinion of the gentlemen present—

First. That a secure, fortified lodgment, for the troops that now are, or may hereafter be at the city of *New-York*, should be made at such place or places as Major-General *Lee*, or such other Continental officer as may command here, shall think most proper for preventing the Ministerial troops from taking possession of this city.

That to the same end, as well as for the protection of *Nassau-Island*:

Second. Such intrenched Encampment, and such other works should be made on *Nassau-Island*, and at such place, or places, on that Island, as Major-General *Lee*, or such other Continental officer as may command at *New-York*, shall think necessary.

And that for the purposes aforesaid:

Third. Such works should be erected near *Hellgate* as will entirely secure that pass.

Memorandum.—The Committee of Safety at *New-York* are informed by Colonel *Pierre Van Cortlandt*, one of their members, that the Powder-Mill of the late Judge *Livingston* is now re-erected in the completest order for manufacturing Gunpowder, and that a proper manufacturer and workmen are there attending. But that the manufacturer proposes to depart soon unless Saltpetre can be procured.

The Committee of Safety conceive, that if there is Saltpetre at *Philadelphia* it might safely be conveyed through *New-Jersey* to *New-Windsor*, *Kingston*, or any part on *Hudson's River*, and are humbly of opinion that, at this critical juncture, every opportunity of manufacturing Gunpowder should be embraced.

By order of the Committee of Safety:

JOHN MCKESSON, *Secretary.*

N. B. There is a large quantity of Sulphur deposited near the said Powder-Mill.

Ordered, That Mr. *John McKesson* deliver a certified copy of the matters of this conference to the Committee of the honourable Continental Congress, and receive from those gentlemen a copy of the Resolutions of Congress, which those gentlemen have as credentials, and which they have proposed to deliver.

The Committee of Safety returned to the Assembly Chamber in the City-Hall, and, afterwards, adjourned.

—

Die Mercurii, 10 ho. A. M., February 7, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *Joseph Hallett*, Esq., Chairman, Mr. *Scott*, Colonel *Cortlandt*, Mr. *Tredwell*, Mr. *Sands*, Colonel *Brasher*, Mr. *Oothoudt*, and many Members of the Provincial Congress, but not Members sufficient to make a Congress.

Mr. *Samuel Franklin* informed the Committee and the Members of Congress present, that his ship *Sally*, loaded with salt, and in the custody of Captain *Parker*, or his order, is in great danger from the ice. That Captain *Parker* is willing that he should cause the said ship *Sally* to be brought to *Lupton's* wharf, on his giving security to have her kept safe and returned to Captain *Parker* on his request; and Mr. *Franklin* requested the advice and direction of the Committee of Safety in that matter. Mr. *Franklin* withdrew.

After some time spent thereon, the Committee of Safety and the Members of Congress are of opinion that they ought not to give any directions therein to Mr. *Franklin*, for which they assigned to him their reasons.

The Committee of Safety adjourned to *Simmons's*, without separating.

A Message was sent to *Samuel Bayard*, Jun., Esq., and *Augustus Van Cortlandt*, Esq., respectfully requesting them respectively to attend this Committee.

Samuel Bayard, Jun., Esq., attended the Committee. He was informed that this Committee, and the inhabitants in general, are of opinion that the Records of the Colony under his care are in danger in their present situation, and that they ought to be removed to a place of safety under the care and direction of Mr. *Bayard*. That there is not any intention to take the Records out of his care and protection.

Mr. *Bayard* was asked if he had any place for that purpose in view, and was informed that he would consider of this matter till to-morrow noon, and advise with his friends, and request the direction of his Excellency the Governour and the Council, if he thought it necessary, and inform the result to this Committee, to-morrow at noon.

A Letter of this morning, from *Henry Remsen*, Esq., Chairman of the Committee of the City, was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"Wednesday Morning.

"SIR: I have, this morning, had an application for a permit to send on board the *Asia* two hogsheads of spirits, two dozen of coffee, and one dozen of chocolate, I beg

leave, by your means, to receive the sense of the Committee of Safety on this matter, to serve as a guide in future applications of the same nature.

"A Mr. *Serle* applied last evening to the City Committee for a pass to go on board the *Dutchess of Gordon*, under pretence of procuring a patent for lands, but on examining him, he discovered an intimate knowledge of Colonel *Warner's* proceedings in raising men to march into *Canada*, and the proceedings of the townships in the northern parts of this and *Boston* Governments. He is to call for an answer this day, and many of our Committee were of opinion that it was not advisable to grant him a permit without leave from our superiors.

"I am, respectfully, sir, your most obedient servant,

"HENRY REMSEN.

"To *Joseph Hallett*, Esq.

"P. S. I cannot wait on you in person, being detained by several people."

A draft of an answer to *Henry Remsen*, Esq., was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

SIR: We are, this morning, favoured with your letter. We are much at a loss to conjecture by whose means an application was made to you for supplying the ship *Asia* with the stores mentioned in your letter, as all supplies for the ships stationed here have hitherto been made by order of the Provincial Congress, or the Committee of Safety in pursuance of their order, and through *Abram Lott*, Esq.

We could more readily form a judgment on this matter if we knew by whom the application was made. We, therefore, delay giving our sentiments on this subject until we hear further from you.

We highly approve of your having refused permission to Mr. *Serle* to go on board of the *Dutchess*, and we wish the City Committee would give such effectual directions as that he might be prevented from going on board.

We are, most respectfully, sir, your most obedient, humble servants. By order of the Committee.

To *John Remsen*, Esq., present.

Ordered, That a copy thereof be engrossed, and signed by the Chairman, and transmitted.

Mr. *John Cozine*, Deputy to *Augustus Van Cortlandt*, Esq., the Town Clerk, on behalf of Mr. *Van Cortlandt*, waited on the Committee of Safety. He informed the Committee that all the Records of the Town Clerk's office, are, for the present, removed to a proper place for that purpose, at the *Yonkers*, in *Westchester* County; which is satisfactory to the Committee of Safety.

—

4 ho. P. M., February 7, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *Joseph Hallett*, Esquire, Chairman, Colonel *McDougall*, Colonel *Van Cortlandt*, Colonel *Brasher*, Mr. *Tredwell*, Mr. *Oothoudt*, Mr. *Sands*. Mr. *Scott*, a little before the Committee adjourned.*

Ordered, That Colonel *Curtenius*, as Commissary of the Provincial Congress of this Colony, procure three Medicine-Chests for the Regiments to be raised in this Colony, and that Doctor *John Jones* and Doctor *Treat* be requested to give an inventory of the Medicines and Instruments necessary for each of the said Medicine-Chests, and that those gentlemen be further requested to give proper directions that the said Instruments be good, and such as they shall approve of, and to see that the said Instruments and Medicines, respectively, be good of their kinds and qualities.

A Return of *Gilbert Potter*, Chairman of the Committee of *Huntington*, was read and filed.

It is thereby certified that *Stephen Kelly* and *Ebenezer Platt*, two of the Committee, had inspected the election of Officers, at *Cow-Harbour*, the Fifth Company of *Huntington*. That *Platt Veal* was chosen Captain; *Michael Heart* was chosen First Lieutenant; *Isaac Dennis*, Second Lieutenant, and *Jacob Concklin*, Ensign.

Another Return, of *Thomas Weeks* and *Jesse Brush*, two of the Committee of *Huntington*, was read and filed.

They thereby certify that, upon due notification, the following gentlemen were duly elected, according to the Resolves of Congress, to wit: *John Buffett*, Captain; *Isaac Thompson*, First Lieutenant; *Zebulon Ketchum*, Second Lieutenant, and *Joseph Ketchum*, Ensign.

Commissions issued accordingly.

—

A. M., February 8, 1776.

Present: *Pierre Van Cortlandt*, Esq., Chairman, Mr. *Tredwell*, Mr. *Sands*, Mr. *Oothoudt*, Mr. *M. Graham*.

Samuel Bayard, Jun., Esq, agreeable to the proposal of yesterday, that he should consider of removing the Records, consult his friends, and the Governour and Council, if he thought necessary, and report the result this day at noon, called on the Committee. Mr. *Bayard* informed the Committee that he had waited on Governour *Tryon* yesterday, and informed him that the Committee were of opinion that the Records of the Colony were unsafe in their present situation, and ought to be removed to a place of safety, and were willing that his Excellency should give order therein for their removal to a place of safety. That his Excellency replied, that he did not conceive the Records were in any danger, unless there was an intention to annoy His Majesty's ships in the harbour, or remove the artillery, but that if either of these matters were in contemplation, his Excellency was willing to charter any ship in the harbour, and deposit the records therein, and that they should be kept there in safety for the publick, and should not receive any injury from the King's ships; but that he would not assent to their removal from their present situation, to any place on shore, as he did not conceive there was any other place of greater security.

—

4 ho. P. M., Die Jovis, February 8, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *Pierre Van Cortlandt*, Esq., Chairman, Colonel *McDougall*, Colonel *Brasher*, Mr. *Tredwell*, Mr. *Sands*, Mr. *Oothoudt*, Mr. *M. Graham*.

The Committee were informed by a Member that Major-General *Lee* stands in present need of some cash for the Continental Troops, and requests the Committee of Safety to advance him some money on Continental account.

Thereupon, *Ordered*, That *Peter V. B. Livingston*, Esq., as Treasurer of the Provincial Congress of this

* *The Petition of* JOHN PELL *to the Provincial Congress for the City and Province of* NEW-YORK, *showeth:*

That your petitioner has been under the necessity of removing his family (of which he has a large one) out of this city at this critical juncture; that his wife is in a poor state of health, and cannot dispense with his presence, as she is incapable to provide for herself and family among strangers, without your petitioner. This is, therefore, to beg of this honourable Board, that they will permit their petitioner to take with him a small parcel of salt, which he has on hand, about three or four hundred bushels, as it will be attended with great inconvenience and expense to your petitioner, to attend the sale of so inconsiderable a quantity of salt, you petitioner having no other business in this city at present.

JOHN PELL.

NEW-YORK, *February* 7, 1776.

To the Honourable the Committee of Safety for the City of NEW-YORK, *the humble Petition of* MARGARET GRAHAM, *of the said City, humbly showeth:*

That your petitioner's husband now lies a prisoner in the Barracks of this city, afflicted with a most inveterate indisposition of body; add to this, his being surrounded with a part of His Honour General *Lee's* troops. Your Honours well know his situation renders him obnoxious to severe and sharp invectives from them. What from his company, and from his weakly and disordered habit of body, he is now brought to a truly deplorable state—to a state of the most striking and poignant despondency! His indisposition of body can be evinced to your Honours by Doctor *William Brownjohn*, if necessary. Indeed, his case is truly affecting! His life is now almost insupportable to him. I daily convey provisions to him, but am prohibited from any conference with him; however, I sometimes break through bounds, impelled by conjugal affection, and endeavour to sooth his affliction. But, alas! it is all in vain! He raises his head, views me with wild anxiety—with horror and despair imprinted on his face. I am ordered away, severely reprimanded, my heart rent with anguish, to see the partner of my life reduced to—good *God*, I cannot describe to what—I want words—sorrow drowns me. Your Honours, in alleviating the distress which now envelopes my poor emaciated husband, and myself, by either ordering him to be removed to the common jail of this city, or admitting him to bail, will ever have the prayers of a distressed woman, the plaudits of all the great and good, the admiration of the humane, and the approbation of the just *God*, who delighteth in mercy. I can assure your Honours, that if my poor husband is not soon relieved from his complicated calamities, he cannot, in my opinion, survive many days. In such case, your petitioner would be miserable beyond description.

Your Honours, in taking the premises into consideration, and granting the prayer of your petitioner, will lay your petitioner, and her poor husband, under the greatest of obligations possible. And your petitioner, as in duty bound, shall forever pray.

MARGARET GRAHAM.

NEW-YORK, *February* 7, 1776.

Colony, advance one thousand dollars to Major-General *Lee*, on account of the Continental Congress, and that Mr. *Livingston* take Major-General *Lee's* receipt for the same.

A Letter from Major-General *Schuyler*, of 25th *January*, was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"Albany, January 25, 1776.

"SIR: I am honoured with your letters of the 11th and 17th instant. Your observations in the first, respecting the Paymaster, appear to me to be founded in error. The Paymaster-General's duty is to receive money from the Treasury, and to issue that money upon my warrant. He has it not in his power to issue a single farthing without such a warrant; so that, if he was with you, you would be under the necessity of an equal trouble in the applications, and I could only grant money for expenditures immediately connected with the Army. Hence, you see that the attendance of such a Paymaster at *New-York* would avail you little.

"The resolutions of Congress, copy of which you enclosed in yours of the 17th, I had already before received from Mr. *Hancock*. By the resolution respecting the provisions and stores to be sent to *Fort-George*, I cannot believe Congress intended any thing more than that you should supply me with what I might want, on application. The almost impossibility of sending a large quantity from *New-York* to *Fort-George*, at this season, will countenance this construction.

"The resolutions for sending up shipwrights to build batteaus appears to me to have proceeded from a want of information. I have requested Congress to countermand this order, and have given the following reasons: that one *Albany* shipwright will do nearly as much at that kind of work as two that are not accustomed to it; and I can also make them work early and late, which the others will not: besides, there will be a great saving in the travelling charges. You will, therefore, please not to send me any until I apply for them. I can easily conceive that it is very difficult at *New-York* for artificers to procure a subsistence for their families; the like difficulty prevails here.

"I shall write to Congress, by this post, respecting the batteaumen. Before your letter came to hand, I conceived that I was to have issued orders for engaging them.

"I expect soon to hear from Congress on the subject of the Naval Department, and shall then, unless I am otherwise ordered, apply to you for seamen.

"Be assured, sir, that I shall at all times, with the greatest alacrity, consent to any requisition you may be pleased to make, provided I can do it consistent with my duty. Beyond that I know you will never wish me to go.

"I am, sir, with the most respectful sentiments, yours and the Committee's most obedient, humble servant,

"PHILIP SCHUYLER.

"To *Pierre Van Cortlandt*, Esq., Chairman of the Committee of Safety, *New-York*."

A Letter from Colonel *Ritzema*, dated at *Montreal*, the 3d of *January*, was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"Montreal, January 3, 1776.

"DEAR SIR: This morning we experienced a sad reverse of fortune. Mr. *Antill* arrived here, express from *Quebeck*, with the following intelligence: That General *Montgomery*, on the 31st ultimo, between the hours of five and seven in the morning, after a previous disposition of his small army, made two attacks upon the lower town, under a feigned one upon the upper. The first was conducted by one Captain *Browne*, with ninety-four men, one of the real attacks by the General himself, at or below *Cape-Diamond*, with four hundred and sixty-six men, and the other by Colonel *Arnold*, with the men he brought with him by the way of *Kennebeck*, and *Lamb's* Artillery company, amounting to five hundred and sixty men, through *St. Roque's*, at the other end of the town. The General forced his way through the first picket or barrier, without receiving a shot. At the next, which, if he had also forced, would have given him a free passage into the town, he was received with a heavy fire of musketry and two field-pieces, which caused his troops to fall back in disorder. The General, while he was endeavouring to rally these dastardly scoundrels, received his *coup-de-grave*, as did also his Aids-de-camp, *Macpherson* and Captain *Cheeseman*, of my regiment. Thus fell one worthy and brave General. Weep, *America*, for thou hast lost one of thy most virtuous and bravest sons! When the General was missing, though the surviving officers exerted themselves to the utmost, they found it in vain to attempt bringing the men to a charge, which induced Colonel *Campbell* to bring them off. Colonel *Arnold*, with his party, passed the *St. Roque's*, and approached near a two-gun battery, well picketed in, without being discovered. His men forced the pickets, and carried the battery, after an hour's resistance. In the attack, the Colonel was shot through the leg, and was obliged to be carried off, after gaining the battery. His detachment pushed on to a second barrier, running from *Limeburner's* Wharf, in the lower town, which they possessed themselves of, where they now maintain themselves in the houses, without any possibility of being supported; so that they must either carry the lower town, be made prisoners, or be cut to pieces.

"This, sir, is all the account we have hitherto received of this disastrous event. We are momently under the utmost anxiety of mind, expecting to hear the fate of those brave men. *God* grant it may be happy.

"Our misfortune is, in a great measure, owing to the anxiety some of the troops were under of returning home, they having declared (*Arnold's* men) that they would remain no longer than to the 1st of this month, for which time they were engaged, which obliged the General to precipitate matters, and to change his intended mode of attack, which was to have attacked the upper and lower towns at the same time: the main attack to be upon the upper, which it was impossible for him to effect at that juncture, from the notice the enemy had of his intention, by deserters from us. This, I trust, will be a warning to *America* not to inlist men for any limited time, but for so long a time as they shall be wanted. No man, but one, in the service, can be sensible how fatal this limitation of time is to all military operations. Before the soldiers can be in any wise disciplined, their time of service is expired, and as that approaches they become mutinous and disobedient. I will venture to say that, unless a change takes place in this respect, *America* must fall a sacrifice to her enemies. Without discipline, no obedience; without obedience, no duty. In short, discipline gives confidence, and is the very soul of an army.

"Two months have now elapsed since we have had the least intelligence from the southward. General *Montgomery*, before he set out for *Quebeck*, acquainted the Continental Congress and his friends in *New-York* with our then miserable situation. The troops in general going home, those who remained naked and without clothing, and not a farthing to pay them with, I myself, at the General's instance, acquainted Colonel *McDougall* with our weak state, and pressed him, with all the rhetorick I was master of, to exert himself to the utmost that we not only had money sent us to pay the troops, but men to reinforce our different garrisons, and augment the army. Our few *English* friends have been stripped of their money and goods, to clothe the men, and pay them their wages, in part. *French* friends, to assist us, we have none. The peasantry are, in general, at present, for us, but I believe from no other motive than that we are the strongest side. Some few may be attached to us from principle; sure I am the majority are not, and would, on the least reverse, as soon take arms against as for us. We are now in a wretched plight: our excellent General dead and defeated; a great probability that the flower of his army is cut to pieces; our garrisons weak and feeble, not able to spare a man for the assistance of our friends; the soldiers mutinous, and with little discipline; not a sous to pay them with, which makes them so, and (shall I say it?) no one capable to command them. For *God's* sake, sir, exert yourself. I have exaggerated nothing. Let us have men and money; otherwise, by Heavens, *Canada* is lost. Cast about for a General to command us. He must be a military man, of sound intellects, and an affable deportment. General *Lee*, in my opinion, is the man. I speak my sentiments freely. I mean to give no offence, nor to attack the character of any gentleman; but what I say proceeds from a real regard for the welfare of my country.

"I have more to write, but, as the express is going off,

I am obliged to stop. Pray be so kind as to remember me to my father, and acquaint him that I continue in health. Desire him, if there is no probability of a peace, that he gives up my house.

"I am, sir, with esteem, your humble servant,

"Rudolphus Ritzema.

"P. S. Though I have taken the liberty of addressing these lines to you, I shall be glad you would communicate it to our friends in Congress."

A Letter from Colonel *Ritzema*, dated at *Montreal*, on the 5th of *January*, was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"Montreal, January 5, 1776.

"Dear Sir: I acquainted you the 3d instant, with the disastrous event at *Quebeck;* the fate of *Arnold's* detachment is determined: it was obliged to surrender at discretion—thus, the madness of one man has nearly ruined our cause in this country, to which our worthy General has fallen a sacrifice. For *God's* sake let us have men and money, and, above all, a General, that we may take the town before the enemy can come to its relief, and relieve our worthy brethren in it.

"Pray be so kind as to inform Judge *Livingston* of the death of General *Montgomery:* he was shot through the head and both his thighs. General *Carleton* buried him with military honours, as, also, *Macpherson* and *Cheeseman*. The enemy has taken all the artillery we had before *Quebeck*, and I am very apprehensive, if they make a sortie, that they will either cut to pieces, or take prisoners the rest of the Army there, it being impossible for us to send them any assistance from hence: if we should do it, we hazard all we have done the last Summer. The most that can be expected from us, is to maintain our ground here, and keep a watchful eye towards the *Canadians;* this we are bent upon doing, till succour arrives, be the consequence what it may to ourselves. Our garrison does not exceed four hundred effective men—a small number to awe such a country as this.

"I am, sir, with respect, your very humble servant,

"Rudolphus Ritzema.

"To *Peter V. B. Livingston*, Esq., or, in his absence, to the President of the Provincial Congress, *New-York.*"

A Letter from *John R. Livingston*, dated *January* 27th, was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"Clare-Mont, January 27, 1776.

"Sir: Some time since, I received a letter from Mr. *Van Cortlandt*, President of the Committee of Safety, during the recess of Congress, desiring that the powder-mill might again be built, as it was, in some measure, of publick utility. I have, accordingly, pushed the building of it, and am now happy to inform you that it is finished; but are, notwithstanding, still obliged to be idle, for want of saltpetre. As there is a large quantity of that article arrived at *Philadelphia*, should think myself under obligations, if you would procure a part of it, to be sent across the country to the mill, which may easily be effected, as great part of the way they will have snow.

"I remain, sir, your most obedient servant,

"John R. Livingston.

"The President of the Honourable the Provincial Congress, sitting at *New-York.*"

Ordered, That the Secretaries prepare a copy of the Letter from *John R. Livingston*, relating to his Powder-Mill, and transmit the same to the Delegates of this Colony at Congress.

A Letter from *William Floyd*, Esq., one of the Delegates of this Colony at Congress, dated the 5th instant, was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"Philadelphia, February 5, 1776.

"Sir: I forwarded, by Mr. *Lynch* and Mr. *Allen*, a sum of money to the honourable Committee of Safety, with a few lines, advising what that money was intended for; and by your letter to us, wherein you mention you would forward it to General *Schuyler*, and the small sum to the Marine Committee, I fear our letter must have been misunderstood; therefore, I trouble you with this. The forty thousand dollars was for Mr. *Lewis*, from the Marine Committee; the twelve thousand five hundred dollars, for the raising the Battalion for *Canada*, and the small sum of one hundred and some odd dollars, were sent to Mr. *Lewis*, to pay off some accounts charged against the Rifle companies, in passing through our Province. I hope it is not yet otherwise disposed of; if it is, it may impede Mr. *Lewis's* proceeding agreeable to his directions.

"I am, with the greatest respect, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

"William Floyd.

"To the Honourable Congress, or Committee of Safety, *New-York.*

"P. S. If it is not sent off, please deliver it to Mr. *Lewis's* son."

A Letter from *Thomas Thomas*, Esq., Chairman of a Committee at the *White-Plains*, dated *January* 25th, was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"Committee Chamber, White Plains, January 25, 1776.

"Sir: We received your favour of the 8th instant, respecting the powder sent for the use of the County, and observed its contents. Are sensible of the propriety of our County's being furnished with that article, and beg that you, in your wisdom, would order that it be a Provincial charge; for we conceive it to be extremely hard, as we are a frontier County, that we should purchase ammunition, and expend it to the advantage of the Province in general. As to disposing of it to individuals, many, that will take an active part, are not able to purchase it; and, we will see that it be deposited into discreet hands, to be distributed, when necessary, to be used in the defence of the liberties of the country.

"I am, respectfully, sir, your most obedient servant,

"Signed by order of the Committee.

"Thomas Thomas, *Chairman.*"

—

Die Veneris, 10 ho. A. M., February 9, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Mr. *Tredwell*, Mr. *M. Graham*, Mr. *Oothoudt*, Colonel *McDougall*, Mr. *Sands*, Colonel *Brasher*.

Colonel *McDougall* informed the Committee, that General *Lee* is of opinion, that the two *Connecticut* Regiments, and Lord *Stirling's*, will not be sufficient for the services he will have to perform; and had desired to know whether it would be agreeable to the Committee, that he should send to *Pennsylvania* for a regiment from thence.

After some time spent in consideration thereof,

Resolved, That if General *Lee* shall think it necessary to call in the aid of any other Troops than the two *Connecticut* Regiments, and Lord *Stirling's* Regiment, that he be authorized, and in such case is hereby authorized, to call in as many of the Minute-Men, of this Colony, as he shall at any time think necessary.

Mr. *Sands* brought in an account of Wood and other necessaries of various kinds, supplied to the poor by himself and *Petrus Byvanck*, *Abraham P. Lott*, and others, under his direction, by order of this Committee of Safety, agreeable to a resolution of the Provincial Congress. The said Account being examined and approved of, amounts to one hundred and thirty Pounds and three Pence.

Ordered, That Mr. *John Ramsay* pay to *Comfort Sands*, one hundred and thirty Pounds and three Pence, out of the Moneys put into his hands, for employing the necessitous poor of this city, and that Mr. *Ramsay* take Mr. *Sands's* receipt for the same.

Ordered, That *Peter T. Curtenius*, as Commissary of the Provincial Congress of this Colony, purchase such a number of Saws, and of such sizes and qualities as Colonel *McDougall* shall direct; and that he have the same collected at his store for the use of General *Lee's* Troops, as soon as possible.

A Return of *Robert Graham* and *John Thomas*, Jun., two of the Committee of *Westchester* County, was read and filed. They thereby certify, that at an election for Militia Officers, in *Harrison's* Precinct, in *Westchester* County, under their inspection, *John Thomas*, minor, was chosen Captain; *Gilbert Dusenbury*, First Lieutenant; *William Woodward*, Second Lieutenant; and *James Miller*, Jun., Ensign.

Ordered, That Commissions issue to those gentlemen, immediately. And they were issued accordingly.

A Return of *Michael Hays*, *Elijah Miller*, and *Andrew Sniffen*, three of the Committee for *North-Castle*, in *Westchester* County, bearing date the 25th *January*, was read and filed. They thereby certify that they superintended an election for Officers in the Third Company of *North-Castle;* that upon such election *Joseph Green* was chosen Captain, and *Henry Peers*, First Lieutenant; and they thereby requested that two blank commissions might be sent for the Second Lieutenant and Ensign, as the Second Lieutenant, since the choice, declines serving.

Ordered, That the said two Commissions be issued, and that two blank Commissions be given to the said Committee of *North-Castle* for the Second Lieutenant and Ensign of the Third Company of *North-Castle*.

A Letter from Lord *Stirling*, dated this day, was read and filed. He therein mentions "that it serves to cover a letter from *Samuel Tucker*, Esquire, President of the Provincial Congress of *New-Jersey*, relating to the trade of that Colony." The said letter, from *Samuel Tucker*, Esquire, was also read and filed.

A copy of sundry Resolutions of the Provincial Congress of *New-Jersey*, therein enclosed, regulating the trade of the Colony of *New-Jersey* agreeable to the Resolutions of the Continental Congress, were also read and filed.

—

Die Sabbati, 10 ho. A. M., February 10, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *Pierre Van Cortlandt*, Esquire, Chairman, Mr. *Scott*, Mr. *Tredwell*, Mr. *Sands*, Mr. *Oothoudt*, Mr. *M. Graham*, Colonel *Brasher*. Colonel *McDougall* a part of the morning.

Present, also, several Members of Congress, viz: General *Woodhull*, Colonel *G. Drake*, Colonel *Rensselaer*, *Gilbert Livingston*, Captain *Rutgers*.

A Letter from Colonel *Robert Livingston*, of Manor of *Livingston*, dated the 5th instant, was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"Manor Livingston, February 5, 1776.

"Sir: Your letter, of the 25th ultimo, did not come to hand before this morning, and I am now set down to answer it.

"I intend, please *God*, my furnace shall begin her blast early in *April*, (sooner it will be inconvenient for want of pasture, as I have but a month's stock now on the spot to work upon,) and cannot cart ore or coal before the middle of *May*, for want of grass, so that, should I begin sooner, it would be almost impossible to continue the blast, consequently very detrimental to my interest. We have cast great quantities of shot for the Army, last war, but no great guns; this we can do. But whether we can cast great guns, I dare not take upon myself to determine. The hearth of my furnace lies low; fear there is not sufficient depth of earth between the surface and the bottom of the creek, if the guns are to be cast on one end. As I am entirely a stranger to the casting of ordnance, and desirous of assisting my country in any thing in my power, wish the gentlemen of the Committee of Safety, if they think it the interest of the community, to send up proper and skilful men, who are acquainted and had experience in casting and moulding of guns, for I have none such to examine my conveniences. If approved of, my furnace and stock shall be at their service on reasonable terms, for I know not how to fix a price. My metal is good, perhaps the best in *America*.

"I cannot be more particular at present, and am, respectfully, sir, your and the Committee's most humble servant,

"Robert Livingston.

"To Mr. *Joseph Hallett*."

A Letter from *Egbert Benson*, Esquire, Chairman of the Committee of *Dutchess* County, was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"Rhinebeck Precinct, Dutchess County, January 29, 1776.

"Sir: The Committee of this Precinct having been informed that *Timothy Doughty*, notwithstanding his promise to the Congress, upon his dismission, on the 20th *October* last, that he would demean himself in a peaceable and orderly manner, has since declared his intentions to join the Ministerial troops, in the Spring, and in other respects testified a disposition still inimical to the cause of liberty, have ordered him to be apprehended and confined till the pleasure of the Congress shall be known.

"Not only from the disaffection of the County, but as there will be an election at *Poughkeepsie*, on *Tuesday* next, and a vast number of people necessarily assemble, we thought it prudent to commit him to the jail in *Kingston*.

"I am directed to inform you of this matter, with a request that you will please to lay it before the Congress, and acquaint them that we can furnish them with the most ample proofs against Mr. *Doughty*.

"I remain, by order of the Committee, your most obedient servant,

"Egbert Benson, *Chairman*."

Benjamin Walker informed the Committee that Mr. *Yates* was informed that his ship was below; that he, Mr. *Walker*, went down in a pilot-boat, expecting it was Mr. *Yates's* ship; that when the pilot-boat came within a mile of the ship, they sent out a boat, and pressed *John Carleton* to pilot the ship up; that he, *Benjamin Walker*, was present, and knows that they did press him as a pilot; that an officer on board informed him that they had two hundred men on board, and were part of seven thousand men from *England*, and had been nine weeks at sea.

John Carleton examined: Says he frequently told the Captain that there was not any person on board of his boat who could pilot the ship up, but that they insisted on it, and obliged him to go on board. That Captain *Kennedy* told him he was under the necessity to press him, and did press him to carry up the ship, and charged him, on pain of death, not to run her aground; that between the banks they saw a wood boat; that a jolly-boat put off from her, and rowed towards the ship, and came within twenty yards; that they then ordered men into the main-tops and on deck; that thereupon a pilot on board of the jolly-boat, who said he had served his time with *Fundrau*, was taken on board; that near *Staten-Island* he got on board of his own boat; that the ship *Kitty* is from *Boston;* that they said there were two hundred men on board; that he saw between forty and fifty men, as he thinks; that there were eight or nine officers on board; that he told them General *Lee* was in *New-York*, and that he supposed there were six thousand forces there; that he understood that ships, in the whole, had sailed with them; that Captain *Kennedy* told him that the night before he got down, they had forty men on deck, and some men in the main-tops.

Carleton had a Certificate in the words following, to wit:

"I, Captain *Kennedy*, of the Forty-Fourth Regiment, commanding His Majesty's troops on board of the *Kitty*, transport, do certify, that I pressed by force, and obliged the bearer, *John Carleton*, to pilot the above-mentioned ship from *Sandy-Hook* to *New-York*.

"Given under my hand, on board the *Kitty, February* 9, 1776,

"Kennedy, *Captain 44th Reg.*"

"We certify the above,

"*Lieut.* Benson, } *44th Reg.*"
"*Lieut.* John Campbell, }

Thereupon, a Certificate was given to the said *John Carleton*, in the words following, to wit:

In Committee of Safety, New-York, February 10, 1776.

The case of *John Carleton*, as to his having piloted up the transport-ship, *Kitty*, has, at his own request, been heard by this Committee; and *Benjamin Walker*, of the city of *New-York*, merchant, who went down with him in his boat, was examined as a witness.

The Committee of Safety are of opinion that the said *John Carleton* was innocently brought into such a situation as to be necessarily obliged to pilot the transport-ship *Kitty*, with troops, and from any evidence that has appeared to us, the said *John Carleton* ought not to be injured, or considered in a worse light or esteem by the publick on that account.

Colonel *Heard* attended the Committee of Safety, and produced the several obligations of *Samuel Clowes* and *George Weeks*, with their securities, and of *Charles Mc-*

Evers, for *Gabriel G. Ludlow*, Esq., inhabitants of *Queen's* County, whose conduct has been conceived to be inimical to the liberties of the *American* Colonies, which were read and filed.

Colonel *Heard*, also, delivered in a certified extract from the Minutes of Continental Congress, relating to sundry persons, inhabitants of *Queen's* County, in the aforesaid predicament, which was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"In Congress, February 6, 1776.

"*Resolved*, That Captain *Benjamin Whitehead*, *Joseph French*, Esq., *John Polhemus*, *Nathaniel Moor*, *Samuel Hallett*, *William Weyman*, *John Shoals*, *John Willett*, *Gilbert Van Wyck*, Esq., *Daniel Kissam*, Esq., *Jacob Mott*, *Charles Hicks*, *Gabriel G. Ludlow*, *Samuel Martin*, *Samuel Clowes*, Esq., *Thomas Smith*, Esq., *George Weeks*, *David Brooks*, and *John Townsend*, be sent to *New-York*, and delivered to the order of the Convention of that Colony, who are requested to confine or secure the said persons until an inquiry be had, by the Convention, into their conduct, and report thereof made to this Congress.

"Extract from the Minutes.

"Charles Thomson, *Secretary*."

Colonel *Heard* earnestly requests the Committee of Safety, as the Provincial Congress is not convened, to give order as to the prisoners in his charge, so as that he may be discharged of the care of those prisoners.

And whereas, Mr. *Jacob Mott*, one of those persons in custody of Colonel *Heard*, having, some time ago, by his Petition to this Committee, testified his contrition for his past conduct, and signed the General Association of the inhabitants of this Colony, and engaged to demean himself consistent thereto during the present struggles for the liberties of his country, and was, thereupon, restored by this Committee to his former standing in the community; and whereas, it does not appear that the said *Jacob Mott* has, at any time, since his restoration, acted or done any thing inconsistent with his engagements; therefore,

Ordered, That the said *Jacob Mott* be discharged by Colonel *Heard*, on his first giving his promise parole to this Committee, to appear before the Provincial Congress of this Colony, or this Committee, when thereunto required; and

Ordered further, That the other prisoners, above-named, except *Gabriel G. Ludlow*, *Samuel Clowes*, and *George Weeks*, who are not in custody, be placed in any one house or place in this city, altogether, at their own expense, which they shall choose, and that they be there confined under a guard, at their own expense, until the order of the Provincial Congress in the premises, and that Colonel *Lasher* be requested to furnish a sufficient guard to receive the said prisoners from Colonel *Heard*, and to guard them until further order.

And this Committee of Safety do hereby signify their high sense of the care and prudence of Colonel *Heard*, in the execution of his duty as an officer.

—

4 ho. P. M., February 10, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *Pierre Van Cortlandt*, Esq., Chairman, Colonel *Brasher*, Mr. *Tredwell*, Mr. *Scott*, Mr. *Oothoudt*, Mr. *M. Graham*, Mr. *Sands*, Colonel *McDougall*.

Present, also, General *Woodhull*, Mr. *Hobart*, Colonel *Gilbert Drake*.

Colonel *Gilbert Drake* informed the Committee that sundry persons from *Connecticut* are purchasing up the barrelled Beef and Pork in *Westchester*.

Thereupon, the Committee came to the following Resolutions, to wit:

Whereas, the Continental Congress, by their Resolution of the first day of *November* last, have resolved that no produce of the *United Colonies* be exported, except from Colony to Colony, under the directions of the Committees of Inspection and Observation, and except from one part to the other of the same Colony, before the first day of *March* next, without the permission or order of the Continental Congress; and whereas, this Committee of Safety for the Colony of *New-York* conceives that it is necessary to prevent the sale of all the barrelled Beef and Pork in the County of *Westchester*, and retain the same for the Continental service in this Colony, as such provisions may be necessary for the Continental Army in this Colony,

Resolved, That the Committee of the County of *Westchester* be requested to take effectual means to prevent the sale and transportation of any barrelled Beef or Pork out of *Westchester* County, to any person or persons residing out of this Colony, or for the use of any person or persons residing out of this Colony, until the further order of the Provincial Congress, or of the Committee of Safety of this Colony.

A draft of a Letter to the Committee of *Westchester* County was read and approved of, and is in the words following, to wit:

Gentlemen: We have been informed by a gentleman from your County, that some of the inhabitants of your County are disposing of their barrelled beef and pork to persons out of the Colony. We apprehend that such provisions will be wanted for the use of the Continental Army in this Colony, and that the service may probably suffer, if all the barrelled provisions are taken out of the Colony; we, therefore, request you to take the most effectual measures to carry the enclosed resolution into execution.

We are, respectfully, gentlemen, your very humble servants.

By order of the Committee of Safety.

To the Committee of the County of *Westchester*.

John Bridgwater, *James Holdin*, and *Thomas Hyat*, all of the city of *New-York*, Innkeepers, personally came and appeared before the Committee of Safety, and jointly and severally engaged for *John Graham*, now a prisoner at the Upper Barracks, in manner following:

That the said *John Graham* will demean himself peaceably, and be of good behaviour towards all the friends of liberty in *America*, and not do any act, matter, or thing, contrary to any measure directed by the Continental Congress, or the Provincial Congress, or Committee of Safety of this Colony, or any Committee of any City, Town, Precinct, or District, in this or any other of the *United Colonies*.

And on failure of the said *John Graham* having complied with this engagement, in any instance, that they, the said *John Bridgwater*, *James Holden*, and *Thomas Hyat*, will surrender the said *John Graham* a prisoner, to any guard directed by the Provincial Congress, or Committee of Safety of this Colony, or commander of the Continental Army in this Colony, or, in default thereof, severally, bear, pay, sustain, and suffer, such pains and penalties as the said *John Graham* shall, in such case, be adjudged to bear, pay, sustain, or suffer.

Ordered, That the said *John Graham*, now a prisoner in the Guard-House, at the Upper Barracks, be discharged.

The Committee of Safety took into consideration the state of *Staten-Island*, and the danger of the stock being taken off by the Ministerial army and navy. After some time spent therein, General *Woodhull* and Mr. *Hobart*, who were present, were requested to confer with General *Lee* on that matter.

General *Woodhull* and Mr. *Hobart* returned from General *Lee*, and reported that General *Lee* is of opinion that the stock on *Staten-Island* ought to be protected, but whether by driving them off, or placing a guard there, he cannot determine; but that he is ready to give any aid in his power, to carry into execution any measure thought necessary by this Committee.

After considering further of the state of *Staten-Island*, and the report of Brigadier-General *Woodhull* and Mr. *Hobart*, they are of opinion that the most prudent step is, to request the Provincial Congress of *New-Jersey* to send Colonel *Heard's* Regiment of Minute-Men to *Staten-Island*, to prevent depredations on the stock.

Thereupon, a draft of a Letter to the Provincial Congress of *New-Jersey* was read and approved of, and is in the words following, to wit:

In Committee of Safety, New-York, February 10, 1776.

Sir: Upon communication with Major-General *Lee*, we are fully convinced that the live-stock on *Staten-Island* should be immediately taken care of.

The entrance of General *Clinton* into our port, on pre-

tence of merely paying a visit to Governour *Tryon*, though he has been followed by a transport with troops, which we have good reason to believe are only a part of six hundred that embarked with him at *Boston*, renders it highly probable that some lodgment of troops was intended to be made in or near this city. The precautions that have been taken to prevent the execution of such intentions will, it is hoped, render it ineffectual; and it is now given out that the General intends to depart from us without loss of time. However, it must be most obviously improper to strip this city, at present, of any part of its defence.

Colonel *Heard* and his regiment are near at hand, to secure *Staten-Island* from depredations. We think his regiment will readily undertake that service, and General *Lee* thinks nothing less than a regiment will suffice. We, therefore, most earnestly request you to furnish, without delay, the assistance of that regiment, to secure the live-stock of that Island from a depredation that may be attempted on General *Clinton's* departure from this port, by guarding it on the Island till we have opportunity to determine on the expediency of removing it, hereby declaring our readiness to be answerable in the first instance for the expense of that service.

We are, respectfully, sir, your most obedient and very humble servants.

By order of the Committee.

To the Honourable *Samuel Tucker*, Esq., President of the Provincial Congress, *New-Jersey*.

Ordered, That a copy thereof be engrossed, and signed by the Chairman, and transmitted.

It was suggested to the Committee, that General *Lee* will have occasion for the Intrenching Tools of this Colony for the use of his Troops while employed here; that it will be necessary for their preservation and the convenience of the Army, to have a person appointed to take care of the said Intrenching Tools, and the other Military Stores of the Colony. And *Richard Norwood* being recommended for that purpose,

Ordered, That *Richard Norwood* be, and he is hereby appointed, a Commissary, to take the care and delivery out, of all such Military Stores and implements of war, except Cannon, in this City and County of *New-York*, as shall be from time to time committed to his care, by order of this Committee, or the Provincial Congress; to make no issues without order of the said Congress, or this Committee, or the commanding officer for the time being, of the Continental Troops in this Colony; to take receipts for every issue, to keep exact accounts of every receipt and issue, and to attend, when and where necessary, to receive back any stores that may be, from time to time, issued, and be returnable after service to the said Commissary, for the use of this Colony; and that he be paid for his services, in his said office, as long as he shall be continued in the same, at and after the rate of eighteen and one-third dollars per month.

And it is further Ordered, That he receive all such Military Stores and implements of war as aforesaid, into his care, as are now in the hands of Mr. *Curtenius*, exchanging proper vouchers with him in that case, and with all others, in all other future cases of receipts and issues.

Colonel *McDougall* informed this Committee that Major-General *Lee*, on consulting his Engineer, was of opinion that the Intrenching Tools lately made in this Colony are not sufficiently numerous for the service; and that General *Lee* has requested him to inform the Committee that an addition of the following articles will be necessary, to wit: Six hundred Pick-Axes, three hundred Hatchets, five hundred Handbarrows, three hundred Wheelbarrows, two hundred Crowbars, (in such form as Captain *Smith*, the Engineer, shall direct,) five hundred Iron-shod Shovels, or others equally useful.

Ordered, That Colonel *Peter T. Curtenius*, as Commissary of the Provincial Congress of this Colony, do, with all possible despatch, procure the said Intrenching Tools and Barrows, for the use of the Continental Army in this Colony.

Whereas, the Poor of this City are in great distress, and many of them unable to procure subsistence at this inclement season:

Ordered, That the sum of two hundred Pounds be deposited in the hands of Mr. *William Vanderwater* and Captain *George Janeway*, to be applied by them in purchasing barrelled Beef and ship Bread, to be delivered in bags; Turnips and Potatoes, *Indian* Corn-meal and Oak-wood, for and towards the support of such poor inhabitants of this city as may stand in need of assistance for their immediate subsistence. That when the said articles are purchased, Mr. *Vanderwater* and Captain *Janeway* do convene the Vestrymen of the several Wards in this city, to the end that they, together, may proportion the quantity of the said articles so purchased, which the Poor of each Ward, from their circumstances, may require; and the said Vestrymen, in their respective Wards, are requested to assist Mr. *Vanderwater* and Captain *Janeway* to dispose of the said articles to the poor inhabitants, in such proportion as to them shall appear to be necessary; and that a copy of this order, certified by one of the Secretaries, be a sufficient order to Mr. *Vanderwater* and Captain *Janeway*, on Mr. *John Ramsey*, for the sum of two hundred Pounds, out of the moneys put into his hands by this Committee, for the employment and support of the industrious Poor of this city; and that Mr. *Ramsey* take the receipt of Mr. *Vanderwater* and Captain *Janeway* for that sum.

—

Die Solis, 10 ho. A. M., February 11, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Colonel *McDougall*, Mr. *Sands*, Colonel *Brasher*, Mr. *Tredwell*, Mr. *Scott*, Mr. *Oothoudt*, Mr. *M. Graham*.

Mr. *Henry Oothoudt* was unanimously chosen Chairman *pro tempore*.

This Committee observing that the Cannon and Military Stores, on and near the Battery, are now under removal to other parts of the city, and knowing that this transaction, both in its design and execution, is without the consent of this Committee, and even without their knowledge, otherwise than as discovered from the transaction itself, and as, perhaps, such removal may bring on a firing upon the city, from the ships-of-war in this port, which may greatly endanger the publick Records of this Colony, this Committee is fully of opinion, that the publick Records ought to be immediately removed to a place of greater safety than that in which they now are.

Therefore, *Ordered*, That the said publick Records of this Colony, together with *Samuel Bayard*, Jun., Esq., the Deputy-Secretary of this Colony, be forthwith conveyed, under a proper guard of the Militia of the city of *New-York*, to the dwelling-house of *Nicholas Bayard*, Esq., Alderman of the Out-Ward of the said city, and be there securely kept under such guard until the further order of the Provincial Congress of this Colony, or of this Committee of Safety; and the said guard are hereby expressly required to permit the said *Samuel Bayard*, Jun., Esq., to have continual access to, and the direction of the said Records, except that he, and every other person, be prevented from removing them, or any of them, from the place where they are hereby ordered to be deposited, until the further order of the Provincial Congress or of this Committee.

And Ordered, That Colonel *Lasher* be requested to furnish a proper guard, and see this order executed.

And Ordered, further, That Colonel *Lasher* fix on such Officers and Company of his Regiment, for this, and any other duty, that may be directed, as he shall think proper, and report the same to this Committee; the Committee hereby giving assurance that provision will be made for the pay and subsistence of such Company, equal to the Continental establishment, while continued in service.

—

3 ho. P. M., February 11, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Mr. *Henry Oothoudt*, Chairman, Mr. *Scott*, Mr. *Tredwell*, Mr. *M. Graham*, Mr. *Sands*, Colonel *Brasher*, Colonel *McDougall*.

A Member of the Committee mentioned that Major-General *Lee* had informed him that Troops were expected in town very speedily, and requested that Barracks or rooms should be provided for them.

The Committee are of opinion, that the placing of the

Troops in empty Houses will be less inconvenience to the inhabitants than any other method.

Thereupon, *Ordered*, That the following gentlemen, to wit: *Victor Bicker*, *Francis Bassett*, *Nicholas Carmer*, *Isaac Marschalk*, *Anthony Abrams*, *Henry Roome*, *Jacobus Bogert*, *Francis Bassett*, *Petrus Byvanck*, *Evert Byvanck*, and *John Elliot*, be requested to pass through the several streets of the city, and make a list of the empty Houses in this city, and report the same to this Committee, as soon as possible.

Sundry of those gentlemen being sent for, attended, and on request, engaged to undertake that service. They agreed to meet for that purpose, to-morrow, at nine o'clock; and they are desired to take to their assistance any other prudent citizens whom they may think necessary, and find willing to assist them.

Colonel *Ritzema*, from *Montreal*, came to the Committee, and gave information of the present state of *Canada*, and the troops there.

Colonel *Lott* came to the Committee, and informed that the *Mercury* sloop-of-war, and the two transports, which sailed with her, are anchored near *Staten-Island*. That he met several suspicious persons passing from *Paulus-Hook* towards *Killvaukull Ferry*; that he was informed by a person near *Killvaukull*, that he apprehended that the ship-of-war and transports will commit depredations on the stock there. The Committee are of opinion that the most effectual measure to prevent such depredations is to request the Committee of *Elizabethtown* to send a parcel of men to protect the stock on *Staten-Island* from depredations.

In Committee of Safety, New-York, February 11, 1776.

Gentlemen: The *Mercury* ship-of-war, with two transports under her convoy, are departed from this city, this afternoon, and we are well informed that they are anchored near *Staten-Island*.

We are apprehensive that they intend to commit depredations on the stock on *Staten-Island*. We applied to the Provincial Congress of your Colony yesterday, requesting that Colonel *Heard*, with some of his troops, should be sent to the Island for a few days, and sent that letter by Colonel *Heard*. We are apprehensive that Colonel *Heard* will come too late to prevent any attempt that may be made to take off the stock; we, therefore, earnestly request you, on receipt hereof, to despatch a part of your Militia to such parts of the Island where it is most likely any attempts of that kind may be made, to guard the Island until the said vessels are gone off, or Colonel *Heard* can arrive to their relief. If their design should be such as we suspect, they may, perhaps, be able to land about two hundred men. Please to inform Colonel *Heard* of this intelligence, and your proceedings in the premises.

We are, respectfully, gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servants. By order of the Committee.

To the Chairman and Members of the Committee *Elizabethtown*.

Ordered, That a copy thereof be engrossed, and signed by the Chairman, and transmitted by express.

—

Die Lunæ, 10 ho. A. M., February 12, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *Henry Oothoudt*, Esq., Chairman, Colonel *McDougall*, Mr. *Scott*, Colonel *Brasher*, Mr. *Tredwell*, Mr. *Sands*, Mr. *M. Graham*.

An order from Major-General *Lee* was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"Head-Quarters, February 12, 1776.

"Sir: You will give orders to the sentinels on the wharf to suffer those who produce a pass from the Committee of Safety to go on board the Governour's ship.

"Charles Lee, *Major-General*.

"To the Officer commanding the Port Guard."

Mr. *Nicholas Low* came into the Committee, and informed the Committee that he desires to go on in lading the Brig *New-York*. The Committee informed him, that they think he may proceed to lade the said Brigantine.

Mr. *Low*, also, requested a permit to lade the Schooner *Polly*, *William Montanye*, Master, on account of Mr. *Nicholas Governeur*, with Flaxseed and Lumber.

Thereupon, a permit was given to him, in words following, to wit:

Mr. *Nicholas Low* is hereby permitted to lade the Schooner *Polly*, *William Montanye*, Master, with Flaxseed and Lumber, on account of Mr. *Isaac Governeur*.

Colonel *Curtenius*, by request, attended the Committee. He was directed, and is hereby requested and directed, to have an exact inventory made of all the Shirts, Blankets, Osnaburghs, Bedding, Linen, and other stores, which now are, or were lately in a room at the Lower Barracks; that he have those goods put in a secure store, under his care, and that he return an inventory thereof to this Committee.

Colonel *Curtenius* informed the Committee that Major-General *Lee* had informed him that he has not any Commissary for his Guard, and has applied to him to supply the said Guard with Provisions.

Ordered, That Colonel *Curtenius* apply to Major-General *Lee* for his order or directions, what Rations he will order for his Guard, and that Colonel *Curtenius* supply the General's Guard with Provisions, according to his order, and charge the same to Continental account.

—

"*Philip Pelton* is willing to serve his country in the capacity of a Captain, or Quartermaster. I am the oldest of the name in this city, and properly qualified for the business."

"Gentlemen: I am desirous of serving my native country in the Provincial Army. I shall use my utmost endeavours to discharge the duties of any office you shall see fit to appoint me to. I am perfectly well acquainted with all the military manœuvres, having been for above three years in an Independent company. I am, gentlemen, your humble servant, John Vredenburgh, Jun."

"*Colonel* Abraham Brasher:

"Sir: The subscribers request you will be pleased to recommend them to the honourable Committee of Safety, and inform them that we are sincere friends to *America* and its liberties, and desirous to serve as First and Second Lieutenants, in any corps they be pleased to appoint, and are, sir, with great respect, your very humble servants,

"John Burger,
"James Prichard."

"February 6, 1776.

"*Jacob Reed, Jun.*, is desirous of entering into the service of his country. Would be particularly obliged to Colonel *Brasher* in interesting for him. As he thinks himself capable, would wish for a First Lieutenancy, but rather than fail would accept of a Second."

"New-York, February 2, 1776.

"*Daniel Pelton* offers himself to the approbation of the gentlemen of the Committee of Safety for the Province of *New-York*, to serve as Lieutenant in the troops to be raised under their direction.

"To Lieutenant-Colonel *Brasher*."

"New-York, February 2, 1776.

"*Samuel Young* offers himself to the approbation of the gentlemen of the Committee of Safety for the Province of *New-York*, to serve as a Second Lieutenant in the troops to be raised under their direction.

"N. B. Or Ensign."

"New-York, February 7, 1776.

"Gentlemen: I would think it an honour to enter into the Continental service, to defend the just rights and privileges of my country, if your Honours should think proper to accept of me as a Lieutenant. Your Honours' most humble servant, James Barritt.

"To the Honourable Provincial Convention."

"New-York, February 6, 1776.

"Gentlemen: As there are a number of commissions to be given out to the Continental Army, I would humbly beg to offer myself as a Captain, or First Lieutenant, in one of the Companies to be raised, and am, with esteem, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

"Joseph Marschalk.

"To the Committee of Safety for the City and County of *New-York*."

"New-York, February 10, 1776.

"GENTLEMEN: I am desirous of serving my native country in the Provincial Army as a Lieutenant. I shall use my utmost endeavours to discharge the duties of my office. I am perfectly acquainted with all the military manœuvres, having been for four years in an Independent company.

"I am, gentlemen, your most humble servant,

"WILLIAM MYER,
Living in Dock-Street, New-York.

"To the Honourable Provincial Congress, *New-York.*"

"New-York, February 12, 1776.

"Ambitious of serving my country in a military capacity, should be glad of an appointment to a commission in the battalions to be raised in this Province. I am, sir, your very humble servant,

"MATTHEW CLARKSON.

"To *John Vanderbilt*, Esq."

"Monday, February 12, 1776.

"SIR: Impressed with a sense of the obligation I lie under, of defending the liberties of *America*, I would beg leave to offer my services to the Congress, requesting I might be appointed to some commission (as the House might think fitting) in one of the new-raised battalions.

"And remain, sir, your most obedient servant,

"JOHN W. WATKINS.

"To the President of the Provincial Congress in *New-York.*"

ARTHUR LEE TO BENJAMIN FRANKLIN.

London, February 13, 1776.

The enclosed will easily explain itself. The intelligence you should observe, and take measures accordingly. A fund for necessary expenses should be fixed here in such hands as can be confided in. You know who is to be trusted. From experience, I can say, (though without any connection, or commerce with them,) the *New-England* men are fittest to be trusted in any dangerous or important enterprise. Show this only to *R. H. Lee*, of *Virginia*, and he will guess from whence it comes.

The intelligence, if it gets to hand in time, should be communicated as soon as possible to every part of *America*, that she may be prepared.

—

DEAR SIR: Your letter of the 30th of *November*, 1775, announcing the appointment of a Secret Committee, reached me a few days since. Miscarriages will be manifold, indeed, if you have not frequently heard from me. All my solicitude has been about my letters reaching you; every disguise was necessary to effect that. I am, however, much obliged to the General for the step taken to secure me; yet, I cannot tell to what fatality it is owing, that of the five, two are men of whom I have more diffidence than of any others, I had almost said, through the whole Continent. That I may be explicit, the second and last are men whom I cannot trust. If I am to commit myself into an unreserved correspondence, they must be left out, and *L's.* or the *A's.* put in their places. This letter, therefore, is to you, sir, and not to the Committee. I cannot imagine that what I desire can be deemed impertinent, when it is considered that the very purpose of its appointment is, so far as it relates to me, disappointed by these members. The selection of them, instead of inspiring confidence, gives me an apprehension, which I did not feel while they were in the general mass.

You will be curious to know what are the Ministerial intentions, and their force for the next campaign. The following is their army upon paper: *Hessians*, twelve thousand; *Brunswickers*, *Woolfenbutlers*, and *Waldeckers*, five thousand; six Regiments under Lord *Cornwallis*, three thousand; eight more, to sail in the Spring, four thousand; *Highlanders*, two thousand; now in *America*, eight thousand.

The sailing, and destination of this armament, is thus: Those under General Lord *Cornwallis*, are now embarked at *Cork*, and wait for sailing orders; their destination, *Virginia*. By the treaty, just now signed, the *Germans* are to be ready on the 27th of this month, to march to the sea-coast and embark, but for what part of *America* is not exactly known; the march by land is near six weeks, so that they cannot sail before *April*. The second embarkation from *Cork* will be about the same time; and, it seems probable, that their destination will be against *Canada*, under General *Burgoyne*, who is soliciting that command. In the mean time the Twenty-Ninth Regiment, with General *Carleton's* brother, is to sail from hence immediately, to reinforce *Quebeck*, supposing that they can get high enough up the river, as far as the Isle of *Orleans*, to make good their march by land. The regiments under Lord *Cornwallis* are the Thirty-Seventh, Thirty-Third, Fifty-Fourth, Fifteenth, Twenty-Eighth, and Forty-Sixth. Those for the Spring, are the Thirty-Fourth, Fifty-Third, Sixty-Second, Third, Ninth, Eleventh, Twentieth, and Twenty-Fourth. Lord *Howe* is appointed to the command at sea, but the commander on land is not known; certain, however, it is, that there are two Lieutenant-Generals, and one of them old, that go with the *Germans*, so that it must be some one of great reputation, and old in the service, to command over them. It is therefore conjectured, Count *de Lippe* will be the man. He commanded the army in *Portugal* during the last war. They are taking up *East-Indiamen* for the transport service, supposing they will be able to beat off the cruizers. A great number of artillery and wagon-horses are to be sent, and a train of large battering cannon is preparing, which, it would seem, can only be intended against *Quebeck*, should it be taken by General *Montgomery*.

The *English* and *Irish* troops go with infinite reluctance, and strong guards are obliged to be kept upon the transports to keep them from deserting by wholesale. The *Germans*, too, I am well informed, are almost mutinous; but the *Landgrave of Hesse* is an absolute tyrant, and must be obeyed. It is, therefore, conceived, that if the Congress have proposals prepared in *English* and *German*, to distribute among them when they land, which no precautions can prevent, multitudes will desert.

Upon the whole, the Ministry, if every thing favours them, may have about thirty thousand men in *America* by the latter end of *June*. They will have no horse but two regiments of Light Dragoons, now there, and *Burgoyne's*, which is to go. If the *Americans* have horse well trained to the woods, it will harass such an army infinitely; and, if they act upon the defensive, intrench well, harass them continually, cut off their convoys, and if ever they hazard an engagement, make their push upon one wing; it is imagined here that no General on earth can make the campaign decisive, and it is hardly possible this country can stand another. They have found it impossible to recruit in *England*, *Ireland*, or *Scotland*, though the leading people of the last, are, to a man, violently against *America*. They have, therefore, been obliged to draft from the other regiments to complete those which are going, so that when the whole are embarked, there will be scarce two thousand men remaining in *Ireland*, and as many in *England*, besides the Foot Guards and Cavalry.

I am well assured that the *French* Government will wink at the exportation of arms and ammunition. A General of the first abilities and experience, would go over, if he could have any assurance from the Congress of keeping his rank; but, that being very high, he would not submit to have any one but an *American* his superior, and that only in consideration of the confidence due to an *American*, in a question so peculiarly *American*.

Let me have your opinion of all these things. The opposition gains ground, and the nation begins to feel; but, *America* must trust to her own arm, and Heaven for protection. The Resolutions of *January* 2d do you infinite honour, and will undoubtedly serve the cause. Your conduct, I trust, will be noble, as that is great and good. I know your attachment to the country you have adopted. Prince *Ferdinand's* recommendation of the General mentioned above, is in these words: "*Si l' on veut un officier aprouvé intelligent, et brave; je ne scai si non peut trouver un autre qui le vaille.*" ["As to experience, intelligence, and valour, I do not know whether another can be found to equal him."]

Your letter of the 30th of *November*, 1775, cost nine-

*

teen shillings and six-pence postage, there was so much superfluous paper; would not a packet sent to some o the *Canary Islands*, and committed to proper care, reach us safest and soonest? If there is any friend there to be trusted, the opportunities from thence, hither, are frequent. Cover mine, and address it to *John Horsfall*, Esq., Treasurer, *Middle-Temple*.

Lieutenant-Governour *Colden, New-York.*

February 13, 1776.

Dear Sir: I received, a few days since, yours of the 30th of *November*, 1775, informing me of the appointment of a Secret Committee. I am sorry, however, to say that, second and last upon the list, are men in whom I cannot confide; and I am not a little surprised that it should so happen that these two men are upon such a Committee, while others are omitted with whom I am known to be in habits of communication and confidence. I therefore trust this with you, and not with the Committee, in whom I cannot repose any confidence, till these two men are removed. I have written to you repeatedly, and by some conveyance which, I think, cannot possibly miscarry.

The enclosed list is the Ministerial army upon paper. In effect, it will amount to about fifteen thousand *Germans*, and eighteen thousand *British*; their destination I can now give you with some certainty; four thousand *Brunswickers* and *Waldeckers*, with five hundred *Hessians* from *Hanau*, are now at *Stade*, a port in *Hanover*, ready for immediate embarkation, and destined for *Canada*, to be joined by the Twenty-Ninth Regiment, and one thousand draughted from the Foot Guards under Colonel *Mathews*. There is to be another embarkation in the Spring, from *Ireland* for *Canada*, and the whole is to be commanded by General *Burgoyne*, and *Carleton* I believe recalled.

The second body, being *Hessians*, are to march this day for *Stade*, and the third on 14th of next month; these are for *Boston*. Lord *Cornwallis*, with six regiments, to sail immediately from *Cork* for *Virginia*, where General *Clinton* is to take the command. They have certain assurances of being joined by the *Scotch* in *Virginia*, and those on the borders of *North-Carolina*, under the command of one *McDonald*. In the mean time, they have been directed to protect themselves under a treaty of neutrality. Besides this land force, Lord *Howe* is to have a fleet of seventy-two sail, to block up the coast. For this purpose, large ships are to stationed at the mouths of the great rivers, and the rest are to cruise at some distance from the coast three deep, but not in file, so as to render it more difficult to cross them—as thus: ——. They are to get possession of *New-York* and *Hudson's River*, so as to cut off all south and north communication; and they have some idea of attacking *Canada* too, by *Montreal*. *Halifax* is to be their naval magazine.

The *Germans* are commanded by two Lieutenant-Generals, of whom the eldest is named *De Heister*, and has some military character. This is the favourable view of their plan. On the contrary, the whole army, native and foreign, is averse to the service, so that it is much apprehended, that if the Provincials are dexterous in throwing among them advantageous propositions, and faithful in performing them, the desertion will be immense. The *British* troops have not one in five that is a soldier, the rest are boys and debilitated manufacturers, just recruited, at the reduced standard of five feet four inches. A vast number of the best subaltern officers have quitted the service. It is thought they will make *Howe* Commander-in-chief, which must disgust the *German* Generals, who are much older. The expense will be immense; the difficulty of providing magazines immense; and another campaign hardly possible. Lord *George Sackville* is the Minister, with absolute and hated authority, even in the Cabinet. He is a rash, imperious, and unprincipled man, with moderate abilities, and much plausibility, but wholly under the counsels of *your** countrymen, who push this matter on with blind violence.

Great expectations, too, are entertained from treachery in the Provincials. Dr. *Church* was in league with others, particularly *Fleming*, the printer. This I have from Ministerial authority, which may be depended on. They will, also, endeavour to depreciate the Congress paper, by throwing in forged notes. A General of the first rank and abilities, would come over if the Congress would authorize any one to promise him a proper reception. This I had from Mr. *Lee*, Agent for *Massachusetts*; but it must be secret with you, as I was not to mention it. Adieu.

[* Governour *Colden* was a *Scotchman*.]

Lieutenant-Governour *Colden*.

February 14, 1776.

GOV. WRIGHT TO HIS MAJESTY'S COUNCIL AT SAVANNAH.

On board His Majesty's Ship Scarborough, at Cockspur, February 13, 1776.

Honourable Gentlemen: After using my best endeavours, for upwards of three weeks, to prevail on those in whose hands the present ruling powers are, that the commanders of His Majesty's ships here might obtain assurances that they might come to town, and have a free intercourse with me, without receiving any insult from the people assembled in and about town; also, that the King's ships might be supplied with provisions, on paying the full price or value of it; and finding that the last message relative to these measures, which I desired the Representatives of the town of *Savannah* to deliver to the persons exercising those powers, was so lightly treated, and so little regarded, as that, although delivered on *Tuesday* morning, the 6th instant, yet I received no kind of answer to it for five days, nor did I understand whether it was meant to give me any answer, or not; and well knowing that it was essential to His Majesty's service, and the welfare of this Province, that I should have an interview with the King's officers here—for these reasons, and many others which you were made acquainted with, and approved of, I determined, at all events, to attempt coming down here, where I arrived safe at three o'clock yesterday morning;* and, after having examined and duly weighed and considered my several letters from *England*, and General *Howe*, at *Boston*, and after having had a full conversation with His Majesty's officers here, I have the great satisfaction to be able to affirm, from the best authority, that the forces now here will not commit any hostilities against this Province, although full sufficient to reduce and overcome every opposition that could be attempted to be made, and that nothing is meant or wanted, but a friendly intercourse, and a supply of fresh provisions. This may be entirely relied upon. This His Majesty's officers have an undoubted right to expect, and what they insist upon; and this I not only now solemnly require, in His Majesty's name, but, also, as (probably) the best friend the people in *Georgia* have, advise them, without the least hesitation, to comply with, or it may not be in my power to insure them the continuance of the peace and quietude they now have, if it may be called so.

His Majesty has been graciously pleased to grant me leave to return to *England*, and (whatever may be thought) my regard for the Province and people is such that I cannot avoid (and possibly for the last time) exhorting the people to save themselves and posterity from that total ruin and destruction which (although they may not yet) I most clearly see is at the threshold of their doors; and I cannot leave them without again warning them, in the most earnest and friendly manner, to desist from their present plans and resolutions. It is still in their power, and, if they will enable me to do it, I will, as far as I can, engage to give, and endeavour to obtain for them, full pardon and forgiveness for all past crimes and offences; and this I conjure them to consider well and most seriously of, before it is too late. But, let things happen as they may, be it remembered that I, this day, in the King's name, offer the people of *Georgia* the olive-branch, that most

* Savannah, in Georgia, *February* 14, 1776.—His Excellency the Governour, with his family, left this place last *Sunday* night, and went on board His Majesty's ship *Scarborough*, lying at *Tybee*.

Last *Thursday*, Captain *Wright* arrived at *Tybee*, in a schooner, from *Grenada*, and, next day, a large transport-ship arrived with soldiers from *Boston*. Lord *William Campbell* is on board His Majesty's ship *Syren*.

February 21.—A transport-ship arrived at *Cockspur*, on the 12th instant, from *Bostan*, with more soldiers.

His Majesty's ship *Raven* sailed from *Tybee* on *Saturday* morning, on a cruise. His Majesty's ship *Cherokee*, the two transport-ships which lately arrived from *Boston*, a sloop, and three small vessels, are now lying at anchor, within three miles of this town.

desirable object and inestimable blessing, the return of peace and happiness to them and their posterity.

Captain *Barclay* has desired me to notify that he is willing and ready to give every assistance in his power to the captains of all such merchant ships as may be legally cleared out, to enable them to proceed on their respective voyages. I am also to acquaint you that the detention of the schooner, on *Friday* or *Saturday* last, proceeded entirely from a mistake by the officer who commanded the armed sloop, and that, if the owner will send down, the schooner will not only be delivered up, but any reasonable price paid for the damaged rice that was on board, (part of which has been used to feed hogs and poultry,) or they may take it away again. I am also to mention that the same armed sloop will be sent up to-morrow to *Four-Mile-Point*, in order to get fresh water, and for no other purpose.

This letter, which I consider of the utmost consequence and importance to the whole people of *Georgia*, I must desire you will be pleased to communicate to the Congress, if sitting, and, if not, to those who are called the Council of Safety, and especially to the inhabitants of the town and Province, in general, and acquaint them that I shall expect their full and clear answer to every part of it, in a reasonable time.

I am, with perfect esteem, gentlemen, your most obedient and faithful servant,

JAMES WRIGHT.

To the Honourable *James Mackay*, Esq., and the rest of the Members of His Majesty's Council, at *Savannah*.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM NEWBERN, NORTH-CAROLINA, DATED FEBRUARY 13, 1776.

An express arrived here yesterday from the back country, informing us that the Regulators and Tories were making head there, and intended marching to *Cross-Creek*, and from thence to *Cape-Fear*. I am of opinion they will get well flogged before they reach *Cape-Fear*, provided they will fight. Our Minute-Men, and part of the Militia, march to-morrow, and will join Colonel *Caswell* in *Dobbs* County, from which place he will march in two or three days, with near a thousand men under his command. Colonel *John Rutherford* informed me, this day, that Colonel *Ashe*, in *New-Hanover* County, was on his march, two days ago, against the Regulators, &c., with near two thousand men. If three or four more of our Colonels in this Province raise as many, which I expect will soon be the case, they will be able to attack ten thousand Regulars, and beat them, too, as I think our men will fight with great resolution.

MANIFESTO FROM THOMAS RUTHERFORD, COLONEL OF THE CUMBERLAND (NORTH-CAROLINA) MILITIA.

To the lovers of order and good government:

Whereas, I thought it expedient, for the support of our excellent Constitution, which the rebellious and disaffected have of late endeavoured to overturn, to call a general muster of the County of *Cumberland*, at *Cross-Creek*, on *Monday*, the 12th of this instant; and as, from the idle and false reports spread by wicked and ignorant men, great numbers of His Majesty's liege subjects have failed to attend, and others, who did give their attendance, have shown themselves influenced by those unjust apprehensions of danger:

This, is, therefore, to command, enjoin, beseech, and require all His Majesty's faithful subjects within the County of *Cumberland* to repair to the King's Royal standard, at *Cross-Creek*, on or before the 16th present, in order to join the King's army; otherwise, they must expect to fall under the melancholy consequences of a declared rebellion, and expose themselves to the just resentment of an injured, though gracious Sovereign.

THOMAS RUTHERFORD, *Colonel.*

Cross-Creek, February 13, 1776.

DISTRICT COMMITTEE OF CAROLINE, ETC., VIRGINIA.

At a meeting of the District Committee for the Counties of *Caroline*, *Spottsylvania*, *King George*, and *Stafford*, at the Town-house in *Fredericksburgh*, *February* 13, 1776. Present: *James Taylor*, *George Taylor*, *Walker Tuliaferro*, *Fielding Lewis*, *Mann Page*, Sen., *Joseph Brock*, *William Fitzhugh*, *Samuel Selden*, *William Garrett*, and *George Waugh*, Gentlemen.

The said Committee unanimously appointed *Fielding Lewis*, Gentleman, Chairman, and *John Chew*, Jun., their Clerk, and then proceeded to the choice of Field-Officers to fill up the several vacancies in the Minute service in the said District; whereupon the following gentlemen were chosen, viz: *Richard Johnston*, Esq., Colonel, *Lewis Willis*, Esq., Lieutenant-Colonel, and *Andrew Buchanan*, Esq., Major.

FIELDING LEWIS, *Chairman.*
JOHN CHEW, JUN., *Clerk.*

WILLIAM LUX TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Baltimore, February 13, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Captain *Charles Wells*, of the pilot-boat *Chatham*, has applied to me to be excused from taking on board the flour which he has engaged to take in on account of the Province, as the gentlemen, who are concerned in the adventure, are afraid it might subject the vessel to a seizure, in case a tender should happen to meet her, either here, or going into *Statia*. The flour is purchased by us, and has been ever since you were here, and we have been waiting every day for his order to send it down. We cannot undertake to grant the indulgence, without your directions, and he now waits on you for that purpose. If you can allow us to load the sloop I mentioned, this flour may be a part of her cargo in case you permit Captain *Wells* to leave it out, and I shall be glad to have your answer by him.

I am, most respectfully, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

WILLIAM LUX.

To the Honourable Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

To the Honourable the Deputies of the Provincial Congress assembled in and for the Province of NEW-YORK.

The humble Petition of WILLIAM DUSENBERRY, *Doctor of Physick and Surgery, sheweth:*

That your petitioner hath regularly served under Doctor *Peter Hugeford*, of *Westchester* County, to acquire a perfect knowledge in that science, and hath long practised in that department, to the general satisfaction of his patients, and hopes, by his experience and the recommendation of his friends, hereunto subscribed, to be heard before the honourable Convention, that, if need be, he may be appointed Doctor, to serve in any one of the battalions, to be now raised within your Province, and the favour shall be gratefully acknowledged by his assiduity to his business.

Your petitioner therefore prays that his petition may be heard, and, as in duty bound, he shall ever pray, &c.

WILLIAM DUSENBERRY,	DAVID PYE,
GILBERT COOPER,	JOHN COE,
JAMES CHRISTIE,	JONAH HALSTED, *per order.*
JOHN COLEMAN,	JOHN SUFRIN, *per order.*

Orange County, New-York, February 13, 1776.

ABRAHAM GODWIN TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

New-York, February 13, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The love of my country, since my mind has been capable of judging, ever held the predominancy in my breast. I have, therefore, at all times, stepped forward in its defence, when need required it; and now, at this trying crisis, again desire to be employed in my country's cause. For that purpose did I offer my service in the battalion raised in *New-Jersey*, and my appointment to a company in that Province was agreed upon; but, when the arrangement was nearly concluded, one of the members of the honourable *New-Jersey* Congress, being desirous of entering the service, I was set aside. I have, therefore, with all despatch, laid my intention before the honourable *New-York* Congress, and should be glad to have the command of a company bestowed on me in the service, if there is a vacancy. For that purpose I have inlisted the best part of my company already, provided I have a commis-

sion granted me, and make no scruple, but shall, in a fortnight, have my full complement of men. And if the honourable Congress shall be compliant to my entreaty, my country shall find me a strenuous supporter of its privileges.

ABRAHAM GODWIN.

To the Honourable *New-York* Congress.

EGBERT DUMOND TO JOHN McKESSON.

Kingston, February 13, 1776.

SIR: I am sorry to hear of the alarm at present in your city, which, beyond all doubt, must be the ruin of the place, occasioned by those rascally tories amongst us, and make no doubt but they will receive their just reward. You remember when I was in Congress last Summer, Colonel *Clinton* insisted on me to accept of being Lieutenant-Colonel in his regiment; my business, of being Sheriff, would not admit of my going. As I am determined, if any offers of that kind are now offered, I shall have no objections to go and defend the liberties of my country, wherever they please to order me, I need not send any recommendations to the gentlemen of the Congress, as most part of them are well acquainted with my abilities, and my attachment to the cause of liberty, which we are now contending for. This winter, being in *Philadelphia*, was asked by some of the Delegates there, and told them, I had no objections. Please to mention it to Mr. *Jay*, and the rest of the gentlemen of your acquaintance, and especially those of *Albany*, *Schenectady*, and *Tryon*, and Col. *Ten Broeck*, of *Dutchess*, and shall be obliged to you for your aid in this affair, provided it is consistent with your duty. Beg a few lines from you. Excuse haste. I am, dear sir, yours, &c.,

EGBERT DUMOND.

To *John McKesson*, Esq., at *New-York*.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read February 21, 1776]

Albany, February 13, 1776.

SIR: Mr. *Macarty*, who is just arrived from *Canada*, delivered me the enclosed. He is capable of giving information to Congress which has confirmed me in my opinion of the necessity of sending, immediately, a Committee into *Canada*.

The *New-York* Congress have sent me twelve thousand five hundred dollars, to raise a regiment in this quarter, for the *Canada* service. I have already too much business on my hands, without this addition; but as the General Committee of this County meet on *Thursday*, I will lay the request before them, and if they think it can be complied with, I will do my endeavours.

I have an infinity of trouble with those people to whom I promised a bounty to march into *Canada*. Enclose a copy of a letter which I yesterday delivered Colonel *Warner*. I hope what I have there recommended will meet with the approbation of Congress. If he should be able to form a regiment out of the people mentioned, the number of troops in *Canada* will, notwithstanding, be less than what Congress intended, as two regiments cannot, by any means, be raised out of the other troops now in *Canada*. It will, besides, save a very considerable expense, which must necessarily accrue by his men coming away, and others being sent in lieu.

Yesterday, near thirty *Oneidas* and *Mohawks* called upon and delivered me a speech; part of it relates to *Butler*, who is holding a Council at *Niagara*. They pretend that he may do mischief there, and asked my leave to go and bring him home. I suspect he has failed in his attempts upon the *Indians*, and that he and his friends have fallen on this method, that he may return with safety to his family in the *Mohawk's* country. I am not yet determined what answer to give them; at any rate, if he is permitted to come home, we must have some better security than his own word.

I am, sir, most respectfully, your obedient, humble servant,

PHILIP SCHUYLER.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq., &c.

P. S. I am informed that the merchants from this place, who are gone to *Canada*, will certainly bring a considerable quantity of nails from there. I had thoughts of sending for a supply from thence; but, reflecting that hard cash was so difficult to be got, I think it best, upon the whole, to purchase them from the merchants, when they arrive here, although they will come higher. I shall, however, take care that I may not be disappointed in getting them, by immediately writing to General *Wooster* on the subject.

Yours, &c. &c.,

PHILIP SCHUYLER.

Point-aux-Fer, February 7, 1776.

DEAR SIR: As so much depends upon immediate relief in *Canada*, and a proper arrangement in *Canada* to carry those intentions into execution, I cannot help being greatly alarmed and much shocked, to hear of the great confusion and irregularity now at *Montreal*. For particulars, refer you to Mr. *Macarty*, the bearer, who is a friend to the cause, and may be depended on. Unless those things are put upon a better footing, men's reputations in the service, as well as the service itself, will greatly suffer, and the *Canadians* will form an indifferent opinion of us.

Colonel *Hazen* requests me to mention this matter, and am, with respect, your most obedient, humble servant,

EDWARD ANTILL.

To General *Schuyler*.

Albany, February 12, 1776.

SIR: As many of the men that you raised, in consequence of my orders of the 14th *January* last, were not marched by the 1st *February*, and as I informed you, in my letter of the 25th ultimo, that I would not allow any bounty except to such as were marched by that day, and as you now inform me, that many more are marched than what you have received the bounty for, I will supply you with a further sum, on condition that such as were not marched by the first *February*, but are since marched, do engage to remain in the service, in *Canada*, or procure others in their stead, for the ensuing campaign, unless sooner discharged. You are, therefore, to make me a return of the names of all such men as were marched before the first day of *February*, and, also, another return of all such men as are since marched.

As soon as you arrive in *Canada*, you will try what number of men you can get to remain in *Canada*, out of those you have sent, and send me their names. All such as will remain for the campaign, you will form into companies, agreeable to the Continental regulations. If any of the men that are gone under Major *Cady*, will remain, you are also to send me a separate list of them. Perhaps there may be a sufficient number out of both corps to form a regiment. These returns should be sent me immediately, that I may not be at a loss to arrange the Army. I am, &c.

PHILIP SCHUYLER.

To Lieutenant-Colonel *Warner*.

GENERAL WOOSTER TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read March 4, 1776.]

Montreal, February 13, 1776.

SIR: Since writing the letter to Congress enclosed with this, I have been considering of the force intended by Congress to be sent into this country. Perhaps I may be mistaken, but I cannot but be of opinion that the Ministry will send a great force into this Province in the Spring, and our every thing depends upon our having a force upon the spot superior to them. In that case we shall keep the *Canadians* in our interest, otherwise we may depend upon their being our enemies. They will think it necessary to exert themselves against us, in order to make their peace with their former masters. I need not mention to you the almost infinite importance of keeping this Province. Mr. *Walker* and Mr. *Price* will tell you what dependance is to be placed in the *Canadians*. I could wish that ten thousand men might be pushed into this country, by the first of *May*, which will be a respectable army. Much depends upon the good or ill success of the first encounter, should there be any. I hope, sir, that vigorous exertions for keeping this Province will be properly represented to Congress. *Quebeck* must be taken before *May;* yet we have neither proper artillery nor ammunition; however, a sufficient number of men of resolution, I hope, will effect it.

I am, sir, with the greatest respect and esteem, your most obedient and very humble servant,

DAVID WOOSTER.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq., President, &c.

EDWARD MOTT TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

February 13, 1776.

HONOURED SIR: The method that General *Schuyler* hath paid the northern troops off by is (counting the number of days they have been in the service, and then to count every thirty days for a month, which makes better than twenty pounds, lawful money, wages,) more to each company than the rolls made up by our Pay-Table; and, likewise, the billet-rolls he allows one dollar per week, which is one hundred dollars more to each company than is recovered by the rolls sent up from our Pay-Table; and, also, the money advanced to deserters, hath not been properly stated on the rolls that hath been sent up from said Pay-Table; all which makes about sixty pounds, lawful money, loss, to each company from this Colony, which is allowed to the troops from the other Colonies of the Northern Army; all which might be allowed, if properly applied for. Even on the rolls that have been settled, I dare say the General would allow the balance, if some proper person should be sent to represent the case and request the balance.

The whole of the difference, in the manner of making up the rolls, will, in my opinion, make two thousand pounds difference to this Colony.

The expense my subalterns were at when sent down with the sick, and the money stopped on account of what I received more than the Pay-Table mean to allow, I hope your Honour will not forget.

I am your Honour's most obedient and humble servant,

EDWARD MOTT.

To Governour *Trumbull*.

ROBERT H. HARRISON TO JAMES WARREN.

Cambridge, February 13, 1776.

SIR: I take the liberty to enclose you a letter which I received, a few days ago, from Captain *William Wood*, upon the subject of his parole and confinement to the County of *Gloucester*. As some of the captains, who have been taken by the Continental armed vessels, have been, and are, allowed a greater indulgence than what he is, he seems to be uneasy, and hopes that your honourable Court will permit the Committee to enlarge his parole. I have been long and intimately acquainted with Captain *Wood*, and in justice to him, beg leave to inform you, that I think him exceedingly worthy of any favours that you can do him, consistent with the good of the great cause we are embarked in, and that any further indulgences you may incline to grant him, he will gratefully acknowledge and not abuse. He would wish to have the liberty of going to some of the other towns, where some of his acquaintances are. If, sir, it shall not be incompatible with any determination of your honourable body, I could wish his request to be complied with. I shall be much obliged by a line from you, that I may give him an answer, and pray, as this application is founded in principles of humanity, that you will excuse it.

I am, sir, with much esteem and regard, your most obedient servant,

ROBERT H. HARRISON.

To the Honourable *James Warren*, Esq.

Gloucester, February 1, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Your kind treatment to me, in this unhappy situation, makes me more free to trouble you again for your kind assistance. When I saw you last, on my way down to this place, I did not know but the Court had given orders that I was to have my parole, as the rest of the captains; but to my great surprise, I am bound to the borders of this town, and not to go out of it, on any pretence whatever. This, I think, is very hard upon me, as I can assure you, had I my liberty to go even into *Boston*, I would not accept of it; as I would see the determination of the vessel, if it is in your power, by representing me to the Court, to get me my enlargement farther, such as going to *Cambridge*. As I want to see you, letting you know my case, which is in a very bad situation, the Committee, in this town, has used me, in every respect, like a gentleman, and desired me to write to you on this occasion. I am sorry to trouble you, but depend on it, your kindness at this time to me shall be paid with honour and never to be forgot. I make no doubt but you will do your endeavour for me, and shall be glad to hear from you by Captain *Nellis*, and believe me, in the interim, your obliged friend and very humble servant,

WILLIAM WOOD.

To Mr. *Harrison*.

IN COUNCIL, *February* 17, 1776.—Read, and

Ordered, That the said *William Wood* be permitted, on his parole, to pass and repass, at pleasure, from and to *Cambridge* and *Newburyport*.

PEREZ MORTON, *Dep'y Sec'y*.

MONSIEUR BEGOZZAT TO NEW-HAMPSHIRE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

St. Pierre, Martinico, February 14, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: As I never considered the *American* affairs otherwise but the endeavours of tyranny against the liberties of mankind, and looking upon the North of *America* as the sacred asylum contrived in this age by the Divine Providence against the despotick power, who has filled the three parts of this world with misery and poverty, I think I am honoured in being employed in so noble a cause. It is on this principle, gentlemen, I take the liberty to write you by the opportunity of *Robert Parker*, to offer my service to your Committee; you may be certain that nobody will serve your interest with so much zeal as I.

I gave *Robert Parker* a very short expedition. I intend every day to send away Captain *Peverly*. These two vessels will carry ten thousand pounds of gunpowder. I am loading now two other vessels, which I hope will depart very soon. We are expecting, every day, a vessel departed from *France* with about twenty thousand pounds of gunpowder; and I am in hopes that what we will receive from *France* this month will amount to sixty thousand pounds. I will advise you every month of the quantity expected.

Warlike provisions are not so common as they ought to be, on the account they have reported in *Europe* the *American* affair would be settled this Winter. Some vessels bring no ammunition, but by letters departed the 20th of *January* last, advising that the war will continue this year in *America*, there will be plenty in *America* in the months of *May* and *June*.

Ammunition is not the only article wanting by the *Americans*, viz: woollen and linen clothes, dress, pins and needles, a great quantity of goods the most necessary in private use of life, are wanting greatly, and you may be provided with those articles here. The purpose of this letter is to desire you to send the patterns of every thing wanting. I will send them to Old *France*, and our market will be provided with them in four or five months' time. I sent a memorial to the *French* Ministry concerning the trade we can settle here with *New-England*, but as your articles we usually consume here, viz: fish, lamp oil, spermaceti candles, pork, beef, hair, boards, and hoops, cannot amount to a great sum of money, I asked, in my memorial to the Ministry, to ship from hence to Old *France*, potashes, beaver, lamp oil in casks of sixty gallons, well hooped, to go to Old *France*. These articles, added to those, will produce a sufficient sum of money to maintain your exchange here.

For the Southern Colonies, I asked that *Virginia* tobacco, of which we consume thirty or forty millions pounds every year, be introduced to *France* by the way of *Martinico*. This article is very valuable, and will pay here a large quantity of goods wanted in *America*. *Carolina* indigo will find, likewise, great advantage in the *French* trade.

You may be certain, gentlemen, that Continental vessels will find always good protection in our ports. You will see, by the report I send you, of the frigate *Argus* attempting to search a Continental vessel loading, by me, with gunpowder. Any Continental vessel coming here will be safe.

If you have any particular or secret demands to our Go-

vernment, send them to me, and I promise to return you a positive answer.

I think proper to advise you that the sloop *Molly*, Captain *Conway*, master, loaded with flour, coming from *Maryland*, on the account he was pursued by an *English* man-of-war, not only obtained permission to anchor here, but to sell his cargo of flour. Give to your vessels a letter for me, and I will procure you all that they will want, or to be introduced, or to sell or to purchase those goods.

You may assure your countrymen they have good friends in this country, who think that the sacred fire of liberty stands no where else now, but in the North of *America*, and that the brave people to which the Divine Providence has trusted it, will continue it a fire for future generations.

I am, honourable gentlemen, your most humble servant, and a devoted friend to your country. P. Begozzat.

To the Honourable Committee of Safety, Province of *New-Hampshire*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO TALBOT COUNTY COMMITTEE.

[No. 15.] Annapolis, February 14, 1776.

Gentlemen: Having information that there were one or two barrels of bullets, and a quantity of gun-flints, belonging to this Province, at Mr. *John Leeds's*, in your County, which were lodged there about thirty years ago, we request your inquiry into the matter; and if you find it true, that you will take them under your care, and send them to the Council of Safety in this city by the first safe conveyance. We are, &c.

To the Committee of Observation for *Talbot* County.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO CAPTAINS KENT AND HENRY.

[No. 16.] Annapolis, February 14, 1776.

Gentlemen: The regard and zeal which you and the companies under your command have manifested in the publick cause, in so readily complying with the resolve of the Convention, and expeditiously marching to the assistance of our friends and neighbours of *Virginia*, give us real satisfaction, and convince us, that as the nature of the service requires it, the same spirit will induce you and your companies to continue in it for the time mentioned by the Convention, although by the terms of the inlistment they were obliged only to serve till the first of *March*; this, we assure you, we sincerely wish, and it is likewise our desire and opinion that you continue to keep your men in a body till they return to, and reach their respective Counties, to which time they are to continue in pay.

As it may be convenient and necessary for you, after your men have been one month in service, to draw for their pay, we hereby authorize you to do it, on the Treasurer of the *Eastern-Shore*, to whom we shall send directions to pay your orders.

We are persuaded you will think, with us, that as you go as auxiliaries, it will be proper and necessary that you act under the directions and orders of the officer of the Colony of *Virginia*, having the command in the places where you shall be stationed; but, in case there should not be an officer appointed for that purpose, and there should be a necessity for the two companies acting together, it is then our opinion that Captain *Kent* should take the command of both companies, and, also, of that of *Dorchester* County, if that company should, as we are not without hopes it will, march down as directed.

Should any thing occur to you that may be further necessary for your companies, on the service in which they are engaged, you will be pleased to acquaint us with it as soon as you can, and all proper attention shall be given to what you may desire. We are, &c.

To Captains *Kent* and *Henry*, of the Minute Companies, in *Virginia*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO WILLIAM HINDMAN.

[No. 17.] Annapolis, February 14, 1776.

Sir: We have given a power to the Captains *Kent* and *Henry*, now in *Virginia*, as soon as the companies under their command have been one month in the service, to draw for their pay. We desire you will, on their orders being delivered to you, immediately comply with them.

As it may be necessary for the publick service to have the enclosed letter to them delivered with all possible despatch, we request you will send off some trusty person with it, as soon as you can, and charge the publick with the expense of the messenger. We are, &c.

To *William Hindman*, Esq., Treasurer of the *Eastern-Shore*.

COLONEL SMALLWOOD TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Woodyard, February 14, 1776.

Dear Sir: In my way down, called on Mr. *West* and viewed his gun-locks, some of which are tolerable good, but not equal to the *English* musket-locks; those at seven shillings and six pence are good at the price, and might answer the Militia. At this critical time, I think it would be well to engage the whole, as they are a very scarce article.

Knives will be much wanting in the . . . . . purchased out of their pay, or allowed by Council, &c. He has two hundred and thirty-one cutters, which you will judge of the expediency of taking.

I am, with much regard, sir, your very obedient, humble servant, W. Smallwood.

To the Honourable *Daniel of St. Thomas Jenifer*, President of the Council of Safety.

THOUGHTS ON GOVERNMENT, IN A LETTER FROM A GENTLEMAN TO HIS FRIEND.*

My dear Sir: If I was equal to the task of forming a plan for the government of a Colony, I should be flattered with your request, and very happy to comply with it; because, as the divine science of politicks is the science of social happiness, and the blessings of society depend entirely on the constitutions of Government, which are generally institutions that last for many generations, there can be no employment more agreeable to a benevolent mind than a research after the best.

Pope flattered tyrants too much when he said,

> "For forms of Government let fools contest,
> That which is best administered is best."

Nothing can be more fallacious than this. But poets read history to collect flowers, not fruits; they attend to fanciful images, not the effects of social institutions. Nothing is more certain from the history of nations, and nature of man, than that some forms of Government are better fitted for being well administered than others.

We ought to consider what is the end of Government, before we determine which is the best form. Upon this point all speculative politicians will agree, that the happiness of society is the end of Government, as all divines and moral philosophers will agree that the happiness of the individual is the end of man. From this principle it will follow, that the form of Government which communicates ease, comfort, security, or, in one word, happiness, to the greatest number of persons, and in the greatest degree, is the best.

All sober inquirers after truth, ancient and modern, Pagan and Christian, have declared that the happiness of man, as well as his dignity, consists in virtue. *Confucius*, *Zoroaster*, *Socrates*, *Mahomet*, not to mention authorities really sacred, have agreed in this.

If there is a form of Government, then, whose principle

* Quincy, *July* 21, 1811.—In the Winter of 1776, there was much discussion in Congress, concerning the necessity of independence, and advising the several States to institute Governments for themselves, under the immediate authority and original power of the people. Great difficulties occurred to many gentlemen, in making a transition from the old Governments to new; i. e. from the Royal to Republican Governments.

In *January*, 1776, Mr. *George Wythe*, of *Virginia*, passing an evening with me, asked what plan I would advise a Colony to pursue, in order to get out of the old Government and into a new one. I sketched in words a scheme, which he requested me to give in writing. Accordingly, the next day I delivered to him the following letter. He lent it to his colleague, *Richard Henry Lee*, who asked me to let him print it, to which I consented, provided he would suppress my name; for, if that should appear, it would excite a Continental clamour among the Tories, that I was erecting a battering ram to demolish the Royal Government and render independence indispensable.—[*John Adams.*]

and foundation is virtue, will not every sober man acknowledge it better calculated to promote the general happiness than any other form?

Fear is the foundation of most Governments; but it is so sordid and brutal a passion, and renders men in whose breasts it predominates so stupid and miserable, that *Americans* will not be likely to approve of any political institution which is founded on it.

Honour is truly sacred, but holds a lower rank in the scale of moral excellence than virtue. Indeed, the former is but a part of the latter, and consequently has not equal pretensions to support a frame of Government productive of human happiness.

The foundation of every Government is some principle or passion in the minds of the people. The noblest principles and most generous affections in our nature, then, have the fairest chance to support the noblest and most generous models of Government.

A man must be indifferent to the sneers of modern *Englishmen* to mention in their company the names of *Sidney*, *Harrington*, *Locke*, *Milton*, *Nedham*, *Neville*, *Burnet*, and *Hoadley*. No small fortitude is necessary to confess that one has read them. The wretched condition of this country, however, for ten or fifteen years past, has frequently reminded me of their principles and reasonings. They will convince any candid mind that there is no good Government but what is Republican; that the only valuable part of the *British* Constitution is so; because the very definition of a Republick is, "an empire of laws, and not of men." That, as a Republick is the best of Governments, so that particular arrangement of the powers of society, or, in other words, that form of Government which is best contrived to secure an impartial and exact execution of the laws, is the best of Republicks.

Of Republicks there is an inexhaustible variety, because the possible combinations of the powers of society are capable of innumerable variations.

As good Government is an empire of laws, how shall your laws be made? In a large society, inhabiting an extensive country, it is impossible that the whole should assemble to make laws. The first necessary step then is, to depute power from the many, to a few of the most wise and good. But by what rules shall you choose your Representatives? Agree upon the number and qualifications of persons, who shall have the benefit of choosing, or annex this privilege to the inhabitants of a certain extent of ground.

The principal difficulty lies, and the greatest care should be employed in constituting this Representative Assembly. It should be in miniature an exact portrait of the people at large. It should think, feel, reason, and act like them. That it may be the interest of this assembly to do strict justice at all times, it should be an equal representation, or in other words, equal interest among the people should have equal interest in it. Great care should be taken to effect this, and to prevent unfair, partial, and corrupt elections. Such regulations, however, may be better made in times of greater tranquillity than the present, and they will spring up themselves naturally, when all the powers of Government come to be in the hands of the people's friends. At present, it will be safest to proceed in all established modes, to which the people have been familiarized by habit.

A representation of the people in one Assembly being obtained, a question arises whether all the powers of Government, legislative, executive, and judicial, shall be left in this body? I think a people cannot be long free, nor ever happy, whose Government is in one Assembly. My reasons for this opinion are as follow:

1. A single Assembly is liable to all the vices, follies, and frailties of an individual; subject to fits of humour, starts of passion, flights of enthusiasm, partialities or prejudice, and, consequently, productive of hasty results, and absurd judgments. And all these errors ought to be corrected and defects supplied by some controlling power.

2. A single Assembly is apt to be avaricious, and in time will not scruple to exempt itself from burdens, which it will lay, without compunction, on its constituents.

3. A single Assembly is apt to grow ambitious, and after a time will not hesitate to vote itself perpetual. This was one fault of the long Parliament, but more remarkably of *Holland*, whose Assembly first voted themselves from annual to septennial, then for life, and after a course of years, that all vacancies happening by death or otherwise should be filled by themselves, without any application to constituents at all.

4. A Representative Assembly, although extremely well qualified, and absolutely necessary as a branch of the legislative, is unfit to exercise the executive power, for want of two essential properties—secrecy and despatch.

5. A Representative Assembly is still less qualified for the judicial power; because it is too numerous, too slow, and too little skilled in the laws.

6. Because a single Assembly, possessed of all the powers of Government, would make arbitrary laws for their own interest, execute all laws arbitrarily for their own interest, and adjudge all controversies in their own favour.

But, shall the whole power of legislation rest in one Assembly? Most of the foregoing reasons apply equally to prove that the legislative power ought to be more complex; to which we may add, that if the legislative power is wholly in one Assembly, and the executive in another, or in a single person, these two powers will oppose and encroach upon each other, until the contest shall end in war, and the whole power, legislative and executive, be usurped by the strongest.

The judicial power, in such case, could not mediate, or hold the balance between the two contending powers, because the legislative would undermine it. And this shows the necessity, too, of giving the executive power a negative upon the legislative, otherwise this will be continually encroaching upon that.

To avoid these dangers let a distinct Assembly be constituted, as a mediator between the two extreme branches of the Legislature—that which represents the people and that which is vested with the executive power. Let the Representative Assembly then elect by ballot, from among themselves or their constituents, or both, a distinct Assembly, which, for the sake of perspicuity, we will call a Council. It may consist of any number you please, say twenty or thirty, and should have a free and independent exercise of its judgment, and consequently a negative voice in the Legislature.

These two bodies thus constituted, and made integral parts of the Legislature, let them unite, and by joint ballot choose a Governour, who, after being stripped of most of those badges of domination called prerogatives, should have a free and independent exercise of his judgment, and be made, also, an integral part of the Legislature. This I know is liable to objections, and if you please you may make him only President of the Council, as in *Connecticut*; but, as the Governour is to be invested with the executive power, with consent of Council, I think he ought to have a negative upon the legislative. If he is annually elective, as he ought to be, he will always have so much reverence and affection for the People, their Representatives and Counsellors, that although you give him an independent exercise of his judgment, he will seldom use it in opposition to the two Houses, except in cases the publick utility of which would be conspicuous; and some such cases would happen.

In the present exigency of *American* affairs, when by an act of Parliament we are put out of the Royal protection, and consequently discharged from our allegiance, and it has become necessary to assume Government for our immediate security, the Governour, Lieutenant-Governour, Secretary, Treasurer, Commissary, and Attorney-General, should be chosen by joint ballot of both Houses. And these and all other elections, especially of Representatives and Counsellors, should be annual, there not being in the whole circle of the sciences a maxim more infallible than this, "Where annual elections end, there slavery begins."

These great men, in this respect, should be, once a year,

> "Like bubbles on the sea of matter borne,
> They rise, they break, and to that sea return."

This will teach them the great political virtues of humility, patience, and moderation, without which every man in power becomes a ravenous beast of prey.

This mode of constituting the great offices of state will answer very well for the present, but if, by experiment, it

should be found inconvenient, the Legislature may, at its leisure, devise other methods of creating them, by elections of the people at large, as in *Connecticut*, or it may enlarge the term for which they shall be chosen to seven years, or three years, or for life, or make any other alterations which the society shall find productive of its ease, its safety, its freedom, or, in one word, its happiness.

A rotation of all offices, as well of Representatives and Counsellors, has many advocates, and is contended for with many plausible arguments. It would be attended, no doubt, with many advantages, and if the society has a sufficient number of suitable characters to supply the great number of vacancies which would be made by such a rotation, I can see no objection to it. These persons may be allowed to serve for three years, and then be excluded three years, or for any longer or shorter term.

Any seven or nine of the Legislative Council may be made a quorum, for doing business as a privy council, to advise the Governour in the exercise of the executive branch of power, and in all acts of state.

The Governour should have the command of the Militia, and of all your armies. The power of pardons should be with the Governour and Council. Judges, justices, and all other officers, civil and military, should be nominated and appointed by the Governour, with the advice and consent of Council, unless you choose to have a Government more popular; if you do, all officers, civil and military, may be chosen by joint ballot of both Houses, or, in order to preserve the independence and importance of each House, by ballot of one House, concurred in by the other. Sheriffs should be chosen by the freeholders of Counties; so should Registers of Deeds and Clerks of Counties. All officers should have commissions, under the hand of the Governour and seal of the Colony.

The dignity and stability of Government, in all its branches, the morals of the people, and every blessing of society, depend so much upon an upright and skilful administration of justice, that the judicial power ought to be distinct from both the legislative and executive, and independent upon both, that so it may be a check upon both, as both should be checks upon that. The judges, therefore, should always be men of learning and experience in the laws, of exemplary morals, great patience, calmness, coolness, and attention. Their minds should not be distracted with jarring interests; they should not be dependant upon any man, or body of men. To these ends they should hold estates for life in their offices, or, in other words, their commissions should be during good behaviour, and their salaries ascertained and established by law. For misbehaviour, the grand inquest of the Colony, the House of Representatives, should impeach them before the Governour and Council, where they should have time and opportunity to make their defence, but, if convicted, should be removed from their offices, and subjected to such other punishment as shall be thought proper.

A Militia law, requiring all men, or, with very few exceptions besides cases of conscience, to be provided with arms and ammunition, to be trained at certain seasons, and requiring Counties, Towns, or other small Districts, to be provided with publick stocks of ammunition and intrenching utensils, and with some settled plans for transporting provisions after the Militia, when marched to defend their country against sudden invasions, and requiring certain Districts to be provided with field-pieces, companies of Matrosses, and perhaps some regiments of Light-Horse, is always a wise institution, and in the present circumstances of our country indispensable.

Laws for the liberal education of youth, especially of the lower class of people, are so extremely wise and useful, that to a humane and generous mind, no expense for this purpose would be thought extravagant.

The very mention of sumptuary laws will excite a smile. Whether our countrymen have wisdom and virtue enough to submit to them, I know not. But the happiness of the people might be greatly promoted by them, and a revenue saved sufficient to carry on this war forever. Frugality is a great revenue, besides curing us of vanities, levities, and fopperies, which are real antidotes to all great, manly and warlike virtues.

But must not all commissions run in the name of a King? No. Why may they not as well run thus, "The Colony of . . . . to A. B., greeting," and be tested by the Governour?

Why may not writs, instead of running in the name of the King, run thus, "The Colony of . . . to the Sheriff," &c., and be tested by the Chief Justice?

Why may not indictments conclude, "against the peace of the Colony of . . . . and the dignity of the same?"

A Constitution founded on these principles, introduces knowledge among the people, and inspires them with a conscious dignity, becoming freemen. A general emulation takes place, which causes good humour, sociability, good manners, and good morals to be general. That elevation of sentiment inspired by such a Government, makes the common people brave and enterprising. That ambition which is inspired by it makes them sober, industrious, and frugal. You will find among them some elegance, perhaps, but more solidity; a little pleasure, but a great deal of business; some politeness, but more civility. If you compare such a country with the regions of domination, whether monarchical or aristocratical, you will fancy yourself in *Arcadia* or *Elisium*.

If the Colonies should assume Governments separately, they should be left entirely to their own choice of the forms, and if a Continental Constitution should be formed, it should be a Congress, containing a fair and adequate representation of the Colonies, and its authority should sacredly be confined to these cases, viz: war, trade, disputes between Colony and Colony, the post-office, and the unappropriated lands of the Crown, as they used to be called.

These Colonies, under such forms of Government, and in such a union, would be unconquerable by all the Monarchies of *Europe*.

You and I, my dear friend, have been sent into life at a time when the greatest lawgivers of antiquity would have wished to live. How few of the human race have ever enjoyed an opportunity of making an election of Government more than of air, soil, or climate, for themselves or their children! When, before the present epocha, had three millions of people full power and a fair opportunity to form and establish the wisest and happiest Government that human wisdom can contrive? I hope you will avail yourself and your country of that extensive learning and indefatigable industry which you possess, to assist her in the formation of the happiest Governments, and the best character of a great people. For myself, I must beg you to keep my name out of sight, for this feeble attempt, if it should be known to be mine, would oblige me to apply to myself those lines of the immortal *John Milton*, in one of his sonnets,

> "I did but prompt the age to quit their clogs
> By the known rules of ancient liberty,
> When straight a barbarous noise environs me,
> Of owls and cuckoos, asses, apes, and dogs."

JOHN ADAMS TO JAMES WARREN.

Philadelphia, February 14, 1776.

Dear Sir: I shall enclose to a lady of my acquaintance all the newspapers which have been printed in this city since my arrival, by which you will see to what point the tide of political sentiment sets. Scarcely a paper comes out without a speculation or two in open vindication of opinions, which, five months ago, were said to be unpopular. A vast majority of the people, indeed, I very well knew, secretly entertained the same persuasions then, but injudiciously avoided speaking out. The restraint, however, is now taken off. I expect to see the *New-England* papers very soon chiming in with the concert.

I have written to Mr. *Sever* the Congress have ordered ten tons of saltpetre to the Council, to be made into powder, and requested him to communicate it to the Court. I hope every nerve will be exerted, with the utmost vigor, to set up powder-mills, complete them, and procure persons skilled in the manufacture of powder. I am not without apprehensions that such persons will be wanted. I apprehend, however, that there are persons who are possessed of the necessary knowledge of the composition and proportions of ingredients. Even Mr. *Reed*, of *Weymouth*, I conjecture, would be able to instruct others. The same rule which has made a small quantity in a family mortar, applied to a large mill, will make a larger quantity. No expense, no industry, ought to be spared. Don't fail, my

dear friend, to inform me of every step in the progress of the manufacture of saltpetre and gunpowder.

Measures are taking to make cannon, both of brass and iron. Some experiments have been made in *Maryland*, *Philadelphia* and *New-York*, with success. I will acquaint you with particulars, as fast as I can.

Shall we be able to get seamen to man our navy when our trade shall be opened? Will they not be all better employed?

I am, your friend.

To the Honourable *James Warren*, Esq., Speaker of the House, *Watertown*.

DECLARATION OF THOMAS AUSTIN.

Philadelphia, February 14, 1776.

As the Committee of Safety for this Province have adjudged my late conduct to be inimical to the cause of *American* freedom, I am sincerely sorry that I have given any displeasure to my countrymen, and do solemnly declare, that I never intended, by any thing I have said or done, to obstruct the measures carried on for the maintaining the liberty of these Colonies. I do further, in the like solemn manner, declare and promise, that I will not for the future throw any reflections on the publick measures aforesaid, or the advisers or promoters of them, nor, in any manner whatever, endeavour to obstruct or discredit such measures.

I do, also, resign my seat as a member of the Committee of Inspection and Observation for this County.

THOMAS AUSTIN.

TO THE FREEMEN OF THE PROVINCE OF PENNSYLVANIA.

Some men talk of peace and reconciliation in a way that does little credit to their understandings, and less to their political principles. If honest, they are cowards; if knaves, they are fools. The excellence of the *English* Constitution, and happiness we enjoyed in a state of dependance on *Great Britain*, are spoken of with such warmth, eagerness, and seeming devotion, that I am turned out of the path I had prescribed to myself, to set the matter in its true light.

My signature is *Salus Populi*, and my professed design is to throw out such hints to your consideration as may tend to the advantage of the great *North-American* community, without regard to sect or party, or to this or that man's sentiments or interest, where the welfare of the whole could be injured thereby. He, therefore, who would sacrifice the publick to private interest, and whose views extend not to the general good of his country, will find little to please him in what I advance. I give this cautionary admonition however, to every one, that as he regards his future welfare and happiness, and wishes to merit the Divine favour, let him now conduct himself. We are not brought into our present critical circumstances for nothing. And if we neglect to make the best of them we will scarcely obtain the approbation of the Almighty.

Though much might be said not very advantageous to the *British* Constitution, yet I will waive it for the present. She most assuredly has not yet found out any effectual method of securing the rights of the people from encroachments of the Crown; i. e. from tyranny. But be her Constitution ever so good, it is little to us. That Constitution is certainly not very extraordinary, which has not vigour sufficient to support itself against the slightest attack; and this is the Constitution of the Colonies. In all your endeavours to preserve your privileges did it ever enter into your heads to apply to the powers of your Constitution for protection? No! and if it had, what would it have done for you? Nothing. Mercantile combinations have done more in a few months for the preservation of the liberties of *America*, than all your constitutional powers would have effected in ten thousand years. It is for this reason that the Tories, and an Administration which is doing all in its power to enslave you, wish to see every thing pass through what they affect to call a constitutional channel. I say, mercantile combinations have done more, in a few months, than all our constitutional powers could have effected in ten thousand years, and yet every one who reflects how reluctantly that measure was lately complied with, will leave little to the hazard of such future combinations. On this precarious tenure have we held every privilege which should be dear to man for these twelve years past: And on this tenure we must yet hold them, if some people can have their way.

The happiness we enjoyed in a state of dependancy on *Great Britain* before the year 1763, is the cry with which they hope to lull us to rest on the lap of an abandoned Government, which knows no right but the pleasure of an obstinate and blood-thirsty Prince and his Courtly sycophants. That we occasionally enjoyed a state of much happiness, both before and since the year 1763, cannot be denied; but the portion of that happiness which arose from our dependance on *Great Britain* is not quite so evident as some people may imagine. Let us examine this matter with candour and honesty; and here it must strike us at first view, that we enjoyed more happiness when they let us alone, than when they exercised any degree of that authority over us, which, as long as we are dependant we must acknowledge they possess. This, I apprehend, is not saying much for the happiness of a state of dependancy on *Great Britain*. Whence sprung our happiness then, will some people inquire? I will unfold to you the source of that happiness you so pant after, and which, if you pursue the path pointed out to you by Providence, will shortly return and remain with you for ages, in all probability until the curtain which divides time from eternity is withdrawn, and the scenery of this world brought to a period.

It sprung from the fertility of the soil, and the sobriety, industry, and equality of the inhabitants alone—sources from whence happiness always has, and ever will spring to the people who are so favoured of Heaven as to be possessed of them. Take away any one of these sources, and you take away a proportionable part of the happiness you enjoyed. Take them all away, and were your dependance on *Great Britain* ten times what it is at present, you will not be happy. Our dependance on *Great Britain* never did, nor never could add the ten thousandth part of a grain to that happiness which flowed so abundantly to us from the forementioned sources. It is not in the nature of dependance to confer happiness, but the reverse. Every dependancy presupposes a kind of mastery, and there is but one only can bestow happiness, viz: a dependance upon *God*. We enjoyed happiness in a state of dependance, but not from that state. He who is a dependant, has a master, and he who has a master is a servant, if not a slave.

The state of equality, which, as yet, subsists among us, and ought for ever to be preserved, is a principal source both in our happiness, and of the preservation of our liberties. Any one who will read the Ministerial pamphlet intituled, "A Letter from the People of *Great Britain* to the People of *America*," will there find how eagerly they wish to form distinctions amongst us, that they may create a few more tools of oppression. They wish to see us aspire to nobility, and are ready to gratify us whenever we do. They can now depend only on the Crown officers and their dependants, with a few of the heads of some sects in religion, who prefer basking in the sunshine of *British* royalty and Court favour, to the simple practice of the pure religion of their forefathers. Only be reconciled for a few years longer, until they have raised a number of our Selectmen to the different ranks of nobility, and then preserve your liberties if you can.

Some think they say every thing against a state of independence by crying out, that in a state of dependance we enjoyed the protection of *Great Britain*. Ay, and we enjoyed something else, which sounds not so agreeable; we enjoyed a large share in her wars, with these favourable circumstances, that every war between *Great Britain* and *France* is principally carried on in *America*, and that we assist her through these wars only to give her an opportunity of quarrelling with us afterwards.

But do not we pay dearly for this protection? The restriction of our trade alone is worth ten times the protection, besides the sums we pay in customs and other duties, to the amount of more than a million annually. The customs of the port of *London* alone are worth two millions sterling per annum. How many *Londons America* may contain a century hence, if she now becomes independent, *God* only knows. Our present dependancy costs us as

*

much in twenty years now, as would enable us, with the Divine assistance, to finish the present war with success, and protect our trade in a state of independency for five hundred years to come.

Let us for once suppose an independency, that we may observe the consequence. We should then trade with every nation that would trade with us; i. e. with every nation in *Europe* at least. Suppose we were attacked by some foreign Power in this state of independency, (for this is the bugbear,) what then? The nation that would be fool enough to do it would raise a hornet's nest about its ears; for what nation would stand by, and without a murmur see itself cut off from the source of trade it enjoys with *America*, which would be the case were we once subdued. No. Every nation which enjoyed a share of our trade would be guarantee for the peaceable behaviour and good conduct of its neighbours; and *Great Britain* herself would twenty years hence become a firm friend and ally, if her friendship could then be worth the acceptance, for the twentieth part of that trade she now affects to despise. But it could never be the interest of any other nation to make war upon us after we had obliged *Great Britain* to let us alone. Can it ever be the interest of *America* to make war upon *Europe*? No more can it be the interest of any Power in *Europe* to make war upon *America* after she has fought herself into a state of independency. To ask what should we do for fleets to protect our trade, it is as absurd as to ask if timber grows in *America*. During the present war we need fleets, and it may be owing to the weakness of human counsels, that we entered so late into any measure for that purpose. Had we fitted out sixty or seventy of our best sailing vessels, and the moment the King's ships seized the first of our vessels legally cleared out, sent them off to the *West-Indies*, with orders to seize every *English* vessel that came in their way, we would not now be insulted by fleets on our coasts, nor our towns be daily in danger of being reduced to ashes. They would have had something else to busy themselves with. But the war once over, fleets to protect our trade will be nearly unnecessary. Our trade will protect itself. It never will be the interest of any nation to disturb our trade, while we trade freely with it; and it will ever be our interest to trade freely with all nations. As long as the wide *Atlantick Ocean* rolls between us and *Europe*, so long will we be free from foreign subjection were we once clear of *Great Britain*; and as long as we remain free from foreign subjection, so long will our trade protect itself.

Our situation, in this respect, is peculiar to ourselves; we have no haughty neighbouring tyrant to disturb our internal repose, and the fleets of no nation will disturb us on the high seas, while a commercial intercourse subsists between us. The consequence of independency to *America*, if she makes a right use of the present occasion, will be a perfect state of political liberty, a good, sound, wholesome Constitution, a free and enlarged trade, and peace to the end of time, unless our sins should bring down the Divine vengeance upon us. That of a connection with *Great Britain* on the principles of our former dependancy is a weak, feeble, unwholesome Constitution, unable to stand against the slightest shock, a very restricted losing trade, and the prospect of being made the seat of every war between *Great Britain* and *France* as long as that connection shall last.

Every prospect of the future strongly invites us to embrace independency; and what is of the greatest weight with me, every Providential occurrence, for more than twenty years past, seems preparatory to it. The last war trained many of us to the use of arms, and taught us to look steadfastly into the face of an enemy, the conqueror of *Canada*, with the *Canada* Bill, a twelve years struggle against oppression to wean our affections, our present happy and unexampled union, and a successful end of the first campaign of a most righteous war against the oppressions of the state we depended on, have fixed the time for that independency, which even the present Administration acknowledges must one day take place. The voice of *God*, therefore, to *America* appears at present to be, "If you will remain free and happy, if you wish not to entail a civil war or slavery on your offspring, if you spill not your blood at present in vain, and despise not what I have been doing for you these twenty years past, though you know it not; fix a Constitution which will give perfect liberty to all my people now in, or that hereafter shall fly to *America* for shelter from tyranny and oppression, and declare for independency immediately, and put your trust in me alone for success."

SALUS POPULI.

P. S. In another irregular number I propose to show you that the notion of the Colonies quarrelling among themselves is absurd, and that this can never take place, except in one case, which it is our present duty and business effectually to guard against.

A GENTLEMAN OF PUBLICK CHARACTER, TO HIS FRIEND IN MASSACHUSETTS.

February 14, 1776.

MY DEAR SIR: I was favoured about a week ago with your letter, and shall be much obliged at any time when you are at leisure, to let me know how matters are going on. I shall be very happy to hear that the Provincial Army gets possession of *Boston;* but I heartily wish that no attempt may be made without the utmost probability of success. I have given great attention to history, to the strength and policy of States, and the conduct of their contentions one with another; and I find many more misfortunes that may be attributed to the want of prudence, than the want of courage. It is never, in any instance, the interest of both parties to fight; and, in the present case, I think our security and glory lies in acting on the defensive. Our enemies are on hostile ground; time eats them up almost as fast as *Great Britain* sends them. The past campaign has been so reproachful to them, that you see mention made of it in the Protest of the House of Peers, almost in the same terms that I have done in many of my letters.

I placed great confidence in the prudence and firmness of General *Washington* on his first election, and his conduct has fully justified my expectations. The Army has been kept in excellent order; the country has been fully satisfied; human blood has been spared; and yet, our enemies have been, and are now, in the most disgraceful situation. The true knowledge of defensive war is the attainment of modern times. If the *Romans* had understood this art, as well as they did bravery in the field, do you think that *Hannibal* would have gained the victory at *Cannæ*? And, after that expensive lesson, *Fabius* defeated him entirely, by only taking the advantage that nature had given him. I do not think that advantage was ever more on the side of any people than it is on that of *America* just now. We are sure to beat *England*, if we only take care that they do not beat us. It is the circumstances of our distance and unanimity that constitute our chief strength, together with their great ignorance of *America*, and uniform wrong judgment in every particular. The present Parliament seems not to be a whit wiser, for all that has happened. They have voted twenty-five thousand men, which, I affirm not to be at all sufficient for the conquest of *Connecticut* alone, provided that neither men nor provisions are sent from the other Colonies. They talk very much of the power of *Great Britain*, and it is a powerful state; but there are limits to every human power; and, if *Britain* attempts any project against the nature of things, I know well enough who will get the better.

In this country, we begin to apprehend that *New-York* will be the scene of action. Not much has yet passed worth relating; the best thing I can say to you is, that the spirit and unanimity of the country is as great, or greater, than ever.

I am, dear sir, your most obedient, humble servant.

GENERAL LEE TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

New-York, February 14, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: I should have written to you more constantly, but really had no means of conveying my letter. A Mr. *Buchannan* and *Tolby*, bound for Head-Quarters, will deliver you this. You will excuse the conciseness, as my time is short.

The Governour and Captain of man-of-war had threatened perdition to the town, if the cannon was removed from the batteries and wharves; but, I ever considered their threats

as a *brutum fulmen*, and even persuaded the town to be of the same way of thinking. We, accordingly, conveyed them to a place of safety in the middle of the day, and no cannonade ensued.

Captain *Parker* publishes a pleasant reason for his passive conduct. He says that it was manifestly my intention, and that of the *New-Englandmen* under my command, to bring down destruction on this town, so hated for their loyal principles; but that he was determined not to indulge us, so remained quiet out of spite. The people here laugh at his nonsense, and begin to despise the menaces which formerly used to throw them into convulsions. To do them justice, the whole show a wonderful alacrity; and, in removing the cannon, men and boys, of all ages, worked with the greatest zeal and pleasure. I really believe that the generality are as well affected as any on the Continent.

The Provincial Congress have ordered in fifteen hundred Minute-Men; a number equal to two battalions, are coming from *Pennsylvania* and the *Jerseys*. Lord *Stirling's* Regiment is already here, but not complete: when the major part, or a sufficient number arrive, we shall begin our works. My intention is, to pull down that part of the fort on the town side, to prevent its being converted into a citadel for the enemy, and to erect a battery on a traverse in the street, to prevent their making a lodgment in it. A redoubt and battery at the pass of *Hellgate* will prevent their ships and tenders passing and repassing, to and from the Sound. We have fixed on a spot in *Long-Island* for a retrenched camp, which, I hope, will render it impossible for them to get footing on that important Island. As this camp can always be reinforced, it is our intention to make it so capacious as to contain four thousand men. The batteries on the pass of *Hudson's River* will be secured as soon as possible; some of the heavy cannon from hence, must be sent up for the purpose. It is, really, a fine train we are in possession of. You shall have a return of the guns, as well as stores, by the post.

Captain *Smyth* is an excellent, intelligent, active officer; and I take the liberty of recommending him to your protection. Captain *Badlam*, of the Artillery, is likewise a man of great merit in his way.

You must pardon me, dear General, for a liberty I have taken. You know that *Sears* was to collect our volunteers in *Connecticut;* but he thought he could not succeed, unless he had some nominal office and rank; I accordingly, most impudently, by the virtue of the power deputed by you to me, (which power you never deputed,) appointed him assistant Adjutant-General, with rank of Lieutenant-Colonel, for the expedition. It can have no bad consequences; the man was much tickled, and it added spurs to his head. He is a creature of much spirit and publick virtue, and ought to have his back clapped.

With respect to the *Canada* expedition, which you indirectly propose to me, I have only one answer to make: Wherever I can be of most service, there I should choose to be. I have, indeed, just at this instant, one objection, which is, I am not without apprehensions that facing the cold may throw me into a relapse, so as not only to render me unfit for service there, but every where else. I am, indeed, much better, but extremely tender; I begin to walk; it has been a damned attack, a constant, violent fever attending it; I neither eat nor slept for eight days; but my fever is passed, and I begin to eat. A week, I hope, will set me up. Several members of Congress have indicated a desire I should go to *Canada;* I have explained to them my apprehensions, but assured them most honestly of my willingness; but, in fact, unless they expedite an army, and some heavy artillery, it will be in vain to trouble their heads about a General.

Colonel *Richmore*, who lately left *Montreal*, tells us, that what few troops are now there, will infallibly return home early in *April*. He is gone to the Congress, and I hope will give them (as he is capable) the necessary lights; but, whatever steps they take, be assured, dear General, that I am, with the greatest readiness, prepared to receive and execute yours and their commands.

Canada is, I confess, if I am only tolerably accoutred, a glorious field, which must flatter the ambition of yours, most sincerely,

CHARLES LEE.

To General *Washington*.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Albany, February 14, 1776.

DEAR SIR: A few days ago I was honoured with your letter of the 27th ultimo, by *Bennet*. I was so greatly indisposed then that it was with difficulty I could do that business, which was indispensable: I am, since, much better. A copious discharge from an internal imposthume in my breast has given me great relief; and I have reason to think it is healing, as my cough is greatly abated, and I gain strength so fast that I hope soon to be able to go to *Canada*, where all is in confusion.

Mr. *Walker*, I fear, has too much attention paid to his advice, which is, from what I can learn, generally founded on his private resentments for the many hardships he has suffered; indeed, he has suffered so much, that he must be more than man to divest himself of all resentment; but this, I fear, has already proved very detrimental to our cause. I have written fully and freely on this subject to Congress.

Five companies of Colonel *De Haas's*, and one of Colonel *Maxwell's*, are marched from hence. They are much thinned by sickness and desertion, and came very ill provided; the better half of their arms required repairs, and the whole were to be furnished with shoes, socks, mittens, &c., which causes a considerable detention, and distresses me much, as hardly any thing is to be bought in this place.

It is extremely difficult to determine what should be done, in what you mention, respecting the offer made by the *Caughnawaga Indians;* but, if we can get decently rid of their offer, I would prefer it to employing them. The expense we are at, in the *Indian* department, is now amazing; it will be more so when they consider themselves as in our service; nor would their intervention be of much consequence, unless we could procure that of the other nations. The hauteur of the *Indians* is much diminished since the taking of *Montreal;* they evidently see that they cannot get any supplies but through us.

I have not a mortar to send into *Canada*, and no heavy artillery, as your Excellency will perceive from the enclosed return, many of which, mentioned there, are unfit for service. I have sent on half a ton of powder, which came from *Philadelphia*, and we have none left here.

If even the regiment from the *Massachusetts*, which you ordered to be raised, goes into *Canada*, the number of troops there will be still short of eight complete regiments, as many are very deficient, and two cannot be raised out of the troops that remained in *Canada*, numbers of whom are daily coming away.

General *Arnold* still continues the blockade of *Quebeck;* the garrison appear to be in want of fuel, as they have attempted to break up some vessels near the town, but were prevented by our people, who made a few prisoners on the occasion.

I am, dear sir, with the most respectful sentiments, and best wishes, your Excellency's most obedient, humble servant,

PHILIP SCHUYLER.

His Excellency General *Washington*, &c.

SAMUEL MOTT TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Norwich, February 14, 1776.

HONOURED SIR: As your Honour, with your Council of Safety, have been pleased to direct me, to view the works, &c., for the defence of the harbour of *New-London*, *Stonington*, &c., and report my opinion in the premises; and, since, by order, have attended with Colonel *Dyer* and Mr. *Wales*, when it seemed to be their prevailing opinion, to raise three Companies of men for *New-London* and *Groton*, it was then my opinion, that such a small number of men to be raised, was not acting with such spirit and taking such effectual measures as the nature of the case, the importance of the object, the necessity of expedition, and the danger of the times required. I have, since, conversed with people of all ranks among us and find it the universal opinion and expectation of the people, that at least one regiment of men be raised to guard the coast, and perform the work necessary to be done at *New-London* and *Groton*, including the detachments that might be necessary at *Stonington*, *Lyme*, and so from the mouth of *Connecticut* to that of *Pawcatuck* Rivers.

The forming them into one entire regiment would bring the returns and accounts, &c., into a smaller compass, and be more easy and ready for settlement. Less than that number will, by all that I can learn, not give content, as they might be able on any sudden attack to defend against the enemy; and this country would, in that case, come nearer towards having an equal share of employment in this defensive war.

The Judges of our Court, last evening, called me in on the subject, and as they had no other ready opportunity, that they might, through me, make known their opinion, and were all anxiously of opinion, that no less number than a regiment would, by any means, be adequate—as it is an adopted custom in all the Colonies, to keep up a considerable body of troops for defence; they think, that, in case any disaster should happen, or the enemy get any considerable advantage of us, by reason of our neglect, either in expedition, or not having a considerable body of troops ready raised and disciplined on the spot, we should have reason to blame ourselves for it. To have an alarm in the country, and the people taken from their business at every time, on the approach of two or three ships, would be in danger of frustrating the raising a sufficiency of provisions, and leave our lands in a great measure unoccupied, which might be fatal to our success. Such a regiment might be raised during their pleasure, and under the direction of your Honour and Council, or the General Assembly, and might be under such regulations that any number of them might march elsewhere on any emergency.

These, may it please your Honour, among many others to the same purpose, are the arguments among the people generally, as far as I have been able to find their sentiments, and I thought it my duty to make them known to your Honour, as matter of information.

I am, sir, your Honour's most humble, and obedient servant,

SAMUEL MOTT.

Governour *Trumbull.*

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO GENERAL SCHUYLER.

Lebanon, February 14, 1776.

SIR: *Sunday*, 11th instant, at ten o'clock, received two letters, of the 8th, from General *Washington*. Nothing new in the camp before *Boston*. At one o'clock, Mr. *Bennet* delivered me yours of the 5th, and at sunset an express arrived with the letter from General *Lee*, of the 7th, a copy of which I give myself the pleasure to enclose. The intelligence it contains is both pleasing and interesting. I did not think fit to disband Colonel *Ward's* Regiment, until I was made acquainted with the reception met by General *Lee*, on his going into the city of *New-York;* so that, immediately, I was abler to order the same forward to his assistance, agreeable to his requisition. The variety of business, for these two days past, occasioned my detaining Mr. *Bennet* till this time.

On my receiving the resolutions of Congress to raise a battalion to go to the assistance of our friends in *Canada*, I recalled my first Proclamation, gone out for that purpose, and issued a second, corresponding with the intentions of Congress. I conceive, its being done so early, it will prove no detriment to the service. Your care and prudence in the settlement of the rolls, and the rate of fifteen miles a day, from where the soldiers were dismissed to their respective Captain's place of abode, will meet the approbation of Congress. The encouragement given by Congress will incline all who are able to furnish themselves with arms. I shall give directions, so that no more will be expected from you than the number mentioned in your last, most probably not so many. I shall attend to the mode adopted by you for the payment, according to an appraisement of the arms that were delivered into the Continental stores by soldiers from this Colony. Colonel *Burrell's* Regiment will much easiest march through *Albany*. Have appointed Mr. *Adonijah Strong* to make provision for their march to that city, there to be supplied out of the Continental stores; and, to prevent confusion or multiplicity of accounts, have appointed a trusty person, Mr. *William Lawrence*, or some trusty person our Treasurer shall employ, to attend and pay the men, according to the Continental allowances, and keep clear accounts and vouchers. Whether the sleds or sleighs from hence will incline to go farther than *Albany*, is uncertain. By one of them, shall send about eight hundred pounds powder. Mr. *Bennet* will bring the rolls that are at Pay-Table. Major *Douglass* intended to have brought his to you, but, being Major of Colonel *Ward's* Battalion, have desired him to send it to *Hartford*, for *Bennet* to carry forward. Truly, our Treasurer's chest needs replenishing. I was much pleased with Colonel *Mott's* frank and generous conduct in resigning his appointment. Depend that he may be remembered when an opportunity presents.

It gives me great pleasure to hear our little corps before *Quebeck* continue closely to blockade that city. This is true bravery. It must convince Lord *North* that *Americans* are not all poltroons. Your sentiments are extremely just. The conduct of Divine Providence towards the *United Colonies*, in this unhappy contest, hitherto, is very marvellous, and affords abundant matter for our rejoicing, with thankfulness to Him who is the Supreme Director of all events, for his salvation, and in hope of that which is future. I wish you better health, and the opening of the Spring may restore.

I am, with great truth and regard, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

JONATHAN TRUMBULL.

ROBERT H. HARRISON TO CHRISTOPHER LEFFINGWELL.

Cambridge, February 14, 1776.

SIR: I have it in command from his Excellency to acknowledge receipt of your favour of the 11th instant, and to tell you that the half of each sort of the shells be immediately sent to this place, and the other half to *Roxbury*. You will receive, herewith, four hundred pounds, lawful money, to pay the cost of the transportation, &c.

His Excellency returns you thanks for your attention, and desires you will forward these shells with all possible expedition. I am, &c.,

ROBERT H. HARRISON.

To *Christopher Leffingwell*, Esq., *Norwich.*

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read February 29, 1776.—Referred to Mr. Chase, Mr. J. Adams, Mr. Penn, Mr. Wythe, and Mr. Rutledge.]

Cambridge, February 14, 1776.

SIR: Through you, I beg leave to lay before Congress the enclosed letter from Lord *Drummond* to General *Robertson*, which came to my hands a few days ago, in order to be sent into *Boston*. As I never heard of his Lordship being vested with power to treat with Congress upon the subject of our grievances, nor of his having laid any propositions before them for an accommodation, I confess it surprised me much, and led me to form various conjectures of his motives, and intended application to General *Howe* and Admiral *Shuldham* for a passport for the safe conduct of such Deputies as Congress might appoint for negotiating terms of reconciliation between *Great Britain* and us. Whatever his intentions are, however benevolent his designs may be, I confess that his letter has embarrassed me much, and I am not without suspicion of its meaning more than the generous purposes it professes. I should suppose that, if the mode for negotiation which he points out should be adopted, which I hope will never be thought of, it ought to have been fixed and settled previous to any application of this sort, and, at best, that his conduct in this instance is premature and officious, and leading to consequences of a fatal and injurious nature to the rights of this country. His zeal and desire, perhaps, of an amicable and constitutional adjustment taking place, may have suggested and precipitated the measure. Be that as it may, I thought it of too much importance to suffer it to go in, without having the express direction of Congress for that purpose, and that it was my indispensable duty to transmit them the original, to make such interpretations and inferences as they may think right.

Messrs. *Willard* and *Child*, who were sent to *Nova-Scotia*, in pursuance of the resolve of Congress, have just returned, and made their report, which I do myself the honour to enclose you. They have not answered the purposes of their commission, by any means, as they only went but a little way into that country, and found their intelligence upon the information of others. You will see the

reasons they assign in excuse or justification of their conduct, in the report itself.

Last night, a party of Regulars, said to be about five hundred, landed on *Dorchester-Neck*, and burned some of the houses there, which were of no value to us, nor would they have been, unless we take post there. They then might have been of some service. A detachment went after them, as soon as the fire was discovered, but, before it could arrive, they had executed their plan, and made their retreat.

Enclosed, is a letter for *David Franks*, Esq., from Mr. *Chamier*, in *Boston*, upon the subject of victualling such of the King's troops as may be prisoners within the limits of his contract, which I beg the favour of you to deliver him, and that proper agents may be appointed by him to see that it is done. I could wish, too, that Congress would fall upon some mode for supplying the officers with such money as they may really stand in need of, and depute proper persons for that purpose, and furnishing the privates with such clothing as may be absolutely necessary. I am applied to, and wearied by their repeated requests. In some instances, I have desired the Committees to give the prisoners within their appointments what they should judge absolutely necessary for their support, as the only means in my power of relieving their distress. But I can imagine that, if there were persons to superintend this business, their wants would be better attended to, and many exorbitant charges prevented and saved to the Continent, and the whole would then be brought into a proper account.

I am, sir, with great esteem and regard, your most obedient, humble servant,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

P. S. I send a return of the strength of the Regiments.

—

New-York, February 5, 1776.

MY DEAR SIR: Just as I was sitting down to write to you, I received yours, by General *Clinton*, but have not, as yet, had an opportunity of seeing him. During the very few moments I was with you at *Boston*, I expressed my wish of being able to make known at *Philadelphia* the disposition in *England* towards an accommodation, upon liberal terms, and such as were founded in equity and candour. You then concurred with me in thinking that, however much those gentlemen whose province it now is to think for the publick might be held up as aiming at a total separation, they had as their sole object such a reconciliation as would give a constitutional security to their children. In this opinion I think we were not deceived. From all the conversation I had at *Philadelphia* with those gentlemen, (who allow me, I hope, to rank myself among the number of their friends,) I have every reason to think them most seriously disposed towards reconciliation. From a conviction of this, I have pressed the setting on foot a negotiation; nor am I without hopes of success. Should such an event take place, it is not impossible but a deputation from hence may be found expedient, and, in that case, a passport requisite for a security against *English* cruisers. Such a passport must be left blank, for filling up names, and sent by the same conveyance that this passes through. It will be needless to caution you against delay. My slight acquaintance with General *Howe* and Admiral *Shuldham* will furnish you with an apology for not making a more direct application.

I continue, my dear friend, yours, &c.,

DRUMMOND.

Brigadier-General *Robertson*, *Boston*.

P. S. Let me guard you against letting this go to the publick, till you see how far my hopes are well-grounded.

—

REPORT OF MESSRS. WILLARD AND CHILD.

We, the subscribers, being appointed by his Excellency General *Washington*, agreeable to an order of the Continental Congress, to repair to the Province of *Nova-Scotia*, for the following purposes, viz: To inquire into the disposition of the inhabitants of said Province towards the common cause of *America*, the condition of their fortifications, quantity of warlike stores, the number of soldiers and sailors, and ships-of-war: We beg leave to report as follows, that, agreeable to the above order, we did repair to a place called *Campo-Bello*, about twenty or thirty miles into the Province aforesaid, but could not cross the *Bay-of-Fundy*, for no vessel could be hired or procured, except we purchased one, as every vessel, even to a boat, that crossed the Bay, was seized as soon as they came into port, except cleared from *Halifax;* and we could not travel any farther into the country, by reason of Governour *Legg's* establishing martial-law in said Province, and issuing several Proclamations, one bearing date *July* 5, 1775, which is as follows: "I do, therefore, with the advice and consent of His Majesty's Council, publish this Proclamation, hereby notifying and warning all persons that they do not, in any manner, directly or indirectly, aid or assist, with any supplies whatever, any Rebel or Rebels, nor hold intelligence or correspondence with them, nor conceal, harbour, or protect any such offenders, as they would avoid being deemed Rebels and Traitors, and be proceeded against accordingly;" also, a Proclamation, dated *December* 8, 1775, forbidding any stranger to be in *Halifax* more than two hours, without making his business known to a Justice of the Peace, upon the pain and peril of being treated as a Spy; also, forbidding any person entertaining any such stranger for more than two hours, without giving information, on the penalty aforesaid. From our own knowledge, and the best information from others, about eight parts out of ten of the inhabitants of *Nova-Scotia* would engage in the common cause of *America*, could they be protected. There are no fortifications in the Province, only at *Halifax*, and those much out of repair; but they are at work on them. They have picketed the town in, and have about one hundred and fifty pieces of cannon, not mounted, and about twenty or thirty pieces mounted in the town. There were at *Halifax* about two hundred soldiers, the beginning of *January*, 1776, which were all that there were in the Province at that time; but we are credibly informed that there are two regiments arrived there since that time. There was only one ship-of-war, of sixty guns, at *Halifax*, and one, of fourteen, at *Annapolis*, at the time aforesaid.

AARON WILLARD,
MOSES CHILD.

—

GENERAL ORDERS.

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, February 9, 1776.

(Parole, *Stirling.*) (Countersign, *Jersey.*)

The Colonel of a Regiment is, on no pretence, to license more than one Sutler within the limits of the camp, as the Quartermaster-General has his Excellency's positive orders to punish with severity any person who is unlicensed, or licensed contrary to the above order.

If any of the Militia who are ordered into camp should incline to enter into the Continental Army, they are immediately to join the Regiment they inlist into, and are, from that day, to be struck off the Militia rolls, that their pay may from thenceforward commence in the Regiment they engage in, and cease in the Militia. It is expected that proper attention be paid to this order, as no plea of ignorance will be admitted.

—

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, February 10, 1776.

(Parole, *Suffolk.*) (Countersign, *Albany.*)

General *Green's* Brigade to furnish one Field-Officer, two Captains, four Subalterns, four Sergeants, four Corporals, two Drums, and one hundred and twenty Privates, to relieve the Guard, to-morrow morning, upon *Cobble-Hill*. General *Sullivan's* Brigade to furnish the same number of officers and men to relieve that Guard on *Monday* morning; and so, alternately, by each Brigade, until further orders.

Robert *McKnight*, of Captain *Gleason's* Company, in Colonel *Nixon's* Regiment, tried at a General Court-Martial, whereof Colonel *Hutchinson* was President, for desertion, and inlisting in different Regiments, is found guilty by the Court, and adjudged to receive thirty-nine lashes upon the bare back, and be stopped five pounds four shillings out of his pay, to repay those officers whom the prisoner has defrauded.

The General approves the sentence, and orders it to be put in execution, at such time and place as the commanding officer of the Regiment shall appoint.

—

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, February 11, 1776.

(Parole, *Bristol.*) (Countersign, *Hadley.*)

Benjamin Woodman, of Captain *Darby's* Company, in

Colonel *Prescott's* Regiment, tried at a late General Court-Martial, whereof Colonel *Hutchinson* was President, for desertion, is found guilty by the Court, and sentenced to receive twenty lashes upon his bare back. The General approves the sentence, and orders it to be executed, at such time and place as Colonel *Prescott* shall think proper.

James McCormick, of Captain *Farrington's* Company, in Colonel *Sargent's* Regiment, tried at the above Court-Martial, for assaulting, beating, and robbing *Samuel Marston*, Sergeant in Colonel *Poor's* Regiment, is found guilty by the Court, and sentenced to receive thirty-nine lashes, and orders four pounds to be stopped out of his pay, to reimburse Sergeant *Marston*, what the prisoner robbed him of.

—

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, February 12, 1776.

(Parole, *Plymouth.*) (Countersign, *Portsmouth.*)

The General, being informed that several of the Militia are coming in without arms, orders that the Brigadiers, to those Brigades they are joined, do examine into this matter, and discharge every man who has not arms, as they come in, keeping an account thereof, to deliver when called for.

It is with no small degree of astonishment that the General observes, by the returns of last week, that seventeen men have been dismissed the service, out of which number Colonel *Whitcomb* alone has discharged seven. He is, therefore, called upon to be at Head-Quarters to-morrow morning, at ten o'clock, to account for his conduct in this instance. At the same time, it is declared, and particular attention will be paid to it, that, if any Colonel or commanding officer of a Regiment presume, in future, to discharge a man, without proper authority for so doing, he will be put in arrest, and tried for disobedience of orders. To have men inlisted one day, and discharged, as it were, the next, without any action or apparent cause to disqualify men for service, must have a bad appearance in the returns sent to Congress, especially when the list of deserters comes to be added to it.

To remedy these evils as far as possible, it is directed, in cases where discharges are really necessary, that the commanding officer of the Regiment do produce the man soliciting the discharge, to the Brigadier-General of his Brigade, who is to examine accurately into the matter, and not to give a discharge for sickness of a temporary duration.

In case of desertion, the commanding officer of the regiment or corps is immediately to report the deserter or deserters to his Brigadier-General, giving an exact description of the man, the town he comes from, &c., who is to cause proper steps to be taken for apprehending him. A reward of five dollars will be paid to any person, or persons, who shall apprehend and bring a deserter into the camp, upon obtaining a certificate from the Brigadier of the service performed.

—

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, February 13, 1776.

(Parole, *Litchfield.*) (Countersign, *Coventry.*)

The Regiments of Militia lately arrived at *Roxbury* and *Cambridge*, are immediately to be furnished with fifteen rounds of powder and ball per man. The Adjutant-General will, upon application, give orders upon the Commissary-General for that quantity. The Regiments now at *Roxbury* may apply to Major-General *Ward*, who will give orders accordingly.

Captain *Peleg Wadsworth* is appointed Aid-de-camp to Major-General *Ward* during the absence of *Samuel Osgood*, Esq.

—

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, February 14, 1776.

(Parole, *Richmond.*) (Countersign, *Lincoln.*)

The General Court-Martial, of which Colonel *Hutchinson* is President, is dissolved.

Benjamin Mumford, in Colonel *Bond's* Regiment, tried at the above Court-Martial for theft, is acquitted by the Court. The General orders the prisoner to be released. The Provost-Martial is, by his instructions, ordered to suppress all riots, to be particularly attentive to the behaviour of all the Sutlers in and about *Cambridge*, and see that they shut up their houses at tattoo-beating, and do not offer, upon any account, to sell a drop of liquor after that hour. All officers are strictly enjoined to be aiding and assisting to the Provost, in the due execution of his office, which the late shocking proceeding of some of the Sutlers makes absolutely necessary.

—

JOHN LANGDON TO MESHECH WEARE.

Portsmouth, February 13, 1776.

Gentlemen: I have just received a letter from *Philadelphia*, informing me of one of the vessels belonging to the Continental service having arrived with sixty tons of saltpetre, thirteen tons of powder, one thousand three hundred stand of good arms; on which important news I have the honour to congratulate you. My letter is dated the 3d inst.; the vessel arrived the day before.

I am, with all respect, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

John Langdon.

—

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO COLONEL JOHN VEAZY.

[No. 18.] Annapolis, February 15, 1776.

Sir: In consequence of a letter received this day from Mr. *John Thompson*, dated 1st *February*, the Council of Safety have determined to purchase the whole of the gunpowder imported by *Nathaniel Rumsey* in partnership with a gentleman of *Philadelphia;* or, if that cannot be done, then so much as you can agree for; and request you would make the contract for the use of the Province. They have sent by Captain *Craigg*, five hundred pounds, currency, to pay for the ton already engaged, but do not intend the whole ton for the separate use of your County. They will take care you shall be plentifully supplied, in proportion to other Counties. You will purchase upon the most reasonable terms. The price, we expect, will not exceed twenty-five pounds, currency, per hundred weight, unless the Committee of *Philadelphia* should give more. The balance of cash shall be immediately paid to your order, as soon as the powder is landed, and put into your custody or power. We are, &c.

To Colonel *John Veazy.*

—

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO BALTIMORE COMMITTEE.

[No. 16.] Annapolis, February 15, 1776.

Gentlemen: By a resolve of the Convention, the Committee of Observation were directed to purchase all the sulphur they could meet with in their several Counties, at a price not exceeding six pence per pound, and to have the same lodged in the store of Messrs. *Lux* and *Bowley*, in *Baltimore* Town. We desire you will let us know what has been done in your County, in consequence of that resolve. We are, &c.

To the Committee of Observation for *Baltimore* County.

—

GUSTAVUS SCOTT TO DANIEL OF ST. THOMAS JENIFER.

Princess-Anne, February 15, 1776.

Sir: I am directed by the Committee of Observation of this County, to inform you, that the Independent company raised for this County, and commanded by Captain *Gunby*, will be collected at this place on *Tuesday* next; and they are desirous some way should be pointed out for supplying them with provisions and other necessaries. If I remember right, the mode of victualling the troops is left entirely in the breast of the Council of Safety; and I presume you have taken some order in it before this time.

There is certainly a necessity that provisions and firewood should be immediately procured by some person or other for the several companies, or the probable event will be, that they will, or at least many of them, leave their place of station. If a particular person in each County should be appointed, either by the Council of Safety, or the Contractor-General, I would beg leave to mention to you Mr. *James Geoghegan*, a merchant of this town, both willing and capable of executing the business. I beg some immediate order may be taken in this matter; and am, for the Committee, sir, your most obedient servant,

Gustavus Scott.

To *Daniel of St. Thomas Jenifer*, Esq.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER RECEIVED IN LONDON (BY WAY OF NEW-YORK) DATED PHILADELPHIA, FEBRUARY 15, 1776.

The saints of this place are, many of them, turned sinners. The *Friends*, who have money, are as averse to drawing their purse-strings, as to drawing a trigger. Paper currency is become plenty here, yet every one wishes for the ready, though no one dare speak, for fear of the displeasure of the Congress, which is as arbitrary as the Inquisition in *Spain*. Soldiers are raising, and the river fortifying below this city, though you know vessels of any burden, even a large frigate, could not come up here. Two hulks are moored, in order to be sunk, should an attempt be made, and thereby the channel blocked. Believe me, many people here are heartily tired of our great men's knight errantry; for I am afraid, on a formidable appearance of the King's troops, the Congress will not find so many friends here as they imagine.

In Provincial Congress, New-Jersey, Brunswick, February 15, 1776.

The Letter from the honourable Continental Congress, of the 12th instant, was read the second time, and is in the words following:

"Philadelphia, February 12, 1776.

"GENTLEMEN: The arrival of troops at *New-York*, the importance of that place to the welfare of *America*, and the necessity of throwing up a number of works to prevent our enemies from landing and taking post there, render it necessary that a number of troops should immediately join Major-General *Lee*. I am, therefore, desired to apply to you, and request you would, with all possible expedition, send detachments of your Minute-Men, equal to a battalion, under proper officers, and well armed and accoutred, to *New-York*, there to be under the command of General *Lee*.

"Your approved zeal, in the cause of your country, gives me the strongest assurances that you will, with alacrity, embrace this opportunity of giving aid to your neighbours, and that your people will cheerfully engage in a service by which they will not only render essential service to their country, but also have an opportunity of acquiring military skill and knowledge in the construction of field-works, and the method of fortifying and intrenching camps, by which they will be the better able, when occasion calls, to defend their rights and liberties.

"I am, gentlemen, your obedient, humble servant,

"JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

"To the Honourable Convention of *New-Jersey*."

The Congress taking the above Letter into consideration, and desirous of doing every thing in their power to promote the common cause, do *Resolve, unanimously*, That the above requisition be complied with; and that detachments of Minute-Men, properly accoutred, equal to a battalion in the Continental service, be immediately made, and marched to *New-York*, under the command of *Charles Stewart*, Esq., Colonel; *Mark Thompson*, Esq., Lieutenant-Colonel; *Frederick Frelinghuysen* and *Thomas Henderson*, Esquires, Majors; and that said Battalion, when joined with the Continental forces, be under the command of Major-General *Lee*.

Ordered, That Colonel *Stewart* wait on the honourable Continental Congress, and take their orders respecting the supplying of said Battalion.

A true copy.

WILLIAM PATTERSON, *Secretary*.

New-York, February 15, 1776.

Yesterday, being the day appointed for the General Assembly of this Province to meet, a few of the Members met accordingly. The Governour was pleased to prorogue their next meeting, to the 14th day of *March* next.

The alarm and confusion in this city, for some days past, was truly distressing, occasioned chiefly by the unexpected arrival of General *Clinton*, in the *Mercury* frigate, and two other vessels, a ship with troops, and a brig from *Boston*. They sailed from hence three days ago, it is said for *North-Carolina*, since which we have enjoyed some small degree of quiet, but, how long it will continue, is hard to tell. Last Lord's day we were in much confusion; people in almost every street were loading carts with their goods; our churches were nearly empty, and those who went could scarcely hear the preacher's voice; in short, all was trepidation and confusion. The greatest part of the inhabitants, with their moveables, have taken refuge in the country, particularly the women and children. What aggravated the distressing scene was, the poor were flying with their children and little all, to the country, many of whom could scarcely pay their ferriage, and did not know where to get shelter. It is worthy of observation, that though many were taking advantages of the distresses of their brethren, by charging exorbitant prices for cartage, freight, &c., there were some who acted a worthy part, and came from a considerable distance in the country, to carry the goods of poor people gratis; an example worthy of imitation.

COLONEL WATERBURY TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

New-York, February 13, 1776.

PRESIDENT HANCOCK: I received orders from the Continental Congress, in *January* last, to raise five or six hundred men to go on an expedition against the Tories on *Long-Island*. In consequence of which orders, I immediately appointed my officers, and raised the number of men that I was directed to raise, and provided provisions for them; and the men were on their march, and a number of people employed in cutting the vessels out of the harbours, (as at that time the vessels were all frozen in,) when I received counter-orders. The expense of raising, and the time that they were employed, amounted to a considerable sum. I desire to know, sir, whether I can receive the money to pay off the expense without coming to *Philadelphia*, as it would be very difficult for me to leave my regiment at present, and the people are daily demanding their pay from me. I would beg the favour of you, sir, to direct me in what way I shall apply.

In the mean time, I am, sir, with the greatest truth and respect, your Honour's most obedient, humble servant,

DAVID WATERBURY, JUN.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq., President of the Continental Congress at *Philadelphia*.

PETER T. CURTENIUS TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

New-York, February 15, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The Quartermaster of Colonel *Drake's* Regiment has applied to me for provision. I have no provision in store; and, if I had, it is impossible for me to go through all the business I have on hand. Should, therefore, be glad that the honourable Congress would appoint a Commissary *pro tempore*, in the regiment, to provide for them, until you write to *Walter Livingston*, Esq., to appoint one of his Deputies to reside here, which will be a saving to the publick, because he gets paid by the month, and I get a commission.

I am, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

PETER T. CURTENIUS.

To the Provincial Congress of *New-York*.

JOSEPH BLANCHARD TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

New-York, February 15, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I have occasion to wait on his Excellency Governour *Tryon*, to get the Province seal affixed to a small patent, which myself and some others are concerned in. I, therefore, beg the favour to have liberty to go on board the ship in which the Governour now is, for the purpose aforesaid. It will greatly oblige those interested, and, also, your most obedient, and very humble servant,

JOSEPH BLANCHARD.

To the Honourable Provincial Congress, now assembled at the City of *New-York*.

R. THURMAN TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

New-York, February 15, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: In my application to you, gentlemen, yesterday, I made no mention of any particular rank I would be glad to hold, humbly submitting that matter to your Honours' judgment, which I did not doubt was the case

with the other gentlemen; but I find that companies and first lieutenancies have been particularly solicited for, and, as my silence, on that head, may be construed into an indifferency in me what rank I obtained, I take this opportunity of declaring my wish for as high a rank in the army as your Honours' may judge my poor abilities capable of filling with propriety, and to your satisfaction.

I am, gentlemen, your most humble servant,

R. Thurman.

To the Honourable Provincial Congress of *New-York*.

SAMUEL THOMPSON TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

Brookhaven, February 15, 1776.

Gentlemen: Whereas, by the Convention of this Province, the Committee of *Suffolk* County were directed to make a return of a draft of the several harbours in said County, to the said Convention, as soon as might conveniently be. Pursuant thereto, the County Committee ordered me to send in a draft of the East and West harbours of *Brookhaven*, commonly known by the names of *Setauket* and *Stony-Brook* harbours; and, although I know myself a bad draftsman, yet I have undertaken the task, unequal to it as I was, and have endeavoured to make something like a plan, not only of the harbours and channels, but, also, of the beaches and lands between them, and have, also, endeavoured to tell something of their length and distances, and, also, of the depth of the water in some places.

By my card, I have made the distance from *Mount-Misery-Clift*, or *Point*, by *Setauket-Harbour*, eight miles and an half; but, I believe, as the shore runs, it is more than ten miles to *Rasepeige-Clift*, at the west end of *Long-Beach*, in *Smithtown*, a long and very defenceless shore; but, although some people think it a matter of small importance whether *Setauket-Harbour* be fortified or not, I profess I cannot be of their opinion, as there is not one harbour, from the *Oysterpond's Point* to *Setauket-Harbour*, that a vessel of any considerable burden can get into, and the distance is more than fifty miles. I think *Setauket-Harbour* must be secured by a small fort built on the beach that runs off from *Mount-Misery-Point*, as no vessel of burden can get in without coming within forty rods of said fort. And, if our cruisers should happen to be chased at low water, I think they may run in within an hundred rods of said fort. If it should be done only with a small battery, and the enemy should land to the east of them, and come upon the back of them, as they may do at low water, our soldiers will have no shelter. I think there should be, at this place, not less than six or eight guns, some of which should be nine or twelve-pounders; on the Sound side, small guns would answer; on the back side, *Stony-Brook-Harbour* would need but two six or nine-pounders, placed on the high clift. Some have thought it would be best to place the battery on *George's Neck*, four hundred rods from the harbour, but I cannot join with them, (at *Setauket-Harbour*.) Justice *Strong*, by whom you will receive these few lines, can, I think, explain the matter more fully to you.

We are very much in want of a gunsmith here to fix our guns and make us bayonets; but gunsmiths are very extortionate in their asking, which I think ought to be looked to, as their work is not worth more now than it used to be, when they would do their work better, and for a much less price. There are several blacksmiths in this town that say they would take in a good workman, and assist him, and, unless we can have a workman, we cannot possibly be fixed as we ought to be, to defend our country. There are numbers amongst us that have no guns, nor could they buy if they had money.

Gentlemen, from your very humble servant,

Samuel Thompson.

To the Congress at *New-York*.

WILLIAM BEDLOW TO JOHN BERRIEN.

Fort Constitution, February, 15, 1776.

Dear Sir: Yours of the 13th instant, by the carpenters, I this day received, and most truly deplore the situation *New-York* is in. The Lord reigns king, whom, I trust, will soon restore *America* to peace and liberty.

A paragraph of your letter, where you say, "two or three of the members of the Congress say no time ought to be lost in contracting for and getting the timber and other necessaries to the place for erecting the new Fortress," on which I know not how to act; having no directions what kind of fortress is intended, I cannot tell what timber and necessaries will be wanted. The barrack frame we have had brought down from *New-Windsor* to *Moore's Landing*, till a convenient opportunity to get it to *Pooploop's Kill*. Captain *Lawrence* went, this day, to *Poughkeepsie*, to procure a place for his family. I have sent down the bearer of this—an honest, good man—express, to obtain some directions respecting the intended work at *Pooploop's Kill*, which, request you will endeavour to procure, and despatch him back with all speed. I shall give directions to Mr. *White*, at *New-Windsor*, to procure timber and frame a store of the dimensions of the one here, with all despatch, as it will be one of the first things, with the barrack, wanted. I beg you will notice that money is wanting now, and will be, continually, to pay contingencies; for the persons we employ to procure the necessaries up here, will have a commission for advancing their cash and doing the business, which will be prevented if we are in cash to pay as things are delivered, and will necessarily forward the work.

I am, dear sir, for self and brother Commissioners, your humble servant,

William Bedlow.

To *John Berrien*.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read March 4, 1776.]

Albany, February 15, 1776.

Sir: I was, last evening, honoured with your favour of the 6th instant, covering sundry resolutions of Congress. I feel, with an irradicable gratitude, the approbation which Congress has been pleased to express of my conduct, in *Tryon* County.

Agreeable to the former resolutions of Congress, of the 9th *November*, I had given out, in orders, that all officers who chose to continue in the service, should return their names. This was not complied with by many; but lest they might, hereafter, plead ignorance of the order, I, some days ago, directed Colonel *Van Schaick* to make me a complete return, on that head, of all such of his officers as are on this side of *Canada*, which I momently expect.

Captain *Curtis*, late of *Hinman's*, and Captain *Mills*, late of *Holmes's*, to whom I had given recruiting orders before I left *Ticonderoga*, have completed their companies. Captain *McCrackin*, of *Van Schaick's*, has a considerable number inlisted; all these to serve next campaign; and as Congress has ordered four regiments to be levied in this Colony, for the defence thereof, and for garrisoning *Crown-Point*, &c., and as the three companies above-mentioned were not designated for any particular regiment, I shall incorporate them into *Van Schaick's*. Hence, I hope this regiment, with the assistance of the Committee of this city and County, will be speedily completed.

As *Canada* does not afford any pork, and very little beef until the Fall of the year, I could wish that I had more pork here to send up. There will, however, be a sufficiency at the upper posts to supply the troops in *Canada*, until the roads are well settled in the Spring.

Enclose you the *Oneidas' and Mohawk's* speech, with my answer to it.

I have wrote to a friend at *Niagara*, who has resided there some time, to procure and send me a state of that garrison. If *Butler* has a conference with the *Indians* at that place, they will, I hope, destroy so much of the garrison's provision as to oblige them to abandon it; but should that not be the case, as it is of great importance that it should be in our possession in order to secure all the *Indians*, I could wish that an attempt was made to get the *Indians* to consent that we should invest it; perhaps an offer to pay the *Indians* the value of all the King's stores that may be found in it, cannon excepted, might induce them to consent that we should try to possess ourselves of it. Two regiments, under an active officer, would be sufficient for the business, as I apprehend nothing more is necessary than to cut off the supplies from *Detroit*. One of these regiments, I have reason to believe, from the temper of the Whigs in *Tryon* County, might be raised there.

The Paymaster-General informs me, that many of the pay-rolls of General *Wooster's* and Colonel *Waterbury's* Regiment cannot be completed, as no return is made of the men belonging to those regiments, which were discharged by the General. I shall, therefore, in order to prevent the clamour of the soldiers, be under the necessity to give a warrant in favour of the Pay-Table of *Connecticut*, for what may be estimated still due, that they may pay off such soldiers as can produce their discharges. Perhaps General *Wooster* may send me the return before the money arrives from *Philadelphia*, if he has kept an account of them. If so, the necessity of this measure will be superseded.

I am so crowded with business that I have not leisure to send the speech above-mentioned.

I am, sir, with every sentiment of respect, your most obedient, humble servant,

PHILIP SCHUYLER.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq., &c.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Cambridge, February 15, 1776.

SIR: Your favour, of the 12th instant, I received, and beg leave to inform you, that I should have most certainly contrived to have spared you some money, for the troops going to *Canada*, pressing as the demands against me were, had I not been advised of a supply sent you by Congress, for that purpose.

I shall be glad to know whether, when I pay the Militia from your Government, I am to give warrants only for the balance, after deducting the three dollars per man, advanced by your Committee of Pay-Table, and whether I am to refund what they paid, after the Militia have served the time they are engaged for. The whole of them are not yet come in, but I imagine it will not be long first.

I am much obliged, and return you my sincere thanks, for ordering the powder from *Providence* to this camp, in this time of necessity, and will most cheerfully pay for it, or replace it, when in my power, as shall be most agreeable to you; and, also, for the arms you are good enough to promise to send me, as they are exceedingly wanted. I wish you could have added a cypher or two to the number.

I had received almost a similar letter from General *Lee*, to the one you have favoured me with, before yours came to hand, and also heard of the arrival of powder, saltpetre, and arms, at *Philadelphia*. My accounts only make the powder fifteen tons. Be that as it may, it is an event of much importance to us, and, I hope, will be soon followed by more.

I am, &c.,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To Governour *Trumbull*.

COLONEL HUNTINGTON TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Roxbury Camp, February 15, 1776.

HONOURED SIR: Since I wrote you last there has been much talk of attacking the strong fortress of our enemies. It has, all along been said, by the Army and others, that when the season should make a good bridge of ice, then would be the time to rout our enemies: we have had such an opportunity, but were not prepared to improve it. Many, however, would have been glad to have engaged in the enterprise, as circumstances were. A cannonade and bombardment will now be attempted, but I fear with little effect, and that, finally, we must be content to remain in our present state; but all is for the best.

The defeat at *Quebeck* may, eventually, be to the advantage of our cause. The time the news of it got into *Boston* was opportune; it happened to be published in their paper just as Admiral *Graves* was sailing for *England*, that General *Carleton* was twelve hundred strong in the city, and our Army only twelve hundred! This will probably make the Ministry easy as to an early reinforcement, which might otherwise be expected. However, I judge that object will not be, in the least, neglected by us. I wish a part of this army might be spared to strengthen our posts at the northward. Some sensible, experienced officers in the Army, are of opinion that a brisk cannonade, with carcasses and shells, will render the town so disagreeable as to oblige the enemy to abandon it. How happy would such an event be. In that case, and *Quebeck* in our hands, this Army only might, properly disposed, be sufficient to defend our whole extensive coast, backed as it is by a good Militia. Much blame has been thrown on our guard, at *Dorchester*, on occasion of the late excursion of the enemy there, and burning a few desolate houses, but I hear General *Ward* approved their conduct.

I understand the General has, importunately, asked for what powder you can supply him, which, I hope, will be granted.

JEDEDIAH HUNTINGTON.

To Governour *Trumbull*.

JAMES OTIS TO MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL.

Barnstable, February 15, 1776.

GENTLEMEN OF THE COUNCIL: It seems, on *Saturday* last, a *French* vessel ran on shore, on the south side of the Cape, with a hundred and odd hogsheads of molasses, and some other small articles, and one hogshead of sugar. She had a *French* master, and one *Pinkum*, of *Nantucket*, the *English* master. Their papers are all in *French*, so I can say but little about them. There was on board said vessel one Mons. *Le Baron*, a gentleman who took passage on board with a design to go to *Philadelphia*. He appears much of a gentleman; says he was in the King of *Prussia's* service more than twenty years. I have wrote by him to General *Washington*, who, no doubt, will examine into his business. He says the *French* and *English* masters talked of going into *Boston*, but they deny it. On the whole, I thought it best to acquaint your Honours as to this matter, and as the goods are taken into custody by Major *Hallett* and others, they will want the direction of the Court, in this delicate point.

I am your Honours' most humble servant,

JAMES OTIS.

To the Honourable the Council of *Massachusetts-Bay*.

STEPHEN MOYLAN TO MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL.

Cambridge, February 15, 1776.

SIR: It gives pain to his Excellency that you, and the gentlemen of the honourable Board, should have so much trouble in searching for the copy of a Council of War he has inadvertently sent out of his hands. I am commanded by him to inform you, that it was not the Council of the 18th that he was in want of; it is that of the 16th *January*, which, if you can furnish him with, he will be very thankful.

His Excellency received a letter this day, from Governour *Trumbull*, of which the following is an extract:

"Three thousand weight of powder we conclude to order to Major *Thompson*, Agent for the *Massachusetts* Colony, on account of money he supplied to Mr. *Shaw*, the importer for that end, and will consult him or them concerning the use of it."

You well know, sir, the want there is of that article in camp; his Excellency, therefore requests, that you will endeavour to get that powder sent hither. If it belongs to Major *Thompson*, as private property, he requests you will use your influence with him to sell it; if to the Colony, that it be lent or sold, for the use of the *United Colonies*.

I have the honour to be, sir, your most humble servant,

STEPHEN MOYLAN, *P. T. S.*

To the Honourable *Walter Spooner*.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER TO A GENTLEMAN IN LONDON, DATED BARBADOES, FEBRUARY 16, 1776.

General *Howe* having been greatly distressed for provisions, and expecting to be more so upon the loss of several transports, despatched Captain *Payne*, of the Eighteenth, with two transports, in search of provisions. He arrived here about ten days ago. An act of the Island having passed, since the present troubles, prohibiting the exportation of provisions without a license from the Governour and Council, his Excellency called a Council, and leave was given to Captain *Payne* to purchase what provisions he pleased for Government use. He could get from the Island about forty barrels of beef, and as many tierces of rice, with few peas, oatmeal, &c. But a vessel which was

*

lying off and on was stopped, and proved a serviceable supply to Captain *Payne*, for he got from her two hundred barrels of provisions, of one sort or another, although at a great price. He sailed yesterday for *Antigua*, where the Admiral is to supply him. The men-of-war have kept seizing every *American* vessel they met with; the orders were to carry them into an *English* harbour, though some were sold at *St. Kitts*. We want some kinds of provisions at present; but the people are in great dread of what they are to suffer three months hence, especially on account of the *Negroes*.

No doubt but Administration has received the best information from *France* relative to their armaments; but, if my intelligence is true, and I believe it is, there are now upwards of five thousand troops at *Martinique*, and four thousand five hundred at *Guadaloupe*, and twelve hundred more expected, besides a superior force at *St. Domingo*. They give out, that this additional force is only meant to preserve peace in their own Colonies, as the *American* infection may be catching.

COLONEL McINTOSH TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Savannah, in Georgia, February 16, 1776.

SIR: My country having honoured me with the command of the Continental Battalion, ordered to be raised by the General Congress, for the protection and defence of this Colony, (though I fear too partial to my poor abilities,) it becomes my duty to inform your Excellency of the state of our Province, as far as it concerns the service, as well as of the troops to be immediately under my command.

Our Province has a front along the sea-coast of above one hundred miles, covered by a range of islands, divided from each other by eight rivers from the main land, which makes as many good inlets and harbours, most of them capable of receiving any frigate, and, as some say, much larger ships. Our settlements extend back to the northwest above two hundred miles, in other parts to the southward not above ten, and very thinly inhabited; indeed, this large space of land, altogether, has not more than three thousand men, chiefly in the back country, and many disaffected and doubtful in our cause, especially the men of the greatest property among us. Our slaves will be above fifteen thousand souls, mostly within twenty miles of the sea-coast, and make above thirty-five thousand tierces of rice, annually, besides many other articles of provision, which, with our fine harbours, make the security of this Colony, though weak in itself, of the utmost consequence to the whole Continent of *America;* and we have every reason to think our enemies intend to make it a place of general rendezvous and supplies.

We are bounded south by the garrisoned Province of *East-Florida*, who have now, as I am well informed, five hundred Regulars in *St. Augustine*, and one thousand more expected there daily from *Europe*. On the west of us, is the Province of *West-Florida*, the numerous nations of the *Creek, Choctaw*, and *Cherokee Indians*, besides lesser tribes, supposed to have at least ten thousand gun-men, brave, intrepid, and eager for war, whom we will have the utmost difficulty to keep at peace with us, as we want every article of their usual supply, and now furnished them in great plenty from the two *Floridas*. Our metropolis is situated in the north corner of the Province, upon a bluff, or sand-hill, thirty feet high, or more, above the water, and fifteen miles up the river *Savannah*, from the Inlet of *Tybee*, where five ships of war, the *Syren*, the *Scarborough*, the *Raven*, the *Tamar*, and *Cherokee*, besides tenders, are now lying, and two large transports, having, it is said, above three hundred men on board, and expecting more in daily, with what design, whether for this Colony only, or *Carolina*, or both together, we are not yet informed. Our Province has declared itself in a state of alarm, and resolved not to supply the men-of-war with provision, and ordered a draft of half the Militia to the town of *Savannah* to oppose the landing of any troops.

Our Provincial Congress having accepted the battalion ordered for their protection and defence, chose the officers the 29th and 30th ultimo, (a return of whom shall accompany this,) and made them sign the enclosed test, before their commissions were delivered; and I have this day issued general orders for recruiting, which has been hitherto prevented by many obstacles in providing money for that and other necessary services, and I fear will yet be attended with some difficulty. We expect very few in our own Province; that of *South-Carolina*, is said, to be already drained of such people as will inlist, by their Provincial regiments, besides, their bounty, subsistence, &c., is so much better than ours. Therefore, I expect we must have recourse, distant at it is, to *North-Carolina*, with this additional disadvantage, that our currency passes in no other Colony but our own, and we have received very little Continental money yet.

I have received no kind of orders or instructions from the General Congress, or your Excellency; nor have I yet been able to obtain even a copy of the *American* Articles of War, which makes me at a loss how to act in many cases; therefore, I shall wish any orders or directions your Excellency will please to send me, to be as full and frequent as possible; also, to be informed how far we are under the control of the Provincial Congress, &c., of this or any other Province where we are upon duty, and what rank we hold when acting with Militia or Provincial troops.

I shall take the liberty of appointing Surgeons to the battalion, which are so indispensably necessary, that I suppose the neglect of not naming any must be owing to our Delegates; and, also, to make Captain *Colson's* a rifle company, when raised, which, I think, will be useful, and hope will meet with your Excellency's approbation, and I doubt not but we will be obliged to arm more with such guns, for want of others, which are very scarce.

I have the honour to be, your Excellency's most obedient and most humble servant,

LACHLAN McINTOSH.

To His Excellency *George Washington*, Esq., Commander-in-Chief of the *American* Forces.

In Provincial Congress, Savannah, February 10, 1776.

PROVINCE OF GEORGIA:

Whereas a Battalion upon the Continental establishment is now raising in this Province; and whereas doubts may arise, how far the same is subject to the control of the Provincial civil power: Now, therefore, be it known, and we the several subscribers, Officers bearing commissions in the said Battalion, do hereby declare, that we hold ourselves, and the non-commissioned officers and privates, and all others belonging to the said Battalion, subject and subordinate to such supreme civil powers of this Province as are, or shall be erected for the purpose of defending our rights and liberties. And further, we bind ourselves, upon the words of soldiers and men of honour, at all times to obey and carry into effect, as far as in us lies, the orders and commands of the present, or any future Congress or Council of Safety of this Province, as the same shall from time to time be issued to us. *Provided nevertheless*, That the same do not contradict or interfere with the orders or directions of the General Congress, or a Committee thereof, or any General, or other officer, by them appointed over us.

In witness whereof, we have hereunto set our names, together with the rank and date of our commissions opposite thereto.

A Return of the Officers chosen for the Battalion ordered to be raised for the protection and defence of the Colony of GEORGIA, FEBRUARY 16, 1776.

Colonel, *Lachlan McIntosh;* Lieutenant-Colonel, *Samuel Elbert;* Major, *Joseph Habersham.*

First Company: Captain, *Francis Henry Harris;* First Lieutenant, *John Habersham;* Second Lieutenant, *John Jenkins;* Ensign, *John Rae.*

Second Company: Captain, *Oliver Bowen;* First Lieutenant, *George Henley;* Second Lieutenant, *John Berrien;* Ensign, ...

Third Company: Captain, *John McIntosh;* First Lieutenant, *Lachlan McIntosh;* Second Lieutenant, *Francis Arthur;* Ensign, *John Morison.*

Fourth Company: Captain, *Arthur Carney;* First Lieutenant, *Benjamin Odinsell;* Second Lieutenant, *John Eman. Delaplaine;* Ensign, *John Milton.*

Fifth Company: Captain, *Thomas Chisolm;* First Lieu-

tenant, *Caleb Howel;* Second Lieutenant, *Doniel Cuthbert;* Ensign, *William McIntosh.*

Sixth Company: Captain, *John Green;* First Lieutenant, *Ignatius Few;* Second Lieutenant, ... ; Ensign, ...

Seventh Company: Captain, *Chisley Bostick;* First Lieutenant, *John Martin;* Second Lieutenant, ... ; Ensign, ...

Eighth, or Rifle Company: Captain, ... *Colson;* First Lieutenant, *Shadrach Wright;* Second Lieutenant, *George Walton;* Ensign, ...

Chaplain, *John Holmes.*

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO PHILADELPHIA COMMITTEE.

[No. 18.] Annapolis, February 16, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: By order of the last Convention, a sum of money was appropriated for the erecting of a manufactory of saltpetre, in every County of this Province, and Supervisors in each County were appointed to carry the same into execution.

It was, also, earnestly recommended to the people to manufacture crude nitre in their private families, and an ample price was directed to be paid them for what they should make and deliver to each Supervisor.

We are not insensible of the natural advantages we possess for manufacturing that necessary article, and have some men skilful in promoting it, residing among us, but are nevertheless greatly indebted to you for your kind and obliging offer of instructing such persons of our Province, as may be thought necessary, at your publick works, an offer that may be of great service to our Supervisors living distant from the residence of our men of skill, to whom we shall communicate the same, and press them to accept it.

We are, &c.

To the Committee of Safety, *Philadelphia.*

ANDREW BEALL TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

February 16, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: As there are not muskets provided for the Militia, and their guns being of different sizes, and as I think it necessary we should be put in readiness to make the best defence we possibly can, I pray your Honours would order, that out of the stock at *Bladensburgh*, there may be one hundred and seventy-two pounds powder, and three cwt. lead, lodged in my hands for each of the companies, which I will see forthcoming when called for.

I am, gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servant,

ANDREW BEALL.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland.*

C. BEATTY AND B. JOHNSON TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Fredericktown, February 16, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: By a resolve of the late Convention, there is to be sums of money transmitted to the Committees of Observation in the respective Counties, to defray the expenses of the several Minute Companies. Captain *Stricker's* demands, by a special order of the Convention, are discharged. Captain *Young's* and Captain *Good's* remain otherwise. Some of the men in those companies are anxious to have what is due, and we believe the Captains have an uneasy time of it. If business will admit you to attend to this matter, and you will have the money sent up soon, we think it will be productive of good consequences. Captain *Good* has been here several times, expecting you had ordered the money to be transmitted.

We are, gentlemen, your obedient servants,

C. BEATTY,
B. JOHNSON.

To the Council of Safety of *Maryland.*

ROBERT ALEXANDER TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Philadelphia, February 16, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I send you, enclosed, copies of the instructions and private signals of the several men-of-war and transports on the *American* station. As these may be of essential service to the different armed vessels now fitting out in *America*, copies, by order of Congress, have been transmitted to the different Colonies; and I am ordered by Congress to acquaint you, that they have bound themselves to secrecy; so it is expected that you will consider yourselves under a like tie, and the copy you deliver to the Captain, of your armed vessels, be under seal enclosed, to be opened after his sailing.

The publick papers will communicate all the intelligence, we have, except the arrival of twenty tons of powder, and three thousand stand of small-arms, in *Connecticut.* We shall send forward some powder and arms to your Province, but I am sorry to say, if we rely on foreign arms, and they are not better than the sample we have, our dependance will be like a broken reed, as I think, if used, they will kill more of our troops than the enemy. What those imported for our Province cost, I know not; a parcel imported here, on a private adventure, have been purchased by Congress, at three pounds two shillings and five pence. Every thing of this kind is exceedingly high; powder seventeen pounds ten shillings per hundred weight. Much of this business passes through a Committee of which I am a member. Patriotism sinks before private interest, and I find many men here, who rank themselves in that class, generally exacting the most from the necessity of their country, hence the publick is plundered.

We have sent off ten six-pounders for the ship, and shall purchase two more. Coogress have appointed a delegation to *Canada.* The persons are Doctor *Franklin, S. Chase,* and Mr. *Charles Carroll,* of *Carrollton.* I wish you would erect a powder-mill in your Province; I could procure you saltpetre. Your letters of the 1st, 8th, 9th, and 10th instant, are come to hand, and the contents shall be observed.

I am, with respect, gentlemen, your humble servant,

ROBERT ALEXANDER.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland.*

COMMITTEE FOR THE CITY AND LIBERTIES OF PHILADELPHIA.

Philadelphia, February 16, 1776.

We, the subscribers, Judges and Inspectors of the General Election held on *Friday,* the 16th day of *February,* at the State-House, for the choice of a Committee for the City and Liberties of *Philadelphia,* to serve for six months ensuing, do certify that the following persons were duly elected.

DAVID CHAMBERS, SAMUEL HOWELL, JUN.,
JOHN WILLIAMS, *Judges.*

GEORGE BARTRAM, JAMES ROSE,
THOMAS LEECH, WILLIAM COLLADAY,
JOSEPH MOULDER, ROBERT KNOX,
JOHN STILLE, JAMES LOUGHEAD,
ANDREW TYBOUT, JOHN TAYLOR,
NATHAN COOKE, J. B. SMITH,
Inspectors.

For the City.

Benjamin Franklin,	Richard Willing,	Christopher Pechin,
Joseph Reed,	John Purviance,	Peter Z. Lloyd,
Thomas McKean,	William Heysham,	Nathan Brown,
Samuel Meredith,	James Milligan,	William Wistar,
Samuel Massey,	Charles Massey,	Joseph Dean,
Sharpe Delaney,	James Cresson,	Jacob Barge,
Richard Bache,	Benjamin Loxley,	Benjamin Rush,
William Rush,	Benjamin Harbeson,	Robert Smith, *hatter,*
Joseph Wetherill,	Chris. Marshall, Sen.,	William Hollingshead,
Thomas Barclay,	Robert S. Jones,	Samuel C. Morris,
John Wilcox,	Joseph Parker,	William Will,
Thomas Cuthbert,	James Reed,	Jonathan Mifflin, son
John Cox,	Frederick Kuhl,	of John,
Thomas Lawrence,	Joseph Moulder,	Nathaniel Donnell,
Jacob Morgan,	Timothy Matlack,	Andrew Tybout,
William Jackson,	James Ash,	John Mease,
John Cadwallader,	John Patton,	Daniel Robinson,
John Bayard,	Nicholas Hicks,	Samuel Simpson,
Francis Gurney,	Philip Pechin,	Michael Shubert,
George Schlosser,	Jacob Shreiner,	George Meade,
Moore Furman,	Daniel Joy,	William Colladay,
Christopher Ludwick,	Francis Wade,	George Morgan,
Jonathan B. Smith,	William Bail,	Capt. William Davis,
Thomas Pryor,	John Linnington,	Benjamin Paschall,
William Bradford,	Isaac Howell,	James Searles.
John Allen,	Joseph Watkins.	

Northern Liberties.

John Dickinson,	George Leib,	William Coates,
Isaac Coates,	John Brown,	James Warrell,
Joseph Copperthwaite,	Samuel Bruster,	Thomas Hopkins,
William Masters,	James Loughead,	Robert Hare.

Southwark.

Samuel Moore,	James Skinner,	Robert Knox,
John Duche,	William McMullen,	James Barnes,
Joseph Blewer,	Nathaniel Irish,	William Robinson,
Robert Allison,	Elias Boyce,	Joseph Falconer.

COLONEL HEARD TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

Staten-Island, February 16, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Agreeable to your requisition to the Provincial Congress of *New-Jersey*, I am now on *Staten-Island*, with a battalion of seven hundred men, waiting your further orders and instructions, which I should be glad to have as soon as is convenient, and am, in the mean time, gentlemen, yours, &c.

NATHANIEL HEARD.

To the Provincial Congress, at *New-York*.

P. S. Since I have been on the Island, there have been sundry complaints made, of many of the principal men here threatening they would kill any of the troops that should come on the Island to disarm them, and others that have supplied the barges with live stock.

PHILIP BROOKS TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

New-York, February 16, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Having had an opportunity of feeling the oppression exercised by the Ministry over *Ireland*, the place of my nativity, and as I have tasted the sweets of *American* liberty before this unhappy contest, common sense directs in the choice I should make for myself and posterity. Therefore, as a young, unmarried man, I can neither think myself excusable, nor a useful member of society, while content with indifferently examining the publick prints at home.

To act as I could wish, among the Independents, would not answer the frugality with which I am obliged to manage my time. To enter among the private Provincials would be agreeable, could the generality of my companions be formed to the agreement of religious, or even genteel behaviour; but the contrary, which is often the case, would be very disagreeable to a person of any sensibility.

These considerations have urged me to apply for any commission in the service beneath a Captain, as I do not imagine myself capable of conducting that important rank.

Your complying with this request shall be gratefully acknowledged, and I hope suitably improved, by, gentlemen, your respectful, humble servant,

PHILIP BROOKS.

To the Honourable Provincial Congress.

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Lebanon, February 16, 1776.

SIR: In consequence of your pressing request, by Lieutenant-Colonel *Gay*, I have ordered, in addition to about three tons of powder a few days ago directed to you from *Providence*, two tons more, from *Norwich*, which is all that can possibly be spared from this Colony at present. I have, also, sent you thirty arms, and believe in good order. The powder, to the amount of four tons, we must beg to have replaced by the Continent, as soon as you can advise the Congress thereof, to be sent and lodged, one ton at *Fairfield*, one ton at *New-Haven*, and two tons at *Middletown*, and trust you will be so good as to advise the Congress of your being supplied with the above quantity from this Colony, at your request, and the full expectation of its being replaced in the manner above-mentioned, as this is but a small part we have furnished the Army with since last Spring.

The arms I have sent you, are of barrels taken at *Ticonderoga*, which have been fitted up here with stocks, locks, iron ramrods, bayonets, &c., beside having the barrels to straighten, and many bruises to take out, the cost of which will be upwards of fifty shillings, each, an account of which shall soon transmit to you.

May the *God* of armies direct you in all your plans of operation, and succeed you therein to the salvation of this oppressed country, is the most sincere desire of your obedient, humble servant,

JONATHAN TRUMBULL.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

COSMOPOLITAN, NO. VIII.

To the Inhabitants of the AMERICAN *Colonies.*

FRIENDS AND FELLOW-CITIZENS: Without a repetition I shall, in this paper, stick in part to the text preached from in my last, relying upon the reader's recollection. In proof of the then allegations against the prime procurer of our present distresses, I produced in evidence letters wrote when he was second in Provincial authority, but first in the chair of mischief; I shall now consider him where we have occasionally placed him twice before, as first in command, and in villany second to none under Heaven.

It gives me no pleasure, but the reverse, to collect those arrows which so mortally wound the character of one of my countrymen, which stab humanity itself, and degrade one of the species into a rank of beings that wants a name. Happier for me, more pleasing to the reader, could materials be found to decorate his temples with the laurels of merited praise. Much rather had I bear his crimes in the arms of silent oblivion to the pit of forgetfulness, than, in the blaze of day, to impute such treacherous designs as are scarce to be met with in the story of the world, and as would blacken the memoirs of a perfidious savage. But injured innocence and aspersed communities call for justice.

Scarcely warm in his prostituted chair, he hurls the full bolts of his collected malice against the people he governed, against their chartered rights, and the charter itself. In order to complete its ruin, in spite of opposition, he declares a variety of plans had engrossed his thoughts. Instead of seeing the beneficent hand of an affectionate father stretched out for the support and protection of the rights of the people, we see them plotted against, and torn away by the claws of a devouring harpy. *Great Britain* and *America*, Provinces and Counties, Towns and Parishes, the leaders and the led, fall equally under the lash of his malignant pen.

It was not enough at home, by virtue of illegal warrants, to seize those who dare to oppose the torrent of oppression, and to haul them to jails and to dungeons, if they were suffered to come out, with shouts and with bonfires. It was difficult to restrain the licentiousness of the child, until the disorders of the parent were rectified. Government must act with vigour, and assume in *Britain* its most rigorous tone.

Not contented with the destruction of one Province, he aims his blows and strikes at the being of all. Being formed into a threefold division, with a nobleman at their head, upon the servile plan of a *Spanish* origin, they were to be practised into obedience by a quick succession of those little despots. Each Colony was to receive from every session of Parliament acts peculiar to itself, and others in common to all. Measures, says he, respecting *America*, must be extended to every Colony. Every Assembly was to be totally under the control and direction of the sovereign power of Parliament; and if they refused this servile subjection, all their proceedings were to be null and void: that is, if they did not govern themselves as the subjects of *Great Britain* or a Minister of State might direct, they were to be deprived of the governing power. What state more abject? What bondage more complete?

As an emblem of gratitude, he is more liberal in his provisions for his own Province, as a requital for received favours. Not satiated with annually mangling and murdering a new elected Council; not satisfied with an absolute negative upon all the proceedings of both branches; not easy with substituting the opinion of a noble Lord in the stead of his own judgment, and superseding the designs of the Constitution by a mandate from a Minister, he importunes with the perseverance of a beggar, either that the Crown might be empowered to appoint a Council instead of the then present one, and to determine it at pleasure, or the Governour to select twelve from the twenty-eight, or the body at large, as he pleased, with whom he might perform every office of Government, and accomplish every oppressive measure; the others to remain merely for the advantage of a check upon the House, and a plague to the community; that he might dispense with calling the Assembly yearly, and that limits might be fixed to the number of its members, as the former would make them more obsequious to his nod and subservient to his purposes,

and the latter open wide the doors of bribery and corruption.

From an innate aversion to every thing that is ill, he was determined to leave no stone unturned, no means untried, to hasten the golden period when tyranny and oppression should reign supremely triumphant, and liberty and happiness be banished out of being. He, therefore, because County officers (some justices and one sheriff) had behaved extremely ill, that is, had nobly disdained a concurrence in his open exertions or more private machinations, represents the indispensable necessity of holding their commissions for one or two years only, or of having their appointment and removal entirely in the power of himself or his Royal master.

It was not enough, originally, to appoint, in general, those who were allied to his schemes, but the moment they deserted his glorious cause they must be dismissed from their office, and yield to an obsequious successor. Not only officers, but processes must be stamped with the characters of servitude. A writ of error was to lay from the County to the Courts of the King's Bench, in *England*, by a statute for the purpose, in order, says he, among other acts, to keep up a sense of the authority of Parliament; imagining that we should not dispute it, as it would affect the titles to our lands and estates.

Let the man of property, the reader of the landed interest, pause here. Let him paint to himself some one in power, or a high Court favourite, trumping up a claim to his possessions; or some Crown officer prosecuting for a pretended forfeiture, upon an old *British* Star-Chamber statute that he had never heard of, and which possibly never existed; or filing an information upon some new penal edict, or perhaps Royal proclamation, which ought never to be complied with. Let him suppose himself dragged before a Provincial judicature upon the Ministerial model, and there, in a tedious, expensive attendance in defending, stripped of his money, but with a favourable issue. Then let him consider himself as carried to *Great Britain* upon a writ of error, an appeal, or some other process, and depending there from court to court, until he is dodged out of his right, or ruined by defending it. Or reverse the scene, and let him suppose himself plaintiff, prosecuting for a reparation in damages, a compensation for injuries, or for the recovery of his just rights, with a similar issue. In this situation does not property lose its value? Is not iniquity established by law, and courts a mockery upon justice? Detestable as it is, this would have been the unavoidable effects of Government success.

Already the Jacobitish law sages at home have determined, not only that processes lie from the *West-India* Colonies to the King's Bench, but from thence a mandamus is issuable to those Colony Courts—an oppressive dependance too galling for an *Englishman* to bear, for any *American* to brook.

The destructive qualities of the worst of beings, are, in Holy Writ, compared to a roaring lion roaming for prey. The famous *Randolph*, for his restless exertions against his country, is, in Mr. *Hutchinson's* history, compared to the same ferocious animal seeking to devour; exertions which, although treasonable in themselves, in competition with the bloody efforts of the above historian, dwindle into misdemeanours, and hardly deserve the name of crimes. I will not, therefore, injure the one or the other of the above characters, by comparing our hero with either. If we may trace him by his letters, he went from Kingdoms to Continents, from Colonies to Counties, and from Counties to Towns, breathing destruction, and lurking for prey! His epilogue to every scene is a prayer for the concealment of the part he was acting. He may, therefore, fitly be compared to the crocodile, an inhabitant of the torrid zone. This animal is said to frequent rivers and marshes, where it lies concealed among the reeds and rushes, till it finds an opportunity to seize men or creatures, which it drags into the water, always taking this method of drowning them first, that it may afterwards swallow them without resistance.

Our amphibious destroyer imagined that he could first suffocate, by an inundation of *British* laws, and then riot unmolested on *American* spoils, its wealth and its happiness. Hence his unremitting clamours against assembled towns, in consultation on matters of their nearest concernment. Pressing are his solicitations, repeated his demands that the subjects of *Great Britain* would prohibit the subjects of *America* holding any town-meetings, and subject all concerned in them, except for certain purposes, to incapacities, and the dreadful punishments of a premunire; not only are their thoughts and debates to be circumscribed and restrained to a few licensed subjects, but even an eccentrick slip of the tongue was to be corrected by penalties of the severest kind. In vain may you search the records of a *Spanish* Divan, in vain the alcoves of an *Ottoman* Court for similar oppression.

It is painful, it is astonishing, it is grievous to reflect, that this country, late the peaceful abode of tranquil freedom, the favourite seat of virtue, the place where was the greatest effulgence of genuine liberty, where a difference of religion, competition of interest, variety of sentiments, subordination of politick bodies, and a multitude of constitutional privileges playing in consort, danced in unjarring harmony in a pleasing round, mutually producing the offices of friendship, hospitality, and social happiness, should, by the treason and villany of one, with his co-operators, be interrupted, overthrown, and yield to the unavoidable calamities of war. That by him publick justice should be assassinated, publick chastity polluted, publick faith prostituted, and the laudable endeavours of the wise and honest suppressed. That the wretch who had caused every branch of our Constitution to droop and hang its head; had paved the way, and opened wide the avenues to servitude; had given bleeding wounds to his country, beat down her most graceful ornaments and firmest bulwarks; that he who had furnished bones for the clashing of discord and the combustion of arms, should, in the storm of war, escape with impunity.

> "More yet the methods you, Oh chief! ordained,
> To sink your country, and its loyal name.
> The shameful efforts 'gainst your native town,
> May force from *George* the Third the *British* crown."

ANDREW SYMMER TO GOVERNOUR PENN.

Turk's Island, February 17, 1776.

Sir: I have the honour to transmit you a petition, which hath been given to me by a very useful and industrious body of his Majesty's subjects, residing on an island destitute of every necessary of life, salt alone excepted.

Captain *Budden* hath engaged to the people, to supply them in case he meets with no obstructions; I am certain, sir, he will meet with none from you; and, I flatter myself, the inhabitants of *North-America*, being well convinced of the importance our salt trade is to their commerce, no hindrance will arise from them.

I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

ANDREW SYMMER.

To Governour *Penn*.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER TO A GENTLEMAN IN SCOTLAND, DATED NORFOLK, VIRGINIA, FEBRUARY 17, 1776.

All the well-affected to Government betook themselves to the shipping, where they are in great safety, and well provided. Lord *Dunmore*, having foreseen the event, had laid plentifully in of all sorts of provisions. He has given orders to fortify *Tucker's Point*, where bake-houses and mills are fast erecting. Several vessels are taken from the Rebels, loaded, from the northward, with salt, flour, and grain. The *Roebuck*, with General *Clinton*, and a tender, are arrived safe. The tender is to proceed for *Cape-Fear*, in *North-Carolina*, in order to raise volunteers, thousands of whom are ready to join the King's troops on being properly accoutred, and provided with arms and ammunition. The Rebels are in the deepest distress, being divested of clothes, ammunition, and lodgings; and, from their not keeping themselves clean, they are overrun with vermin, which, in the Summer season, must breed much sickness. Great numbers of them are already in their hospitals; and, at the least calculation, seven hundred of them are killed, wounded, sick, and taken prisoners. They are, however, desperate to the last degree, and intrenching themselves backward to secure their retreats. The back settlers would, willingly, supply Lord *Dunmore* with fresh provisions, but have no means of conveying them, except what the negroes forage in the night time. All the *Highland* emigrants are most friendly to Government.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO GUSTAVUS SCOTT.

[No. 19.] Annapolis, February 17, 1776.

Sir: The Council of Safety have stipulated and agreed with a contractor, for supplying the regular forces of this Province with provisions; but, as some time must be given to provide the several articles which compose a ration, and it cannot reasonably be expected he will be able to furnish them earlier than the tenth of next month, the troops must be subsisted on the seven shillings and six-pence per week, allowed for that purpose, in the instructions for inlisting men.

The Captains of Independent companies, agreeable to a resolve of the last Convention, are to provide houses for their respective companies, and such sums of money are to be advanced out of the Treasury of that Shore where their company may be stationed, by permission of the Council of Safety, as may be necessary for the purpose. Captain *Gunby* will, therefore, provide houses for his men upon the best terms he can, and advise us thereof, that we may give him an order for the money on the *Eastern-Shore* Treasurer, if it should be necessary to advance any; but, as it will be expedient, the station of that company should be first ascertained, and, as we are not so well acquainted with your County as to determine satisfactorily to ourselves, and most advantageously to you, upon a particular place where it might reasonably be expected their troops would render the greatest service, so we should be glad if the Committee of Observation would take the matter into consideration, and give us their sentiments upon it; and as, in all probability, we shall approve of the station recommended by them, we would have the Captain engage proper and necessary houses there immediately, as bedding is an extreme scarce article. Where we have had an opportunity, we have desired the Captains of the several companies, to endeavour to furnish their men with new blankets; but, where they were not to be had, with such as could be got in the neighborhood, though a little worn, upon reasonable terms; they were not to exceed fifteen shillings, or the others twelve shillings and six pence. If Captain *Gunby's* men are yet unprovided, we would have him adopt that method, as the best, under our circumstances, and will answer his drafts for them.

It is very ambiguous from any thing that appears in the proceedings of the Convention, who are to find fuel for the troops; and, as we conceive, the Captains, respectively, can most advantageously provide that necessary article, so we request Captain *Gunby* will take the direction of that matter for his company, and occasionally advise us of the expense, that it may be properly defrayed.

We have confidence in your recommendation of Mr. *James Geoghagen*, and, therefore, shall be obliged to him to supply the company with provision, until the contractor (to whose notice we will recommend him) can do it.

We are, &c.

To *Gustavus Scott.*

SAMUEL PURVIANCE, JR. TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Baltimore, February 17, 1776.

Gentlemen: In pursuance of your orders, to mount the cannon, fit for use, at this place, we have engaged a number of workmen in making wheels and carriages for the purpose, it being the general opinion of all who have a knowledge of such matters, that it is best to mount them as field-pieces, which purpose the guns now here will be very suitable for us; they are all light, say two, three and four-pounders, to the amount of twenty pieces, besides six of nine-pounders, and two of twelve-pounders, belonging to Captain *Stone*. We had the whole of the guns examined by Mr. *George Mathews*, who has pronounced them good. The Committee have directed me to apply to you for orders, to provide a parcel of shot, suitable to the guns.

Mr. *Daniel Hughes* is very anxious to have some person appointed, to go to *Antietam*, to prove the guns which his brother has cast. I apprehend Captain *Fulford* is the best qualified to do it, of any person here; it may be of consequence how soon it is done, as those, if they stand proof, might be speedily got down here.

We have about fifty hands at work, on a battery, since *Tuesday*, at *Whetstone*, and near two hundred more employed in providing timber, logs, smiths' work, &c., for the boom. I hope we shall have part of our battery ready to mount some guns before the end of next week.

Mr. *Alexander* writes me that Mr. *Morris* had promised our Delegates part of some powder, which was arrived at *Philadelphia*, and which they would immediately forward to this town.

I am, with much respect, gentlemen, your most humble servant,

Samuel Purviance, Jr.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety, of *Maryland*.

JAMES LLOYD CHAMBERLINE TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Talbot County, February 17, 1776.

Gentlemen: I am requested to enclose you the commission granted to Mr. *William Goldsborough*, who, to gratify his parents, has declined the acceptance thereof.

We made an appointment, in Convention, of *Perry Benson*, to be Ensign in the Heart-of-Oak Company, to supply the place of their officer, who had been promoted, on a supposition that he stood next in the line for preferment; in this we were mistaken, and find that the commission should have been made out to *Henry Colston*, their first Sergeant, whose appointment will give general satisfaction to the company, and enclose you that commission, in hopes they may be indulged in the alteration.

I am, respectfully, gentlemen, your very obedient, humble servant,

James Lloyd Chamberline.

To the Honourable the President of the Council of Safety, of *Maryland*.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

Philadelphia, February 17, 1776.

Is the stoppage of our exports to *Great Britain* and its Dependancies a political measure?

They who assert that the measures are impolitick, argue thus: It is the interest of every country to export its produce, and to import as little as possible of the luxuries and manufactures of other countries; the former enriches, the latter impoverishes the inhabitants of a country thus exporting and importing; abstain, say they, from the vanities and luxuries with which *England* used to supply us, and draw the cash of *England*, by continuing to carry out the product of our labour and industry.

This is specious, not solid reasoning. The exports from this Continent to *Great Britain* consist chiefly of rough materials, or of such luxuries, which, by being reshipped from the ports of *Great Britain*, enable its merchants to traffick with foreign nations to great advantage, and to pay a balance, by an exchange of commodities, that must otherwise be discharged in bullion. A stoppage of our exports must, therefore, very sensibly affect the trade of *Great Britain* to the rest of *Europe;* and we have reason to conclude, that if such stoppage should subsist for any length of time, the *European* trade, which *England* now drives on, would be so much impaired, as to put the balance against her with every *European* nation. It is, therefore, good policy to withhold our exports from *Great Britain*, *Ireland*, and the *British West-India* Islands.

But, under a total stoppage of our trade, is it possible to support this civil war for any length of time, for three or four years for instance?

It is very difficult to determine what enthusiasm, indignation, and the love of one's country, may not accomplish. We have read of nations stimulated by those passions, though destitute of foreign and internal resources, having made incredible efforts to preserve their freedom; witness the *Saguntines* and the *Carthagenians* in the last Punick war. It may be doubted whether these Colonies, if thus reduced, would imitate so glorious an example. *Carthage* and *Sagumtum* were single cities; their destruction was irrevocably fixed, and death or slavery, the only choice of citizens resolved to die or remain free; an implacable and hated enemy surrounded their walls; one common fate, mutual sufferings, and indignation, inspired them with a courage, heightened by despair, which the perseverance and conduct of *Hannibal*, and *Roman* valour could scarce surmount. The instances are not similar, why then expect

similar efforts? Without trade, there seem to be but two ways to support the war: emitting paper money, and borrowing, on interest, part of that money so emitted; for, once destroy the credit of your currency, and you render it mere waste paper. Its value depends on its credit, and its credit on the opinion which people at large entertain of our ability to exchange it hereafter for gold and silver. Suppose, for instance, the Continent should emit one hundred millions, who could seriously imagine such a sum would ever be paid off in gold and silver? It follows then, of course, that we are limited in our emissions, because our faculties to redeem those emissions are limited.

To what amount may we emit?

No man, perhaps, can solve this question; the person who should even presume to guess, must have a thorough knowledge of these Colonies; he must be well acquainted with the number of their people, their inclinations, arts, and industry, the product of our soil, its capability of improvement, the fisheries, trade, and manufactories which may be established and successfully carried on. The extent of these emissions will depend, too, in a great degree, on the events of the war. A merchant who prospers in trade, may obtain credit to almost any amount; his credit may exceed, by several hundred thousands, his real capital.

Suppose six millions currency emitted; what part of this emission might be borrowed on interest, and on what interest?

Where the risk is great, the interest must be high; where the circumstances of the borrower are conceived to be desperate, he will not be able to borrow, or must give an extravagant premium. The possibility, then, of borrowing, and the rate of interest, will depend on our good or bad success. If six millions were to be emitted, and our affairs should prosper, perhaps two millions five hundred thousand might be borrowed by the Congress at six per cent. interest. That sum would but barely answer the charge of one campaign; of future expenses, however, a good judgment may be formed from the past. It certainly will not be good policy to rely altogether on the above ways and means of raising money to carry on the war; they will only be found to answer in case of success. If we should have no other resources, the knowledge of this very circumstance may encourage our enemy to protract the war. The quit-rents, heretofore paid to the Crown, may be applied to the publick use; but, besides the inability of the people to pay these quit-rents, when deprived of the means of payment, they will go but a little way towards the support of the war.

How long is it expected that these Colonies can sit easy under a total stagnation of external commerce, and the almost entire stoppage of the courts of justice?

This situation is surely too constrained to admit of any considerable duration; the feelings of our people and our exigencies point out the necessity of opening a trade to foreign nations. To protect our trade, a marine is wanting. To form one during this war, adequate to the purpose, seems impracticable. We must make it the interest of foreigners to take this burden on themselves; a declaration of independence might, possibly, tempt *France* and *Spain* to run the risk of a war with *England*, provided those powers could be assured of our remaining independent; they would, no doubt, be willing to guarantee our independence, but they may apprehend, and not without good grounds, that their taking a too early part with us in the war would induce *Great Britain* to make peace with the Colonies. It may, therefore, be the policy of *France* and *Spain* not to appear forward and desirous of intermeddling; to suffer the war to continue, that the contending parties, exasperated by mutual injuries, may not again coalesce; secretly to countenance their subjects' commerce with these Colonies, and, perhaps, to assist them with money, arms, and ammunition. Should the *British* Government direct the war to be prosecuted in the manner it has been, and should every Colony, in turn, experience such horrid ravages, the resentment and indignation occasioned thereby may totally alienate the minds of the Colonists, and wean them from that affection which heretofore bound them to *Great Britain*; the force of habit will wear off; the remembrance of past benefits will be obliterated by recent wrongs, and the sweets of independence once enjoyed, will effectually preclude a subsequent dependance on *Great Britain*.

Will not the mischiefs of independence overbalance the benefits?

To determine this question, both must be stated, and dispassionately considered, to form a true judgment. The evils apprehended from independence may be reduced to these three: civil dissensions; the establishment of tyranny, as a certain consequence; and the great expense of fleets and armies to maintain that independence. As a Federal Union of these Colonies will probably ensue, should they separate from *Great Britain*, it may be presumed, that the utmost precaution will be used in drawing the articles of the Union; and, in the formation and settlement of this new Government, every security which human foresight can suggest will be taken for the preservation of the liberties, privileges, and independency of each Colony, and the protection of all. Dissensions can spring only from the ambition of the more powerful Colonies, or from a contrariety of interests. What probability is there that two or three Colonies will unite to subdue the rest? Is it not more probable, should any Colony or Colonies break the Union, and from the ambitious project of conquering the others, that these will immediately unite against the infringers of the publick faith? Foreign assistance would not be wanting to support the weaker confederacy, and this consideration alone would deter the stronger from the attempt.

If ambition should not occasion a civil war, a difference of interests and religion may; the interests of these Colonies are as different as their religious tenets.

This hath often been said, but remains to be proved. Some disputes may arise concerning trade, duties, customs, and impositions on merchandise, or about the limits and boundaries of contiguous Provinces; these disputes must be adjusted and finally settled by the Great Council, or States-General of the *United Colonies*. Such partial controversies will, for many years at least, give way to the publick safety, which would be endangered by suffering them to grow to too great a pitch; the common enemy might take advantage of such civil discord, and reduce all the Colonies under one yoke. In this tolerating age we have no great cause to apprehend a religious war; the spirit of religious persecution is wearing off in all the civilized nations of *Europe*, and will still decrease as they become more enlightened and refined. Can we, then, rationally suppose that these Colonies, hitherto eminently distinguished for toleration, and whose Union will be founded on that humane and politick principle, will, from a frantick zeal for religion, plunge themselves into the complicated miseries of a civil and religious war? If neither the ambition of some Colonies, nor a difference of interests, nor religious rancour, are likely to produce a civil war, it follows of course, that the establishment of tyranny (the second evil) is extremely improbable and remote.

But, to preserve our independence, will not a strong fleet and army be necessary? Neither can be supported without a great expense, and standing armies are dangerous to liberty, besides being burdensome to those who pay them.

When these Colonies enjoy an unfettered trade, the profits of it will enable them to equip and maintain a naval force sufficient to guard their coasts and commerce, and this fleet will render a standing Army unnecessary; a well regulated Militia will answer all the purposes of self-defence, and of a wise and just Government. The expense, therefore, of a regular standing Army may be saved without exposing ourselves to danger from a foreign enemy, and the Militia will be able to suppress any internal commotions, excited by factious and discontented men.

What will be the probable benefits of independence?

A free and unlimited trade; a great accession of wealth, and a proportionable rise in the value of land; the establishment, gradual improvement, and perfection of manufactures and science; a vast influx of foreigners, encouraged by the mildness of a free, equal, and tolerating Government to leave their native countries, and settle in these Colonies; an astonishing increase of our people from the present stock. Where encouragement is given to industry; where liberty and property are well secured; where the poor may easily find subsistence, and the middling rank comfortably support their families by labour, there the inhabitants must increase rapidly. To some of these causes we

owe the doubling of our numbers in somewhat more than twenty-five years. If such hath been the progress of population under the former restraints on our trade and manufactures, a population still more rapid may be reasonably expected when these restraints come to be taken off.

Should *France* and *Spain*, either from inability to contend with *Great Britain*, or governed by weak, irresolute, or corrupted counsels, or influenced by the dangerous precedent of countenancing subjects in arms against their Sovereign, refuse to enter into any treaty or alliance with these Colonies, and prohibit their subjects from trading with them, could the Colonies, by their own strength and internal resources, maintain the war for five or six years?

It is not at all probable that this war can last so long. If the first efforts of the *British* Government should prove unsuccessful, the decay of trade, and the consequent distress and ruin brought on the manufacturers and merchants of *Great Britain*, will occasion great divisions in the nation, perhaps a revolution; such factions and tumults would certainly prevent a full exertion of the *British* nation's strength. Should the war be protracted to three years, even after that space of time, its operations will become languid and feeble; a smaller force may then be opposed to the enemy, and as we diminish our land army, we may augment our navy; in the Winter we may force, at least a clandestine trade with foreigners, in spite of the *British* marine; during the war manufactories may be set on foot, and promoted by the respective Legislatures of the several Colonies; we shall be able in eighteen or twenty months to make within ourselves gunpowder, cannon, fire-arms, and all the implements of war; the establishment of such manufactories will find employment for the poor, and be a prodigious saving to the country; a strict economy may lessen our expenses in other particulars; the pay of the Army may, perhaps, hereafter be reduced, and a well disciplined Militia, under proper regulations, might put us in a condition to disband a considerable part of our regular forces. Should the Colonists conduct the war with prudence and success, loans of money may, perhaps, be negotiated among foreigners, and even in *England*, on easy terms; a contraband trade will enrich some of our merchants, and bring in gold and silver; the procurement of those precious metals is an object of the utmost consequence: a certain proportion will be requisite to give credit to our paper currency. Our country abounds with all the necessaries of life; we have iron, copper, and lead mines, and we already make iron in quantities equal to our consumption, and the increasing demand. Men, convinced of the justice of their cause, animated with the love of liberty and fighting in defence of it, are capable of incredible efforts; conduct, valour, virtue, and perseverance combined, are irresistible; necessity may require the full exertion of all these, but the skilful politician would not wish to see the patriotism of his countrymen put to a severe trial.

Suppose the war to continue six years, and that it will cost us three millions per annum. If victory, at the end of that period, should effect and secure our independence, eighteen millions will not, perhaps, on reflection, be thought any such mighty encumbrance. An unconfined trade will open new sources of treasure; domestick will supply the place of foreign manufactures, and prevent a very great drain of our wealth; foreign luxuries may be subject to high duties; the burden too, as it will be divided among a greater number, will fall the lighter on the rising generation; six millions of people will probably discharge the debt contracted by three; the vacant and ungranted land may be made a fund for paying off part of this debt, by appropriating the purchase money and the reserved quitrents to that purpose. The pernicious consequences of a heavy national debt, so fatal to *Great Britain*, should teach the Colonies wisdom, and induce them to get rid of the load as quickly as possible. It is not the interest of states, more than of individuals, to be indebted; but as individuals, on some occasions, may contract debts with a view to future gain, so states may prudently, in particular emergencies, anticipate their revenues by borrowing present capitals on the credit of future interests, that the abilities of several years may be cast into one. We cannot pay too great a price for liberty, and posterity will think indepen dnce a cheap purchase at eighteen millions.

COLONEL WAYNE TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

Chester, February 17, 1776.

Sir: In obedience to the resolve of Congress, of the 12th instant, I have caused a return of my battalion to be made, which is herein enclosed, amounting in the whole to five hundred and sixty, officers included, now in *Chester* and *Marcus Hook;* ten commissioned officers are absent with their recruits, what number, I cannot determine, but apprehend the battalion must be complete.

I must beg leave to mention that they are in want of almost every necessary, and I am doubtful there is not that industry used, which is essentially necessary for procuring the same. I beg that the gentlemen appointed for that purpose may be urged to take the most speedy means to supply our people with their proper uniforms, &c., &c.

Interim, I am, with true regard, your most obedient, humble servant,

Anthony Wayne.

To Colonel *John Hancock*, President of Congress.

A Return of the Fourth Battalion of Pennsylvania *Regulars, whereof* Anthony Wayne, *Esq., is Colonel,* Chester, February 17, 1776.

					Persifor Frazer	Thomas Robinson.	John Lacey	Caleb North	Thomas Church	Frederick Vernon.	James Moore	James Taylor	Total
Officers.	Commissioned.			Colonels.	1								1
				Lieutenant-Colonels.	1								1
				Majors.	1								1
		Captains.	Present.		1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	8
			Recruiting.										
		Lieuts.	Present.		2	1	2			1	2		8
			Recruiting.			1		2	2	1			8
		Ensigns.	Present.		1	1	1	1	1		1		6
			Recruiting.		1					1			2
	Staff.	Chaplain.											
		Adjutant.			1								1
		Quartermaster.			1								1
		Surgeon.			1								1
		Mate.											
	Non-Commissioned.	Sergeants.			4	4	4	3	2	3	3	4	27
		Corporals.			4	4	4	2	3	3	3	4	31
		Drummers.			1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	8
		Fifers.				1	1	1			1	1	5
Rank and File.					55	50	69	50	39	44	73	70	450
					1	3	1		3	1			9
						1			1				2
					1								1
					57	54	70	50	43	45	73	70	462

Companies.

Wanted to complete the establishment, one Chaplain, and one Surgeon's Mate.

N. B. Captain *Taylor* not yet arrived with his company, included in the above. All the officers marked on recruiting, are not yet arrived, nor any return made of the number of the recruits by them inlisted. As to their appointment, it is like that of most all new-raised troops, in want of every article, except about twelve rifles and twenty muskets, without bayonets.

Michael Ryan, *Adjutant.*

MEMORIAL OF JOHN FRASER TO THE CONGRESS.

[Read February, 1776.]

On my arrival at *Albany*, from *Canada*, I waited on General *Schuyler*, to know whether any, or what charge, was sent against me. On General *Schuyler's* informing me that Brigadier *Wooster* had mentioned no particular charge, I then exposed to him the treatment I had met with, the reasons, and the letters that had passed between me and Brigadier *Wooster*. General *Schuyler* desired a written account, which, he said, he would send to the Con-

gress, and, in compliance with his desire, he received what follows:

"Albany, February 4, 1776.

"Sir: You will receive, herewith, copies of letters that passed between Brigadier *Wooster* and me. To explain them, and to give, at the same time, some idea of the treatment I have met with, I must go as far back as the taking of the vessels near the river *Sorrel*, in the river *St. Lawrence*. I was on board, but, being only a passenger, and not belonging either to the troops on board or to the King's ship, I was at liberty, (likewise several other passengers,) by an express article in Brigadier-General *Prescott's* treaty of surrender, to return to my family in *Montreal*, unmolested. Twenty-four hours, however, after my arrival, I received from Brigadier-General *Montgomery* the letter that follows:

"Montreal, November 23.

"Sir: The very great uneasiness expressed by the friends of the *United Colonies* at your residence in this town, lays me under the necessity of requiring you to remove to some village on the other side of *St. Lawrence-River*. The choice I shall leave to yourself, requesting only that you will not remove from it without acquainting me, and that you will be so circumspect in your conduct as not to excite suspicion.

"I am exceedingly concerned that the peculiar delicacy of my situation obliges me to lay you under this restraint; but your having been under arms in Colonel *Allen's* affair, and your great influence among those who are esteemed inimical to the measures of Congress, together with the jealousy entertained of you by our friends, make this step indispensably necessary.

"I hope you will not distress me by any application not in my power to comply with at present. It is with regret I give you this uneasiness.

"I am, sir, your most obedient servant,

"Richard Montgomery.

"To the Honourable *John Fraser*, Esq."

This I might have complained of, being in direct opposition to a positive article of the capitulation. However, I had so little desire of remaining in town, that I only acquainted General *Montgomery* that I had a farm, five miles from town, where I had all the necessary conveniences for myself and family; on which he sent the next lines:

"Montreal, November 23.

"Sir: I must request the favour of you to remove to the other side of the river. I did imagine you would not have had any objections to your father-in-law's house, at *Longueil*, and have made that your place of residence. I hope, sir, you will be as expeditious as is compatible with your convenience.

"I have the honour to be your most obedient servant,

"Richard Montgomery.

"To the Honourable *John Fraser*, Esq."

I immediately crossed the river, leaving my family behind. I had not been above eight days in my new quarters, with Mr. *Dechambault*, my father-in-law, when we had a visit from an officer and a great number of armed men, about eleven at night. He took us from our house, with our papers, to a tavern at some distance, where we found Colonel *Ritzema*, who informed us that Brigadier *Wooster*, who then commanded at *Montreal*, had received some information that some plot was hatching against the Continental troops, and that some powder, arms, &c., lay concealed at Mr. *Dechambault's* house. The house, therefore, was searched, up and down; nothing was found; indeed, Colonel *Ritzema* and the other officers seemed soon convinced that they had had a false alarm, and had been in too great a hurry. We were allowed to return home. Some other gentlemen had a visit from the same party, between one and two of the morning, with as little cause. Colonel *Ritzema*, on viewing his orders next day, told me that he found they were positive to send me to *Chambly*, but that he would take it on himself to leave me where I was, till further orders. In about ten days after, without any application from me, I received a letter from the acting Town-Major of *Montreal*, in Brigadier *Wooster's* name, that I was at liberty to return to the town, whenever I pleased. I returned, and, before I saw my family, I called on Brigadier *Wooster*. At parting, he told me he would be glad to see me again, on business. I called two days after. Brigadier *Wooster* then observed, among many other things, that he knew that many friends of constitutional liberty in *Montreal* had been ill used, from depositions, bonds, &c., and that, therefore, he now demanded these instruments. I replied, I was sorry to hear him make a requisition that, in my opinion, I could not comply with. Some time was then spent in altercation. I at last observed that I answered the proposition in general; perhaps, would he come to particulars, we would sooner agree; in short, what papers did he want? That I only then recollected a sort of bond, that a Mr. *Haywood* had given, but that it was of such a nature as to be now cancelled of itself; therefore, that I would send to him that sort of instrument, from this reasnn only, that I looked on it as of no further use. However, on second thought, after I got home, I thought it was not worth while sending, especially as it might be a sort of precedent for further demands; and I then wrote the following letter:

"Montreal, December 14, 1775.

"Sir: The sort of recognisance that Mr. *Haywood* entered into, with sureties, I have just found, and I am now more convinced than before that it is of no further use. It is the only instance of the kind that occurred before me. There was no information laid against him; therefore, no charge: and, if I took bail for him, it was because he came to offer it himself. From the nature of it, it is now at an end, as his bail could only be bound for him while the Governour's authority continued here entire; the condition being that he should not depart from hence without the Governour's leave, and that he would behave himself true and faithful to the same cause. For the above reasons, I did not scruple to say that I would send to you the said instrument, but I do not now really think that it is worth sending, and I hope you will excuse me in withdrawing my promise. If the bail desire it, I will satisfy them, at any time, that their obligations are at an end. I now recollect that some other papers may be under my care, but they are of a different nature from the aforementioned, and they have been early taken care of. In my opinion, I cannot, and I will not, on any account, deliver them, nor any paper of any transaction prior to the capitulation of *Montreal*. Since then, I will always be ready to account for my conduct, but not for any thing done before. This resolution I have taken, from a conviction that I cannot act otherwise with any propriety, which will ever be the rule of my conduct.

"I am, sir, your most obedient and humble servant,

"John Fraser.

"To Brigadier-General *Wooster*."

This letter produced, next evening, the following answer:

"Head-Quarters, Montreal, December 18, 1775.

"Sir: Your breach of promise, and insolent letter to me yesterday, justly merit a set of iron ornaments, which you and your associates have very lately been so fond of bestowing on the friends of constitutional liberty; but, as I disdain to follow your inhuman and infamous example, I shall only order, and I do hereby order and direct you, on the receipt hereof, to repair to the fort at *Chambly*, under such an escort as I shall direct, and there to remain, in close abode, till further orders from, sir, your humble servant,

"David Wooster,

"*Brigadier-General, Commanding at Montreal.*

"To *John Fraser*, Esq."

Mr. *Nicolson*, as Town-Major, had scarcely delivered to me the above letter, when Mr. *Fleming* appeared at the door, with a party from the guard, and had sentries placed in my house, at front and back doors, with orders to let nobody in our out, servants excepted. Next day, I was taken across the river *St. Lawrence*, to the Fort of *Chambly*, confined to the fort, where I got such a hole for my apartment as not to be able to make use of my own bedstead. There I remained during five weeks, till I was ordered, with other gentlemen, for this place. These are the facts antecedent and subsequent to the letters. The letters will speak for themselves. I will make no observations. I cannot, however, help saying that the most savage have a tender regard and respect for women. Mrs. *Fraser* was very near lying in, which Brigadier *Wooster*

well knew; therefore, placing sentries within my house so abruptly must be deemed rather cruel.

The papers that Brigadier *Wooster* wanted are of no consequence, yet they were a trust in me reposed, long before the capitulation. He had no right to demand them, and I could not with propriety give them. At any rate, I must be supposed to have acted from principle. Had I considered my own peace only, I might have expected to have better attained that by giving up the papers; but my rule of conduct is to endeavour to distinguish right from wrong, and to do what is right, be the consequence what it may. Exclusive of sentries in my house, under the circumstances, my being taken from my family, and sent across the river, at the worst time, my close confinement in the fort for five weeks, I beg the letter from Brigadier *Wooster* may be attended to, and let then the cause of such treatment be weighed.

Although it removed me further from my family, yet it was with pleasure that I found myself ordered for this place, as the constant report we had in *Canada* from the gentlemen who had been sent here was that the greatest politeness was uniformly kept up towards them. I have no doubt about the opinion you will entertain of my usage, and I have only to beg the favour you will lay the whole before the Congress. I am confident they will consider such treatment as it deserves, and will apply the proper remedy. I am really sorry to encroach so much on your time. I have endeavoured to be as short as possible, without omitting any thing material. I will now conclude, and I remain, sir, yours, &c.,

JOHN FRASER.

To Major-General *Schuyler*, Continental Forces.

ARREST OF MR. WALKER, OF MONTREAL.

Province of QUEBECK, *ss:*

Declaration, upon oath, made before DAVID WOOSTER, *Esq., Brigadier-General, and Commander-in-Chief of the Continental Army in* CANADA, *&c., &c., by* BAPTIST BELAIR, *Captain of Militia in the Parish of* ASSUMPTION, *viz:*

That, being at *Montreal*, with the *Assumption* Militia, Monsieur *Lanaudiere*, Jun., proposed to me to go with the Militia to *Assumption*, to take Mr. *Walker* prisoner, at his country-house, by order of General *Carleton*. This was at Monsieur *St. Ours's* house, where he sent for me; and, in consequence, I required a written order, and he sent me immediately away to the Barracks, it being then about half-past eight in the evening. Brigadier-General *Prescott* came to the Barracks, and there delivered me an order, in writing, from General *Carleton*, and, at the same time, delivered me a sack, in which was pitch and oakum, saying, in case there is any resistance, and it should be obstinate, you must set fire to the house; it is Mr. *Carleton's* orders. We set off immediately, by water, to *St. Sulpice*, and, leaving our batteau there, we took the road to *Assumption*, where we arrived about two o'clock in the morning, with about twenty of the King's soldiers, and twelve *Canadians;* and that the deponent staid on the other side the river, having never passed the bridge.

BRUYERE DE BELAIR.

Head-Quarters at *Montreal*.—Sworn before me, this 17th day of *February*, 1776.

DAVID WOOSTER, *Brigadier-General.*

GUY CARLETON, *Governour of the Province of* QUEBECK, *&c.:*

The Sieur *Belair*, Captain of Militia in the Parish of *Assumption*, is hereby commanded to go from this city, with the military that shall be ordered with him, in my name, under the command of Lieutenant *McDonnell*, of the Royal Regiment of Emigrants, to take, at *Assumption*, and seize upon, the person of *Thomas Walker*, accused of high-treason, and him safely convey into this city, under a good and safe guard.

I order and command all the King's good subjects to aid and assist the said Sieur *Belair* in the execution of the present order, upon pain of disobedience.

Given at *Montreal*, the 4th day of *October*, 1775.

GUY CARLETON.

MR. WALKER'S STATEMENT.

Thomas Walker, of *Montreal*, in the Province of *Quebeck*, merchant, upon oath, testifieth and saith: That, being at his own house, in the Parish of *Assumption*, on the 5th of *October* last past, it was surrounded, about two or three o'clock in the morning, by a party of armed men, viz: a detachment of about twenty soldiers, commanded by Lieutenant *John McDonnell*, of the Royal Emigrants, together with seven Captains of Militia, and several other *Canadians*, who began the attack by firing a musket-shot, and then, without calling to this deponent, immediately proceeded to break open his doors with axes, &c., which they effected so suddenly that he had but just time to slip on his coat and waistcoat, and put his pistols in his pockets, in order to retreat, with a short rifle-gun in his hand, into the garret, where his wife had fled, in her shift, but a moment before, this deponent being determined to defend the stair-head to the last extremity. As soon as the soldiers entered the house, they lighted a candle, and instantly searched the bed-chamber, which this deponent and his wife had just quitted, and then, in order to have light in the other apartments, they set fire at the foot of the stairs to some oakum, mixed with pitch or rosin, and immediately a number of them, armed with muskets and fixed bayonets, rushed into the room which was overlooked by this deponent from the top of the stairs, setting up the *Indian* yell. The deponent, hearing this, and observing their actions, made not the least doubt that it was Colonel *Johnson's* party of *Mohawk Indians*, sent down to murder him and his family, as had been oftentimes threatened; whereupon, he fired his rifle-gun among the thickest of them, and in a moment afterwards made another shot from a double-pistol, but, before he could discharge the other, they had all quitted the room, with great precipitation and dismay. An officer and Grenadier having been dangerously wounded by those different shots, the rest retired for some time, to bind up their wounds, and to plunder the other part of the house. They then returned, and began a general fire of muskets all around the house, which they kept up briskly for a long time, calling out to this deponent to come out and surrender himself; but, finding that they could make no impression, and not daring to enter the same room again, whence they had been driven, they proposed to uncover the roof of the house, in order to get at the deponent, but dropped the design, it is presumed for the same reason. Therefore, the commanding officer called out to his party to set fire to the four corners of the house, which orders were repeated several times by Sergeant *David McFall*, and which they executed soon after. This the deponent perceiving at the window, and being terrified therewith, and imagining that a torch, lifted up at the end of a pole, had been a man upon a ladder setting fire to the roof, discharged a pistol from the window, which, it is said, shot a Captain of Militia through the chin with a buckshot. Thereupon, they began a second attack, firing all around the house for a considerable time, till they had expended three or four hundred musket-shots.

When the flames had increased to a great head they left off firing and fell to plundering the house; which being from the ground-floor, built of wood, burnt now with great violence: and this deponent finding no succour come from the neighbours, who, by this time, were all on foot at the village, and for many miles round the country, remaining at a distance quiet spectators of the dismal scene, as he has since learned, and Mrs. *Walker* crying aloud several times, "we shall both be burnt to death!" the terrour of which made her, in despair, beg this deponent would shoot her; and she, having been almost suffocated in an attempt to go down the stairs, he laid down his arms and carried her to the garret window farthest from the fire, where she called out for quarters, and begged for mercy to the soldiers below, at the same time getting out of the window, with her face to the wall, she hung by her hands, supported by the deponent, under both her arms, till a soldier, named *Cox*, brought a ladder, by which she got down, being much scratched and bruised. The soldiers at the same time seeing this deponent, called out to him, and promised him good usage if he would surrender. He seeing the floor burning under his feet, and no further defence to be made, or possibility of escape, after a resistance of more than three hours, surrendered himself, and was instantly seized by six

men, some of whom handled him very roughly. Lieutenant *McDonnell* came up to him, with his arm in a sling, and at first offered to strike him with his fist, and then attempted to draw a pistol out of his belt to shoot him, but was prevented from doing him any hurt by Sergeant *McFall*, to whom he had at first surrendered himself; then the pockets of the deponent were searched and rifled, and a loaded pistol, among other things, taken out of them.

In the mean while the deponent's cellars (being an outbuilding) were broke open and pillaged, and the heads of several hogsheads were staved in, and others had forced open the pot-ash works, and brought out three negroes, with divers kinds of plunder; during all which the deponent and his wife were kept standing in the mud, with naked feet, to behold their house and goods burned and plundered, trunks opened, and pieces of goods from the store divided among them, whilst neither himself nor his wife were allowed any clothes to cover or defend them from the cold. At length Sergeant *David McFall* took off his blanket-coat and put it upon Mrs. *Walker*, whilst the deponent wrapped himself round with a coverlid which he had hastily snatched up. Thus equipped, they were marched to the end of the road leading to *St. Sulpice*, where a cart was pressed, and they were carried therein to a batteau lying in the river *St. Lawrence*, a league from his house, being guarded all along the road by this party of twenty soldiers, and flanked in the woods by the *Canadians*, with his three negroes on foot, part of the plunder and the wounded Grenadiers in one of the deponent's carriages. Several armed batteaus were sent down from *Montreal* to give us the meeting, commanded by Lieutenant *Leslie;* and when we arrived at the landing, opposite the barracks, General *Prescott*, in great wrath, came down upon the beach, and commanded the prisoners to be brought forth; all the troops were marched out of the gate, and formed in two divisions, and the deponent enclosed in the centre, where he ordered him to be pinioned, and then, marching into the barrack square, he spoke these words: "You are a traitor and a villain, you scoundrel, to betray your country; but the laws of your country have overtaken you at last; you shall have the justice of this country; for, to you, you villain, is owing the loss of all the blood of those brave men that has been, or shall be spilled at *St. John's*, or in other parts of *Canada*." To which this deponent replied: "I perceive that you know very little of my real character; but pray, who are you, sir, that treats me thus unworthily, for I have not the honour to know you?" not having seen him before. "What do you think of last night's work," continued he; "and of that brave man in the boat, which you have so desperately wounded?" "I think, sir, that it was a very poor exploit, to send fifty men on purpose to murder one, and burn his house, whilst he and his family were asleep in their beds." He replied, by calling to the Provost-Marshal and the smith, to put the deponent in irons, which were much heavier than ordinary, being made by the particnlar orders of Major *Hughes*, who, also, gave the dimensions, as the smith has since informed this deponent; and whilst he was putting them on, General *Prescott* called out to him, to rivet them well, (in doing which, he jarred the bones of the deponent's legs, so as to give him inexpressible pain,) and then, with a loud voice, cried out, "Your crime is high treason and rebellion; and," added he, "give that poor unhappy man a stray bed and a blanket in Number four, in the barracks, and keep sentries over him, that nobody speaks to him but the Town-Major, (Mr. *Hughes*,) unless before the Sergeant of the Guard."

There this deponent lay, confined and alone, in irons, for thirty-three days and nights, without fire or candle for a long while, or the consolation of a friend at any time, Mrs. *Walker* being absolutely forbid to see him, and, for many days, made a prisoner in her own house, with six sentries round about it, and the persons who came and went to and from the barracks, with victuals, were searched for letters, &c.

At length, *St. John's* being taken, this deponent was carried by soldiers, in a weak and low condition, and in presence of Captain *Anstruther* and Mr. *Hughes*, under pretence of going to General *Prescott's* room, in a very rainy day, to a boat, which conveyed him on board an armed schooner in the service of Government, commanded by Captain *Lisote*, who had the humanity to order his irons to be knocked off, placing a sentry at the cabin-door with a drawn sword, and orders not to let the prisoner receive or send any letters, papers, or messages, without examination and leave of the Lieutenant. It seems, notwithstanding these precautions, that the Generals were offended at Captain *Lisote* for having freed from fetters this deponent, without positive orders from them; and told him that he must answer for his prisoner, *corps pour corps*.

Two days afterwards, the deponent was hurried from on board Captain *Lisote*, to another armed schooner, commanded by Captain *Bouchet*, where he remained, under the same kind of confinement, for twelve days, nine of which were spent in the attempt the vessel made to escape to *Quebeck*, which began with precipitation immediately upon the appearance of General *Montgomery's* vanguard at *St. Paul's Island*. However, they durst not venture to pass the point of *Sorel River*, there being Continental troops, cannon, and an armed gondola, which drove the ships back again to *La Velterie*, having killed one man on board the *Gaspee*, where the capitulation was signed by Gen. *Prescott*, on *Sunday* evening, to surrender eleven sail of vessels, in which were, viz:* three Majors, five Captains, and several subalterns, conductors, and inferior officers, together with one hundred and seventeen regular soldiers, rank and file, with their arms and accoutrements, besides *St. Luke La Corne*, one of the Legislative Council of *Quebeck*, Captain *John Fraser*, Judge of the Common Pleas and Counsellor, and several *Canadian* volunteers. Governour *Carleton* having quitted the *Gaspee*, with Messrs. *Niverville* and *Lanaudiere*, at midnight, on *Thursday*, was conducted in a whale-boat, with muffled paddles, by Captain *Bouchet*, a secret way to *Three-Rivers*, and arrived at *Quebeck* on *Sunday* following.

The deponent was set free on *Monday* morning, by his friend Major *Brown*, who delivered him from the cruel hands of tyranny and oppression, and from the tools of military and arbitrary power.†

Over and above the indignity and sufferings imposed upon this deponent and his wife, who was denied the liberty of seeing him by General *Prescott*, and taking his last adieu at the instant of his departure, when it was exultingly given out that he was to be sent home in irons, there to be . . . . . He had his apprentice imprisoned for about sixty-seven days, and his other servants and slaves put under confinement, to his very great damage in his interest, and ruin of his health, besides the loss sustained by burning, destroying, and plundering his house, manufactory, store, household goods, cash, plate, books, notes, furniture, clothes,

* Brigadier-General *Prescott*, Major *John Campbell*, Major *Dunbar*, Major *Hughes*, Captain *Anstruther*, Captain *Crawford*, Captain *Swan*, Captain *Brice*, in the Seventh Regiment, Captain *Gamble*, Lieutenant *Cleveland*, Lieutenant *Leslie*, Lieutenant *Duncan Campbell*, Lieutenant alias Ensign *John McDonnell*, Royal Emigrants, Doctor *Beaumont*, Mr. *Cooper*, Conductor of Artillery Stores, Mr. *William Jones*, Provost-Marshal, *Canadian* Volunteers, Messrs. *Launiere*, *Magnan*, *Cugnet*, Jun., prisoners.

We are well assured that the whole force of the Continental troops, then at *Sorrel*, did not exceed one hundred and thirty-five men. The vessels given up were, viz: His Majesty's Brigantine *Gaspee*, comanded by Lieutenant *Royal:* Also, ... Captain *Lisote*, a large schooner, two nine-pounders in the waist, besides quarter-deck guns and swivels, twenty-four seamen, each armed with a musket, bayonet, and broad-sword. Captain *Bouchet*, another large schooner, armed like the other before-mentioned, compliment twenty sailors, besides several other large schooners, fitted with swivels, &c. All the vessels towed after them a batteau, with one or more canoes or small boats, in order to make a descent, or escape by flight, as occasion should offer.

† Philadelphia, *April* 26, 1776.—From the above affidavits may be gathered the outlines of the character of the famed General *Prescott*, who, to the leading Colonel *Allen* and thirty more defendants of *American* liberty with irons, and sending them over seas, instead of keeping them to be exchanged for prisoners of the other side, has added this barbarous usage of a citizen and a Magistrate, whose inflexible adherence of his known duty has long since rendered him a distinguished character.

Justice *Walker*, hearing that General *Prescott* was in *Philadelphia*, undertook a journey, in the depth of winter, to that city, to complain of the treatment he had suffered from him, and obtain some satisfaction for such inhuman violence; but, to his great surprise, found Mr. *Prescott* lodged in the best tavern of the place, walking or riding at large through *Philadelphia* and *Bucks* Counties, (in the latter of which he will doubtless find many with whom he may take sweet counsel,) feasting with gentlemen of the first rank in the Province, and keeping a levee for the reception of the grandees, who, probably, are cultivating this honourable acquaintance, as a natural and easy means of introduction to the notice of their excellencies the ambassadors.

In consequence of all which unaccountable phenomena, and the little prospect there appears of his obtaining any adequate redress in the present unsettled state of publick affairs, Mr. *Walker* has returned to *Montreal*, leaving this modern testimony for the perusal of all martyrs to *American* freedom. Probus.

utensils of manufacture and husbandry; likewise a considerable quantity of fine pearl-ash, in casks, &c.

THOMAS WALKER.

Philadelphia, sworn the 24th of *April*, 1776, before SAMUEL MIFFLIN.

ORDERS GIVEN THE SEVERAL CAPTAINS IN THE FLEET, AT SAILING FROM THE CAPES OF DELAWARE, FEBRUARY 17, 1776.

SIR: You are hereby ordered to keep company with me, if possible, and truly observe the signals given by the ship I am in, but in case you should be separated in a gale of wind or otherwise, you then are to use all possible means to join the fleet as soon as possible; but if you cannot, in four days after you leave the fleet, you are to make the best of your way to the southern part of *Abacco*, (one of the *Bahama* Islands,) and there wait for the fleet fourteen days. But if the fleet does not join you in that time, you are to cruise in such places as you think will most annoy the enemy. And you are to send into port, for trial, all *British* vessels, or property, or other vessels, with any supplies for the Ministerial forces, who you may make yourself master of, to such places as you may think best within the *United Colonies*.

In case you are in any very great danger of being taken, you are to destroy these orders and your signals.*

ESECK HOPKINS, *Commandant-in-Chief*.

GENERAL LEE TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read February 20, 1776.]

New-York, February 17, 1776.

SIR: I think it my duty to inform you, that the *Phenix* and Governour *Tryon's* ship are already out of the harbour, and that the *Asia* is under sail. They, most probably, have had intelligence of the danger which threatens their comrade, the *Mercury*, and General *Clinton*, from your fleet, and are sailed with an intention of attacking it. As it may be thought prudent to apprize your fleet of the circumstance, I must repeat, that I thought it my duty to send an express on the subject. The *Asia* ran aground opposite the Exchange; as the tides are low, we were in hopes she would not have been able to have got off this flood. In these hopes we were preparing cartridges for some pieces of cannon, (which is not here from want of method, a very short operation,) and flattered ourselves that we should have been able to have destroyed or much damaged her, but she is now, unfortunately, afloat.

I am, sir, with the greatest respect, your most obedient, humble servant,

CHARLES LEE.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, President of the Continental Congress.

TRYON COUNTY COMMITTEE TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

Tryon County Committee-Chamber, February 17, 1776.

HONOURABLE GENTLEMEN: Your favour we received this week, and immediately called our members to a meeting, in order to consult for raising troops to contribute to the defence of our Colony, as desired.

We resolved to inlist, for such purpose, under Continental pay, at least two full companies, with despatch; and we will endeavour to afford three companies, if possible, but it is no sure dependance upon three, before trial.

We recommend the following persons, as well qualified, to be commissioned as officers for the two companies, in the following rank: *Jacob W. Seeber*, Captain; *Yoost House*, as Lieutenant; *Jacob Ja. Clock*, Ensign; *Abner French*, Captain; *Jacob Simons*, Lieutenant; *John Newkerk*, Ensign.

In regard to your request for recommending two persons for each office, that you may make the choice, we would have done accordingly, but to prevent confusion in inlisting, and affronts, likewise, to the one or the other, to the hurt of the same, we concluded to recommend but one for each office, which so chosen, we judge capable and of influence among the people. We leave the expedition of their commissions, and other regulations, to your further directions. Concerning the clothing and accoutrements wanting for those new recruited men, we must annex, that it would be a needful encouragement, at least in our County, to furnish

**Signals for the* AMERICAN *Fleet by day.*

For sailing: Loose the foretopsail, and sheet it home.

For weighing and coming to sail: Loose all the topsails, and sheet them home.

For the fleet to anchor: Clew up the maintopsail, and hoist a weft in the ensign.

For seeing a strange vessel: Hoist the ensign, and lower and hoist it as many times as you see vessels, allowing two minutes between each time.

For chasing: For the whole fleet to chase, a red pendant at the foretopmast head.

To give over the chase: A white pendant at the foretopmast head.

For the *Columbus* to chase: Strike the broad pendant half-mast, to be answered by a weft in the ensign and making sail. To chase to windward—hoist the ensign, lowering the pendant at the same time; if to leeward, not. To give over the chase: a white pendant at the foretopmast head; and if at a great distance, fire a gun at the same time. This may serve for any of the vessels to give over the chase and return into the fleet.

For the *Andrew Doria* to chase: A *Dutch* flag at the foretopmast head. To chase to windward: hoist the ensign, lowering the pendant at the same time; if to leeward, not. To give over the chase: a white pendant at the foretopmast head; and if at a great distance, fire a gun at the same time.

For the *Cabot* to chase: A white flag at the foretopmast head. To chase to windward, &c., as above.

For the *Providence* to chase: A *St. George's* ensign, with stripes at the mizen peak. To chase to windward, &c., as above.

For the *Fly* to chase: A *Dutch* flag at the maintopmast head. To chase to windward, &c., as above.

For the *Hornet* to chase: A red pendant at the mizentopmast head. To chase to windward, &c., as above.

For the *Wasp* to chase: A *Dutch* flag at the mizen peak. To chase to windward, &c., as above.

For a general attack, or the whole fleet to engage: The standard at the maintopmast head, with the striped jack and ensign at their proper places.

To disengage and form into a squadron: A white flag at the ensign staff, and the same into a weft for every vessel to make the best of their way off from the enemy for their own preservation.

For all the Captains to come on board the Commodore: A red pendant at the ensign staff.

To speak with the *Columbus:* A white pendant at the mizentopmast head.

To speak with the *Andrew Doria:* A *Dutch* flag at the mizentopmast head.

To speak with the *Cabot:* A weft in a jack, at the mizentopmast head.

To speak with the *Providence:* A white flag at the mizentopmast head.

To speak with the *Fly:* A *Dutch* flag at the ensign staff.

For any vessel in the fleet that wants to speak with the Commodore: A weft in the ensign; and if in distress, accompanied with two guns.

To fall into a line abreast: A red pendant at the mizen peak.

To fall into a line ahead: A white pendant at the mizen peak.

For meeting, after a separation: A weft in an ensign, at the maintopmast head, to be answered with the same, and cluing up the maintopgallant sail, if they have any set.

For the ship *Providence* to chase: A red pendant at the mizentopmast head. To chase to windward, &c., as before.

To speak with the ship *Providence:* A weft in the ensign at the ensign staff.

Signals in a fog, or thick weather.

When it comes on foggy, and the Commodore will continue the same sail and course: Fire a gun every half hour.

To bring too on the larboard tack: Fire two guns.

To bring too on the starboard tack: Fire three guns.

Any vessel in the fleet discovering an enemy of superior force, shall fire four guns, and shall be answered by every vessel in the fleet, with two guns, and then endeavour to speak with the Commodore, and upon hearing one of the fleet engage, an attack must be made by the whole, in the best manner possible.

For the whole fleet to anchor: Fire five guns.

To haul upon the wind upon the starboard tack: Fire six guns.

To haul upon the wind upon the larboard tack: Fire seven guns.

To bear up, or go before the wind: Fire eight guns.

Any vessels in the fleet discovering land or danger: Fire minute-guns until the danger is over.

Signals by night.

To weigh and come to sail: Three lights in the mizen shrouds abreast of each other, to be answered by each ship with one light in the main shrouds.

To put about and stand upon the other tack: Two lights upon the ensign staff, to be answered by the other vessels with one.

To ware and stand upon the other tack: Three lights upon the ensign staff, to be answered by the other vessels with two.

To ware and stand before the wind: Two lights at the mizen peak, to be answered by three lights at the ensign staff.

For the fleet to heave too with their starboard tacks on board: A light in the starboard main shrouds, with one gun.

To heave too with their larboard tacks on board: Two lights in the larboard main shrouds, with two guns.

For discovering strange vessels: A light upon the ensign staff, with a false fire, and as many false fires as vessels discovered.

For discovering land or danger: Show a great number of lights, and fire guns, which is to be continued until every vessel in the fleet answer it by firing a gun each.

For the fleet to attack or engage the enemy: Fire a gun, and as many false fires as there are ships in the fleet.

For meeting, after a separation: Two false fires, to be answered by the same.

For the fleet to anchor: A light at the maintopmast head, to be answered by a light at the same place when safe at anchor.

them with such necessaries; and if so to be, where, and in what manner it shall be procured. Please, therefore, to consider this point without delay, and inform us with your opinion or resolve.

We must further lay before you the situation of our exposed frontier place at *Fort Stanwix*, where good caution, against dangerous enterprises, desires a number of men to be posted, tending really for the preservation of the country; and besides, we must hear of the *Oneida Indians*, close neighbours to said fort, the necessity of such a guard in that frontier place.

We beg, therefore, that you will consult upon this matter in particular, and favour us alike with your resolve undelayed. If our promised two companies, as above mentioned, would be wanting in any other places of the Province, we may almost assure, that to guard this frontier aforesaid, we shall be able to inlist another and third company, under Continental pay and the same provisions, as allowed to the other companies.

We remain, with respects, honourable gentlemen, your obedient, humble servants,

By order:

William Seeber, *Chairman.*

To the Honourable Congress, or Committee of Safety, *New-York.*

JOSEPH FRENCH TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

New-York, (in close confinement,) February 17, 1776.

Sir: I make free to trouble you with a few lines, in order to acquaint you with my situation. I have been in confinement four and thirty days; three days at my own house, with twelve men and an officer to guard me when sick in bed.

I gave security to Colonel *Heard* for my appearance before your honourable House, or him, to answer any complaint alleged against me. I accordingly waited on the Committee of Safety, who gave me a certificate, which I enclose to your care, and which certificate I showed to Colonel *Heard*, who gave no attention to it, and ordered me to follow him. I accordingly followed him to *Philadelphia*, and was informed by several of the members of the honourable Continental Congress, that no complaint lay before them concerning me.

Colonel *Heard* then lay me under an obligation to go back to *New-York*, which I strictly complied with, and since my arrival here I have been closely confined, and do not know, in the least, what I have done to merit such treatment. As I have had the honour of being a member of your honourable House, I think I can say, with a clear conscience, that I have neither directly, nor indirectly, to the best of my knowledge, transgressed against the Association since I have signed it.

I, therefore, would take it as a particular favour if you would state this, my case, before the honourable House, and release me from confinement. I shall always be ready, and willing, to answer before the honourable House any charge that can be alleged against me.

After my compliments, I remain, with the greatest esteem, sir, your most obedient and very humble servant,

Joseph French.

To *Nathaniel Woodhull*, President of the Honourable Provincial Congress, *New-York.*

N. B. The time you called at my house, I acted agreeable to your request, but it had not the desired effect. The other gentlemen confined with me pray, also, that some indulgence might be given them on their petitions to the honourable House.

ADRIAN DE RONDE TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

New-York, February 17, 1776.

Gentlemen: I having been informed that there are four battalions of Provincial troops to be raised within this Province for the defence of the same, and being willing to take an active part in the cause of my country, I take this method of offering my services to your consideration; and, that it may be evident to you that my object is not rank, but a desire of securing the liberties of my country from meditated destruction, I would accept of either a Majority or a Captaincy, as you in your discretion shall think fit.

From, gentlemen, your most obedient and very humble servant,

Adrian De Ronde.

To the Honourable Provincial Congress of *New-York.*

COLONEL EASTON TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Pittsfield, February, 1776.

Dear Sir: It is with the utmost regret that I give your Excellency the trouble of this, knowing your great multiplicity of business. But faithfulness to the dear, deceased General *Montgomery* and his commands, a love of liberty and my country, obliges me to do it.

You will, sir, by the letters and orders enclosed, see the minds of the Generals who wrote them; and, agreeable thereto, I called on General *Schuyler*, in my march from *Montreal*, showed him my orders, but he did not give me any particular orders. I have since sent to him, as the bearer can inform, but have got no answer.

Should I be ordered to the Northward again with a regiment, I am sure no time is to be lost in raising it, and I beg your Excellency's direction in the premises, and am, with great esteem, your humble servant,

James Easton, *Colonel.*

To General *Washington.*

P. S. Pray your Excellency to send back General *Montgomery's* letter by the bearer, Captain *Noble.*

J. E.

ROBERT H. HARRISON TO COLONEL EASTON.

Cambridge, February 17, 1776.

Sir: I have it in command from his Excellency to acknowledge the receipt of your favour of —— instant, and to inform you that, as the Northern Department is more immediately under the care of Major-General *Schuyler*, his Excellency does not know upon what footing it was that you was ordered upon the recruiting your regiment. If any part of your regiment remains in *Canada*, the General takes it for granted that you are counted upon in the arrangements made for *Canada*. If it is to raise a new regiment, he does not think himself authorized to encourage you therein, without the approbation of Congress. The services you have done your country last campaign, mentioned in the letters to you from the late gallant General *Montgomery*, merit the acknowledgment of the publick. It will give the General pleasure to see you in a capacity to render future service, and acquire more honour. Therefore, if you find yourself excluded in the new arrangement for the Northern Department, it may possibly be through inadvertence, or for reasons which the General cannot be a proper judge of. If this should be the case, will it not be a proper step for you to take, to repair to *Philadelphia*, and produce these honourable testimonials of your merit? Lay them before the Congress, and I dare say you will not be neglected. This is only the private opinion of, sir, yours, &c.

To Colonel *James Easton.*

ROBERT H. HARRISON TO REVEREND JAMES LYON.

Cambridge, February 17, 1776.

Sir: I have it in command from his Excellency to acknowledge the receipt of your favour of the 25th *December*. He is much pleased with the zeal you exhibit for the promotion of *American* liberty, by endeavouring to add *Nova-Scotia*, as a link to that great chain which does, and I hope always will bind the *United Colonies* together. There have other applications of the same nature been laid before the General, which are now under the consideration of Congress.

Your remark is very just, that secrecy is absolutely necessary for conducting this affair with effect; and when it is undertaken, it must probably be on such a plan as you have pointed out. At present, his Excellency does not think it would succeed, as we have intelligence that may be depended on, that Brigadier-General *Massey* is arrived at *Halifax*, with the chief part of two battalions, so that the numbers you propose would, in all probability, be too few for the purpose; and, if they were thought sufficient, his Excellency does not think himself authorized to add

two regiments to our forces, without the approbation of Congress.

I mentioned before, that a plan for the reduction of that Province was under consideration of Congress, which, if they think proper to adopt, his Excellency has no doubt but that a gentleman who interests himself so much in the cause of *America* as you do, will give every assistance and advice for the accomplishment of this important business that is in your power. I am, &c.

To the Reverend *James Lyon*.

HERBERT COURTENAY TO CHARLES CARROLL, BARRISTER.

Baltimore, February 18, 1776.

Sir: Mr. *Spear* showed me a note which Mr. *Purviance* brought him from the Council of Safety, whereby it is probable you may have occasion to see Captain *Martin*; therefore, have given him orders to wait on the Council of Safety, with Mr. *Spear's* captain.

Should you have occasion to employ the brig *Friendship*, Captain *Martin*, back here, with such returns as you may have ordered, I shall have no sort of objection, provided you insure her at one thousand pounds, this money, and allow a sufficient freight for such goods as she may bring back; though Captain *Stone* intended she should bring some property of his, lying in the *West-Indies*, invested in salt, rum, &c., with her freight money out. The vessel is a prime sailer, and has a *Bermuda* register, and manned with *Negroes*, save the Captain and Mate, which may probably be a cloak for her against the late resolution of the Parliament to seize all *American* vessels.

I am satisfied you cannot employ a vessel more fitting than the *Friendship*, and should you determine on this, Captain *Martin* will take your orders respecting the homeward voyage, and I shall be glad, in such case, that you will please write me a few lines, in conformity to the above proposal, as I am acting only as an agent for Captain *Stone*, and am, with all respect, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

Herbert Courtenay.

To *Charles Carroll*, Esq., Barrister.

JOSEPH SIMS TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Prince George's County, February 18, 1776.

Gentlemen: During the sitting of the last Convention, the officers of the several companies belonging to the Eleventh Battalion, of this Province, were appointed, except the *Nottingham* Company, which could not then be done for want of a choice being made by the people. Since that, and very lately, the people have had a meeting for that purpose, and have made choice of the following gentlemen, viz: *Fielder Bowie*, Esq., Captain; Messrs. *Robert Bowie*, First Lieutenant, *William Newman Dorsett*, Second Lieutenant, and *George Gant*, Ensign. As it is necessary their commissions should immediately issue, I am desired by the company to apply for them, and a messenger is sent on purpose.

I must, therefore, request you will direct your Clerk to fill up the commissions with the names of the above gentlemen, and enclose them to me by the return of this express, who will wait for that purpose.

I am, gentlemen, with great regard, your most obedient, humble servant,

Joseph Sims.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM JOHN ADAMS TO A FRIEND, DATED PHILADELPHIA, FEBRUARY 18, 1776.

I sent you, from *New-York*, a pamphlet entitled "Common Sense," written in vindication of doctrines which there is reason to expect that the further encroachments of tyranny, and depredations of oppression, will soon make the common faith, unless the cunning Ministry, by proposing negotiations and terms of reconciliation, should divert the present current from its channel.

Reconciliation, if practicable, and peace, if attainable, you very well know, would be as agreeable to my inclinations, and as advantageous to my interest as to any man's; but I see no prospect, no probability, no possibility. And I cannot but despise the understanding which sincerely expects an honourable peace, for its credulity, and detest the hypocritical heart which pretends to expect it, when in truth it does not.

The newspapers here are full of free speculations, the tendency of which you will easily discover. The writers reason from topics which have been long in contemplation, and fully understood by the people at large in *New-England*, but have been attended to in the Southern Colonies only by gentlemen of free spirits and liberal minds, who are very few. I shall endeavour to enclose to you as many of the papers and pamphlets as I can, as long as I stay here. Some will go by this conveyance.

Doctor *Franklin*, Mr. *Chase*, and Mr. *Charles Carroll*, of *Carrollton*, in *Maryland*, are chosen a Committee to go into *Canada*. The characters of the two first you know. The last is not a member of Congress, but a gentleman of independent fortune, perhaps the largest in *America*—a hundred and fifty or two hundred thousand pounds sterling; educated in some University in *France*, though a native of *America*, of great abilities and learning, complete master of the *French* language, and a professor of the *Roman* Catholick religion, yet a warm, a firm, a zealous supporter of the rights of *America*, in whose cause he has hazarded his all. Mr. *John Carroll*, of *Maryland*, a *Roman* Catholick Priest, and a Jesuit, is to go with the Committee, the Priests in *Canada* having refused baptism and absolution to our friends there. General *Lee* is to command in that country, whose address, experience, and abilities, added to his fluency in the *French* language, will give him great advantages.

The events of war are uncertain. We cannot insure success, but we can deserve it. I am happy in this provision for that important department, because I think it the best that could be made in our circumstances. Your prudence will direct you to communicate the circumstances of the Priest, the Jesuit, and the *Romish* religion, only to such persons as can judge of the measure upon large and generous principles, and will not indiscreetly divulge it. The step was necessary, for the anathemas of the Church are very terrible to our friends in *Canada*.

ALBANY (NEW-YORK) COMMITTEE.

Albany Committee-Chamber, February 18, 1776.

The Committee of the Township of *Schenectady*, reported this day to the General Committee of the City and County of *Albany*, that on the 15th day of *January*, instant, a Letter was laid before them under the signature of *Benjamin Hilton*, and directed to *Alexander White*, Esq., Sheriff of the County of *Tryon*, an extract whereof is in the following words:

"Schenectady, December 22, 1775.

"Dear Sir: Lieutenant *McDonald*, who is in town, just now informed me, that *Arnold*, immediately on his arrival before *Quebeck*, sent a flag to demand from Colonel *Maclean*, an immediate surrender of the town. The messenger was conducted hoodwinked to *Maclean*, who told him, he would give *Arnold* a final answer in a few hours; in the mean time, Colonel *Maclean* lined the houses of the town, past which *Arnold* was to pass, to take possession of the town. Colonel *Maclean*, at the expiration of the time, sent a messenger to *Arnold* to inform him, that he was extremely sorry he had it not in his power sufficiently to defend the town, therefore, was willing to surrender it to him without the effusion of blood, and might take possession of it as soon as he pleased. *Arnold* himself, with the greatest part of the troops, immediately went to take possession of the town, and after they had entered the gates, they were closed, and the troops that *Maclean* had placed in ambush, in the houses, immediately fired upon them, killed three hundred, and took the rest prisoners, among which *Arnold* is said to be. *Maclean* immediately sallied out of the town, pursued the remainder of *Arnold's* men over the *Plains of Abraham*, and killed a great many of them; a fine stratagem, worthy of immortalizing *Maclean's* name, and handing it down to the latest posterity in letters of gold. This seems very probable to me, and Mr. *McDonald* says it may be depended upon. *Arnold*, before his arrival at *Quebeck*, was obliged, in order to keep his men from starving, to kill all the horses and dogs he had with him, and, after all, fell short four days, in such fine fare; however, no better than they deserved.

"I should say more, but am in haste; you will therefore excuse me, and believe me yours, sincerely,

"BENJAMIN HILTON."

That the said Committee had, therefore, sent for the said *Benjamin Hilton*, who avowed himself the author of the said Letter, and declared that he had wrote it to please the said *White*, whose sentiments he knew; that he had wrote it, however wrong, in expectation that the contents thereof would never be discovered.

The said Committee did further report, that the said *Benjamin Hilton*, on the 14th day of *July* last, had voluntarily, and without any solicitation, made before *Cornelius Cuyler*, Esq., the following Affidavit, to wit:

"*Benjamin Hilton*, Jr., Esq., of this place, Attorney at Law, being duly sworn, deposeth and saith: That he has never entertained or harboured an opinion inimical or unfriendly to the just constitutional rights or liberties of *America;* that he looks upon the claim which the *British* Parliament has set up in the present reign, by statute, to bind the Colonies in all cases whatsoever, as unconstitutional, and subversive of *American* liberty; that the measures taken by Administration for the enforcement of the several statutes passed against *America* in general, and some of the Colonies in particular, in his opinion, will justify opposition; that he is a friend to his country, and the invaded rights and liberties thereof, (though he believes, by many, without foundation, taken to be an enemy thereto,) and wishes it all the success in this unhappy and unnatural conflict, that any real friend to the common cause can; that he never was really induced or prevailed upon, by any person, to resign his Lieutenancy; and further saith not.

"B. HILTON, JUN.

"*Schenectady, July* 14, 1775.—Sworn before me,

"CORNELIUS CUYLER, *Justice*."

The said Committee of *Schenectady* further reported, that they had thereupon

"*Resolved*, That the said *Benjamin Hilton* either should cause his said Letter, together with the said Declaration, to be published in the newspapers by the fifth of *February* then next, or that they would publish the same, together with the above-mentioned Affidavit."

Which said Report, the said General Committee of the City and County of *Albany*, have maturely considered, and, thereupon, resolve to approve the same.

But, the said *Benjamin Hilton*, instead of abiding by the determination of the said Committee of *Schenectady*, on the eighteenth day of *January* last, without acquainting this Board of the steps taken by them, by letter, addressed to this Board, expressed his sorrow to give this Board the trouble of an application on a very disagreeable subject. That he had, on the 22d day of *December* last, wrote a letter to *Alexander White*, Esq., relative to the then report, that Colonel *Arnold*, with his forces, was defeated at *Quebeck* by Colonel *Maclean*, and which report, he found to be groundless; that he had, in that letter, also, applauded the said *Maclean* for his conduct, and wrote disrespectful of Colonel *Arnold's* forces; for all which he was extremely sorry; that he confessed his error, and desired the forgiveness of his injured countrymen, and professed himself a friend to the constitutional liberties of the Colonies; and promised, for the future, neither to write nor do any thing prejudicial to the cause of liberty; that he was well convinced that the Parliament of *Great Britain* has no right to tax the Colonies, and conceived the tyrannical measures pursued by the Ministry, to enforce such unconstitutional acts, will justify opposition; that he did confess that he had some doubts of the expedience of the expedition against *Canada*, which doubts are, however, now removed; that, as this Board is the General Committee of protection, &c., for the whole County, he, therefore, begged their final decision of this matter, and their resolution thereupon.

In consequence of which said application and request, this Committee do declare it as their opinion, in addition to the Resolution of the Committee of *Schenectady*, that the said *Benjamin Hilton* has evinced, by the said Letter, an unwarrantable exultation in the distress and defeat which he supposed a part of the Continental Army had sustained; that, therefore, this Committee, notwithstanding his prior and subsequent declarations, preceding and following the said Letter, are further of opinion, that his sentiments are inimical to the liberties of this country; yet this Committee, disdaining the impotent attempts of the said *Benjamin Hilton* to traduce the proceeding of the Northern Army, do, therefore, dismiss him from further prosecution.

Extracts from the Minutes:

MATTHEW VISSCHER, *Secretary*.

COLONEL HAZEN TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Referred to Mr. Wythe, Mr. Sherman, Mr. Ward, and Mr. S. Adams, who are directed to examine the accounts.]

Montreal, February 18, 1776.

SIR: Agreeable to the order of the honourable Continental Congress, you have, enclosed, the report of the Commissioners appointed by General *Wooster*, and their proceedings thereon at large.

The inventory of the stock, the first article of losses and damages, amounting to fourteen thousand two hundred and thirty-four livres, was chiefly and really for the use and service of General *Montgomery's* Army, and taken away by his order for that purpose, for all which he promised I should be paid.

The second article, amounting to three thousand three hundred and thirty livres, was partly destroyed by the Ministerial troops, and partly by the Continental Army, under General *Montgomery's* command.

The third article, one thousand three hundred livres, was totally lost in consequence of a mistake made by Major *Brown*, of the Continental Army, by his retaining me a prisoner on the 18th of *September* last, at a time when I had General *Schuyler's* leave, obtained on the 6th of the same month, to remain at my dwelling-house, or to pass or repass on my lawful business undisturbed or unmolested by his troops. This unfortunate accident was the source of all my misfortunes in the present instance, both as to losses and imprisonment.

The fourth article, seven thousand and seventy-nine livres, occurred, in part, from burning and destroying fences, &c., for the use of the Hospital, and lodging other troops in my dwelling-house, and other houses, occupied for that purpose. Therefore, it is not a total loss to the *United Colonies*.

The fifth article is, for damages done by the Continental Army, as fully appears; and, as it may be presumed, would not have been prevented.

The sixth, seventh, eighth, ninth, tenth, and eleventh articles was, I believed, taken chiefly by the *Canadians;* and it was the price of their labour or services; and I am sorry that I have too much reason to believe, that they were encouraged in it by their officers, at a time when I was suffering in prison, on suspicion of favouring the cause of *America*. The plundering, in this instance, was cruel; I, therefore, hope a recompense will be thought just and reasonable.

The twelfth article, was a large stone house on the Fort of *St. John's*, taken from my tenants, and into possession of the Ministerial troops. An indemnification I was promised by General *Carleton*, as well as some other damages done by them, in the second article, all which I have now forfeited, as every other protection from the Government of *England;* I therefore hope this charge may appear reasonable.

The thirteenth and fourteenth articles, are losses occurred in consequence of the foregoing, and, consequently, are thought as reasonable a charge as any other.

Thus I have gone through, and endeavoured to explain the nature and justness of the several charges, as far as in haste my poor capacity will admit; and I hope the honourable Congress will meet with no difficulty in ordering me to be paid the amount, which is now clearly ascertained by credible evidences, on oath. You will please to remember, sir, that it was a condition in the memorandum state of my affairs, which I gave in to you in writing, when at *Philadelphia*, which, if I remember, was nearly in these words, viz: If I should be employed in the Continental service, I must be indemnified for the losses which I had sustained, on which I was willing to sacrifice my half-pay in defence of my country's cause; which I still adhere to, and would not wish to have any provision made by Congress for the

security of my half-pay. I say I am willing to take the risk of it to myself; but the damages will only put my interest on the same and a proper footing, without which, I am ruined; it is my whole dependance for a future subsistence, should I live through the present troubles; or, if I should not survive, to pay off some debts, and leave a small provision for my little family. Whatever the honourable Congress are pleased to allow, I beg you will order it to be paid to the bearer of this, Mr. *Joseph Torny*, who has agreed to refund me, in hard specie, whatever he may receive from you in paper money, which is an advantage I would not willingly lose.

I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient, and most devoted, humble servant,

MOSES HAZEN.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq.

P. S. Lieutenant-Colonel *Antill* set out yesterday for *Quebeck*, and I shall leave this to-morrow, on a journey I intend to take through the country, in order to facilitate and complete the regiment which I have the honour to command. We have made a good beginning, and I hope, in a few days, to have it in my power to acquaint you of the desired success, as well in recruiting, as a friendly disposition of the *Canadians*. But you must send a Committee of Congress without delay. It is but a party of pleasure to come to *Canada* at this season of the year.

M. H.

An Inventory of Stock, &c., at ST. JOHN'S, *belonging to* MOSES HAZEN, *Esq., and on his Farms near* ST. JOHN'S, *on the 18th day of* SEPTEMBER, 1775, *the day he was made a prisoner by Major* BROWN, *of the Continental Army, serving under General* MONTGOMERY.

	Livres.
4 pair of oxen, at 200 livres each pair,	800
3 large *New-England* cows, 230 livres each,	690
6 ditto of half or mixed breed, 120 livres each,	720
8 large *French* cows, 60 livres each,	480
1 large *New-England* bull, 130 livres,	130
3 large calves, do, 60 livres each,	180
3 do. half-breed, 30 livres each,	90
4 horses, 250 livres each,	1,000
4 do. 120 livres each,	480
1 *New-England* mare,	600
24 old sheep, of a large breed, 15 livres each,	360
18 lambs, 7 livres 10 sols each,	135
16 large swine, 50 livres each,	800
6 small swine, 25 livres each,	150
11 geese, two livres each,	22
5 dozen fowls, 30 sols per couple,	45
400 bushels potatoes, 2 livres per bushel,	800
400 bushels turnips, 1 livre 10 sols per bushel,	600
Garden roots and vegetables,	550
30 bushels *Indian* corn and beans, 3 livres per bush.,	90
10 bushels pease, 4 livres 10 sols per bushel,	45
6 bushels salt, 3 livres per bushel,	18
28 gallons *New-England* rum, 4 livres per gallon,	112
7 gallons *West-India* rum, 5 livres per gallon,	35
3 barrels superfine flour, 25 livres per barrel,	75
2 barrels pork, 72 livres per barrel,	144
Sugar, coffee, tea, soap, and candles,	300
Linseed oil and paint,	450
Iron and steel in bars,	250
2,150 bundles of hay, 1 livre per bundle,	2,150
33 panel doors, 24 livres each,	792
A parcel of hewn stones, to the amount of	300
1,400 boards and planks, 50 livres per hundred,	700
20 cords of fire-wood, 7 livres 10 sols per cord,	150
Carried forward,	14,243

SAMUEL ELMER,
MARINUS WILLETT, *Capt. First York Reg't.*
JAMES JEFFRY.

Montreal, February 17, 1776.

An Account of Losses and Damages sustained by MOSES HAZEN, *Esq., at and about* ST. JOHN'S, *in the course of the year* 1775, *and in consequence of the Continental Troops coming into* CANADA.

	Livres.
To the stock, &c., as per inventory on the other side,	14,243
To the total loss of a large field of grain, and sundry others of grass and hay, as per estimation, of *Antoine Buke, Nicholas Manneer*, and *Francois Benoits*, a chosen committee, and attested to before a Notary Publick, on the 12th *December*, 1775,	3,330
To a large field of peas, estimated by *Francois Brosseau, Joseph Brosseau*, and *John Baptiste Ganier*, a committee appointed for that purpose, and attested to before a Notary Publick, on the 10th *December*, 1775,	1,300
To damages sustained and done to Mr. *Hazen's* dwelling-house, barn, saw-mills, potash-house, smith's forge, and other buildings, per estimation of Mr. *James Bell, Antoine Larose, Pierre Smicold*, and others, the 17th *November*, 1775,	7,079
To ditto, a farm at Colonel *Bedel's* camp, the post taken to cut off the communication from *St. John's* to *Chambly* and *Montreal*,	528
To household furniture plundered and pillaged by the Continental Army and *Canadians* in arms with General *Montgomery*,	7,200
To ditto, wearing apparel,	2,500
To farming utensils and tools,	1,500
To smiths' and potash do,	1,000
To carpenters' and joiners' do,	900
To coopers' and stave-makers' do,	2,400
To damages done to a large stone house and out-houses in the Fort at *St. John's* 38,400 livres, (the half only belonging to Mr. *Hazen*,)	19,200
To the loss of one year's work of four saw-mills,	6,000
To ditto, the use of his dwelling-house, potash, smith's forge, and other out-houses,	1,000
	68,180

SAMUEL ELMER,
MARINUS WILLETT, *Capt. First York Reg't.*
JAMES JEFFRY.

Montreal, February 17, 1776.

We, the subscribers, being appointed Commissioners by the Honourable *David Wooster*, Esq., commanding the Continental Army in *Canada*, to inquire into the losses which *Moses Hazen*, Esq., has sustained in and about *St. John's*, and to ascertain the same, met in the city of *Montreal*, on the 14th *February*, 1776, for that purpose, and then proceeded to swear and examine evidences relative to the losses sustained by the said *Moses Hazen*, Esq.

No. 1. To damage sustained by loss of horses, cattle, sheep, swine, geese, fowls, &c., as per inventory, 14,243 livres.

No. 1. *John Jump*, being sworn, says, that he lived with *Moses Hazen*, Esq., from *June* 13, 1775, to 25th *September* following, the day said *Hazen* was taken prisoner, and he was overseer of said *Hazen's* farms at and near *St. John's*. He is well acquainted with his concerns there; and, producing to them the annexed inventory, he says every article is just and true. He likewise says there was a barrel of tar in the cellar, and some other trifles; and further saith, that hay is sold at *St. John's* at one livre per bundle.

No. 1. *Nicholas Manner*, being sworn, declares that, as to the stock on *Moses Hozen*, Esq's, farm, and at his dwelling-house, opposite *St. John's*, agreeable to an inventory now delivered to the Commissioners, is just and true, as is, also, the account of potatoes, turnips, *Indian* corn, &c., contained in the same inventory with the cattle.

No. 2. To loss of a large field of grain and several of grass, an estimation, 3,330 livres.

No. 2. Said *Manner* further saith, that he, with *Francois Benois*, and *L. Bund*, made an estimate of the damage done to *Moses Hazen*, Esq's, field of corn and grass, in and about *St. John's*, and that it amounted to at least three thousand three hundred and thirty livres, which estimation and declaration were made the 12th *December*, 1775, before a Notary Publick.

No. 5. To damage done to a farm where Colonel *Bedel's* detachment was encamped, 528 livres.

No. 5. The deponent further saith, that there was damage done to another farm north of *St. John's*, belonging to said *Hazen*, where Colonel *Bedel's* detachment was encamped, to the amount of, by estimate, five hundred and twenty eight livres

No. 3. To the loss of a field of peas, 1,300 livres.

No. 3. The deponent further saith, that said *Hazen* was taken prisoner by Major *Brown*, on the 18th *September*, 1775, at about eight o'clock in the morning, and, in a few hours after, a sortie from the fort occasioned a skirmish, in which said *Hazen* was taken by the regular troops; and adds, that said *Hazen* was going with provisions to the savanna for the people who were at work there taking up peas for him, and, in consequence of his being detained, they left the work, and the peas were lost.

Simon Morrise, being sworn, declareth, that he was with *Moses Hazen*, Esquire, going with provisions for the people at work in the savanna at a field of peas, and that he, with said *Hazen*, were taken prisoners by Major *Brown*, and that, in consequence of their being taken, the field of peas was lost.

Francis Morriso, being sworn, declares, the day after *Moses Hazen*, Esquire, was taken, he went to the savanna to work in the field of peas belonging to said *Hazen*, but finding that he was a prisoner, and that there was not provisions for the workmen, said deponent, with several others, left the work, and the peas were lost.

John Baptiste Ganie, being sworn, declares, that he, with *Francis Brosseau* and *Joseph Brosseau*, who lived near *Moses Hazen*, Esq's, field of peas at the savanna, were called on, and estimated the damage by the loss of said field of peas, to be at least thirteen hundred livres, as, by their declaration before a Notary, dated 12th *December*, 1775.

No. 4. To damage done the dwelling-house, saw-mills, barns, potash-house, and smith's shop, opposite *St. John's*, 7,079 livres.

No. 4. *James Bell*, being sworn, declares, that there was a number of upwards of thirty-six paneled doors, made and ready to be put up, laying in the large stone-house at *St. John's*, and that they were worth at least twenty-four livres each. Said *Bell* further saith that there was a quantity of hewn-stone laying at and about *St. John's*, and he values the same at three hundred livres. And, further saith, that there was a large quantity of planks and boards, which was worth seven thousand livres, and that the whole of them are either made use of or destroyed.

Said *Bell* further declares, that the damage done to the dwelling-house, saw-mills, barn, potash-house, and smith's shop, belonging to *Moses Hazen*, Esquire, situate opposite *St. John's*, amounts to four thousand five hundred and sixty-four livres, and that he, with *Antoine Beuque* and *Pierre Seneeal*, estimated said damages, as appears by a certificate dated *November* 17, 1775. Said *Bell* saith, further, that other damages were done to said house, barns, &c., not mentioned in the above certificate, amounting to three hundred and sixty-seven dollars, as by an estimate made by said deponent and Captain *Pratt*, dated *December* 14, 1775. Said *Bell* further declares, that there was destroyed fifteen leaden spouts, valued at two dollars each, and nine brass-knobbed locks, at fifteen livres each, which were not included in either of the above calculations.

No. 6. To household furniture, 7,200 livres.

No. 6. *James Glermy*, being sworn, declareth, that he was well acquainted at the house of *Moses Hazen*, Esq., and made it a place of residence for eighteen months, at least, and that he verily believes that said *Hazen's* household furniture, in his house opposite *St. John's*, was worth at least three hundred pounds, *Halifax* currency.

No. 7. To wearing apparel, 2,500 livres.

No. 7. He further saith that the wearing apparel was very considerable.

No. 8. To farming tools and utensils, 1,500 livres.

No. 8. Said *Glemry* further declares, and saith, that he knew said *Hazen's* farm was well furnished with farming utensils and tools, which he thinks is, at least, worth one thousand five hundred livres.

No. 9. To smiths' tools and potash tools, 1,000 livres.

No. 9. Said deponent further saith, that he knew said *Hazen* had a good set of smiths' tools and potash tools, and that he really believes they were worth at least one thousand livres.

No. 10. To carpenters' and joiners' tools, 900 livres.

No. 10. He further saith, that *Hazen* had a complete set of carpenters' and joiners' tools, which he estimates at nine hundred livres.

No. 11. To a large assortment of coopers' and stave-makers' tools, with anchors, &c., two thousand four hundred livres.

No. 11. He further saith, said *Hazen* had a large assortment of coopers' and stave-makers' tools, with cables, anchors, &c., the whole amount of which, he verily believes, to be two thousand four hundred livres.

No. 12. To the damage done to one-half the large stone-house at *St. John's*, 19,200 livres.

No. 12. *Thomas Donahue*, being sworn, declares that he, as a carpenter, assisted in the building the large house at *St. John's;* that he has lived there seven years; and says the value of the house, before it was damaged, was two thousand pounds sterling or upwards, that it is now so damaged that all the walls must be taken down before it can be repaired.

No. 12. *James Bell* and *James Glenny*, being asked as to the damage done the large house at *St. John's*, after making a calculation together, estimated the damages on the whole of the house to be sixteen hundred pounds, *Halifax* currency, or thirty-eight thousand four hundred livres.

No. 13. To the loss of one year's work of the saw-mills, 6,000 livres.

No. 13. Said deponent, after making a calculation of the loss which must be sustained by the stoppage of the saw-mills for one year, declares it to be at least six thousand livres.

No. 14. To the loss of one year's use of the house, potash-house, smiths' forge, and other out-houses, 1,000 livres.

No. 14. Said deponent estimates, for the use of the house, out-houses, &c., for one year, at one thousand livres.

Sixty-eight thousand one hundred and eighty livres, is equal to eleven thousand three hundred and sixty-three dollars and one-third of a dollar.

The above account we do certify to be just and true agreeable to the best intelligence we can obtain from the above-mentioned witnesses.

SAMUEL ELMER,
MARINUS WILLETT, *Capt. First York Reg't.*
JAMES JEFFRY.

Montreal, February 17, 1776.

I do hereby certify that I was at the siege of *St. John's*, stationed under Colonel *Bedel's* command, at the post north of the Fort. That Colonel *Bedel* sent Major *Gansevoort* with a detachment to bring off the live stock from Colonel *Hazen's* farm on the opposite side of the river near that post, which was accordingly done, and which order, I suppose, came from General *Montgomery*. That some part of the said live stock was killed for the use of the Hospital; that also, potatoes, turnips, and other garden roots, was brought from said *Hazen's* farm to camp, and made use of by the soldiers and *Canadians;* that, also, hay was brought from his barn for the use of the service, but cannot say what the particular quantity of these articles were.

SAMUEL ELMER,
Lieutenant-Colonel, General Wooster's Regiment.

Montreal, February 17, 1776.

I certify that, at the time of the siege of *St. John's*, the camp at the South end of the Fort had large supplies of vegetables from the farm of Captain *Hazen*, opposite *St. John's*. That, to my knowledge, there were great damages done to the house, barn, out-houses, fences, &c., and that, after the surrender of the Fort, the house was made use of as an Hospital, as well for the quartering of troops. I likewise remember to have seen, in the time of the siege, beef and mutton brought over the river to the above camp, for the use of the troops, some of which, I understood, was taken from Captain *Hazen's* farm.

MARINUS WILLETT, *Capt. First York Reg't.*

MAJOR HAWLEY TO ELBRIDGE GERRY.

Watertown, February 18, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I hope you will forgive me if I herein appear indelicate, by attempting to inculcate some things which I hinted to you in the minutes which you was pleased to.

accept of me, as you was setting out on your journey to Congress. But, if you knew the infinite weight they are on my mind, you would not blame me, whether they impressed your mind in like manner or not. One was, that the most seasonable and effectual care should be taken that a sufficient number of the best of troops should be seasonably marched into *Canada*, and thorough provision made for their subsistence, pay, and clothing, full supplies of artillery, arms, and ammunition, that they be sure to repel and overcome all the efforts of the enemy in that quarter the approaching season. Depend on it, that the efforts of the enemy there and at *New-York* the next season will be the greatest and the earliest which they can possibly make. In the year 1760 I am certain that ships arrived at *Quebeck* from *England* some time in *April*, and I think as early as the middle of *April*, if not earlier. If they have any judgment or policy in *England*, their land forces for the reduction of *America* will be chiefly employed by the way of *Quebeck* and *New-York*; diversions may be given in other parts, but their main strength will be destined thither. I have no doubt but you are, by this time, fully sensible that the sharpest eye must be unremittedly kept on the people of *New-York*; their manœuvres and tergiversations exceed the depths of *Satan*. But I will not school you any longer on this head.

I beg leave to let you know that I have read the pamphlet, entitled, "Common Sense, addressed to the Inhabitants of *America*," and that every sentiment has sunk into my well-prepared heart; in short, you knew that my heart before was like good ground well prepared for good seed; and without an *American* independent Supreme Government and Constitution, wisely devised and designed, well established and settled, we shall always be but a rope of sand; but that well done, invincible. I need not repeat what I said to you of the worthlessness and futility of all paper currency, without such a general, well established, and independent Government.

Your field of business is immense, and absolutely boundless; but industry, courage, application, and perseverance, will surmount every thing; some relaxation and exercise is absolutely necessary to mantain health and spirit; but sloth and dissipation, and turning off business to others, and procrastination, if they gain any admission, will be our infallible ruin. I know you will not indulge to them, and I hope none others of your number. *Solomon* never uttered a truer maxim than when he said "Confidence in an unfaithful man, in time of trouble, is like a broken tooth, and a foot out of joint."

Two things I beg leave to hint: the one is, that it seems to us here that when Congress, by their late resolve, ordered an appeal from our Admiralty Courts to their honourable body, they did not well consider how dissonant such a mode of trial is from the genius of the times, to wit, by Jury; nor how much it is open to the exception which was made to the Stamp Act, of its exposing and making one of the parties liable to be carried for a trial to any remote quarter or part of the Continent, at the will of a Crown officer. Would it not have been more expedient and constitutional to have ordered the appeal to have been to the Superior Court of the Colony in which the first trial was had? Besides, it seems to bear hard on the maxim, "That the Legislative and Executive ought always to be distinct and diverse."

Secondly, I hope, sir, you will by no means forget to endeavour that there be the most peremptory and absolute order and injunction on all the Generals and officers of the *American* Army, that quarters for the army, or any part of them, shall, in no case, be impressed, but by the intervention of a civil magistrate, or direction of the Legislature of the Colony. They have again (I suppose through the resentment and pique of *Park*, the Assistant Quartermaster) quartered a company on Major *Thompson*, against his will. Our Assembly is so much on the wing, and the active members so generally gone, that it is impossible to make any proper remonstrance thereof to the General.

It is not easy to imagine what a handle such conduct as this gives to the Tories, and how much they rejoice to be able to take such exceptions; besides, it is downright and intolerably wrong. It is much more necessary that Congress should make some express order and regulation for their forces in every part, touching their behaviour in this particular; because, you know that the Colonies in general, and this in particular, are in the hands and power of the Army, by reason of the Militia being, in a great degree, stripped of their arms and ammunition, for the sake of furnishing the Army.

I suggest one thing more, and I have done, to wit: I hope that the next period or term for which the Continental troops will be inlisted will be three, or at least two years; the disadvantages and risk of their being engaged and held for short terms, even for but one whole year, are many; at the same time they never will, nor can I say that I desire that they should engage for an indefinite time; but I believe they will, after a little while, be willing to engage for two or three years.

My letter is unconnected. I enter matters as they occur, without studying coherence; if you think them of any value you have full leave to communicate to your brethren of this Colony.

I am, sir, with great and most sincere respect, your obedient, humble servant,

JOSEPH HAWLEY.

To Mr. *Gerry*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read March 6, 1776.]

Cambridge, February 18, 1776.

SIR: The late freezing weather having formed some pretty strong ice from *Dorchester-Point* to *Boston-Neck*, and from *Roxbury* to the Common, thereby affording a more expanded, and, consequently, a less dangerous approach to the town, I could not help thinking, notwithstanding the Militia were not all come in, and we had little or no powder to begin our operation by a regular cannonade and bombardment, that a bold and resolute assault upon the troops in *Boston*, with such men as we had, (for it could not take many men to guard our own lines, at a time when the enemy were attacked in all quarters,) might be crowned with success; and, therefore, seeing no certain prospect of a supply of powder on the one hand, and a certain dissolution of the ice on the other, I called the General Officers together for their opinion, agreeably to the resolve of Congress, of the 22d *December*. The result will appear in the enclosed Council of War; and, being almost unanimous, I must suppose to be right, although, from a thorough conviction of the necessity of attempting something against the Ministerial troops, before a reinforcement should arrive, and while we were favoured with the ice, I was not only ready, but willing and desirous of making the assault, under a firm hope, if the men would have stood by me, of a favourable issue, notwithstanding the enemy's advantage of ground, artillery, &c. Perhaps the irksomeness of my situation may have given different ideas to me, than those which influenced the gentlemen I consulted, and might have inclined me to put more to the hazard than was consistent with prudence. If it had, I am not sensible of it, as I endeavoured to give it all the consideration that a matter of such importance required.

True it is, and I cannot help acknowledging, that I have many disagreeable sensations on account of my situation; for, to have the eyes of the whole Continent fixed, with anxious expectation of hearing of some great event, and to be restrained in every military operation for want of the necessary means of carrying it on, is not very pleasing, especially as the means used to conceal my weakness, from the enemy, conceals it also from our friends, and adds to their wonder. I do not utter this by way of complaint. I am sensible that all that the Congress could do, they have done; and I should feel most powerfully the weight of conscious ingratitude, were I not to acknowledge this; but as we have accounts of the arrival of powder in Captain *Mason*, I would beg to have it sent on in the most expeditious manner, otherwise we not only lose all chance of the benefits resulting from the season, but of the Militia, which are brought in at a most enormous expense, upon a presumption that we should, long ere this, have been amply supplied with powder under the contracts entered into with the Committee of Congress. The Militia, contrary to an express requisition, are come, and coming in, without ammunition; to supply them alone with twenty-four rounds, which is less by three-fifths than the Regulars are served with, will take between fifty and sixty barrels of powder; and to complete

the other troops, to the like quantity, will take near as much more, and leave in store not more than about sixty barrels, besides a few rounds of cannon-cartridges, ready filled, for use. This, sir, Congress may be assured is a true state of powder, and will, I hope, bear some testimony of my incapacity for action in such a way as may do any essential service.

February 21.—When I began this letter, I proposed to have sent it by express, but recollecting that all my late letters have been as expressive of my want of powder and arms as I could paint them, and that Mr. *Hooper* was to set off in a day or two, I thought it unnecessary to run the Continent to the expense of an express, merely to repeat what I had so often done before, when I am certain that Congress, knowing our necessities, will delay no time, that can possibly be avoided, in supplying them. My duty is offered to Congress, and, with great respect and esteem, I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

P. S. Hearing of the arrival of a small parcel of powder in *Connecticut*, I have been able to obtain three thousand weight of it, which is in addition to the sixty barrels before mentioned. G. W.

—

At a Council of General Officers, held at Head-Quarters, in *Cambridge*, *February* 16, 1776. Present: His Excellency General *Washington;* Major-Generals: *Ward*, *Putnam;* Brigadier-Generals: *Thomas*, *Heath*, *Spencer*, *Sullivan*, *Gates*.

His Excellency, the Commander-in-chief, informed the Council, that in consequence of the Resolutions of two Councils of War, held at this place, on the 16th and 18th ultimo, he had applied to this Government, *Connecticut*, and *New-Hampshire*, for the Regiments then voted. That those Regiments were come, and coming in, and if complete, would amount, (officers included,) to seven thousand two hundred and eighty men. That the Regiments of the *United Colonies*, at these encampments, by *Saturday's* return, amounted to eight thousand seven hundred and ninety-seven men fit for duty, besides officers, and one thousand four hundred and five men on command, which might be ordered to join their respective Regiments immediately. That our stock of powder was so small as to afford but little aid from cannon and mortars; and, therefore, that small-arms must be our principal reliance in any event, till a supply could be obtained. That in the state *Boston* harbour has been all this year, and now is, a bombardment might probably destroy the town, without doing much damage to the Ministerial troops within it, as there were transports, wooded and watered, with a view, more than probable, to take them in upon any sudden emergency, consequently, that might not produce the desired effect, if those transports were sufficient for the embarkation of the Army. That from the best intelligence which had been procured, the strength of the Army in *Boston* did not much exceed five thousand men, fit for duty. That considerable reinforcements were expected, and, when arrived, they would undoubtedly endeavour to penetrate into the country, if their strength should be sufficient, or remove to some other part of the Continent, if not; and, thereby, greatly harass and fatigue our troops, by constant marching and countermarching, for which, in the present situation of affairs, they neither were, nor could be provided. Therefore, that a stroke, well aimed, at this critical juncture, might put a final end to the war, and restore peace and tranquillity, so much to be wished for.

For these reasons, and under these circumstances, and as part of *Cambridge* and *Roxbury* Bays were so frozen as to admit an easier entry into the town of *Boston* than could be obtained, either by water or through the lines on the *Neck*, the General desired to know the sentiments of the General Officers respecting a general assault upon the town.

The question being put, and their opinion demanded,

Resolved, That an assault on the town of *Boston*, in the present circumstances of the Continental Army, is, for the following reasons, judged improper: Because, it is the opinion of this Council, that the King's forces in *Boston*, comprehending new-raised corps, and armed Tories, amount to a much larger number than five thousand, furnished with artillery, assisted by a fleet, and possessed of every advantage the situation of the place affords. The officers, in proportion to the number of men, are so many, that the troops there may be said, with propriety, to be doubly officered. Because our Army is at present very defective in the numbers this Council declared to be sufficient for the purposes of offensive war; and, also, deficient in arms to the amount of two thousand stand. The Militia ordered and expected to be here, by the first of the month, are not more than half arrived, so that to assault the town of *Boston*, guard the works and stores, there remain only twelve thousand six hundred men, Militia, commissioned and non-commissioned officers included, a force not more than sufficient to defend the lines and maintain the blockade. Because, it appears to the Council, by the report of a majority of the General's commanding Brigades, that upon discoursing with the Field-Officers of their respective Regiments upon the subject of an assault, they, in general, declared a disapprobation of the measure, as exceedingly doubtful. Because, if an assault should be found practicable and expedient at any time, it was declared highly necessary, that it should, for some days, be preceded by a cannonade and bombardment.

His Excellency the Commander-in-chief, then required the opinion of the Council, whether it would be advisable to begin a cannonade and bombardment, with the present stock of powder?

Resolved, That a cannonade and bombardment will be expedient and advisable, as soon as there shall be a proper supply of powder, and not before; and that, in the mean time, preparations should be made to take possession of *Dorchester-Hill*, with a view of drawing out the enemy, and of *Noddle's Island*, if the situation of the water, and other circumstances will admit of it.

—

A Return of the Cartridges for Cannon in possession of the Regiment of Artillery.

	No. of Cannon.	Calibre.	Cartridges fixed with Cases.	Flannel and Paper Cartridges.	Total Rounds.	Quantity of Powder.
Dorchester and Roxbury,	6	3	251	187	438	438
	2	4	24	55	79	79
	3	12	-	42	42	210
	4	18	-	69	69	483
	3	24	-	175	175	1,750
Sewell's Point,	2	9	-	63	63	189
	2	3	49	59	108	108
Number One,	1	9	-	50	50	150
	1	4	18	18	36	48
Number Two,	2	5½	37	48	85	170
	3	3	40	34	74	74
Leehmere's Bridge,	2	6	7	76	83	166
	2	3	13	40	53	53
Cobble-Hill,	2	4	23	31	54	72
	2	18	-	32	32	192
At the Park,	2	3	40	40	80	80
At the Laboratory,	-	4	-	339	339	452
	-	2	-	15	13	12
	-	6	-	51	51	102
	-	18	-	20	20	160
	-	24	-	30	30	300
	-	1	-	-	-	100*
Commissary's Store,	-	12	-	18	18	90
	-	9	-	12	12	36
Winter and Prospect Hills,	6	24	-	124	124	1,136
	2	9	-	19	19	57
	5	3	114	19	133	133
	1	4	3	78	80	106
	2	2½	102	34	136	136
	4	6	20	8	28	56
	59		741	1,786	2,527	7,238

* One barrel fine Powder.

Errors excepted.

HENRY KNOX, *Colonel Reg. Artillery.*

Cambridge, February 19, 1776.

—

Return of Musket-Cartridges.

In Magazine on *Winter-Hill*, - - - - - - 76,128

In Magazine at *Prospect-Hill*,	48,800
At Captain *Crafis*,	3,108
In Store,	8,484
	136,520

Errors excepted.

EZEKIEL CHEEVER, *Com. Artillery.*

Cambridge, February 8, 1776.

N. B. The above is exclusive of what may be at *Roxbury.*

Return of Ammunition delivered from JANUARY 23*d to* FEBRUARY 17*th*, 1776.

	Musket-Cartridges.	Barrels of Powder.	Pounds of Powder.	Horns with half a pound of Powder.	Pounds of Musket-Ball.	Quires of Paper.	Pounds of Thread.	Pounds of Lead.
Colonel Hutchinson,	2,500	1	-	-	200	17	2	-
Colonel Baldwin,	9,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Colonel Reed, 2d Reg't,	-	1	-	-	200	17	2	-
Colonel Bond,	3,185	1	-	-	200	17	2	-
Colonel Phinny,	2,610	1	-	-	200	17	2	-
Colonel Thompson,	-	1	40	-	-	17	2	250
Colonel Patterson,	1,500	1	-	-	200	17	2	-
Colonel Varnum,	-	1	-	-	200	17	2	-
Colonel Nixon,	-	1	-	-	200	17	2	-
Colonel Sargent,	3,972	1	-	-	200	17	2	-
Colonel Hitchcock,	-	1	-	-	200	17	2	-
Colonel Reed, 13th Reg	-	1	-	-	200	17	2	-
Colonel Arnold,	-	1	-	-	200	17	2	-
Colonel Stark,	-	1	-	-	200	17	2	-
Colonel Poor,	-	1	-	-	200	17	2	-
Colonel Parsons,	-	1	-	-	200	17	2	-
Colonel Huntington,	-	1	-	-	200	17	2	-
Colonel Webb,	-	1	-	-	200	17	2	-
Colonel Willis,	-	1	-	-	200	17	2	-
Colonel Learned,	-	1	-	-	200	17	2	-
Colonel Ward,	-	1	-	-	200	17	2	-
Colonel Smith,	6,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Colonel Douglass,	-	-	-	450	450	-	-	-
Colonel Prescott,	-	1	-	-	200	17	2	-
Colonel Little,	-	1	-	-	200	17	2	-
Colonel Robinson,	6,645	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Six Militia Captains,	-	-	14	339	-	-	-	339
	35,412	22	54	789	4,650	374	44	589

Powder in Magazine at *Roxbury*,	32¼ barrels.
Do. do. *Winter-Hill*,	110¾ "
	143 barrels.

Errors excepted.

EZEKIEL CHEEVER, *Com. Artillery.*

Cambridge, February 18, 1776.

N. B. I have on hand seventeen barrels powder, about three hundred and fifty horns, (half pound powder in each,) and nine thousand musket-cartridges, of sorts.

EZEKIEL CHEEVER, *Com. Artillery.*

SURRY COUNTY (VIRGINIA) COMMITTEE.

At a Committee held for *Surry* County, at Mr. *Francis Moreland's*, on *Monday*, the 19th *February*, 1776.

Ordered, That no person, or persons, remove from any landing in this County any commodity, of any kind whatsoever, without first obtaining a permit, signed by three of the members of this Committee, for removing the same; and that the Clerk of this Committee do transmit a copy of this Order to Mr. *Purdie*, to be published in his paper.

JOHN WESSON, *Clerk.*

CHARLES CARROLL TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Mount-Clare, February 19, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I had this morning some conversation with Doctor *Weesenthall*, and enclosed I send you what he wrote me in consequence of it. I do not recollect that we have any power, on removal of the troops, to increase his salary.

The drugs are, he tells me, valued at one hundred and fifty pounds, currency, on the first cost.

I mentioned to him that, as he might have occasion for some assistants, and there were many young gentlemen that offered themselves, we expected he would examine them, and pitch on such as he thought best qualified, which he agreed to do. I think, therefore, that it may not be improper to send him the names of such as stand on the list. As we have some men in *Annapolis* that were taken by Colonel *Smallwood* and Captain *Thomas*, for the *Annapolis* Artillery Company, I thought it would be necessary they should have some officer of that company to overlook them, and spoke to Captain *Fullford* to go to *Annapolis*, as soon as he possibly could, or to send his Second Lieutenant, Mr. *Massenbaugh*. As it was not convenient for Captain *Fullford* to go immediately, he told me he would send that gentleman.

Mr. *Harrison* has since been with me, and from him I understand that the gentlemen of the Committee of *Baltimore* town find that gentleman very necessary to them in erecting their fortification, and would be extremely glad his attendance at *Annapolis* could be for some time dispensed with. I know of no expedient we can fall upon to spare him to them for any time, but by directly appointing the Third Lieutenant for the *Annopolis* Company, as some officer will certainly be wanting to take care of the men now in the city. Pray let me know your determination on this head, and I will immediately acquaint the gentlemen with it. I have consented that Mr. *Massenbaugh* should stay at *Baltimore* town till I hear from you.

I am, most respectfully, gentlemen, your obedient, humble servant,

CHARLES CARROLL.

To the Honourable Council of Safety.

QUEEN ANNE'S COUNTY COMMITTEE TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

In Committee of Correspondence, Queen Anne's County, February 19, 1776.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOURS: The Minute-Company of this County, consisting of eighty men, marched the 3d instant; and by letters from Captain *Kent*, the commander, dated *Snow-Hill*, *February* 9, 1776, is the following: I was always flattered that our orders and ammunition were lodged here, but find there is neither. The Convention have so managed matters as to distress me exceedingly. We find there is no provision made for camp equipage, such as cooking utensils, &c.; that no person is authorized to pay the men their wages, nor any provision made for getting back when relieved, which the Convention recommended to be at the end of eight weeks after our encampment, not considering that these men enrolled only till the first day of *March*. I believe a request or recommendation from the Convention, to stay eight weeks, would be agreeable, provided proper accommodations were procured; but when ordered to stay six weeks longer than they enrolled for, is looked upon as a stretch of power, and taking from us what we are contending for—liberty. It is reckoned to be from one hundred to one hundred and ten miles from *Hanson's* to this place; and, we are told, it is about eighty miles farther to *Northampton* Court-House, near which, it is imagined, we shall encamp. I have seen Mr. *Probate*, our Commissary, who has nothing to do for us, only to procure the provisions agreeable to a bill of fare made out for the troops by the Congress or Convention; utensils for cooking, &c., we must send, or go without. This expense will be too heavy for me, as I expect one hundred pounds will not carry us down; many of the poor young men are barefooted, and I am obliged to advance the money, or leave them behind. I have, also, paid five or six pounds for repairs to our fire-locks, such as were absolutely necessary.

We hope the necessary steps will be taken to relieve our brave countrymen from their difficulties, and as speedily, too, as it can possibly be done.

We are, your obedient, humble servants,

THOMAS WRIGHT,
TURBUTT WRIGHT,
SOLOMON WRIGHT.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland.*

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO GENERAL LEE.

Philadelphia, February 19, 1776.

SIR: I have the honour to enclose you sundry resolutions of Congress, by which you will perceive it is the desire of Congress that you should repair to *Canada* and take upon you the command of the Army of the *United Colonies* in that Province.

I need not mention the importance of the trust reposed in you, and the happy effects it will have in securing the liberty of *America*. If you should be so fortunate as to drive our enemies—the enemies of liberty and the rights of mankind, out of it, I heartily pray that the Disposer of events may grant you success equal to your merits and zeal.

As you will want battering cannon, which are not to be had in that Province, you are to apply to the Convention, or Committee of Safety of *New-York*, to whom, by this opportunity, I send the recommendation of Congress to supply you with twelve, such as you shall judge most suitable, and some mortars, if they have or can procure them, with balls, shells and other necessaries, and also to assist you in forwarding them.

Eight tons of powder are now on the way to *Albany* for the forces in *Canada;* and as a very considerable quantity of saltpetre is sent to the mills of Mr. *Wisner* and Mr. *Livingston*, should there be occasion for more, you will be supplied from thence.

You will readily perceive the necessity of conferring with General *Schuyler*, and, with him, consulting on the best method of having necessaries conveyed to you across the Lakes. The Congress have a full confidence that you will co-operate in securing the possession of the Lakes, and mutually assisting each other, as occasion may require, and, as far as in your power, give mutual aid in supporting the cause of freedom and liberty.

I expect the Deputies will, in a short time, be ready to proceed to *Canada*.

I am, with every sentiment of esteem, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

To the Honourable Major-General *Lee*.

P. S. Your favour respecting the departure of the ships from *New-York*, and your conjectures as to their designs, is just come to hand, and shall be laid before Congress.

In Congress, February 15, 1776.

Resolved, That a Committee of three, two of whom to be Members of Congress, be appointed to proceed to *Canada*, there to pursue such instructions as shall be given them by Congress.

The Members chosen, Doctor *Franklin*, Mr. *S. Chase*, and Mr. *C. Carroll*, of *Carrollton*.

That eight tons of Powder be immediately sent to *Canada*, for the use of the forces there.

February 17, 1776.

Resolved, That Major-General *Lee* be directed immediately to repair to *Canada* and take upon him the command of the Army of the *United Colonies* in that Province.

That Major-General *Schuyler* be directed to repair, as soon as his health will permit, to *New-York*, and take the command of the forces, and conduct the military operations there, and that the President inform him, by express, of this arrangement, and the reasons that led to it.

That it be recommended to the Convention or Committee of Safety, at *New-York*, to supply General *Lee* with a quantity of suitable cannon, not exceeding twelve, and one or more mortars, if to be had, with balls, shells and other necessaries, for the siege or assault of *Quebeck*, and that they assist him in forwarding the same, with all possible expedition.

That the Regiment of *Canadians*, the raising of which is mentioned in Brigadier-General *Arnold's* letter of the 12th *January* last, to have been set on foot by him, receive the same pay and be subject to the same regulations as the other forces employed in *Canada*, and be accounted part of the number designed to be raised for that service.

That the appointment of Captain *Rensselaer*, to be Deputy Mustermaster-General of the forces in *Canada*, be confirmed.

That the appointment of *John Halsted*, to be Commissary of the Army before *Quebeck*, be confirmed.

That the officers in the Continental armies be enjoined to use their utmost diligence in preventing every kind of plunder, and that all who shall offend herein, be punished according to the strictest discipline.

That the resolves of Congress, for encouraging Sutlers to attend the Army in *Canada*, be published, with the information that hosiery, shoes, coarse linens, soap, rum, sugar and wine, are much wanted there.

That a few artificers, such as armourers, smiths, carpenters, harness-makers, and wheelwrights, with proper persons to superintend them, be forthwith sent to *Canada*.

Extracts from the Minutes:

CHARLES THOMSON, *Secretary*.

By order of Congress:

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

GENERAL LEE TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

New-York, February 19, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: I am extremely happy that there is any opening for a more comfortable establishment for poor *Palfrey* than his present. He is a valuable and capable man, and the pittance of a simple Aid-de-campship is wretched for a man who has a family to support. On this principle and in obedience to your commands, I shall send him to Head-Quarters without delay. I must, at the same time, confess, that the loss will be irreparable to me, particularly if I am detached to *Canada*, of which there is the greatest probability, as I have received letters from divers members of the Congress, expressing their wishes that I should be employed in that department. Messrs. *Griffin* and *Byrd* are very good young men, but pretty much in the predicament of your *Bayler*. They can ride, understand, and deliver verbal orders; but you might as well set them to the task of translating an *Arabick* or *Irish* manuscript, as expect that they should, in half a day, copy a half sheet of orders. However, I must bustle through the difficulties and not keep *Palfrey* out of the channel of a better provision. If I go to *Canada*, I suppose I shall be allowed Secretaries, one *French* and one *English*. I do not see how it is possible to manage matters with less. Appropos: my dear General, if this is to be my province, shall you take it ill if I apply for one, of my two Brigadiers, either *Greene* or *Sullivan*? It is a pleasure to have some officer about us in whom we can place confidence.

The ships-of-war which were here have been frightened away. The *Asia* lies between *Nutter's* and *Bedloe's Island;* the *Dutchess of Gordon*, with his Excellency Governour *Tryon*, is under her stern; the *Phenix* is stationed a league below the *Narrows;* the *Mercury* and *General Clinton* must inevitably fall into the hands of our fleet, unless they are fast asleep. We have taken strong hold of *Hell-gate*, so that the passage betwixt *Long-Island* and the continent is absolutely blocked up to the enemy.

I wait for some more force, to prepare a post or retrenched encampment on *Long-Island*, opposite to the city, for three thousand men. This is, I think, a capital object; for should the enemy take possession of *New-York* when *Long-Island* is in our hands, they will find it almost impossible to subsist. The *Jerseys* are too well manned, and *Connecticut*, we know, will not furnish them with any thing. What to do with the city, I own, puzzles me; it is so encircled with deep, navigable water, that whoever commands the sea must command the town. To-morrow I shall begin to dismantle that part of the fort next the town, to prevent its being converted into a citadel. I shall barrier the principal streets, and at least if I cannot make it a Continental garrison, it shall be a disputable field of battle.

Enclosed I send you a return of the good and indifferent pieces of cannon. The number of the bad, (those I mean totally unfit for service,) are, I believe, about sixty. As no Commissary of Stores has been appointed until this instant, it is impossible to give you a return of the other stores by this post, but you shall have it by the next. Lord *Stirling* is a great acquisition. He is a most zealous, active and accurate officer.

A captain of a ship from *Cadiz*, who is a very intelligent person, tells us that Lord *Howe* and Captain *Barrington*, or Admiral *Barrington* are appointed Commissioners

to propose terms to the Congress: this he had from the Consul *Hardy*. What damn'd fools the Ministers are?

How does your recruiting go on for the standing Army? Be so good as to tell *Gates*, to whom I shall write by the next post, that Mr. *Nourse* enclosed no letters for him.

If little *Eustace* is not provided for in your Army, and I should go to *Canada*, I think he had better be sent to me, and I will consign him to his uncle.

I am got quit of my gout and fever, but remain extremely weak and tender. *God* preserve you, my dear General, from all disorders, at least until we have trampled *Satan* under our feet.

My love to Mrs. *Washington* and all the ladies.

Adieu. Yours, most faithfully, CHARLES LEE.

LORD STIRLING TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read February 22, 1776.]

New-York, February 19, 1776.

SIR: On the 4th instant I informed you of my having received General *Lee's* orders to march with my regiment to this place. I accordingly marched the next morning, with four companies, from *Elizabethtown*, and arrived here the next day, as soon as the ice permitted us to cross *Hudson's River;* the other four companies followed the next day, from *Amboy* and *Brunswick*.

Your most agreeable letter, of the 2d instant, I received on the 9th instant, enclosing the resolve of Congress of the 29th of *January*, which gives me more real pleasure and satisfaction than any incident I ever met with.

I now send you enclosed copies of the measures I immediately took to carry into execution the orders of Congress relative to the ship *Blue-Mountain-Valley*, and of Mr. *Blanchard's* letter to me, in answer to the one I wrote him, by which the Congress will see the present situation of that ship. I wish they would give full instructions to *John De Hart*, Esq., and Mr. *John Blanchard*, what to do with her and her cargo, as my situation here will prevent my paying any attention to her.

When I arrived at this place, I expected to have found a Continental Commissary of Provisions, who would have provided my regiment with provisions, but there being no such officer here, with General *Lee's* approbation, I directed my Quartermaster to furnish the regiment with provisions, as nearly as possible agreeable to the ration fixed by Congress, and to do it with all the economy possible; he has hitherto purchased provisions with his own money, and such as he could borrow; but as that resource must soon fail, I must beg the Congress will, as soon as possible, give the necessary directions relative to this point. I have wrote Colonel *Lowrey* on this head, and have informed him of our situation, that he may take the necessary steps to relieve us, in case he is empowered by Congress.

I have the honour to be, your most humble servant,

STIRLING.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*.

Monday Evening.—The *Asia* remains in the Bay, about two miles below the town, with the *Dutchess*, &c. The *Phenix*, it is said, lies between the *Narrows* and *Sandy-Hook;* the wind east.

New-York, February 9, 1776.

SIR: It gives me great pleasure and satisfaction to have it in my power to transmit to you a resolve of the Continental Congress, which does so much justice to the gentlemen of *Elizabethtown*, who assisted me in taking the ship *Blue-Mountain-Valley*, and, consequently, to the Committee of that town, who encouraged and directed that reinforcement; the resolve, of which the enclosed is a copy, I received this evening.

I now send orders to Mr. *Blanchard*, conformable to the directions I have received from the Congress, which, I have not the least doubt, will be faithfully carried into execution. I now, also, send to Brigadier-General *Livingston* a copy of some further directions I have received from the Congress, which he will communicate to you, which, I doubt not, your Committee will give him their best assistance, if necessary, to carry punctually into execution.

I take this opportunity of requesting of you, sir, to give my best thanks to the Committee of *Elizabethtown*, for their readiness, at all times, to assist me in carrying on the service under my direction, while I was at that place, and to the inhabitants in general, for the many instances of confidence and friendship I have received from them.

I have the honour to be, sir, your most humble servant.

STIRLING.

Robert Ogden, Esq.

New-York, February 9, 1776.

MY DEAR SIR: I now send you, enclosed, a copy of a letter I this morning received from Mr. *Hancock*, and, also, a copy of the resolves therein mentioned. I herewith send directions to Mr. *John Blanchard*, to make sale of the perishable commodities on board of the ship *Blue-Mountain-Valley*, for the use of the Congress, until further orders from them. I have directed Mr. *Blanchard* to consult with yourself and Mr. *John De Hart*, in carrying both the resolves and letters strictly into execution. I must beg the favour of you and Mr. *De Hart* to give him your best advice and assistance for that purpose. Be pleased to communicate to Captain *Dempster* that part of the letter which relates to him. And as the crowd of business here prevents my sending Mr. *Blanchard* copies of the resolves and letter, I must beg the favour of you to furnish him with copies of them.

General *Lee* recovers his health fast. I have been abroad some hours with him this day. His vigilance and judgment, I hope, will put all right here.

I am, with great affection and esteem, yours, &c.

STIRLING.

To Brigadier-General *Livingston*.

New-York, February 9, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I now send to Brigadier-General *Livingston* the orders of Congress relative to the ship *Blue-Mountain-Valley*, which he will communicate to you, and furnish copies of. I must desire you will take the whole matters of that ship and cargo, stores and adventures, into your management, and carry the orders and directions of Congress relative to them, strictly into execution; and in so doing, I must desire you will consult with, and take the advice of General *Livingston* and *John De Hart*, Esquire. Be pleased to order the enclosed letters to be delivered.

I am, your friend and most humble servant,

STIRLING.

To *John Blanchard*, Esq.

Elizabethtown, February 15, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I received your favour of the 9th, and should have answered it before this, but have been the most of my time from home. I have acquainted you I cannot possibly undertake the charge of the whole matters of the ship *Blue-Mountain-Valley*, as there is a number of our militia think themselves concerned in the prize, and some of them are very clamorous, and some others, (who do not choose to show themselves,) to set them on, will make it too disagreeable for me; but, whenever any thing is sold, I will, if in my power, attend and take an account, which I will acquaint your Lordship of from time to time, and will give you an account of every thing that has come out of the ship, which has come to my knowledge. The potatoes are all rotten, and will not turn out any thing at all. We are now raising men to go to *Staten-Island*, as we hear there is two or three vessels off the *Hook*.

I am, sir, your most humble servant,

JOHN BLANCHARD.

To the Right Honourable the Earl of *Stirling*.

New-York, February 19, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I informed you some days ago of my being here with my regiment, by orders I received from General *Lee;* and that I found neither Commissary nor Paymaster at this place, and that I had, therefore, ordered my Quartermaster to provide provisions for my regiment, as nearly as possible agreeable to the ration allowed by Congress. The Quartermaster has accordingly hitherto provided the regiment, by purchasing provisions with his own money; but as that is all expended, I am afraid we shall be soon thrown into very great confusion on that account, and must, therefore, desire you will immediately furnish Mr. *Halsted*

with a sum of money sufficient to pay off what he has already expended; and, also, sufficient to lay in a stock of provision for the future use of the regiment while it can be had in plenty, for the supply of this place is not as it used to be, and, therefore, if you can send a supply of both beef and pork, barrelled, it would be very proper. Mr. *Halsted* should, also, be supplied with money to pay for the haversacks, knapsacks, canteens, camp-kettles, cross-belts, tomahawks, and axes, ordered by Congress. As all these matters are now at a stand for want of the money, as osnaburghs is to be got, I have ordered the Quartermaster to provide beds for the whole regiment, in order to return those we have borrowed and brought away from the barracks in *New-Jersey*. I wish the Congress may continue the providing of my regiment, in your hands, both with provisions and pay, and all the small articles allowed, or I much fear there will be confusion. I hope you will take care to have the money ready here for the next month's pay by the first of *March*, as the men are still in great want of necessaries, and are in a place that is very expensive, and, consequently, they will be clamorous for it.

I am, your most humble servant,

STIRLING.

To Colonel *Lowrey*.

MAJOR ROGERS TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

New-York, February 19, 1776.

SIR: Business of a private nature, and such only as respects myself and creditors, renders my attendance on board the *Dutchess of Gordon* indispensably necessary. As I am soliciting grants for several tracts of land, within this Province, I shall be obliged, frequently, to attend the Governour and Council, to facilitate those grants. I shall be greatly obliged to you, if you will be so obliging as to mention these matters to the gentlemen of the Congress, in order that I may obtain a permit to go on board the Governour's ship, at any time when my business may require my attendance.

I am, sir, your very humble servant,

ROBERT ROGERS.

To Colonel *Woodward*, President of the Honourable Provincial Congress for the Province of *New-York*.

To the Honourable Provincial Congress of NEW-YORK.

The Petition of WILLIAM *and* THOMAS COCK, *of* OYSTER-BAY, *in* QUEEN'S *County, humbly showeth:*

That we, your petitioners, are inhabitants of said County; and that at the last election of Deputies, for the Provincial Congress, we opposed the electing of Deputies for said County, since which we are convinced of our error, and think it was absolutely necessary that there should be a representation of said County in Provincial Congress, and that your petitioners did not oppose the choice of said Deputies, from any desire or inclination of injuring this country, but was owing entirely to error in judgment; and that your petitioners are ready to obey all orders and recommendations of the Continental and Provincial Congress. Your petitioners, therefore, desire, that your honourable body will take our case into consideration, and grant us such relief, in the present case, as to you shall seem meet.

WILLIAM COCK,
THOMAS COCK.

New-York, February 19, 1776.

New-York, February 19, 1776.

Wednesday last, *February* 14th, his Excellency, our Governour, was pleased to appoint *Whitehead Hicks*, Esq., one of the Judges of the Supreme Court of this Province.

Mr. *Hicks* having, at the same time, surrendered the office of Mayor of this city, his Excellency was pleased to appoint *David Matthews*, Esq., to that office; and last *Friday* they were both qualified to act in their respective stations.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Albany, February 19, 1776.

SIR: I am honoured with your favour of 14th instant, enclosing the copy of General *Lee's* letter of the 17th. I am exceedingly happy at the measures adopted in the city of *New-York* since General *Lee's* arrival. The defenceless state of that place, which left *Hudson's River* for a considerable way up much exposed to insults from the enemy, had given me great pain, especially as the city of *New-York* contains so many Malignants.

The measure of appointing a Regimental Paymaster, which you have adopted, will be attended with vast benefit to the service. I mentioned it to Lieutenant-Colonel *Buel* when here, and I intend that every regiment in this quarter shall have one.

The *Jersey* and *Pennsylvania* troops, that are on their way to *Canada*, were so vastly deficient in arms and accoutrements, that they have already deprived me of many intended for Colonel *Burrell's* corps; I hope, nevertheless, to be able to furnish those I promised, as I have persons employed in purchasing others.

Captain *Baldwin* has just arrived from *Canada;* all was well there eight days ago.

The Paymaster-General informs me he cannot complete the rolls of some of the troops raised in *Connecticut*, as no account has been given of the men discharged by General *Wooster*. To remedy this, I have requested him to make an estimate of what is still due, and that I would give him directions to pay it to the gentlemen of your table, to pay off the men, and to render the accounts and pay-rolls to him, that I may give warrants on them for his vouchers. Colonel *Mott* and Captain *Starr*, were, by mistake, paid a dollar a week for billeting, which was the allowance this Colony made. Congress has not made any allowance for that service; but, as it was reasonable it should be paid, I determined to pay the Colonial allowance, and leave it to the Colonies to charge or give credit for the difference, as the case may be, when Congress shall have determined the allowance. You will be pleased to signify this to the Pay-Table, that they may govern themselves accordingly, and call upon Colonel *Mott* for the difference.

I am, with great respect and esteem, your Honour's most obedient, humble servant,

PHILIP SCHUYLER.

To the Honourable Governour *Trumbull*.

P. MOREAU TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Providence, February 19, 1776.

MY GENERAL: I take the liberty to write to you, to acquaint you that I am charged with a letter for you from Mr. *De Santerre*, Captain of Grenadiers, now at *Cape François*, in the Island of *San-Domingo*, by which you will see his intention concerning these Colonies. I have sent this letter to Governour *Cooke*, who promised to send it to you immediately. I am much afraid that he has not explained his sense in these letters. I have determined to remark in mine, that he has made no mention of the quantity of powder which he makes account to send; but here is what he told me on this subject:

If in case you accept of his offer of service to come here, and that you will have the complaisance to write to him, before receipt of your letter, he intended writing to *France*, to have twenty thousand weight of powder: eight days before my departure, he had sent for ten thousand pounds, which will probably arrive within a month or six weeks from this time.

You cannot, sir, be acquainted with this gentleman, who must be very useful in this country, from his knowledge in war. He has served, with great credit, twenty-four years, in *France;* he has acquired the Cross of *St. Louis;* he does not wish to come to this country to make a fortune, for he enjoys an ample one in *France*, of one hundred and fifty thousand livres, close to the water: his intention is to gain honour. This, sir, is his aim, which will probably fix him for the rest of his days in the rank of one of your citizens, if his life is not sacrificed in your service.

I have the honour to be, &c.,

P. MOLEAU.

To General *Washington*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GENERAL SULLIVAN.

Cambridge, February 19, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I am a little surprised and concerned, to hear of your moving to Colonel *Royal's* house. I thought

you knew that I had made a point of bringing General *Lee* from thence, on account of the distance from his line of command; at least, that he should not sleep there. The same reasons holding good with respect to yourself, I should be glad if you could get some place nearer, as I think it too hazardous to trust the left wing of our Army without a General Officer upon the spot, in cases of emergency. I do not wish you to return to your old house; any other tolerably convenient will satisfy me, and I am sure be pleasing to yourself, as I know you would not easily forgive yourself if any thing wrong should happen for want of your presence on any sudden call.

I am, with great esteem, dear sir, your most obedient servant,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To Brigadier-General *Sullivan*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Cambridge, February 19, 1776.

SIR: I am grieved to find that, instead of six or eight thousand weight of powder, which I fondly expected to receive from *Providence*, payable to your letter, I am likely to get only four thousand two hundred and seventeen pounds, including the three thousand weight belonging to this Province, (if to be had.) My situation in respect to this article is really distressing; and, while common prudence obliges me to keep my want of it concealed, to avoid a discovery thereof to the enemy, I feel the bad effect of that concealment from our friends; for, not believing our distress equal to what it really is, they withhold such small supplies as are in their power to give. I am so restrained in all my military movements, for want of these necessary supplies, that it is impossible to undertake any thing effectual; and whilst I am fretting at my own disagreeable situation, the world, I suppose, is not behind-hand in censuring my inactivity. A golden opportunity has been lost, perhaps not to be regained again this year.

The late freezing weather had formed some pretty strong ice from *Dorchester* to *Boston-Neck*, and from *Roxbury* to the Common, which would have afforded a less dangerous approach to the town than through the lines, or by water. The advantages of this, added to a thorough conviction of the importance of destroying the Ministerial troops in *Boston*, before they can be reinforced, and to a belief that a bold and resolute assault, aided, in some small degree, by artillery and mortars, might be crowned with success, I proposed the attempt, a day or two ago, to the General Officers, but they thought, and perhaps rightly, that such an enterprise, in our present weak state of men, (for the Militia are not yet half arrived,) and deficiency of powder, would be attended with too much hazard, and, therefore, that we had better wait the arrival of the last, and then to begin a bombardment in earnest.

This matter is mentioned to you in confidence. Your zeal, activity, and attachment to the cause, renders it unnecessary to conceal it from you. Our real stock of powder, which, after furnishing the Militia, (unfortunately coming in without, and will require upwards of fifty barrels,) and completing our other troops to twenty-four rounds a man, (which are less, by one-half, than the Regulars have,) and having a few rounds of cannon-cartridges fitted for immediate use, will leave us not more than one hundred barrels in store for the greatest emergency, inclusive of the four thousand two hundred and seventeen pounds from *Providence*, (if we get it.)

This, my dear sir, is melancholy, but it is a truth; and, at the same time that it may serve to convey some idea of my disagreeable feelings under a knowledge of it, will evince the necessity of vigorous exertions to throw, without delay, every ounce that can be procured into this camp; otherwise, the great expense of sending in the Militia will be entirely sunk, without any possible good resulting from it, but much evil, as they will contribute not a little to the consumption of our ammunition, &c., &c.

For want, perhaps, of better information, I cannot help giving it as my opinion, that, at a time when our military operations are entirely at a stand, for want of powder, principally, and arms, it is inconsistent with good policy to hoard up town stocks of either. Better it is to fight an enemy at a distance than at our door. Prudence, indeed, points out the expediency of providing for private, as well as publick exigencies; but, if both are not to be done, I should think there can be no hesitation in the choice, as the Army now raised, and supported at a considerable expense, can be of little use if it is not sufficient to prevent an enemy from disturbing the quiet of the interior towns of these Governments. I am, &c.

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To Governour *Trumbull*.

JOSIAH QUINCY TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Braintree, February 19, 1776.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY: Since the sudden and unexpected burning of the houses upon *Dorchester-Neck*, I have been repeatedly and earnestly solicited, by my distressed friends and neighbours, to make an humble representation to your Excellency, that our habitations are equally exposed to be destroyed by our enemies, whenever their malice shall stimulate them to make us feel the effects of the unrelenting vengeance of the "Royal Brute of *England*." Could your Excellency have spared time to make us happy in a visit, and taken a view of this part of our harbour, you would have been immediately sensible of the ease with which an excursion may be made from the Castle, either upon *Squantum-Neck* or the Main, where, before a sufficient force could be collected to repel them, our enemies might rob us of our provision, burn our houses, murder or captivate the inhabitants who could not escape, and retreat again to the Castle, in less than an hour, as it is not distant more than a league. Your Excellency would also have seen two line-of-battle-ships, one frigate, and about fifteen large transports, which have been above six weeks past in *Nantasket-Road*, besides ten or a dozen armed cruisers which are constantly going out in pursuit of our privateers, or coming in with their captures, or expected transports, under their convoy.

If our Army should take post upon *Dorchester-Neck*, have we not reason to apprehend the shores will be attacked, from a spirit of revenge? Certainly, such a fleet can easily spare, and have boats enough to transport, four or five hundred men, who may (and when the irresistible impulses of hunger, or thirst for blood, inspires them with sufficient courage, I fear will) land and ravage along shore for miles, any force we have, at present, to oppose them, notwithstanding. Our circumstances are peculiarly unhappy, and in a very striking manner resemble the deplorable condition of those miserable wretches who, in the last war, inhabited our frontier settlements, where they were every moment exposed to the incursions of a savage and barbarous enemy; with this difference in their favour, that, from early life, they were familiar with want, and inured to hardships: whereas, if we should be reduced to the dreadful necessity of abandoning our habitations, our lands must lie uncultivated, our stocks of cattle and sheep must perish, for want of food and care, and, what will be an aggravation of our misery, we must fly for an asylum to our fellow-citizens, whose houses are already crowded with inhabitants who have fled to them for refuge, and, having charitably supported their suffering brethren, are themselves become poor. Suffer not, therefore, such a misfortune to befall us, if it is in your Excellency's power to prevent it.

I am not only earnestly entreated, but the prayers and tears of my most tender connexions constrain me, to implore your Excellency's immediate protection. Where shall we (indeed, where can we) go for relief, but to you, sir? The whole force of the Continent is under your command, and at your disposal. Let us not, therefore, plead in vain for that help which is no where else to be found. We beseech you to grant us protection before it is too late, which we fear it will be, if not speedily granted.

We are informed that some of the new-raised troops are destitute of barracks. There are barracks at *Squantum* sufficient for four or five hundred men. Such a guard, we hope, would securely defend us, especially if a number of boats were allowed them to parade in the Bay, when the weather will permit, as such a manœuvre would probably intimidate the enemy from landing, lest their retreat should be cut off; besides, the same boats would be ready, upon any sudden emergency, to transport them elsewhere.

As your Excellency can have no reason to doubt the truth of the foregoing representation of our distressed circumstances, we rest assured the benevolence of your disposition will cause them to be duly attended to.

That your Excellency's success may be equal to the importance of the trust reposed in you, and your future fame in the annals of *America* equal to both, is the ardent and unalterable wish of your Excellency's faithful servant,

JOSIAH QUINCY.

COLONEL HUNTINGTON TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Roxbury Camp, February 19, 1776.

HONOURED SIR: If a fair occasion should present itself, in the course of your correspondence with our worthy Commander-in-chief, and you should think proper to mention Major *Chester* as a fit person to fill any suitable place that may be vacant in the Army, I think it will serve our cause, and oblige the General, who is very desirous that persons of character and military spirit should be nominated for officers. Many of a very different spirit have, by some means or other, got into the Army.

The sickness which, for three weeks past, has much prevailed in our camp, and been very mortal, is now abating. Every now and then, some one breaks out with the small-pox, but this has not been mortal.

Three of our sentries, who were taken by the enemy, in their late excursion to *Dorchester-Point*, were brought out by a flag of truce, and delivered up to us, this day. The others who were made prisoners at the same time, the officers on the lines say, do not choose to come out; but why they have permitted any to return to us, is a matter of speculation.

A vessel, from the *West-Indies* to this Continent, has been lately cast away on *Cape-Cod;* cargo and people saved. Among them is a gentleman, who says he is a *Prussian* officer, and is lately from *France;* appears to be well acquainted with the history of our times; says the *French* papers are full of the *American* affairs, and that every success of ours gives them joy.

The bearer, whom I should have mentioned in the beginning of my letter, is Mr. *Hooper*, of *North-Carolina*, one of the Delegates of Congress, an old and particular acquaintance of brother *Jonathan's*.

JEDEDIAH HUNTINGTON.

To Governour *Trumbull*.

SALEM COMMITTEE TO MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL.

Committee of Safety and Correspondence, Salem, February 19, 1776.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOURS: The Committee of Safety and Correspondence of this town beg leave to represent to your Honours, that about the 24th day of *January* last, the sloop *Rainbow, Lemuel Perkins*, master, loaded with wood, was taken by one of our privateers, commanded by Captain *Tucker*, upon a suspicion that she was bound to *Boston*, and carried into *Cape-Ann*. Upon her arrival there, the master produced a certificate in his favour from the Committee of Safety of *Newcastle*, upon which, and his solemn declaration that he was bound for *Salem*, he and his vessel were released and suffered to proceed on his voyage. That soon after his departure from *Cape-Ann*, he was taken, as he says, by a *British* man-of-war and carried into *Boston*, where his cargo of wood was sold, which done, he was proceeding with his vessel to the *Eastern-Shore*, but, meeting with contrary winds, he put into this harbour, and came to anchor under cover of the guns of the Fort.

Upon the Committee having information thereof, they apprehended it to be their duty to make inquiry into the affair, in the course of which they found Captain *Perkins's* conduct to have been attended with such circumstances as to make them think it necessary to detain his vessel, and to send him to the Committee of the honourable Board, to be proceeded with as they shall in their wisdom think proper.

The Committee have, likewise, directed Captain *Benjamin Ward* to wait upon your Honours, who is one of their members, and who is fully acquainted with all the circumstances relative to this matter that have come to the knowledge of this Committee. To him, therefore, the Committee beg leave to refer your Honours for a more particular account of this affair.

By order of the Committee:

JOHN PICKERING, JUN., *Chairman pro tem.*

To the Honourable the Committee of Council.

At a meeting of the Committee, &c., it appeared that the sloop *Mermaid*, commanded by *Lemuel Perkins*, sailed from *Damascotta* on the —— day of *January* last, having a certificate from the Committee at that place, which expressed his being bound to *Newburyport* or *Salem;* that his lading consisted of about forty-five cords of wood, about ten bushels of potatoes, two bushels of turnips, and a quantity of spruce for beer; he had on board, also, a piece of venison, a quarter of veal, and a goose. That in his passage from *Damascotta* he touched at *Falmouth;* that on the 29th *January*, in the morning, he was seen by one of our privateers, about half-way from *Cape-Ann* to *Boston* light-house, and nearly in that direction, the wind being north, or nearly so; that the privateer put hands on board his sloop, and sent her to *Cape-Ann;* that *Perkins* was examined by one of the Committee of that place, and supposed to be bound to *Salem*, and it does not appear that any person there thought to the contrary at that time; that he tarried at *Cape-Ann* —— days, waiting for a wind suitable to carry him to *Salem;* that on ——instant, in the evening, a vessel bound to *Salem, Benjamin Gale*, commander, sailed from *Cape-Ann* for *Salem*, and that before he sailed he told Captain *Perkins* he would go through the most northern passage, with which he (*Gale*) was acquainted; that *Perkins* might follow him, and by these means avoid the man-of-war which lay off *Marblehead;* that Captain *Perkins* left *Cape-Ann* about half an hour after Captain *Gale*, the wind being then about northwest by north; that Captain *Gale*, after having sailed about one —— of his distance, found the wind to head him, put about and returned to *Cape-Ann;* that he (*Gale*) spoke with *Perkins*, and told him the wind was too much ahead to proceed; (*Perkins* says he could not understand what *Gale* said;) that *Gale* went back to *Cape-Ann*, and that *Perkins* kept on westward, and his vessel was next morning seen by or near the man-of-war off *Marblehead*, and soon after to proceed to *Boston;* that on *Saturday* last said vessel came into this harbour and there anchored, after having stood as far to the eastward as *Cape-Ann;* that as the vessel passed the fort at the entrance of the harbour, she was hailed by the guards, and proper steps taken to prevent her going out again till examined; that soon after her being at anchor, she was boarded by a boat from this place and taken possession of; that this Committee have desired the commanding officer of the guards stationed here to take charge of said vessel, &c., which he has done; that the above boat was commanded by the Captain of a privateer, which is now at *Cape-Ann*.

The account said *Perkins* and his men (being three in all) give of their going to *Boston*, is as follows:

That on their passage from *Cape-Ann* to *Salem*, they were boarded by a boat from the aforesaid man-of-war and carried to her, and that the next day an officer and five hands were put on board, who carried them to *Boston;* that their wood, &c., was taken out of their vessel and disposed of by the man-of-war's men; and the master, *Perkins*, says, that on his promising to go to the eastward and get a load of wood, and to bring the same to *Boston*, his vessel was given him, and three dollars a cord for his wood, to enable him to procure another load, and a promise to *Perkins* that he should have the whole of what that load should sell for; that passes from General *Howe* and Admiral *Shuldham* were given him, to enable him to pass the ships-of-war; that he left *Boston* thereupon, and arrived in this harbour, as is before-mentioned.

DANIEL GOULD.

When *Tucker* chased *Perkins* he was standing for *Boston*. When he brought him to, he said he was bound to *Plymouth;* then said he was thinking about putting about for *Salem*.

By MOLYNEUX SHULDHAM, *Esq., Rear-Admiral of the White, and Commander-in-chief of His Majesty's Ships*

*

and Vessels employed, and to be employed in North-America, *&c. &c.*

Permit the sloop *Rainbow, Lemuel Perkins,* Master, with his crew, consisting of two hands, to pass from the harbour of *Boston* to *Damascotta,* in ballast.

Given under my hand, on board His Majesty's ship *Chatham,* off *Boston,* 15th *February,* 1776.

M. Shuldham.

To the respective Captains and Commanders of His Majesty's Ships and Vessels in *North-America.*

By command of the Admiral: Edward Bragge.

—

Boston, April 25, 1776.

Sir: Enclosed is a letter and a deposition which General *Ward* received last evening; but, as the General thinks it is a matter most properly cognizable by the civil authority, he refers it to the honourable Council.

I am, sir, with great respect, your most obedient, humble servant, Joseph Ward, *Aid-de-camp.*

To the Honourable *Moses Gill,* Esq.

In Council, May 1, 1776: Read and sent down.

John Lowell, *Dep. Secretary P. T.*

—

Portsmouth, April 20, 1776.

Sir: I think it my duty to enclose the deposition of *John Cochran,* boatswain's mate of the Continental armed schooner the *Lynch,* under my command, to you, as Captain *Perkins* is now in *Salem.*

Your most obedient, humble servant, John Ayres.

To General *Ward.*

—

I, *John Cochran,* now boatswain's mate of the Continental armed schooner called the *Lynch,* commanded by Captain *John Ayres,* testify that I was a seaman on board the *Fowey,* man-of-war, four months, immediately preceding the departure of the troops from *Boston;* and while the *Fowey* lay at her station by *Cat-Island,* the last Winter, two men came in a row-boat alongside the *Fowey,* and brought with them a quarter of beef, weighing about one hundred and eighty pounds, which was received on board the *Fowey,* the Captain of which paid them therefor.

About a fortnight after this, and while the *Fowey* lay at her station off *Baker's Island,* the same two men came again in a row-boat to the *Fowey,* and brought with them three quarters of beef and several quarters of mutton, which the Captain of the *Fowey* bought of them.

It was now said, on board, that one of the said two men was Captain, and the other Mate of a sloop or schooner belonging to *Salem,* and that the Captain's name was *Perkins.* I saw him each time of his bringing the beef, and I judge he was about twenty-seven years of age. He wore a brown surtout, and appeared to be about five feet nine or ten inches high. Each time the beef was brought in the night. The first time they brought a compass with them, which I saw. I think, also, that they brought a compass the second time with them in the boat.

About three weeks after bringing the last beef, a sloop came in the night up towards the *Fowey,* as she lay off *Baker's Island.* All hands were ordered to their quarters, but, before a gun was fired, the Captain hailed the sloop and ordered her to bring to. The sloop answered that she was coming with design to bring to, and then dropped anchor alongside the *Fowey.* By daybreak a midshipman and four hands were put on board the sloop, and proceeded with her to *Boston.*

When Captain *Perkins* brought the last beef, he told the Captain of the *Fowey,* as I heard the midshipman say, that he (said *Perkins*) was going to the eastward for wood to carry to *Boston;* that he would come up towards the *Fowey* with it, and upon the firing a gun from the *Fowey* he would bring to. When *Perkins* came with his sloop alongside the *Fowey* it was about midnight. He came on board the *Fowey,* and afterwards the midshipman said, in my hearing, that the sloop had on board her fifty cords of wood, and I saw one goose, and about fifty pounds of beef, which were the same night brought on board the *Fowey.* The sloop was almost new, and I heard the midshipman say, that *Perkins* said he went into *Cape-Ann* harbour with the privateers which the *Fowey* chased into *Cape-Ann* near about a week before, and would then have followed the *Fowey,* but that Captain *Manly* ordered him into *Cape-Ann.*

John Cochran.

Essex, ss., *April* 12, 1776.

Then *John Cochran,* above-named, made oath to the truth of the foregoing deposition by him subscribed, before

Timothy Pickering, Jun.,
Justice of the Peace.

—

JOHN PAGE TO RICHARD HENRY LEE.

Williamsburgh, February 20, 1776.

Dear Sir: I have just received yours of the 15th instant, and have snatched a moment to write a few lines in answer to it. I approve much of your plan of publishing the hand-bill, and would, before this, have executed it if my indisposition and Mrs. *Page's* illness, added to an incessant round of business, had not prevented me.

The method you mention for removing the spikes from cannon, is certainly good; but it is said the cannon at *Norfolk* is rendered useless by being broken at their trunnions and butts. I will endeavour, sir, to prevail on our Committee to send you, regularly, authentick accounts of every material occurrence here, and of the state of the enemy's strength. I wrote you yesterday an account of the arrival of another man-of-war, and a transport or two; this report has not been contradicted, nor have we yet heard from whence or what these ships are. Captain *Hommond,* of the *Roebuck,* we are well assured, has behaved with great politeness and humanity to several of our people. Lord *Dunmore* had written a letter to Colonel *Corbin,* in which he offers to go to *England* to negotiate peace; he professes the warmest attachment to this country, and says that he lays hold on the last sentence in the King's speech to offer his services to procure a lasting, speedy, and honourable accommodation. No one, but Lord *Dunmore,* could have applied that sentence in the manner he has. I will send you a copy of the letter by the post. Colonel *Corbin* laid the letter before the Committee of Safety, and received a letter from the Committee, which I will also send you. In it we told the Colonel, that we were neither empowered nor inclined to intermeddle with the mode of negotiation; that we looked to the Congress for the management of this important matter; but added, we would lay his letter before the Assembly, which is to meet on their adjournment, and that Lord *Dunmore* might manifest his good intentions by suspending hostilities. Colonel *Corbin* set out this morning to *Hampton,* with orders to Colonel *Grayson* to send him with a flag of truce to Lord *Dunmore.* We gave him to understand, that his Lordship should deliver up the slaves now with him immediately. The old gentleman went off in great hopes of procuring a month's truce at least, and seemed determined to give Captain *Hammond* a true statement of Lord *Dunmore's* conduct. Since writing my letter of yesterday, the Committee have ordered down the saltpetre which had been sent to *Petersburgh,* to be worked up by *Buckstrout.* I hope, from this, that they will at length encourage him, and enable him to carry on the manufacturing of gunpowder to a considerable extent. The report of the burning of *Portsmouth* was entirely without foundation.

I am, dear sir, your affectionate, humble servant,

John Page.

To *Richard Henry Lee,* Esq., of *Chantilly.*

P. S. I think you had better attend the Assembly. You will be more wanted here than at the Congress. J. P.

—

COLONEL CORBIN'S MISSION TO LORD DUNMORE.

Williamsburgh, March 1, 1776.

On *Monday,* the 19th *February,* the Honourable *Richard Corbin,* Esq., laid before the Committee of Safety a Letter he received from Lord *Dunmore,* in the words following:

"Ship Dunmore, Elizabeth River, January 22, 1776.

"Sir: Notwithstanding the many cruel and false invectives thrown out against me, as an enemy to this Colony; conscious to myself, however, of my firm attachment to this country, in general, and this Colony in particular, I am well convinced, (though the present rulers may have thought

it requisite, in support of their late adopted measures,) to represent me in the very opposite light to what they were pleased to do but a few months before; yet there is not one amongst them that ever viewed my conduct with an impartial eye, but is sensible that every transaction of my administration proceeded from a heart that never yet entertained a thought which was not meant for the real happiness and well-being of this Colony. This ever having been my first object, the very moment I received my despatches, last year, I called the Assembly, to lay before them the resolves of the House of Parliament, not doubting then but they would have been received, by every well-wisher to his country, with transports of joy. Now, having received His Majesty's most gracious speech, I catch at it with the greatest pleasure. The last sentence it contains, wherein he says: 'It may be also proper to authorize persons so commissioned to restore such Province or Colony, so returning to its allegiance, to the free exercise of its trade and commerce, and to the same protection and security as if such Province or Colony had never revolted,'—I say, I catch, with the greatest avidity, at this generous, this humane, this truly noble sentiment, again to offer every exertion of my poor abilities to procure, by any means that shall be thought most advisable and honourable, permanent, speedy, and happy reconciliation between this Colony and its parent state. I wish to *God* they may reflect before they draw upon them the wrath of that powerful though merciful people, and by that means involve this once most happy land in all the horrors of a most destructive civil war; wherein, were they as successful as the most sanguine amongst them could wish, could only end in their inevitable destruction. What, then, have they to hope for, and what have they not to fear, by a perseverance in this most ruinous and unnatural contest? Should the rulers of the people prove as well disposed to return to their duty, as I know the bulk of the Colony are, they will embrace the favourable opportunity that now offers. But should they be so infatuated as to mean totally to throw off all allegiance to the best of sovereigns, and connections with the state that has fostered them with the most paternal care, their memories will be handed down to the latest posterities as most undutiful and ungrateful.

"Sir, a thorough conviction of your warm attachment to this your native land, and your admiration of that truly excellent Constitution and Government under which you have so long and happily lived, as well as your love for our most benign Sovereign, induces me to trouble you with the above tender of my services to this Colony. And I beg you will assure whomsoever you shall think proper to lay this before, of my willingness to undergo any fatigue or difficulty for the accomplishment of its happiness.

"I have now only to entreat, that my sincere endeavours to effect a reconciliation between this and the parent state may be enforced by every exertion of your best advice and assistance; and that both may succeed, is the ardent wish of, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

"Dunmore."

On consideration whereof, the Committee ordered the following Letter to be written to Colonel *Corbin*, which was delivered to him, viz:

"February 19, 1776.

"Sir: The Committee of Safety have considered the letter to you from Lord *Dunmore*, which you referred to them. You, sir, who are so well acquainted with the sentiments of the country we at present act for, must be satisfied they would be made exceedingly happy by a just and honourable reconciliation with *Great Britain*, without the further effusion of blood; but we are not authorized or inclined to intermeddle in the mode of negotiation to effect this desirable purpose. The Continental Congress have, in their last petition to the Throne, besought His Majesty to point out some mode for such negotiation; and if Administration are disposed to heal this unnatural wound in the empire, they will embrace that occasion (which, probably, will be the last) of accomplishing it. At all events, any other steps to be taken must proceed from the Representatives of the Continent, and not from us. We shall, however, communicate the contents of this letter to the House of Burgesses, who meet by adjournment the first of *March*, and submit the matter to them, in case there should then be members enough to proceed to business, or as soon after as such a number can be convened. In the mean time, if his Lordship has it in his inclination and power to serve the Colony, and avoid making the breach still wider, it may be manifested by his suspending hostilities against the inhabitants, until the ultimate intentions of His Majesty are known respecting any negotiation.

"We have the greatest confidence, sir, in your attachment to the real interests of *America*, and are satisfied your having communicated the contents of this letter to us proceeds from the best motives; and are, with great regard, sir, your most obedient, humble servant, for self and Committee.

Edmund Pendleton, *President*."

After which Colonel *Corbin*, with the entire approbation of the Committee of Safety, proceeded with a flag of truce on board the *Dunmore*, to hear what his Lordship had to propose on the subject-matter of his Letter. Colonel *Corbin*, on his return, informed the Committee he had read their Letter to him before Lord *Dunmore*, and in the presence of General *Clinton*; who said he believed there was nothing *America* could ask, in a constitutional way, that would not be granted, but if they relied on the General Congress, they had nothing to expect from Parliament. Upon this Colonel *Corbin* proposed to Lord *Dunmore* to grant a commission to the President for meeting the Assembly, at the time they had adjourned to, which his Lordship refused; so that his Letter cannot, as was proposed, be laid before the House of Burgesses, they having no right, by their Constitution, to proceed to any business without a representative of the Crown, nor did Lord *Dunmore* suggest any other mode in which a negotiation could be set on foot, in what he might call a constitutional way.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM A MEMBER OF THE VIRGINIA CONVENTION, TO HIS FRIEND IN PHILADELPHIA, DATED FEBRUARY 20, 1776.

Some people among us seem alarmed at the name of Independence, while they support measures, and propose plans, that comprehend all the spirit of it. Have we not made laws, erected courts of judicature, established magistrates, made money, levied war, and regulated commerce, not only without His Majesty's intervention, but absolutely against his will? Are we not as criminal in the eye of *Britain* for what we have done, as for what we can yet do? If we institute any Government at all, for *God's* sake, let it be the best we can; we shall as certainly be hanged for a bad as a good one; for they will allow nothing for the waverings of filial tenderness, it will be all placed to the account of blundering ignorance. If, therefore, we incur the danger, let us not decline the reward. In every other instance, independence raises an idea in the mind that the heart grasps at with avidity, and a feeling soul never fails to be stricken and depressed with the very sound of dependance. If in a private family, the children, instead of being so educated as to take upon them the function of good citizens, should be brought to years of maturity, under the apparel, food, and discipline of infancy, what laws, natural or civil, would acquit the parent or the child of infamy and criminality? A set of great lounging infants, tied to mamma's apron, with long bibs and pap-spoons, at two-and-twenty, would put the *Sabarite* to the blush. Now, as every moral virtue or vice, almost, is vastly enhanced, when considered in its relation to the community as well as individuals, I insist upon it, that he who would keep a community in a state of infantile dependance, when it became a fit member of the great Republick of the world, would be vastly more criminal and infamous, than the imaginary family I mentioned before. Whenever I have been an advocate for dependance, I have felt a conscious want of publick virtue; I own it arose from laziness in me; I was willing to brush through life as I began it, and to leave the rooting out the thorns and thistles, as well as the harvest of the laurels, to posterity; and this, I think, was the case of most of us; but now, that we have gone through the rough work, to desert the glorious prospect it opens to us, would be heretical, damnable, and abominable, even to a sensible Pope. No, my friend, it is a duty of much moment to us as men, and of the last degree of magnitude as citizens, to maintain, at every risk, a perfect independence

of every thing, but good sense, good morals, good laws, good Government, and our good Creator.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO COLONEL JOSEPH SIM.

[No. 20.] Annapolis, February 20, 1776.

SIR: Upon inspecting the return made by the *Prince George's* County Committee, of the *Nottingham* Company, we find that Mr. *Fielder Bowie* hath been elected First Lieutenant, Mr. *William Newman Dorsett*, Second Lieutenant, and Mr. *Thomas Hoye*, Ensign, thereof.

In the line of preferment generally adopted in the military department, on the promotion of the Captain, the First Lieutenant succeeds him, and the other commissioned officers in like manner, by which means the nomination of a new Ensign alone will become necessary.

The Council have thought it most expedient to follow this mode, but look upon themselves at full liberty to deviate therefrom, on special and good reasons. It does not appear to them from your letter or otherwise, that the gentlemen the company wish not to be promoted, have done any act to forfeit the good opinion of their country, or that they are in any manner disqualified. We have sent Captain *Bowie's* commission, but keep back the commissions for the other officers till we have your reasons, or that of the company, for departing from the line of preferment.

We are, &c.

To Colonel *Joseph Sim.*

BENJAMIN MACKALL AND OTHERS TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Calvert County, February 20, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: We have received yours of the 2d instant, enclosing a resolve of Congress, and an order by the Council of Safety appointing us to collect all the gold and silver in the County. We have received and engaged seven hundred pounds currency, and expect, in the course of another week, to procure about two or three hundred pounds more. Much more might have been collected had the paper currency been sent down to give in exchange. We hope you will inform us when you would have the gold and silver brought to *Annapolis*. Continental money is asked in exchange for most of the cash we have collected or engaged.

We are, gentlemen, your most humble servants,

BENJAMIN MACKALL, *4th.*
ALEXANDER SOMERVILLE,
PATRICK S. SMITH.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland.*

RICHARD BARNES TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Leonardtown, February 20, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I received yours by post, appointing Colonel *Plater*, Mr. *Briscoe*, and myself, to collect all the gold and silver coin that can be found in the County. On consideration, find it impracticable to be done, unless we had money in hand to exchange, as it must be collected in small quantities, and, even in that case, it is probable no great sum can be obtained; however, my endeavours shall not be wanting to procure it.

I remain, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

RICHARD BARNES.

To the Council of Safety of *Maryland.*

PHILADELPHIA COMMITTEE.

In Committee of Inspection and Observation, February 20, 1776.

Whereas, the Continental Congress did lately resolve, "That if any person should be so lost to all virtue and regard for this country as to refuse to receive the Bills of Credit emitted by the authority of Congress, or should obstruct or discourage the currency thereof, and be convicted by the Committee of the City, County, or District, where he should reside, such person should be deemed, published, and treated as an enemy of his country, and be precluded from all trade or intercourse with the inhabitants of these Colonies." And whereas, *Thomas Rogers* and *Joseph Sermon*, both of this city, having been charged with a breach of this resolve, in refusing to receive the above Bills of Credit in payment, appeared before the Committee for the City and Liberties, acknowledged the truth of the charge, and alleged, in their defence, scruples of conscience thereupon, as being money emitted for the purpose of war.

The Committee, pursuant to the trust reposed in them, proceeded to consider the charge and defence, and were of opinion, that if such allegation was true, yet, as the Congress have made no exception, and as such conduct tends to subvert the most essential rights and liberties of their fellow-citizens, and, by destroying the means of defence, to expose their lives and properties to unavoidable ruin, it ought not to be admitted. But it appears by their own acknowledgments, that the above persons have heretofore received, and do continue to receive, Bills of Credit emitted in this and the neighbouring Provinces, though frequently issued for the purposes of war, therefore, such objection is not well founded, or the present pretence consistent with their former conduct. This Committee, therefore, (the parties having declared they did not mean to appeal to any other Board,) do unanimously hold up to the world the said *Thomas Rogers* and *Joseph Sermon* as enemies to their country, and preclude them from all trade or intercourse with the inhabitants of these Colonies.

Ordered, That the above be published.

Extract from the Minutes:

J. B. SMITH, *Secretary.*

To the Honourable Provincial Congress now convened in NEW-YORK:

Permit us, gentlemen, to recommend to your consideration a worthy person for an officer in the ensuing campaign in the Continental service, by name, *Moses Youmans*, a person well known to us. He served the last campaign in Colonel *Clinton's* Regiment, and did officiate in the office of Sergeant-Major, and, also, served as Adjutant, and we found him exceeding well qualified for any duty that can be required to execute the office of Adjutant; and, by means of his conduct and behaviour, he was exceeding well beloved both by officers and privates in general, in the said Regiment, and, after the surrender of *Montreal*, he had the refusal of a Second Lieutenant's commission. His circumstances at that time were such relating to his family, that, to his heart's grief, he could not accept; but then declared, that if Providence would spare his life and health, he would engage the next campaign; and, gentlemen, we, consistent with our duty, and the particular regard we have for the said *Youmans*, beg to be excused making free to recommend the said *Youmans* for Adjutant, if you, in your great wisdom, should think proper to appoint him, and you will oblige your humble servants, who subscribe their names as friends to the *American* cause.

CORNELIUS WYNKOOP, *Lieut. Col.*
ELIAS HASBROUCK, *Captain.*
P. ROGGEN, *Lieutenant.*

To the Chairman of the Provincial Congress, now convened at *New-York.*

COLONEL DRAKE TO JOHN MCKESSON.

Horne's Hook, February 20, 1776.

SIR: Be pleased to give the commissions for Lieutenant *Micajah Fuller*, and Ensign *Deliverance Brown*, in Captain *Steenrod's* company of my regiment, to Captain *Steenrod.*

Captain *Grey* has joined my regiment, with forty-nine men, including officers; he has some more, who have not yet arrived. Would be glad the commissions could be immediately made out for his company. He will deliver you a certificate from the Committee of *Bedford*, of the election of himself and officers. From your most humble servant,

SAMUEL DRAKE, *Colonel.*

To *John McKesson*, Esq.

N. B. Captain *Grey* and his officers having neglected to sign the test in the presence of the Chairman of *Westchester* County, have, this day, signed it in my presence.

To the Gentlemen of the Provincial Congress.

The Petition of AZOR BETTS, *humbly showeth:*

That your petitioner, fully sensible of his former indiscretions, begs leave to return to a proper sense of his duty to his country. And your petitioner further most solemnly

assures the Congress, that it shall be his future most earnest study, to convince every individual of his most steady adherence, to the utmost of his abilities, in promoting the liberties of *America*.

That your petitioner still flatters himself his crime is not of so atrocious a nature but that his pardon may be announced on a due submission; as such, he most humbly leaves his case to their tender consideration, and should he be so happy as to experience their forgiveness and protection, it will, by him, with a most thankful heart, ever be acknowledged; and your petitioner, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

Esopus Jail, February 20, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The above petition was this day delivered to our Committee of *Kingston*, by *Azor Betts*, now prisoner in our Jail, and desired our favour to recommend a favour for him to get relief; but, gentlemen, as we are entire strangers to his former conduct, we must refer the matter entirely to your superior judgment. As to his behaviour since, in our jail, he has made offers to sign a recantation, and make oath for his future behaviour, but as his conduct is best known to you, we shall entirely rest with your judgment. By order of the Committee:

WILLIAM ELLSWORTH, *Chairman*.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO GENERAL SCHUYLER.

Philadelphia, February 20, 1776.

SIR: I have the honour of enclosing you sundry resolutions of Congress, to which I refer you.

I must beg leave to inform you that the Congress hear, with great regret, the precarious state of your health, and the return of your disorder. They are fully apprized and sensible of your services and abilities, and should have been very happy to have made use of them in *Canada*; but knowing the importance of your abilities, the influence and weight you have among the *Indian* tribes, the service you are capable of doing to the common cause, even in the present infirm state of your health, and, at the same time being apprehensive should you be sent on so fatiguing a service as that of *Canada* must be, especially at this inclement season, your country might be deprived of the advantage of your services, which are so much wanted at this critical conjuncture, they have thought it best to send General *Lee* to *Canada*, reserving to you the command of the forces and the conduct of military operations in the Colony of *New-York*.

Your known zeal and warm attachment to the cause of liberty, assure me that you will concert with General *Lee* the best means of securing the communication of the Lakes, and of facilitating the transportation of necessaries for the use of the Army in *Canada*, and give him all the aid and assistance in your power, for accomplishing the great ends we all have in view.

Your several letters are now under the consideration of a Committee of Congress. So soon as report is made, and a determination had in Congress, I will do myself the honour of transmitting you their result.

I send by this express a number of the Articles of War, translated into *French*, which you will please to forward, for the use of the *Canadian* Regiments.

I most sincerely wish to hear the agreeable tidings of your perfect restoration to health, and am, with the utmost esteem, sir, your most obedient servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

To Major-General *Schuyler*, *Albany*.

PENNSYLVANIA COMMITTEE OF SAFETY TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read February 21, and referred to Mr. S. Adams, Mr. E. M'Kean, Mr. Smith, Mr. Wilson, Mr. Wolcott.]

Philadelphia, February 20, 1776.

SIR: The Committee of Safety for this Province, reflecting that amidst the great and arduous duties which may well be supposed to engross the attention of the honourable Congress, many things of smaller consequence may escape their notice, beg leave to suggest the propriety, and even necessity, of making some alteration in the condition of the prisoners at *Lancaster*.

From the information given to this Committee, we learn that the kind treatment given them meets with very improper and indecent return; that they often express themselves in most disrespectful and offensive terms, and openly threaten revenge whenever opportunity shall present.

The Committee further beg leave to add, that *Lancaster* being but a day's march from navigable water, and their prisoners stout and numerous, there may be danger that should the enemy effect a landing on the upper part of *Chesapeake-Bay*, a daring spirit might lead them off, and should they march at night, their journey would be half over before their absence would be known. Many other reasons concur in making it much the wish and desire, not only of this Committee, but of the friends of the publick cause in that part of the country, not only to have the officers separated from the men, but, as much as possible, from one another, and either dispersed of in different towns, or dispersed among the farmers in the country, where their opportunities of doing mischief will less correspond with their inclinations. The Committee, on this as well as all other occasions, beg leave to offer their best services to the honourable Congress, and if the alteration they have taken the liberty to suggest, opposes any regulation already made, unknown to them, or should otherwise appear improper, they hope it will be excused, and imputed to their zeal in the publick cause.

I have the honour to be, with much respect, sir, your most obedient, humble servant.

By order of the Committee:

JOHN NIXON, *Chairman*.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq.

JOHN BROOME TO SILAS DEANE.

New-York, February 20, 1776.

SIR: Pursuant to your request, and the other gentlemen, whose names I do not recollect, my papers being in the country, I here enclose authentick accounts relative to the damage done by the Ministerial Pirates at the east end of *Long-Island*, which I wish safe to hand, and am, your humble servant,

JOHN BROOME.

To *Silas Deane*, Esq., or, in his absence, to *George Wythe*, Esq., *Philadelphia*.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read March 4, 1776.]

Albany, February 20, 1776.

SIR: Yesterday, Mr. *Price* delivered me two letters from General *Wooster*, enclosing copy of his letter to Congress, and a return of stores. Copies of his two letters to me, and copy of the return of stores, I do myself the honour to transmit you.

Congress will perceive by General *Wooster's* letter of the 11th instant, to them, and that of the same date to me, that matters are got to such a height between us, that either he or I must immediately quit this department, for I cannot, consistent with my honour or my feelings, serve with an officer, who, very early in the campaign, witnessed a contempt for my orders, and proceeded so far as to offer insults of the grossest kinds, which, as I have not the least doubt but my informants will support, I must, therefore, request that Congress will order an inquiry to be immediately made; and in confidence this will be granted, and one or the other removed, I shall not now engross that time which is so precious to Congress, with the perusal of the several letters that have passed between us, the orders I have given him, nor with any remarks on his last to me, of the 11th instant, except one, which, as it respects the publick, I cannot dispense with making.

A respect for my country, sir, obliged me to suppress that just resentment which I felt rising in me at his conduct at *Fort-George*, &c.; but wounded in my honour, although willing to be spent in the glorious cause my country is engaged in, and to continue to serve her under all the disagreeable incidents attendant on a ruined constitution, yet, she cannot expect, in addition, a sacrifice of my reputation, by calmly bearing indignities. Indeed, this would render me unable to serve her.

The only remark, I observed, that I would make, is on that part of his letter to me in which he says, "That the

commanding officer in *Canada* is the only competent judge of what is proper and what not, for the internal regulation of the army, and for the immediate safety of the country." If so, Congress has been mistaken in sundry resolves, which clearly signify that I had something to do with the regulation of the army in *Canada*. A bare retrospect to these is sufficient to evince this. General *Montgomery* was then, also, mistaken, for he did not conceive himself entitled to call a General Court-Martial, or make a single promotion when a vacancy happened in *Canada*, until he had asked for and received my permission, which I gave without hesitation. I shall, however, go on and give such orders as I think will best promote the service, and leave the determination of this assertion of General *Wooster's* to such gentlemen as may be appointed to inquire into his conduct.

I was apprehensive that the *Canadians* would suffer in the article of salt, and wrote to General *Wooster*, to know what quantity was in *Canada*. I am happy to find there is so much; the scarcity here is incredible, and I fear will be general throughout this and the neighbouring Colonies.

It never entered into my thoughts to build gondolas on *Lake Champlain*, as I well knew that they could not, without great danger, if at all, be got into the *St. Lawrence;* although we have very good ship-carpenters here, yet none acquainted with the construction of galleys, it will, therefore, be proper to send a few good hands from *Pennsylvania*, as none are to be had in *Canada;* these ought to be sent immediately, although no pitch, tar, or oakum, can be sent on until *Hudson's River* opens; for these articles I shall apply to the *New-York* Convention.

Enclose you a copy of the arrangements I sent General *Wooster*, for the two regiments in *Canada*. I foresaw that it would be attended with difficulties, and so will that which he proposes; as Field-Officers and Captains must be left out, if the *New-York* Battalions were to officer one regiment, as there will be more than to complete it. Before I left *Ticonderoga* I wrote for a return of the troops in *Canada*, and begged to know what arrangement had been made; but General *Montgomery* had it not in his power to send it me, occasioned by the multiplicity of his business.

Mr. *Frobisher* delivered me a letter, signed by himself and several others, containing the substance of the memorial which he will present, and requested the mediation of my good offices with Congress. I am very apprehensive, sir, that if these people shall be permitted to go into the *Indian* country, they might, if unfriendly to our cause, be very prejudicial to it, and the sending such a quantity of provisions will strengthen the enemy at *Detroit* and *Niagara*, for, by whatever route they go, it will be seized by some one of the garrisons and appropriated to their use. Mr. *Frobisher's* letters urge the danger of their traders starving, if a supply of provisions was not sent up. That may be the case, if they should remain there another year; but the same letter observes, that what is sent away in the month of *May*, seldom arrives in the trading country before winter sets in; if this be a fact, then they have now near a twelve month's provision, and by sending up two or three canoes express, (navigated by persons we can depend upon,) their traders may be brought away, and their provision will suffice, at least until they reach *Detroit*, where they can be in no danger of starving.

Enclose you the Paymaster-General's estimate of pay still due to the *Connecticut* troops; his chest is empty, and I have little left, as I gave him thirty thousand dollars, part of fifty thousand sent into *Canada*.

I find that Mr. *Phister*, whom I mentioned as an Engineer, cannot be procured. What shall we do for proper persons to fill that branch? I expect, momently, to hear from *Schenectady* what wages the batteausmen will take.

Every effort I have made to procure forrage has proved ineffectual. The procuring timber for repairing *Ticonderoga* must, therefore, of necessity, be deferred until Spring. I even fear that I shall not be able to get a sufficiency of hay for the spring work at *Ticonderoga*, although we offer seven pounds per ton.

Lieutenant *Hamer*, of the Seventh Regiment, who was made prisoner at *Chambly*, has a wife in *Canada;* she is daily expected, and has begged me to procure leave for her husband to meet her here. Of all the officers that have been made prisoners, I believe he is the least unfriendly to us; in fact, I believe him almost a Whig in principle. I wish, if it can be consistently done, that he may have leave to repair to this place.

It is almost needless to observe to Congress, that no altercation which I may have with any officer, whilst I command, will ever draw off my attention from my duty; I trust my conduct in publick life, both before and since I have had a command, have sufficiently evinced my principles on the present unhappy contest; and I assure you, sir, that except the ambition of serving my country, and that which every honest man ought to be influenced by, I have none; I shall, therefore, never court the favour of either officers or men, unless they are deserving; such as are not, I shall always freely and indiscriminately censure. If this gives umbrage, it can never be remedied whilst I am in command, because I cannot hesitate a moment between giving offence and doing my duty. Had I consulted merely my own inclination, I should not have ventured on the storms of publick life, well knowing my want of abilities would expose me to a thousand difficulties, and deprive me of the inestimable comforts of domestick life, and that I should be envied by those weak minds who are dazzled with power, but have not elevation of sentiment enough to conceive that to some men it has no charms.

I am, sir, with unfeigned esteem and respect, your most obedient, humble servant,

PHILIP SCHUYLER.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq., &c.

ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE TWO REGIMENTS IN CANADA.

List of Field-Officers supposed to be in *Canada*: Colonel *James Clinton*, Lieutenant-Colonel *Rodolphus Ritzema*, Lieutenant-Colonel *Samuel Elmore*, Lieutenant-Colonel *John Nicholson*, Major *Herman Zedtwitz*, Major *John Brown*, Major *Lewis Dubois*.

Albany, February 2, 1776.

SIR: I understand that the above are the Field-Officers now remaining in *Canada*, except those of the *Canadian* Corps, and that they stand in the list as they rank; and as Congress has directed that two regiments should be raised out of the troops now in *Canada*, and as I have no predilection for any one gentleman more than another, and that they are all, as far as I know, good officers, and men of unexceptionable characters, you will, therefore, make the offers of the regiments to the two first in rank of the Field-Officers, the two Lieutenant-Colonelcys to the two next in rank, and the two Majorities to the two next. Should there not be a sufficient number of Field-Officers willing to remain in the service, to complete the two regiments, they must be filled up out of the eldest Captains in *Canada*, in the following manner: The eldest *New-Hampshire* Captain, the first offer; the eldest *Massachusetts* Captain, second offer; the eldest *Connecticut* Captain, third offer; the eldest *New-York* Captain, fourth offer. The Field-Officers being completed, you are to cause four lists to be made, one containing the names of all the *New-Hampshire* Captains and Subalterns, according to their rank in the regiments; another, those of the *Massachusetts;* a third, those of *Connecticut;* and a fourth, those of *New-York*—in the following manner:

New-Hampshire.		Massachusetts.		Connecticut.		New-York.	
Captain,	A	Captain,	L	Captain,	S	Captain,	*a*
	B		M		T		*b*
	C	1st Lieut.	N	1st Lieut.	U		*c*
1st Lieut.	D		O		V	1st Lieut.	*d*
	E	2d Lieut.	P	2d Lieut.	W		*e*
	F		Q		X		*f*
2d Lieut.	G	Ensign,	R	Ensign,	Y	2d Lieut.	*g*
	H						*h*
Ensigns,	I					Ensigns,	*i*
	K						*k*

The list being made out as above, you will proceed to take out the officers for the first and second, of the regiments to be raised, in the following manner: The eldest *New-Hampshire* Captain, for the first Captaincy in the First Regiment; the eldest *Massachusetts-Bay* Captain, for the first Captaincy in the Second Regiment; the eldest *Connecticut* Captain, for the second Captain in the First Regiment; and the eldest *New-York* Captain, for the second Captaincy in the Second Regiment; and so on

as in the annexed scheme. When all the Captains are thus provided for, and if there should be still some wanting to complete the regiments, they must be taken in the same manner, from the First Lieutenants, and so go on to complete the whole of both regiments; and if there is not a sufficiency of officers, the best and most alert of the Sergeants must be promoted, until the whole is complete. It may happen by this arrangement, as it often does in the regular service, that an elder Captain in the Army will be commanded by a younger Captain; but that is only on regimental duty, upon detachment of different corps, the command will go with the rank in the Army. I have known Lieutenant-Colonels in the Army commanded by Captains, when they did regimental duty; but when detached with parties of different corps, they acted as Lieutenant-Colonels.

For the First Regiment.		For the Second Regiment.	
Eldest Captain, -	A	Eldest Captain, -	L
Second do. -	S	Second do. -	a
Third do. -	B	Third do. -	M
Fourth do. -	T	Fourth do. -	b
Fifth do. -	C	Fifth do. -	c
Sixth do. -	D	Sixth do. -	N
Seventh do. -	u	Seventh do. -	d
Eighth do. -	E	Eighth do. -	o
First eldest Lieutenant,	V	First eldest Lieutenant,	e
Second do. -	F	Second do. -	f
Third do. -	G	Third do. -	P
Fourth do. -	W	Fourth do. -	g
Fifth do. -	H	Fifth do. -	J
Sixth do. -	X	Sixth do. -	h
Seventh do. -	I	Seventh do. -	R
Eighth do. -	Y	Eighth do. -	i
First Second Lieutenant,	k	First Second Lieutenant,	k

I hope the mode of making the arrangement will be easily apprehended, and prevent those jealousies which are so dangerous in an Army, and so prejudicial to the common cause of *America*. Uninfluenced by any motives but those which ought to inspire every friend of his country, I shall most readily acquiesce in any other mode that may be demonstrated more eligible.

I am, sir, your most humble servant,

PHILIP SCHUYLER.

To General *Wooster*.

—

Montreal, February 11, 1776.

SIR: Your letter of the 26th ultimo, I have received; in answer to which, give me leave to observe to you, that I, also, claim a right to be treated with the respect due to me as a gentleman and an officer intrusted with a command from the honourable the Representatives of thirteen Colonies. Why, sir, are these positive mandates? Have I ever disputed your orders? Since I have been in the Army, I have exerted every faculty to promote a union among the officers, and have carefully avoided every thing that might have the least tendency to cause jealousies; in short, sir, I have steadily and invariably pursued those measures that appeared to me conducive to the true interest of our country. How ungenerous therefore, is it, that an advantage should be taken of my conciliating disposition; yet, you will pardon me if I misjudge, I cannot account for your imperious conduct towards me upon any other principle. You will remember your letter to me while I was at *St. John's*, founded in falsehood, and which you could have no other motive for writing but to insult me. I thought it, at that time, not worth answering, and shall, at present, take no further notice of it. I shall, however, send a copy of it to Congress, and of your last letter, together with copies of my own, except the one you observe was wrote with unbecoming subacity, that is, somehow, mislaid, and I shall be obliged to you if you will forward it. I can remember nothing in it either disrespectful or subacid, and, being confident nothing of that nature was intended, I presume that the Congress will find that it is not expressed. As you have already complained to the honourable Congress, I have thought it my duty to show them what passed between us, and they will judge which of us has the greatest reason to complain of ill treatment. For the present, let the matter rest. They will doubtless do justice. This is no time to altercate, the whole of our time is little enough to attend to the operations absolutely necessary for the defence of our country.

You will give me leave to inform you, that the commanding officer who is with this Army is to give out orders, and is the only competent judge of what is proper, and what not, for the internal regulation of the Army, and for the immediate safety of the country. Since the death of the worthy and brave General *Montgomery*, (with whom I had the happiness to serve in the strictest harmony and friendship, and who ever treated me like a gentleman,) the command devolves upon me, and I shall give out such orders as appear to me necessary for the publick good, and shall send out of the country all prisoners and such persons as may be thought dangerous to our cause. As soon as it can be done with convenience, the returns of the Army shall be made out and transmitted to you. I shall, also, take care that your orders to General *Montgomery* are executed as far as is possible. I shall do every thing in my power to carry into execution every resolve of the Congress.

Mr. *Jordan* has accepted the bill for five hundred dollars; when it is paid, I shall credit the publick.

I mentioned to you, in a former letter, that I thought it very necessary that an artillery company, as well as the artillery, stores, &c., should be sent into this country. Should be glad to hear whether they can be spared from the Colonies or not, and what assistance of that nature we may expect.

I shall send a copy of this letter to Congress, and shall also enclose with this a copy of my letter to Congress. If there are any misrepresentations you will have an opportunity to correct them. I am, sir, your most obedient servant,

DAVID WOOSTER.

To Major-General *Schuyler*.

P. S. I will just observe, further, that I think it would have been much more generous in you to have pointed out to me the exceptionable part of my letters, before you complained to Congress.

—

Montreal, February 13, 1776.

SIR: I received your letter of the 2d instant, with the enclosed resolves of Congress, and observe the contents, and shall attend to the instructions.

Mr. *Hare* shall be used with every civility. A return of the names of Commissaries in *Canada* shall be sent you when I can get a return from General *Arnold*.

I am informed there is great plenty of salt in this part of *Canada*; more than sufficient for a twelve month.

I will inquire and find out what quantity of cloth, fit for tents, can be procured in this country, but do not expect to find much. I enclose you a return of tents and nails, &c., that are in the stores in this place. As a number of gondolas will be greatly wanted in the river *St. Lawrence*, and as we have a quantity of seasoned timber and plank, and, you will see by the enclosed return, a quantity of spikes and nails, and as it will be difficult to get such as are built on the lake, and, perhaps, dangerous, if they are anyways large, down the Rapids of *Chambly*, will it not be well to build them here? yet the articles of pitch, tar, turpentine, and oakum, must, in that case, be sent from the Colonies, as there is none of either in the Province. Some master carpenters would, also, be much wanted—good workmen, poor ones are to be had here.

A proper person shall be appointed to frank the Army letters.

A return of ordnance in this Province is already sent you. The addresses are and shall be published.

I shall send you, by this conveyance, General *Montgomery's* papers, except the accounts of disbursements, which must be first copied. Captain *Van Rensselaer* is at present gone to *Quebeck* to muster the troops there; when he returns, I shall direct him to proceed on to *Albany*.

With regard to the two regiments to be formed out of the broken corps now in this Province, I hardly know what to say. I rather imagine it would be very difficult, if not impossible, to persuade but very few of them to engage for a longer time than their present inlistments; yet I should be sorry that those officers who are willing to continue in the service should not have an opportunity. The plan you propose, though calculated to prevent jealousies between Provinces, I fear will be impracticable; besides the

difficulty of placing younger officers before older ones, they will never consent to serve together in companies, as that arrangement will place them. Suppose, sir, that the troops from *Hampshire*, *Massachusetts*, and *Connecticut*, should form one regiment, and the different *New-York* battalions another, and the officers be ranked according to seniority? From some conversation I have had with several of the officers, I am persuaded the other plan cannot be effectuated. I shall, therefore, be obliged to you for your thoughts upon this, and am, in haste, your most obedient and very humble servant,

DAVID WOOSTER.

To General *Schuyler*.

A Return of a number of articles which are in the Stores at MONTREAL. (*Return of all the articles not yet made.*)

Six barrels ten-inch spike nails; 1 barrel eight-inch spike nails; 1 barrel seven-inch spike nails; ½ barrel four-inch spike nails; 3 barrels three and a half inch spike nails; 1 barrel twentypenny nails; 1½ barrel tenpenny nails; ½ barrel eightpenny nails; 1 barrel sixpenny nails; 1½ barrel shingle nails; 237 common, and 26 bell (new) tents; 160 old tents and markees; 5 old bell tents; 68 camp-kettles; 1,406 canteens; 100 pair of shoes; 7 soldiers' coats; 574 new felt hats; 47 old felt hats; 1,000 haversacks; 144 spike gimblets; 43 chisels; 15 pair creapers; 23 augers; a large quantity of spun yarn; 1 anvil; 215 tomahawks; 3 batteau sails; 600 tent poles; 11 camp colours; 1 box of bolts and screws; 100 rods of nail-wire.

A return of all the articles in the stores will soon be made.

Montreal, February 13, 1776.

An Estimate of Pay due to Troops of the UNITED COLONIES, *raised in the Colony of* CONNECTICUT, *employed in the Northern Department.*

Colonel WATERBURY'S *Regiment.*

Colonel *Waterbury*,	£1,557	7	2
Lieutenant-Colonel *Whiting*,	1,329	6	4½
Major *Hobby*,	1,399	14	10
Captain *Mead*,	1,305	5	9
Captain *Benedict*,	1,259	2	10
Captain *Beardsley*,	1,214	1	1
Captain *Doolittle*,	1,171	18	1½
Captain *Dimon*, (say,)	1,400	0	0
Captain *Smith*,	1,233	18	2
Captain *Reed*, (say,)	1,330	0	0
Lawful money,	£13,200	14	4
Billeting, say £100 per Company,	1,000	0	0
	£14,200	14	4

Brigadier-General WOOSTER.

8 Companies, say £1,300 each,	£10,400	0	0
Billeting, say £100 each,	800	0	0

Colonel HINMAN'S *Regiment.*

4 Companies unpaid, say,	4,200	0	0
Billeting, say £100,	400	0	0
	£30,000	14	4
Reduced to *New-York* currency,	10,000	4	9⅓
	£40,000	18	1⅓

JONATHAN TRUMBULL, JR.
Paymaster-General, Northern Department.

Albany, February 17, 1776.

JOHN BIGELOW TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Hartford, February 20, 1776.

SIR: I have been down as far as *Haddam*, but cannot inlist any men. There are upwards of three hundred gone from *Weathersfield*, *Rocky-Hill*, &c. *Middletown* and *Haddam* are likewise drained. The men are mostly gone from the West Division and *East-Hartford*. There is a number left on this side the river, but they cannot be persuaded to enter into the service. I have spared no pains in endeavouring to raise a company, but have inlisted but four men. The matter seems new to the people, and they want to be informed what wages a Sergeant, Corporal, &c., are to have.

I have received a letter from Mr. *Strong*, in which he gives but little encouragement, as their people are already engaged. I shall try to-day at *Windsor*.

I am your Honour's most humble servant,

JOHN BIGELOW.

To the Honourable *Jonathan Trumbull*, Esq.

MAJOR HAWLEY TO ELBRIDGE GERRY.

February 20, 1776.

Pray, Sir, will it not be extremely difficult for us to hold on with our defence, and support all our inhabitants without trade? Will people who have been bred and accustomed to trade till they have arrived at men's and women's estate ever get into any other business? Be sure they never will be dexterous at any other, nor contented; nay, they will be a weight on the community, and a very heavy one, too. But, if we resolve on independence, what will hinder but that we may instantly commence a trade, not only with *Holland*, *France*, and *Spain*, but with all the world, as the Government of the new independent state shall permit? Then we shall have done with the unmanageable plans and chimeras of non-importation agreements, which, with non-consumption agreements, never were and never will be kept, and tend inexpressibly to debauch and wickedize a people, by means of the irresistible temptation which trading people will always be under to violate the general agreements, not only for the sake of profits, but really for any reputable subsistence; whereas, the instant you resolve on independence, and give leave to trade, your trading people will immediately fly to it, whatever risks and hazards there may be of losing; and, indeed, the greatest part will escape.

Pray consider this matter, with regard to *Canada*, and the *Dutch* of *New-York*. Will they ever join with us heartily, who, in order to it, must sacrifice their trade, to which they are so much addicted, and whereby they have always made good profits, and expose themselves to want and beggary? Whereas, the moment that we resolve on independence, trade will be free for them—for the one to *France* and the other to *Holland*; to which they always inclined, and would heretofore go at almost as great risks as they will then at first run; then we shall have done with our impracticable associations for non-consumption, the source of infinite feuds and animosity.

Independence, in short, is the only way to union and harmony, to vigour and despatch in business; our eye will be single, and our whole body full of light; any thing short of it will, as appears to me, be our destruction, infallible destruction, and that speedily. Amen.

JOSEPH HAWLEY.

To Mr. *Gerry*.

MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL.

Wednesday, November 29, 1775.

Present in Council: Honourables Walter Spooner, Joseph Gerrish, John Whetcomb, Benjamin Lincoln, Joseph Palmer, Samuel Holten, Moses Gill, John Taylor, Benjamin White, Esquires.

Colonel *Bowers* came up with a message from the House, to inform the Board that the House had now a quorum of Members, and were proceeding to business.

The Committee of both Houses, appointed to take into consideration the Letter of his Excellency General *Washington*, dated *November* 29th, 1775, to the General Court, report, as their opinion, that a Committee be immediately appointed to wait on him, and with the General Officers, to devise some method whereby the deficiency in the Army, which may be caused by the *Connecticut* Forces leaving the service, and the furloughs granted to the part of the Forces inlisted for the next year, can be supplied, and make report.

And whereas, his Excellency, in the last paragraph of the same letter, mentions that he cannot help observing, as his opinion, that our paying our men by the lunar, and not by the calendar months, will throw the rest of the Army into disorder; we also report, that a Committee be appointed to draft a letter to his Excellency, in answer to the said paragraph of his letter, showing the reasons of our conduct in thus paying our men: that it is not an innova-

tion; and that we hear it with concern, that while we are doing justice to our men, by complying with our contract with them, that it should produce disorders in the Army.

In Council: Read, and accepted; and thereupon

Resolved, That *Joseph Palmer*, Esq., with such as the honourable House shall join, be a Committee to wait upon his Excellency General *Washington*, and, with the other General Officers, to devise some method whereby the deficiency in the Army, which may be caused by the *Connecticut* Forces leaving the service, and the furloughs granted to part of the Forces inlisted for the next year, can be supplied, and make report. Also, that *Benjamin Lincoln*, Esq., with such as the honourable House shall join, be a Committee to draft a Letter to his Excellency General *Washington*, in answer to the last paragraph in his said Letter, showing the reasons of this Colony's paying their men by the lunar months. And the Speaker and Colonel *Bowers* are joined on the Committee to wait on his Excellency General *Washington*, with the other General Officers; and Colonel *Orne* and Mr. *Gerry* are joined on the Committee to report a Letter to his Excellency the General, in answer to the last paragraph in his Letter.

Adjourned to nine o'clock, to-morrow morning.

—

Thursday, November 30, 1776.

Present in Council: Honourables Walter Spooner, Joseph Gerrish, John Whetcomb, Benjamin Lincoln, Michael Farley, Joseph Palmer, Samuel Holten, Moses Gill, John Taylor, Benjamin White, John Winthrop, Esquires.

Resolve of the House, appointing a Committee of both Houses, to take into consideration several Resolutions of the Continental Congress, transmitted to the Speaker of the House, from the President of the Continental Congress, read, and concurred; and *Walter Spooner* and *John Winthrop*, Esquires, are joined.

Adjourned to to-morrow morning, nine o'clock.

—

Friday, December 1, 1775.

Present in Council: Honourables Walter Spooner, John Winthrop, Joseph Gerrish, John Whetcomb, Benjamin Lincoln, Michael Farley, Joseph Palmer, Samuel Holten, Moses Gill, John Taylor, Benjamin White, Esquires.

Report of the Committee of both Houses, appointed to confer with the General Officers, respecting reinforcing the Army, until the new Army is complete. Read, and accepted. Sent down for concurrence. Came up; concurred by the House; and *Ordered*, That Mr. *Gerry*, Mr. *Plympton*, and Captain *Carpenter*, with such as the honourable Board shall join, be a Committee to proportion three thousand and eight men among the Regiments, in the Counties therein mentioned.

Read, and concurred, and *John Whetcomb* and *Benjamin Lincoln*, Esquires, are joined.

Order of the House, to appoint a Committee of both Houses, to confer with his Excellency General *Washington*, relative to depriving the enemy of the advantages they receive from *Cape-Cod* Harbour. Read, and concurred, and *Walter Spooner*, Esq., is joined.

Order of the House, to appoint a Committee of both Houses, to take into consideration a Letter from the Honourable *James Otis*, Esq., relative to the enemy's being supplied from *Nantucket* and *Martha's Vineyard*.

Read, and concurred, and *Benjamin Lincoln* and *Samuel Holten*, Esquires, are joined.

A Letter from General *Frye*, relative to the Military Forces in the County of *Cumberland*, under his command. Read, and sent down. Came up with an order of the House thereon, appointing Mr. *Gerry*, Colonel *Sayer*, Colonel *Barret*, with such as the honourable Board shall join, to be a Committee to take the same into consideration, and report.

Read, and concurred, and *Joseph Gerrish* and *John Whetcomb*, Esquires, are joined.

Ordered, That *Walter Spooner* and *Benjamin Lincoln*, Esquires, with such as the honourable House shall join, be a Committee to take into consideration the state and circumstances of the Sea-Coast, and report whether, in their opinion, the whole, or any part of the men stationed for the defence thereof, can, with safety, be discharged; if any can be, in what part of the Colony.

—

Saturday, December 2, 1775.

Present in Council: Honourables Walter Spooner, John Winthrop, Joseph Gerrish, John Whetcomb, Benjamin Lincoln, Michael Farley, Joseph Palmer, Samuel Holten Moses Gill, John Taylor, Benjamin, White, Esquires.

Adjourned to nine o'clock, *Monday* morning.

—

Monday, December 4, 1775.

Present in Council: Honourables Joseph Gerrish, Eldad Taylor, Benjamin Lincoln, Charles Chauncy, Michael Farley Joseph Palmer, Samuel Holten, John Taylor, Benjamin White, Jabez Fisher, Esquires.

A Letter from *Robert H. Harrison*, Esq., Aid-de-camp to his Excellency General *Washington*, giving information that a number of persons were to be sent out of *Boston* by the enemy this day, infected with the small-pox. Read, and sent down.

In the House of Representatives: Whereas, it is necessary that a number of men should be immediately raised, agreeable to a Resolve of this Court, of yesterday, and as it appears to this Court, that the men stationed upon the Sea-Coast in the Towns of *Newbury*, *Ipswich*, *Dartmouth*, *Rochester*, and *Wareham*, may, without inconveniency, be spared from any further service in guarding the Sea-Coasts in those towns,

Therefore, *Resolved*, That the men stationed on the Sea-Coasts in the Towns of *Newbury*, *Ipswich*, *Dartmouth*, *Rochester*, and *Wareham*, be, and they hereby are, dismissed from the service aforesaid, from and after the 5th day of *December* instant, and that no further pay or allowance be made them for the service after that time.

In the House of Representatives: Whereas, by a resolve of this Court, passed on the 1st of *December* instant, the Commanding Officer in the Town of *Lincoln* was directed forthwith to assemble the Militia of that town, and cause the number of thirteen men to be inlisted to join the *American* Army;

And whereas, by a late resolve, the Inhabitants of the said town are directed to supply a certain quantity of wood for the use of said Army, which renders it inconvenient that any men should be taken from said town at this time,

Resolved, That the Commanding Officer of the Town of *Lincoln* be, and hereby is excused, from assembling the Militia, and inlisting any men to join the *American* Army as aforesaid, the aforesaid resolve notwithstanding.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

Adjourned to nine o'clock, to-morrow morning.

—

Tuesday, December 5, 1775.

Present in Council: Honourables Walter Spooner, John Winthrop, Joseph Gerrish, Eldad Taylor, Benjamin Lincoln, Charles Chauncy, Michael Farley, Joseph Palmer, Samuel Holten, Jabez Fisher, John Taylor, Benjamin White, Esquires.

Ordered, That *John Winthrop* and *Benjamin Lincoln*, Esqrs., be a Committee to draft the Letter to the Continental Congress, representing to them the reasons of this Colony's paying their Soldiers by lunar, and not by calendar months.

Their Report read and accepted, and ordered to be signed by the President, in the name, and by order of the General Court, and forwarded to the Delegates of this Colony in *American* Congress, to be by them communicated.

Sent down for concurrence. Came up concurred, and forwarded.

In Council: Ordered, That *Walter Spooner*, *Charles Chauncy*, and *Joseph Palmer*, Esquires, with such as the honourable House shall join, be a Committee to take into consideration the circumstances of the Sea-Ports of this Colony, and where it will be necessary to keep Forces

* TO THE HONOURABLE PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL.

SIR: I must pray your Honour to acquaint the Council that, though I would gladly continue to officiate as Chaplain, yet, considering the difficulties that the winter season will lay me under, and the additional service necessarily falling upon me through the destitute condition of the late Reverend Mr. *Adams's* people, I find myself incapable of entertaining the hope of performing the duty; and must, therefore, humbly pray the honourable Council to excuse my continuing Chaplain.

Your Honour's humble servant, WILLIAM GORDON.
November 29, 1775.

IN COUNCIL, *November* 29, 1775: Read, and ordered to be entered on the files of Council. PEREZ MORTON, *Deputy Secretary*.

during the winter season; and to wait on his Excellency General *Washington*, and represent to him the exposed situation of such place or places as they may judge necessary to be guarded, and to request his protection of them; and make report.

Sent down for concurrence. Came up concurred, and Mr. *Sullivan*, Colonel *Orne*, Colonel *Lovell*, and Captain *Tobey*, are joined on the part of the House.

Adjourned to nine o'clock, to-morrow morning.

—

Wednesday, December 6, 1775.

Present in Council: Honourables William Sever, Walter Spooner, John Winthrop, Joseph Gerrish, Jedediah Foster, Eldad Taylor, Benjamin Lincoln, John Whetcomb, Charles Chauncy, Michael Farley, Joseph Palmer, Samuel Holten, Jabez Fisher, Moses Gill, John Taylor, Benjamin White, Esquires.

A Letter from his Honour *Jonathan Trumbull*, Esq., Governour of *Connecticut*, relative to the fraud of persons supplying the enemy with Provisions, by way of *Nantucket*.

Read, and *Ordered*, That *John Winthrop* and *Charles Chauncy*, Esqrs., with such as the honourable House shall join, be a Committee to take the said Letter, and Papers enclosed, under consideration, and report.

Sent down for concurrence.

Two Letters from his Excellency General *Washington*, on the critical situation of the Army.

Read, and *Ordered*, That *Walter Spooner*, *John Winthrop*, and *Joseph Palmer*, Esquires, with such as the honourable House shall join, be a Committee to wait on his Excellency General *Washington*, immediately, to confer with him on the subject-matter of the foregoing Letters, and devise some ways and means of easing the difficulties therein suggested.

Sent down for concurrence. Came up concurred, and Mr. *Sullivan*, Captain *Batchelder*, Mr. *Cushing*, and Colonel *Orne*, Esquires, are joined on the part of the House.

In Council: Ordered, That *Benjamin Lincoln*, Esquire, with such as the honourable House shall join, be a Committee to consider what may be necessary to be done relative to the expense arising by the Prisoners taken by private adventurers, and report.

Sent down for concurrence.

Petition of the Selectmen of *Boxford*, humbly showeth: "In consequence of a request from the Committee of Safety of the Town of *Gloucester*, to the Selectmen and Committee of Safety of this town, in which they desired a number of men might be sent to their assistance, with provisions and other necessaries, for a short time, as they were apprehensive of an immediate attack by sea from our inveterate enemies:

"Accordingly we have raised and sent to their assistance sixteen men, including suitable officers, with provision, &c., suitable for fourteen days, and at the end of the said fourteen days we received another request from the Selectmen and Committee of Safety of said town, desiring us to continue the said men with them some time longer, or send others in their stead; we have, therefore, raised ten other men, including a suitable officer, and sent them, with provision, &c., for fourteen days more, which terms they have respectively served out at said *Gloucester*.

"The charge we have been at in sending and providing provision for the above-mentioned twenty-six men, for fourteen days, amounts to fifteen pounds twelve shillings, which charge, together with such wages as the honourable Court shall think adequate to their services, as we in duty bound shall ever pray."

In the House of Representatives: Resolved, That the Receiver-General be, and he is hereby directed to pay to *Aaron Wood*, Esq., thirty-nine Pounds seven Shillings, to be by him applied for the payment of one Sergeant and twenty-five Privates, for their service as soldiers at *Gloucester*, viz: the Sergeant one month, and the men half month each; and, also, for the billeting, &c., of the said soldiers.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

In Council: Ordered, That *Walter Spooner*, *Charles Chauncy*, and *Joseph Palmer*, Esquires, with such as the honourable House shall join, be a Committee to wait on his Excellency General *Washington*, and represent to him the circumstances of the four Companies now doing duty at *Braintree*, *Weymouth*, and *Hingham*, as to when they were inlisted, and by whose order, from whom they have received their orders from time to time, and in what service they have been employed. That they were considered by this Colony, when raised, as part of the thirteen thousand six hundred men voted by us, and have always been so considered; and desire that his Excellency would order them to be paid by the Continent, as they were not inlisted, neither have they been employed for the special purpose of defending the sea-costs, as a number since have been.

Sent down for concurrence. Came up concurred, and Mr. *Pitts*, Mr. *Jewett*, Mr. *Hobart*, and Mr. *Story*, are joined on the part of the House.

Petition of *Thomas Livermore*, Sergeant of the Sixty-Third Regiment, setting forth, "that he, with seven soldiers and nine sailors, being prisoners, and confined in jail in *Ipswich*, would acquaint your Honours, that five of our number have been very sick, one of which men remains very ill, and has nothing to cover him in this inclement season but the clothes which he has now on his back, and these have remained on for three months. We are all in a bad situation for clothing, and our necessity obliges us to petition your Honours to grant us such relief as your Honours shall think proper; and, as in duty bound, shall ever pray."

In the House of Representatives: Resolved, That the Selectmen of the Town of *Ipswich* be, and they hereby are required and empowered, as soon as may be, to furnish each of the seven Soldiers mentioned in said petition, with two Shirts, one Blanket, and a Cap; that they furnish each of the nine Sailors in said jail, with one Coat, Jacket, and a pair of Breeches, two Shirts, two pair of Stockings, a pair of Shoes, one Cap, and one Blanket; and that the said Selectmen provide light Sacks, for the said sixteen prisoners, and lay an account of their expenses before this Court for allowance and payment.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

Adjourned to nine o'clock, to-morrow morning.

—

Thursday, December 7, 1775.

Present in Council: Honourables William Sever, Benjamin Greenleaf, Walter Spooner, Caleb Cushing, John Winthrop, Joseph Gerrish, John Whetcomb, Jedediah Foster, James Prescott, Eldad Taylor, Benjamin Lincoln, Charles Chauncy, Michael Farley, Joseph Palmer, Samuel Holten, Jabez Fisher, Moses Gill, John Taylor, Benjamin White, Esquires.

Petition of *Joseph Greenleaf*, late of *Boston*, in the County of *Suffolk*, humbly shows, "that your petitioner, with Doctor *Jonathan King* and Captain *Phineas Upham*, both of *Brookfield*, in the County of *Worcester*, with considerable expense, and close application and labour, have happily discovered the method of manufacturing copperas and alum, which they have the fullest assurance they can obtain, in sufficient quantities, to supply this whole Colony at least; and they humbly apprehend they can also manufacture oils of vitriol and sulphur, spirits and balsam of sulphur, and sundry other chemical matters of great importance to their country in this critical day. And, inasmuch as the foregoing articles cannot be produced without great expense for a proper apparatus, and whereas there will be no clear profits for a considerable time, your petitioner humbly prays, that an exclusive privilege of manufacturing in this Colony, the above-mentioned articles, for the term of ten years, may be granted him in conjunction with the above named *Jonathan King* and *Phineas Upham*, and that they may have their action against any person or persons who shall venture to manufacture said articles during said term; and that your Honours would afford your petitioners and company such further encouragement as your Honours, in your wisdom and goodness, may think proper, and your petitioner, as in duty bound, shall ever pray."

In the House of Representatives: Read, and *Ordered*, That Colonel *Orne* and Mr. *Cushing*, at Captain *Stearns's*, with such as the honourable Board shall join, be a Committee to consider the within Petition, and report thereon.

In Council: Read, and concurred, and *William Sever* and *Joseph Palmer*, Esquires, are joined.

The Committee of both Houses, appointed to wait on General *Washington*, to hold a conference with him, on the subject-matter of his Letter of the 6th instant, have waited on his Excellency, and held the proposed conference, and

beg leave to report the draft of a Letter to the General, to be signed by the President of the Board, enclosing an attested copy of the Resolve of this Court, made on the 1st *December*, instant, to call a reinforcement of the Militia to his Excellency General *Washington;* and the Committee beg leave to sit again.

In Council: Read, and accepted.

In the House of Representatives: Read, and concurred.

Petition of *Alexander Parrau*, setting forth, "that he was a Sergeant in Captain *Nathaniel Warner's* company, in the Seventeenth Regiment of Foot, in the service of the *United Colonies* of *North-America*, commanded by Colonel *Moses Little*, and humbly showeth, that your petitioner received a wound in his right shoulder, in the late battle on *Bunker-Hill*, by which he has lost the use of his right arm; and having no way to support himself and family, but by his labour, and being rendered incapable of serving his country any longer as a soldier, or supporting his family by labour, that he now stands in need of immediate relief; your petitioner, therefore, prays your Honours would take his distressed circumstances under consideration, and afford him such relief as in your wisdom you shall see meet; and your petitioner, as in duty bound, shall ever pray."

In the House of Representatives: Resolved, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to *Alexander Parrau*, the sum of ten Pounds four Shillings, in full, for the loss of his Gun, and for boarding and nursing twelve weeks, and carrying him to *Gloucester*.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

Petition of *Nathaniel Farmer*, of *Lexington*, in the County of *Middlesex*, Cordwainer, humbly showeth, "that on the morning of the 19th of *April* last, (he being one of the Minute-Men,) was fired upon by the Ministerial troops at *Lexington*, and was wounded in his right arm, which fractured the bone to that degree that sundry pieces of the same have been taken out, by means of which your petitioner hath suffered much pain as well as loss of time, and charge to the doctors, whose bills are herewith presented, and, in fine, is totally disabled from carrying on his business, by which he chiefly supported himself and family; wherefore he prays your Honours would take his distressed case under your wise consideration, and grant him such relief as in your wisdom shall seem meet; and your petitioner, as in duty bound, shall ever pray."

In the House of Representatives: Resolved, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to Deacon *Stone*, for the use of *Nathaniel Farmer*, the sum of thirteen Pounds fifteen Shillings, in full, for his doctoring, nursing, and loss of time, while confined with his wounds.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

Petition of *George Reed*, of *Woburn*, humbly showeth, "that he was in the skirmish at *Concord*, between the Ministerial troops and the Provincials, on the 19th of *April* last, in which skirmish your petitioner received a ball in his side, and was under the doctor's care for near three months, unable to administer any thing to the support of his family by labour; wherefore your petitioner earnestly prays your Honours would take his case under your wise consideration, and grant him such relief as your wisdom and justice shall dictate."

In the House of Representatives: Resolved, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to *George Reed*, the sum of eight Pounds nine Shillings, in full, for his nursing, doctoring, and loss of time while confined with his wounds.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow morning.

—

Friday, December 8, 1775.

Present in Council: Honourables Michael Farley, Joseph Palmer, Samuel Holten, Jabez Fisher, Moses Gill, John Taylor, William Sever, Benjamin Greenleaf, Walter Spooner, Caleb Cushing, John Winthrop, Joseph Gerrish, John Whetcomb, Jedediah Foster, James Prescott, Eldad Taylor, Benjamin Lincoln, Charles Chauncy, Benjamin White, Esquires.

Captain *Stone*, of *Framingham*, came up with a message from the House, informing the Board, that the House had assigned next *Wednesday*, three o'clock, afternoon, to come to the choice of five Delegates to represent this Colony in *American* Congress, for the ensuing year, by joint ballot, if agreeable to the honourable Board.

Samuel Holten, Esq., went down with a verbal message to the House, informing them that the Board had agreed to the foregoing proposal of the honourable House.

In Council: Resolved, That the Secretary be, and he hereby is directed forthwith to take, or procure to be taken, copies of all such Vouchers as the Committee, appointed by this Court, to prepare the accounts of charges and expenses incurred by this Colony, in defence of *American* liberty, may think needful to transmit to the honourable the Continental Congress; and that he carefully compare such copies with the originals, and attest the same, in order to their being lodged in the Secretary's office; which copies, so attested, shall have all the validity and effect that the originals might or ought to have; and the Secretary is directed to consult with the said Committee, and be directed by them with regard to the mode of taking said copies.

In the House of Representatives: Read, and concurred.

Petition of *Joshua Davis*, setting forth "that your Honours were pleased to allow him the pay of Lieutenant-Colonel for the time he had, or should be in the service of this Colony. Having been in said service since the 1st day of *May* last, and have not received as yet any pay, your petitioner begs your Honours would allow him such a part of his wages as your Honours think proper."

In the House of Representatives: Resolved, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to Colonel *Joshua Davis*, the sum of thirty-one Pounds four Shillings, it being the pay of a Lieutenant-Colonel in the service of this Colony, from the 1st day of *May* up to the 1st day of *August*, which pay said *Davis* was allowed by a resolve of this Court.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

Petition of *Joseph Cornee*, setting forth "that on the 19th of *April* last, at the battle of *Lexington*, was by the enemy wounded in the left arm, having the cords and arteries cut in such a manner as to render his arm entirely useless for more than three months, and has been at great charge in surgery, nursing, and board; therefore prays your Honours may grant him such relief as you may think proper."

In the House of Representatives: Resolved, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury, to *Joseph Cornee*, the sum of twelve Pounds seven Shillings, in full, for his nursing, boarding, and doctoring, and time lost.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow morning.

—

Saturday, December 9, 1775.

Present in Council: Honourables William Sever, Benjamin Greenleaf, John Winthrop, Caleb Cushing, Joseph Gerrish, John Whetcomb, Jedediah Foster, James Prescott, Eldad Taylor. Benjamin Lincoln, Charles Chauncy, Michael Farley, Joseph Palmer, Samuel Holten, Jabez Fisher, Moses Gill, John Taylor, Esquires.

Petition of *Francis Brown*, of *Lexington*, setting forth, "that he was a Sergeant in Captain *Parker's* Company, of said town, who was fired upon by the Ministerial Army, on the 19th of *April* last, who, unfortunately, received a wound in his cheek, by a musket ball, which passed nearly through his neck, and afterwards extracted from the back of the same, by which means he endured much pain, and lost about three months of his time. He hopes your Honours will order the payment of his doctor's bill, which is three pounds two shillings, and such allowance for his time, nursing, &c., as your Honours may think proper."

In the House of Representatives: Resolved, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to *Francis Brown*, the sum of twelve Pounds two Shillings, in full, for his nursing, boarding, and doctoring.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

In the House of Representatives: Whereas, by information to this Court, there is great reason to apprehend that *Edward Raud*, Pewterer, of *Newburyport*, and brother of Doctor *Isaac Raud*, of *Boston*, has carried on a criminal correspondence with his brother aforesaid, who is unfriendly to the cause of *America;* therefore,

Resolved, That Captain *Epes* forthwith repair to Mr. *Winthrop Gray*, at *Malden*, or *Point-Shirley*, and inquire into the facts aforesaid in confidence; and provided the said *Gray* shall confirm the same, that then the said Captain *Epes* forthwith repair to the Committee of Safety and Correspondence of *Newburyport*, with this resolve, who are

hereby directed and empowered to cause the said *Edward Raud*, Pewterer, to be immediately put under a sufficient guard, and his papers secured, until the further order of this Court.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

The Committee of both Houses, appointed to take into consideration and report on the Letter of Governour *Trumbull* relative to the Inhabitants of *Nantucket*, have attended that service, and beg leave to report by way of resolve.

Whereas, representation has been made to this Court, that supplies of Provision, more than are necessary for internal consumption, and for such voyages as may be prosecuted consistent with the Resolves of Congress and the General Assembly of this Colony, have been lately shipped from this and the neighbouring Colonies for the Island of *Nantucket* and *Martha's Vineyard*, and there is great reason to suspect that the Inhabitants of the said Island of *Nantucket* have abused the indulgence of this Court, by supplying our enemies with such Provisions, &c., as were admitted to be transported to them for their internal consumption only.

Resolved, That the Committee of Correspondence for the Town of *Falmouth*, in the County of *Barnstable*, be, and they hereby are directed forthwith to return to this Court a true copy, upon oath, of all permits which they have granted to the Inhabitants of *Nantucket*, or any other person, or persons, in their behalf, for obtaining Provisions from the Inhabitants of this and the neighbouring Colonies to supply said Inhabitants of *Nantucket*, and to suspend granting any permits in future to the said Inhabitants, or any person on their behalf, till the further order of this Court; and the Selectmen of the Town of *Sherburne*, in the Island of *Nantucket*, as, also, of each Town on *Martha's Vineyard*, are directed forthwith to make strict inquiry into the importation of Provisions into their respective towns since the 28th *September* last, and of all Provisions now in said town, and to make returns thereof, on oath, to this Court, as soon as may be; and the Inhabitants of this Colony, and of the other *United Colonies*, are desired to withhold further supplies of Provision, Fuel, or other necessaries, from said Island, until the further recommendation of this Court.

And the Printers of the Colonies aforesaid, are respectively desired to cause this Resolve to be inserted in their Newspaper.

In the House of Representatives: Read, and concurred.

Adjourned to ten o'clock, *Monday* morning.*

* Watertown, *December* 9, 1775.—May it please your Honours: I was, the last evening, notified by the Secretary that your Honours had appointed me to the office of a maritime Judge, for the Counties of *Suffolk*, *Middlesex*, and *Essex*, and the information was received with gratitude and respect, more especially as this is a repeated instance of your Honours' benevolence towards me.

The qualifications necessary for this department are such, that I can by no means presume to claim them, and the appointment is considered as altogether arising from the candour of your Honours, rather than from the least degree of merit in myself, notwithstanding which, I should think it an incumbent duty to obey the call of your most honourable body in this Colony, elected at a time when real merit could only raise them to their elevated stations, did it not militate with publick concerns that appear to be of equally an important nature. As this is the case, and upon mature deliberation, I find it impracticable to fill the place consistent with such publick engagements, I must beg leave to be excused from accepting the appointment, and flatter myself with the hopes of your Honours' approbation in this measure.

I shall at all times take pleasure in contending for the honour of the Council of this Colony, as well as in exerting myself to execute their measures, and, am, with the greatest respect, your Honours' most obedient and very humble servant, Elbridge Gerry.

To the Honourable the Council of the Colony of *Massachusetts-Bay*.

In Council, *December* 9, 1775: Read, and *Ordered*, That the foregoing letter be entered on the files of Council.

Perez Morton, *Deputy Secretary*.

Head-Quarters, *December* 9, 1775.—Sir: General *Washington* desires you will please to order all the Militia companies, as they arrive at *Watertown*, to march forthwith to *Roxbury*, where they are to receive and obey the orders and directions of Major-General *Ward*.

I am, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

Horatio Gates, *Adjutant-General*.

To the Honourable the President of the Council.

In Council, *December* 9, 1775: Read, and at the desire of his Excellency General *Washington*, the Militia companies which were directed to repair to Head-Quarters, on the 10th instant, and shall pass through *Watertown*, are hereby further directed to march forthwith to *Roxbury*, where they are to receive and obey the orders and directions of Major-General *Ward*. And that *Jonathan Brown*, Esq., of *Watertown*, be desired to notify the several companies, as they shall arrive at *Watertown*, of this order. Perez Morton, *Deputy Secretary*.

Monday, December 11, 1775.

Present in Council: Honourables William Sever, Benjamin Greenleaf, Walter Spooner, Caleb Cushing, Joseph Gerrish, John Whetcomb, Jedediah Foster, James Prescott, Eldad Taylor, Benjamin Lincoln, Charles Chauncy, Joseph Palmer, Samuel Holten, Jabez Fisher, Moses Gill, John Taylor, Benjamin White, Esquires.

Petition of a number of the Inhabitants of the Town of *Pownalborough*, setting forth, "that there is a difference subsisting between the Committee of Inspection for the East Parish and the Committee of Correspondence of this Town, arising from the conduct of *Abiel Wood*, who the Committee of Inspection have, as we think, justly published as an enemy to this country, and the Committee of Correspondence have endeavoured to make the world believe he is a friend, by publishing him as such; and as we have no reason to think the Committee of Inspection have done wrong, and the dispute, if continued, may be of dangerous consequences, not only to the town, but to the County, we humbly pray that your Honours would take the matter into consideration, and order the said *Wood* to appear before the Court for trial, and the Committee of Inspection to produce their evidence against him, that he may be either acquitted or condemned, and thereby this town may be restored to peace."

In the House of Representatives: Read, and thereupon *Ordered*, That Mr. *Wood*, Mr. *Cushing*, and Mr. *Gardner*, with such as the honourable Board shall join, be a Committee to consider the same, and report.

In Council: Read, and concurred, and *John Taylor* and *Benjamin White*, Esquires, are joined.

The Committee of both Houses, appointed to consider the Petition of the Committee of Inspection for the East part of the Town of *Pownalborough*, praying the Committee of Correspondence of said town might be called on to answer for their conduct relative to *Abiel Wood* and *Jonathan Williamson*, and that they, the said *Wood* and *Williamson*, may be removed from that place to prevent their deceiving the people; and the Petition of *Roger Smith*, and sixteen others, Inhabitants of said town, praying that said *Wood* and *Williamson* may be brought before this Court, and that the Committee of Inspection, the petitioners, be called upon to produce their evidences, that justice may be done, and the town thereby restored to peace: Your Committee, on the strictest examination, find this unhappy dispute run very high between the parties, and that many other persons in the County of *Lincoln*, and, particularly in the Town of *Pownalborough*, are interested in the event. Said *Wood* also desires the liberty of producing some evidence to vindicate his character and conduct, which he, at this time, is not possessed of. Therefore, that no unjust method may be taken, and that strict and equal justice may be done, your Committee beg leave to report unanimously, by way of Resolve, viz: that three Justices from the County of *Cumberland*, viz: *David Mitchell*, *John Lewis*, and *Nathaniel Purrington*, Esquires, or any two of them, be directed to repair to the Town of *Pownalborough*, first notifying the Committee of Inspection, on the East side of the Town of *Pownalborough*, *Abiel Wood*, *Jonathan Williamson*, and the Committee of Correspondence for said town, at least seven days beforehand, of the time, place, and intention of said meeting, by posting up a copy of said Petitions and this Order of Court thereon, at the Court-House, in said *Pownalborough;* and the said Justices, or either of them, summons all persons to appear before them, who shall be named to them, or either of them, by either of the parties concerned, as evidences in this unhappy dispute, and that the said Justices take the several testimonies, seal them up, transmit them to, and lodge them in the Secretary's Office by the first *Tuesday* in *February* next, and that the parties attend this Court, if they see cause, on the second *Tuesday* of the next session, for the determination of this Court thereon; and the cost of taking said testimonies shall be paid as the General Court shall hereafter order; and that the Secretary be directed to furnish said Justices with an attested copy of said Petitions and this Order, forthwith.

In Council: Read, and accepted.

In the House of Representatives: Read, and non-concurred, and ordered to be recommitted.

In Council: Read, and concurred, and ordered to be recommitted.

A Letter from *John Hancock*, Esquire, President of the *American* Congress, with enclosed Resolutions of Congress, pertaining to this Colony.

In Council: Read, and sent down.

In the House of Representatives: Read, and *Ordered*, That Mr. *Gerry*, Mr. *Pitts*, and Colonel *Orne*, with such as the honourable Board shall join, be a Committee to take into consideration the enclosed Resolves, and report.

In Council: Read, and concurred, and *William Sever* and *Walter Spooner*, Esquires, are joined.

In the House of Representatives: Ordered, That Mr. *Cooper*, Mr. *Pitts*, and Colonel *Lovell*, with such as the honourable Board shall join, be a Committee to take into consideration a Letter from *Thomas Crafts*, Jun.,* concerning the people lately brought from the Town of *Boston*, of *December* 10, 1775.

In Council: Read, and concurred, and Mr. *Chauncy* and Mr. *Fisher* are joined.

Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow morning.†

* Malden, *December* 10, 1775.— Sir: The small-pox has broke out in two families that came out of *Boston* in the first vessels. Two persons have it at *Point Shirley*, and one at *Malden*. I thought it my duty to acquaint you of it, as soon as possible. Beg you would lay it before the General Court, that they may take the best measures to prevent the spreading of that distemper at this alarming crisis of our publick affairs. As it is impossible to get wood carried to *Point Shirley*, the meeting-house there being of no service and rotten, if we might not have orders to pull that down for their immediate supply of fires.

I am, with great respect, your most obedient, humble servant,
Thomas Crafts, Jn.

To the Honourable *William Cooper*, Esq.

Cambridge, *December* 10, 1775.—Sir: I this moment received from Mr. *Thomas Crafts* the letter which you have enclosed, from which it will appear that some of the people who came out of *Boston* were infected with the small-pox. As this disorder, should it spread, may prove very disastrous and fatal to our Army and the country around it, I should hope that you will have such necessary steps taken as will prevent the infection being further communicated.

I am, sir, your most obedient servant, George Washington.

To the Honourable *James Otis*, Esq., President of the Council of *Massachusetts-Bay*.

Malden, *December* 10, 1775.—Sir: The small-pox has broke out in two families that came out of *Boston* in the first vessels. Two persons have it at *Point Shirley*, and one at *Malden*. I think it my duty to acquaint you thereof, as soon as possible. Beg your Excellency would confer with the General Court what measures are best to be taken to prevent the spreading of this distemper at this alarming crisis of our publick affairs.

I am, with great respect, your Excellency's most obedient, humble servant, Thomas Crafts, Jr.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

In Council, *December* 11, 1775: Read, and *Ordered*, That the Secretary be directed to write to his Excellency General *Washington*, to inform him of the order taken by the General Court on the 7th instant, on the matter suggested in the foregoing letter, enclosing an attested copy thereof. Perez Morton, *Deputy Secretary*.

Council Chamber, *December* 11, 1775.—Sir: At the request of the Board, I am to acquaint your Excellency, that in consequence of a letter received, the 4th instant, from your Excellency's Aid-de-camp, *Robert H. Harrison*, Esq., giving information of a number of persons out of *Boston*, who were apprehended to be infected with the small-pox, the whole Court immediately took order thereon, an attested copy whereof is enclosed. This, the Board apprehend, precludes the necessity of taking any further order on your Excellency's letter of this day. If your Excellency should think otherwise, and that this order will not completely remove the evil, on your Excellency's suggesting the deficiency, the earliest remedy will be applied.

In the name and behalf of the Board, I am your Excellency's most obedient and very humble servant, W. Sever.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

† Newburyport, *December* 8, 1775.—Honoured Sir: We are engaged in fixing out Captain *Peter Roberts*, the bearer, in a small sloop, for a privateer, and have to ask the favour of you to assist him in procuring a commission for that purpose, as we are all pretty much engaged in privateers, powder vessels, recruits, &c., and cannot, with any convenience, come down. If you will stand in with Captain *Roberts*, as a bondsman, we hereby engage to stand between you and harm, as though our names were down instead of yours, in the bond.

We are, sir, respectfully, your very obedient servants,
Jonathan Titcomb, Moses Little,
Tristram Dalton, Stephen & Ralph Cross.
Jackson, Tracy, & Tracy.

To *B. Greenleaf*.

P. S. The sloop *Game Cock*, burden about twenty tons.

In Council, *December* 11, 1775: Read, and *Ordered*, That the within named *Peter Roberts*, be commissionated for the purposes within mentioned, on his giving bond, with one sufficient surety, to the Colony Treasurer, for the faithful performance of his duty therein, agreeable to the act prescribing the same. Perez Morton, *Deputy Secretary*.

Newburyport, *December* 8, 1775.—Sir: The needful of this is to beg the favour you will assist the bearer, Captain *Offin Boardman*, in getting a commission for the schooner *Washington*, as we have fitted her for a privateer. In case you would be bondsman for Captain *Board-*

Tuesday, December 12, 1775.

Present in Council: Honourables William Sever, Benjamin Greenleaf, Walter Spooner, Caleb Cushing, Joseph Gerrish, John Whetcomb, Jedediah Foster, James Prescott, Eldad Taylor, Charles Chauncy, Joseph Palmer, Samuel Holten, Jabez Fisher, Moses Gill, John Taylor, Benjamin White, Esquires.

The Committee of both Houses, appointed to take into consideration a Letter from Captain *Thomas Crafts*, beg leave to report the following Resolve:

Whereas, it appears that the Inhabitants lately come out of *Boston* to *Point Shirley*, are under difficult circumstances for want of Fuel, and that two of said Inhabitants are now broke out with the Small-Pox:

Resolved, That the Committee at said *Point Shirley* be, and they hereby are, directed to make use of any old decayed stores, barns, or fish-houses, as fuel for the relief of the sick and distressed, and if necessary, to take down any publick building there for the purpose aforesaid; said Committee to render an account of their proceedings to this Court. And they are further directed to use their utmost endeavours to prevent the spreading of the small-pox, and make proper representation of the state of such persons as are put under their care, to this Court, whenever they find there is occasion therefor; and that Captain *Foster* and Captain *Searl* be a Committee to repair immediately to *Point Shirley*, and cause such buildings, as may be thought necessary to be taken down for fuel, to be appraised, and take any measures, and give any directions that shall appear to them necessary to aid the Committee now there in procuring wood and in preventing the spreading of the small-pox.

In the House of Representatives: Read, and concurred.

In the House of Representatives: Resolved, That it be, and it is hereby, strongly recommended to the Committees of Correspondence and Safety of the Town of . . . . . and in case of a deficiency of both said Committees, to the Selectmen of said Town, that they cause to be made to this Court, a true return of the number of men in said Town who are desirous of inlisting, and fit for Marines or Seamen on board of armed vessels, either in the pay of the Continent, or of this Colony, or of private adventurers, who shall fit out said vessels; also, the names of the persons as are desirous of entering the service aforesaid, and are qualified for Commanders or other officers; likewise, the Ships, Brigantines, Schooners or Sloops, in said Town, suitable for armed vessels, which are to be sold or hired out; to whom they respectively belong, what their tonnage, the depth of water they draw, their breadth, their decks, and what their age; and that said return be made agreeable to the schedule herewith sent them, and without delay lodged in the Secretary's Office.

Resolved, That the foregoing Resolve be printed, and sent to the several maritime Towns in this Colony, with a special direction to each of said Towns, by filling up the blank in the same, with the name of each Town to which it shall be sent.

Resolved, That Colonel *Thompson* be a Committee to cause the foregoing Resolves and the Schedule annexed, to be printed and sent to the Towns mentioned therein.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

Memorial of the Committees of Safety and Correspondence of the Town of *Gloucester*, "acknowledge, with gratitude, the favour of a Committee from the honourable Court, agreeable to our request; also, the receipt of two four-pound cannon from *Worcester*. We beg leave further to request, that if you think this harbour worthy of defence, you would be pleased to grant us further assistance; as we have a number of redoubts without cannon, we pray you would order us four nine-pounders and two eighteens, with their implements, and a proper number of rounds for each. We pray, also, that Captains *Bradbury*, *Saunders*, and *William Pearson*, of this town, may be *man*, we will, at all events, indemnify you. Your compliance with this request will lay us under the strongest obligations to you.

We are, with respect, your most humble servants,
Thomas Jones, Nathan Blodget,
John Stickney, Abner Greenleaf,
Joseph Marguand.

To the Honourable *Benjamin Greenleaf*, Esq.

In Council, *December* 11, 1775: Read, and *Ordered*, That the said *Offin Boardman* be commissionated for the purposes aforesaid, on his giving bond, agreeable to the act of this Colony prescribing the same
Perez Morton, *Deputy Secretary*.

commissioned to inlist a suitable number of men, as artillerymen, to manage said cannon; that . . . . . may be appointed a Field-Officer, to command the troops stationed here, and the Militia, when necessary; and, honourable sirs, we are humbly of opinion, could we have one hundred men sent, in addition to those already stationed here, exclusive of artillerymen, or have liberty to inlist them where we can find them, on the same terms of the sea-coast men, might be sufficient to make a good defence, otherwise we fear what our fate may be. But we leave the matter to the great wisdom of the honourable Court, to act as they think fit, referring for particulars and the great importance of this port to the general cause we are now engaged in, to the honourable Committee sent by the Court to view our situation, and should only add, that our necessity for some speedy relief must apologize for troubling the honourable Court so often. But last night was brought into this harbour, a brigantine, loaded with ordnance stores, from *Great Britain*, by Capt. *Manly*, of a privateer, of great value and consequence. We therefore, now, stand in need of instant assistance to defend so valuable a cargo, as the enemy will endeavour to regain it."

In the House of Representatives: Considering the importance of the Harbour of *Gloucester* to this Colony, the exposedness of the same to the enemy, it appears necessary that, in addition to the provision already made, that more men should be stationed there to complete and defend the fortifications already erected and erecting: Therefore,

Resolved, That there be two Companies immediately raised, consisting of fifty men each, including officers, upon the same establishment as the forces raised for the defence of the sea-coasts; one Company of which to be employed to manage the artillery; and that suitable officers be commissionated to raise and command the same. The above Companies to continue in said service till the first day of *April* next, unless discharged before that time by order of this Court.

And it is further Resolved, That a General Officer be appointed to take the command of the forces stationed at *Gloucester*, who shall be empowered to call in the neighbouring Militia, upon any emergency, as he shall judge necessary, and discharge them again, as soon as the service will admit of the same, and that the above officers be chosen, by joint ballot, of the honourable Board and this House.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

Adjourned to ten o'clock, to morrow morning.*

Wednesday, December 13, 1775.

Present in Council: Honourables William Sever, Benjamin Greenleaf, Walter Spooner, Caleb Cushing, Joseph Gerrish, John Whetcomb, Jedediah Foster, James Prescott, Eldad Taylor, Benjamin Lincoln, Charles Chauncy, Michael Farley, Joseph Palmer, Samuel Holten, Jabez Fisher, Moses Gill, John Taylor, Benjamin White, Esquires.

In consequence of a Resolve passed the General Court, *December* the 9th, 1775, respecting *Edward Raud*, of this town, the Committee directed that he should be put under guard, which was done immediately and his person secured; the Committee then examined his papers, opening each singly, and find none that have any reference to his political conduct, or that have the most distant relation to the charge in said Resolve. At the desire of Mr. *Raud*, he is sent to *Watertown*, and submitted to the direction of this Court. J. Lowell, *Chairman, P. T.*

In Council: Read, and *Ordered*, That *Samuel Holten*, Esq., with such as the honourable House shall join, be a Committee to examine into the character and conduct of the said *Edward Raud*, touching the charge alleged against him, and make report.

* *Tuesday Morning.*—May it please your Honours: The Secretary has just now informed me that your Honours have thought fit to appoint me Judge of a Court, to try the justice of the capture of vessels infesting the sea-coast of *America*, which shall be brought into the Counties of *Suffolk*, *Middlesex*, and *Essex*, and that my answer is requested this morning. Your Honours will please accept my thanks for the appointment, with an assurance that I have no disposition to refuse an office, however hazardous or difficult, that is judged necessary for the publick good, and which the judicious, in whose power it is to make or advise an appointment, and to whom I am personally well known, think me qualified to discharge.

I am, may it please your Honours, your Honours' most obedient servant, Timothy Pickering, Jr.

To the Honourable the Council of the Colony of *Massachusetts-Bay*.

In Council, *December* 12, 1775: Read, and ordered to be entered on the files of Council. Perez Morton, *Secretary*.

In the House of Representatives: Read, and concurred, and Mr. *Caldwell* and Mr. *Hopkins* are joined.

Mr. *Story* came up with a message from the honourable House, informing the Board that the coming to the choice of Delegates for the *American* Congress, which was assigned to this afternoon, is postponed to *Friday* next, ten o'clock, A. M.

Samuel Holten, Esq., went down with a message to the honourable House, to inform them that the Board had agreed to the foregoing proposal.

In the House of Representatives: Whereas, there are a number of persons in the several Towns in this Colony that have left Estates, both real and personal, and have left no person to occupy the same, have taken refuge in *Boston* and elsewhere, and joined themselves to our inveterate and unnatural enemies, and thereby rendered themselves justly odious to all true friends of this country; Therefore,

Resolved, That the Selectmen and Committee of Correspondence in the several towns where such Estates may be found, be, and they hereby are, empowered to take into their care all such personal estate, and suffer no waste to be made thereon, and to sell or dispose of all such stock as cannot be kept on such Estates, by reason of the scarcity of fodder; and to take care of all the produce, and dispose of the same to the best advantage, wherever it may be found, on such Farms or Estates, except such as are improved for the immediate use of this Colony or Continent, and that the said Selectmen and Committees take care of all such personal estate and produce as they shall not dispose of, and keep an account of their doings therein, until the further orders of this Court, and lay their accounts, on oath, before them, when required, that justice may hereafter be done to the publick, as, also, to those individuals, when due inquiry can be made into their conduct; and that Mr. *Watson* procure this to be printed in the several newspapers of this Colony.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

In the House of Representatives: Resolved, That Mr. *Putnam*, Captain *Parker*, and Mr. *Singletary*, be, and they hereby are, appointed a Committee to purchase so much land, and such a part of the stream of water in the Town of *Sutton*, as may be fully sufficient for the erecting a Mill in the said Town of *Sutton*, for the manufacturing Gunpowder.

And it is further Resolved, That the Committee aforesaid are hereby authorized and empowered to purchase the remains of a Gunpowder-Mill, in the Town of *Sutton*, with so much of the land and stream adjoining the same as may be sufficient to prepare said Mill for the manufacturing Gunpowder; and the said Committee are hereby empowered to employ such skilful persons as manufacturers, as may be sufficient for that purpose, and to lay the bills of the expenses thereof before this Court; and that the said Committee contract for a sum not exceeding six hundred Pounds.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

Adjourned till ten o'clock, to-morrow morning.*

* Council-Chamber, *December* 13, 1775: Sir: It appears to the Board, that in a recommendation to your Excellency, dated the 31st day of *October* last, in favour of several officers in Colonel *Doolittle's* Regiment, Mr. *Jacob Miller* was recommended to be commissionated as an Ensign, which appears to have been a clerical error, who was ordered to have been recommended as Major of said regiment. Also, in the same letter, Mr. *Nathaniel Caussers* was recommended to receive an Ensign's commission, which was also a clerical mistake, and should have been *Nathaniel Cousens*. Another person was recommended as a Captain, by the name of *Abner Capron*, which should have been *Oliver Capron*. The Council have thought fit to mention to your Excellency the above mistakes, and desire they may not operate to the disadvantage of the persons interested.

In the name and by order of the Council. W. Sever.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

Norton, *December* 4, 1775.—May it please your Honours: I gratefully acknowledge the honour you have done me, by appointing me to several offices within the County of *Bristol*, shall endeavour, by my conduct, to deserve both your and the publick approbation, and do assure you of my hearty attachment to the rights and interest of my country.

I desire your Honours would excuse me from acting as one of the Justices of the Inferior Court within the same County.

That the *God* of wisdom may direct you in the difficult day, and that your endeavours for the publick good may be crowned with success, is the sincere desire and prayer of your most obedient and humble servant, George Leonard, Jr.

To the Honourable Council.

In General Council, *December* 13, 1775: Read, and ordered to be entered on the files of Council. Perez Morton, *Dep'y Sec'y*.

Thursday, December 14, 1775.

Present in Council: Honourables William Sever, Benjamin Greenleaf, Walter Spooner, Caleb Cushing, John Winthrop, Joseph Gerrish, John Whetcomb, Jedediah Foster, James Prescott, Eldad Taylor, Benjamin Lincoln, Charles Chauncy, Michael Farley, Joseph Palmer, Samuel Holten, Jabez Fisher, Moses Gill, John Taylor, Benjamin White, Esquires.

The Committee appointed by both Houses to prepare and bring in a Bill for raising and regulating a Militia in this Colony, beg leave to suggest the following heads of said Bill, to be considered by the Court:

That there shall be, over the whole Militia of the Colony, three Major-Generals, to be chosen by ballot of both Houses, and to be commissionated by the Council, or the major part of them.

There shall be one Brigadier-General over the Militia of each County, where there are more than one regiment, in which case said regiment is to be annexed to some other regiment, chosen and commissionated as is above provided, for the choosing and commissionating the Major-Generals.

The Militia of each County shall be divided into regiments, and altered, from time to time, as may be necessary, by the Council, or the major part of them.

Two Colonels and two Majors shall be chosen and commissioned over each regiment, in manner as is provided for the General Officers.

The Field-Officers, or the major part of them, shall divide their regiment into companies, to consist, as near as conveniently can be, of sixty-eight privates. No soldier to be carried into the company of another town without his consent. When there shall be an equal division in the votes of the four Field-Officers, the First Colonel shall give the casting vote.

The Militia to be composed of males, from sixteen years old to fifty, with exceptions.

Each company to choose one Captain and two Lieutenants, by ballot, in the presence of one of the Field-Officers, who shall preside as Moderator; and the Council, or the major part of them, to commissionate those so chosen, on said Field-Officers certifying such choice to the Secretary.

The major part of the Field-Officers of each regiment to appoint an Adjutant, who shall be commissioned by the Council, or the major part of them, on his being recommended by the major part of said Field-Officers.

The major part of the Council may stay the commission of any General or Field-Officer, for the space of seven days, until they may lay any objections which may arise in their minds against making out such commission, before both Houses, for their consideration. And where there shall be a petition to the Court, signed by a number of the Militia, against any Captain or Subaltern that may be chosen, the major part of the Council may stay the commissions of such persons, until the said petition is acted upon and determined.

The non-Commissioned Officers to be chosen by their respective companies.

Each officer and private who is able, in the judgment of the Selectmen where they live, shall provide themselves with one good musket, to the satisfaction of the commissioned officers of the company, with a steel ramrod, priming-wire, and brush fitted thereto, a bayonet, cutting-sword, tomahawk, or hatchet, a cartouch-box that will contain twenty-three rounds of cartridges, six flints, with powder sufficient for sixty rounds of cartridges, thirty of which to be made up, and sixty balls, and one knapsack and blanket.

The Selectmen of each town shall provide, at their town's expense, one sixteenth part so many narrow axes, one-eighth part so many iron spades or shovels, and one sixteenth part so many pickaxes, as there are rateable polls in their town, and deposite the same with the commanding officers of their respective towns.

The Clerk of each company shall, twice every year, take an exact list thereof, and present the same to his Captain, a copy whereof the Captain shall present to his Colonel, and the Colonel shall deliver a return of the numbers therein contained twice a year to the Brigadier-General, and the Brigadier-General shall return the same once a year to the Major-General, and the Major-General to the Council. Each regiment shall be reviewed twice a year by their Brigadier-General, and each company shall be mustered eight times a year, including regimental musters.

The Militia, when drawn out to encampment or battle, to be under the same laws and regulations as are provided by the Continental Congress for the Army, except in capital cases.

When the Militia of any town, or any part of them, are drawn out to encampment or battle, the Selectmen of their town shall cause carts to follow them with one month's provisions; and if a camp shall be formed and a Commissary appointed, the remainder of said provisions shall be delivered to such Commissary on the account of the Colony.

The Colonel of each regiment shall give his Captains, under his hand, in writing, the limits of their respective companies, the method of mustering, on all occasions, and their alarm posts.

All fines arising by breach of duty, in not providing arms, &c., or disobedience on training days, to be recovered by common law.

All fines, forfeitures, and punishments, for breach of duty in an alarm, to be settled by Court-Martial.

Officers to be obliged to learn the exercise recommended in 'Sixty-four, by the first day of *March* next, and to instruct their men therein on muster days.

No officer shall treat any of his men on muster-days, nor on the day of choosing officers.

The Selectmen of each town to furnish those persons who are unable to furnish themselves therewith, with such arms and accoutrements as is directed by this act.

In Council: Read, and sent down.

In the House of Representatives: Read, and concurred.

In Council: Ordered, That the Secretary be directed to take copies of all such Papers as were to be transmitted to Continental Congress.

Sent down for concurrence. Came up concurred.

Petition of a number of the Inhabitants of the westwardly part of the Town of *Newton*, setting forth:

"That your petitioners, and many others in said westwardly part, live at a great distance from the Old Meeting-House, (so called,) in said town, who, with their predecessors, had for many years past been put to extraordinary difficulty in attending the publick worship of *God* in said house, especially in winter season, and they, with their families, often detained therefrom by storms and bad travelling; and in order that they might oftener, and with more convenience, attend publick worship, they built a Meeting-House, at their own cost, more than eleven years ago, and supported preaching there in every winter since, and in private houses many of the winters, for about thirty years before, which has been very burdensome; and what has added to their burden is, their being obliged to pay their proportionable part of the Ministerial taxes, which a number of families at the southerly part of the town have been exempted from more than forty years past, who did not live so remote from said Old Meeting-House as a great number of your petitioners, which is conceived to be a cruel hardship and deprivation of a privilege which they have been compelled to allow to others.

"Your petitioners, desirous that peace and unanimity might continue in the town, have repeatedly applied to the other inhabitants for relief, humbly requesting that they would bear a part of said burden; but the majority of them being so attached to their own interest, and regardless of the interest and welfare of your petitioners, that no help can be obtained, notwithstanding their enjoyment of greater privileges to enable them, and their superior abilities, in general, to bear publick charges.

"As there now remains no other means to obtain justice, but by applying to this honourable Court, your petitioners, therefore, most humbly pray, that your Honours would be pleased to encourage their enjoying that invaluable privilege of having the Gospel dispensed to them at all seasons of the year, for the future, by ordering the said town of *Newton* to grant a tax, yearly, for defraying the charges of preaching in the Meeting-House built by your petitioners, as aforesaid, in the months of *December*, *January*, *February*, and *March*, annually, or otherwise, as in your wisdom shall be thought most expedient."

In Council: Read, and *Ordered*, That the Petitioners, as soon as may be, serve the Inhabitants of the Town of *Newton* with an attested copy of this Petition and Order, by leaving it with the Town-Clerk of the said town, that they may show cause, if any they have, on *Tuesday*, the 26th current, why the prayer of said Petition should not be granted.

In the House of Representatives: Read, and non-concurred and the consideration thereof referred to the next *May* session.

In Council: Read, and concurred, and ordered to be referred accordingly.

The Committee of both Houses, appointed to examine into the character and conduct of *Edward Raud*, touching the charge alleged against him, have attended that service, and fully heard and examined Mr. *Raud* touching the same; and have, also, heard Captain *Epes*, who was appointed by the Court to make inquiry into the affair; and, also, one of the Committee of *Newburyport*, who has given us an account of Mr. *Raud's* character, in general.

Therefore, your Committee beg leave to report, as their opinion, that there is no evidence sufficient to support the charge alleged against said *Raud*, and that, in general, his character stands fair, and that he be discharged without further inquiry.

In Council: Read, and accepted; and *Ordered*, That the said *Raud* be discharged without further inquiry.

In the House of Representatives: Read, and concurred.

Petition of *Ebenezer Beal*, setting forth: "that he being on board of a vessel fitted out at *Machias*, for the purpose of taking one of His Majesty's armed Cutters, which they engaged and took on the 12th day of *June* last, in *Machias-River*, in which engagement your petitioner was wounded by a ball entering his hip, where it is now lodged, and renders your petitioner incapable of getting a livelihood. He, therefore, prays your Honours to take his case into your consideration, and grant him such relief as your Honours may think proper."

In the House of Representatives: Resolved, That there be paid, out of the Colony Treasury, to *Ebenezer Beal*, of *Machias*, the sum of sixteen Pounds, in full, for his loss of time (six months) and his boarding.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

Petition of *Ebenezer Munroe*, setting forth: "that he belonged to Captain *John Parker's* Company, of *Lexington*; was, on the 19th day of *April* last, wounded by the King's troops through the right arm, which rendered him unable to labour for more than six weeks, besides being at the charge of board and of the Surgeon. Therefore, prays your Honours would take his case into your consideration, and afford him such relief as your Honours may think proper."

In the House of Representatives: Resolved, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to *Ebenezer Munroe*, the sum of four Pounds, in full, for boarding, nursing, and doctoring.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

Adjourned till ten o'clock, to-morrow morning.

—

Friday, December 15, 1775.

Present in Council: Honourables William Sever, Benjamin Greenleaf, Walter Spooner, Caleb Cushing, John Winthrop, Jedediah Foster, James Prescott, Eldad Taylor, John Whetcomb, Benjamin Lincoln, Charles Chauncy, Michael Farley, Joseph Palmer, Samuel Holten, Jabez Fisher, Moses Gill, John Taylor, Benjamin White, Esquires.

Mr. *Hopkins* came up with a message from the House, to inform the Board that the House were ready to come to the choice of five Delegates, by joint ballot, to represent this Colony in *American* Congress.

Agreeable to assignment, Mr. *Palmer* went down with a message to the House, to inform them that the Board are now ready to proceed to the choice of five Delegates, by joint ballot, agreeable to the proposal of the honourable House.

The Committee of both Houses, appointed to sort the votes for five Delegates, to represent this Colony in *American* Congress, reported that the number of votes were:

On the part of the Board, - - - - -	17
On the part of the House, - - - - -	112
Total, - - - - - - - -	129

Sixty-five makes a vote.

The Hon. *John Hancock*, Esq., had - -	129
" Hon. *Samuel Adams*, Esq., - - -	124
" Hon. *John Adams*, Esq., - - -	126
" Hon. *Robert Treat Paine*, Esq., -	65

And were accordingly chosen.

Mr. *Story* came up with a message from the House, to inform the Board that the Delegates now chosen were to remain in that office till *December* next, if agreeable to the Board.

Mr. *Spooner* went down with a message to the House, to inform them that the Board agreed to the time limited by the House for commission of the Delegates in *American* Congress.

Mr. *Story* came up with a message from the House, to inform the Board that the House proposed to come to the choice of Officers to command at *Gloucester*, by joint ballot, at ten o'clock, to-morrow, if agreeable to the honourable Board.

Jedediah Foster, Esq., went down with a message to the House, to inform them that the Board had agreed to the foregoing proposal of the honourable House.

Adjourned till ten o'clock, to-morrow morning.*

—

Saturday, December 16, 1775.

Present in Council: Honourables William Sever, Benjamin Greenleaf, Walter Spooner, Caleb Cushing, John Winthrop, John Whetcomb, Jedediah Foster, Eldad Taylor, Benjamin Lincoln, Michael Farley, Charles Chauncy, Joseph Palmer, Samuel Holten, Jabez Fisher, Moses Gill, John Taylor, Benjamin White, Esquires.

The Committee of both Houses appointed to take into consideration sundry Resolves of the Continental Congress, and report, have attended that service; and report on the Resolve of said Congress, dated *October* the 26th, 1775, as their opinion, that a Committee of both Houses be appointed to engage and fix out, with all possible despatch, on the account and risk of this Colony, ten vessels, to be laden with as much provision, horses, or any other produce of this Colony, except horned cattle, sheep, hogs, and poultry, as they may deem necessary; for the importation of ammunition, sulphur, and saltpetre, arms, and *German* steel, for manufacturing gun-locks, &c.; and that the said Committee be empowered to give orders to the commander of such vessel, to export the said cargo to the foreign *West-Indies*, for the purposes aforesaid. All which is humbly submitted.

In Council: Read, and sent down.

In the House of Representatives: Read, and accepted.

In Council: Read, and concurred; and, thereupon

Resolved, That *William Sever*, *Benjamin Greenleaf*, and *Moses Gill*, Esquires, with such as the honourable House shall join, be a Committee for the purposes mentioned in the above Report.

In the House of Representatives: Read, and concurred; and the Speaker, Colonel *Orne*, Captain *Foster*, and Major *Cross*, are joined to the Committee of the honourable Board.

Mr. *Batchelder* came up with a message from the House,

* Haverhill, *December* 7, 1775.—Sir: I am informed by the Deputy Secretary's letter, that I have lately been appointed by the honourable Council for this Colony a Justice of the Superior Court.

I think I am truly sensible of the great and unexpected honour conferred on, and the great trust reposed in me by that appointment. To continue in a private station would be much more agreeable to my natural bashfulness, yet, when my country calls, it is my duty, and I think I am heartily willing to exert myself for its service. But considering the abilities requisite for, and the duties incumbent on one who sustains that office, and the difficulties attending a due discharge of those duties at all times, and more especially at this season, when the people have for a long time been, in a great measure, loose from Government, I confess I feel such a diffidence that I do not know whether I could support myself under such a burden. Did my capacity set me foremost in the list of my countrymen, for the discharge of that necessary and important office, I ought not to hesitate about undertaking it. But, while I am certain there are many whose abilities are so much superior, I should, at such a juncture as this, rather be an enemy to my country than a friend, if I accepted it.

I have great reason to respect the honourable Council, who have thought me in any measure qualified for that station; and, was I capable of filling it with that dignity at this time requisite, I should not, as I now do, decline it. Would pray you, sir, to communicate this in such way and manner as you think would be most agreeable.

Remain, sir, your very respectful, humble servant,

Nathaniel Peaslee, *Sergeant.*

To the Honourable President of the Council.

In Council, *December* 15, 1775: Read, and ordered to be entered on the files of Council. Perez Morton, *Deputy Secretary.*

to inform the Board, that the House proposed to postpone the choice of a General Officer, for the Town of *Gloucester*, till *Tuesday*, ten o'clock.

A Letter from the Honourable *James Otis*, Esq., with papers accompanying it.

In Council: Read, and *Ordered*, That *Walter Spooner* and *Moses Gill*, Esquires, with such as the honourable House shall join, be a Committee to take the same into consideration, and report.

In the House of Representatives: Read, and concurred, and Mr. *Pitts*, Mr. *Story*, and Colonel *Freeman*, are joined.

A Letter from his Excellency General *Washington*, inclosing four resolves of Congress.

In Council: Read, and committed to the Committee already appointed, to take the former part of said resolves of Congress under consideration.

A Letter from the Committee of Inspection of the Town of *Dartmouth*, representing a clandestine conduct of Doctor *Gelston*, &c., supplying the enemy with Provisions from *Nantucket*.

In Council: Read, and *Ordered*, That *Walter Spooner* and *Moses Gill*, Esqs., with such as the honourable House shall join, be a Committee to consider the same, and report.

Adjourned to ten o'clock, *Monday* morning.

—

Monday, December 18, 1775.

Present in Council: Honourables William Sever, Benjamin Greenleaf, Walter Spooner, Caleb Cushing, Jedediah Foster, Joseph Gerrish, John Whetcomb, James Prescott, Eldad Taylor, Benjamin Lincoln, Charles Chauncy, Michael Farley, Samuel Holten, Joseph Palmer, Jabez Fisher, Moses Gill, John Taylor, Benjamin White, Esquires.

The Committee appointed by both Houses, to consider of sundry Depositions relative to the conduct of some of the inhabitants of the Island of *Nantucket*, and make report thereon, have attended that business, and find there is great reason to suspect that some of said inhabitants have had undue connection with some of the officers and sailors belonging to our enemy's fleet; and, it having been made to appear to this Committee, by the depositions aforesaid, that a certain Doctor *Samuel Gelston*, of said Island, has been guilty of many infamous practices, in supplying our said enemies with provision, &c., contrary to the resolution of the Continental Congress, the authority of this Court, and the known sense of the whole Continent; therefore, beg leave to report by way of Resolve:

Resolved, That Major *Joseph Dimock*, of *Falmouth*, in the County of *Barnstable*, be, and he is hereby empowered and directed to repair to said Island of *Nantucket*, with such assistance as he shall think sufficient, and apprehend said *Samuel Gelston*, and bring him before this Court, as soon as may be, that he be dealt with according to the nature of his high-handed offence; and that he be, and is hereby empowered and directed to command such aid and assistance as he may need, in order to apprehend said *Gelston;* and the Committee ask leave to sit again.

In Council: Read, and accepted; and the Committee are ordered to sit again.

In the House of Representatives: Read, and concurred. Consented to by fifteen of the Council.

Mr. *Story* came up with a message from the House, to propose to the Board, that as the House have some matters of great importance coming before them to-morrow morning, the choice of Officers, to command at *Gloucester*, be further postponed till *Wednesday*, ten o'clock.

Joseph Palmer, Esq., went down to the House, to inform them, that the Board had agreed to the foregoing proposal of the House.

Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow morning.

—

Tuesday, December 19, 1775.

Present in Council: Honourables William Sever, Benjamin Greenleaf, Caleb Cushing, John Winthrop, Joseph Gerrish, John Whetcomb, Jedediah Foster, James Prescott, Eldad Taylor, Benjamin Lincoln, Charles Chauncy, Michael Farley, Joseph Palmer, Samuel Holten, Jabez Fisher, Moses Gill, John Taylor, Benjamin White, Esquires.

In the House of Representatives: Ordered, That there be a Committee of both Houses appointed to draft a Proclamation, to be read at the opening of the Court of Sessions, to inculcate obedience to the commands of the civil magistrate.

In Council: Read, and concurred, and *William Sever* and *John Winthrop*, Esquires, are joined.

Whereas, the business assigned the Committee of both Houses, appointed to examine all the Muster-Rolls that shall be returned into the Secretary's Office is found to be inconvenient and too extensive for the attention of one Committee; therefore,

Resolved, That the commission of the said Committee be confined to the Muster-Rolls of the Army; and that *Michael Farley*, Esq., with such as the honourable House shall join, be a Committee to examine the several Muster-Rolls of the Sea-Coast Forces and Militia; and as they shall pass them, to exhibit the same to the honourable Board in order for payment.

Sent down for concurrence. Came up concurred by the honourable House with a Committee of three, joined on the part of the House.

In Council: Read, and concurred, and *Samuel Holten*, Esq., is added to the above Committee.

Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow morning.

—

Wednesday, December 20, 1775.

Present in Council: Honourables William Sever, Benjamin Greenleaf, Caleb Cushing, Joseph Gerrish, John Whetcomb, Jedediah Foster, James Prescott, Eldad Taylor, Benjamin Lincoln, Charles Chauncy, Michael Farley, Joseph Palmer, Samuel Holten, Jabez Fisher, Moses Gill, John Taylor, Benjamin White, Esquires.

Order of the House, discharging the Committee appointed to consider what part of the Sea-Coast ought to be garrisoned from that part of their duty, which directs them to confer with his Excellency General *Washington* thereon.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

Petition of *Charles Chauncy*, in behalf of *Neal McIntyer*, of *Portsmouth*, setting forth "that the said *Neal McIntyer's* father, of *Boston*, put on board the Sloop *Advance*, one *Nehemiah Eastman*, of *George's*, master, (and there bound when in *Boston* about two months' since,) certain valuable articles of house furniture, and some other necessaries, as per schedule may appear. His said father intended to come out of *Boston*, as soon as he might obtain a permit for that purpose, having applied for leave a number of times without success. Now, may it please your Honours, the said *Eastman* being suspected of supplying our enemies at *Boston*, with wood, was stopped at *George's* by the Committee there; but, before they could come to any determination in regard to what was best to be done, a number of persons, who, it is said, are of the Committee of *Frenchman's Bay*, came and carried her down there, by means of which, my two sisters, who also came out of *Boston*, in said sloop, are deprived of every necessary, so that they are not able so much as to shift their linen; am apprehensive they will not deliver them without orders from authority. Pray your Honours to grant such orders as may be necessary for the recovery of our goods.

In Council: Read, and *Ordered*, That *Jabez Fisher*, Esq., with such as the honourable House shall join, be a Committee to consider the foregoing Petition, and report.

In the House of Representatives: Read, and concurred, and Colonel *Thompson* and Mr. *Hopkins* are joined.

In the House of Representatives: Resolved, That Captain *William Johnson*, of the Schooner *Brittania*, be and he hereby is directed, forthwith to deliver *Richard Devans*, Esq., Commissary of the Colony, the nett proceeds of a cargo consigned him by order of the late Committee of Supplies, being, per his account, three hundred and sixty-four fire-arms, five hundred and twenty-nine and-a-half pounds of powder, (Leward weight), two thousand flints, seventy-five pounds of ball, and twelve cutlasses, excepting so many of said articles, as per receipts, shall appear to have been delivered agreeable to the order of this Court. And he is further directed to adjust his accounts as soon as may be, with Colonel *Orne* and Mr. *Gerry*, a Committee appointed for that purpose. Also, that he deliver twelve swivel-guns to the Committee of Safety of *Newburyport*, to be improved by them in the defence of said town, until the further order of this Court.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

A Petition of *Abiel Wood*, of *Pownalborough*, humbly showeth, "that your petitioner is accused of many things as inimical to his country, and the cause of liberty, by the Committee of *Pownalborough;* and, the honourable

*

Court's Committee have ordered that depositions respecting the matter may be taken, and a Committee appointed to hear your petitioner's defence, to which report the honourable House have non-concurred; and prayed that your petitioner may be secured for further trial. Your petitioner prays, that the honourable Court would appoint a Committee to hear your petitioner's defence, to do with him as in their great wisdom may see fit, on whose clemency and mercy he desires wholly to rely, and make all the satisfaction in his power, they shall require for every offence he may be guilty of. And as your petitioner is sensible, notwithstanding any imprudences he hath been guilty of, through inadvertency or peculiar circumstances, yet, your petitioner hath the good and interest of his country, and the cause of liberty, truly at heart, and wishes he may make it manifest to his country, by his future conduct. Your petitioner further declares, he will not leave or depart the place without orders from the honourable Court, and prays no further orders may issue until he hath an opportunity to make his defence.

In Council: Read, and ordered to be committed to the Committee of both Houses, appointed to consider anew the Petition of the Committee of Inspection for the East part of the Town of *Pownalborough*.

In the House of Representatives: Read, and concurred.

In the House of Representatives: Resolved, That that part of the Resolution of this Court of the 2d *December*, instant, providing that a General Officer be appointed to take the command of the Forces stationed at *Gloucester*, who shall be empowered to call in the neighbouring Militia upon any emergency, as he shall judge necessary, and discharge them again as soon as the service will admit of the same, be and it hereby is rendered null and void.

Resolved, That a Field-Officer, of the rank of Colonel, be appointed to take the command of the Forces stationed at *Gloucester*, and of the Militia that shall at any time be raised for defence of the same, unless some General Officer of this Colony shall be present; and he is hereby empowered to order the commanding officer of the neighbouring Regiment of Militia, upon any emergency, to repair with his regiment to the Town of *Gloucester* aforesaid, and cooperate with him in defending the same, so long as he, the said commanding officer of the Sea-Coast Forces, shall judge it necessary; and, the Militia officers and soldiers, who shall be raised as aforesaid, are hereby directed to obey the said commanding officer of the Sea-Coast Forces, accordingly.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

The Committee appointed to take into consideration the expediency of making compensation to the several Officers and Soldiers who were sufferers by loss of arms, accoutrements, or clothing, in the engagements on the 19th of *April* and 17th of *June* last, and what shall be sufficient evidence to certify the same.

In the House of Representatives: Resolved, That full compensation be made to such Captains, Subalterns, non-Commissioned Officers, and Privates, who sustained loss of Arms, Accoutrements, or Clothing, on the 19th of *April* and 17th *June* last, and that each Captain and Subaltern produce a certificate from the Colonel, or commanding officer of such Regiment, and that each non-commissioned officer and private produce a certificate from the Captain, or commanding officer of the company to which such commissioned officer, or private, did, or doth respectively belong; and that such certificate, with other circumstances concurring therewith, shall be admitted as plenary evidence; and, it is further provided, that any other legal, or satisfactory evidence may be admitted, as time, place, or circumstances may require, to the satisfaction of the Committee appointed by this Court, to consider such losses, and compensation shall be made accordingly. This Resolve to be printed in the *Watertown* Newspaper.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow morning.

—

Thursday, December 21, 1775.

Present in Council: Honourables William Sever, Benjamin Greenleaf, Caleb Cushing, John Winthrop, Joseph Gerrish, John Whetcomb, Jedediah Foster, James Prescott, Eldad Taylor, Benjamin Lincoln, Charles Chauncy, Michael Farley, Joseph Palmer, Samuel Holten, Jabez Fisher, Moses Gill, John Taylor, Benjamin White, Esquires.

Memorial of *Jacob Boardman*, of *Newburyport*, setting forth, that he, with several others, are fitting out a vessel to some part of *Europe*, for the purpose of procuring gunpowder, and other military stores; and they have so far prepared for a voyage of this sort, as to have raised upwards of two thousand pounds, lawful money, to be laid out for articles of that sort, besides a sum sufficient to purchase a vessel to bring it in. If your Honours think fit to give them suitable encouragement, they will proceed with alacrity to accomplish their proposed plan.

In the House of Representatives: Resolved, That the Vessel mentioned in the Memorial of *Jacob Boardman*, belonging to *Newburyport*, be permitted to proceed on a voyage to any part of *Europe*, the Dominions of *Great Britain* excepted, for the purpose of procuring Gunpowder, and other Military Stores, for the service of this Colony, provided the owners of the Vessel enter into bonds, with sufficient sureties, in the sum of two thousand pounds, to be taken by the Committee of Safety of *Newburyport*, in the name of the Treasury of this Colony, that the said Vessel shall proceed upon said voyage, with all possible despatch, and bring nothing back, except Gunpowder and other Military Stores, and to land the same in some port of this Colony, *Boston* and *Nantucket* excepted; and that the said Vessel shall proceed in ballast, without any other loading; and this Colony engages to take all the Powder brought in said Vessel, giving for the same at the rate of five shillings per pound, the same being delivered to the Commissary of this Colony.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

In Council: Whereas, it hath been represented to this Court, that his Excellency General *Washington* does not consider himself at liberty to furnish Guards for any of the sea-coasts in this Colony, saving what relates to the general defence; and it appearing to this Court necessary, that certain posts should be guarded, for the security of the inhabitants,

Therefore, *Resolved*, That *Benjamin Lincoln*, Esquire, with such as the honourable House shall join, be a Committee to wait on his Excellency, and desire him that he would inform this Court to what limits he will extend his Guards.

In the House of Representatives: Read, and concurred, and Mr. *Cushing* and Mr. Speaker are joined to the Committee of the honourable Board.

Petition of *Samuel Brewer*, setting forth, "that on the 5th day of *May* last, he was appointed by the Honourable *John Thomas*, Esquire, Commander-in-chief, then at *Roxbury*, the Adjutant-General of the Army, under his command, and afterwards commissioned by the honourable Assembly of Congress as an Adjutant-General of said Army, and did continue to do duty till the 1st of *August* last; your memorialist, therefore, prays this honourable Court, to take his case into consideration, and make an establishment for him."

In the House of Representatives: Resolved, That the Treasurer of this Colony pay to *Samuel Brewer*, the sum of twenty-four Pounds seventeen Shillings one-and-a-half Pence, in full, for his services mentioned in his Petition.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

In the House of Representatives: Ordered, That the Petition of the Delegates of the County of *Cumberland*, be committed to the Committee appointed to consider a Letter from General *Frye* on the same subject.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

—

Friday, December 22, 1775.

Present in Council: Honourables William Sever, Benjamin Greenleaf, Caleb Cushing, John Winthrop, Joseph Gerrish, John Whetcomb, Jedediah Foster, James Prescott, Eldad Taylor, Benjamin Lincoln, Michael Farley, Joseph Palmer, Samuel Holten, Jabez Fisher, Moses Gill, John Taylor, Benjamin White, Esquires.

Memorial of *Hannah Sewall*, of *Brookline*, setting forth, "that a very considerable landed estate hath accrued to her, and her brother *Samuel Sewall*, heirs-at-law to their late brother *Henry Sewall*, deceased, intestate, which estate remains wholly unsettled and undivided; and whereas, by virtue of a vote of this honourable Court, liberty hath been granted to cut wood from off the estates of such persons as have fled into *Boston* for refuge, and thereby rendered themselves obnoxious to their country, and a Committee

appointed for the purpose of supplying the Army with wood; and whereas, in consequence of said vote, a number of persons have entered the wood lots of your memorialist, owned as aforesaid, and situated in *Newton*, in the County of *Middlesex*, and cut from thence very considerable quantities of wood, to the great detriment of said wood lot; and, whereas, your memorialist hath already freely supplied the Army with a great quantity of wood, and is, and has been always ready to supply her full proportion of wood for the supporting said Army; your memorialist, therefore, prays a Committee from both Houses may be appointed to make full inquiry into the truth of this memorial, and afford your memorialist relief adequate to her peculiar situation, and further prays, that orders be immediately given to the said Court's Committee, to desist from cutting any more wood from said lots until the honourable Committee, that may be appointed for said inquiry, shall make report to this honourable Court.

In the House of Representatives: Resolved, That the Committee appointed by this Court to provide Wood for the Continental Army, in this Colony, be immediately ordered to desist from cutting any more Wood on the land of the memorialist, till the further order of this Court.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

An engrossed Bill, entitled, "An Act for assessing a Tax of seventy-five thousand Pounds, to defray the charges of this Colony," having passed the House of Representatives, to be enacted.

In Council: Read a second time, and passed a concurrence, to be enacted.

Mr. *Story* came up with a message from the House, to inform the Board that the House proposed to postpone the choice of Military Officers, till to-morrow, ten o'clock, if agreeable to the honourable Board.

Mr. *Fisher* went down with a message to the House, to inform them that the Board had agreed to the foregoing proposal of the House.

In the House of Representatives: Ordered, That the Committee appointed to procure Hay for the Army, be directed to proceed immediately to execute their commission, and procure as much Hay as they can, (over and above what is specified in the resolve of this Court,) agreeable to said resolve.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow morning.

—

Saturday, December 23, 1775.

Present in Council: Honourables William Sever, Benjamin Greenleaf, Caleb Cushing, John Winthrop, Benjamin Chadbourn, Joseph Gerrish, Jedediah Foster, James Prescott, Eldad Taylor, Benjamin Lincoln, John Whetcomb, Michael Farley, Joseph Palmer, Samuel Holten, Jabez Fisher, Moses Gill, John Taylor, Benjamin White, Esquires.

In the House of Representatives: Resolved, That a Resolution of this Court, that passed the House on the 12th instant, directing Mr. *Putnam* and others to erect a Powder-Mill at *Sutton*, and repair another at *Stoughton*, be reconsidered, and that Captain *Goodman* attend Mr. *Thomas Harling* to *Andover* and *Stoughton*, to take a view of a place in each of those towns, proposed for erecting a Powder-Mill, and report to this Court at which place said Mill may be erected with the greatest convenience and despatch.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

Memorial of *William Hunt*, (Blank.)

In Council: Resolved, That the former Committee of Inspection on the East part of the Town of *Pownalborough*, had sufficient evidence to justify them for publishing *Abiel Wood* as a violator of the Continental Association, and that in many other instances he (the said *Wood*) appeared by his conduct to be an enemy to the liberties of this country, and the said Committee deserve to be highly commended for so doing; and the Committee of Correspondence of said town, who counteracted the doings of said Committee of Inspection, is very unjustifiable, as it encouraged the said *Abiel Wood* in his principles and practices, so inimical to the rights and liberties of *America*.

Further Resolved, That *Abiel Wood* shall be confined until he shall give bonds, with two good and sufficient sureties, to the Treasurer of this Colony, in the sum of one thousand Pounds, the condition whereof shall be, that he, the said *Abiel*, will not, in any way, assist or correspond with any of the enemies of this country, and that he will be of good behaviour, and peaceable towards all, and more especially towards the persons of the former Committee of Inspection for the east part of the Town of *Pownalborough*; and that he will at any time appear, and answer to any complaint which may hereafter be made against him, when he shall be thereunto required by order of this Court, and that he will abide their order thereon.

In the House of Representatives: Read, and concurred.

Adjourned till ten o'clock, *Monday* morning.

—

Monday, December 25, 1775.

Present in Council: Honourables William Sever, Benjamin Greenleaf, Caleb Cushing, Benjamin Chadbourn, Joseph Gerrish, Jedediah Foster, James Prescott, Eldad Taylor, Joseph Palmer, Samuel Holten, Moses Gill, John Taylor, Benjamin White, Esquires.

In the House of Representatives: Whereas, by a Resolve passed in the House of Representatives on the 3d day of *November* last, and concurred by the Board on the 4th day of the said month, it is ordered that Mr. *Devans*, Captain *Thatcher*, Mr. *Cheever*, Colonel *Thayer*, Mr. *Walker*, Mr. *Dicks*, and Mr. *Ellis*, should be a Committee, who were directed to afford their utmost assistance and aid to the Quartermaster-General, that the Continental Army might be provided with a full supply of wood, until the further order of the Court; and, for the purpose of more effectually procuring the same, they were empowered to enter the wood lots of such of our enemies as had fled into *Boston*, and, after having the wood thereon growing appraised, to cause the same to be cut down and drawn to the camp; which Resolve, with one since passed for the same purpose, has proved ineffectual, and it being of absolute necessity for the preservation of the lives and property of the people of all *America*, that the said Army be supplied with necessary wood, it is, therefore,

Resolved, That Captain *Vose*, Mr. *Guild*, Mr. *Stone*, of *Lexington*, and Mr. *Withington*, be added to the said Committee, and that either three, or more, of said Committee be, and they hereby are empowered, if Wood sufficient for said Army cannot be procured at a reasonable price without it, to enter the woodlands of any person, or persons, within this Colony, and, after appraising the Wood thereon standing and growing, to cause the same to be cut down and carried to the camp, to supply said Army. And if any person, owner, or proprietor, of such woodland, shall molest or hinder the said Committee, or any three of them, from acting in pursuance to this Resolve, the said Committee, or the major part present, being not less than three, are hereby empowered to cause such person to be arrested and sent to this Court, to be dealt with according to the demerits of his contempt. And the said Committee is hereby directed to pay each person, whose Wood they shall cause to be cut down and carried away, the price the same shall be by them appraised at, and, also, to pay all axemen which they shall employ reasonable wages, and the owner of any team that they may employ reasonable wages for his team.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

The Secretary, by order of the House, laid on the Speaker's table the Resolve to raise two Companies for the defence of *Gloucester*.

Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow morning.

—

Tuesday, December 26, 1775.

Present in Council: Honourables William Sever, Benjamin Chadbourn, Joseph Gerrish, James Prescott, Jedediah Foster, Eldad Taylor, Benjamin Lincoln, Joseph Palmer, Moses Gill, John Taylor, Esquires.

In the House of Representatives: Resolved, That the several Post-Riders (excepting *Peter Mumford*, already agreed with, at ten Pounds per quarter,) be paid for their service at the rate of twenty Shillings per annum, on every mile of their route, for those taken into the Continental service, beginning the first of *June*, and ending the 5th of *October* last. The four that are dismissed from the service, excepting *Isaac Colton*, at the rate of twenty-five Shillings per annum, for every mile of their route, beginning the first of *June*, and ending the 5th instant. And that *Joseph Greenleaf*, Esq., be, and he hereby is, directed

to pay to the Treasurer of this Colony all the moneys he has received, or may receive, from the several Post-Offices in this Colony.

And, as it appears that the incomes of the several Offices are inadequate to the expense incurred by riding, therefore, further

Resolved, That the Receiver-General be, and hereby is, directed to pay the several Post-Riders as followeth, in full, for services, viz:

John Noble, from *Cambridge* to *Portsmouth*, sixty-five miles, twenty-one Pounds thirteen Shillings and four Pence.

Josiah Barnard, from *Portsmouth* to *Falmouth*, fifty-three miles, seventeen Pounds thirteen Shillings and four Pence.

Adams & Hide, from *Cambridge* to *Springfield*, eighty-seven miles, twenty-nine Pounds.

Peter Mumford, from *Cambridge* to *Providence*, forty-six miles, thirteen Pounds six Shillings and eight Pence.

The above persons began to ride the first of *June*, and ended the 5th of *October* last, when they entered the Continental service.

Benjamin Epes, from *Falmouth* to *Georgetown*, forty-six miles, twenty-eight Pounds fifteen Shillings.

Cadwalader Ford, Jun., from *Cambridge* to *Exeter*, forty-eight miles, thirty Pounds.

Isaac Colton, from *Springfield* to *Great-Barrington*, forty-three miles, twenty-one Pounds ten Shillings.

Howland & Goodwin, from *Cambridge* to *Falmouth*, eighty-one miles, fifty Pounds twelve Shillings and six Pence.

And these four last are dismissed from the service.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

Petition of the Selectmen of *Rowley*, (Blank.)

In Council: Ordered, That there be a Committee of both Houses appointed, to consider and bring in a Resolve, directing how the present emission of Bills of Credit shall be signed and numbered, and what allowance the signers and numberers shall have for their services.

Sent down for concurrence.

In the House of Representatives: Read, and non-concurred.

The Committee of both Houses, appointed to wait on and represent to his Excellency General *Washington* the circumstances of four Companies now doing duty in the towns of *Braintree*, *Weymouth*, and *Hingham*, setting forth by whose order they were raised, that they were then considered as part of the thirteen thousand six hundred men agreed to be inlisted by this Colony, where they have done duty, &c., and to request that his Excellency would order them to be paid by the *United Colonies*, beg leave to represent, that, as the propriety of such an order depends upon various circumstances, and as many important matters are constantly soliciting his Excellency's attention, the Committee report the following state of facts, to be laid before him, so that he may be better enabled to answer the request of this Court.

Upon application from the towns aforesaid, as, also, from those of *Chelsea* and *Malden*, on or about the 1st of *May* last, to the Committee of Safety of this Colony, who then had the direction of raising and stationing the forces within the same, praying that they would (from a consideration of the situation of said towns, and that the enemy could land in any of them from *Boston* harbour within an hour after they enter their boats, and in some parts in less than half an hour, and, also, that they could from thence easily penetrate into the country,) order a detachment from the camp as a guard, to be stationed in those towns.

The said Committee of Safety, with the Council of War, after full inquiry and deliberation, determined that it was necessary that a party should be constantly stationed on the sea-coasts of these towns, to watch the motions of the enemy and prevent their landing. But, as no troops could well be spared at that time, from either of the camps of *Cambridge* or *Roxbury*, they directed that there should immediately be raised one company in *Hingham*, one in *Weymouth*, and two in *Braintree*, (also, two in *Chelsea* and *Malden*,) and that these companies should be joined to such regiments, in future, as should be directed.

The men were raised as ordered, and were then, and ever have been, considered as part of the thirteen thousand six hundred men to be raised by this Colony. They were so considered by the General Officers, and have been employed in such services, place, and places, as the commanding officer at *Roxbury* hath, from time to time, directed, as will appear by his orders to the several Captains of said companies, some copies of which accompany this representation.

A company from *Roxbury* was, as soon as the state of that camp would admit of it, detached to the assistance of these four companies, and upon their being ordered back, in *August* last, two other companies also, part of the Continental Army, were sent to supply their place, and the place of a company drawn from *Cohasset*, a town adjoining to *Hingham*.

When these four companies were raised, the Colony had it not in contemplation to raise men for the general defence of the sea-coasts, and they have never been considered by us in any other point of view, than as part of our quota for the common defence; and being stationed far within the narrow limits of the harbour of *Boston*, his Excellency will, undoubtedly, from all these considerations, grant the reasonable request of this Court, and order these forces to be paid by the *United Colonies*.

In Council: Read, and accepted, and, thereupon,

Resolved, That the Committee who were appointed to wait on his Excellency General *Washington*, with a representation of the state of the said Companies, be excused that part of their service, and that the Committee appointed to wait on his Excellency, to request his informing this Court how far he will extend his Guards, and present him with the foregoing Report and Representation, with the papers accompanying the same, and request his ordering payment to said Companies.

In the House of Representatives: Read, and concurred.

Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow morning.

Wednesday, December 27, 1775.

Present in Council: Honourables William Sever, Walter Spooner, John Winthrop, Benjamin Chadbourn, Joseph Gerrish, Jedediah Foster, James Prescott, Eldad Taylor, Benjamin Lincoln, Joseph Palmer, Jabez Fisher, Moses Gill, John Taylor, Benjamin White, Esquires.

Petition of *Deborah Cushing*, wife of *Thomas Cushing*, Esq., one of the members of the Continental Congress, setting forth: "that your petitioner formerly living in *Boston*, and having at the time of the Ministerial Troops commencing hostilities with this Colony, had Mr. *Cushing* necessarily called to publick business out of town; it prevented his getting any of his household furniture out, excepting one or two beds. That your petitioner is informed the furniture which belongs to the late infamous traitor to *America*, *Hutchinson*, is now in disuse, and in the hands of the Committee of Correspondence for *Milton;* she, therefore, prays that your Honours, and the honourable House, may be pleased to grant a warrant or order for such articles as she may necessarily want, being willing to become accountable for them, or to be under such restrictions as your Honours may think proper."

In Council: Read, and *Ordered*, That *Moses Gill*, Esq., with such as the honourable House shall join, be a Committee to consider the within Petition, and report.

In the House of Representatives: Read, and concurred, and Mr. *Pitts* and Deacon *Nicols* are joined.

The Committee of both Houses, appointed to take into consideration a Petition of Mrs. *Deborah Cushing*, wife of the Honourable *Thomas Cushing*, Esq., now at the *American* Congress, beg leave to report, by way of Resolve:

Resolved, That the prayer of said Petition be granted, and that the Committee of Correspondence of the Town of *Milton* be, and hereby are, directed to deliver to said *Deborah Cushing*, such and so much of the Household Furniture, now in their hands, belonging to the late Governour *Hutchinson*, as, in the judgment of said Committee, she may need, and take her receipt therefor, the said *Thomas Cushing*, Esq., to be accountable to this or some future General Assembly of this Colony for the same; and the aforesaid Committee are directed to get such articles (as said *Deborah* may receive) appraised by three indifferent persons, under oath, and lodge a copy of said appraisement in the Secretary's Office.

In Council: Read, and accepted.

In the House of Representatives: Read, and concurred.

Petition of the Town of *Harvard*, setting forth: "that from an ardent concern for the good of our country, in every prudent and necessary way, we are ready to consecrate our all in such an important cause as we are embarked in, by reason of the intolerable calamities occasioned by *British* invasions, under which *America* now groans; which is sufficient to alarm us to an exertion of our last might to defend our precious liberties, and to evade abject slavery, which depends much upon the unanimity of *America;* and it is with pain that we behold any thing to the contrary thereto; therefore, we beg leave to mention our dissatisfaction with the large stipends granted to officers, and some others, (except soldiers) in the *American* service, which stipends, at the lowest, were so high, that the knowledge thereof, much chilled the spirits of the commonalty, much more when large additions were made thereto, which has been a bar against the Army's filling up. We acknowledge that a generous reward is their due; this, in our judgment, they would have had, if their wages had been far less. That the distresses of *America* should prove a harvest to some, and famine to others, this we deprecate; therefore, we humbly pray that this honourable Court would exert their power and use their influence with the great and General Continental Congress that such large stipends may be abridged. This we conceive a necessary means to support unanimity in *America*, which, otherwise, we fear, will be soon interrupted. We, therefore, beg a candid attention to this our petition."

In the House of Representatives: Read, and committed to Mr. Speaker, Mr. *Gerry*, and Colonel *Thurston*, with such as the honourable Board shall join.

In Council: Read, and concurred, and *Walter Spooner* and *John Adams*, Esquires, are joined.

In Council: Ordered, That the Secretary be directed to apprize the Delegates of this Colony, in *American* Congress, of their appointment.

Sent down for concurrence.

Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow morning.

—

Thursday, December 28, 1775.

Present in Council: Honourables William Sever, Walter Spooner, Caleb Cushing, John Winthrop, Benjamin Chadbourn, John Adams, Joseph Gerrish, John Whetcomb, Jedediah Foster, James Prescott, Eldad Taylor, Benjamin Lincoln, Michael Farley, Joseph Palmer, Samuel Holten, Jabez Fisher, Moses Gill, John Taylor, Benjamin White, Esquires.

In Council: Resolved, That it be, and it hereby is, recommended to the Selectmen of the several towns in this Colony, as soon as may be, to call their towns together, and to insert in the warrants to be by them issued for calling said town-meetings, a clause or article for devising ways and means for introducing the art of manufacturing Saltpetre into private families in such towns; and it is hereby recommended to said towns to appoint Committees, and grant all such encouragement as they shall judge proper to this necessary business; and it is recommended to the Selectmen to lay before their towns, for their consideration, the several methods for collecting materials and making Saltpetre, which have been published by the honourable the Continental Congress, and by this Court. And it is further recommended to all private families, to exert themselves in collecting earth from the foundations of houses, barns, stables, dove-houses, and all other buildings, and from cellars and other places, and in learning the art of extracting Saltpetre from the same; and the same price shall be allowed for any quantity under fifty pounds as is allowed by this Court, for any quantity above fifty pounds weight.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

In the House of Representatives: Ordered, That the Committee of both Houses, lately appointed to examine the Muster-Rolls ordered by this Court, to be made up to the 1st of *August* last, be directed not only carefully to see to it, that all such stoppages be made on the said Rolls, as are directed to be made by the resolve passed in the House on the 3d of *November* last, and concurred by the Council on the 6th of the same month; but that they diligently inquire, and endeavour fully to find out whether any officer, or officers, borne on such Rolls, are indebted to the Government for any moneys received to pay their regiments, or companies their advance pay, which they have not accounted for to either of the Paymasters of the Colony; and also, whether any non-commissioned officers or privates have received their advance pay more than once; and in all instances where the said Committees shall find that any officers or privates are indebted to the Government on such accounts, that they stay the payment of so much of the wages of the particular person so indebted, whether officers or soldiers borne on the said Rolls, as may indemnify the Government. And in order more effectually to do the same, the said Committee is hereby directed and empowered, to call upon such of the Commissaries, Paymasters, and Committees of Supplies, as have been in the service of this Colony, for all accounts and certificates necessary to enable them to make the stoppage; and that an addition may be immediately made to the said Committee of two, on the part of the House, and one on the part of the Board, and that any five of such increased Committee be a quorum; and that the said Committee be hereby directed and required, constantly to attend the business of examining, and correcting the said Rolls, until they shall be finished, and, from time to time, as soon as they shall have passed on such Rolls, that they present the same to the honourable Board for their concurrence, and that the Board, as soon as they shall have passed thereon, make their warrant on the Treasury for the payment of what shall appear to be due to each man borne on the said Rolls.

Ordered, That Major *Gooding* and Colonel *Porter* be added to the Committee above-mentioned, on the part of the House.

In Council: Read, and concurred, and *Jabez Fisher*, Esq., is joined to the Committee of the House; and

Ordered, That *Benjamin White*, Esquire, be of said Committee, in the room of *Moses Gill*, Esquire, who is excused.

Consented to by fifteen of the Council.

The Committee appointed to draw a Proclamation, to be read at the opening of the several Courts of Justice through this Colony, and at Town-Meetings, &c., reported a draft, which was read, and ordered to be recommitted; and that *John Adams*, Esq., be of the above Committee on the part of the Board, in the room of *William Sever*, Esq., who is occasionally absent.

Sent down for concurrence.

Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow morning.

—

Friday, December 29, 1775.

Present in Council: Honourables William Sever, Walter Spooner, Caleb Cushing, John Winthrop, Benjamin Chadbourn, John Adams, Joseph Gerrish, John Whetcomb, Jedediah Foster, James Prescott, Eldad Taylor, Benjamin Lincoln, Michael Farley, Joseph Palmer, Samuel Holten, Jabez Fisher, Moses Gill, John Taylor, Benjamin White, Esquires.

In Council: Ordered, That *John Adams* and *Joseph Palmer*, Esquires, with such as the honourable House shall join, be a Committee to consider and report a plan for fitting out Armed Vessels, for the defence of *American* liberty.

Sent down for concurrence. Came up concurred, with a Committee joined on the part of the House.

Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow morning.

—

Saturday, December 30, 1775.

Present in Council: Honourables Walter Spooner, Caleb Cushing, John Winthrop, Benjamin Chadbourn, John Adams, Joseph Gerrish, John Whetcomb, Jedediah Foster, Eldad Taylor, Benjamin Lincoln, Michael Farley, Joseph Palmer, Samuel Holten, Jabez Fisher, John Taylor, Benjamin White, Esquires.

Mr. *Gardner* came up with a message from the House, to inform the Board that the House proposed to come to the choice of Officers to command at *Gloucester*, by joint ballot of both Houses, at three o'clock this afternoon, if agreeable to the honourable Board.

Mr. *Sullivan* came up with a message from the House, to inform the Board that the House were now ready to come to the choice of a Field-Officer, with the rank of Colonel, to command at *Gloucester*, by joint ballot of both Houses, if agreeable to the honourable Board.

Mr. *Holten* went down with a message to the House, to inform them that the Board were now ready to proceed to the choice of a Field-Officer, to command at *Gloucester*, agreeable to the foregoing proposal.

In Council: Ordered, That *Benjamin Lincoln* and *John Taylor*, Esquires, be a Committee on the part of the Board to count and sort the votes; who reported that the number of votes were:

On the part of the Board,	9
On the part of the House,	70
Total,	79

Forty made a vote; and Captain *Joseph Foster* had 70, and was accordingly chosen.

The Committee informed the Board, that the House proposed next to come to the choice of one Captain and two Lieutenants for the First Company in *Gloucester*, and reported that the number of votes were:

On the part of the Board,	9
On the part of the House,	45
Total,	54

Twenty-eight makes a vote; *Daniel Warner* had 50, as Captain; *John Low*, Jr., had 45, as First Lieutenant; *Solomon Gorham* had 48, as Second Lieutenant; and were accordingly chosen.

For the Second Company in *Gloucester*, the Committee reported that the number of votes were:

On the part of the Board,	8
On the part of the House,	45
Total,	53

Twenty-seven makes a vote; *John Lane* had 45, as Captain; *Jabez Lane* had 45, as First Lieutenant; *Moses Atkinson* had 45, as Second Lieutenant; and were accordingly chosen.

John Whetcomb, Esq., went down with a message to the House to inform them that the Board declining coming to any further choice of Military Officers, till *Monday* morning, ten o'clock,

Adjourned to ten o'clock, *Monday* morning.

—

Monday, January 1, 1776.

Present in Council: Honourables Walter Spooner, Caleb Cushing, Benjamin Chadbourn, Joseph Gerrish, John Whetcomb, Eldad Taylor, Benjamin Lincoln, Charles Chauncy, Michael Farley, Samuel Holten, Jabez Fisher, John Taylor, Benjamin White, Esquires.

Mr. *Pitts* came up with a message from the House, to inform the Board that the House are now ready to proceed to the choice of Military Officers of the Third and Fourth Companies, to be stationed at *Gloucester*, according to the assignment of *Saturday*, if agreeable to the honourable Board.

John Taylor, Esq., went down with a message to the House, to inform them that the Board are now ready to proceed to the choice aforesaid, agreeable to the proposal of the honourable House.

The Committee appointed to sort the votes, reported that the number of votes were:

On the part of the Board,	9
On the part of the House,	54
Total,	63

Thirty-two makes a vote; and that *Bradbury Saunders* had 54, as Captain; *Isaac Jones* had 54, as First Lieutenant; *John Chandler* had 54, as Second Lieutenant; and were accordingly chosen officers of the Third Company.

And that *William Parsons* had 54, as Captain; *Joseph Lane* had 54, as First Lieutenant; *James Hase* had 53, as Second Lieutenant; and were accordingly chosen officers of the Fourth Company.

The Committee informed the Board, that the House proposed next to come to the choice of a Commissary, to be stationed at *Gloucester*. Reported that the number of votes were:

On the part of the Board,	9
On the part of the House,	62
Total,	71

Thirty-six makes a vote; and *Samuel Whittemore* was unanimously chosen.

The Committee of the House informed the Board, that the House proposed next to come to the choice of Officers to command the two Companies stationed at *Marblehead*.

Samuel Holten, Esq., went down with a message to the House, to inform them that the Board were not previously apprized of such choice, and, therefore, propose to postpone the choice of these Officers to a future day.

Colonel *Orne* came up with a message from the House, to inform the Board that the House intend to come to the choice of Military Officers, for the Sea-Coast Forces, at three o'clock this afternoon, and that they should begin with those of *Marblehead*.

Benjamin Lincoln, Esq., went down with a message to the House, to inform them that the Board agreed to the foregoing proposal of the honourable House.

Petition of *Joshua Bragdon*, setting forth, "that the last Spring he raised a Company under the command of Colonel *James Scammons*, and marched to Head-Quarters, where he remained and did duty with his Company till the latter end of *August* last, when, by reason of poor health, and from the advice of his Physician, your petitioner got a discharge from the service; since which, has been sent for to make up a Roll for said Company, which occasions the loss of one month's time, attended with considerable expense. He, therefore, prays your Honours to take the same into consideration, and order payment therefor.

In the House of Representatives: Resolved, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to *Joshua Bragdon*, three Pounds, in full for his time and expense in making up a Roll for his Company, (not being at present in the service,) and the Receiver-General is directed to pay the same accordingly.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

Mr. *Perry* came up with a message from the House, to inform the Board that the House are now ready to proceed to the choice of Officers for the Companies to be stationed at *Marblehead*, agreeable to assignment.

The Committee appointed to count and sort the votes, reported that the number of votes were:

On the part of the Board,	7
On the part of the House,	45
Total,	52

Twenty-seven makes a vote; and that *Francis Felton* had 45, as Captain; *Benjamin Ashton* had 45, as First Lieutenant; *Nathaniel Lindsey* had 45, as Second Lieutenant; of the First Company; and were accordingly chosen to said ranks in said Company.

And that *William Hooper* had 45, as Captain; *Robert Cloutman* had 45, as First Lieutenant; *Thomas Bowden* had 45, as Second Lieutenant; of the Second Company; and were accordingly chosen to said ranks in said Company.

The Committee of the House informed the Board, that the House propose to come next to the choice of a Major and other Officers, to command the Companies to be stationed at *Elizabeth-Island* and *Martha's Vineyard*, and two Commissaries to provide for said forces.

The Committee appointed to count and sort the votes reported that the number of votes were:

On the part of the Board,	7
On the part of the House,	52
Total,	59

Thirty makes a vote; and that *Barachiah Bassett* had 59, and was chosen Major.

Nathan Smith had 52, as Captain; *Jeremiah Munster* had 52, as First Lieutenant; *Fortunatus Bassett* had 52, as Second Lieutenant; of the First Company.

And that *Benjamin Smith* had 52, as Captain; *Mal. Davis* had 52, as First Lieutenant; *James Shaw* had 52, as Second Lieutenant; of the Second Company.

And that *John Grannis* had 52, as Captain; *James Blossom* had 52, as First Lieutenant; *Samuel Hallett* had 52, as Second Lieutenant; of the Third Company.

And that *Elisha Nye* had 52, as Captain; *Stephen Nye*, Jr., had 52, as First Lieutenant; *John Russell* had 52, as Second Lieutenant; of the Fourth Company.

And that *Stephen Nye* and *Beriah Norton*, were unanimously chosen Commissaries.

The Committee of the House then informed the Board, that the House proposed to come next to the choice of Colonel, to command at *Falmouth*.

The Committee appointed to count and sort the votes, reported the number of votes were:

On the part of the Board, - - - - - 6
On the part of the House, - - - - - 53

Total, - - - - - - - - - 59

Thirty makes a vote; and that *Joseph Frye*, Esq., had 57, and was accordingly chosen Colonel of said Forces.

The Committee of the House then informed the Board, that the House proposed next to come to the choice of a Major, to take the second command of the Forces at *Falmouth*.

The Committee appointed to count and sort the votes, reported the number of votes were:

On the part of the Board, - - - - - 7
On the part of the House, - - - - - 44

Total, - - - - - - - - - 51

Twenty-six makes a vote; and that *Daniel Isley* had 44, and was accordingly chosen Major of said Forces.

The Committee of the House then informed the Board, that the House proposed to come next to the choice of a Captain, and First and Second Lieutenants of the Company to be stationed at *Falmouth*, in the County of *Cumberland*.

The Committee appointed to count and sort the votes, reported the number of votes were:

On the part of the Board, - - - - - 7
On the part of the House, - - - - - 42

Total, - - - - - - - - - 49

Twenty-five makes a vote; and that *Daniel McCobb* had 42, as Captain; *Benjamin Pattee* had 49, as First Lieutenant; *William Lithgow*, Jr., had 49, as Second Lieutenant.

The Committee of the House then informed the Board, that the House proposed next to come to the choice of Officers for two Companies to be raised in the County of *York*, to be stationed at *Falmouth*, in the County of *Cumberland*.

The Committee appointed to count and sort the votes, reported that the number of votes were:

On the part of the Board, - - - - - 7
On the part of the House, - - - - - 43

Total, - - - - - - - - - 50

Twenty-six makes a vote; and that *Benjamin Hooper* had 49, as Captain; *Humphrey Pike* had 50, as First Lieutenant; *Joseph Chadbourn* had 50, as Second Lieutenant; of the First Company.

Tobias Lord had 50, as Captain; *Nathaniel Cussens* had 50, as First Lieutenant; *Edmund Webber*, Jun., had 50, as Second Lieutenant; of the Second Company.

The Committee of the House then informed the Board, that the House proposed next to come to the choice of Officers for two Companies to be raised in the County of *Cumberland*, to be stationed at *Falmouth*, in the County of *Cumberland*.

The Committee appointed to count and sort the votes, reported that the number of votes were:

On the part of the Board, - - - - - 7
On the part of the House, - - - - - 43

Total, - - - - - - - - - 50

Twenty-six makes a vote; and that *William Crocker* had 48, as Captain; *John Shelton* 50, as First Lieutenant; *Ebenezer Morton* 50, as Second Lieutenant; of the Second Company.

John Rice had 50, as Captain; *Josiah Davis* had 50, as First Lieutenant; *Levi Loring* had 43, as Second Lieutenant; of the Third Company.

The Committee of the House then informed the Board, that the House proposed to come next to the choice of a Commissary, for *Falmouth*.

The Committee appointed to count and sort the votes, reported that the number of votes were:

On the part of the Board, - - - - - 7
On the part of the House, - - - - - 40

Total, - - - - - - - - - 47

Twenty-four makes a vote; and *James Sullivan* was unanimously chosen.

The Committee of the House then informed the Board, that the House proposed next to come to the choice of Officers for one Company, to be raised in the County of *York*, and stationed at *Kittery-Point*, also, of a Commissary.

The Committee appointed to count and sort the votes, reported that the number of votes were:

On the part of the Board, - - - - - 7
On the part of the House, - - - - - 40

Total, - - - - - - - - - 47

Twenty-four makes a vote; and that *Philip Hubbard*, as Captain; *Nathaniel Coffin*, as First Lieutenant; *Nehemiah Bean*, as Second Lieutenant; and *Edward Cutts*, Esquire, as Commissary, were unanimously chosen.

The Committee of the House, then informed the Board, that the House proposed to defer coming to the choice of any other Officers till a future day.

Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow morning.

—

Tuesday, January 2, 1776.

Present in Council: Honourables Walter Spooner, Caleb Cushing, Benjamin Chadbourn, Joseph Gerrish, John Whetcomb, Eldad Taylor, Benjamin Lincoln, Charles Chauney, Michael Farley, Samuel Holten, Jabez Fisher, John Taylor, Benjamin White, Esquires.

Petition of the Selectmen of *Dorchester*, setting forth: "that your petitioners, agreeable to the directions of the honourable Board, have applied to his Honour General *Ward*, and, also, to his Excellency General *Washington*, in order to consult upon a mode of conveying *Jane Jackson*, and her two children, into the town of *Boston*, but they have declined doing any thing about the matter. They pray your Honours to give such further directions respecting said woman and her children as your Honours may think proper."

In Council: Read, and *Ordered*, That *Charles Chauncy*, Esq., with such as the honourable House shall join, be a Committee to consider the foregoing Petition, and report what is proper to be done thereon.

In the House of Representatives: Read, and concurred, and Mr. *Knowles* and Mr. *Hall* are joined.

Petition of *Daniel Pierce*, praying allowance for Medicines supplied the Continental Army.

Read, and committed to *Samuel Knowlton* and *John Taylor*, Esquires, with such as the honourable House shall join, to consider thereof, and report thereon.

Sent down for concurrence. Came up non-concurred.

In Council: Whereas, an order hath passed this Court, directing the Commanding Officers of the several companies of Minute-Men and Militia, and, also, the Commanding Officers of the men stationed on the Sea-Coasts to lodge their respective Rolls, in the Secretary's Office, in order to their being examined and passed on, and no provision is made in said order, that a copy of such Roll shall be lodged with the Treasurer of this Colony.

Therefore, *Resolved*, That *Charles Chauncy*, Esquire, with such as the honourable House shall join, be a Committee to consider of, and report what is further necessary for this Court to do touching the premises.

In the House of Representatives: Read, and concurred, and Mr. *Mills* and Mr. *Stickney* are joined.

Letter from the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq., President of Congress, relative to the Congress allowing the Accounts of this Colony.

In the House of Representatives: Read, and sent up.

In Council: Read, and *Ordered*, To be entered on the files of the General Assembly.

In the House of Representatives: Ordered, That there be a Committee of both Houses appointed to inquire into the conduct of the Officers of the Company stationed at *Falmouth*, and to stop the payment of the Rolls in the mean while.

In Council: Read, and concurred, and *Benjamin Chadbourn* and *Joseph Gerrish*, Esquires, are joined.

Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow morning.

—

Wednesday, January 3, 1776.

Present in Council: Honourables Walter Spooner, Caleb Cushing, Benjamin Chadbourn, Joseph Gerrish, John Whetcomb, James Prescott, Eldad Taylor, Benjamin Lincoln, Charles Chauncy, Michael Farley, Joseph Palmer, Samuel Holten, Jabez Fisher, John Taylor, Benjamin White, Esquires.

In the House of Representatives: Resolved, That there be a Committee appointed to wait on his Excellency General *Washington*, and recommend it to him to pay the donation, received from *Virginia* for the Poor of *Boston*, to the Committee appointed by the Town of *Boston* to receive the same, who are now out.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

The Committee appointed by both Houses to consider of what is further necessary to be done, before the Minute, Militia and Sea-Coast Rolls are paid off, beg leave to report the following Resolve:

Whereas, no direction is given to the Commanding Officers of the several companies of Minute, Militia, and, also, the Sea-Coast men, for lodging their respective Rolls in the Treasurer's Office, great damage may arise to this Colony thereby; and whereas, some Companies are stationed at a very considerable distance, which will occasion much charge and difficulty, for want of a duplicate of said Roll, therefore,

Resolved, That some person be immediately employed, to take Copies of such Rolls as have been or may be examined and passed upon, and no duplicate left; said Copies to be examined and certified by the Committee on said Rolls, and lodged in the Secretary's Office.

In Council: Read, and accepted.

In the House of Representatives: Read, and concurred.

Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow morning.

—

Thursday, January 4, 1776.

Present in Council: Honourables Walter Spooner, Caleb Cushing, Benjamin Chadbourn, Joseph Gerrish, John Whetcomb, John Adams, James Prescott, Eldad Taylor, Benjamin Lincoln, Charles Chauncy, Michael Farley, Joseph Palmer, Samuel Holten, Jabez Fisher, John Taylor, Benjamin White, Esquires.

In Council: Whereas, a Committee of both Houses have been appointed for signing and numbering the Bills of Credit for the seventy-five thousand Pounds emission; and as the publick affairs of the Colony press hard upon the Board, they cannot, (without injuring the publick,) spare any of their Members in the hours they usually sit upon business, therefore,

Resolved, That Colonel *Cushing*, with such as the honourable House shall join, be a Committee to take into consideration the matter of signing and numbering said Bills, and report some effectual mode of raising a Committee for that purpose, so that the Treasury may be seasonably supplied.

In the House of Representatives: Read, and concurred, and Colonel *Thompson* and Mr. *Crane* are joined.

Petition of *William Brown*, and others, setting forth, "that your petitioners did, early after the engagement at *Concord*, enter into the service of the Army from no other motive but that of being instrumental of serving the glorious cause of liberty, expecting only such a reward as their services merited, calculated only for the time of their employment. The certificate given by the late Commissary, Mr. *Pigeon*, on each of their accounts, which accounts your petitioners now present with this Petition, will fully testify that no service was thought too hard, no time tedious, when the cause of the country required extraordinary services. Your petitioners beg leave, also, to observe, that it has been their constant endeavour to serve the interest of the Colony. The provisions allowed to the Army, while in the pay of the Colony, were so ample, that oftentimes the men, with little persuasion, were prevailed upon to take less than the quantity stipulated; and your petitioners, knowing the Colony would be served and the men not injured, repeatedly (with their consent) served out to them their allowance with a little deduction, which deduction, though small from each individual, amounted, in the whole, to very large quantities, saved entirely for the benefit of the Colony. For the truth of the above representation your petitioners would only refer you to the Commissary's books, where the amount of provisions received in and delivered out is recorded, and to the attestation of a number of the gentlemen Quartermasters, which accompanies this Petition. For these services your petitioners have charged the Colony four shillings per diem, which, they trust, will be found reasonable, and granted them, when all circumstances are duly weighed and considered by the honourable Court.

"Your petitioners would not have troubled your Honours with their small concernments, had not your Committee informed them that they were not at liberty to allow more than two shillings and four pence per diem, which sum your petitioners think so inadequate to their exertions for the publick good, that they choose rather to rely on the generosity of your Honours, not doubting of receiving an ample reward."

The Committee, upon the Petition of *William Brown* and others, Clerks and Assistants to Mr. *Pigeon*, late Commissary-General, praying for an allowance for services, &c., having heard the petitioners and evidences they had to produce in support of their Petition, beg leave to report as their opinion: that the petitioners have acted, whilst in the said service, with integrity and honesty, and have shown a proper regard to the publick interest, and have been instrumental of considerable savings to the Colony, as represented in their Petition, and are of opinion that they be allowed the sum of three shillings and two pence each, per day, for their services.

In the House of Representatives: Read, and accepted.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

The Secretary went down with the following Message to the House, from the major part of the Council, viz:

Gentlemen of the House of Representatives:

The danger that a correspondence would be caried on between a few disaffected inhabitants of this Colony, and the enemies of *America*, through the town of *Hull*, to the men-of-war, lying in and near *Nantasket Road*, and that our enemies might be supplied in that channel, induced the General, in *July* last, to cause the inhabitants of said town to be removed, and to place and constantly keep up a guard at the entrance of the beach leading into that town. The guards continued until the 1st of *December* past, at which time their inlistments expired, and they returned to their several homes in *Connecticut;* upon this, and Colonel *Lincoln* being told that several persons had been seen to go to *Hull*, but none being observed to return, he directed a small guard from the Militia, in the vicinity, to be placed at the entrance of said town, and to continue there until they should receive further orders; he immediately laid the whole matter before the Council; they sent a message to his Excellency General *Washington*, requesting that he would place a guard there, and relieve the Militia. He gave encouragement to our messenger that he would give orders for that purpose; but it hath been delayed, and now the Council are acquainted that the lines at *Cambridge* and *Roxbury* are so thin, that no men can be spared for the purpose aforesaid; the Council, therefore, thought it their duty to make this representation to the honourable House, and recommend to them that provision be immediately made, not only for guarding the passage into said town, but, also, that suitable guards be placed in the towns of *Braintree*, *Weymouth*, and *Hingham*.

(Signed by fifteen of the Council.)

Mr. *Gerry* came up with a verbal message from the House, to desire the major part of the Council to hold Doctor *Samuel Gelston* under arrest, till an order of both Houses be taken thereon.

In Council: Ordered, That *John Adams* and *Joseph Palmer*, Esquires, with such as the honourable House shall join, be a Committee to examine into the character and conduct of Doctor *Samuel Gelston*, lately apprehended by the order of the General Court, and now before them ready for examination, and report.

In the House of Representatives: Read, and concurred, and Colonel *Freeman*, Mr. *Brown*, of *Boston*, and Colonel *Grout*, are joined.

In Council: Ordered, That *Walter Spooner*, *John Adams*, *Joseph Palmer*, *James Prescott*, *Benjamin Lincoln*, *John Taylor*, and *Jabez Fisher*, Esquires, be a Committee of the Board, with such Committee of the honourable House, as shall be thought proper for that purpose, upon the subject-matter of the Militia Bill, and the manner in which the officers shall be appointed.

In the House of Representatives: Read, and concurred, and . . . . . are joined.

Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow morning.

Friday, January 5, 1776.

Present in Council: Honourables Walter Spooner, Caleb Cushing, Benjamin Chadbourn, John Adams, John Whetcomb, James Prescott, Eldad Taylor, Benjamin Lincoln, Charles Chauncy, Michael Farley, Joseph Palmer, Samuel Holten, Jabez Fisher, John Taylor, Benjamin White, Esquires.

Petition of *Silas Ball*, setting forth: "that he acted in the capacity of a Surgeon, in Colonel *Benjamin Ruggles Woodbridge's*, Esq., Regiment, by an invitation from Mr. *Richard Montague*, who was then Major of said regiment, which offer he heartily accepted of, and did the duty of a Surgeon, &c., from the 19th of *April*, to the 9th of *July* last, which is eleven weeks and three days. For certain reasons was not examined, so not appointed as a Surgeon in the regiment aforementioned, which regiment he supplied with medicines, &c., to the amount of three pounds; your petitioner prays your Honours would make him a proper recompense therefor."

In the House of Representatives: Resolved, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to Doctor *Silas Ball*, the sum of fourteen Pounds eight Shillings, in full of his services as Surgeon's Mate, from the 19th of *April* to the 9th of *July*; and in full for Medicines used at his own cost, for the use of the Army.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow morning.*

—

Saturday, January 6, 1776.

Present in Council: Honourables Walter Spooner, Caleb Cushing, Benjamin Chadbourn, John Adams, John Whetcomb, James Prescott, Eldad Taylor, Benjamin Lincoln, Charles Chauncy, Michael Farley, Joseph Palmer, Samuel Holten, Jabez Fisher, John Taylor, Benjamin White, Esquires.

The Committee of both Houses, appointed to take into consideration the matter of signing and numbering the Bills of Credit for the seventy-five thousand Pounds emission, and report some effectual mode of raising a Committee for that purpose, beg leave to report, that, for the reasons assigned by the Board, on the 4th instant, there be two persons appointed by this Court to sign and number said Bills, in the room of *James Prescott* and *Joseph Palmer*, Esquires, who are excused.

In Council: Read, and accepted, and, thereupon,

Resolved, That two persons, such as the honourable Court shall choose, be appointed to sign and number the Bills of Credit of the last emission, in the room of *James Prescott* and *Joseph Palmer*, Esquires, who are hereby excused.

In the House of Representatives: Read, and concured, and Doctor *Rice* and Major *Ely* are appointed to sign and number the Bills accordingly, and the Committee are directed to sit forthwith.

In the House of Representatives: Ordered, That the Doorkeeper be directed forthwith to take in custody Doctor *Samuel Gelston*, and put him under a proper guard, until the further order of Court, that the present guard may be released.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

Adjourned to ten o'clock, *Monday* morning.

—

Monday, January 8, 1776.

Present in Council: Honourables Walter Spooner, Caleb Cushing, Benjamin Chadbourn, John Whetcomb, James Prescott, Eldad Taylor, Charles Chauncy, Michael Farley, Joseph Palmer, Samuel Holten, Jabez Fisher, John Taylor, Benjamin White, Esquires.

In the House of Representatives: Ordered, That there be a Committee of both Houses appointed to inquire of his Excellency General *Washington*, whether he will want the Militia any longer than the time for which they are inlisted.

In Council: Read, and concurred, and *John Taylor*, Esquire, is joined.

In the House of Representatives: Whereas, at the present important crisis of our publick affairs, the intention of this Court for causing to be erected Mills for manufacturing Gunpowder, hath not hitherto been so far executed as the exigency of the times most evidently requires, and the attention of the Court to each step to be taken in this measure must further retard it, and unnecessarily interrupt the urgent business of the Court:

It is, therefore, *Resolved*, That Mr. *Putnam*, Mr. *Crane*, and Mr. *Vose*, be, and they hereby are appointed a Committee for purchasing the remains of a Powder-Mill at *Stoughton*, and land and privileges convenient to improve the same, and to repair a Powder-Mill, or purchase a privilege for, and erect one at *Sutton*, as they, after having consulted the master-workman who shall undertake the same, shall judge expedient; and the said Committee are directed to give their diligent and constant attendance to this business, until it shall be perfected; and the Council are empowered to draw on the Treasury for a sum not exceeding three hundred Pounds, in favour of said Committee, to enable them to pay the charges of purchasing and repairing, or erecting a Mill as aforesaid, they to be accountable to the Court for the same.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

Petition of *Joseph Pearse Palmer*, setting forth: "that he served in the *New-England* Army, as Quartermaster-General, from the 1st day of *May* last to the 14th day of *August* next following, when he was superseded by the appointment of *Thomas Mifflin*, Esquire; and no establishment having been made for said office, your memorialist prays the honourable Court to make him a grant adequate to the services and rank of the same."

In the House of Representatives: Resolved, That the Treasurer of this Colony be, and he hereby is directed to pay unto *Joseph Pearse Palmer* the sum of forty-five Pounds eight Shillings and seven and-a-half Pence, in full consideration for his services as Quartermaster-General, at twelve Pounds per month, in the Army under the command of General *Artemas Ward*.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow morning.

—

Tuesday, January 9, 1776.

Present in Council: Honourables Walter Spooner, Caleb Cushing, Benjamin Chadbourn, John Whetcomb, James Prescott, Eldad Taylor, Jedediah Foster, Charles Chauncy, Benjamin Lincoln, Michael Farley, Joseph Palmer, Samuel Holten, Jabez Fisher, Moses Gill, John Taylor, Benjamin White, Esquires.

In the House of Representatives: Resolved, That the Receiver-General of this Colony be, and he hereby is directed to pay into the hands of the Honourable *Benjamin Greenleaf*, Esquire, Captain *Jonathan Greenleaf*, and Major *Stephen Cross*, a Committee appointed by this Court to purchase Sulphur, the sum of three hundred Pounds, to enable them to make payment for the quantities of Sulphur they have, or shall engage to receive, they to be accountable to the General Court for the same.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

Petition of the Selectmen of the town of *Topsfield*, setting forth: "that, on the 28th day of *October* last, a Committee of the town of *Gloucester* came to us, with a letter

* Head-Quarters, *January* 4, 1776.—Sir: I send, by order of the Commander-in-chief, the prisoners under-named, which the General desires you will order to be secured in some inland jail. *Worcester*, we are told, has no prisoners of war, and there is a secure jail, if you approve of their being sent to it. Soldiers: *John Guilderoy, William Collins, John Smith, Benjamin Ward, George Morrison, Alexander Gardner.* Seamen: *William Beard, George Mitchell, James Richardson, Francis Ossy, Anthony Simmins, Jacob Wilson, Joseph Mason.*

By the enclosed from Colonel *Glover*, I dare say you will think with me, that *John Thomer, William Clark, William Wallis*, and *Thomas Gorthorp*, seamen of the ship *Jenny*, Captain *Forster*, ought also to be confined.

The men named upon this . . . .* were seamen, belonging to a ship, brigantine . . . .* and sloop, taken by the Continental armed vessels . . . .* you see no material objection to their being discharged they may be dismissed upon their arrival at *Worcester*, and be at liberty to work for their living in the country, or seek their fortunes as they like.

I am, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

Horatio Gates, *Adjutant-General.*

P. S. *William Beard* appears to be an impressed man, on board of a man-of-war at *Hampton*, in *Virginia*. He may, also, have his liberty at *Worcester*. There are reasons why the General does not think proper to discharge him here. Seamen belonging to the brig *Hannah: John Gallard, William Middeldith, John Jenkins, James Gray, Thomas Riley.* Belonging to the ship *Jenny: John Morgan, Francis Spumir, Henry Baldwin, John Waterstone*, and *James Donaldson. William Clark, Thomas Gorthorp, William Wallace*, and *John Thornhill*, attempted to get on board the man of-war off *Cape Ann*. Belonging to the sloop *Betsey: George Bennet, Robert Younger, Daniel Maloney*, and *William Harris.*

In Council, *January* 5, 1776: Read, and *Ordered*, That the Prisoners be disposed of in the same manner as hinted in the foregoing letter, and that a mittimus go to the keeper of the jail . . . .* and that a letter be wrote to the Selectmen of . . .* directing them to dispose of those prisoners there to be confined in the manner herein set forth.

Perez Morton, *Deputy Secretary.*

[* Original torn.]

from the Committee of Safety, desiring some assistance from this town, by men to guard and defend that town, for a short time, as by their letter, herewith exhibited, may more fully appear. Your petitioners laid said letter before the town. The town thought it absolutely necessary that the Town of *Gloucester* should be well guarded, and agreed that, notwithstanding we had a large number of men already in the Army, if fifteen more would inlist themselves, to guard the Town of *Gloucester* for the term of fifteen days, they should be paid at the same rate per month as the soldiers had in the Army, (not doubting but it would be made a general charge,) and also six shillings per week to each man for his support while there; on which encouragement, thirteen privates, one drummer, and Lieutenant *Samuel Cummings*, an officer in the Militia, under whose command they inlisted for that service, making fifteen in the whole, marched to *Gloucester*, on the 31st of said *October*, and returned home again at the expiration of fifteen days. Your petitioners, therefore, pray that your Honours would order such allowance to pay the said soldiers for their service and support, as is allowed and paid to the soldiers in the Army for the like term of time, and in the same stations."

In the House of Representatives: Resolved, That there be paid out of the Treasury of this Colony unto Deacon *Gold*, Representative for the town of *Topsfield*, the following sums, viz:

	£	s.	d.
To one Lieutenant, for 15 days, at £3 per month, at 28 days to a month, - - - - -	1	16	6
To 14 Men, for 15 days, at 36 shillings per month, at 28 days to a month, - - - - -	13	8	6
To Billeting the abovesaid 15 Men two weeks and one day each, at five shillings per week, -	8	0	0
	£23	5	0

In Council: Read, and concurred.

Petition of *John Bunker*, of *Mount Desert*, in the County of *Lincoln*, Mariner, setting forth: "that your petitioner, on the 24th of *November last*, by his own device, took and secured a schooner, between fifty and sixty tons, from *Fort Cumberland*, in *Nova-Scotia*, *Isaac Danks*, master, bound for *Boston*, laden with cattle, butter, cheese, roots, &c., which vessel your petitioner carried into *Goldsborough*, and left her in the care of one Mr. *William Nichols*; your petitioner prays your Honours that he may be ordered the possession of the said schooner, to remove her to some secure place for the benefit of himself and his country, or where your Honours shall see fit."

In the House of Representatives: Whereas, Mr. *John Bunker* and others did, on the 24th day of *November* last, at *Mount-Desert*, take a schooner, called the *Falmouth* Packet, *Isaac Danks*, master, laden with live stock, butter, cheese, sauce, &c., and in our enemy's service, bound to *Boston;* and said *Bunker* not knowing any provisions made in such cases, delivered said schooner and cargo into the hands of the Committee of *Goldsborough*, till he should have the order of this Court thereon;

Therefore, *Resolved*, That the Committee of *Goldsborough* aforesaid, be, and they hereby are directed to deliver said schooner with her cargo, or the proceeds thereof, if the same or any part thereof has been disposed of by said Committee, as also, the papers and appurtenances to her belonging, unto the said *John Bunker*, that said vessel may be brought to trial at some court of justice, erected by the General Court of this Colony, to try the capture of vessels.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

The Committee of both Houses, who were appointed a Committee to inquire into the conduct of the Officers stationed at *Falmouth*, have attended that service, and, upon the best inquiry, cannot find that any of said Officers have been guilty of breaking their orders at the time of the late fire in that town; and as there is no evidence against them in that respect, the Committee are of opinion their Muster-Rolls pass for payment according to the establishment.

In Council: Read, and accepted, and

Thereupon, *Resolved*, That the Committee on Muster-Rolls be directed to pass on the Rolls of the Officers stationed at *Falmouth*, in common with others, without preference or distinction.

In the House of Representatives: Read, and concurred.

In the House of Representatives: Whereas, Mr. *Samuel Philips*, Jun., has proposed to build a Mill, with all expedition, at *Andover*, for manufacturing Gunpowder, and this Court is willing to give all reasonable encouragement to so important and necessary an undertaking;

It is therefore, *Resolved*, If the said Mill shall be erected within a reasonable time, in the judgment of the General Court, that during the term of one year next, after the said Mill shall be erected and fitted to go, there shall be delivered to the said *Philips* by this Colony, from time to time, so much Saltpetre as shall be sufficient to keep the said Mill constantly employed, provided the same can be manufactured and purchased within this Colony, at the rate and bounty which is already, or that hereafter may be established by the General Court for the same; and, also, that the Committee of this Court appointed to purchase Saltpetre, be not obliged to reserve by them at any one time a larger quantity than will be sufficient to keep the said Mill in employ for more than the term of one week. In case said Mill shall be obliged to stand still any part of said year for want of Saltpetre, and the same be made to appear to the satisfaction of this Court, said *Philips* shall be allowed to receive a sufficient quantity of Saltpetre to employ said Mill the same length of time it was obliged to stand still, and to manufacture it into powder, on the same terms, as during the aforesaid year. And in case said *Philips* requires it, there shall be delivered to him so much Sulphur as is necessary to manufacture the Saltpetre into Gunpowder, he, the said *Philips*, paying this Colony the first cost of the Sulphur, and he, the said *Philips*, shall, at his own expense not only provide a sufficient quantity of good charcoal for all the Gunpowder he shall manufacture for the Colony, but also provide, and keep at his own cost, a good and sufficient guard at his Powder-Mill at all times, to prevent any wicked and designing persons from destroying the same, and to be at all other necessary expenses in manufacturing said Powder. The said *Philips* shall enter into bonds, as the Council shall order, that he will well and truly deliver the Commissary-General of this Colony so many pounds of good merchantable Gunpowder, as he shall be able to manufacture of the Saltpetre which he shall receive of the Colony, or any Committee appointed by the General Court to manufacture or procure the same; and also, be at the expense of transporting said Powder to the Colony Store, and of transporting to his said Mill, such Sulphur and Saltpetre as the Colony or the Committee of said Colony shall deliver him; and also, that he will cause to be published, all the discoveries which he shall make relative to the construction of said Mill and the manufacturing Powder, as aforesaid.

And it is also, *Resolved*, That the said *Philips* shall be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, eight Pence per pound, for as many pounds of good merchantable Gunpowder as he shall manufacture of the Saltpetre, which he shall receive of the Colony as aforesaid, on his delivering such Gunpowder to the Commissary of the Colony.

And it is also, *Resolved*, That the several Committees that are, or may be appointed by the General Court, to procure Saltpetre or Sulphur, are hereby directed to deliver said *Philips*, from time to time, so much Saltpetre and Sulphur as shall be sufficient to keep the said Mill constantly employed as aforesaid, and to take duplicate receipts thereof, specifying the quantity of each, and also the price of the Sulphur, one whereof shall be lodged with the Commissary aforesaid, and the other said Committee are directed to keep.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

In the House of Representatives: Ordered, That there be a Committee of both Houses to consider the Resolves passed the 9th ultimo, relative to withholding Supplies from *Nantucket*, and to consider some relief for the Inhabitants of *Martha's Vineyard*.

In Council: Read, and concurred, and *Jedediah Foster*, Esq., is joined.

In Council: Ordered, That *Charles Chauncy*, Esq., with such as the honourable House shall join, be a Committee to examine the Accounts of the Committee of Council appointed to concur and pay Accounts.

In the House of Representatives: Read, and concurred, and Mr. *Davis* and Mr. *White* are joined.

Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow morning.

—

Wedoesday, January 10, 1776.

Present in Council: Honourables Walter Spooner, Caleb Cushing, Benjamin Chadbourn, John Whetcomb, James Prescott, Eldad Taylor, Jedediah Foster, Charles Chauncy, Benjamin Lincoln, Michael Farley, Joseph Palmer, Samuel Holten, Jabez Fisher, Moses Gill, John Taylor, Benjamin White Esquires.

Petition of a number of the Inhabitants of *Majabigwaduce*, setting forth: " that they have duly considered the great oppression of our mother country upon these our Colonies in *North America*, and so sensibly feel the smart thereof in this remote District, have, therefore, made choice of, and appointed Captain *Joseph Young*, of this District, (as we are all fully satisfied he is a true friend of his country and the Inhabitants of this District, so far as we walk agreeable to the resolves of the Legislative power of *America*,) to present our prayers to the honourable Council who sits at *Watertown*, in the *Massachusetts-Bay*, in *New-England*, for their aid and assistance for our preservation and protection, that they would be graciously pleased to think on us, as we are greatly oppressed by an invidious tyrant, *John Bateman*, who is every way watching over us for evil, in order to render us useless and helpless to our country's cause, which we are ready at the risks of our lives and fortunes to put ourselves in any jeopardy, if occasion calls, as we have all of us used our utmost influence to encourage all single men and others as could possibly be spared, to inlist themselves into our country's service. And we are willing, and stand ready to sacrifice our all in compliance with your Honours' commands, and in due obedience to the officers your Honours see proper to set over us; and, also, we should be as ready to serve your Honours under the said *Bateman*, as any one man in the country, but he still continues to use his utmost endeavours to destroy almost every person in this place, and confiscate their interest. He, the said *Bateman*, was the first man in the place that traded with Mr. *Nathan Philips*, and encouraged said *Philips's* further trade in this District, and, also, advised the Committee to tolerate the carrying off wood to the westward. Upon the whole, he is a very dangerous person, and, if he is suffered to rule over us, and we have not your Honours' protection, we are an undone people."

In Council: Read, and *Ordered*, That the within named *John Bateman* be served with a copy of this Petition, and be ordered to show cause to this Board, if any he has, why the prayer thereof should not be granted, on the 1st day of *January* next, and that the said *Bateman* surcease all further proceedings as a Justice of the Peace in the meanwhile.

The Committee appointed upon the Petition of some of the Inhabitants of *Majabigwaduce*, against the conduct of *John Bakeman*, Esq., relative to his conduct with the people of that place, have attended that service, and heard the said *Bakeman* in his defence of the charges alleged against him in said Petition, and have examined the depositions and declarations relative to the conduct of the Committee of Safety and numbers of the Inhabitants of that place.

Your Committee have great reason to suspect that a number of said inhabitants and petitioners, under the countenance of some of the Committee of Safety of that place, have the last year, in many instances, supplied our enemies with wood and live-stock, thereby counteracting the resolves of the Congress. And it does not appear to the Committee that the said *Bakeman* has acted an unfriendly part to his country, or has done any thing to forfeit the trust reposed in him by his appointment to the office of a Justice of the Peace for the County of *Lincoln*. And, with respect to the riot committed on said *Bakemon* in *December* last, it being of such an alarming nature, we think, that unless some methods are speedily taken, in order to bring the perpetrators thereof to condign punishment, it will prove of very mischievous consequences; and, that it is a matter of so much importance, that it deserves the attention of the whole Court.

In Council: Read, and *Ordered*, That *Moses Gill* and *John Taylor*, Esquires, with such as the honourable House shall join, be a Committee to consider the subject-matter of the above Report, and what is further necessary to be done.

In the House of Representatives: Read, and concurred, and Colonel *Norton*, Mr. *Hovey*, and Captain *Hathaway*, are joined.

Petition of *Joshua Elderkin*, (Blank.)

The Committee of both Houses on the Petition of *Charles Chauncy*, Esq., in behalf of Mr. *Neal McIntyer*, beg leave to report, as their opinion, that the prayer of the petition be granted; and, that an order pass this Court to the person, or persons, who may have the goods, clothing, or furniture, mentioned in the petition or invoice, in their possession, to deliver the same to the order of *Charles Chauncy*, Esquire, or Mr. *Neal McIntyer*, as soon as demanded. JABEZ FISHER, *per order*.

In Council: Read, and accepted, and, thereupon, *Resolved*, That the Committee of *Frenchman's Bay* be, and they hereby are directed, to deliver all the Goods, Clothing, or Furniture, mentioned in the enclosed schedule, to the order of *Charles Chauncy*, Esq., or Mr. *Neal McIntyer*, on demand.

In the House of Representatives: Read, and concurred.

In the House of Representatives: Whereas, in the present important contest with *Britain* the Militia of the several *United Colonies* of *America* may be frequently called forth to defend their invaluable rights and liberties, and it is indispensably necessary to the welfare of the Colonies, that such of the said Militia as shall have conducted in the service with a laudable zeal and fidelity therein, should be fully satisfied with publick measures, and, at all times so accommodated and rewarded for their services, that the Colonies may have the fullest assurance of a renewal of their engagements whenever the same shall be required; and, whereas, it will be much for the convenience and advantage of any part of the said Militia, when called as a temporary reinforcement of the *American* Army, to receive their wages at the time of their dismission, as the trouble and expense of a future application for the same would greatly reduce the reward of their services, and may tend to discourage their inlisting again:

It is, therefore, *Resolved*, As the opinion of this Court, that it will greatly tend to promote the service in this Colony, and encourage the reinlistment of that part of the Militia of said Colony, now in the *American* Army, as a temporary reinforcement, if they could be assured by his Excellency General *Washington*, that they should be paid their wages at the time of their discharge from service.

Resolved, That Mr. Speaker and Colonel *Thayer*, with such as the honourable Board shall join, be, and they hereby are appointed a Committee to apply to his Excellency General *Washington*, with a copy of the preceding Resolve, and, also, a Resolve of the Court, relative to the reinlistment of the Militia aforesaid.

In Council: Read, and concurred; and *Walter Spooner*, Esq., is joined.

Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow morning.*

—

Thursday, January 11, 1776.

Present in Council: Honourables Walter Spooner, Caleb Cushing, Benjamin Chadbourn, John Adams, John Whetcomb, Jedediah Foster, James Prescott, Eldad Taylor, Benjamin Lincoln, Charles Chauncy, Michael Farley, Samuel Holten, Jabez Fisher, Moses Gill, John Taylor, Benjamin White, Esquires.

Memorial of *John Tufft*, of *Belfast*, in *Penobscot*, setting

* COUNCIL-CHAMBER, *January* 10, 1776.—SIR: The bearer, Mr. *James Seward*, is a person lately sent out of *Boston*, and is now a prisoner on the parole of his honour. The Council, by inquiry into his character and conduct, find he has been guilty of acting, in some instances, an unfriendly part to the liberties of *America*, such as working for the King's troops in *Boston*, and keeping his shop open on last fast-day, in contempt of the recommendation of Congress. As a palliation for this conduct, he urges his religious tenets; in indulgence to which, and in consideration that he comes recommended to the charity of the Colony from the Committee of Donations within the town, the Council have ordered that he be confined within the limits of the town of *Bridgewater*, until their further order. And I am directed, by them, to recommend him to you to be employed as a gunsmith, to which trade he served his time, that he may be able to maintain himself and family and not be an incumbrance to the community. And I am directed, further, to request of you to see that he does not pass the limits of the said town of *Bridgewater*, on any occasion whatever, and if he should, that you give the earliest intelligence thereof to this Board.

In the name, and by order of the Council: WALTER SPOONER.

To *Hugh Orr*, Esq.

forth: "that your memorialist dwells at *Penobscot*, and that he lives near *Long-Island*, in said *Penobscot-Bay*, and on said Island dwell about fourteen families; and that some of said families have, from time to time, supplied the Ministerial forces with cord-wood, and other necessaries, from said Island. And, as your memorialist is one of the Committee of Correspondence of said place, thinks it his duty to set forth to your Honours (and that he is come on purpose to set forth) their proceedings, which is inimical to the country, and prays your Honours would order their removal, or that they may not countenance such proceedings.

"Your memorialist further prays, that the inhabitants of *Belfast* may be allowed some ammunition, to defend themselves from the enemy, as they are now exposed, and have none to help themselves."

In the House of Representatives: Read, and committed to the Committee of both Houses, appointed to consider the subject matter of a Report on the Petition of a number of the Inhabitants of *Majabigwaduce*, relative to the conduct of *Bakeman*.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

In Council: Resolved, That two Ships be built, as soon as may be, at the expense of this Colony, one suitable to carry thirty-six guns, viz: twenty guns carrying twelve-pound shot, and sixteen guns for six-pound shot; and the other ship suitable to carry thirty-two guns, viz: twenty guns for nine-pound shot, and twelve for six-pound shot; and that these Ships be built in a manner best calculated for swift sailing, and of timber and all other materials suitable for ships-of-war, of such a number of guns and weight of metal, and furnished with a suitable number of officers, seamen, and marines, and that all kinds of arms, ammunition, and provisions, be furnished for such ships.

Resolved, That . . . . . with such as the honourable House shall join, be a Committee to carry the foregoing Resolution into execution, as soon as possible, and that a sum of money for that purpose, not exceeding . . . . . be put into their hands, they to be accountable to this Court for the expenditnre of the same.

In the House of Representatives: Read, and ordered to be recommitted; and the Committee are directed to report an estimate of the expense of building and furnishing the vessels above proposed to be provided.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

Letter from his Excellency General *Washington*, on the critical situation of the Army, read and sent down. Came up committed to a Committee of both Houses.

In Council: Read, and concurred; and *John Adams* and *Jedediah Foster*, Esquires, are joined.

In Council: Ordered, That there be a Committee of both Houses appointed, to remedy the defect of the Innholders not exhibiting their Accounts.

In the House of Representatives: Read, and concurred, and . . . . . are joined.

In the House of Representatives: Resolved, (Blank.)

In the House of Representatives: Ordered, That the Letter from *William Williams*, Esq., of *Connecticut*, communicating measures adopted by that Colony, and discoveries made of a Lead-Mine.

In Council: Read, and concurred, and *John Adams*, Esq., is joined.

Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow morning.*

* Council-Chamber, *January* 11, 1776.—Gentlemen: The Council have considered a petition presented by *Joshua Young*, who is confined to your town, and who seems to be heartily penitent for his past offences, and have ordered that he be removed from his confinement to the town of *Northampton*, and be sent to *Marshfield*, and confined within the limits of that town till their further order, and they request that you see this order carried into execution.

In the name, and by order of the Council: Jedediah Foster.

To the Committee of Correspondence of *Northampton*.

Council-Chamber, *January* 11, 1776.—Gentlemen: *Joshua Young*, who has been confined to the town of *Northamptan*, for his offences and misdemeanours against the country, has presented a petition to the Council, to extend their clemency towards him, in consequence nf which the Council havo ordered that he be released from the town of *Northampton*, and be sent to your town, and confined within the limits thereof till further order. And they request that you take care that the said *Young* does not pass the limits nf his confinement.

In the name, and by order of the Council: Jedediah Foster.

To the Committee of Correspondence of the Town of *Marshfield*.

Friday, January 12, 1776

Present in Council: Honourables Walter Spooner, Caleb Cushing, Benjamin Chadbourn, John Adams, John Whetcomb, Jedediah Foster, James Prescott, Eldad Taylor, Benjamin Lincoln, Charles Chauncy, Michael Farley, Joseph Palmer, Samuel Holten, Jabez Fisher, Moses Gill, John Taylor, Benjamin White, Esquires.

A Letter to the Honourable *John Taylor*, Esq., from *Timothy Parsons*, on matter of publick concern.

In Council: Read, and committed to the Committee on the Petition from *Mojabigwaduce*.

Deposition of *Ebenezer Goodell* and *James Goodell*, relative to *Joseph Bowditch* refusing a tender of Bills of publick Credit.

Read, and committed to *John Taylor*, Esq., with such as the honourable House shall join.

Adjourned till to-morrow morning, ten o'clock.

—

Saturday, January 13, 1776.

Present in Council: Honourables Walter Spooner, Caleb Cushing, Benjamin Chadbourn, John Adams, John Whetcomb, Jedediah Foster, James Prescott, Eldad Taylor, Benjamin Lincoln, Charles Chauncy, Joseph Palmer, Samuel Holten, Moses Gill, Jabez Fisher, Michael Farley, John Taylor, Benjamin White, Esquires.

The Committee appointed to take into consideration the Letter from his Excellency General *Washington*, of the 10th instant, have attended that service, and beg leave to report, that a Committee of both Houses be appointed to wait on the General, and to assure him that this Court are zealously disposed to do every thing in their power to promote the recruiting of the *American* Army, and to acquaint him that they cannot be of opinion that the publick service will be promoted by offering a bounty, at the separate expense of this Colony, or any other encouragement beyond that which has been ordered by the Congress; that they are still further from an opinion that the same service can be promoted by any coercive measures, or any other expedient than voluntary inlistment. But, that this Court is willing, if his Excellency shall approve of this measure, to recommend any further temporary drafts from the Militia, that may be necessary to supply the present deficiencies, to be continued until the 1st of *April* next; and, also, to exert the influence of this Court, by recommending to the Selectmen and Committees of Correspondence, and others, to exert themselves, and employ their influence among the people, to promote and encourage, by all reasonable methods, the recruiting service in the several towns.

John Adams, *per order*.

In Council: Read, and accepted; and, *Ordered*, That *John Adams*, Esq., with such as the honourable House shall join, be a Committee to wait on his Excellency General *Washington*, for the purposes expressed in the above Report.

In the House of Representatives: Read, and concurred, and Mr. Speaker and Major *Hawley* are joined.

Petition of *John Tidd*, of *Lexington*, setting forth: "that, on the 19th of *April*, he received a wound in the head, (by a cutlass,) from the enemy, which brought him senseless to the ground; at which time they took from him his gun, cartridge-box, powder-horn, &c. He prays your Honours would make him some compensation for said loss; likewise, six weeks' loss of time, charge of a Surgeon, nursing, and board."

In the House of Representatives: Resolved, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to *John Tidd*, the sum of four Pounds ten Shillings, in full, for his loss of Gun, &c., set forth in his Petition.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

In the House of Representatives: Whereas, the Captains and Lieutenants of the Militia, who have lately joined the Army as a temporary reinforcement, have not been commissionated according to the several stations to which they have been elected; and whereas, they may continue a longer time in service than was at first expected; therefore,

Resolved, That the honourable Council of this Colony be desired to commissionate all such officers, as aforesaid, according to their several ranks, who, with fifty men or upwards, (accounting in said number officers, and, also, such men as have inlisted from their respective companies into the Continental Army,) shall incline to continue in the

service till the last of this month, or till the 10th of *February* next, if occasion shall require, upon their being certified of their appointment according to the Resolves of this Court, and of retaining the number of men specified in this Resolve.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

Adjourned, until *Monday* next.

—

Monday, January 15. 1776.

Present in Council: Honourables Walter Spooner, Caleb Cushing, Thomas Cushing, John Adams, Jedediah Foster, James Prescott, Eldad Taylor, Benjamin Lincoln, Charles Chauncy, Joseph Palmer, Samuel Holten, Moses Gill, John Taylor, Benjamin White, Esquires.

In the House of Representatives: Resolved, That Colonel *Porter* and Mr. *Brown*, of *Boston*, with such as the honourable Board shall join, be, and they hereby are appointed a Committee to settle the Accounts remaining unsettled on the books of the late Committee of Supplies, and to collect and pay the balances that may be due to, or from the Colony on said Accounts. Also, to take the care of the brigantine *Rockingham* and *Unity's* cargoes, and such a part of the schooner *Maccaroni's*, as belongs to the Colony. Also, to see that the order of this Court be complied with by Captain *William Johnson*, late commander of the schooner *Brittonia*, relative to his delivering to the Commissary of said Colony the nett proceeds of the cargo of said schooner, consigned him by the said late Committee of Supplies, exclusive of what he shall produce receipts of having delivered agreeable to any order of said Court. And they are further directed, to receive from the files of said Committee of Supplies all the papers relative to said vessel, or any of the persons having accounts unsettled, as aforesaid; and, upon the arrival of any of them, to cause the proceeds of their cargoes, if vested in military stores, to be delivered to the Colonial Commissary, and take his receipts therefor, and to certify to the Standing Committee on Accounts the sums which they shall find necessary to discharge the portledge bills, hire, and other necessary charges attending the said voyages, that shall be due from the Colony aforesaid. And the Standing Committee on Accounts are hereby empowered to pay and discharge the portledge bills, hire of vessels, and other charges that shall be examined and certified by the Committee now chosen, as aforesaid; they to be accountable to the General Court for their doings.

In Council: Read, and concurred, and *Moses Gill*, Esq., is joined.

Mr. *Cooper* came up with a message to the Board, to inform them that the House proposed to come to the choice of Officers to command at *Plymouth* and *Truro*, also, a Captain to command in the County of *Cumberland*, in the room of Captain *Rice*, who declines, at three o'clock, this afternoon, if agreeable to the honourable Board.

Benjamin Lincoln, Esq., went down with a message to the House, to inform them, that the Board agreed to the foregoing proposal of the honourable House.

Letter from his Excellency General *Washington*, respecting the want of Fire-Arms for the new recruits, now coming in.

In the House of Representatives: Read, and committed to Mr. *Pitts*, Colonel *Woodbridge*, and Captain *Smith*, with such as the honourable Board may join.

In Council: Read, and concurred, and Colonel *Prescott* and Colonel *Lincoln* are joined.

Message came up from the House, to inform the Board that the House are now ready to proceed to the choice of Officers for the Company to be stationed at *Plymouth* and *Truro*, and a Captain in the room of Captain *Rice*.

In Council: Ordered, That *Charles Chauncy* and *Moses Gill*, Esquires, be a Committee to count and sort the votes, who reported, that for the Officers to command at *Plymouth*, the number of votes were:

On the part of the Board, - - - - -	12
On the part of the House, - - - - -	50
Total, - - - - - - - - -	62

Thirty-two made a vote; and that *Jesse Harlow*, as Captain; *James Churchill*, First Lieutenant; *Timothy Goodwin*, Second Lieutenant, were unanimously chosen.

William Watson, Esq., for a Commissary, had fifty-nine otes, and was accordingly chosen.

For Officers to command at *Truro*, the number of votes were:

On the part of the Board, - - - - -	9
On the part of the House, - - - - -	42
Total, - - - - - - - - -	51

Twenty-six made a vote; and that *Joseph Smith*, as Captain; *Hezekiah Harden*, First Lieutenant; *Seth Smith*, Second Lieutenant, were unanimously chosen.

Samuel Harding was chosen Commissary.

For a Captain, in the room of Captain *Rice*, the number of votes were:

On the part of the Board, - - - - -	11
On the part of the House, - - - - -	42
Total, - - - - - - - - -	53

Twenty-seven made a vote; and *Bryant Morton* was unanimously chosen.

The Committee appointed to count and sort the votes for a Commissary at *Tarpaulin-Cove*, reported that the number of votes were:

On the part of the Board, - - - - -	10
On the part of the House, - - - - -	47
Total, - - - - - - - - -	57

Twenty-nine made a vote; and that *Thomas Jones*, Jr., was accordingly chosen.

Petition of *James Lemont*, setting forth: "tha the received orders to inlist a company of men, to be stationed in the County of *Lincoln*, for the defence of the sea-coast, and before they passed muster, the County was alarmed by a number of our enemy's vessels arriving at *Pleasant-River*, to which your petitioner, with his men, immediately went, and was obliged to victual said men until their return to *Georgetown*, where your petitioner was afterwards stationed, and was victualled by the Selectmen. Further, your petitioner did hire several boats for the use of the Colony, to convey the men under his command from one place to another, as the County was often alarmed by the enemy's vessels, which occasioned Colonel *Cargill* to order him from one place to another, where there was no passing by land; therefore, your petitioner prays your Honours would grant him payment according to account annexed."

In the House of Representatives: Resolved, That *Henry Gardner*, Esquire, Treasurer and Receiver-General be, and he hereby is directed to pay to *James Lemont*, or his order, the sum of fifty Pounds and two Shillings, in full discharge of his account.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow morning.*

* Philadelphia, *January* 1, 1776.—May it please your Honours: I arrived at this place the 28th ultimo, where I found a letter from Mr. *Morton*, Deputy Secretary, wrote by the direction of the major part of the honourable Council of the Province of the *Massachusetts-Bay*, by which I am acquainted that they have honoured me with an appointment as one of the Justices of the Superior Court of Judicature, &c., for that Province. I am, also, favoured with a list of the other gentlemen appointed to the Superior Bench, and of our arrangement in rank. I am, also, requested to signify to the honourable Board, as soon as may be, my acceptance or refusal in writing.

That my answer has been so long delayed from the arrival of this letter, has been entirely owing to my absence on a commission to the northward, so that I have really been notified but a few days of my appointment to that important office, and have not had that time and opportunity to consider the matter which I could have wished; but as your Honours have thought it expedient that a Superior Court should be appointed, and the appointment is of so long standing, I think it necessary to give my answer by this first opportunity, lest the matter remaining undetermined, might prevent the accomplishment of your Honours' determination.

After expressing my sincere thanks for the honour you have conferred upon me by this appointment, I find myself constrained to decline accepting it, and without troubling your Honours with a detail of reasons which are not required, I beg leave to observe that I have the highest sense of the importance of that office, and am satisfied that, if sufficiently qualified, I could not attend to the due execution of it, while the attack made by our enemies, on every thing we hold dear, appears to me to demand our constant attention.

I heartily wish the establishment of peace, and the due administration of justice in our Province, success to your Honours' endeavours to effect these valuable purposes, and happiness to your persons, and am with unfeigned respect, your Honours' most obliged, humble servant,

Robert Treat Paine.

To the Honourable the Council of *Massachusetts-Bay*.

In Council, *January* 15, 1776: Read, and ordered to be entered on the files of Council. Perez Morton, *Deputy Secretary*.

Tuesday, January 16, 1776.

Present in Council: Honourables William Sever, Walter Spooner Caleb Cushing, John Winthrop, Thomas Cushing, John Adams, John Whetcomb, Jedediah Foster, James Prescott, Eldad Taylor, Benjamin Lincoln, Charles Chauncy, Joseph Palmer, Samuel Holten, Jabez Fisher, Moses Gill, John Taylor, Benjamin White, Esquires.

The Committee of both Houses, appointed to take into consideration his Excellency General *Washington's* Letter to this Court, of the 10th instant, have attended that service, and report as followeth, viz:

That his Excellency be informed that it is the opinion of this Court, there would be a general supply of fire-arms brought into the camp, if he would give publick notice that if the recruits would come well armed, they should be allowed for the use of their arms; and if lost in the service, the just value of them should be paid, and that their arms shall not be detained from them when their time of service shall expire. And, that to detain the arms of the Militia, without their consent, would neither promote the good of the service nor facilitate the arming the forces, as it would produce a general uneasiness through the country. And that his Excellency be also informed that this Colony have in store but about two hundred fire-arms, part of which are out of repair. Such as will do for the service, although provided for the particular use of this Colony, we shall be ready to deliver, if they shall be needed, and do all in our power to aid his Excellency in arming the troops.

In Council: Read, and sent down.

In the House of Representatives: Read, and accepted, and thereupon, *Ordered*, That the Committee appointed to wait upon his Excellency General *Washington*, on the subject of his Letter of the 10th current, be a Committee to present him a copy of the within Report.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

In the House of Representatives: Whereas, representation has been made to this Court, by a Committee thereof, that his Excellency General *Washington* was desirous of borrowing, for the use of the Continental Army, a supply of money,

Resolved, That the Council be, and they hereby are empowered to draw on the Treasurer of this Colony, for the sum of fifty thousand Pounds, lawful money, in favour of his Excellency aforesaid, as Commander-in-chief of the Continental Army, or for such a part of said sum as his Excellency shall have a present demand for, he giving an obligation, in his capacity, to return the same to the said Treasurer, when demanded.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

In the House of Representatives: Ordered, That the Committee appointed to wait on his Excellency General *Washington*, on the subject of his Excellency's Letter of the 10th instant, be a Committee to present his Excellency with a copy of the within Resolve.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

In the House of Representatives: Ordered, That the Letter from the Honourable *John Honcock*, Esq., President of the Continental Congress, be committed to a Committee of both Houses.

In Council: Read, and concurred, and *Walter Spooner* and *Jedediah Foster*, Esquires, are joined.

In the House of Representatives: Ordered, That the Memorial of *Jonathan Jackson*, Chairman of the Committee of Inspection of *Newburyport*, setting forth the fraud of *Benjamin Balch*, &c., be committed to Mr. *Story* and Mr. *Wheeler*, with such as the honourable Board shall join.

In Council: Read, and concurred, and *Caleb Cushing*, Esquire, is joined.

In the House of Representatives: Whereas, by a Resolve of this Court, passed this House the 16th of *December* last, it was recommended to a number of towns in the Counties of *Suffolk*, *Essex*, *Middlesex*, *Plymouth*, and *Worcester*, as they regarded their own safety and the general welfare of these Colonies, to take effectual measures to supply the camps at *Cambridge* and *Roxbury*, with such quantities of Hay as were set to the respective towns named in said Resolve, at the rate of five Pounds per ton for *English* Hay, and forty Shillings per ton for salt Hay. And, whereas, upon a thorough inquiry made by this Court, it now appears, that the allowance then made is below the market price, and short of what has been usually given by the inhabitants of this Colony, under a like scarcity with the present,

Resolved, That it be recommended to those towns which have not, as yet, forwarded to the camps the quantities of Hay which have been assigned, that they send their respective quantities immediately, and receive pay therefor, at the rate of six Pounds per ton for *English*, and fifty Shillings per ton for salt Hay, provided the same shall be brought into camp within ten days from the date hereof. And lest the other towns mentioned in said Resolve, which from an early regard to the recommendations of this Court, have already furnished their respective quantities of Hay, should be sufferers for so doing, they are to receive out of the Colony Treasury, such sums as have been short paid them of the prices now allowed to be given therefor, on their producing proper certificates to the honourable Board of the quantities furnished aforesaid, who are hereby empowered to grant warrants for the same; and the Selectmen and Committees of Correspondence in those towns are desired to transmit to this Court the receipts for the Hay they have already carried into the camps, that so their regard to the credit of this community, and zeal for the common safety may appear upon the publick records of this Colony. And whereas, it may so happen, that at the expiration of said ten days, some towns may still remain deficient, to prevent the fatal consequences of such neglect, the Selectmen of any delinquent town are hereby directed and empowered to impress therein, for the use of the Continental Army, so much Hay as will make up the full quantity assigned such town by the aforesaid Resolve of this Court; and the Committee named in the former Resolve are directed to see that and the foregoing Resolve be carried into execution; and Colonel *Thompson* is directed to get this Resolve printed in handbills and dispersed through the several towns mentioned in the schedule annexed to the first Resolve.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

Mr. *Gerry* came up with a message from the House, to inform the Board that the House proposed to come to the choice of such Officers on the Sea-Coast, as remain to be chosen, at five o'clock this afternoon, by joint ballot, if agreeable to the honourable Board.

Mr. *Spooner* went down with a message to the House, to inform them that the Board agreed to the foregoing proposal of the honourable House, and would request to be informed what Company the House propose to begin with.

In Council: Ordered, That *Charles Chauncy* and *Joseph Palmer*, Esquires, be a Committee to count and sort the votes for Officers to command the Company to be stationed at *Salem*, who reported the number of votes were:

On the part of the Board, - - - - -	7
On the part of the House, - - - - -	45
Total, - - - - -	52

Twenty-seven made a vote; *Daniel Ward*, as Captain; *Jonathan Herreden*, as First Lieutenant; *William Marston*, as Second Lieutenant; were chosen.

The Committee appointed to count and sort the votes for a Mustermaster for *Cumberland* reported, that the number of votes were:

On the part of the Board, - - - - -	7
On the part of the House, - - - - -	43
Total, - - - - -	50

Twenty-six made a vote; and *Peter Noyes* was chosen Mustermaster accordingly.

The Committee appointed to count and sort the votes for a Mustermaster for *Dukes* County reported, that the number of the votes were:

On the part of the Board, - - - - -	8
On the part of the House, - - - - -	44
Total, - - - - -	52

Twenty-seven made a vote; and Colonel *Beriah Norton* was unanimously chosen Mustermaster for *Dukes* County.

The Committee appointed to count and sort the votes for a Mustermaster for the County of *Plymouth*, reported that the number of votes were:

On the part of the Board, - - - - -	8
On the part of the House, - - - - -	44
Total, - - - - -	52

Twenty-seven made a vote; and *Thomas Lothrop* was chosen Mustermaster for *Plymouth*.

The Committee appointed to count and sort the votes for a Mustermaster, for the County of *Essex*, reported the number of votes were:

On the part of the Board, - - - - -	9
On the part of the House, - - - - -	43
Total, - - - - - -	52

Twenty-seven made a vote; and *Daniel Hopkins* was unanimously chosen Mustermaster.

The Committee appointed to count and sort the votes for a Captain, First and Second Lieutenants, and a Commissary, for the County of *Lincoln, Sheepscut-River*, who reported that the number of votes were:

On the part of the Board, - - - - -	9
On the part of the House, - - - - -	44
Total, - - - - - -	53

Twenty-seven made a vote; and *Israel Davis*, as Captain; *Nathaniel Winslow*, as First Lieutenant; *Christopher Woodbridge*, as Second Lieutenant; *David Reed*, as Commissary, were unanimously chosen.

The Committee of the honourable House then informed the Board, that the House proposed to defer the further choice of Officers on the Sea-Coast till to-morrow, twelve o'clock.

Adjourned till to-morrow, ten o'clock.

—

Thursday, January 17, 1776.

Present in Council: Honourables William Sever, Walter Spooner, Caleb Cushing, John Winthrop, Thomas Cushing, John Adams, John Whetcomb, Jedediah Foster, James Prescott, Eldad Taylor, Benjamin Lincoln, Charles Chauncy, Michael Farley, Joseph Palmer, Samuel Holten, Jabez Fisher, Moses Gill, John Taylor, Benjamin White, Esquires.

In Council: Whereas, *John Hancock, Samuel Adams, John Adams, Robert Treat Paine*, and *Elbridge Gerry*, Esquires, having been chosen by joint ballot of the two Houses of Assembly, to represent the Colony of the *Massachusetts-Bay*, in *New-England*, in the *American* Congress, until the 1st day of *January*, 1777,

Resolved, That they, or any one, or more them, are hereby fully empowered, with the Delegates from the other *American* Colonies, to concert, direct, and order such further measures as shall to them appear best calculated for the recovery and establishment of *American* rights and liberties; and the Secretary is hereby directed, as soon as may be, to signify to each of those gentlemen their appointment, with an attested copy of this order.

In the House of Representatives: Read, and committed to Mr. Speaker, Mr. *Hawley*, and Mr. *Cooper*, with such as the honourable Board may join; and said Committee are directed to form Instructions to said Delegates.

In Council: Read, and concurred, and *William Sever* and *Walter Spooner*, Esquires, are joined.

In the House of Representatives: Resolved, That that part of the Sea-Coast establishment, which respects the raising two Companies in the County of *Cumberland*, be so far reconsidered as that Captain *Bryant Morton*, lately appointed by this Court to command one of the said Companies be, and he hereby is empowered and directed to inlist the whole, or any part thereof, in any other County in this Colony, where he can fill up the same with the greatest despatch, except in sea-port towns; and that Colonel *Thompson* be, and hereby is empowered and directed to sign inlisting orders, and give a form of an inlistment to the said *Morton*, agreeable to the establishment before mentioned.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

In the House of Representatives: Whereas, by a Resolve of this Court, of the 27th of *December* last, provision is made for a Commissary for the Forces stationed on the Sea-Coast at *Salem* and *Marblehead*; and as it appears to be more for the publick benefit that there should be a Commissary for each of those towns,

It is, therefore, *Resolved*, That the Commissary already appointed be a Commissary for the Companies at *Marblehead* only; and that a Commissary be appointed for the Forces stationed in the Town of *Salem*.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

In the House of Representatives: Whereas, his Excellency General *Washington* hath informed this Court, that he doth not think himself at liberty to pay four Companies of men, who have generally done duty at *Braintree, Weymouth*, and *Hingham*, the last year; and the said Companies having received no part of their pay from him since *August* last,

Therefore, *Resolved*, That the Officers of the said four Companies, be directed to make up their Rolls to the 1st day of *January* current, and observe such rules as were given to the Officers in the camps at *Cambridge* and *Roxbury*.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

The Committee of both Houses appointed upon a Petition from the town of *Dorchester*, relative to *Jane Jackson*, and her two children, beg leave to report the following Resolve:

Whereas, it appears that *Jane Jackson*, and her two children, have been sent over from *Castle-William* into the Town of *Dorchester*, since which they have been maintained at the expense of the said town, notwithstanding their application to General *Washington*, (by order of this Court,) to desire his assistance in conveying them back to *Boston*, he refusing to concern himself in the matter,

Therefore, *Resolved*, That the Selectmen of *Dorchester* be, and they are hereby directed to remove the said *Jane Jackson*, with her two children, into some inland town, where they may be maintained at the cheapest rate; and, provided either of the said persons are able to work, that they be put out for that purpose, to lessen the charge of their maintenance as aforesaid, the said Selectmen to lay their Accounts before this Court, for examination and allowance.

In Council: Read, and accepted.

In the House of Representatives: Read, and concurred.

Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow morning.

—

Thursday, January 18, 1776.

Present in Council: Honourables William Sever, Walter Spooner, Caleb Cushing, John Winthrop, John Adams, John Whetcomb, Jedediah Foster, James Prescott, Eldad Taylor, Benjamin Lincoln, Charles Chauncy, Michael Farley, Joseph Palmer, Samuel Holten, Jabez Fisher, Moses Gill, John Taylor, Benjamin White, Esquires.

The Committee of both Houses, appointed to form Instructions for the Delegates from this Colony to the *American* Congress, have attended that service, and report the following draft, which is submitted.

WILLIAM SEVER, *per order*.

In Council: Whereas, *John Hancock, Samuel Adams, John Adams, Robert Treat Paine*, and *Elbridge Gerry*, Esquires, have been chosen, by joint ballot of the two Houses of Assembly, to represent the Colony of *Massachusetts-Bay*, in *New-England*, in the *American* Congress, until the 1st day of *January*, 1777,

Resolved, That they, or any one, or more of them, are hereby fully empowered, with the Delegates from the other *American* Colonies, to concert, direct, and order such further measures as shall to them appear best calculated for the establishment of right and liberty to the *American* Colonies, upon a basis permanent and secure, against the power and arts of the *British* Administration, and guarded against any future encroachments of their enemies, with power to adjourn to such times, and places, as shall appear most conducive to the publick safety and advantage.

Read, and accepted. Sent down.

In the House of Representatives: Read, and concurred, and the Secretary is hereby directed, as soon as may be, to signify to each of those gentlemen their appointment, with an attested copy of this order.*

In Council: Read, and concurred.

A Bill, entitled "An Act for regulating the Militia,

* COUNCIL-CHAMBER, *January* 19, 1776.—SIR: Agreeable to the directions of the enclosed resolution, I am to acquaint you, that by a joint ballot of both Houses of Assembly for the Colony of *Massachusetts-Bay*, you are elected one of the Delegates to represent that Colony in *American* Congress, until the 1st day of *January*, 1777; and the enclosed resolution you are to make the general rule of your conduct.

By order of the General Court:

PEREZ MORTON, *Deputy Secretary*.

To *John Hancock*, Esq.

[Same to *Elbridge Gerry, Samuel Adams, John Adams*, and *Robert Treat Paine*, Esquires.]

&c.," having passed the House of Representatives, to be engrossed.

In Council: Read a second time, and passed a concurrence, to be engrossed.

Petition of *Elizabeth Sampson*, and others, setting forth: "that their families have been visited with distressing sickness, and the distress much augmented by their not being able to purchase proper necessaries for persons under such circumstances, as theirs were in the time of their sickness, which was brought upon them, at least in part, by the delay of the Trustees of *Indian* Affairs, in *Grafton*, paying us our reasonable part of the interest money due in *May* last; we, therefore, pray that such measures may be pointed out as may be effectual for the speedy collecting and paying us our proportions of said interest money, respectively, not only for our present relief, but for the future."

In the House of Representatives: On the Petition of *Elizabeth Sampson*, and other *Indian* inhabitants of *Grafton*, praying to be relieved respecting their income by the interest money in the hands of the Guardians of that Tribe:

Resolved, That whereas, the Honourable *Artemas Ward*, Esquire, one of their present Guardians, is necessarily employed in the Continental service, and the others have neglected to relieve those *Indians*, it is become necessary that new Guardians shall be appointed, who shall, by such appointment, be vested with the same power, in all matters respecting the property of those *Indians*, as the present Guardians have.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

In Council: Ordered, That *Moses Gill*, Esquire, with such as the honourable House shall join, be a Committee to consider of the propriety of commissionating such Captains and Subalterns as marched and joined the Continental Army from the Militia, with full companies, in pursuance of the Resolve of the General Court, on the 1st of *December* last.

In the House of Representatives: Read, and concurred, and Captain *Parker* and Colonel *Ward* are joined.

Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow morning.

—

Friday, January 19, 1776.

Present in Council: Honourables William Sever, Walter Spooner, Caleb Cushing, John Winthrop, Thomas Cushing, John Adams, John Whetcomb, Jedediah Foster, Eldad Taylor, Benjamin Lincoln, Charles Chauncy, Michael Farley, Joseph Palmer, Samuel Holten, Jabez Fisher, Moses Gill, John Taylor, Benjamin White, Esquires.

In the House of Representatives: Ordered, That ..... be a Committee, with such as the honourable Board shall join, to confer with Mr. *Thomas Harling* on the subject of erecting a Powder-Mill, &c.

In Council: Read, and concurred, and *Caleb Cushing* and *Joseph Palmer*, Esquires, are joined.

Letter from *Samuel Jordan*, representing the fraud of Colonel *Cargill:*

In Council: Read, and *Ordered*, That *Eldad Taylor* and *John Taylor*, Esquires, with such as the honourable House shall join, be a Committee to take the foregoing Letter, and papers accompanying it, into consideration, and report.

In the House of Representatives: Read, and concurred, and Mr. *Hopkins*, Mr. *Thompson*, and Colonel *Cushing*, are joined.

In the House of Representatives: Resolved, That the Committees, or Selectmen, of the several towns in this Colony, send a just and true account of all the Powder, Lead, and Flints, by them delivered, by order of the Congress, or House of Representatives, of this Colony, for the use of the said Colony or Army, to the Committee of Accounts, by the 1st day of *April* next, in order to their being paid for the same: the Powder at five Shillings per pound, the Lead at five Pence per pound, and the Flints at five Shillings per hundred; unless they choose to have the same replaced, when the state of this Colony will permit of.

And it is further Resolved, That the Selectmen, or Committees aforesaid, send an account of all the Powder, Lead, and Flints delivered to the Minute-Men, or others, that was used or left in the camps, for the benefit of the Army, on the alarm of the 19th day of *April* last, or otherwise be left in the camps for the use of the Army, that the same may be paid for by this Court.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

In Council: Ordered, That *John Winthrop* and *Thomas Cushing*, Esquires, with such as the honourable House shall join, be a Committee to take into consideration the Resolution of the *American* Congress, passed the 2d of *January*, and called "the Tory Act," and report.

In the House of Representatives: Read, and concurred, and ..... are joined.

The Committee appointed to draft a Proclamation, to be read at the opening of Courts, &c., reported a draft, which is as follows, viz:

By the Great and General Court of the Colony of Massachusetts-Bay:—A Proclamation.

The frailty of human nature, the wants of individuals, and the numerous dangers which surround them through the course of life, have, in all ages, and in every country, impelled them to form societies, and establish Governments. As the happiness of the people is the sole end of Government, so the consent of the people is the only foundation of it, in reason, morality, and the natural fitness of things; and, therefore, every act of Government, every exercise of sovereignty, against or without the consent of the people, is injustice, usurpation, and tyranny.

It is a maxim that, in every Government, there must exist, somewhere, a supreme, sovereign, absolute, and uncontrollable power; but this power resides always in the body of the people, and it never was, nor can be, delegated to one man, or a few, the great Creator having never given to men a right to vest others with authority over them, unlimited either in duration or degree.

When Kings, Ministers, Governours, or Legislators, therefore, instead of exercising the power intrusted with them according to the principles, forms, and proportions stated by the Constitution, and established by the original compact, prostitute those powers to the purposes of oppression, to subvert, instead of supporting a free Constitution, to destroy, instead of preserving the lives, liberties, and properties of the people, they are no longer to be deemed magistrates vested with a sacred character, but become publick enemies, and ought to be resisted.

The Administration of *Great Britain*, despising equally the justice, humanity, and magnanimity of their ancestors, and the rights, liberties, and courage of *Americans*, have, for a course of years, laboured to establish a sovereignty in *America*, not founded in the consent of the people, but in the mere will of persons a thousand leagues from us, whom we know not, and have endeavoured to establish this sovereignty over us, against our consent, in all cases whatsoever. The Colonies, during this period, have recurred to every peaceable resource in a free Constitution, by petitions and remonstrances, to obtain justice, which has not only been denied to them, but they have been treated with unexampled indignity and contempt; and, at length, open war, of the most atrocious, cruel, and sanguinary kind, has been commenced against them. To this, an open, manly, and successful resistance has hitherto been made. Thirteen Colonies are now firmly united in the conduct of this most just and necessary war, under the wise councils of their Congress.

It is the will of Providence, for wise, righteous, and gracious ends, that this Colony should have been singled out by the enemies of *America*, as the first object, both of their envy and their revenge, and, after having been made the subject of several merciless and vindictive statutes, one of which was intended to subvert our Constitution by charter, is made the seat of war. No effectual resistance to the system of tyranny provided for us could be made, without either instant recourse to arms, or a temporary suspension of the ordinary powers of Government, or tribunals of justice; to the last of which evils, in hopes of a speedy reconciliation with *Great Britain*, upon equitable terms, the Congress advised us to submit; and mankind has seen a phenomenon, without example in the political world—a large and populous Colony subsisting, in great decency and order, for more than a year, under such a suspension of Government.

But as our enemies have proceeded to such barbarous extremities, commencing hostilities upon the good people of this Colony, and with unprecedented malice, exerting their power to spread the calamities of fire, sword, and

famine through the land, and no reasonable prospect remains of a speedy reconciliation with *Great Britain*, the Congress have resolved, "that no obedience being due to the Act of Parliament for altering the Charter of the Colony of the *Massachusetts-Bay*, nor to a Governour or Lieutenant-Governour, who will not observe the directions of, but endeavour to subvert that Charter, the Governour and Lieutenant-Governour of that Colony are to be considered as absent, and their offices vacant; and, as there is no Council there, and inconveniences arising from the suspension of the powers of Government are intolerable, especially at a time when General *Gage* hath actually levied war, and is carrying on hostilities against His Majesty's peaceable and loyal subjects of that Colony; that in order to conform as nearly as may be to the spirit and substance of the Charter, it be recommended to the Provincial Convention to write letters to the inhabitants of the several places which are entitled to representation in Assembly, requesting them to choose such Representatives; and that the Assembly, when chosen, do elect Counsellors, and that such Assembly and Council exercise the powers of Government until a Governour of His Majesty's appointment will consent to govern the Colony according to its Charter." In pursuance of which advice, the good people of this Colony have chosen a full and free representation of themselves, who, being convened in Assembly, have elected a Council, who, as the Executive branch of Government, have constituted necessary officers through the Colony. The present generation, therefore, may be congratulated on the acquisition of a form of Government more immediately, in all its branches, under the influence and control of the people, and, therefore, more free and happy than was enjoyed by their ancestors. But as a Government so popular can be supported only by universal knowledge and virtue in the body of the people, it is the duty of all ranks to promote the means of education for the rising generation, as well as true religion, purity of manners, and integrity of life, among all orders and degrees.

As an Army has become necessary for our defence, and, in all free states, the civil must provide for and control the military power; the major part of the Council have appointed Magistrates and Courts of Justice in every County, whose happiness is so connected with that of the people, that it is difficult to suppose they can abuse their trust. The business of it is to see those laws enforced which are necessary for the preservation of peace, virtue, and good order; and, the Great and General Court expects, and requires, that all necessary support and assistance be given, and all proper obedience yielded to them, and will deem every person who shall fail of his duty, in this respect towards them, a disturber of the peace of this Colony, and deserving of examplary punishment.

That piety and virtue, which alone can secure the freedom of any people, be encouraged, and vice and immorality suppressed, the Great and General Court have thought fit to issue this Proclamation, commanding and enjoining it upon the good people of this Colony, that they lead sober, religious, and peaceable lives, avoiding all blasphemies, contempt of the Holy Scriptures, and of the Lord's day, and all other crimes and misdemeanors; all debauchery, profaneness, corruption, venality, all riotous and tumultuary proceedings, and all immoralities whatsoever; and that they decently and reverently attend the publick worship of *God*, at all times acknowledging, with gratitude, his merciful interposition in their behalf, devoutly confiding in Him as the *God* of armies, by whose favour and protection alone they may hope for success in their present conflict.

And all Judges, Justices, Sheriffs, Grand-Jurors, Tything-men, and all other civil officers within this Colony, are hereby strictly enjoined and commanded, that they contribute all in their power, by their advice, exertions and examples, towards a general reformation of manners; and that they bring to condign punishment every person who shall commit any of the crimes or misdemeanors aforesaid, or that shall be guilty of any immoralities whatsoever; and that they use their utmost endeavours to have the resolves of the Congress, and the good and wholesome laws of this Colony, duly carried into execution.

And as the Ministers of the Gospel within this Colony, having, during the late relaxation of the powers of civil Government, exerted themselves for our safety, it is hereby recommended to them still to continue their virtuous labours for the good of the people, inculcating, by their publick ministry and private example, the necessity of religion, morality, and good order.

In Council: *Ordered*, That the foregoing Proclamation be read at the opening of every Superior Court of Judicature, &c., and Inferior Court of Common Pleas, and Court of General Sessions of the Peace, within this Colony, by their respective Clerks, and at the annual Town-Meetings, in *March*, in each town; and, it is hereby recommended to the several Ministers of the Gospel, throughout this Colony, to read the same in their respective assemblies, on the Lord's day next after their receiving it, immediately after Divine service.

In the House of Representatives: Read, and concurred.

In the House of Representatives: Resolved, That the request of his Excellency General *Washington*, relative to raising one Regiment, to consist of seven hundred and twenty-eight men, including officers, agreeable to the Continental establishment, to reinforce the Army in *Canada*, be forthwith complied with; and that the said Regiment be inlisted from the Counties of *Hampshire* and *Berkshire*, to continue in the service of the *United Colonies* until the 1st of *January* next, if required thereto; and that the Field-Officers be now appointed, by ballot, of one House of Assembly, and concurrence of the other; and, when chosen, the said officers be commissionated by the Council, and ordered on their service of recruiting without delay.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

In the House of Representatives: Resolved, That the Committee appointed for erecting a Powder-Mill for this Colony, be, and they hereby are directed, to cause the same to be built at *Stoughton*, without delay, and to exert themselves for executing this most important and necessary business, in preference to any other engagement which they may be at present under to this Court, and to cause the same to be constructed in such manner as shall appear to them most advantageous.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

Mr. *Story* came up with a message from the honourable House, to know if the Board had concurred with a Resolve of the House, for raising a Regiment in the Counties of *Hampshire* and *Berkshire*.

Mr. *John Adams* went down with a message to the House, to inform that the Board had concurred in said Resolve.

In the House of Representatives: The House proceeded, by ballot, to choose the Field-Officers for the Regiment to be raised in the Counties of *Hampshire* and *Berkshire*, to reinforce the Continental Army in *Canada*, agreeable to a Resolve of this day, and unanimously made choice of *Elisha Porter*, Esq., Colonel; *Thomas Williams*, Esq., Lieutenant-Colonel; and Mr. *Abner Morgan*, Major.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow morning.

—

Saturday, January 20, 1776.

Present in Council: Honourables William Sever, Walter Spooner, Caleb Cushing, John Winthrop, Thomas Cushing, John Whetcomb, Jedediah Foster, Eldad Taylor, Benjamin Lincoln, Charles Chauncy, Michael Farley, Joseph Palmer, Samuel Holten, Jabez Fisher, Moses Gill, John Taylor, Benjamin White, Esquires.

In the House of Representatives: Ordered, That the Commissary-General be directed to inform his Excellency General *Washington*, that he has a number of Blankets by him, and is ready to deliver them, and such as shall come in to his order, for which he is to take a receipt.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

Mr. *Story* came up with a message from the House, desiring that his Excellency General *Washington's* Letter, relative to raising a Regiment to go to *Canada*, might be sent down.

Mr. *Spooner* went down with the above Letter.

In Council: Whereas, *Benjamin Lincoln*, *John Taylor*, and *Benjamin White*, Esquires, have received out of the publick Treasury, the sum of eight thousand Pounds one Shilling, and one Pound sixteen Shillings, of the Selectmen of *Hopkinton*, for three blankets overpaid that town;

The Committee, therefore, have examined the said Accounts, and find they were such only as had been examined, allowed, and passed upon by the Committee appointed by the honourable House, and concurred by the said *Benjamin* and others, the Committee of Council, that they were well vouched, and right cast, and have presented said Accounts with the vouchers, to be lodged in the Secretary's Office; that the said *Benjamin Lincoln*, *John Taylor*, and *Benjamin White*, Esquires, have faithfully discharged the trust reposed in them, and find a balance of sixteen Pounds, nineteen Shillings and three-fourths of a Penny, due to them, which they have advanced for this Colony; that the examination of the said Accounts, by said Committee, was made the 18th instant, and does not include any payments made since that time; and that the order received on the 19th instant, for three thousand Pounds, on the Treasurer, was not included in the above said sum of eight thousand Pounds.

Therefore, *Resolved*, That the said *Benjamin Lincoln*, *John Taylor*, and *Benjamin White*, Esquires, be, and they are hereby discharged from the sum of eight thousand Pounds, which they received out of the publick Treasury, and the sum of one Pound sixteen Shillings, received for Blankets; also, that there be allowed and paid out of the publick Treasury, to *Benjamin Lincoln*, *John Taylor*, and *Benjamin White*, Esquires, the sum of sixteen Pounds, nineteen Shillings and three-fourths of a Penny, in full, for so much advanced in payment of Accounts for this Colony.

In Council: Read, and accepted.

In the House of Representatives: Read, and concurred.

Adjourned till to-morrow, twelve o'clock.*

* Salem, *January* 19, 1776.—Mr. Adams: I had wrote you several poste before my hearing you was returned. I should be very glad if you and Mrs. *Adams* could take a turn this way before you return to *Philadelphia* again.

I had lately a schooner arrived, with some powder, at *Barnstable*, rather better than three hundred pounds, which was disposed of there, as the people wanted it much. I understand that any person importing powder shall be entitled to ship the value of it in fish, and to bring the produce thereof in powder. As such, I should be glad to have a certificate from the proper persons authorized to give one. I want to ship the fish in a different bottom, which cannot make any odds, as both belong to me. I should be glad to have liberty for one hundred and eighty quintals of fish, being about the amount of the powder. The powder was imported in the schooner *Sally*, *Ebenezer Nickerson*, master, from *St. Eustatius*, and now want to ship the fish by the schooner *Endeavour*, *Jesse Harding*, for the *West-Indies*.

Your assisting the bearer in procuring the above, will oblige your humble servant,

Isaac Smith.

To the Honourable *John Adams*, Esq., *Watertown*.

Mr. Adams presents his compliments to Mr. *Cushing*, Mr. *Palmer*, Mr. *Gerry*, and the other gentlemen at Mr. *Hunt's*, and begs the favour of them to assist the bearer in the business mentioned in the within letter.

In Council, *January* 20, 1776: Read, and *Ordered*, That Mr. *Isaac Smith* have liberty to export one hundred and fifty quintals of Fish to the *West-Indies*, being about the value of the Powder he lately imported into this Colony, he giving bond to the Committee of Inspection of the town from which he may export said Fish, that he will lay out the nett proceeds of the same in Powder, Saltpetre, or Sulphur, provided they are to be had at the ports he may go to, and bring the same into some port in this Colony, *Boston* and *Nantucket* excepted.

John Lowell, *Deputy Secretary pro tem.*

Council-Chamber, Watertown, *January* 20, 1776: Whereas, *Isaac Smith*, Esq., late of *Boston*, has imported into the town of *Barnstable*, within this Colony, in the schooner *Sally*, *Ebenezer Nickerson*, master, from *St. Eustatius*, a quantity of Powder:

Ordered, Agreeable to a Resolution of the *American* Congress, of the 15th of *July* last, that he be, and hereby is permitted to export one hundred and fifty quintals of Fish to the *West-Indies*, (being about the value of said Powder,) in the schooner *Endeavour*, *Jesse Harding*, master, he, the said *Isaac Smith*, giving bond to the Committee of Inspection for the town from which he may export the said Fish, that he will lay out the nett proceeds of the same in Powder, Saltpetre, or Sulphur, provided they are to be had at the port to which said vessel may go, and import the same into any ports within this Colony, *Boston* and *Nantucket* excepted.

William Sever,	Charles Chauncy,
Walter Spooner,	Michael Farley,
Caleb Cushing,	Moses Gill,
John Winthrop,	Jabez Fisher,
Thomas Cushing,	Benjamin White,
Jedediah Foster,	Samuel Holten,
Eldad Taylor,	John Whetcomb.
Benjamin Lincoln,	

Watertown, *January* 20, 1776.—This may certify that *Isaac Smith*, Esquire, had a vessel, *Ebenezer Nickerson*, master, called the *Sally*, arrived at *Barnstable*, from *St. Eustatia*, with three hundred and fifty weight of gunpowder, which was landed there, as I am informed by letter. Your Honours' most humble servant,

Joseph Otis.

To the Council of the Colony of the *Massachusetts-Bay*.

Sabbath-Day, January 21, 1776.

Present in Council: Honourables William Sever, Walter Spooner, Caleb Cushing, John Winthrop, John Whetcomb, Jedediah Foster, Eldad Taylor, Benjamin Lincoln, Charles Chauncy, Michael Farley, Samuel Holten, Jabez Fisher, Moses Gill, John Taylor, Benjamin White, Esquires.

Mr. *Story* came up with a message from the honourable House, to inform the Board that nothing was likely to come up from the House at this time, and desiring that when the Board adjourned, they would adjourn to four o'clock, this afternoon.

In the House of Representatives: Whereas, this Court, at the request of his Excellency General *Washington*, have thought it necessary that a temporary reinforcement of the Army should be made with all possible despatch, and to effect the same, have proportioned among the several towns in this Colony such a number of men as they apprehended each town ought to raise upon the present emergency, and have appointed a Committee out of each County to assist in raising the men, and forming them when raised, into companies, which Committee are as follows:

For the County of *Suffolk:* Mr. *Gould*, Colonel *Lovell*, and Colonel *McIntosh*.

For the County of *Essex:* Mr. *Phillips*, Mr. *Jewett*, Mr. *Hopkins*, and Major *Cross*.

For the County of *Middlesex:* Colonel *Spaulding*, Mr. *Brooks*, Colonel *Perry*, Captain *Sartle*, and Mr. *Bryant*.

For the County of *Plymouth:* Captain *Cushing*, Colonel *Cushing*, and Captain *White* of *Middleborough*.

For the County of *Barnstable:* Colonel *Otis* and Colonel *Cobb*.

For the County of *Bristol:* Captain *Hodges*, Mr. *Starkwether*, and Doctor *Baylies*.

For the County of *Worcester:* Captain *Parker*, Mr. *Fessenden*, Mr. *Allen*, Mr. *Rice*, and Colonel *Hill*.

For the County of *York:* Colonel *Sawyer*, Mr. *Sullivan*, and Major *Gooding*.

For the County of *Cumberland:* Mr. *Fabyan* and Captain *Cutter*.

For the County of *Lincoln:* Captain *Howard* and Colonel *Jones*.

Therefore, *Resolved*, That the persons aforenamed, for each of the several Counties aforesaid, be, and they hereby are directed to use their utmost endeavours with the Committees of Correspondence and Safety, and the Selectmen of each town, to have the several proportions of men affixed to each town in their several Counties, raised with all possible expedition; and when raised, to form them into Companies of ninety men each, including officers, and as soon as each Company have chosen their several officers, that they cause them to march forthwith to the camp at *Cambridge* or *Roxbury*, as his Excellency General *Washington* shall direct.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

In the House of Representatives: Whereas, it is of very great importance to our brethren, the Inhabitants of *Canada*, and to the Inhabitants of the *United Colonies*, especially to the western and northern Counties thereof, that the advantages gained under the smiles of Providence by the *American* Army, during the year last past, over the Ministerial Forces in *Canada* should be maintained, and the remainder of them there effectually subdued, as well as the rights and liberties of our brethren in that Colony secured: And whereas, his Excellency General *Washington*, has applied to each of the Colonies of *Connecticut*, *New-Hampshire*, and *Massachusetts-Bay*, severally, to furnish a Regiment, consisting of seven hundred and twenty-eight men, including officers, to be raised with all possible despatch, on the *American* establishment, and to serve the *United Colonies* until the 1st day of *January* next, if required thereto:

It is, therefore, *Resolved*, That a Regiment, consisting of seven hundred and twenty-eight men, be raised for the purpose aforesaid, in the Counties of *Hampshire* and *Berkshire*, and to be under the command of *Elisha Porter*, Esquire, as Colonel; *Thomas Williams*, Esquire, as Lieutenant-Colonel, and *Abner Morgan*, Esquire, as Major; who have been unanimously chosen by the General Court of this Colony to those offices, respectively; and that the commanding officer of each Company of Militia, in the towns of the said Counties of *Hampshire* and *Berkshire*, hereaf er-mentioned, chosen agreeable to the direction of the

Provincial Congress, be, and hereby is directed to cause his Company, without delay, to be mustered; and, that out of the Company or Companies in such town, they cause to be voluntarily inlisted the number of effective men herein affixed to each town, respectively, to serve the *United Colonies*, on the Continental establishment, and under their Generals, until the 1st day of *January* next, if the service shall require it; and that each officer and soldier shall be allowed and paid for their service, respectively, the same sum, by the calendar months, as is allowed to other officers and soldiers in the establishment aforesaid; the time of service to be computed from the time of his inlistment, or entering the same, to the time of his discharge, and allowing sufficient time for his return home, that is to say, accounting one day for every twenty miles' march; also, one Penny per mile to compensate his expenses on his march to and from the camp, for so many miles as he shall bear his travelling expenses in the march aforesaid; and each non-commissioned officer and soldier shall be allowed a Blanket, or twelve Shillings to pay for the same, if he finds it himself.

And whereas, the season is severe, and the service both important and necessary,

It is further *Resolved*, As a further encouragement to such non-Commissioned Officers and Soldiers as shall appear to inlist for the succour of their brethren in *Canada*, and for the defence and support of the just cause of *America* on this occasion, that, in addition to one month's advance wages to be paid them by his Excellency General *Washington*, there shall be paid them, also, out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, one other month's advance wages upon their passing muster, by a Mustermaster to be appointed by his Excellency, in full confidence that the justice of the Congress will order the same to be reimbursed; and the Treasurer is hereby ordered to pay the sum of thirteen hundred and ninety-eight Pounds eight Shillings, to Colonel *Porter* for that purpose, he to be accountable to this Court for the same. And the Selectmen and Committees of Correspondence and Safety of each of said towns, are requested, without fail, to afford their immediate assistance fully to effect this business with the utmost despatch, as they regard their country's and their own safety and welfare.

And it is further Resolved, That the Captains, Subalterns, and non-Commisioned Officers of the several Companies, shall be chosen by the Companies, respectively, from those inlisted, or others, and commissioned by the Council, and that the Committee appointed by this Court, in conjunction with the Field-Officers aforesaid, distribute the men inlisted as aforesaid into Companies.

The Form of the Inlistment.

We, the subscribers, do hereby severally inlist ourselves into the service of the *United American Colonies*, until the 1st day of *January* next, if the said service should require it. And each of us do engage to furnish and carry with us into the service aforesaid a good effective fire-arm and blanket, also, a good bayonet, cartridge-pouch, and a hatchet or tomahawk, or cutting sword, if possible; and we severally consent to be formed by such person, or persons, as the General Court shall appoint into a Company of ninety men, including one Captain, two Lieutenants, one Ensign, four Sergeants, four Corporals, one Drum, and one Fife, to be elected by the Company, and commissionated by the Council, and, when formed, we engage to march to *Canada* with the utmost expedition, and to be under such Field-Officers as the General Court have appointed, or shall appoint; and we further agree, during the time aforesaid, to be subject to such Generals, or superior officers, as are or shall be appointed, and to be under such regulations in every respect, as are provided for the aforesaid.

Dated this . . . . . of . . . . . *A. D.* 1776.

County of Berkshire.

Sheffield,	24	Hopeland and Glass-works,	9
Sandisfield,	11	Pittsfield,	21
New-Marlborough,	16	Hartwood,	8
Egremont,	11	Lanesborough,	19
Great-Barrington,	15	Partridgefield,	8
Alford,	7	Gageborough,	8
Tyringham,	13	Jericho,	8
Stockbridge,	12	New-Providence,	10
West-Stockbridge,	7	Williamston,	14
Richmond,	13	East-Hoosick,	9
Lenox,	13	Louden,	5
Becket,	9		

County of Hampshire.

Springfield,	19	South-Brimfield,	10
Wilbraham,	11	Mensen,	8
West-Springfield,	21	Pelham,	12
North-Hampton,	23	Greenwich,	9
South-Hampton,	9	Blanford,	10
Westfield,	18	Leverett,	5
Southwick,	9	Palmer,	11
Hadley,	10	Granville,	13
South-Hadley,	9	New-Salem,	12
Amherst,	14	Belchertown,	12
Granby,	7	Colerain,	10
Hatfield,	10	Ware,	7
Whately,	6	Warwick,	6
Williamsburgh,	7	Bernardston,	9
Deerfield,	13	Murrayfield,	6
Greenfield,	11	Charlemont,	7
Shelburne,	10	Ashfield,	8
Conway,	12	Worthington,	8
Sunderland,	7	Shutesbury,	9
Montague,	9	Ludlow,	5
Northfield,	10	Norwich,	4
Brimfield,	13	Chesterfield,	12

In Council: Read, and concurred.

Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow morning.

—

Monday, January 22, 1776.

Present in Council: Honourables William Sever, Walter Spooner, Caleb Cushing, John Winthrop, Thomas Cushing, John Wheteomb, Jedediah Foster, James Prescott, Eldad Taylor, Benjamin Lincoln, Charles Chauncy, Michael Farley, Joseph Palmer, Samuel Holten, Jabez Fisher, Moses Gill, John Taylor, Benjamin White, Esquires.

In the House of Representatives: Whereas, it is of great importance that the Regiment to be raised by this Colony to serve the *United Colonies* in *Canada*, should be inlisted and marched with the utmost despatch, and the appointment of the Staff-Officers by this Court, and making commissions to Captains and Subalterns for said Regiment by the Council, may occasion delay:

Resolved, That the Field-Officers of the Regiment, together with Major *Pynchon*, Major *Ely*, Colonel *Field*, Mr. *Dickerson*, Major *Bliss*, Colonel *How*, Doctor *Whiting*, Captain *Goodrich*, and Major *Smith*, or the major part of them, be, and they are hereby appointed a Committee to appoint a Quartermaster, an Adjutant, a Chaplain, Surgeon, and Surgeon's Mate, for said Regiment, and the honourable Board are hereby empowered to deliver to said Committee five blank warrants for the said Staff-Officers; also, a sufficient number of blank commissions for the Captains and Subalterns aforesaid, signed; and the said Committee are directed to fill up the said blank commissions with the names of such commissioned officers as the Companies shall respectively choose.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

An engrossed Bill, entitled, "An Act for regulating the Militia of this Colony," having passed the House of Representatives, to be enacted,

In Council: Read a second time, and passed a concurrence, to be enacted.

In the House of Representatives: Whereas, this Court, at the request of his Excellency General *Washington*, have ordered that a Regiment should be raised in the Counties of *Hampshire* and *Berkshire*, to reinforce the Army in *Canada*, with all possible despatch; and, to effect the same, have proportioned among the several towns in those Counties such a number of men as they apprehend each town ought to raise, and have appointed a Committee out of each County to assist in raising the men, and forming them, when raised, into Companies, viz: Major *Pynchon*, Major *Ely*, Colonel *Field*, Mr. *Dickerson*, Major *Bliss*, and Colonel *How*, for the County of *Hampshire;* and Doctor *Whiting*, Captain *Goodrich*, and Major *Smith*, for the County of *Berkshire:*

Therefore, *Resolved*, That the said Committee be, and they hereby are directed, to use their utmost endeavours with the Field-Officers of the Regiment to be raised as aforesaid, and the Committees of Correspondence and

Safety, and the Selectmen of each town, within their respective Counties, to have the several proportions of men affixed to each town, therein raised with all possible expedition, and, when raised, to form them into Companies of ninety men each, including officers, and, as soon as each Company has chosen their several officers, that they cause them to march forthwith into *Canada*.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

In the House of Representatives: Whereas, a certain Act, entitled, "An Act for establishing and regulating the Fees of the several Officers within this Province, hereafter mentioned," made and passed at the Session of the Great and General Court of this Colony begun and held at *Boston*, in the County of *Suffolk*, upon *Wednesday*, the 6th day of *January*, 1773, expired on the last day of *October* last, and, at present, there is no act or law of this Colony now in force for establishing and regulating the fees of the several officers in the said Act mentioned, excepting a certain Act made and passed in the fourth year of the reign of *William* and *Mary*, King and Queen, entitled, "An Act for regulating Fees," which last mentioned Act has, by divers temporary acts, from time to time been superseded and suspended as unsalutary, and the fees thereby settled and established appear to be, in many instances, extravagant and unreasonable:

It is, therefore, *Resolved*, That henceforward, until the further order of the General Court, it shall be lawful for all Officers named and mentioned in the Act first above-mentioned, to take and receive for the several services therein specified, such, and no higher Fees, than the Fees or sums of money specified in the first-mentioned Act, and be subject to the pains and penalties there provided for offences against the same.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

Petition of *James Curtis*, of *Brunswick*, setting forth: "that he raised a Company of fifty men, and was ordered by Colonel *Phinney* to march them to Head-Quarters, where we arrived the 30th day of *July*, and, on the 9th day of *August*, received orders from the honourable Council to return to *Deer-Island*, in the County of *Lincoln*, under the command of Colonel *James Cargill*. Your petitioner would further set forth, that he has made up his muster-rolls upon the establishment, until he received orders, and, also, his rolls, from said 9th of *August*, upon the sea-coast, and has been at great cost and charge therein, and still at great charge, and the honourable Committee refuses to pass said rolls, by reason they are not made up to and from the 1st day of *August*, and, also, refuses to allow the men their coats and blankets, according to establishment they inlisted in, when they marched to Head-Quarters without your Honours' approbation. Your petitioner prays your Honours would allow them the same as others that inlisted upon the establishment."

The Committee chosen to take into consideration the Petition of Captain *James Curtis*, beg leave to report, as their opinion, that said *Curtis* have leave to make up his Muster Roll, from the time the men inlisted to the 9th day of *August*, but cannot find that they are entitled to any Coats or Blankets.

In the House of Representatiees: Read, and accepted, and *Resolved*, That the Committee on Muster-Rolls be directed to pass upon said *Curtis's* Roll, when made up agreeable to the above Report, on the establishment of the Army.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

In the House of Representatives: Ordered, That the Treasurer be directed to pay the two thousand Pounds which the Court have this day resolved to lend *Joseph Trumbull*, Esq., Commissary-General of the Continental Army, in Continental Bills, if the said *Trumbull* shall desire it.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow morning.*

* Council-Chamber, *January* 22, 1776.—Gentlemen: Your instructions to Mr. *Wigglesworth* and Mr. *Hodge*, requesting them to pursue *William Miller* and *Margaret Grozart*, were laid before this Board, with the letters which were taken with them.

The Board fully approve of the vigilance of your Committee, and are of opinion that the escape of those persons, especially *Miller*, might be dangerous to the country, and to your town in particular. We have, therefore, directed that they return to *Newburyport*, and be under the care and inspection of your Committee, and, unless *William Miller* shall give such security as you may think safe for the publick, as, also, for your town, that he will not depart the town of *Newburyport*, unless by leave of this Board, and that he will not hold any correspondence with the enemies of *American* liberty, you are further empowered to commit him to close confinement, until the further order of this Board.

In the name, and by order of the Council: W. Sever.

To the Committee of Safety of *Newburyport*.

Tuesday, January 23, 1776.

Present in Council: Honourables William Sever, Walter Spooner, Caleb Cushing, John Winthrop, Thomas Cushing, John Whetcomb, Jedediah Foster, James Prescott, Eldad Taylor, Benjamin Lincoln, Charles Chauncy, Michael Farley, Joseph Palmer, Samuel Holten, Jabez Fisher, Moses Gill, John Taylor, Benjamin White, Esquires.

The Committee appointed by both Houses to consider the propriety of commissionating such Captains and Lieutenants as marched and joined the Continental Army from the Militia, with full Companies, in pursuance with the Resolve of the General Court, on the 1st day of *December* last, have attended their duty, and are of opinion, that the commissionating all the Captains and Lieutenants in the order in which they were chosen by their respective companies, as they marched into the camp, is what said officers expected, and, as they have done the duty, sustained the office, and expect the pay due to them by the establishment of the Continental Army, your Committee conclude they ought to be commissionated; therefore, beg leave to report a resolve for that purpose:

Resolved, That all the Captains and Lieutenants marched into the camp, as a temporary reinforcement to the Continental Army, by order of this Court of the first of last month, be now commissionated by the Council, agreeable to the several ranks, and in the order in which they were chosen by their respective Companies, any thing in a Resolve of this Court, of the 13th instant, to the contrary notwithstanding; and that said commissions bear date the 10th of last month, the day on which most of them arrived in the camp.

In Council: Read, and accepted.

In the House of Representatives: Read, and concurred.

Petition of *Joseph Deane*, setting forth: "that he has, for several years past, used the *Surinam* trade; in consequence, a very considerable part of his interest, to the amount of five hundred pounds, now remains in the hands of the merchants in that place, the time limited for the payment of which has already expired. Your petitioner begs leave further to represent to the honourable Court, that he last spring purchased a bill of exchange, to the amount of five hundred pounds more, drawn by a *Dutch* merchant there on his correspondent in *Amsterdam*, which bill has since come back protested to your petitioner, both of which sums must be infallibly lost to your memorialist in case of failure of any of his debtors (which, at this day, is not improbable.) He, therefore, prays your Honours to grant him liberty to sail from this Colony to *Surinam* in a brigantine which he now has by him, and lying totally useless, in order to secure the aforesaid sums. He means not, nor does he wish to contravene the Resolves of the *American* Congress, or the regulations made by this Colony. He, therefore, only asks permission to carry empty molasses casks enough to bring home the proceeds of his said debt in the produce of *Surinam*, and the rest ballast. He intends, if by any means can be obtained, to purchase a cargo of powder; but as this is a matter altogether uncertain, and as molasses casks cannot be procured in *Surinam*, he prays your Honours to grant him the permission above prayed for.

In the House of Representatives: Read, and committed to the Committee appointed the 15th current, to consider the subject-matter of *Thomas Russell's* Petition.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

The Committee of both Houses on the above Petition, have attended that service, and having considered the same, report the following Resolve:

Resolved, That *Joseph Deane* be allowed to send the Brigantine in his Petition mentioned, to the foreign *West-Indies*, in order to collect any moneys which may be due to him there, he giving bonds with sufficient sureties in the sum of one thousand Pounds to the Treasurer of this Colony, that he will not export in said brigantine any cash or produce of the Colonies. And it is recommended to the said *Joseph Deane*, to purchase and return here Arms, Ammunition, or any species of Military Stores enumerated in a late Resolution of the Congress, if they are to be obtained.

In Council: Read, and accepted.

In the House of Representatives: Read, and concurred.

Petition of *Thomas Russell*, late of *Charlestown*, setting forth: "that he has now due to him considerable sums of money from the foreign *West-India* Islands, for the recovery of which he conceives there are no possible means, if the intercourse between them and us is totally stopped. That your petitioner is also possessed of a small schooner, of which *Matthew Groves* is master, now in the harbour of *Salem*, the inactivity of which, if a total stagnation of trade takes place, your Honours are doubtless sensible must prove a dead loss.

"That your petitioner proposes by no means to export the produce of this Province to the foreign *West-Indies*, but to sail in ballast, and make a return with the commodities of said foreign Islands; wherefore, and considering the amazing scarcity, and consequently high price of *West-India* commodities, your petitioner prays that the said schooner may be permitted to perform said voyage."

In the House of Representatives: Ordered, That the Speaker, Mr. *Hopkins*, and Colonel *Sawyer*, with such as the honourable Board shall join, be a Committee to consider at large the subject-matter of the within Petition, and report.

In Council: Read, and concurred, and *William Sever* and *John Winthrop*, Esquires, are joined.

The Committee of both Houses on the Petition of *Thomas Russell*, have attended that service, and having considered the same, report the following:

Resolved, That *Thomas Russell* be allowed to send the schooner, of which *Matthew Groves* is master, to the foreign *West-Indies*, in order to collect any moneys which may be due to him there, he giving bonds, with sufficient sureties, in the sum of one thousand Pounds, to the Treasurer of this Colony, that he will not export in said schooner any cash or produce of the Colonies. And it is hereby recommended to the said *Thomas Russell*, to direct the master of said vessel to purchase Arms, Ammunition, or any kind of Military Stores enumerated in a late Resolution of the Congress, if they are to be obtained.

In Council: Read, and accepted.

In the House of Representatives: Read, and concurred.

Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow morning.

—

Wednesday, January 24, 1776.

Present in Council: Honourables William Sever, Walter Spooner, Caleb Cushing, John Winthrop, Thomas Cushing, John Adams, John Whetcomb, Jedediah Foster, James Prescott, Eldad Taylor, Benjamin Lincoln, Charles Chauncy, Michael Farley, Joseph Palmer, Samuel Holten, Jabez Fisher, Moses Gill, John Taylor, Benjamin White, Esquires.

In the House of Representatives: Whereas, there are two Companies, of seventy-five men each, raised and stationed at the *Elizabeth-Islands*, by a former Resolve of this Court, and it being apprehended that one of those Companies will be sufficient to guard those Islands till the first day of *April* next, and as it is of importance to reinforce the Continental Army before *Boston*, with the greatest expedition,

Therefore, it is *Resolved*, That the Committee for raising men, in the County of *Barnstable*, be directed to include in the proportion of men to be raised in that County, one company of said men stationed at the *Elizabeth-Islands* aforesaid, in case they will inlist; and all such officers and soldiers of them, who shall inlist and engage in the service of the Continental Army, till the said first day of *April*, shall receive the same allowance for travelling to and from the camp, as also the same wages as others raised for the purpose of reinforcing the said Continental Army, and shall be released from their service at the said *Elizabeth-Islands* till the first day of *April* next, and then shall return to that service and establishment again; and if one set of officers shall inlist one company of seventy-five men of said companies, stationed at said Islands, they shall, in that case, be the officers of that company, and may fill up, by inlistment, the remainder of the company, to make up ninety men in the whole, including officers, and the whole of said company shall then proceed to the choice of an Ensign, to serve till the first day of *April*.

And whereas, *Barachiah Bassett*, Esq., was appointed by this Court as a Major, to command the forces stationed at the Islands aforesaid, at *Martha's Vineyard*, and his attention to said service, till the first of *April* next, being thought unnecessary, and the said *Bassett* being chosen as a Lieutenant-Colonel by this Court, for the regiment to be raised in the Counties of *Plymouth* and *Barnstable*, to reinforce the Continental Army till the said first day of *April*,

Therefore, it is further *Resolved*, That the said *Barachiah Bassett*, Esq., be released from his service at said Island, until the first day of *April*, and then return to said station and establishment.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

In the House of Representatives: Resolved, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, in Continental Bills, to the Honourable *John Hancock*, *Samuel Adams*, *John Adams*, *Robert Treat Paine*, and *Elbridge Gerry*, Esquires, Delegates from this Colony in Continental Congress, the sum of one hundred and thirty Pounds each, to enable the said gentlemen to defray their expenses and support the dignity of their office, they to be accountable to the General Court for the same.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow morning.

—

Thursday, January 25, 1776.

Present in Council: Honourables William Sever, Walter Spooner, Caleb Cushing, John Winthrop, Thomas Cushing, John Whetcomb, Jedediah Foster, James Prescott, Eldad Taylor, Charles Chauncy, Benjamin Lincoln, Michael Farley, Joseph Palmer, Samuel Holten, Jabez Fisher, Moses Gill, John Taylor, Benjamin White, Esquires.

In the House of Representatives: Resolved, That the Receiver-General have liberty to pay the fifty thousand Pounds which this Court have offered to lend his Excellency General *Washington*, either in Continental Bills or other money.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

In the House of Representatives: Resolved, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to Doctor *Samuel Langdon*, President of *Harvard* College, the sum of one hundred Pounds, in full for the balance of his services for one year, ending 14th of *October*, 1775.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

In the House of Representatives: Resolved, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to Major *Joseph Hawley*, the sum of three hundred and twelve Pounds sixteen Shillings, to be delivered to Colonel *Elisha Porter*, Esquire, to be by him paid to such of his soldiers as shall provide themselves with a blanket.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

In Council: Resolved, That all Fire-Arms and Cartridge-boxes belonging to this Colony, or to any town within the same, and which are or shall be in the hands of any officer or soldier belonging to this Government, shall, when such officer or soldier is discharged the service, be lodged either with the Commissary-General of this Colony, or with the Quartermaster-General, his Deputies, or the Ordnance Storekeeper of the Continental Army, who shall give his receipt for the same, taking care particularly to mention whether they belong to the Colony, or any particular town in the Colony, and if to any town, to what town and in what County; which receipt the Receiver-General is hereby directed to annex to the roll of the company to which such officer or soldier belongs, and pay all such stoppages as shall have been made for the same, without any special warrant from the Council therefor; and the Treasurer is also hereby directed, upon his receiving any receipt of the Quartermaster-General, his Deputies, or the Ordnance Storekeeper of the Continental Army, for any arm, or arms, cartridge-box or boxes, which have been delivered him by any officer or soldier belonging to this Government, to charge the Continent with the arms and cartridge-boxes so delivered.

In the House of Representatives: Read, and concurred.

In Council: Whereas, upon inquiry, it doth not appear that many of the Inhabitants of the Island of *Martha's Vineyard*, ever had a disposition to supply the enemy with Provisions, and it doth not appear by the Resolve of the 9th of *December* last, that they were suspected of corruptly doing the same; and such measures having been taken as (in all probability) will prevent the enemy from being sup-

plied from that Island, and the Inhabitants thereof must suffer while under the aforementioned restraint,

Therefore, *Resolved*, That the order of this Court, of the 9th of *December* last, so far as it respects *Martha's Vineyard* only, be, and hereby is, annulled, and that this Resolve be printed in the *Cambridge* and *Watertown* Papers.

In the House of Representatives: Read, and concurred.

The Memorial of the Selectmen of the Town of *Sherburne*, on the Island of *Nantucket*, at the request of a number of the Inhabitants, humbly sheweth: "that your memorialists are deeply concerned to find that there is a resolve of the General Assembly of this Colony, forbidding any importation of fuel or provisions into this town; and that it is recommended to the *United Colonies* to afford no further supplies, by reason, as we apprehend, of some misrepresentation being made of our past conduct.

"Your memorialists beg leave further to represent, that such restraint will, in its operation, in a very short time, subject the inhabitants to extreme distress, as there is already great complaint for want of fuel and other necessaries. Numbers of families begin to feel the pressing calls of hunger and want; therefore, your memorialists beg your attention to a resolve of the Continental Congress of the 11th of *December* last, founded in humanity, as they say, pointing out the necessity of said town's being further supplied through a Committee of this Colony. Your memorialists, therefore, humbly request, that said restraint recommended to the other Colonies, may be recalled, or otherwise, as your Honours shall think proper."

In the House of Representatives: Read, and committed to Colonel *Freeman*, Mr. *Brown*, of *Boston*, and Mr. *Davis*, of *Barnstable*, with such as the honourable Board may join, and the Committee are directed to report what is proper to be done.

In Council: Read, and concurred, and *John Winthrop* and *Charles Chauncy*, Esquires, are joined.

In the House of Representatives: Whereas, there has no establishment been made for the General Officers appointed by the Congress of this Colony, for their service in the *Massachusetts* Army, from the time they entered into said service, until they were put into the pay of the Continent, or were otherwise discharged:

Therefore, *Resolved*, That there be allowed, and paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to the General Officers appointed by the Congress of this Colony for their services in the *Massachusetts* Army, from the time they entered into said service, until they were put into the pay of the Continent, or were otherwise discharged at the several rates following, viz: The Honourable General *Ward*, who served this Colony as Commander-in-chief, twenty-one Pounds per month; To General *Thomas*, who served this Colony as Lieutenant-General, eighteen Pounds per month; and to Generals *Whitcomb*, *Heath*, *Frye*, and *Pomeroy*, sixteen Pounds per month—each accounting twenty-eight days to a month; and, they are hereby respectively desired to make up their Accounts accordingly, and lodge them with the Secretary of this Colony, for examination and allowance of the Committee on the Muster-Rolls of the Army.

Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow morning.

—

Friday, January 26, 1776.

Present in Council: Honourables William Sever, Caleb Cushing, John Winthrop, Thomas Cushing, John Whetcomb, Jedediah Foster, James Prescott, Eldad Taylor, Benjamin Lincoln, Charles Chauncy, Michael Farley, Joseph Palmer, Samuel Holten, Jabez Fisher, Moses Gill, John Taylor, Benjamin White, Esquires.

Captain *Batchelder* came up with a message from the House to inform the Board, that the House had assigned this day, at twelve o'clock, to come to the choice of Guardians for the *Hassanimisco* Tribe of *Indians*, at *Grafton*, if agreeable to the honourable Board.

Jabez Fisher, Esq., went down with a message to the House, to inform them that the Board agreed to the foregoing proposal of the honourable House.

In the House of Representatives: Whereas, this Court observe, that in consistency with the letter of the purview of their Resolve of the 19th *December* last, relative to the compensating the loss of Arms, Accoutrements and Clothing, sustained by certain persons who engaged the Ministerial forces, on the 19th of *April* and 17th of *June* last past; accounts of losses may be exhibited to the Committee of this Court from officers and privates, not so much as raised by this Colony, and others may make a claim of compensation for losses, which losses were not caused by their being actually engaged in fight with the Ministerial troops on the days aforesaid, or either of them, which is evidently diverse, and without the true intent and design of the Court at the time of their passing the said Resolve, as appears from the preamble thereof, as well as the justice and reason of the case.

It is, therefore, *Resolved*, That the aforesaid Resolve of the 19th *December* last ought not to be taken or construed to extend to any Commissioned, non-Commissioned Officers or Privates, who, on the said 19th day of *April* or 17th of *June*, or either of them, were not on the establishment of this Colony, or to losses which were not caused by such persons having been actually engaged in battle against the Ministerial troops on the said days, or either of them, and no Committee or Committees of this Court, or either House appointed to consider of the claims of persons for compensation of losses, in consequence of the said Resolve of the 19th *December*, ought to allow, or report in favour of an allowance of any such claim, without satisfactory evidence that the person, or persons, making such claim was on the establishment of this Colony, and that he was actually engaged in fight with the said Ministerial troops.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

In Council: Ordered, That *Jedediah Foster* and *Michael Farley*, Esquires, be a Committee on the part of the Board to count and sort the votes for Guardians to the *Hassanimisco* Tribe of *Indians*, at *Grafton*; who reported that the number of votes were:

On the part of the Board, - - - - - -	9
On the part of the House, - - - - - -	55
Total, - - - - - - - - - -	64

Thirty-three made a vote; and that *Edward Rawson*, Esquire, had 64, *Stephen Maynard* had 48, Deacon *Hall* had 45, and were accordingly chosen.

The Committee appointed to arrange the Militia through the Colony reported:

That there be four Regiments formed in the County of *Plymouth*, in the manner following, viz:

First Regiment: *Plymouth*, *Plympton*, *Halifax*, *Kingston*, *Duxborough*.

Second Regiment: *Scituate*, *Marshfield*, *Hanover*, *Pembroke*.

Third Regiment: *Bridgewater*, *Abington*.

Fourth Regiment: *Middleborough*, *Rochester*, *Wareham*.

That there be eight Regiments formed in the County of *Worcester*, in the manner following, viz:

First Regiment: *Worcester*, *Leicester*, *Holden*, *Spencer*, *Paxton*.

Second Regiment: *Lancaster*, *Harvard*, *Bolton*, *Princeton*.

Third Regiment: *Mendon*, *Uxbridge*, *Northbridge*, *Upton*, *Douglass*.

Fourth Regiment: *Brookfield*, *Western*, *New-Braintree*, *Hardwick*, *Oakham*.

Fifth Regiment: *Sutton*, *Oxford*, *Sturbridge*, *Charlton*, *Dudley*.

Sixth Regiment: *Southborough*, *Westborough*, *Shrewsbury*, *Northborough*, *Grafton*.

Seventh Regiment: *Rutland*, *Petersham*, *Hutchinson*, *Athol*, *Templeton*, *Winchendon*, *Royalston*, *Hubbardson*.

Eighth Regiment: *Lunenburgh*, *Leominster*, *Westminster*, *Fitchburgh*, *Ashburnham*, including the adjacent lands lying north of *Princeton*.

That there be six Regiments in the County of *Hampshire*, three on the West side of the *Great-River*, and three on the East side, in manner following, viz:

South Regiment, on the East side of the river: *Springfield*, *Wilbraham*, *Brimfield*, *South-Brimfield*, *Palmer*, *Monson*, *Ludlow*.

South Regiment, on the West side of the river: *West-Springfield*, *Westfield*, *Southwick*, *Granville*, *Blanford*, *Murrayfield*.

Middle Regiment, on the West side of the river: *Northampton, Hatfield, Whately, Williamsburgh, Chesterfield,* (with the *Gore,*) *Southampton, Worthington, Norwich, Number-Five.*

Middle Regiment, on the East side of the river: *Hadley, South-Hadley, Granby, Belchertown, Ware, Greenwich, Pelham, Amherst.*

North Regiment, on the East side of the river: *Northfield, Sunderland, Leverett, Shutesbury, New-Salem, Ervingshire, Montague, Warwick.*

North Regiment, on the West side of the river: *Deerfield, Greenfield, Charlemont* and *Ward's Grants, Merryfield, Colerain, Barnardstown, Shelburne, Conway, Ashfield, Hatfield Equivalent, Number-Seven, N. Town.*

Which divisions were read, and accepted.

In Council: Whereas, by a Resolve of the General Court of the 25th instant, the Receiver-General is directed to pay out such sums as are ordered to be stopped on the pay-rolls, for supplies of arms and cartridge-boxes to the officers and soldiers, made by any town in this Colony, without a special warrant from the Council therefor; which Resolve does not extend to such supplies made by the officers to the men borne on their respective rolls:

Therefore, *Resolved,* That the Receiver-General be, and he hereby is directed to pay out the Stoppages made by the Officers for Arms and Cartridge-Boxes, by them supplied, in the same manner as for those supplied by the towns.

In the House of Representatives: Read, and concurred.

In the House of Representatives: Resolved, That . . . . . be a Committee to examine the Accounts of this Court for fixing out Armed Vessels, and the Resolves of the *American* Congress relative to the capture of Vessels.

In Council: Read, and concurred, and *William Sever* and *Thomas Cushing,* Esquires, are joined.

The Committee appointed to arrange the Militia, reported that there he two Regiments formed in the County of *Berkshire,* in manner following, viz:

South Regiment: *Sheffield, Great-Barrington, Egremont, New-Marlborough, Sandersfield, Tyringham, Alford, Lowden.*

North Regiment: *Stockbridge, West-Stockbridge, The Glassworks, Lenox, Richmond, Pittsfield, Lanesborough, Jericho, Becket, Hartwood, Partridgefield, Gageborough, New-Providence, New-Ashford, Williamstown, East-Hoosick.*

That there be six Regiments formed in the County of *Lincoln,* in the manner following, to wit:

First Regiment: *Georgetown, Woolwich, Topsham, Bowdoinham,* and the South Company in the East Precinct of the Town of *Pownalborough.*

Second Regiment: North Company in the East Precinct of *Pownalborough,* the Company in the West Precinct in said town, the Plantation called *Bathtown* as far East as *Dyer's River,* the Plantation called *Gardnerstown, Hallowell, Winthrop, Vassalborough, Winslow,* with the adjacent Settlement on *Kennebeck-River.*

Third Regiment: *Booth-Bay, Edgecomb, Newcastle, Bristol,* Plantation called *Walpole,* and adjacent Settlements on the *Damascotta-Pond.*

Fourth Regiment: *Waldoborough,* Plantation called *St. George's* and *Meduncook, Camden, Belfast,* with all the Settlements on the western side of *Penobscot-River.*

Fifth Regiment: All the Settlements lying between *Penobscot-River* and *Union-River.*

Sixth Regiment: All the Settlements between the river called the *Union* and *St. Croix.*

Which divisions were read, and accepted.

Adjourned to ten o'clock, to morrow morning.*

* *To the Committee of Safety of the Town of* Newburyport, *Greeting:*

You are hereby requested to take into your custody and safe-keeping, *William Erwin, Henry Wilkinson,* mariners, *John Gopety,* rope-maker, *John Wilson,* nailer, *Joseph Lushley,* mariner, *James Kendel,* weaver, *John McMaine,* carpenter, and *Robert Hute,* cook, lately taken prisoners in the ship *Jenny,* and brought into *Gloucester,* and to put them to such employment as you shall find them, individually, best qualified for; and if, by their conduct or conversation you may think it most conducive to the publick safety that they be confined in jail, or otherwise, you are hereby authorized and empowered to cause them, or any of them, to be apprehended and put into close confinement, until the further order of the major part of the Council.

In the name, and by order of the Council: William Sever.

Council-Chamber, *January* 26, 1776.

Saturday, January 27, 1776.

Present in Council: Honourables William Sever, Caleb Cushing, John Winthrop, Thomas Cushing, John Whetcomb, Jedediah Foster, James Prescott, Eldad Taylor, Benjamin Lincoln, Charles Chauney, Michael Farley, Joseph Palmer, Samuel Holten, Jabez Fisher, Moses Gill, John Tayler, Benjamin White, Esquires.

Adjourned to ten o'clock, *Monday* morning.

—

Monday, January 29, 1776.

Present in Council: Honourables William Sever, Caleb Cushing, John Winthrop, Thomas Cushing, John Whetcomb, Jedediah Foster, James Prescott, Eldad Taylor, Benjamin Lincoln, Charles Chauncy, Michael Farley, Joseph Palmer, Samuel Holten, Jabez Fisher, Moses Gill, John Taylor, Benjamin White, Esquires.

Letter from *John Dickinson,* one of the Committee of Correspondence for the Town of *Hatfield,* relative to the conduct of *Elisha Ellis,* Jun.

In Council: Read, and sent down.

In the House of Representatives: Read, and committed to Mr. *Cooper* and Colonel *Thompson,* with such as the honourable Board may join.

In Council: Read, and concurred, and Colonel *Foster* is joined.

Petition of *John Underwood,* (Blank.)

In the House of Representatives: Whereas, this Court on the 5th day of *January* current, passed a Resolve empowering Mr. *Putnam,* Mr. *Crane,* and Mr. *Vose,* to purchase the remains of a Powder-Mill at *Stoughton,* and land and privileges convenient to improve the same, or purchase a privilege for, and erect one at *Sutton,* as they, after having consulted the Master-Workman who shall undertake the same, shall judge expedient. And whereas, by a Resolve of this Court of the 19th day of *January* current, the said Committee were directed to build the said Mill at *Stoughton,* but the Committee aforesaid were not invested with sufficient power to hire the Land and Stream at *Stoughton,* but are restricted to purchase the same,

Therefore, *Resolved,* That the Committee aforesaid be, and they hereby are fully authorized and empowered to purchase or hire, as they shall judge meet, the Land and advantageous Stream at *Stoughton,* where they have, or shall agree to erect a Powder-Mill for such a term of years, and for such yearly rent as they shall think proper, and that they, in behalf of this Colony, take a deed or lease of the same, as they shall agree to purchase or hire.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

In the House of Representatives: Whereas, by a Resolve of this Court, dated *January* 4, a Committee of this Court was appointed and directed to purchase and collect a number of Blankets for the use of the Continental Army, to deliver the same to the Commissary-General of the Colony, and take his receipt therefor, after which, an order passed this Court, dated *January* 18, that the Blankets collected in the Counties of *Hampshire* and *Berkshire,* be stayed for the use of the Regiment to be raised in the

To the Committee of Safety of the Town of Gloucester, *or Committee of Correspondence of said town, Greeting:*

You are hereby requested to take into your custody and safe-keeping, *William Wood,* master, and *Robert Ayles,* mate, lately taken prisoners in the ship *Jenny,* and brought into your port. You are desired to see that they do not pass out of the limits of the Town of *Gloucester* on any pretence whatever; and, if they, or either of them, shall attempt it, or if, for any other reason, you may think it to publick safety to confine them, you are hereby authorized and empowered, in either of such cases, to cause the said *Wood* and *Ayles,* or either of them, to be apprehended and put under close confinement, till the further order of the major part of the Council.

In the name, and by order of the Council: William Sever.

Council-Chamber, *January* 26, 1776.

In Council, *January* 26, 1776: It having been represented to the Council, that some time last fall, his Honour General *Ward,* directed that one *Haswell,* an officer of the *British* navy, and now on half-pay, be removed from *Hull,* (or *Nantasket,*) to the Town of *Hingham,* there to be supported at the publick expense; and that he was removed accordingly, and there remains with his family. And it having, also, been represented that it is unfit for him to remain there, considering the situation of said town, that it borders on *Boston* harbour; that it is but a few miles from whence, now and generally, the ships-of-war ride; that the said *Haswell,* may with ease correspond with their officers; that he has evidenced himself to be unfriendly to the interest of the *United Colonies,* by frequently making such false representations among the inhabitants as tend to cause divisions, to strengthen our enemies, to intimidate and weaken our friends.

It is therefore, *Resolved,* That *Benjamin Lincoln,* Esq., wait on his Excellency General *Washington,* and lay before him this state of the matter, and request that he would direct that said *Haswell,* with his family, be removed to some inland town, or otherways disposed of, as his Excellency shall think proper.

Perez Morton, *Deputy Secretary.*

above Counties for the *Canada* expedition, which Blankets, for the County of *Hampshire* in particular, were stayed accordingly, before they arrived at the Commissary's Office, and, by a Resolve of *January* 22, were ordered to be delivered to Colonel *Elisha Porter*, for the use of his Regiment upon the *Canada* expedition, by reason of which, the Committee for collecting of Blankets for the County of *Hampshire*, cannot obtain the Commissary's receipt for the Blankets collected in said County:

Therefore, *Resolved*, That when the Committee, who were directed to procure Blankets in the County of *Hampshire*, shall produce a receipt for the same from Col. *Elisha Porter*, or the major part of the Selectmen of any town in the County of *Hampshire*, where such Blankets shall be deposited, certifying the number and value thereof, and that they were received for the use of Colonel *Porter's* Regiment, it shall be accepted and allowed in the same manner as if the same had been under the hand of the Commissary-General of this Colony.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

Adjourned till ten o'clock, to-morrow morning.

—

Tuesday, January 30, 1776.

Present in Council: Honourables William Sever, Caleb Cushing, Thomas Cushing, John Whetcomb, Jedediah Foster, James Prescott, Eldad Taylor, Benjamin Lincoln, Charles Chauncy, Michael Farley, Joseph Palmer, Samuel Holten, Jabez Fisher, Moses Gill, John Taylor, Benjamin White. Esquires.

In Council: *Ordered*, That *Moses Gill*, Esq., with such as the honourable House shall join, be a Committee to examine what number of Sheets of the value of ten Pounds sixteen Shillings each, and what number of Sheets of the value of one Pound four Shillings, of the emission for seventy-five thousand Pounds, have been stamped or struck off, and to separate and put into different bundles each sort of Sheets, marking the value of each bundle, and make report to this Court what number of Sheets there are of each denomination.

In the House of Representatives: Read, and concurred; and Captain *Bragdon* and Captain *Stone* are joined.

The Committee appointed by both Houses to examine what number of Sheets of the value of ten Pounds sixteen Shillings each, and what number of Sheets of the value of one Pound four Shillings each, of the emission for seventy-five thousand Pounds, have been stamped or struck off, and to separate and put into different bundles each sort of Sheets, and make report to this Court what number of Sheets there are of each denomination, have, agreeable to order of Court, attended the Committee for signing and numbering said Bills, into whose hands the whole of said emission is committed, and have critically inspected and sorted the Sheets of each denomination and put them into different bundles, find, upon a due and accurate examination, that there is now in the hands of said Committee two thousand nine hundred and forty-eight sheets, of ten Pounds sixteen Shillings each, amounting to thirty-one thousand eight hundred and thirty-eight Pounds eight Shillings; also, five thousand two hundred and fifty Sheets of twenty-four Shillings each, amounting to six thousand three hundred Pounds; and, that the Committee for signing the Bills is possessed of the Treasurer's receipt for three thousand three hundred of the large Sheets, amounting to thirty-five thousand six hundred and forty Pounds, and one thousand of the small Sheets, amounting to twelve hundred Pounds, which, together with the Sheets in the Committee's hands, is as follows:

Six thousand two hundred and fifty Sheets, at twenty-four Shillings each, is seven thousand five hundred Pounds; and six thousand two hundred and forty-eight Sheets, at ten Pounds sixteen Shillings, is sixty-seven thousand four hundred and seventy-eight Pounds six Shillings. The whole of said emission, as now estimated, is seventy-four thousand nine hundred and seventy-eight Pounds eight Shillings; two sheets of the largest sum wanting, to complete the seventy-five thousand Pounds ordered to be emitted.

Your Committee, also, find a surplusage of eleven Sheets of the smallest denomination in the Committee's hands, and conclude there must be some mixture of Sheets, either in the hands of the Treasurer or Committee of Council, for discharging the publick accounts: therefore, beg leave to report, as their opinion, that it will be necessary to appoint a Committee to examine the Sheets of each denomination in the Treasurer and Committee of Council's hands, and Committee of Clothing, in order that all mistakes respecting the last emission may be rectified.

Moses Gill, *per order.*

In Council: Read, and recommitted; and the Committee are directed to examine the Sheets of each denomination in the Treasurer's, Committee of Council's, and Committee of Clothing's hands.

In the House of Representatives: Read, and concurred.

In the House of Representatives: Whereas, it appears to this Court that the sum of sixty Pounds, now in the hands of *Thomas Crafts*, Jun., *Edward Proctor*, *Winthrop Gray*, and *Daniel Sigourney*, was the property of *Joseph Goldthwait*, a noted enemy to the rights of *America*, and now actually employed in the Ministerial army in *Boston*,

Resolved, That the before-mentioned *Thomas Crafts*, Jun., *Edward Proctor*, *Winthrop Gray*, and *Daniel Sigourney* be, and are hereby directed to pay the above-mentioned sum of sixty Pounds into the hands of *Henry Gardner*, Esq., Treasurer and Receiver-General for this Colony, there to remain for the further order of the General Court.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

In the House of Representatives: Resolved, That there be paid, out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to *Thomas Crafts*, Jun., *Edward Proctor*, *Winthrop Gray*, and *Daniel Sigourney*, or to any two of them, the sum of two hundred Pounds, they being a Committee of the Court to receive the inhabitants of *Boston* at *Chelsea*.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow morning.

—

Wednesday, January 31, 1776.

Present in Council: Honourables William Sever, Caleb Cushing, John Whetcomb, Jedediah Foster, James Prescott, Eldad Taylor, Benjamin Lincoln, Charles Chauncy, Michael Farley, Joseph Palmer, Samuel Holten, Jabez Fisher, Moses Gill, John Taylor, Benjamin White, Esquires.

Mr. *Mills* came up with a message from the House, desiring that the honourable Board would send down the division and arrangements of the several Regiments.

Mr. *Story* came up with a message from the House, desiring the honourable Board to take upon themselves the trouble to arrange the Regiments of the County of *Hampshire*, there being but one or two Members from that County now in the House.

In Council: Whereas, the General Court have received such information as that there is reason to apprehend a confederacy is forming by some evil-minded persons in this and other Colonies, which may injure the credit of the Continental Bills, and the Bills of this and the other Colonies,

Therefore, *Resolved*, That it be recommended to the Committees of Inspection and Correspondence in all the towns in this Colony, to make strict inquiry in their several towns, and if they shall find any person within the same endeavouring, in any way whatever, to prevent the credit of the Continental Bills, or the Bills of this, or any other of the *United Colonies* of *America*, or to alter or counterfeit the same, that they cause such person to be arrested and secured, and give information thereof to this Court, in order that such person may be proceeded with according to the just demerits of such high crimes and misdemeanours, and that this Resolve be published in all the Newspapers in this Colony.

In the House of Representatives: Read, and concurred.

In the House of Representatives: Ordered, That it be an instruction to the Committee appointed to bring in a Bill to prevent the bodies of Soldiers to be arrested for debt, or their estates attached in certain cases: In the same Bill to make provision to prevent desertion in the Army, and any person from harbouring deserters.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

Petitions of the Committees and others, inhabitants of the towns of *Machias*, *Goldsborough*, *Number-Four*, *Narraguagus*, *Pleasant-River*, and *Chandler's River*, in the County of *Lincoln*, on behalf of said inhabitants, setting forth: "that ever since the first settlement of said Townships until the last year, your petitioners comfortably sup-

ported themselves and families by exchanging their lumber for such things as they found necessary for their support; that the present unhappy situation of affairs has stopped their lumber trade, and have not the means of supporting their families, although they have vast quantities of lumber by them. Wherefore, your petitioners pray your Honours would take their deplorable situation into your wise consideration, and point out some method whereby they may support themselves, as a means of doing which they beg leave to observe to your Honours, if a sufficient quantity of provisions should be allowed them, and proper persons appointed by your Honours to receive their lumber therefor; or, if your Honours would indulge them with the loan of a sum of money, until it be in their power to repay the same by the sale of their lumber, either of which methods would, in great measure, answer the desired end.

In the House of Representatives: Resolved, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to the aforementioned *Benjamin Foster*, and others, the sum of three hundred and fifty Pounds, lawful money, provided the said *Benjamin Foster*, and others, before-named, shall, all of them, give their bond, jointly and severally, to repay the same in one year from the date thereof, to the Treasurer of this Colony, for the use of the same; which money the aforementioned persons shall dispose of in the best manner they can, to purchase provisions for the inhabitants of *Machias*, *Chandler's River*, *Goldsborough*, *Narraguagus*, *Number-Four*, and *Pleasant-River*, to be divided among the said Plantations as the aforementioned persons shall direct, having respect to their circumstances, number, and necessities.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow morning.*

—

Thursday, February 1, 1776.

Present in Council: Honourables William Sever, Caleb Cushing, John Winthrop, Thomas Cushing, John Whetcomb, Jedediah Foster, James Prescott, Eldad Taylor, Benjamin Lincoln, Charles Chauncy, Michael Farley, Joseph Palmer, Samuel Holten, Jabez Fisher, Moses Gill, John Taylor, Benjamin White, Esquires.

In the House of Representatives: Ordered, That Mr. Speaker, Colonel *Orne*, and Colonel *Freeman*, with such as the honourable Board may join, be a Committee to bring in a Bill establishing a Test, by which all persons inimical to the rights and liberties of *America* shall be distinguished from their friends, and to provide some methods to secure us against the practices and designs of our enemies; and, that it be an instruction to the Committee, that they immediately, and previous to their reporting any Bill for this purpose, write to the Delegates of this Colony, at the *American* Congress, and obtain information from them whether the Congress have taken, or are about to take any measures for this purpose, or, if they have taken any, what those measures are.

In Council: Read, and concurred; and *William Sever* and *Thomas Cushing*, Esquires, are joined.

In the House of Representatives: Ordered, That . . . . . be a Committee, with such as the honourable Board shall join, to take into consideration an anonymous Letter from *Dartmouth*.

*Bridgewater, *January* 18, 1776.—Honoured Sir: Yesterday the bearer, Mr. *James Seward*, delivered me a letter from the honourable Council, relating to him, &c., on the receipt of which I have procured a house for his family, and a shop for him, and have assured him of work to do in the finishing way, with such a price as I can afford, and gave it as my opinion that he will have as much work as he can do in repairing of old arms, as soon as it is known that he is settled here. But from some conversation that he had with Mr. *Devans*, the Commissary, and with your Honours, he prays that he may have leave to repair to *Watertown*, to see whether or not it may not be more to his advantage to be employed by the Commissary, than to be employed here, more especially as he has a son in the Army, which he expects to have the advantage of working with him, in order to give the lad what insight he can into his business; have, therefore, favoured him with an opportunity of making a personal application to the Council, for a revocation of what was done respecting him before, not doubting but all proper indulgence will be granted him.

I am, sir, with due esteem, your Honour's very humble servant,

Hugh Orr.

For the Honourable *Moses Gill*, Esq.

In Council, *January* 31, 1776: Read, and *Ordered*, That the order of Council respecting the said *Seward's* being confined within the limits of the Town of *Bridgewater* be reconsidered, and that the said *Seward* be confined to the Town of *Watertown*, in order to his being employed by *Richard Devans*, Esq., Commissary-General of this Colony, who is desired to see that he does not pass without the limits of said town.

Perez Morton, *Deputy Secretary*.

In Council: Read, and concurred, and *Thomas Cushing*, Esq., is joined.

Colonel *Freemon* came up with a message from the House, to inform the Board that it was the desire of the House that the Town of *Boston* be considered as making one regiment in the County of *Suffolk*, and that they be arranged in their proper place.

Petition from the Selectmen of the Town of *Rehoboth*, setting forth: "that they have been greatly alarmed by the frequent attempts of the enemy in coming up their river; they have erected a breastwork on an eminence, on a point of land more than twenty rods in length, fourteen feet thick at its basis, about which works they have expended three hundred and eighty days' work, &c., which are nearly finished, and have, also, procured and properly mounted on field-carriages four pieces of ordnance, two of which are four-pounders, the other two are three-pounders, all which, at a moderate computation, amounts to one hundred and three pounds; they pray your Honours would grant them some compensation, &c.

In the House of Representatives: Read, and *Ordered*, That Colonel *Williams*, Doctor *Bayliss*, and Colonel *Thayer* be a Committee to repair to *Rehoboth* and view the Fortifications mentioned in the foregoing Petition; and, also, that said Committee view *Taunton-River*, near *Slade's Ferry*, at *Taunton*, and make report to this Court of the true circumstances of those places, and what would be proper for this Court to do to put those places in a defensible state.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow morning.

—

Friday, February 2, 1776.

Present in Council: Honourables William Sever, Caleb Cushing, John Winthrop, Thomas Cushing, John Whetcomb, Jedediah Foster, James Prescott, Eldad Taylor, Benjamin Lincoln, Michael Farley, Joseph Palmer, Samuel Holten, Jabez Fisher, Moses Gill, John Taylor, Benjamin White, Esquires.

In the House of Representatives: Ordered, That the Letter from *William West*, respecting Doctor *Samuel Gelston*, be committed to the Committee on said *Gelston's* affairs.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

Petition of *John Bakeman* and others, setting forth: "that there were divers Field-Officers chosen by the honourable House of Representatives, for the two Regiments to the eastward of *Penobscot-River*, in the County of *Lincoln*. Your petitioners pray your Honours would not concur with said vote until inquiry be made into the conduct of some of said appointments as we apprehend will be prejudicial to the County."

In Council: Read, and committed to *Benjamin Lincoln* and *Jabez Fisher*, Esquires.

In Council: Ordered, That *William Sever*, *Caleb Cushing*, *John Whetcomb*, and *James Prescott*, Esquires, be a Committee to prepare a general arrangement of the Militia through the Colony.

In the House of Representatives: Resolved, That *Joseph Cushing*, Esquire, be appointed a Brigadier-General for the County of *Plymouth*.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

In the House of Representatives: Resolved, That the honourable Council be desired to give commissions to such Officers as joined the Army in *December* last, who were chosen by the companies, and formed under the direction of the Committees of this Court, who were directed to raise those temporary recruits, although such companies did not amount to sixty-four men.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

In the House of Representatives: The House made choice, by ballot, of the following gentlemen as Field-Officers for the First Regiment, in the County of *Worcester*, viz:

Samuel Denny, Colonel; *Benjamin Flagg*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Paul Raymond*, First Major; *Asa Baldwin*, Second Major.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

In the House of Representatives: The House made choice of the following gentlemen as Field-Officers for the Second Regiment of Militia, in the County of *Worcester*, viz:

Josiah Whitney, Colonel; *Ephraim Sawyer*, Lieutenant Colonel.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

In the House of Representatives: Ordered, That the Secretary immediately give notice to the gentlemen elected Field and Staff Officers of the several Regiments to be raised in this Colony, to join the Army before *Boston*, till the first of *April* next, of their appointment to said offices, respectively.

In Council: Read, and concurred, and *Ordered*, That the Secretary give the aforesaid notice, by making out a list of the said Field-Officers, and publishing the same in *Edes's* and *Hall's* Newspapers, apprizing them of their appointment, and directing them to repair to their respective posts in the Army, with all possible despatch.

The Committee of both Houses, appointed to take into consideration the Memorial of the Selectmen of *Sherburne*, in the Island of *Nantucket*, have attended that service, and beg leave to report as their opinion, that a representation of the present state of that Island and of the conduct of the Inhabitants, be made to the *American* Congress, and that the Inhabitants be supplied with necessaries for their subsistence in the manner directed by a Resolve of the Congress, until their determination on such representation may be had. All which is humbly submitted.

JOHN WINTHROP, *per order.*

In Council: Read, and concurred, and thereupon *Ordered*, That a representation to the purpose mentioned in the foregoing Report, be made to the *American* Congress, accordingly; and that *John Winthrop*, Esq., with such as the honourable House shall join, be a Committee to make said representation.

In the House of Representatives: Read, and concurred, and Mr. *Brown* of *Boston*, and Mr. *Cushing* of *Scituate*, are joined.

Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow morning.*

—

Saturday, February 3, 1776.

Present in Council: Honourables William Sever, Walter Spooner, Caleb Cushing, John Winthrop, Thomas Cushing, John Whetcomb, Jedediah Foster, Eldad Taylor, James Prescott, Benjamin Lincoln, Michael Farley, Joseph Palmer, Samuel Holten, Jabez Fisher, John Taylor, Benjamin White, Esquires.

In Council: Whereas, it appears by Doctor *Gelston's* confession, that he has contravened the Resolves of the *American* Congress, and has supplied the enemies of *America* with sundry articles of provision; and by other evidence it appears that the said *Samuel Gelston* is unfriendly to the rights and liberties of this country. And whereas, the greatest danger must necessarily result from permitting such persons to go at large and continue their traitorous practices of opposing the measures adopted for our defence, and of spreading false and discouraging rumours, and of communicating information of all our operations to our unnatural enemies. And whereas, the said *Gelston* did make his escape from the Messenger of the honourable House of Representatives, who had him in his keeping, and it appears necessary that he should be effectually secured,

It is further *Resolved*, That the said *Samuel Gelston* be forthwith confined in some jail in this Colony, that the Council shall order, there to remain till the further order of the Council.

And whereas, it appears, by the examination of *John Brown* and Doctor *Gelston*, that the said *Brown* has contravened the Resolve of the *American* Congress, and aided the said Doctor *Gelston* in making his escape from the Messenger of the honourable House of Representatives, who had him in custody, and carried him to *Rhode-Island*, where he and the said *Gelston* were apprehended and secured by order of the honourable Council,

It is further *Resolved*, That the said *John Brown* be forthwith confined in some jail in this Colony, that the Council shall order, there to remain till the further order of the Council.

And whereas, there was found in the custody of the said *Brown*, about ten pounds weight of *India* Tea, which is now in the custody of the Committee of this Court,

Therefore, *Resolved*, That the Messenger of the honourable House of Representatives be directed to cause the said Tea to be publickly consumed by fire, this day, at one o'clock, P. M.

In Council: Read, and accepted.

In the House of Representatives: Read, and concurred.

A Bill, entitled "An Act for altering the places appointed for the holding the Courts of Justice for the County of *Middlesex*," having passed the House of Representatives, to be engrossed.

In Council: Read a second time and passed a concurrence, to be engrossed.

In the House of Representatives: The House made choice of Mr. *Samuel Gerry*, as a Commissary for the forces stationed at the Town of *Marblehead*.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow morning.

—

Monday, February 5, 1776.

Present in Council: Honourables William Sever, Walter Spooner, Caleb Cushing, John Winthrop, John Whetcomb, James Prescott, Eldad Taylor, Benjamin Lincoln, Michael Farley, Joseph Palmer, Samuel Holten, Jabez Fisher, Benjamin White, Esquires.

In the House of Representatives: Whereas, representation has been made by this House, that Colonel *Doan*, of *Barnstable* County, has sent two vessels to the *West-Indies*, loaded with the produce of the Colonies; and that Mr. *Solomon Davis*, of said *Barnstable*, is now loading two vessels, and Mr. *Cutt*, of *Saco*, another; and, that a vessel at *Falmouth*, in *Casco Bay*, is likewise loading with the like produce, contrary to the Resolution of the *American* Congress,

Therefore, *Ordered*, That Mr. *Speaker*, Major *Cross*, and Mr. *Story*, with such as the honourable Board may join, be a Committee to make inquiry into the matter, and report what is proper to be done.

In Council: Read, and concurred, and *William Sever* and *Walter Spooner*, Esqs., are joined.

The Committee of both Houses appointed to consider the subject matter of a report of a Committee of this Court, of the 10th instant, relative to a Petition of some of the inhabitants of *Majabigwaduce*, against the conduct of *John Bakeman*, Esq.; also, sundry depositions against several of the inhabitants of said place, for threatening the life of said *Bakeman*, and supplying the ships of our enemies at *Boston*, with provisions, &c., together with a Letter from *Timothy Parsons*, complaining he is in danger of his life, from a number of lawless inhabitants of *Pownalborough*; and a Petition of *John Tufts*, setting forth, that the enemies at *Boston* have been, and are continually supplied with wood, &c., by a number of inhabitants of *Long-Island*, and praying this Court's order thereon, have carefully attended that business; and, from all the evidence they can obtain, find that the conduct of said *Bakeman* as a magistrate and a friend to his country is unexceptionable; and it having been made to appear to your Committee by the depositions aforesaid, as well as other witnesses, that a number of men, inhabitants of *Majabigwaduce*, under the colour of a Committee of Safety, and others, have been supplying the fleet of our enemies at *Boston*, with wood, live stock, vegetables, &c., and do still persist therein; and, in order to carry on their base and wicked practices with impunity, have, and do threaten the life of said *Bakeman*, (who openly opposes such wicked conduct,) and did, in a lawless, hostile manner, with clubs, &c., by force and arms, enter the house of said *Bakeman* in the night, between the 4th and 5th of *December* last; and, as he says, robbed him of a sum of money to the value of about twenty pounds,

* COUNCIL-CHAMBER, *February* 2, 1776.—GENTLEMEN: The Council have taken under consideration your letter, enclosing the intercepted letter from *Elisha Alliss*, Jun., to Major *Gray*. We fully approve of your vigilance in the publick cause, and if you shall find any persons attempting to injure the credit of the Continental Bills, or any of the Bills of Credit of this or the other *United American Colonies*, we trust you will use your utmost endeavour to secure them, that they may receive such punishment as is the due demerit of such crimes and misdemeanors.

The Council further direct that you take such measures that *Elisha Alliss*, the writer of the letter above-mentioned, do not go out of the limits of the Town of *Hatfield*, or hold, without your permission, correspondence with any person who may be justly deemed inimical to the liberties of *America*, and if you shall find that his conduct shall be such as will endanger the publick safety, that you cause him to be committed to close confinement.

In the name and by order of the Council.

To the Committee of Correspondence for the Town of *Hatfield*.

IN COUNCIL, *February* 2, 1776: Read and accepted, and ordered to be signed by the President of the Council, and forwarded.

PEREZ MORTON, *Deputy Secretary.*

and many valuable articles, as set forth in the memorial of said *Bakeman*, break and destroy the windows and doors of said *Bakeman's* house, abused his person, destroyed his property, and threatened and endangered the lives of said *Bakeman*, his wife and family. Your Committee view the above as a high-handed offence, and that some effectual measures ought to be taken by this Court to prevent such a growing evil for the future; therefore, beg leave to report by way of Resolve:

Resolved, That *William Lithgow*, *John Taylor*, *Ezekiel Pettee*, *Thomas Stinsin*, and *Waterman Thomas*, Esquires, Justices of the Peace for the County of *Lincoln*, or any three of them, (*Quorum Unus*,) are hereby required to make inquiry into the riot and injury committed by a number of persons, armed and disguised, against the property of *John Bakeman*, Esq.; and, also, respecting the conduct of some of the inhabitants of the County of *Lincoln*, in supplying the enemy with Provisions and Fuel; and of all breaches of the peace, and other disorders committed in said County; and, also, to inquire what persons have been guilty of contravening the Resolves of the *American* or Provincial Congresses, or the acts or ordinances of the General Court of this Colony; and, the said Justices are hereby empowered and directed to cause to come before them any accused in the premises, and such witnesses as may be found; and of them inquire, on oath, of all matters relative to the premises; and, all persons who shall by such Justices, be found so far guilty of the breach of the Laws of this Colony, especially provided, or the breach of the peace, or of evil intent against the rights and liberties of *America*, as that, in their judgment, they ought to be brought to trial for their respective crimes and offences; that they cause such persons to recognise, with sureties, in such sums as shall appear to them reasonable, according to the circumstances of the accused; that they will appear, and answer for their respective crimes and misdemeanors, at the Superior Court of Judicature, Court of Assize, and General Court of Delivery, next to be holden at *Falmouth*, in the County of *Cumberland*, within and for the Counties of *Cumberland* and *Lincoln*; and, in default of their recognising as aforesaid, the said person, or persons, to commit to prison, until they shall so recognise, or be legally discharged; and, all persons, of what quality or denomination soever, within the said County of *Lincoln*, are hereby commanded to assist the said Justices in the inquiry into, and execution of, all matters in the foregoing order contained, which Justices, Officers, and Witnesses, shall be paid for their cost and expenses, as in the law of this Colony is provided, in case of conviction, and in case there shall not be a conviction before the Court of Assize, they shall be paid as this Court shall hereafter order.

In Council: Read, and accepted.

In the House of Representatives: Read, and concurred.

Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow morning.

—

Tuesday, February 6, 1776.

Present in Council: Honourables William Sever, Walter Spooner, Caleb Cushing, John Winthrop, John Whetcomb, James Prescott, Eldad Taylor, Benjamin Lincoln, Michael Farley, Joseph Palmer, Samuel Holten, Jabez Fisher, John Taylor, Benjamin White, Esqs.

Colonel *Bowers* came up with a message from the House to inform the Board, that the House had passed upon all business of a publick nature, before them, and desired the Board would do the like, in order that the House may have a recess on *Thursday* next.

The Committee of both Houses appointed to consider a Petition of *Philip Hodgskins*, making complaint against Colonel *Cargill*; also, a Letter from *Samuel Jordan*, Chairman of the Committee at *Goldsborough*, complaining of Colonel *Cargill*; also, setting forth the state of several vessels detained by said Committee: furthermore, requesting that a number of troops be stationed there; and, that the doings of the Committees in places not incorporated might be confirmed, have carefully attended that service, and beg leave to report, as their opinion, viz: That *Philip Hodgskins* have leave to withdraw his Petition, as it fully appears to your Committee, that his confinement was in consequence of refusing to be mustered and sworn, when, at the same time, he owns that he was inlisted in the service of this Colony; and, as to the complaint of the Committee of *Goldsborough* against said *Cargill*, no part thereof was supported, therefore, in our opinion, ought not to operate to the disadvantage of Colonel *Cargill*; furthermore, as to the vessels detained by the Committee of *Goldsborough*, your Committee are humbly of opinion, that this Court has made sufficient provision already. Your Committee beg leave further to report as their opinion, that a Committee of both Houses be appointed to consider, and report, what is further necessary for this Court to do, in order to support and protect the people in the County of *Lincoln*, east of *Penobscot River*; also, how Committees shall be chosen in places not incorporated.

ELDAD TAYLOR, *per order.*

In Council: Read, and accepted; and, thereupon *Ordered*, That the same Committee be appointed for the purpose mentioned in the last paragraph of the foregoing Report.

In the House of Representatives: Read, and recommitted, and Mr. *Caldwell* is appointed on the Committee in the room of Colonel *Freeman*, absent.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow morning.

—

Wednesday, February 7, 1776.

Present in Council: Honourables William Sever, Walter Spooner, Caleb Cushing, John Winthrop, Thomas Cushing, John Whetcomb, James Prescott, Eldad Taylor, Benjamin Lincoln, Michael Farley, Joseph Palmer, Samuel Holten, Jabez Fisher, John Taylor, Benjamin White, Esquires.

In the House of Representatives: The House made choice, by ballot, of the following gentlemen for Field-Officers of the First Regiment in the County of *Plymouth*, viz: *Gamaliel Bradford*, Jun., Colonel; *Thomas Lothrop*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *John Gray*, First Major; *Seth Cushing*, Second Major.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

In the House of Representatives: The House made choice, by ballot, of the following gentlemen for Field-Officers of the Third Regiment in the County of *Plymouth*, viz: *Edward Mitchell*, Colonel; *David Jones*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Simon Cary*, First Major; *Eliphalet Cary*, Second Major.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

A Bill, entitled "An Act to enable the Inhabitants of *Falmouth*, to support prosecutions against persons, who have their goods in possession," having passed the House of Representatives, to be engrossed.

In Council: Read a second time, and passed a concurrence, to be engrossed.

In the House of Representatives: Resolved, That the Letter from *Benjamin Fessenden*, respecting the detention of a Vessel, be committed to the Committee appointed to consider the representation made to the General Court, of several Vessels loading with the produce of the Colonies.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

In the House of Representatives: The House made choice, by ballot, of the following gentlemen for Field-Officers of the Second Regiment in the County of *Suffolk*, viz: *Solomon Lovell*, Colonel; *David Cushing*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Thomas Lothrop*, First Major; *Josiah Cushing*, Second Major.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

In the House of Representatives: The House made choice, by ballot, of the following gentlemen for Field-Officers of the Third Regiment of Militia for the County of *Suffolk*, viz: *Benjamin Gill*, Colonel; *Samuel Pierce*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Joseph Babcock*, First Major; *Elijah Hewens*, Second Major.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

In the House of Representatives: The House made choice, by ballot, of the following gentlemen for Field-Officers of the Fifth Regiment of Militia for the County of *Suffolk*, viz: *Joseph Palmer*, Colonel; *Jonathan Bass*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Edmund Sopcr*, First Major, *Ebenezer Thayer*, tertius, Second Major.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

In the House of Representatives: The House made choice, by ballot, of the following gentlemen for Field-Officers of the Fourth Regiment of Militia in the County of *Worcester*, viz: *Jonathan Warner*, Colonel; *Joseph Gil-*

bert, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Reuben Reed*, First Major; *Joseph Bowman*, Second Major.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

In the House of Representatives: The House made choice, by ballot, of the following gentlemen for Field-Officers of the Fifth Regiment of Militia in the County of *Worcester*, viz: *Jona. Holman*, Colonel; *Daniel Plympton*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *William Learned*, First Major; *Jacob Davis*, Second Major.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

In the House of Representatives: The House made choice, by ballot, of the following gentlemen for Field-Officers of the Seventh Regiment of Militia in the County of *Worcester*, viz: *Nathan Sparhawk*, Colonel; *Jonathan Grout*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Jonas Wilder*, First Major; *Daniel Clap*, Second Major.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

In the House of Representatives: The House made choice, by ballot, of the following gentlemen for Field-Officers of the Eighth Regiment of Militia in the County of *Worcester*, viz: *Abijah Stearns*, Colonel; *Josiah Carter*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *John Raud*, First Major; *Ebenezer Bridge*, Second Major.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

In the House of Representatives: The House made choice, by ballot, of the following gentlemen for Field-Officers of the second Regiment of Militia in the County of *York*, viz: *John Frost*, Colonel; *Ichabod Goodwin*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Joseph Prime*, First Major; *John Shapleigh*, Second Major.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

In the House of Representatives: The House made choice, by ballot, of the following gentlemen for Field-Officers of the Third Regiment of Militia in the County of *York*, viz: *Tristram Jordan*, Colonel; *Joseph Storer*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Thomas Cutt*, First Major; *Jonathan Stone*, Second Major.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

In the House of Representatives: Ordered, That Mr. *Cushing*, Colonel *White*, and Mr. *Hopkins*, with such as the honourable Board may join, be a Committee to take under consideration the difficulties that attend the raising a Regiment in the Counties of *Hampshire* and *Berkshire*, and report what is proper to be done to complete that business.

In Council: Read, and concurred, and *Benjamin Lincoln* and *John Taylor*, Esquires, are joined.

In the House of Representatives: Resolved, That there be built at the publick expence of this Colony, for the defence of *American* liberty, ten Sloops-of-War, of one hundred and ten tons, or one hundred and fifteen tons each, suitable to carry from fourteen to sixteen carriage guns, of six and four pounders; and that Captain *Batchelder*, Colonel *Bowers*, and Mr. *Durfee*, be a Committee, with such as the honourable House may join, to provide materials and employ proper persons to build said vessels as soon as may be, for the purpose aforesaid; and that the sum of ten thousand Pounds be delivered to the said Committee, to enable them to proceed in building, rigging, and fixing said vessels as soon as possible; and that each one of the Committee be accountable to the General Court of this Colony, when thereunto called by the said Court for the money he shall receive.

In Council: Read, and concurred, and *William Sever* and *Benjamin Greenleaf*, Esquires, are joined.

In the House of Representatives: The House made choice, by ballot, of the following gentlemen for Field-Officers of the Third Regiment of Militia for the County of *Bristol*, viz: *George Williams*, Colonel; *Zephaniah Leonard*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Abiel Mitchell*, First Major; *James Williams*, Jun., Second Major.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

In the House of Representatives: The House made choice, by ballot, of the following gentlemen for Field-Officers of the Fourth Regiment of Militia for the County of *Bristol*, viz: *John Daggat*, Colonel; *Ephraim Lane*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Isaac Dean*, First Major; *Elkanah Clap*, Second Major.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

In the House of Representatives: The House made choice, by ballot, of the following gentlemen for Field-Officers of the First Regiment of Militia for the County of *Middlesex*, viz: *Samuel Thatcher*, Colonel; *Benjamin Hammond*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Samuel Barnard*, First Major; *John Gardner*, Second Major.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

In the House of Representatives: The House made choice, by ballot, of the following gentlemen for Field-Officers of the Third Regiment of Militia for the County of *Middlesex*, viz: *James Barret*, Colonel; *Braddyl Smith*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Eleazer Brooks*, First Major; *Francis Faulkner*, Second Major.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

In the House of Representatives: The House made choice, by ballot, of the following gentlemen for Field-Officers of the Fifth Regiment of Militia for the County of *Middlesex*, viz: *Samuel Bullard*, Colonel; *Micah Stone*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Abner Perry*, First Major; *John Trowbridge*, Second Major.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

In the House of Representatives: The House made choice, by ballot, of the following gentlemen for Field-Officers of the Sixth Regiment of Militia for the County of *Middlesex*, viz: *Oliver Prescott*, Colonel; *Jonathan Reed*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Josiah Sartel*, First Major; *Jonathan Minot*, Second Major.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

In the House of Representatives: The House made choice, by ballot, of the following gentlemen for Field-Officers of the First Regiment of Militia for the County of *Cumberland*, viz: *John Waite*, Colonel; *Peter Noyes*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Nathaniel Jordan*, First Major; *William Frost*, Second Major.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

In the House of Representatives: The House made choice, by ballot, of the following gentlemen for Field-Officers of the Second Regiment of Militia in the County of *Cumberland*, viz: *Jonathan Mitchell*, Colonel; *Nothaniel Purrington*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Charles Gerrish*, First Major; *Nathaniel Larrabee*, Second Major.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

In the House of Representatives: The House proceeded to the choice of Field-Officers for the two Regiments in the County of *Berkshire;* and the Committee appointed to collect the votes, having counted the same, it appeared that the following gentlemen were chosen, viz:

For the First Regiment: *Mark Hopkins*, Colonel; *Aaron Root*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Giles Jackson*, First Major; *Jacob Brown*, Second Major.

For the Second Regiment: *Benjamin Simonds*, Colonel; *Jonathan Smith*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *David Rosseter*, First Major; *Caleb Hyde*, Second Major.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

In the House of Representatives: The House made choice of the following Field-Officers for the Third Regiment of Militia, in the County of *Middlesex*, viz:

Eleazer Brooks, Colonel, in the room of *James Barret*, excused; *Francis Faulkner*, Lieutenant-Colonel, in the room of *Braddyl Smith*, excused; *Nathan Barret*, First Major, in the room of *Eleazer Brooks*, elected Colonel; *Samuel Lamson*, Second Major, in the room of *Francis Faulkner*, elected Lieutenant-Colonel.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

Petition of *Anna Coshommon*, an *Indian* woman, of *Chilmark*, in *Dukes* County, and *Benjamin Obadiah*, of *Dartmouth*, in the County of *Bristol*, *Indian* man, labourers, setting forth: "that one *John Quaniman*, *Indian* man, late of *Dartmouth* aforesaid, deceased, died, seized of a tract of land of about one hundred acres; and they being by the laws of this Province, heirs to the same, the said land lying in the town of *Dartmouth*, aforesaid, and mostly uncultivated, they humbly pray, that they may have liberty to make sales of the same."

In Council: Read, and committed to *Eldad Taylor* and *Benjamin Lincoln*, Esq'rs. The Committee on the above Petition beg leave to report by way of Resolve:

Resolved, That the prayer of the Petition be granted, and that *Walter Spooner*, Esquire, be, and he hereby is empowered to make sale of the Tract of Land mentioned in said Petition, (of which *John Quaniman* died, seized,) for the most the same will fetch, and make and execute a good deed, or deeds, in law of the same to the purchaser, or purchasers, he observing the rules and directions in the law provided for the sale of real Estates by executors and administrators, and the money arising by said sale to be put to interest on good security for the benefit of the legal heirs of the said *John Quaniman;* and the interest of the money to be paid annually, to the said heirs on making application to the said *Walter Spooner*, Esq., he to be accountable to the General Court of this Colony, when thereto required.

In the House of Representatives: Read, and concurred.

In the House of Representatives: Resolved, (Blank.)

Petition of *Thomas Simonds* and *Mary Thomas*, native *Indians*, of *Middleborough*, in the County of *Plymouth*, setting forth: "that they are legally and rightfully possessed of a piece of land, lying and being in *Dartmouth*, in the County of *Bristol*, at a place called *Sconticut-Neck;* they, therefore, humbly pray your Honours would grant them liberty to make sale of the same."

In Council: Read, and committed to *Eldad Taylor* and *Benjamin Lincoln*, Esquires.

The Committee on the above Petition report by way of Resolve:

Resolved, That the prayer of the Petition be granted, and that *Walter Spooner*, Esq., be, and he hereby is empowered to make sale of the Tract of Land mentioned in said Petition for the most the same will fetch, and to make and execute a good deed, or deeds, of the same to the purchaser, or purchasers; he observing the rules and directions of the law for the sale of real Estates by executors and administrators, and the money arising by such sale, to be laid out by the said *Walter Spooner*, Esq., in purchasing so much Land for the benefit of the said *Indians*, where it will best accommodate them, as it will pay for, after deducting the necessary charges of such sales and purchase; and that the said *Walter Spooner*, Esq., be accountable to the General Court of this Colony, for his doings touching the premises.

In the House of Representatives: Read, and concurred.

A Bill, entitled "An Act for encouraging the fixing out Armed Vessels," having passed the House of Representatives, to be engrossed,

In Council: Read a second time, and passed a concurrence, to be engrossed.

In the House of Representatives: Ordered, That the Letter from *Nathaniel Shaw*, Jun., be committed to the Committee appointed to settle the Accounts of the late Committee of Supplies, and to take care of the several cargoes, &c.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow morning.

Thursday, February 8, 1776.

Present in Council: Honourables William Sever, Walter Spooner, Caleb Cushing, John Winthrop, Thomas Cushing, Jedediah Foster, James Prescott, Eldad Taylor, Benjamin Lincoln, Michael Farley, Joseph Palmer, Samuel Holten, Jabez Fisher, Moses Gill, John Taylor, Benjamin White, Esquires.

In the House of Representatives: The House made choice of the following Officers for the Company to be stationed at *Pemaquid*, in the County of *Lincoln*, viz: *Caleb Turner*, Captain; *George Rogers*, First Lieutenant; *Thomas Thompson*, Second Lieutenant; *Robert Giving*, Commissary.

The House, also, made choice of the following Officers for the Company to be stationed at *St. George's*, in said County, viz: *Benjamin Plummer*, Captain; *Joseph Robinson*, First Lieutenant; *James Thompson*, Second Lieutenant; *James Minot*, Commissary; and *Thomas Rice*, Esq., Mustermaster, for the three Companies to be stationed in the County aforesaid.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

In the House of Representatives: The House made choice of *Richard Ward*, as Commissary, for the Company to be stationed at *Salem*.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

Petition of *Jeremiah Obrien*, setting forth: "that he has been in the Colony service, since the 1st day of *August* last, as Commander-in-chief of the sloop *Machias-Liberty*, and schooner *Diligent*, which two vessels now lie at *Newburyport* completely equipped for sea, with about fifty men on board them, ready for any service the honourable Court shall think fit to employ them in; one vessel has four carriage guns, ten swivels, the other has five carriage guns, and twenty swivels, has ports for eight carriages, has accommodations for sixty-five men each; we are all waiting the determination of the honourable Court, whether we are to be discharged, or further employed in the Colony service; your petitioner can recommend to the honourable Court, the under officers and gunner to be men well skilled in the business."

In the House of Representatives: Whereas, it is of importance that the enemies of the *United Colony* should, as far as possible, be deprived of necessary supplies, whereby they may be rendered the less capable of distressing this and the other Colonies aforesaid, and to effect this purpose, it is expedient and necessary armed vessels should be fitted out and employed to prevent supplies getting into the hands of our said enemies;

Therefore, *Resolved*, That the Committee of Correspondence, Inspection and Safety of *Newburyport*, with Captain *Jeremiah Obrien*, be a Committee to prepare, and in all respects, equip and man, with fifty men each, including officers, the Sloop *Machias-Liberty* and Schooner *Diligent*, now lying at *Newburyport;* and that said Committee recommend such proper persons to the honourable Council as may be necessary for Officers of said Vessels for the purposes above-mentioned, and when said Vessels are prepared as aforesaid, the officers belonging to said Vessels, be commissionated by, and follow such directions as they shall receive from time to time from the Council of this Colony.

And it is further *Resolved*, That the following sums set against the several officers and men engaged in the above service, shall be paid them upon their faithfully discharging the duties assigned them, viz:

	Per month.		Per month.
Captain, - - -	£4 0	Carpenter, - - -	£1 10
First Lieutenant, -	3 0	Gunner, - - -	1 10
Second Lieutenant,	2 10	Pilot and Q. Master,	1 10
Surgeon, - - -	2 10	Steward, - - -	1 10
Master, - - -	2 0	Master-at-Arms, -	1 10
Boatswain, -	1 10	Foremast men, -	1 4

And for the further encouragement of said Officers and Seamen,

It is *Resolved*, That they shall be entitled to one-third the proceeds of all captures that shall be by them made, and finally condemned, agreeable to a law of this Colony, made and passed in the present session of the General Court, entitled "An Act for fixing out Armed Vessels, and for the trial and condemnation of vessels, that have been employed in aiding and assisting our Enemies;" and in such proportions as is allowed the officers and seamen of the Armed Vessels fitted out on account of the *United Colonies*, by his Excellency General *Washington*. The above establishment to be continued until the last day of *December* next, unless this Court should think it expedient to discharge them sooner.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

In the House of Representatives: The House made choice, by hallot, of the following gentlemen for Field-Officers of the Seventh Regiment of Militia in the County of *Middlesex*, viz: *Simeon Spaulding*, Colonel; *William Thompson*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *William Hildreth*, First Major; *Ebenezer Bancroft*, Second Major.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

In the House of Representatives: The House made choice, by ballot, of the following gentlemen for Field-Officers of the Second Regiment of Militia, in the County of *Bristol*, viz: *Edward Pope*, Colonel; *John Hathaway*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Sylvester Richmond*, tertius, First Major; *Joshua Hathaway*, Second Major.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

In the House of Representatives: The House made choice, by ballot, of the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq., First Major-General of the Militia in this Colony.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

In the House of Representatives: The House made choice, by ballot, of the Honourable *Azor Orne*, Esquire, Second Major-General of the Militia in this Colony.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

In the House of Representatives: The House made choice, by ballot, of the Honourable *Benjamin Lincoln*, Esquire, Third Major-General of the Militia in this Colony.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

In the House of Representatives: The House made choice, by ballot, of the following gentlemen for Field-Officers of the Fourth Regiment of Militia in the County of *Essex*, viz: *Samuel Johnson*, Colonel; *John Whittier*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Asa Perley*, First Major; *Samuel Bodwell*, Second Major.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

In the House of Representatives: The House made choice of Captain *Benjamin Gage*, as First Major in the Fourth Regiment of Militia in the County of *Essex*, in the room of Major *Perley*, who declines serving.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

In the House of Representatives: The House made choice, by ballot, of the following gentlemen for Field-Officers of the Eighth Regiment of Militia in the County of *Essex*, viz: *Henry Herrick*, Colonel; *Jeremiah Page*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Archelaus Fuller*, First Major; *Samuel Epes*, Second Major.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

In the House of Representatives: The House made choice, by ballot, of the following gentlemen for Field-Officers of the Fifth Regiment of Militia in the County of *Essex*, viz: *Jonathan Glover*, Colonel; *Thomas Gerry*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Joshua Orne*, First Major; *Nicholas Braughton*, Second Major.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

An engrossed Bill, entitled "An act for altering the place of holding the Courts of Law in the County of *Suffolk*," having passed the House of Representatives, to be enacted,

In Council: Read a second time, and passed a concurrence, to be enacted.

In the House of Representatives: The House made choice, by ballot, of the following gentlemen for Field-Officers of the Third Regiment of Militia in the County of *Cumberland*, viz: *Reuben Fogg*, Colonel; *Richard T. Lombard*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Timothy McDaniel*, First Major; *Ephraim Rowe*, Second Major.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

In the House of Representatives: The House made choice, by ballot, of the following gentlemen for Field-Officers of the Fourth Regiment of Militia in the County of *Cumberland*, viz: *Timothy Pike*, Colonel; *Moses Merril*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *William Knights*, First Major; *Samuel Matthews*, Second Major.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

In the House of Representatives: The House proceeded to the choice of Field-Officers for the several Regiments in the County of *Hampshire*, and the Committee appointed to collect the votes, having counted, it appears that the following gentlemen were chosen:

For the First Regiment: *Charles Pynchon*, Colonel; *John Bliss*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *William Pynchon*, First Major; *Jonathan Hale*, Second Major.

For the Second Regiment: *Seth Pomeroy*, Colonel; *John Dickinson*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Ezra May*, First Major; *Jonathan Clap*, Second Major.

For the Third Regiment: *John Mosely*, Colonel; *Timothy Robinson*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Benjamin Ely*, First Major; *Daniel Leonard*, Second Major.

For the Fourth Regiment: *Samuel How*, Colonel; *Ruggles Woodbridge*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *John Chester Williams*, First Major; *Josiah White*, Second Major.

For the Fifth Regiment: *David Field*, Colonel; *David Wells*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Hezekiah Smith*, First Major; *David Dickinson*, Second Major.

For the Sixth Regiment: *Phineas Wright*, Colonel; *Samuel Williams*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Joshua Locke*, First Major; *Daniel Whitmore*, Second Major.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

In the House of Representatives: The House made choice of Field-Officers for the several Regiments in the County of *Lincoln*, and the Committee appointed to collect the votes having counted the same, it appeared that the following were chosen, viz:

For the First Regiment: *Samuel McCobb*, Colonel; *Samuel Harnden*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Dummer Sewall*, First Major; *James Hunter*, Second Major.

For the Second Regiment: *Joseph North*, Colonel; *William Howard*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Ezekiel Pettee*, First Major; *Rowland Cushing*, Second Major.

For the Third Regiment: *William Jones*, Colonel; *John Farley*, First Major; *Moses Davis*, Second Major.

For the Fourth Regiment: *Mason Wheaton*, Colonel; *William Farnsworth*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *James Minot*, First Major; *Haunce Robinson*, Second Major.

For the Fifth Regiment: *Jonathan Buck*, Colonel; *Edmund Moor*, First Major; *Jonathan Buck*, Jr., Second Major.

For the Sixth Regiment: *Benjamin Foster*, Colonel; *Alexander Campbell*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Samuel Jordan*, First Major; *Francis Shaw*, Jun., Second Major.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

In the House of Representatives: The House proceeded to the choice of Brigadiers for the several Counties in this Colony, agreeable to a late act of this Court for regulating the Militia, and the Committee appointed to collect the votes having counted the same and assorted them, it appeared that the following gentlemen were chosen, viz:

For the County of *Suffolk*, Hon. *Benjamin Lincoln*, Esq.
For the County of *Essex*, Hon. *Michael Farley*, Esq.
For the County of *Hampshire*, *Timothy Danielson*, Esq.
For the County of *Barnstable*, *Joseph Otis*, Esq.
For the County of *Bristol*, *George Godfrey*, Esq.
For the County of *York*, *Jotham Moulton*, Esq.
For the County of *Worcester*, *John Whetcomb*, Esq.
For the County of *Cumberland*, *Samuel Thompson*, Esq.
For the County of *Berkshire*, *John Fellows*, Esq.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

Adjourned till ten o'clock, to-morrow morning.*

—

Friday, February 9, 1776.

Present in Council: Honourables William Sever, Walter Spooner, Caleb Cushing, John Winthrop, Thomas Cushing, Jedediah Foster, James Prescott, Eldad Taylor, Benjamin Lincoln, Michael Farley, Joseph Palmer, Samuel Holten, Jabez Fisher, Moses Gill, John Taylor, Benjamin White, Esquires.

In Council: Whereas, Accounts have been presented to this Court for payment, by several towns in this Colony, for provisions supplied the men who marched from such towns, respectively, on the alarm on the 19th of *April* last, and after, and no sufficient vouchers are lodged with such accounts, whereby it may be made evident that the publick had the benefit of such provisions; and whereas, this Colony allowed to each man, so marching, one penny per mile, to refund his expenses of travelling into camp, &c.,

* Barnstable, *February* 3, 1776.—Gentlemen: At the express solicitation of my daughter-in-law, the wife of my son *Samuel Allyn Otis*, I have presumed to write a line to your Honours in behalf of her brother, *John Gray*, who, we hear, is confined to *Newbury* jail. How far he was concerned in the affair, so as to be confined in a jail, you that have had the examination of that matter are certainly the best judges. I would just hint to your Honours that, as he is a minor, and must be supposed altogether under the direction of others, whether in case of sufficient bondsmen should appear in his behalf that he shall not go into *Boston* in such a time as you set, nor supply our enemies, nor correspond with them, whether he may not be confined to some town in the country until the Court shall otherwise order. But I must leave the matter with your Honours' discretion, hoping I shall be excused, considering my connexions, in giving these hints, and am, gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servant, James Otis.

For the President of the Honourable Council at *Watertown*, (to be communicated.)

In Council, *February* 8, 1776: Read, and *Ordered*, That the order of Council touching the said *John Gray* be so far relaxed, that he be released from close confinement, and sent to the Town of *Barnstable*, and to remain within the limits of that town, *Samuel Allyn Otis*, with sufficient sureties, giving their joint several bonds in the sum of one thousand Pounds, that the said *John Gray* shall not pass without the limits of the said Town of *Barnstable*, or correspond with the enemies of *America*, or supply them with provision of any kind.

Perez Morton, *Deputy Secretary.*

Therefore, *Resolved*, That each Town, who have presented their Accounts to this Court for payment, and yet remain unpaid, and those who in future shall present such Accounts for payment, shall lodge with them, before they shall be passed on, a certificate from the officer who commanded such men, on the alarm aforesaid, that no part of the provisions mentioned in such Account were expended on their march to Head-Quarters, and a certificate from the Commissary what number of days such Company were in camp, and did not draw their allowance from the publick stores.

In the House of Representatives: Read, and concurred.

An engrossed Bill, entitled, "An Act to enable the Inhabitants of *Falmouth* to support prosecutions against persons who have in possession goods taken from said Inhabitants during the late fire," having passed the House of Representatives, to be enacted,

In Council: Read a second time, and passed a concurrence, to be enacted.

An engrossed Bill, entitled "An Act for reviving a number of Laws that are expired, or near expiring," having passed the House of Representatives, to be enacted,

In Council: Read a second time, and passed a concurrence, to be enacted.

In the House of Representatives: Resolved, That Doctor *John Greenleaf* be joined to the Committee appointed to receive, examine, and pay for all good and merchantable Saltpetre, at the rate heretofore established by this Court, that shall be manufactured in this Colony; and that there be paid to the said Committee, out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, the sum of one thousand four hundred Pounds, to enable them to pay for the same, they to be accountable to this Court for the money they or either of them shall receive; and Mr. *Jedediah Phips* is directed to attend at *Watertown*, on the second and fourth *Tuesdays* of each month, for that purpose, until the 1st day of *June* next, and to advertise this order for his attendance in the *Watertown* and *Cambridge* Newspapers three weeks, successively.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

In the House of Representatives: Resolved, That the following be the form of an Inlistment, to be signed by such soldiers as are to be raised by this Colony in the Counties of *Hampshire* and *Berkshire*, to join the *American* Army in *Canada;* and Brigadier *Thompson* is hereby appointed to get the same printed, as soon as possible:

We, the subscribers, do hereby severally inlist ourselves into the service of the *United American Colonies*, until the 1st day of *January* next, if the service do require it, and each of us do engage to furnish, and carry with us into the service aforesaid, a good, effective fire-arm, and blanket; also, a good bayonet, cartridge-pouch, and a hatchet or tomahawk, or cutting-sword, if possible. And we, severally, consent to be formed into a regiment, under the command of such Field-Officers, Captains, and Subalterns, as are, or may be appointed and commissionated by the *American* Congress; and, when so formed, we engage to march under said officers into *Canada*, with the utmost expedition. And we further agree, during the time aforesaid, to be subject to such Generals, and other officers, as are, or shall be appointed, and to be under such regulations, in every respect, as are provided for the *American* Army.

Dated the . . . . of . . . . A. D. 1776.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow morning.

Saturday, February 10, 1776.

Present in Council: Honourables William Sever, Walter Spooner, Caleb Cushing, John Winthrop, Thomas Cushing, Jedediah Foster, James Prescott, Eldad Taylor, Benjamin Lincoln, Michael Farley, Samuel Holten, Jabez Fisher, Moses Gill, John Taylor, Benjamin White, Esquires.

In the House of Representatives: *Ordered*, That the Petition of *Isaac Battle* and *Samuel Nichols*, praying to be fixed out a Privateering by the Colony, be committed to the Committee appointed to build ten Armed Vessels.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

In the House of Representatives: Resolved, That there be allowed and paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to the Honourable *Benjamin Lincoln*, Esq., and others, a Committee of this Court for fitting out ten vessels, to procure Gunpowder, Ammunition, &c., the sum of two thousand Pounds for that purpose, they to be accountable to this Court for the same.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

In the House of Representatives: *Ordered*, That Mr. Speaker and Major *Hawley*, with such as the honourable Board may join, be a Committee to wait on his Excellency General *Washington*, and inform him that this Court is about to rise, and to know if he has any application to make to the Court.

In Council: Read, and concurred, and Colonel *Lincoln* is joined.

In the House of Representatives: Resolved, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to *Richard Devans*, Esq., Commissary-General of this Colony, the sum of one thousand Pounds, to enable him to procure Warlike Stores for the use of the Colony.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

In the House of Representatives: The House made choice, by ballot, of the following gentlemen for Field-Officers of the Second Regiment of Militia in the County of *Plymouth*, viz: *Anthony Thomas*, Colonel; *John Cushing*, Jun., Lieutenant-Colonel; *Jeremiah Hall*, First Major; *Nathaniel Cushing*, Second Major.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

In the House of Representatives: Whereas, the votes and proceedings of the honourable Continental Congress, respecting the Regiment now raising in this Colony to join the Continental Army in *Canada*, make it necessary that some alteration should be made in the Resolves of this Court of the 21st of *January* last, respecting the encouragement thereby offered and proposed to such as should inlist themselves into the said service; and whereas, it is apprehended the mode of appointing the Captains, Subalterns, and non-Commissioned Officers, therein recommended, will retard the speedy inlistment and forming the several companies to be raised, which ought to be forwarded with all despatch;

Therefore, *Resolved*, That the Order of Court of the 21st of *January* last, relative to raising a Regiment of men in the Counties of *Hampshire* and *Berkshire*, to serve in *Canada*, so far as it relates to the two months' advance wages, the electing Captains, Subalterns, and non-Commissioned Officers, by the men, and the officers being confined to raise said Regiment in the Counties aforesaid, be reconsidered.

Resolved, That the blank Commissions for the Captains, Subalterns, and Staff-Officers, sent by this Court to the Continental Congress, to the said Regiment, be lodged in the hands of the Field-Officers appointed to raise and command said Regiment, as, also, inlisting papers to those men who come recommended to them for their loyalty to their country, their courage, and good conduct, as properly qualified for officers, and, upon their raising the complement of men assigned them, to deliver them their commissions.

And for the encouragement of such as shall inlist themselves into the said service,

It is further Resolved, That, agreeable to the Resolves of the honourable Continental Congress, there shall be paid to each effective, able-bodied non-Commissioned Officer and Soldier, who shall inlist as aforesaid, and be properly accoutred, according to the terms of their inlistment, the sum of forty Shillings, lawful money, as a bounty; and, also, that there shall be advanced and paid to every Officer and Soldier one month's advance wages, that they may be enabled to purchase necessary clothing; both the said sums to be paid them on their passing muster.

It is further Resolved, That those who have inlisted already, upon the former inlistment, given out upon their signing the inlistment now ordered, shall be entitled to the same bounty and privileges as if they had not before inlisted, and shall be entitled to receive pay from the date of their first inlistment. The said sums of one month's advance wages, and forty Shillings bounty, to be in lieu of the two months' advance wages ordered in the said Resolves of the 21st of *January*.

And whereas, by the said Resolves of the 21st of *January*, three companies were to be raised from the County of *Berkshire*, as part of the said Regiment; and whereas,

nearly four hundred men have already inlisted, and marched from the said County of *Berkshire* into *Canada*, to serve the *United Colonies* there, until the 15th of *April* next, many of whom, it is hoped and expected, will be willing to continue in the said service until the 1st day of *January* next;

Therefore, *Resolved*, That the Field-Officers of said Regiment be directed to inlist, as soon as possible, out of those already marched, as aforesaid, two whole companies, to join said Regiment, whose advance wages and bounty, including what they have already received from General *Schuyler*, shall be made equal, in every respect, to those who now inlist according to the terms proposed by the honourable Continental Congress, and that six companies only be now raised for the said Regiment, until this Court shall be informed of the success of raising the two said companies, out of those now in *Canada*, as aforesaid.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

In the House of Representotives; The House made choice, by ballot, of . . . . a Brigadier for the County of *Middlesex*, in the room of *John Cummings*.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

In the House of Representatives: The House made choice, by ballot, of the following gentlemen, as Field-Officers for the First Regiment of Militia in the County of *Bristol*, viz: *Thomas Carpenter*, 3d, Colonel; *Luther Thurber*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Nathan Dagget*, First Major; *Peleg Slead*, Second Major.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

In the House of Representatives: The House made choice, by ballot, of the following gentlemen as Field-Officers for the Fourth Regiment of Militia in the County of *Suffolk*, viz: *Ephraim Wheelock*, Colonel; *Benjamin Hawes*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Seth Bullard*, Second Major; *James Metcalf*, First Major.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

In the House of Representotives: The House made choice of the following gentlemen as Field-Officers of the Fourth Regiment of Militia in the County of *Plymouth*, viz: *Ebenezer Sprout*, Colonel; *Ebenezer White*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Israel Terrin*, First Major.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

Adjourned to ten o'clock, *Monday* morning.

—

Monday, February 12, 1776.

Present in Council: Honourables William Sever, Walter Spooner, Caleb Cushing, Thomas Cushing, Jedediah Foster, James Prescott, Eldad Taylor, Benjamin Lincoln, Joseph Palmer, Samuel Holten, Jabez Fisher, Moses Gill, John Taylor, Benjamin White, Esquires.

In the House of Representatives: Ordered, That . . . . . be a Committee, with such as the honourable Board shall join, to take into consideration a Letter from his Excellency General *Washington*, on the great want of Fire-Arms in the Army.

In Council: Read, and concurred, and *Benjamin Lincoln*, Esq., is joined.

In the House of Representatives: Whereas, it appears to be of great importance to the safety and welfare of this Colony, that the Harbour of *Marblehead* be effectually secured against the attacks of our enemies; and, whereas, the inhabitants of that town, have, at very great expense, erected Batteries, wherein twenty pieces of cannon are mounted, and it being absolutely necessary for a successful defence, that there should be a number of men, well acquainted with the management of cannon, appointed to said Batteries; therefore,

Resolved, That a number of Matrosses, consisting of thirty-eight men, exclusive of officers, be immediately raised for the purpose aforesaid, and that a Captain and two Lieutenants be chosen for said Company, their pay to be the same with officers of the like rank on the Sea-Coast establishment; and, the Commanding Officer of the two Companies of Sea-Coast Men, stationed at *Marblehead*, is hereby directed and empowered to draft twenty-five men from each of said Companies, to be joined to said Company of Matrosses, which will then consist of one hundred men, officers included.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

In Council: Ordered, That *John Winthrop*, Esq., with such as the honourable House shall join, be a Committee to prepare a Proclamation for a General Fast throughout this Colony.

In the House of Representatives: Read, and concurred, and Major *Hawley* and Mr. *Hopkins* are joined.

In the House of Representatives: The House made choice, by ballot, of *Andrew Reed*, to be Lieutenant-Colonel of the Third Regiment of Militia in the County of *Lincoln*, in the room of *Edward Emmerson*, who was non-concurred by the Council.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

In the House of Representatives: The House made choice, by ballot, of *Nicholas Holt*, to be Lieutenant-Colonel in the Fifth Regiment of Militia in the County of *Lincoln*, in the room of *Matthew Patten*, who was non-concurred by the Council.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

In the House of Representatives: The House made choice, by ballot, of *Samuel Harnden*, Esq., to be a Brigadier for the County of *Lincoln*, in the room of *Authur Noble*, Esq., who was non-concurred by the Council.

In the House of Representatives: Whereas, by a Resolve of the General Court, passed the 19th of *December* last, all Officers and Soldiers who were, on the 19th of *April* and 17th of *June* last past, engaged in battle with the Ministerial troops, and suffered loss of Clothing, Arms, and Accoutrements, should, on application made to the General Court, with sufficient evidence of their having sustained such loss, be compensated; and, whereas, the delaying to exhibit said Accounts may give occasion for frauds and impositions,

Resolved, That all Officers and Soldiers, who sustained any loss of Clothing, Fire-Arms, Ammunition, &c., by being engaged in battle with the Ministerial troops on the 19th *April* and 17th of *June* last, are hereby noticed, that unless they shall exhibit a particular account of their losses to this Court, on or before the second *Tuesday* of the next sitting of the same, they will be deprived of the benefit of compensation; and, that this Resolve be printed in the *Watertown* and *Cambridge* Newspapers three weeks, successively.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

In the House of Representatives: The House made choice of the following gentlemen as Field-Officers for the Second Regiment of Militia in the County of *Essex*, viz: *Jonathan Titcomb*, Colonel; *Henry Morril*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Ralph Cross*, Jun., First Major; *Winthrop Merril*, Second Major.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

In the House of Representatives: The House made choice, by ballot, of the following gentlemen as Field-Officers of the Second Regiment of Militia in the County of *Middlesex*, viz: *Jonathan Fox*, Colonel; *Benjamin Brown*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Timothy Walker*, First Major; *Joseph Bryant*, Second Major.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

In Council: Whereas, it has been found necessary to deposite in the hands of the Committees large sums of money for defraying the charges incurred in the present unhappy contest, and a balance is often left in the hands of such Committees, which sums, though they may be paid into the Treasury of this Colony, and a receipt given by the Treasurer for the same; yet, unless the Treasurer shall credit the Colony for such sums, a loss may happen by such receipt being mislaid or forgotten; therefore,

Ordered, That all such receipts be lodged with the Secretary, who, upon his receiving the same, shall immediately enter all such in a Book, to be by him kept for that purpose, to be produced when there shall be an adjustment of Treasurer's accounts; and, all Committees who shall be hereafter intrusted with sums of publick Moneys, shall not be considered as discharged of such balances in their hands until they shall lodge the Treasurer's receipts in the Secretary's hands for the purpose aforesaid.

In the House of Representatives: Read, and concurred.

Petition of a number of the Inhabitants of the Eastern part of the County of *Lincoln*, setting forth: "that the *Indians* of the *St. John's* and *Passamoquoddy* Tribes, are in great distress for the want of clothing and ammunition, which prevents their getting sufficient quantities of provisions to

support their families; that the Government of *Nova-Scotia* have offered to supply them with all such necessaries, provided they will join the enemies of the *United Colonies*; that the said Tribes have informed us of said application from *Nova-Scotia*, and have declared their desire to join their brethren of the *United Colonies*, provided they could be supplied with such things as they wanted, and take their Furs in return for them for the same; for which end, the said Tribes have sent three of their principal men to wait on your Honours, and that they appear to be very uneasy that something is not yet done for them. Your petitioners, apprehending, if said *Indians* are not supplied by your Honours, they will be necessitated to join our enemies, humbly pray your Honours would appoint a Truckmaster at *Machias* for that purpose."

In the House of Representatives: Read, and committed to Mr. *Story* and Colonel *Smith*, with such as the honourable Board may join; and, the Committee are directed to confer with the *Indians* on the subject.

In Council: Read, and concurred, and *Walter Spooner*, Esq., is joined.

The Committee of both Houses appointed on the above Petition, report as follows, viz: That said *Indians'* place of abode is about eighty miles from *Machias*, and consists of about sixty families; they are in want of clothing, provisions, ammunition, and their fire-arms repaired. Your Committee are informed by Captain *House*, that he had traded with these Tribes, and that the trade was to the amount of sixteen hundred pounds, lawful money, annually; and said *Indians* appear desirous of giving the trade to our Colony, provided we will supply them by putting a quantity of goods into the hands of a proper person to trade with them at *Machias*. Your Committee, also, find that *John Steel*, with two sons, will remove to *Machias*, and act as armourers, for soldiers' wages, provided he is allowed for the use of tools; and, that he has twelve and fourteen pounds in stock, that he will take down with him for the Colony's use.

WALTER SPOONER, *per order.*

In Council: Read, and sent down.

In the House of Representatives: Resolved, That a Truckmaster be appointed by this Court to reside at *Machias*, and that the sum of four hundred Pounds be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony to said Truckmaster, to enable him to procure such Ammunition and other articles of Goods as may be necessary to supply the said *Indians* with; and, that he set the articles he shall supply them with, at a moderate advance, and take in return therefor their Furs and other things they may procure in hunting: he, the said Truckmaster, to be accountable to this Court for the said money, and his conduct in this affair.

And it is, further *Resolved*, That *John Steel* be desired to repair to *Machias* as soon as may be, and there act as Armourer in repairing the said *Indians'* Guns, and such others as may be sent him by order of Court; and for his service, and the use of his Tools, there be allowed, and paid to him, after the rate of four Pounds per month, to commence from the time of his setting off from *Newburyport* till the further order of this Court; and, that the said Truckmaster furnish the said Armourer with Stock to proceed in his business, and receive from the *Indians*, and others, such Pay on account of this Colony, as shall be reasonable for the stock, and work done.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

In the House of Representatives: Whereas, it appears from the state of Ordnance, Ordnance Stores, and Ammunition for small Arms, at *Falmouth*, in the County of *Cumberland*, exhibited to this Court, that most of the Cannon there are unfit for use; and, that the quantity of Shot, Powder, and Flints, is very small; and, as it is necessary for the general safety of the Province, and that part in particular, that a supply of those articles should be immediately procured. Therefore,

Resolved, That the Commissary-General of this Colony be, and hereby is empowered and directed to procure as soon as possible, at the expense of this Colony, ten good Cannon, as follows, viz: three twelve-pounders, three nine-pounders, and four six-pounders, together with one hundred Round Shot for each Cannon, suitable for the same; also, nine hundred weight of Powder, and one thousand Flints.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow morning.

—

Tuesday, February 13, 1776.

Present in Council: Honourables Benjamin Greenleaf, Caleb Cushing, Walter Spooner, John Whetcomb, Jedediah Foster, James Prescott, Eldad Taylor, Benjamin Lincoln, Joseph Palmer, Samuel Holten, Jabez Fisher, Moses Gill, John Taylor, Benjamin White, Esquires.

A Bill, entitled "An Act for ascertaining the number of Inhabitants in this Colony," having passed the House of Representatives, to be engrossed,

In Council: Read a second time, and passed a concurrence, to be engrossed.

In the House of Representatives: Ordered, That *Joseph Henderson* be appointed to lay the disbursements of this Colony, in defence of *American* liberty, before the *American* Congress for approbation.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

In the House of Representatives: Resolved, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony to *Joseph Henderson*, the sum of thirty-five Pounds, to enable him to defray the expenses of his journey to *Philadelphia*, on account of this Colony.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

In the House of Representatives: Resolved, That the Receiver-General of this Colony be, and is hereby empowered and directed to make use of the Continental Money now in the Treasury, transmitted to this Colony by the honourable Continental Congress, as well as the Bills emitted by this Colony, for discharging all Warrants drawn upon him by the Council of this Colony.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

In the House of Representatives: The House made choice, by ballot, of *Jonathan Warner*, Esq., a Brigadier for the County of *Worcester*, in the room of Brigadier *Whetcomb*, who declines that appointment.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

In the House of Representatives: The House made choice, by ballot, of *Ephraim Hartwell*, Quartermaster of the Regiment to be raised in *Worcester*, as a reinforcement to the *American* Army, to the 1st of *April* next, in room of Mr. *Clap*, who declines.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

In the House of Representatives: The Committee to whom was referred the consideration of Mr. *Elias Hasket Derby's* conduct in importing Coffee and other goods, from the Island of *Dominica*, contrary to the Resolves of Congress, have attended that service, and have examined the several depositions in the case, as well as the orders given by Mr. *Derby* to Captain *Londer*, and heard several witnesses on the affair—upon the whole, are of opinion, that the said Captain *Lander* has acted quite contrary to the orders of his owners, and in direct violation of the Resolves of the Continental Congress. And as to Mr. *Derby's* conduct in this affair, the Committee are unanimously of opinion, that he has not, in the importation of those goods from *Dominica*, acted, in any way, contrary to the Resolves of the Continental Congress, and that he ought not to be charged with the misconduct and misbehaviour of said *Lander*.

Resolved, That the Coffee, and such other articles as were imported contrary to the Association, in the Schooner *William*, *Peter Lander*, master, from *Dominica*, in the hands of the Committee of Correspondence, of the Town of *Ipswich*, and of the Town of *Beverly*, or in the hands of whoever else it be stored, at the charge and risk of the owner, and kept in safe custody until the further order of this Court.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

The Committee of both Houses, appointed to consider the Petition of *Philip Hodgskins*, making complaint against Colonel *James Cargill*; also, a Letter from *Samuel Jordan*, Chairman of the Committee at *Goldsborough*, complaining of Colonel *Cargill*; also, setting forth the state of several vessels detained by said Committee; furthermore, requesting that a number of troops be stationed there; and that the doings of Committees in places not incorporated may be confirmed, have attended that service, and beg leave to report their opinion in several paragraphs, as follows, viz:

*

That, as to the complaint of *Philip Hodgskins* against Colonel *Cargill*, for confinement, your Committee are of opinion that it is a matter cognizable before a civil rather than a legislative Court.

That the said *Hodgskins* is worthy of the favourable notice of this Court, for his zeal in pursuing and taking the Sloop *Advance*, *Nehemiah Eastman*, Commander, on her return from *Boston* to *Georgia*.

As to the complaint of the Committee of *Goldsborough* against said *Cargill*, no part thereof was supported; therefore, in our opinion, ought not to operate to the disadvantage of said Colonel *Cargill*. Furthermore, as to the vessels detained by the Committee of *Goldsborough*, your Committee are humbly of opinion, that this Court has made sufficient provision already.

Your Committee beg leave further to report as their opinion, that a Committee of both Houses be appointed to consider and report what is further necessary to be done in order to support and protect the people in the County of *Lincoln*, east of *Penobscot-River*. Also, how Committees shall be chosen in places not incorporated.

ELDAD TAYLOR, *per order*.

The Committee of both Houses on the Letter this morning received by this Court, from his Excellency General *Washington*, relative to supplying the Army with Fire-Arms, beg leave to report, by way of Resolve, viz:

In Council: Resolved, That a Committee be appointed in the several Counties of *Suffolk*, *Essex*, *Middlesex*, *Hampshire*, *Worcester*, *Plymouth*, *York*, and *Bristol*, to purchase, as early as possible, in the recess of this Court, all the good and effective Fire-Arms, which are to be obtained in the several towns in the Counties aforesaid, on the best terms they may be had, and forward them, without delay, to his Excellency General *Washington*, or his order.

Resolved, That it be recommended to his Excellency, to deliver to the Chairman of each Committee, for the several Counties aforesaid, such sum or sums of money as may be sufficient to enable them to execute their commission with care and despatch, they to be accountable to his Excellency for the same.

In the House of Representatives: Read, and accepted, and the following gentlemen are appointed for the purpose within expressed, viz:

For the County of *Suffolk:* Captain *Ellis*, Mr. *Witherton*, Colonel *Thayer*, and Mr. *Metcalf*.

For the County of *Essex:* Mr. *Jewett*, Captain *Epes*, Mr. *Ingalls*, and Mr. *Johnson* of *Lynn*.

For the County of *Middlesex:* Colonel *Barrett*, Mr. *Stickney*, Colonel *Perry*, and Mr. *Bryant*.

For the County of *Hampshire:* Captain *Goodman*, Mr. *Cranson*, Colonel *Field*, Major *Ely*, and Major *Bliss*.

For the County of *Worcester:* Mr. *Singletary*, Captain *Parker*, Captain *Moore*, Mr. *Stone*, and Colonel *Grout*.

For the County of *Plymouth:* Colonel *Mitchell*, Major *Cushing*, Major *White*, and Mr. *Partridge*.

For the County of *Bristol:* Colonel *Williams*, Mr. *Hathaway*, Captain *Tobey*, Mr. *Starkweather*.

For the County of *York:* Mr. *Hovey*, Captain *Bragdon*, and Major *Goodwin*.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow morning.

—

Wednesday, February 14, 1776.

Present in Council: Honourables Benjamin Greenleaf, Walter Spooner, Caleb Cushing, Thomas Cushing, Jedediah Foster, James Prescott, Eldad Taylor, Benjamin Lincoln, Michael Farley, Samuel Holten, Jabez Fisher, Moses Gill, John Taylor, Benjamin White, Esquires.

In the House of Representatives: Whereas, the invention and industry of the inhabitants of this Colony have been excited by the barbarous policy of *Britain*, and by the encouragement given by the General Court, to seek internal resources of warlike stores, and have been so far successful, that much greater quantities of that capital article, Saltpetre, has, and probably will be made here, than the Powder-Mills now erecting at *Stoughton* and *Andover* will be able to manufacture into gunpowder; and whereas, experience, and the present apparent designs of Administration strongly dictate the necessity of guarding against the want of that important article, which we presume may be done by encouraging individuals to erect Powder-Mills,

Therefore, *Resolved*, That a bounty or premium of fifty Pounds shall be paid out of the Treasury of this Colony, to the person, or persons, who shall, at his or their own expense, erect the first Powder-Mill in this Colony, other than the aforementioned, capable of manufacturing at least fifty pounds weight of Powder per day; and shall make and manufacture therein one thousand pounds weight of good and merchantable Gunpowder, to be judged and approved of by a Committee to be appointed by this Court; also, that a bounty, or premium, of thirty Pounds shall be paid out of the Treasury of this Colony to the person, or persons, who shall in like manner erect a second Powder-Mill, (other than those mentioned in the preamble,) and make and manufacture therein one thousand pounds weight of good merchantable Powder, to be judged and approved as aforesaid. *Provided always*, the said Mills shall be erected, and the Powder manufactured therein, within six months from the 15th day of *February* current; and that the said Mills shall be erected within such towns or plantations as the General Court of this Colony shall license, or in the recess of the same, as shall be licensed by the Council; and in such part or parts of such licensed town as shall be approved by the major part of the Selectmen thereof.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

In the House of Representatives: The House made choice of the following gentlemen as Field-Officers for the First Regiment of Militia in the County of *Essex*, viz: *Timothy Pickering*, Jun., Colonel; *John Flagg*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Joseph Sprague*, First Major; *Daniel Parker*, Second Major.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

In the House of Representatives: The House made choice of the following gentlemen as Majors in the Second Regiment of Militia in the County of *Worcester*, in the room of *Jonas Houghton* and *Ebenezer Jones*, who have been non-concurred by the honourable Board, viz: *Silas Bayley*, First Major; *Ebenezer Jones*, Second Major.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

Mr. *Story* came up with a message from the House, to inform the Board that the House proposed to come to the choice of a Truckmaster for *Machias*, by joint ballot of both Houses, at twelve o'clock this day.

Walter Spooner, Esquire, went down with a message to the House, to inform them that the Board had agreed to the foregoing proposal of the honourable House.

The Committee of both Houses appointed to sort and count the votes for a Truckmaster for *Machias*, reported that the number of votes cast were:

On the part of the Board, - - - - -	11
On the part of the House, - - - - -	61
Total, - - - - - -	72

Thirty-seven made a vote; and that Mr. *Stephens Smith* was unanimously chosen.

In the House of Representatives: Resolved, That *Richard Devans*, Esq., Commissary for this Colony, be, and hereby is added to the Committee appointed to examine, receive, purchase, and pay for Saltpetre.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

In the House of Representatives: Resolved, That Colonel *Orne* be, and he hereby is appointed to raise as soon as may be, and muster a Company of Matrosses, to be stationed in the Town of *Marblehead*, agreeable to a Resolve passed the House of Representatives, the 10th instant, and that the following be a form of Inlistment for the said Company of Matrosses:

We, the subscribers, do hereby engage and inlist ourselves as Matrosses in the service of the *Massachusetts* Colony, for the defence and protection of the sea-coasts of said Colony, from the day of our inlistment to the last day of *December*, 1776, for the establishment of that purpose made, unless the said service shall admit of a discharge of a part or the whole sooner, which is to be determined by the General Court of said Colony, and we do hereby oblige ourselves to submit to all the orders and regulations of the Army, and faithfully to observe and obey all such orders as we shall from time to time receive from our superior officers.

. . . . day of . . . . . 1776.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

In the House of Representatives: Resolved, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to the Committee of this Court appointed to procure Wood for the Continental Army, the sum of one thousand Pounds more, to enable them to perform that service, they to be accountable to this Court for the same.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

In the House of Representatives: Resolved, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to *Thomas Crafts*, and others, the sum of three hundred Pounds, they being a Committee of this Court to receive and take care of the Inhabitants of the Town of *Boston*, coming out to *Chelsea*, to enable them to defray the expenses thereof.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

In the House of Representatives: The House made choice of the following gentlemen as Field-Officers for the First Regiment of Militia in the County of *Suffolk*, viz: *William McIntosh*, Colonel; *Eleazer Weld*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Aaron Guild*, First Major; *Abijah Draper*, Second Major.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

In the House of Representatives: Whereas the Honourable *Joseph Frye*, Esquire, who has been appointed by this Court to the command of the forces stationed at *Falmouth*, in the County of *Cumberland*, is appointed a Brigadier-General in the Continental Army; and as it may be necessary, in case of his accepting said trust, to have some other person appointed to the command at *Falmouth*, before the next sitting of this Court:

Therefore, *Resolved*, That the Council be, and hereby are empowered to appoint some person to such command at *Falmouth*, on their being certified, in the recess of the Court, that the said *Joseph Frye*, Esquire, has accepted the appointment to the office of Brigadier-General as aforesaid.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

An engrossed Bill, entitled "An Act to encourage the fixing out of Armed Vessels for the defence of *America*," having passed the House of Representatives, to be enacted,

In Council: Read a second time, and passed a concurrence, to be enacted.

In the House of Representatives: The House made choice of Mr. *John Lord*, Surgeon of the Regiment to be raised in the County of *Essex*, to reinforce the *American* Army till the 1st of *April* next, in the room of . . . . .

In Council: Read, and concurred.

Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow morning.

Thursday, February 15, 1776.

Present in Council: Honourables Benjamin Greenleaf, Walter Spooner, Caleb Cushing, Thomas Cushing, John Whetcomb, Jedediah Foster, Eldad Taylor, Benjamin Lincoln, Michael Farley, Joseph Palmer, Samuel Holten, Jabez Fisher, Moses Gill, John Taylor, Benjamin White, Esquires.

In the House of Representatives: Resolved, That the Commissary-General of this Colony be, and hereby is directed to procure for the use of the Colony, twenty Field-Pieces of three-pounders each, instead of the twenty of several sizes, which by a former Resolve of this Court, he was directed to procure, any thing in said Resolve to the contrary notwithstanding. And, also, that the Commissary do advise with Colonel *Burbeck*, the Engineer, respecting said pieces.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

In the House of Representatives: The House made choice, by ballot, of the following gentlemen as Field-Officers of the Third Regiment of Militia in the County of *Worcester*, viz: *Ezra Wood*, Colonel; *Joseph Chapin*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Joseph Daniels*, First Major; *Caleb Whitney*, Second Major.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

In the House of Representatives: The House made choice, by ballot, of the following gentlemen as Field-Officers for the Third Regiment of Militia in the County of *Essex*, viz: *Jonathan Cogswell*, Jun., Colonel; *Isaac Dodge*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Charles Smith*, First Major; *Joseph Gould*, Second Major.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

In the House of Representatives: Resolved, That the Commissary-General of this Colony be, and hereby is directed to deliver unto the Selectmen of the Town of *Marblehead*, ten and-a-half barrels of Powder, as soon as the state of the publick Magazines will admit thereof.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

In the House of Representatives: Whereas, the honourable the Continental Congress, have desired this Court to make application to the several Towns in this Colony, to know what quantity of Silver and Gold can be procured in exchange for the Continental Bills, as that sort of money is greatly wanted to support that part of the Army gone against *Quebeck*,

Therefore, *Resolved*, That the persons hereafter named in each County of this Colony, be a Committee to make inquiry what money, in Silver and Gold, can be procured in exchange for Continental Bills; and the same Committee are required to obtain subscriptions in their several Counties of all persons who are willing, in this time of danger and distress, to exchange hard money for said Bills, and that each person set down against his name, the amount of such sum as he is ready to exchange, and that the said Committee make report of their doings therein, on the second day of the next sitting of this Court, and that Mr. *Perry*, Colonel *Lovell*, and Colonel *Davis*, for the County of *Suffolk*; Colonel *Orne*, Major *Cross*, Mr. *Hopkins*, and Mr. *Phillips*, for the County of *Essex*; Mr. *Hall*, Colonel *Barrett*, and Mr. *Hobart*, for the County of *Middlesex*; Major *Hawley*, Major *Ely*, Colonel *Bliss*, Colonel *Field*, and Captain *Goodman*, for the County of *Hampshire*; Mr. *Cushing*, Mr. *Turner*, and Major *White*, for the County of *Plymouth*; Colonel *Otis* and Colonel *Doan*, for the County of *Barnstable*; Mr. *Durfee*, Colonel *Bowers*, Colonel *Godfrey*, and Colonel *Carpenter*, for the County of *Bristol*; Captain *Parker*, Mr. *Caldwell*, Mr. *Rawson*, Mr. *Singleton*, Mr. *Bancroft*, and Mr. *Wheeler*, for the County of *Worcester*; Mr. *Curtis*, Mr. *Whiting*, and Mr. *Dickinson*, for the County of *Berkshire*; Captain *Bragdon*, Mr. *Hovey*, and Colonel *Sawyer*, for the County of *York*; Mr. *Freeman*, Brigadier *Thompson*, and Mr. *Fabyan*, for the County of *Cumberland*; Mr. *Rice*, Captain *Howard*, Major *Sewall*, and Colonel *Jones*, for the County of *Lincoln*; Colonel *Norton*, for *Dukes* County, and Mr. *Stephen Hussey*, for the County of *Nantucket*, be a Committee for the purpose, and that Mr. *Davis* give notice to Mr. *Hussey* of his being appointed for the purpose aforesaid.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

In the House of Representatives: The House made choice of *Jonathan Reed*, as Colonel of the Sixth Regiment of Militia for the County of *Middlesex*, in the room of *Oliver Prescott*, Esquire, elected Brigadier; and at the same time made choice of *Josiah Sartell*, as Lieutenant-Colonel, of the same Regiment, in the room of Lieutenant-Colonel *Reed* elected Colonel; and *Jonathan Minot*, First Major, in the room of Major *Sartell*, elected Lieutenant-Colonel; and, also, *Samuel Stone*, Second Major, in the room of *Jonathan Minot*, elected First Major.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

Petition of *Hannah Goldthwait*, late of *Boston*, in the County of *Suffolk*, setting forth: "that for some time past, she hath been under low and declining circumstances, she hath been obliged to contract divers debts which she hath no way of discharging, but by the tender usage of her kind husband, who by his publick office is obliged to remain in *Boston*; and that none of her creditors might by her misfortunes suffer thereby, he, her said spouse, did confide in Mr. *White*, of *Marblehead*, to bring out of said *Boston*, and deliver to her a certain sum of money for the purpose aforesaid; the said *Hannah*, having heard that the said sum of money hath been taken into custody by the honourable Court, she humbly desires that the said sum of money might be returned to her for her relief and support."

In the House of Representatives: Resolved, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to *Hannah Goldthwait*, or order, the sum of sixty Pounds, for the purpose mentioned in her Petition.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

In the House of Representatives: Resolved, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to Captain *Jeremiah Obrien*, the sum of seven hundred and sixty-three Pounds, six Shillings and one Penny, in full of said *Obrien's* Muster-Roll, to 1st instant.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

Memorial of *James Cargill*, of *Newcastle*, in the County of *Lincoln*, setting forth to your Honours: "that the schooner *Dolphin* was, by order of the honourable Court, committed to his care; and that your memorialist fitted her with two new masts, also, with carpenter and smith's work to fit her for use; and, also, ordered *Andrew Reed*, Junr., to coast in said schooner to *Portsmouth* and *Newbury*, in order to get rigging for her, which she was very scant off. Said schooner was ordered to proceed on business the 1st of *January* last. Your memorialist would be glad of your Honour's directions concerning said schooner.

In the House of Representatives: On the Petition of *James Cargill, Resolved*, That Colonel *Cargill* be allowed to detain the abovesaid Schooner, till further order of this Court, and be accountable for her earnings when required.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

In the House of Representatives: The House made choice, by ballot, of the following gentlemen as Field-Officers of the Fourth Regiment of Militia for the County of *Middlesex*, viz: *Henry Gardner*, Esq., Colonel; *Ezekiel How*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Jonathan Hapgood*, First Major; *Cyprian How*, Second Major.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow morning.

—

Friday, February 16, 1776.

Present in Council: Honourables Benjamin Greenleaf, Walter Spooner, Caleb Cushing, Thomas Cushing, John Whetcomb, Jedediah Foster, Eldad Taylor, Benjamin Lincoln, Michael Farley, Joseph Palmer, Samuel Holten, Jabez Fisher, Moses Gill, John Taylor, Benjamin White, Esquires.

In the House of Representatives: The House made choice, by ballot, of *Joseph Gilbert* as Colonel of the Fourth Regiment of Militia, in the County of *Worcester*, in the room of Colonel *Warner*, elected Brigadier.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

In the House of Representatives: Resolved, That the honourable Council be empowered to supply his Excellency General *Washington* with the three thousand pounds of Powder which may arrive in the recess of the Court, or any part thereof.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

In the House of Representatives: (Blank.)

In the House of Representatives: The Pay-Roll of the honourable Members of the House, with their travel and attendance, was made, and allowed by the House.

In Council: Read, and allowed; and

Ordered, That a warrant be drawn on the Treasury for the sum of two thousand two hundred and seventy-four Pounds ten Shillings, in full of said Roll.

In the House of Representatives: Resolved, That the Commissary-General be, and he is hereby empowered and directed to deliver to his Excellency General *Washington*, or his order, such Colony Fire-Arms as are in his keeping, that are fit for service, he paying the price they shall be set at by a Committee to be appointed by this Court to appraise the same; and that Captain *Brown*, of *Watertown*, Colonel *Thatcher*, and Major *Fuller*, be a Committee for that purpose, who are directed to keep an account of the number of the Guns so appraised, and the amount thereof, and to report the same to this Court.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

A Letter from *Henry Laurens*,* President of the Council of Safety of their sister Colony of *South-Carolina*, relative to raising Seamen in this Colony, for the service of that.

In Council: Read, and *Ordered*, That *Walter Spooner* and *Thomas Cushing*, Esquires, with such as the honourable House shall join, be a Committee to consider the same, and report.

In the House of Representatives: Read, and concurred, and Colonel *Orne*, Brigadier *Thompson*, and Mr. *Brown* of *Boston*, are joined on the part of the House.

In the House of Representatives: The House taking into consideration the disbursements, expenses, and time of services of the Honourable *Thomas Cushing*, Esquire, a late Member of the Continental Congress on the part of this Colony; thereupon,

Resolved, That the sum of one hundred and forty-six Pounds eight Shillings be allowed and paid to *Thomas Cushing*, Esquire, for two hundred and forty-four days' attendance on the business of the Colony at the Continental Congress the last year; his Account of disbursements and expense for the Colony to be considered and acted upon the next session of the General Assembly.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

In the House of Representatives: Ordered, That the Roll of the Company who marched from *Stockbridge*, under Captain *Brown*, for the reduction of *Ticonderoga*, be committed to the Committee on Minute and Militia-Rolls.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

In the House of Representatives: Whereas, the Colony cannot be supplied with a sufficient quantity of Paper for its own consumption, without the particular care of its inhabitants in saving rags for the Paper-Mills:

Therefore, *Resolved*, That the Committees of Correspondence, Inspection, and Safety, in the several Towns in this Colony, be, and they hereby are required immediately to appoint some suitable person, in their respective towns, (where it is not already done,) to receive rags for the Paper-Mills; and the inhabitants of this Colony are hereby desired to be very careful in saving even the smallest quantities of rags proper for making Paper, which will be a further evidence of their disposition to promote the publick good.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

An engrossed Bill, entitled "An Act for carrying into execution a Resolve of the *American* Congress for ascertaining the number of Inhabitants in this Colony," having passed the House of Representatives, to be enacted,

In Council: Read a second time, and passed a concurrence, to be enacted.

Adjourned to nine o'clock, to-morrow morning.*

Captain *Robert Cochran* be allowed to inlist a number of seamen for the purpose mentioned in the letter, and that the Council of this Colony give him a permit for that purpose. All which is submitted.

WALTER SPOONER, *per order.*

IN COUNCIL, *February* 16, 1776: Read, and accepted, and thereupon *Resolved*, That Captain *Robert Cochran* be permitted by the major part of the Council to inlist a number of seamen for the defence of *South-Carolina*, not exceeding three hundred men, out of the inhabitants of this Government, excepting such as are employed in the Continental Army in the armed vessels fitted out, either by this Colony or any of the inhabitants thereof, or in the forces raised by this Government for the defence of the sea-coast, (A.) Sent down for concurrence.

PEREZ MORTON, *Deputy Secretary.*

—

* IN THE COUNCIL OF SAFETY, CHARLESTOWN, SOUTH-CAROLINA, *December* 31, 1776.—GENTLEMEN: The bearer, Captain *Robert Cochran*, being sent by us to procure seamen in your Colony for the defence of this, we take the liberty of requesting that you will afford him every assistance in your power, which he may want in this business.

From your zeal in the common cause of *America*, we doubt not that he will meet with your support and countenance. Be assured that we shall think ourselves happy in rendering any service to our brethren in the *Massachusetts-Bay*, and testify upon every occasion the esteem and regard which we have for your honourable Board.

By order of the Council of Safety: HENRY LAURENS, *President.*

To the Honourable the President and Members of the Council of *Massachusetts-Bay.*

The Committee to whom was referred the consideration of the foregoing Letter have attended that service, and beg leave to report that

* LETTERS TO THE COMMITTEES OF MACHIAS AND NORTHAMPTON, ON LIEUTENANT KNIGHT'S PLANS.

GENTLEMEN: Yours of the 29th of *January* last, by Captain *Willard*, to the President of the Council, is now before us. The subject matter thereof hath been duly considered. Although we could wish that the plans in possession of Lieutenant *Knight* had been detained, yet we are far from censuring the inhabitants of *Machias* for not doing it. We are informed they are now in his hands—some steps will be taken to secure them. We approve the measures you have taken with regard to Lieutenant *Spry's* goods. You will safely retain the whole in your possession, until the further order of this Court.

GENTLEMEN: We are informed that Lieutenant *Knight*, now confined to the town of *Northampton*, hath in his possession some valuable and important plans, which, if they should fall into the hands of our enemies, would not only deprive us of an actual survey of our own sea-coast, but enable them with more facility to annoy and distress us. You will, therefore, take all such plans, minutes, and sketches, which he may have relative thereto, into your possession, and safely keep them until the further order of this Court, and advise this Court of your doings.

IN COUNCIL, *February* 16, 1776: Read, and accepted, and *Ordered*, That the first Letter herein mentioned be signed by the Secretary, by order of the General Court, and be sent to the Committee of Safety at *Machias*; and that the last recited Letter be signed by the Secretary by order aforesaid, and be sent to the Committee of Correspondence of *Northampton*. Sent down for concurrence.

PEREZ MORTON, *Deputy Secretary.*

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, *February* 17, 1776: Read, and concurred. WILLIAM COOPER, *Speaker pro tem.*

Saturday, February 17, 1776.

Present in Council: Honourables Benjamin Greenleaf, Walter Spooner, Caleb Cushing, Thomas Cushing, John Whetcomb, Jedediah Foster, Eldad Taylor, Benjamin Lincoln, Michael Farley, Joseph Palmer, Samuel Holten, Jabez Fisher, Moses Gill, John Taylor, Benjamin White, Esquires.

Petition of *Benjamin Crocker* of *Falmouth*, setting forth: "that there is due to him, and others, of *Falmouth*, large sums of money, to the amount of about seven hundred pounds sterling, in the Islands of *Tobago* and *Grenada*. He, therefore, humbly prays that your Honours would permit him to sail from *Falmouth* (in a vessel in ballast) to said Islands, in order to collect the aforementioned sums."

In the House of Representatives: Resolved, That *Benjamin Crocker* be allowed to go in a Vessel, of which himself is master, to the *West-Indies*, in order to collect any moneys which may be due to him, and others, there, he giving bonds, with sufficient sureties, in the sum of one thousand Pounds to the Treasurer of this Colony, that he will not carry in said Vessel any cash or produce of the Colonies, and that he will return to some port of the *United Colonies*, (other than *Boston*, *Nantucket*, or *New-York*,) with the proceeds of the collection of such debts, and not purchase Goods from any Island contrary to the Continental Association; and, it is hereby recommended to the said *Crocker*, to purchase Arms, Ammunition, or any kind of Military Stores, enumerated in a late Resolution of the Congress, if there to be obtained; and, that the Committee of Inspection of *Falmouth* be, and hereby are directed to see that there be no more Provisions carried off in said Vessel, than what is necessary for victualling the people belonging to her in said voyage.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

In the House of Representatives: Resolved, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to *Philip Hodgskins*, and others, the sum of four hundred Pounds, to supply the necessities of the Inhabitants between *Penobscot* and *Goldsborough*.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

In the House of Representatives: Whereas, it is of the utmost consequence, that there be procured a sufficient quantity of Sulphur, for manufacturing into Gunpowder the Saltpetre that may be obtained:

Resolved, That there be allowed, and paid out of the Treasury of this Colony, for every pound of good and merchantable Sulphur that shall be refined from mines and ores within this Colony, and delivered to the Commissary-General of this Colony before the 1st day of *July* next, a bounty of nine Pence per pound, in addition to the like sum which the Committee of this Court for procuring that article are already directed to give; the venders of such Sulphur producing a certificate from the major part of the Selectmen of any town where such Sulphur is refined, certifying in what Town and County within this Colony the same was produced and refined; and that Captain *Brown* get this Resolve printed in the several Newspapers.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

In the House of Representatives: Resolved, That the Committee lately appointed to build, rig, and fix ten armed Sloops be, and they hereby are empowered, to suspend contracting for more than five of that number, until, upon making full inquiry, they shall have a probable prospect of obtaining the necessary materials for rigging and equipping the same; and, instead thereof, said Committee are hereby authorized, also to purchase, rig, and fix five suitable Vessels already built, for the purpose of defence, of any other denomination and dimensions than those specified in a former Resolve, according to their best discretion; and, said Committee are further empowered to import, at the risk and expense of this Colony, any materials they shall find necessary for rigging and fixing any of the aforesaid Vessels, as they shall judge best, not infringing upon any Resolves of the Continental Congress.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

Mr. *Phillips* came up with a message from the House, to desire the Board to suspend granting the commissions of General Officers, and Brigadiers of this Colony, till the next sitting of the General Court.

In the House of Representatives: Ordered, That Mr. *Dix* and Major *Johnson* be added to the Committee on the Rolls of the Militia and Minute-Men, who are to sit in the recess of this Court, so long as a quorum of the Council shall sit.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

The Committee of both Houses, appointed to make inquiry after virgin Lead, &c., beg leave to report, that a sub-Committee has been to *Northampton* and examined the Lead-Mine there, which has been worked, and in which, as Mr. *Clapp*, Clerk of the Works, informed us, much loss had been sustained. He, also, told us that Mr. *Bowdoin*, Colonel *Ward*, and Mr. *Hedge*, were the present proprietors; that they owned about two hundred and twenty-five acres of land, had a Storehouse, Stamping-Mill, and Smelting-House; that they would sell their estate there for one thousand pounds, lawful money, as he believed that their land is bounded about half a mile upon a river, upon which is said Mill. Said *Clapp* also said, that many assays had been made upon the ore, and it produced, in that small way, from fifty to seventy-five per cent. Lead; but, in smelting in the large way of business, they could not produce any Lead, but it all ran into glass, they not understanding the business. He said that they stamped and washed the ore, and in that state, without smelting, they sold in considerable quantities to the potters.

The sub-Committee are of opinion, that if the present proprietors' right be purchased, it will be necessary to purchase other lands, perhaps to the amount of one thousand pounds, lawful money, more, so as to command the river roads, and the summit of the mountains, in which, it is likely, are better mines than that which has been opened; and, as the buildings are much out of repair, and others will be needed to carry on the business, it will require at least one thousand pounds, lawful money, more, to set the work in a good way of business. There will be twelve or fourteen miles cartage to water carriage.

The sub-Committee have, also, examined a Lead-Mine in *Southampton*, very convenient for working and water; but, as this had not been opened, and the winter preventing, they could not make full discovery of the quantity. They, also, examined a Mine in *Worcester*, but its situation would not admit of its being worked.

The sub-Committee brought from *Northampton* some of the ore, and obtained Mr. *Clarke* to make an assay, in doing which he saved twenty-five per cent. Lead, and he supposed that he washed or lost in the operation twenty-five per cent. more. They have, also, endeavoured to have another assay made by Mr. *Hurd*, but, his fire-place being very small, the assay failed, he not being able to raise a sufficient heat.

The Committee beg leave to sit again, and desire to be instructed whether they shall now transmit this Report to the *American* Congress, or wait for further light in this matter, and, also, whether they shall examine into the process, &c., of the Lead-Works now carrying on at *Middletown*, in *Connecticut*.

ELDAD TAYLOR, *per order.*

In Council: Read, and concurred, and that the said Committee be directed to sit again, and transmit a copy of the foregoing Report to the *American* Congress, and, also, to examine into the process, &c., of the Lead-Works now carrying on at *Middletown*, *Connecticut*, and report.

In the House of Representatives: Read, and concurred.

In the House of Representatives: Whereas, the Administration of *Great Britain*, by their despotick and cruel measures, from time to time, and finally by shedding the blood of the inhabitants of the *British-American* Colonies, has obliged us to take up arms for our defence, and thereby we are engaged in an unnatural war, which has, in a considerable degree, prevented the importation of Bread, Corn, Flour, and other articles of subsistence and defence, into this Government, from the neighbouring Colonies, whereby great part of the usual supply is cut short; and, as the sea-coasts of this Colony are surrounded with ships-of-war and cutters, which makes it necessary for our defence an armed force should be stationed in various parts thereof, which army cannot be subsisted and defended without an importation of those supplies, and it being of great importance proper measures should be pursued, to prevent the distresses that may arise from the want of the said articles;

Therefore, *Resolved*, That *Thomas Durfee*, Esq., *Daniel Davis*, Esq., Captain *Josiah Batchelder*, with such as the honourable Board may join, be, and they are hereby,

appointed a Committee to agree for, and fix out, with all possible despatch, on account of this Colony, on the best terms, as many vessels as may be sufficient for the importing ten thousand barrels of Flour, two thousand casks of Rice, and one hundred tons of Pig-Iron, from any of the Southern Colonies that shall to them appear most safe, and may be effected in the most expeditious manner; and that the said Committee deliver unto the Commissary-General of this Colony the aforesaid Flour, Rice, and Iron, when imported, taking his receipt for the same.

And it is further Resolved, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, into the hands of said Committee, the sum of eighteen thousand Pounds, for the above purpose, said Committee to be accountable to this Court for the same.

In Council: Read, and concurred, and *Walter Spooner* and *Moses Gill*, Esquires, are joined.

In Council: Whereas, *Benjamin Greenleaf*, Esquire, was appointed one of the Committee of this Court for building sundry sloops-of-war, and his attendance at the Council is necessary for the despatch of the important business of this Colony, on which account he has desired to be excused from the service of building the said sloops:

Therefore, *Ordered*, That *Richard Derby*, Esquire, be appointed on said Committee for building the said Sloops, in his room.

In the House of Representatives: Read, and concurred.

In the House of Representatives: Ordered, That Mr. *Phillips*, Colonel *Brooks*, and Mr. *Vose*, with such as the honourable Board may join, be a Committee to make some further experiments of the Saltpetre that is manufactured in this Colony.

In Council: Read, and concurred, and *Benjamin Lincoln* and *John Taylor*, Esquires, are joined.

Adjourned to *Monday* morning, ten o'clock.

—

Monday, February 19, 1776.

Present in Council: Honourables Benjamin Greenleaf, Walter Spooner, Caleb Cushing, Thomas Cushing, John Whetcomb, Samuel Holten, Eldad Taylor, Jedediah Foster, Benjamin Lincoln, Michael Farley, Joseph Palmer, Jabez Fisher, Moses Gill, John Taylor, Benjamin White, Esquires.

Major *Hawley*, Colonel *Freeman*, Major *Fuller*, Mr. *Cheever*, and Captain *Goodman*, came up with a message from the House, to acquaint the Board the House is desirous of a conference with both Houses, (immediately, if the Board pleases,) on the subject of regulating Law Processes in Civil Causes, and the Proceedings of the Inferior Courts of Common Pleas in the several Counties of this Colony, until some days in the sitting of this Court after their next meeting.

Thomas Cushing, Esquire, went down with a message to inform the House that they agreed to the foregoing proposal of the House, and that, as the Council-Chamber was not sufficient to hold both Houses, the Board proposed that the Conference be held in the Meeting-House, and that the Board were ready to attend, whenever the House should signify to the Board that they were ready.

Colonel *Freeman* came up with a message from the House, to inform the Board that the House are now ready to proceed on the proposed Conference, and that they had proposed, also, that the President of the Council should preside at the Conference.

In the House of Representatives: Ordered, That Major *Hawley*, Mr. Speaker, Colonel *Brooks*, Major *Fuller*, and Major *Bliss*, with such as the honourable Board may join, be a Committee to consider what is proper to be done with respect to regulating Proceedings in Civil Causes, &c., and report.

In Council: Read, and concurred, and *Benjamin Greenleaf, Walter Spooner, Thomas Cushing, Jedediah Foster*, Esquires, are joined.

In the House of Representatives: Ordered, That . . . . . be a Committee, with such as the honourable Board may join, to take into consideration a Letter from the Honourable *James Otis*, Esquire, relative to a *French* Vessel cast on shore on the *Cape*.

In Council: Read and concurred, and *Benjamin Lincoln, Joseph Palmer*, and *Moses Gill*, Esqs., are joined.

Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow morning.

Tuesday, February 20, 1776.

Present in Council: Honourables Benjamin Greenleaf, Walter Spooner, Caleb Cushing, Thomas Cushing, John Whetcomb, Samuel Holten, Jabez Fisher, Jedediah Foster, Eldad Taylor, Benjamin Lincoln, Michael Farley, Joseph Palmer, Moses Gill, John Taylor, Esquires.

In the House of Representatives: It having been the laudable practice of this Government, to recommend and appoint days for fasting and prayer, upon solemn and special occasions, besides our Annual Fast; and as this Court apprehend, that the present time is big with the most important events, to this and the other Colonies, and that these events are in the hands of the Supreme Governour of the Universe,

Therefore, unanimously *Resolved*, That the honourable Board be, and hereby are desired to set apart *Thursday*, the 7th day of *March* next, to be observed as a Day of Solemn Humiliation and Prayer, devoutly to implore of Almighty *God*, that the vocal dispensations of Providence, in the peculiar events which have lately taken place, may be duly resented, and the great end for which they are designed, happily accomplished. That He will, also, command His blessings upon our Council and Arms in the present struggle with *Great Britain*, for those inestimable rights, civil and religious, with which *God* and Nature has invested us, and made it our duty to endeavour at every hazard to hand down to posterity; and that they cause a Proclamation to be immediately issued, and sent to the several Ministers and Pastors of the several denominations of Christians in this Colony, for the purpose aforesaid.

In Council: Read, and concurred, and *Ordered*, That *Benjamin Greenleaf, Thomas Cushing*, and *Jedediah Foster*, be a Committee to draft a Proclamation for the purpose aforesaid, and report.

In the House of Representatives: Whereas, it is probable, it may be found for the interest of the Colony, that part of quantities of the Flour and Rice, lately ordered to be imported from the Southward, should be brought into some port eastward of *Boston*,

Resolved, That in addition to the Committee already appointed to procure the same, there be chosen from that part of the Province, two more for the same purpose, and Major *Cross* is accordingly chosen on the part of this House.

In Council: Read, and concurred, and *Benjamin Greenleaf*, Esquire, is joined.

Mr. *Brown* came up with a message from the House, to inform the major part of the Council, that the House had now no business of a publick nature before them, and that they desired a recess to the 20th *March* next.

Mr. *Phillips* came up with a message from the House, to inform the major part of the Council, that the House had reconsidered their former request, and desired to be adjourned or prorogued to the 13th of *March* next.

The Secretary went down with a verbal message to the House, from the major part of the Council, which he delivered in the words following, viz:

Mr. Speaker: I am directed by their Honours, of the major part of the Council, to acquaint the honourable House that they have consented to the enactment of the following Bills:

A Bill for assessing a Tax of seventy-five thousand Pounds, to defray the charges of this Colony.

A Bill for regulating the Militia of this Colony.

A Bill for altering the places of holding the Courts of Law in the County of *Suffolk*.

A Bill to enable the Inhabitants of *Falmouth* to support prosecutions against persons who have in possession goods taken from said Inhabitants during the late fire.

A Bill for reviving a number of Laws that are expired, or near expiring.

A Bill to encourage the fixing out of Armed Vessels for the defence of *America*.

A Bill for carrying into execution a Resolve of the *American* Congress, for ascertaining the number of Inhabitants in this Colony.

And they have seen fit to adjourn the Great and General Court of this Colony to *Wednesday*, the 13th day of *March* next, at ten o'clock, A. M., to which time and place the said General Court is, accordingly,

Adjourned.

MASSACHUSETTS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Wednesday, November 29, 1775.

Upon a motion, *Ordered*, That Colonel *Bowers* go up to the honourable Board, and acquaint them that a Quorum of the House are met, and now proceeding on business; who reported, that he had delivered the message.

A Letter from his Excellency General *Washington*, of this day, to the General Assembly.

Read, and thereupon *Ordered*, That Mr. *Gardner*, Mr. *Pitts*, and Colonel *Orne*, with such as the honourable Board shall join, be a Committee to take the same into consideration, and report.

Upon a motion, *Ordered*, That Captain *Sharp* and Mr. *Boardman* be added to the Committee for providing conveyances for the Poor of *Boston*, as they shall be sent out of that town.

Mr. Speaker communicated to the House a Letter from the Rev. Mr. *Gordon*, desiring to be excused from further serving the House as a Chaplain.

Whereupon, *Resolved*, That the House will now come to the choice of a Chaplain.

Ordered, That Mr. *Rawson*, Mr. *Wheeler*, and Mr. *Cooper*, be a Committee to sort and count the votes.

Who reported, that Dr. *Cooper* was unanimously chosen.

Ordered, That Mr. *Rawson* wait on Dr. *Cooper*, and acquaint him of this choice.

The House then adjourned, to nine o'clock, to-morrow morning.

—

Thursday, November 30, 1775.

Mr. Speaker communicated to the House a Letter from the President of the Continental Congress, enclosing a Letter from the Continental Agents, dated *London, September* 2, 1775, giving information of their having presented the Petition of said Congress, and that no answer would be given. Read and sent up.

Mr. Speaker communicated to the House a Letter from the President of the Continental Congress, dated *Philadelphia, November* 1, 1775, enclosing a number of Resolves of Congress.

Read, and *Ordered*, That Mr. *Gardner*, Major *Cross*, and Colonel *Bowers*, with such as the honourable Board shall join, consider said Resolves, and report.

Upon a motion, *Ordered*, That the Committee for preparing Accounts for the Continental Congress, have liberty to take out of the Clerk's files such Vouchers as they may need to accomplish that business.

Moses Gill, Esq., brought down from the honourable Board the Letter from General *Washington*, sent up yesterday, with the Report of a Committee thereon, signed

Benjamin Lincoln, *per order*.

In Council, November 30*th*, 1775: Read and accepted; and thereupon, *Resolved*, That *Joseph Palmer*, Esquire, with such as the honourable House shall join, be a Committee to wait on his Excellency General *Washington*, and with the General Officers, to devise some method whereby the deficiency in the Army, which may be caused by the *Connecticut* Forces leaving the service, and the furloughs granted to part of the Forces inlisted for the next year, can be supplied, and make report: And also, that *Benjamin Lincoln*, Esq., with such as the honourable House shall join, be a Committee to prepare a draft of a Letter to his Excellency General *Washington*, in answer to the last paragraph in said Letter, showing the reasons of this Colony's paying their men by lunar months. (A.) That it is not an innovation, and that it is matter of concern to this Court, that while we are doing justice to our men by complying with our contract with them, that it should produce disorder in the Army. (B.)

Read and concurred, with the amendment at A. B., viz: dele from A to B. And Mr. Speaker and Colonel *Bowers* are joined on the Committee, to wait on his Excellency General *Washington*, with the other General Officers; and Colonel *Orne* and Mr. *Gerry* are joined on the Committee, to report a Letter to his Excellency, in answer to the last paragraph in his Letter.

A Petition from the Selectmen of *Newbury*, praying an allowance for their trouble and expense in providing and collecting Blankets, Provisions, and Clothing, for the use of the Army, in obedience to repeated orders from Congress, and Committee of Supplies. And also, payment for provision and other articles procured for the men who marched on the 19th of *April*.

Read, and committed to Mr. *Gardner*, Mr. *Hopkins*, and Mr. *Bryant*.

A Petition from a Committee in behalf of the Town of *Mendon*, praying payment for Provisions expended for the subsistence of four Companies, who marched from that town on the 19th of *April*.

Read, and committed to the Committee on accounts of this nature.

Upon a motion, *Ordered*, That all Petitions from the Selectmen of the several Towns for allowance of charges, that have arisen by their procuring and conveying Provisions to their Soldiers on and about the 19th of *April*, be presented immediately to the Committee for considering accounts of that nature, without being first presented to this House.

Upon a motion, *Ordered*, That Mr. *Winthrop Gray* be of the Committee for providing conveyances for the Poor of *Boston*, in the room of Mr. *Pierce*.

Mr. *Rawson* reported, that he had waited on Doctor *Cooper*, and that the Doctor's health, situation, and other engagements, would not admit of his attending the House as a Chaplain.

Upon a motion, *Ordered*, That Mr. *Cooper*, Colonel *Barret*, and Major *Cross*, be a Committee to make inquiry and nominate to this House some suitable person to officiate as a Chaplain, and also for proper accommodations for his residence in this town, if necessary.

— Afternoon.

A Petition of *Nathan Wheeler*, setting forth: "that though he had inlisted a considerable number of soldiers, he failed of a commission, by reason of the person from whom he received his orders, being deemed unworthy to have a regiment; that notwithstanding, he has continued in the service as a subaltern officer, and was in the late action at *Charlestown*, but has not received any establishment whereby he can be intituled to pay until the first of July;" and praying the interposition of this Court.

Read, and committed to Mr. *Crane*, Mr. *Pitts*, and Colonel *Thayer*.

A Petition of *John Stevens*, Chairman of the Committee of Safety and Correspondence of the Town of *Gloucester*, praying for Cannon, Ammunition, more Soldiers, and a number of Artillerymen, with a Field Officer to command the Troops stationed there, and the Militia when necessary, for the further defence of that Harbour.

Read, and committed to Captain *Batchelder*, Mr. *Crane*, and Mr. *Hopkins*.

Upon a motion, *Ordered*, That Major *Johnson*, Colonel *Thayer*, and Mr. *Nye*, be a Committee to inquire whether the Commissary-General of this Colony and his Deputies have a right to make contracts with Bakers, and whether such contracts have been made.

Upon a motion, *Ordered*, That Colonel *Orne*, Mr. *Story*, and Mr. *Gerry*, be a Committee to bring in a Resolve empowering the Standing Committee of this House on Accounts, to pass on Accounts of Innholders, for affording entertainment to Soldiers on their march from their homes to the Army, and also to Prisoners and their Guards, and for the support of sick Soldiers and *Indians*.

The House then adjourned to nine o'clock, to-morrow morning.

—

Friday, December 1, 1775.

A Petition of *Thomas Livermore*, in behalf of a number of Prisoners in the Jail at *Ipswich*, setting forth, that they are in great need of Clothing, and praying relief.

Read, and committed to Mr. *Story*, Captain *Gates*, and Colonel *Spaulding*.

The Committee appointed to bring in a Resolve for enlarging the Commission of the Standing Committee on Accounts reported. Read and accepted.

Resolved, That the Standing Committee of the House

on Accounts be, and they hereby are directed to receive and examine all the Accounts of Tavernkeepers which shall be presented to this House in consequence of a Resolve of the Court of the 7th of *November* last, and that they certify on such Accounts the sums that are due to such Taverners, whose Accounts shall be vouched agreeable to said Resolve; and having thus proceeded, they are further directed to deliver them to the Committee which shall be hereafter appointed to receive and pass upon the Muster-Rolls of the Militia and Minute-Men ordered in said Resolve, and not to send them without further directions, to the Committee of Council appointed to concur, and make payment of such Accounts as shall have been passed by the first-mentioned Committee.

Upon a motion, *Ordered*, That Dr. *Fletcher* be added to the Standing Committee on Accounts, to assist them in passing on such Accounts as may be exhibited against the Colony by Physicians and Surgeons.

Mr. Speaker communicated to the House a Letter received from Colonel *Joseph Otis*, of *Barnstable*.

Whereupon *Ordered*, That Colonel *Orne*, Mr. *Caldwell*, and Mr. *Story*, with such as the honourable Board shall join, be a Committee to take the same into consideration, and to inquire into the conduct of the people at *Nantucket* and *Martha's Vineyard*, and report.

Moses Gill, Esq., brought down the Report of a Committee appointed to wait on the General Officers, and confer with them on the measures proper to be taken that our lines may be duly defended at this crisis.

—

Afternoon.

Upon a motion, *Ordered*, That Colonel *Lovell*, Captain *Toby*, and Captain *Knowles*, be a Committee to receive all Petitions and Accounts of those who received wounds from the enemy on and since the 19th of *April*.

A Petition from *John Tidd*; also from *Joseph Cornell*; also from *Dennison Wallis*; setting forth, that they sustained losses and suffered wounds from the enemy on the 19th of *April*; also a Petition of *Alexander Parren*, representing that he is rendered incapable of serving his country any longer as a soldier, or supporting his family, by means of a wound received in the battle on *Bunker's Hill*; and praying consideration.

Read, and committed to the Committee appointed this day to receive Petitions of this nature.

Moses Gill, Esq., brought down from the honourable Board a Memorial from General *Frye*, setting forth the importance of *Falmouth* Town and Neck, the works that are there prepared, and the necessity of further provision for the safety of that Post.

Read, and *Ordered*, That Mr. *Gerry*, Colonel *Sawyer*, and Colonel *Barrett*, with such as the honourable Board shall join, be a Committee to take into consideration this Memorial, and report.

Upon a motion, *Ordered*, That Mr. Speaker and Colonel *Orne*, with such as the honourable Board shall join, be a Committee to acquaint his Excellency General *Washington* with the importance of *Cape-Cod* Harbour, and confer with him on some method to deprive the enemy of the advantage they now receive therefrom.

Ordered, That Mr. *Story* bring in a Resolve providing for the settlement of Accounts that are and may be exhibited by Innholders and others, for entertainment afforded to Soldiers on their march from their homes to Head-Quarters; also for support of prisoners and their guards, as well as others.

Upon a motion, *Ordered*, That the Committee who are appointed to provide for the removal of those Inhabitants of *Boston*, to the several Towns in the country, who are unable to remove themselves, be directed to procure teams for this purpose, on the best terms they are able.

Benjamin White, Esq., brought down a Report of the Committee for proportioning three thousand and eight men among the several Regiments in particular Counties in this Colony.

Samuel Holten, Esq., brought down the following Vote of Council, viz:

In Council, December 1, 1775: *Ordered*, That Mr. *Spooner* and Colonel *Lincoln*, with such as the honourable House shall join, be a Committee to take into consideration the state and circumstances of the Sea-Coasts, and report whether, in their opinion, the whole or any part of the men stationed for the defence thereof, can with safety be discharged, and if any can be, in what part of the Colony, that they may have an opportunity, if they see cause, of joining the recruits.

Read, and concurred, and Mr. *Gerry*, Dr. *Baylies*, and Colonel *Spaulding* are joined.

Ordered, That Colonel *Orne* procure five hundred copies of the Resolve for raising part of the Militia to be printed as soon as possible.

Ordered, That Mr. *Gardner* go to the honourable Board, and inquire if they have passed on the Resolve for raising part of the Militia.

Who reported that he had delivered the message.

Moses Gill, Esq., came down, and informed the House that the honourable Board had passed on the Resolve for raising part of the Militia, by concurring the same.

Mr. *Stone*, according to order, brought in a Resolve providing for the settlement of certain Accounts of Innholders, which was accepted, and is as follows, viz:

In the House of Representatives, December 1, 1775.

Resolved, That the Standing Committee of this House on Accounts be, and they are hereby directed to receive and examine all the Accounts of Tavernkeepers and others, which shall be presented to this House, for supporting the Soldiers in their march from their homes to Head-Quarters, and that they allow such Accounts as shall be properly vouched, and that they keep all such Accounts upon a separate file, and deliver the same to the Committee appointed to examine the Muster-Rolls of the Army, that they may be able to make such deductions as shall be necessary.

And it is further Resolved, That the Standing Committee aforesaid be, and they hereby are directed to receive and examine all Accounts of Tavernkeepers and others, for support of prisoners and their guards, and also for support of sick Soldiers and *Indians*; and upon their being properly vouched, that they allow and pass the same.

Resolved, That the Standing Committee of this House on Accounts be, and they are hereby directed to receive and examine all the Accounts of Tavernkeepers which shall be presented to this House, in consequence of a Resolve of the Court of the 7th of *November* last, and that they certify on such Accounts the sums that are due to such Taverners, whose Accounts shall be vouched agreeable to said Resolve, and having thus proceeded, they are further directed to deliver them to the Committee, which shall be hereafter appointed to receive and pass upon the Muster-Rolls of the Militia and Minute-Men ordered in said Resolve: And not to send them without further directions, to the Committee of Council appointed to concur and make payment of such Accounts as shall have passed by the first-mentioned Committee.

A Petition of *Francis Brown*; also of *Nathaniel Farmer*; setting forth the loss and damage that they sustain by means of wounds which they received on the 19th of *April*, and praying relief.

Read, and committed to the Committee for receiving Petitions of wounded men.

The House then adjourned, to nine o'clock, to-morrow morning.

—

Saturday, December 2, 1775.

Upon a motion, *Ordered*, That Colonel *Sayer* bring in a Resolve directing Mr. *Nye* to use his utmost endeavours to raise one hundred and twenty-eight men in the East Regiment, in the County of *Barnstable*.

The Committee appointed at the last sitting of the Court to procure Wood and Hay for the Army, made report of their doings, and proposed a measure for the more effectual supply of the article of Wood. Whereupon the following Order was passed, viz:

Whereas, it appears that the camps at *Cambridge*, *Charlestown*, and *Medford*, consumes fifty-eight cords of Wood per day, viz: twenty-four at *Cambridge*, sixteen at *Prospect-Hill*, and eighteen at *Winter-Hill*; and the camp at *Roxbury* consumes seventeen cords per day. In order that there may be a daily supply,

Ordered, That the Members of this House, from the Towns of *Needham*, *Newton*, *Weston*, *Waltham*, *Lincoln*, *Bedford*, *Woburn*, *Reading*, *Stoneham*, *Lexington*, *Wilmington*, and *Malden*, be a Committee to apportion and make out what quantity it is proper each of said towns (and the Town of *Natick*) should supply, daily, of the fifty-eight cords, and to which place they shall send it; also, that the Members from the Towns of *Roxbury*, *Dedham*, *Stoughton*, *Dorchester*, *Braintree*, and *Milton*, with Messrs. *Perry* and *Metcalf*, be another Committee to determine what part of the seventeen cords each of said towns shall send to the camp at *Roxbury*, daily. As soon as said Committees have made return what quantity each town should supply, there go a recommendation from the honourable Court to said towns, to carry their respective quotas accordingly.

Ordered, That Mr. *Story*, Captain *Goodman*, and Colonel *Orne*, bring in a Resolve to direct a Committee to collect a part of the Militia, in the several Counties, agreeable to a Resolve of yesterday.

Upon a motion, *Ordered*, That Mr. *Cutt* be of the Committee on the Memorial from General *Frye*, and also of the Committee on the state and circumstances of the Sea-Coasts, in the room of Mr. *Gerry*.

Mr. *Story*, from the Committee, reported. Read, and accepted.

Resolved, That Mr. *Guild*, for the County of *Suffolk*; Messrs. *Hopkins*, *Phillips*, *Mighil*, and Major *Cross*, for the County of *Essex*; Colonel *Spaulding*, Colonel *Barret*, Colonel *Smith*, and Mr. *Whitney*, for the County of *Middlesex*; Colonel *Cushing*, Major *White*, and Colonel *Sprout*, for the County of *Plymouth*; Colonel *Joseph Otis*, for the County of *Barnstable*; Doctor *Baylies*, Major *Hodges*, and Captain *Carpenter*, for the County of *Bristol*; Mr. *Singletary*, Mr. *Caldwell*, Mr. *Rice*, Mr. *Allen*, and Captain *Flagg*, for the County of *Worcester*; Captain *Goodman*, Major *Hawley*, Major *Bliss*, and Colonel *Field*, for the County of *Hampshire*, be, and they hereby are severally appointed to use their utmost endeavours to raise the men, proportioned and fixed on the several towns, in their respective Counties, form them into Companies, and direct their march to Head-Quarters, agreeable to a Resolve of this House yesterday.

Ordered, That Mr. *Hopkins* procure one hundred copies of the above Resolve, to be printed as soon as may be.

The Committee on the Petition of *John Stevens*, Chairman of the Committee of *Gloucester*, reported. Read, and accepted, as follows, viz:

In the House of Representatives, December 2, 1775.

Considering the importance of the Harbour of *Gloucester* to this Colony, the exposedness of the same to the enemy, it appears necessary, that in addition to the provision already made, that more men should be stationed there to complete and defend the fortifications already erected and erecting,

Therefore, *Resolved*, That there be two Companies immediately raised, consisting of fifty men each, including Officers, upon the same establishment of the Forces raised for the defence of the Sea-Coasts: one Company of which to be employed to manage the artillery; and that suitable Officers be commissionated to raise and command the same. The above Companies to continue in said service till the first day of *April* next, unless discharged before that time by order of this Court.

And it is further Resolved, That a General Officer be appointed to take the command of the Forces stationed at *Gloucester*, who shall be empowered to call in the neighbouring Militia upon any emergency, as he shall judge necessary, and discharge them again, as soon as the service will admit of the same, and that the above Officers be chosen, by joint ballot, of the honourable Board and this House.

Colonel *Sayer*, agreeable to order, reported the following Resolve. Read, and accepted, viz:

Resolved, That Mr. *Nye* be appointed to repair to the East Regiment, in the County of *Barnstable*, and use his utmost endeavours to raise and form into Companies, one hundred and twenty-eight men, who are to be officered, equipped, paid, and supported, in the same manner as is provided by a Resolve of this Court of yesterday, for raising men in several towns in this Colony, and the said men to cause to march, and to be at Head-Quarters on the 10th instant.

The Committee, for apportioning a quantity of Wood on a number of towns, reported.

Whereupon the following Order was passed, viz:

In the House of Representatives, December 2, 1775.

Whereas, the supply of the article of Wood for the *Cambridge* and *Roxbury* camps hath not been hitherto fully sufficient to answer the demands, notwithstanding the exertions of this Court for that purpose; and such a deficiency not only tends to the discouragement of the Soldiers from again inlisting into the service of the *United Colonies*, but, also, may be attended with a dispersion of the Army, the loss of our lives, devastation of towns in the neighbourhood, and ruin of the inhabitants:

Therefore, *Resolved*, That it be, and hereby is, strongly recommended to the towns in schedule annexed, to take effectual measures for daily supplying the camps with at least the quantities of Wood respectively annexed to their names, and that they by no means fail in this matter, as they regard their own safety and their country's welfare; and it is earnestly requested of the Selectmen and Committees of Correspondence in the towns above named, that they use such precaution as will, at all times, prevent the smallest deficiency of the quantity aforesaid, by means of difficult travelling, or any other contingency.

To be carried to ROXBURY.

	Cords.		Cords.
Roxbury,	2	Braintree,	4
Dedham,	3	Milton,	3
Stoughton,	2	Medfield,	2
Dorchester,	3	Walpole,	2

To PROSPECT-HILL.

	Cords.		Cords.
Lexington,	5	Wilmington,	3½
Bedford,	4	Watertown,	3½
Lincoln,	3½		

To CAMBRIDGE.

	Cords.		Cords.
Concord,	3	Newton,	6
Natick,	3	Weston,	6
Needham,	5	Waltham,	4

To WINTER-HILL.

	Cords.		Cords.
Medford,	3	Reading,	5½
Stoneham,	2½	Woburn,	5½
Malden,	3½	Wilmington,	1

Ordered, That Mr. *Jewet*, Mr. *Kingsbury*, Captain *Moody*, Mr. *Cooper*, and Colonel *McIntosh*, be a Committee to procure a number of copies of the foregoing Resolve printed or written, as can be done with the greatest despatch.

Upon a motion, *Ordered*, That Mr. *Story* bring in a Resolve for the dismissing a number of men stationed on the Sea-Coast.

Charles Chauncy, Esquire, brought down a Letter from *James Sullivan*, Esq., giving an account of the works of defence in the Town of *Falmouth*, and representing the necessity of further provision for the safety of that town, and enclosing a copy of the Proceedings of the Convention of the County of *Cumberland*.*

* FALMOUTH, *November* 26, 1775.—SIR: Some time ago I troubled the honourable Board with two letters, wherein I aimed to treat of matters which I thought to be of great importance to the Continent in general, and this Colony in particular, but fearing that a further proceeding in that way might by them be deemed assuming and affroutive, and supposing that the benevolent disposition of your mind, would at the same time it pardons my intruding a long letter on you will induce you to lay such parts of it before the honourable Council, as will have a pertinent tendency to urge them to take under their consideration the importance of preventing the enemies gaining a camp here.

But previous to my treating of the importance of holding this place, and as evidence to support me therein, I beg leave to give you a history of what has been done here since *Falmouth* was destroyed. Soon after Commodore *Mowat*, who burnt the town, had sailed for *Boston*, Captain *Symons*, in the *Cerberus*, arrived here, and demanded twenty sheep, two tons of hay, and twenty bushels of potatoes, as a reward for his sparing the few remaining houses; these were denied him by the people, and an alarm spread that he was going to land four hundred men; at the same time the people concluded that the Ministerial army designed to take possession of an eminence on the peninsula of *Falmouth-Neck*, for rea-

Read, and *Ordered*, That this Letter, with the Papers accompanying, be committed to the Committee on General *Frye's* Memorial.

Benjamin Lincoln, Esq., brought down a Petition of the Committee of Safety of the Town of *Salem*, praying to be instructed what their duty is respecting Captures made by Privateers. Passed in Council, viz:

In Council, December 2, 1775: Read, and *Ordered*, That *Samuel Holten*, Esq., with such as the honourable House shall join, be a Committee to take the within Petition into consideration, and report.

Read, and concurred, and Mr. *Story* and Captain *Toby* are joined.

Mr. *Story*, agreeable to order, reported. Read, and accepted.

Whereas, it is necessary that a number of men should be immediately raised, agreeable to a Resolve of this Court of yesterday; and, as it appears to this Court, that the men stationed upon the Sea-Coasts in the Towns of *Newbury*, *Dartmouth*, *Rochester*, and *Wareham*, may, without any inconveniency, be spared from any further service in guarding the Sea-Coasts in those towns: Therefore,

Resolved, That the men stationed on the Sea-Coasts in the Towns of *Newbury*, *Dartmouth*, *Rochester*, and *Wareham*, be, and they hereby are dismissed from the service aforesaid, from and after the fifth day of *December* instant, and that no further pay, or allowance, be made for that service after that time.

Upon a motion made, and seconded,

Resolved, That a general attendance of the Members of this House, is, at this time, indispensably necessary for the despatch of publick business; and, all Members not necessarily detained by sickness, or absent by order of the House, are enjoined, forthwith, to attend their duty therein until particular leave of absence can be granted, or a recess takes place.

---

sons and purposes which I shall heresfter mention to you, and apprehended that those houses which were spared in the conflagration, were intended for barracks, to which belief they were more especially lead by Captain *Mowat's* telling a person, that he was sorry so many houses were burnt, as the saving more would have better answered his design; but the people still supposed that if the landing those troops were impeded by the Militia, they would endeavour to burn those houses also; this alarm spread into the County of *York*, with as much terrour as in the County of *Cumberland*.

I, therefore, went with a number of men to contrive, if possible, some method to prevent the expected devastation in this part of the Colony; when I came to *Falmouth*, there were one hundred and eighty men there, including the sea-coast men, (many had gone away for want of provisions,) the Militia there was commanded by Colonel *Mitchell*, and Colonel *Fogg;* and a number of gentlemen were attending. They assembled, and chose me to lead them; an office the honour whereof I was as little ambitious of, as I was capable to well execute it; however, it being thought to be a post of danger, and as that modesty and diffidence which strongly urged me to decline it, might have been deemed cowardice, and tended to the discouragement of the people, I accepted it, and instantly determined to break ground on an eminence on the Neck, which overlooks the land for twenty miles round; but as Captain *Symons* had sent a proclamation on shore, that if we went to erect any fortification he would fire upon us, I thought he might annoy the people; and finding that there was then in town three hundred weight of powder, besides the small stocks in the adjacent towns, and two good double fortified six-pounders, tolerably well mounted, I ordered the people in the night to throw up a battery on an advantageous point, near the ship, in order to combat her if she fired on the people, who were to intrench on the eminence. The zeal and resolution with which the people set about the execution of this plan was much beyond my expectation, but just as we drew to the designed place, the *Cerberus*, though in the dark, weighed anchor, and put to sea, but apprehending that she might return the next morning, we continued our labour all night; but she has not returned.

On the 7th instant, the Convention of Committees of this County met, and though their proceedings may want some accuracies, yet the spirit obvious in them does honour to the County; and I, therefore, take the liberty of enclosing a copy of them.

Since that time we have erected two batteries, cannon-proof, one bearing two double fortified six, and two ditto nine-pounders, and one three-pounder; and the other battery bears four double fortified long nine-pounders; all which, except the six-pounders, have been mounted since I came here, and we have gratefully received some guns and powder from the General Court. Upon the eminence we have got a fort in great forwardness, and should before now have completed the parapet of it, had not the severity of the weather prevented us. This is all done by the Militia of these two Counties, with some assistance of the sea-coast men. The Militia readily attended with their provision, tools, &c.

There is still wanted a redoubt or two, and other advanced works, on the hill, which, with finishing the citadel, must be deferred until the weather is more favourable.

We much rejoice at the appointment of General *Frye*, who arrived here yesterday, and have the highest expectation, from his acknowledged ability and integrity, provided he was in such a situation as would render him active; but I am sorry to say that the General Court has commanded him to fight with his hands bound. In his appointment over the Militia, he is confined to the County of *Cumberland*, and all his operations are limited to that place, while the County of *York* are as much interested in, and anxiously concerned for the defence of *Falmouth-Neck*, as the County of *Cumberland*. This seems an effectual bar to that union of the Counties, which, at this time, is so absolutely necessary; he, therefore, should have been, and I hope yet will be appointed Major-General of the Militia in these two, if not in the lower County. And when this is done, unless the Militia is organized, as I hope soon it will be, he had as good try to command the sea, as them in time of action. In his other department, as commander of two hundred and fifty sea-coast men, whose time expires within one month, he can do nothing to the purpose, but if there should four hundred marines be landed, must fall a sacrifice, before any considerable number of our scattering Militia could be collected to reinforce him. Besides this, when he calls the Militia, (and if they should obey him,) he has no way to find them provision, or any authority to provide one single necessary for his formidable army of two hundred and fifty men. This is the situation of this honourable gentleman, which I should not have mentioned, if I had not the honour to belong to the Assembly.

Now, sir, what remains, is to show you why I apprehend that there is danger of the enemy's taking this post, and what I supposed to be a rational plan to prevent so great a calamity; but I must beg your pardon for this prolixity, which is not occasioned by the love of writing, but by the regard I have for the people, and the cause they are engaged in.

This is undoubtedly one of the best harbours in the Continent, and the only one for the space of two hundred miles, between *Boston* and *Sheepscut*, where a ship can now lie in safety in the winter, and could they be kept out of this harbour, our privateers might cruise in safety; but if they hold this post, our navigation is at an end, and famine is the consequence.

If an army of fifteen hundred men should be lodged on the eminence before mentioned, with a proper train, ten thousand would not force their lines; and as provision for our sustenance cannot be raised here, we must come to them for bread; and where there is no army, or command, the slaughter of a few persons will bring many to submission. This observation I take to be founded in human nature; and it is in vain for people to talk of dying rather than submitting, for when we are famished, overpowered, or disarmed, we must submit, and are criminal in not doing it; and an entire submission of these Counties when the enemies are possessed of this ground, can be prevented only in three ways, to wit: by forcing their lines, destroying their navy, or watching their motions, with an army much superior in numbers to theirs.

If the importance of these Counties are held as trifling by our Assembly, (as I am sensible they are not,) they will be so with the Continental Congress, and the possession of them by our enemies will make a vast odds in the war; for, beside the distress of the people here, the Ministerial army will be able to furnish the *West-Indies* with lumber, their several detachments with beef, wood, greens, roots, &c., &c., and the Tories now starving in *Boston*, with comfortable dwellings and farms. These things appear to me to be a sufficient inducement to the Regulars, while they can gain and hold so important a post with a thousand men, to do it; and if they do, we must inevitably submit, or carry famine with us to the westward of *Merrimack-River*.

This can never be prevented but by an expense which ought to, and I doubt not will be borne by the Continent. It would be cruel to expect the Militia, either to complete or defend the works begun, for in a small space of time after a fleet appears in sight, with a good wind, the soldiers may be landed and formed, and the assembling a body of the Militia in this country, where the inhabitants are scattering, is a work of time; and, therefore, the most rational plan in my mind is the having a garrison of one thousand men here, under General *Frye*, and the Militia in these three Counties, organized in small regiments and companies, under his command, and then I dare be answerable for his success. This expense may be lightened by having no other sea-coast men from *York* to *Kennebeck*, where there is now four hundred, except what the General shall send on scouting parties.

I am informed that General *Washington* has said, that if the General Court would request it, he would send a regiment here; it is true that as the season now is, there can be little done at fortification, but there must be a vast many pickets got this winter, to enable a thousand men to defend this post in the spring, while the Militia may be gathering to reinforce them, and flat-bottomed boats should be provided to transport the Militia over the water here, and in this way General *Frye* may employ his forces this winter, so as to be able to receive an attack in the spring.

I am, sir, with the greatest respect, your most obedient and most humble servant,

JAMES SULLIVAN.

To the Honourable *John Winthrop*, Honourable *Benjamin Greenleaf*, or the Honourable *Benjamin Lincoln*.

P. S. You have a copy of a letter from General *Washington* to Colonel *Phinney*.

FALMOUTH, *November* 7, 1775.—Met on adjournment of the County Convention.

The Committee appointed to view the ground for fortification, made their Report to this Convention, which is as follows, viz:

We, whose names are under written, a Committee chosen by this Convention to view and fix upon some proper places in *Falmouth*, for intrenching and erecting a fortification, or fortifications, for the defence, security, and government of said harbour, beg leave to report, that we attended the service, and we took upon us the view, and find the eminence on the *Neck* will command the whole harbour, and a redoubt on an eminence on *Brimhal's Hill*, which commands the country, and three or four redoubt batteries elsewhere; and on the south side of the harbour, two batteries, one on *Spring-Point*, the other on *Portland-Head*. All which is humbly submitted.

JONATHAN MITCHELL,
SOLOMON LOMBARD.

November 7, 1775.

Voted, To accept the foregoing Report.

Whereas, the Committee from this Convention to view *Falmouth-Neck*, and many of the Militia officers in this County, and some of the officers of other Counties, and a number of other gentlemen that were assembled at *Falmouth*, the 4th day of this instant, *November*, for the safety and protection of this County: did choose *James Sullivan*, Esq.,

Ordered, That Colonel *Sayer* procure the above Resolve to be printed in the *Watertown* and *Cambridge* Papers.

Upon a motion, *Ordered*, That Captain *Knawles* be of the Committee on the Resolve of the Continental Congress, in the room of Major *Cross*.

The House then adjourned to *Monday* next, ten o'clock, A. M.

—

Monday, December 4, 1775.

Eldad Taylor, Esq., brought down a Letter, informing that some deserters reported that a number of persons, who had been inoculated, were to be sent out of *Boston* by General *Howe*, with a design to spread the Small-Pox among the Troops; which being read,

Resolved, That Colonel *Thayer*, Deacon *Rawson*, and Mr. *Pitts*, with such as the honourable Board shall join, be a Committee to consider the same, and report as soon as may be what is proper to be done thereon.

to be Commander-in-chief of the Forces at *Falmouth*, and four others as assistants, viz: Colonel *Jonathan Mitchell*, Colonel *Reuben Fogg*, Deacon *Benjamin Titcomb*, and Major *Peter Noyes*, and, also, a number of other officers necessary.

Voted, That this Convention approve of said choice.

Voted, To adjourn this meeting for half an hour, in order for dinner.

Met on adjournment.

Voted, *Jeremiah Powell*, Esq., *Salamon Lombard*, Esq., and Colonel *Jonathan Mitchell*, be a Committee to form a vote on a matter that hath been in debate.

Upon the Report of the Committee, *Voted*, That *James Sullivan*, Esq., Colonel *Jonathan Mitchell*, Colonel *Reuben Fogg*, Major *Peter Noyes*, and Deacon *Benjamin Titcomb*, the Committee appointed by the body of the people, be directed and empowered by this Convention to take up all tools and implements necessary, and such teams and all other things wanting, that they think proper for the carrying on the intrenching and erecting batteries for the defence of *Falmouth-Neck* and *Cape-Elizabeth*, that is now undertaken; also, to compute what number of men will be necessary to carry on the said work with all the expedition possible, over and above what soldiers are in the pay of the Province, and the kind assistance of the other Counties; and for said gentlemen to proportion them on the several towns in this County; and that an account be kept of all that assist either in men or material, and other things wanted and thought necessary, that it may be brought in as a publick expense, as shall hereafter be thought best.

Voted, To send a Petition to the General Court, and another to General *Washington*, setting forth the distressed state of this County, and humbly imploring their assistance; and that *Solomon Lombard*, Esquire, *John Lewis*, Esquire, and *Nathaniel Jones*, Esquire, be a Committee to draw up said Petitions, and lay them before this Convention, the next morning.

Voted, To adjourn this Convention to eight of the clock, to-morrow morning, and then to meet at this place.

Met upon adjournment.

The Committee made their Report, and presented their drafts of the Petitions, which were read, and an acceptance thereof voted by this Convention, and ordered that the Chairman sign them in their behalf.

Upon a motion made, relating to sending over sea after Powder:

Voted, To put off the affair until the adjournment of this Convention, humbly requesting of *James Sullivan*, Esquire, that he would inquire after, and point out to us, at the adjournment, the most expedient way to procure the same.

Voted, That it be recommended to the Committees of the several towns in this County upon the sea-shore, that they procure all the Boats or Canoes suitable to carry men to the Islands, or elsewhere, as the emergency of any case may require; and that they make their report, at the next adjournment of this Convention, as to the number they can procure.

Voted, That the Chairman of this Convention sign a Letter, enclosing the two Petitions, and directed to *Samuel Freeman*, Esquire, humbly requesting of him to present one to General *Washington*, and the other to the General Court, and use his utmost endeavours that the same may succeed, and make returns to us as soon as possible; and that *Enoch Merrill* be the bearer of the Letter to Mr. *Freeman*.

Voted, That the thanks of this Convention be returned to the Committee of *North-Yarmouth*, for manifesting their concern for the welfare of this County, in its distressed circumstances, so far as to take the lead, and invite the Committees of the several towns in this County to meet, in order to consult and act upon measures for the safety of it.

Voted, That the Commission Officers in each town be directed to keep an Account of the Men, Provisions, and Materials that they have furnished, or shall hereafter furnish, for the works on *Falmouth-Neck* and *Cape-Elizabeth*.

Voted, That the Officer or Officers sent from each town be directed to give an account, every night, to the General Officer, or Officers, of the Men that have laboured or served under him, or them, for each day.

Voted, To adjourn this Convention to *Thursday*, the 23d day of this instant *November*, at ten of the clock, A. M., and then to meet at this place; and in case there should be any emergency that may require this Convention to be assembled before that time, that the Chairman shall call upon the Members to meet, as occasion may require.

A true extract from the Minutes:

ISAAC PARSONS, *Clerk*.

In Council, December 2, 1775: Read, and sent down.

PEREZ MORTON, *Deputy Secretary*.

In the House of Representatives, December 2, 1775: Read, and *Ordered*, That the above, with the Papers accompanying, be committed to the Committee on the Memorial from General *Frye*.

Sent up for concurrence.

J. WARREN, *Speaker*.

Afternoon.

Ebenezer Sayer, Esq., was chosen Clerk, *pro tempore*.

Samuel Holten, Esq., brought down a Resolve relative to the Small-Pox; which being read,

Resolved, That Deacon *Rawson*, Captain *Vose*, and Mr. *Pitts*, be a Committee to repair forthwith to *Pulling-Point*, and procure all intelligence in the matter in their power, and report to this House what is necessary to be done.

On a motion, *Ordered*, That the Town of *Lincoln* be excused from providing their proportion of Men, voted the 2d instant,

And, thereupon, *Ordered*, That Major *Brooks* bring in a Resolve for that purpose.

On a motion, *Voted*, That the Rev. Mr. *Thatcher*, of *Malden*, be appointed Chaplain to the House, and that Mr. *Cooper* wait upon him, and inform him of the choice.

A Petition from a Plantation in the County of *Lincoln*, called *Gardinerstown*, praying to be incorporated into a Township by the name of "*Hancock*."

Read, and committed to Colonel *Thompson*, Mr. *Pettingal*, and Captain *Gates*.

Ordered, That that part of the Resolve relative to the dismission of several Sea-Coast Companies, which respects the Town of *Ipswich*, be erased.

Major *Brooks*, agreeable to order, reported. Read, and accepted.

Resolved, That the Commanding-Officer of the County of *Lincoln*, be, and hereby is excused from assembling the Militia, and inlisting any men to join the *American* Army; the Resolve of the 1st instant notwithstanding.

A Petition of *William Young*, Chairman of the Committee of Correspondence of the Town of *Worcester*, respecting *George Henry Fisher*, a disaffected person, and *John Holden*, a prisoner, praying for directions. Read, and committed to Mr. *Jewet*, Mr. *Wilson*, and Mr. *Kingsbury*.

The Committee to take into consideration the case of a number of Prisoners in *Ipswich* Jail, reported. Read, and accepted; and

Resolved, That the Selectmen of *Ipswich* be, and hereby are required and empowered, as soon as may be, to furnish each seven Soldiers mentioned in said Petition, with two Shirts, one Blanket, and a Cap, that they may furnish each of the nine Sailors in said jail, with one Coat, Jacket, and a pair of Breeches, two Shirts, two pair of Stockings, one pair of Shoes, one Cap, and one Blanket; and, that the said Selectmen provide light Sacks for the said sixteen Prisoners, and lay an account of their expenses before this Court for allowance and payment.

The House then adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow morning.

—

Tuesday, December 5, 1775.

On a motion, *Ordered*, That the Town of *Natick* be excused from furnishing the proportion of Men voted the 1st instant, and that Mr. *Gardner* be appointed to bring in a Resolve for that purpose.

On a motion, *Ordered*, That one cord of Wood be taken off from the Town of *Natick*, and apportioned on the Town of *Dedham-Parish*, called *Springfield*, and that Mr. *Gardner* be appointed to bring in a Resolve for that purpose.

Mr. *Gardner*, agreeable to order, reported a Resolve for excusing the Town of *Natick* from supplying the *American* Army with nine Men, also excusing said town from supplying one cord of Wood, to be apportioned on the Town of *Dedham*. Read, and accepted.

Resolved, That the Commanding Officer of the Town of *Natick* be excused from calling together the Military Company in said *Natick* under his command, in order to inlist nine soldiers to join the *American* Army at *Cambridge*, to serve until the 15th day of *January* next, the Resolve of the two Houses of the 1st of *December* instant, notwithstanding.

And, whereas, the said Town of *Natick* were directed by the Assembly of this Province in their present session, to supply the Army at *Cambridge* with three cords of Fire-Wood per day,

Resolved, That the Town of *Natick* be held to supply

with two cords of Fire-Wood per day only; and that the Town of *Dedham* be henceforth directed to supply the Army at *Cambridge* with one cord of Fire-Wood per day, for the time and on the condition that the Town of *Natick* were originally ordered to do, in addition to three cords already ordered they should supply to the camp at *Roxbury*.

A Petition from the Committee of Inspection for the East Precinct of the Town of *Pownalborough*, that the Committee of Correspondence of said town might be called to account for their conduct, and that *Abiel Wood*, and one *Williamson*, might be removed from the town. Also, a Petition from a number of the Inhabitants praying for the same.

Read, and committed to Mr. *Wood*, Mr. *Gardner*, and Mr. *Cushing*, with such as the honourable Board shall join, to take the same into consideration, and report what is proper to be done.

A Petition from the *Indians* in *Grafton* praying for relief.

Read, and committed to Mr. *Crane*, Deacon *Batchelder*, Mr. *Perry*, Mr. *Putnam*, and Mr. *Fairfield*.

A Petition from the Selectmen of the Town of *Boxford*, praying allowance for sixteen men in the service of the Colony at *Cape-Ann*, for fourteen days; also for ten men for the same term of time.

Read, and committed to Mr. *Hall*, Captain *Batchelder*, and Mr. *Pilsbury*.

Jabez Fisher, Esquire, brought down from the honourable Board the following Vote of Council, viz:

In Council, December 5, 1775: On motion, *Ordered*, That *Walter Spooner*, *Charles Chauncy*, and *Joseph Palmer*, Esquires, with such as the honourable House shall join, be a Committee to take into consideration the circumstances of the Sea-Ports of this Colony, and where it will be necessary to keep Forces during the winter season, and to wait on his Excellency General *Washington*, and represent to him the exposed situation of such place, or places, as they may judge necessary to be guarded, and to request his protection of them, and make report.

Read, and concurred, and Mr. *Sullivan*, Colonel *Orne*, Colonel *Lovell*, and Captain *Tobey*, are joined.

Samuel Holten, Esq., brought down from the honourable Board, a draft of a Letter to the Continental Congress, relative to paying the Troops of this Colony by the lunar month, with the following Vote of Council thereon, viz:

In Council, December 5, 1775: *Ordered*, That a fair draft of the above Letter be signed by, in the name, and by order of the whole Court, and sent down to the Delegates of this Colony in *American* Congress, to be by them communicated. Read, and concurred,

And the President of the Council is directed to sign, and send forward the above Letter, agreeable to the vote of Council.

Ordered, That Mr. *Sullivan*, Colonel *Orne*, and Colonel *Williams*, be a Committee to take under consideration the several Tavernkeepers' accounts for billeting Colonel *Phinney's* Regiment to Head-Quarters from *Falmouth*.

—

Afternoon.

On a motion, *Ordered*, That Mr. *Cooper*, Captain *Batchelder*, and Colonel *Lovell*, be a Committee to inquire into the state of the Treasury, and report what sums are in the Treasury.

On a motion, *Ordered*, That Mr. *Sullivan*, Mr. *Wood*, Mr. *Cushing*, Mr. *Gerry*, and Mr. *Cooper*, with such as the honourable Board shall join, be a Committee to prepare, and bring in a bill to regulate the Militia of this Colony.

A Letter from *Joseph Greenleaf*, Esquire, containing accounts of experiments in refining Sulphur.

Read, and committed to Mr. *Pitts*, Major *Moody*, and Mr. *Hobart*.

A Petition of *Joseph Greenleaf*, Esquire, representing that he, together with Doctor *Jonathan King*, and Captain *Phineas Upham*, had discovered the method of manufacturing Copperas and Alum; also, Oils of Vitriol and Sulphur, Spirits and Balsam of Sulphur, and praying for an exclusive privilege of manufacturing said articles for the term of ten years.

Read, and committed to Mr. *Low*, Mr. *Rawson*, and Colonel *Thompson*.

On a motion, *Ordered*, That *Dummer Jewet*, Esq., apply to Doctor *Calef*, of *Ipswich*, and require of him such information relative to a new Ship lately built by his direction at the *New-Mills*, as he can confirm, when called upon, on oath, and that he be desired to furnish them with a copy of all the papers relative to this matter, which he has received from the person or persons by whose order said Vessel was purchased or built.

Ordered, That *Elbridge Gerry*, *William Cooper*, and *William Story*, Esquires, be a Committee to bring in a Bill for the further emission of Bills of publick Credit.

The House then adjourned, to ten o'clock, to-morrow morning.

—

Wednesday, December 6, 1775.

On a motion, *Ordered*, That Mr. *Sullivan* prepare and bring in a Resolve relative to Vessels bound to other Colonies, and make report.

On a motion, *Ordered*, That Colonel *Lovell*, Captain *Brown* of *Abington*, and Mr. *Ingalls*, be a Committee to consider Petitions and Accounts of men wounded on and after the 19th *April* last.

On a motion, *Ordered*, That Colonel *Cutt* be a Committee to confer with the Quartermaster-General relative to the price of Wood on *Winter-Hill*, and the road the carts shall go in, and to inquire whether the Troops at *Malden* and *Chelsea* are a part of the Brigade on *Winter-Hill*.

On a motion, *Ordered*, That Mr. *Cooper*, Deacon *Rawson*, Mr. *Pitts*, Captain *Vose*, and Colonel *Orne*, be a Committee to take into consideration the state of the Poor of *Boston*, lately came out, and also a Letter from the Committee at *Point-Shirley*, and to report to this House what is proper to be done.

The Committee appointed to take into consideration a Letter from the Selectmen of the Town of *Boxford*, reported. Read, and accepted.

Resolved, That the Receiver-General be, and hereby is directed to pay to *Aaron Wood*, Esq., thirty-nine Pounds seven Shillings, to be by him applied for the payment of one Sergeant and forty-five Privates for their service as soldiers at *Gloucester*, viz: the Sergeant one month, and the men half a month each; and also for the billeting, &c., of said soldiers.

Mr. *Sullivan*, agreeable to order, reported a Resolve relative to Vessels bound to other Colonies. Read, and accepted.

Resolved, That it be, and it hereby is recommended to the Inhabitants of the *United Colonies*, not to supply any person belonging to this Colony, with provision, or other merchandise, to be transported by water to any place whatever, unless such person shall produce a Certificate, signed by the Secretary of this Colony, in form following:

"Colony of the Massachusetts-Bay, December, A. D., 1775.

"This is to certify, that . . . . . , master of . . . . . , owned by . . . . . , is a person of integrity, and may be safely trusted with such provisions and merchandise as he may purchase, to transport in said vessel to this Colony. *Secretary.*"

And it is further Resolved, That the Secretary shall sign a number of such Certificates, leaving blanks for the name of the vessel, owner, and master, and shall deposite the same with such persons as shall be appointed by this Court in the sea-port Counties to receive the same, and each of such persons so appointed, on application made to them therefor, and recommendation for the same being produced, signed by the Committee of Correspondence, or Safety, and Selectmen of the town where the owner and master of such vessel live, shall have power to fill up said blanks for, and deliver the same to such persons as may be confided in, and shall engage to send vessels as aforesaid, for the purpose aforesaid, they having first given bond to the Treasurer of this Colony, in a sum equal to the value of such vessel and cargo, conditioned for the landing any

provision or other merchandise (that may be shipped on board such vessel in said voyage) within some part of the *United Colonies*, without the Towns of *Boston*, *Roxbury*, *Charlestown*, and *Nantucket*; which bond shall be executed before, and lodged with the person filling said certificate.

Michael Farley, Esquire, brought down from the Board a Letter relative to the supply of the Island of *Nantucket*, with the following Vote of Council thereon, viz:

In Council, December 6, 1775: Read, and *Ordered*, That *John Winthrop* and *Charles Chauncy*, Esquires, with such as the honourable House shall join, be a Committee to take the foregoing Letter and enclosed papers under consideration, and report.

Read, and concurred, and Mr. *Gerry*, Captain *Foster*, and Mr. *Sullivan*, are joined.

Moses Gill, Esquire, brought down from the Board two Letters, from his Excellency General *Washington*, on the critical situation of the Army, with the Vote of Council thereon, viz:

In Council, December 6, 1775: Read, and *Ordered*, That *Walter Spooner*, *John Winthrop*, and *Joseph Palmer*, Esq., with such as the honourable House shall join, be a Committee to wait on his Excellency General *Washington*, immediately, and confer with him on the subject-matter of the foregoing Letters, and devise some ways and means of easing the difficulties therein suggested.

Read, and concurred, and Mr. *Sullivan*, Captain *Batchelder*, Mr. *Cushing*, and Colonel *Orne*, are joined.

Adjourned to three o'clock, P. M.

—

Afternoon.

A Letter from *Joseph Greenleaf*, Esquire, relative to the Post-Office and Post-Riders, committed to Captain *Brown*, Mr. *Kingsbury*, and Mr. *Jewet*.

The Committee appointed to take into consideration the Report of the Committee from *Point-Shirley*, &c., reported. Read, and accepted.

Whereas, a Committee has been appointed by this Court to provide for, and remove such of the Inhabitants of *Boston*, as may be sent from thence to *Point-Shirley*, or other places, as also to make use of every precaution necessary to prevent a communication of the Small-Pox to other parts of this Colony, which appears to be the intention of our enemies.

Resolved, That the said Committee be, and hereby are directed and empowered to impress (if it should be found necessary) a sufficient number of Carriages for the removal of such of said inhabitants, and their effects, as shall have been sufficiently smoked and cleansed, to such towns as the Committee shall judge proper, giving them certificates that they are of the poor of *Boston*, and quite free from infection; and it is recommended to the Committee that they retain at *Point-Shirley* such of said inhabitants as they shall apprehend may have been in the way of receiving the Small-Pox, for such a space of time as may be necessary to determine whether they had the infection, taking care that they are supplied with such quantities of Provisions, Wood, &c., as they judge will be sufficient to keep them from suffering.

It is further recommended to said Committee to provide, if they see occasion, suitable houses as Hospitals for the reception of those persons who may be taken with the Small-Pox, or shall appear to have the symptoms of the distemper, as, also, to engage a Physician or Physicians to attend the sick, if required, and to place sufficient guards at the infected houses to prevent a promiscuous passing or repassing to and from said houses.

On a motion, *Ordered*, That the Town of *Bedford* be excused from furnishing their proportion of Men, and that Mr. *Stickney* be appointed to bring in a Resolve for that purpose.

On a motion, *Ordered*, That the Town of *Marblehead* have leave to remove two pieces of Cannon at *Concord*, for their use, until the further order of this Court; and that Mr. *Gerry* be appointed to bring in a Resolve for that purpose.

Colonel *Lincoln* brought down from the honourable Board the following Vote of Council, viz:

In Council, December 6, 1775: *Ordered*, That *Walter Spooner*, *Charles Chauncy*, and *Joseph Palmer*, Esquires, with such as the honourable House shall join, be a Committee to wait on his Excellency General *Washington*, and represent to him the circumstances of the four Companies now doing duty at *Braintree*, *Weymouth*, and *Hingham*, as, when they were inlisted, and by whose order; from whom they have received their orders from time to time, and in what service they have been employed; that they were considered by this Colony, when raised, as part of the thirteen thousand six hundred men voted by us, and have always been so considered; and desire that his Excellency would order them to be paid by the Continent, as they were not inlisted, neither have they been employed, for the special purpose of defending the sea-coasts, as a number since have been.

Mr. *Gerry*, agreeable to order, brought in the following Resolve, which was read and accepted, viz:

Resolved, That the Town of *Marblehead* be, and it hereby is empowered to cause two pieces of Ordnance, twenty-four-pounders, now at *Concord*, which were damaged, on the 19th of *April* last, by the Ministerial troops, and have since been repaired, to be removed to said town at their own expense, and there improved for their defence, until the further orders of this Court touching the same.

The Committee appointed to consider what is proper to be done with the Records of the Committee on Accounts, reported. Read, and accepted, viz:

Whereas, by a Resolve of this Court, of the 8th of *November* last past, it is provided that the Committee of the House therefor appointed should keep, in a book, a true record of all accounts which shall have been passed by them, with an alphabet thereto, and it now appears that the business will be conducted with greater despatch by the records being made after such accounts shall have been concurred, and paid by a Committee of Council provided for that purpose:

Therefore, *Resolved*, That the said Committee of the House be, and they hereby are directed to send to the said Committee of the honourable Board all Accounts which they shall have passed without recording the same; and the honourable Board are desired to direct their Committee to cause such Accounts, when concurred in and discharged, to be fairly recorded, agreeable to the method proposed by the Resolve aforesaid, and to employ a suitable person for that purpose.

The Committee appointed to bring in a Resolve for excusing the Town of *Bedford* from furnishing their proportion of men, reported. The Report was read, and accepted, and is as follows, viz:

Whereas, by a Resolve of this Court of the 1st instant, the Town of *Bedford* was ordered to furnish thirteen Men to join the *American* Army on the 10th instant, and the Commanding-Officer of said town was ordered to inlist that number of men accordingly; and, whereas, by another Resolve of this Court, the same town was ordered to furnish the Army with four cords of Wood, daily; and it would be quite impracticable for said town to comply with both said Resolves:

Therefore, *Resolved*, That the Commanding-Officer of said Town of *Bedford* be, and he hereby is excused from assembling the Militia, and inlisting any men to join the *American* Army, the aforesaid Resolve, first mentioned, notwithstanding.

The Committee appointed to take into consideration the Petition of *Francis Brown*, who was wounded in the battle of *Lexington*, on the 19th *April* last, reported. Read, and accepted.

The House then adjourned to nine o'clock, to-morrow morning.

—

Thursday, December 7, 1775.

Benjamin Lincoln, Esq., brought down from the honourable Board the following Vote of Council, viz:

In Council, December 7, 1775: *Ordered*, That *Benjamin Lincoln*, Esq., with such as the honourable House shall join, be a Committee to consider of, and report what may be necessary to be done relative to the expense arising by the Prisoners taken by private adventurers, and make report.

Read, and concurred, and Captain *Stone* and Deacon *Rawson* are joined.

An Account of *Nathaniel Goldthwait* for a gun and bayonet his son *Eli* lost in the battle of the 19th of *April* last. Read, and committed to the Committee appointed to consider of losses sustained in the battle of the 17th of *June* last.

An Account of *Mary Deland*, for a gun, &c., lost by her late husband in the battle of the 19th of *April* last: committed to the Committee appointed to consider of losses sustained in the battle of the 17th of *June* last.

An Account of *Henry Jacobs*, father to *Henry Jacobs*, Jun., for gun, bayonet, clothing, &c., lost in the battle of the 19th of *April* last: committed to the Committee appointed to consider losses sustained the 17th of *June* last.

An Account of *Samuel Cook*, father to *Samuel Cook*, Jun., for gun, bayonet, &c., lost in the battle of the 19th of *April* last: committed to the Committee for considering losses sustained in the battle of the 17th of *June* last.

An Account of *Jonathan Tarbell*, for time of his servant, gun, &c., and clothing lost in the battle of the 19th of *April* last: committed to the Committee appointed to consider the losses sustained in the battle of the 17th of *June* last.

An Account of *Thomas Gardner*, father to *Thomas Gardner*, Jun., for a gun lost in the battle of the 19th of *April* last: committed to the Committee to consider the Losses sustained in the battle of the 17th of *June* last.

The Petition of *Joseph Greenleaf*, praying for an exclusive right for himself, and others, of manufacturing Copperas ,&c. Read, and committed to Colonel *Orne*, Mr. *Cushing*, and Captain *Stearns*, to be joined with such as the honourable Board shall appoint, to take the same into consideration, and report thereon what is proper to be done.

On a motion, *Ordered*, That Mr. *Gerry*, Mr. *Sullivan*, Captain *Parker*, Colonel *Dwight*, and Colonel *Thompson*, be a Committee to take into consideration the expediency of providing Military Stores for the Colony, and report thereon what is proper to be done.

On a motion, *Ordered*, That Mr. *Story*, Major *Moody*, and Mr. *Stickney*, be a Committee to prepare and bring in a temporary Fee-Bill for the Admiralty Courts.

The Committee appointed to consider the Petition of *William Young*, Chairman of the Committee of Correspondence of the Town of *Worcester*, relative to *George Henry Fisher*, a disaffected person, and *John Holden*, a prisoner, reported. Read, and accepted.

Resolved, That the Selectmen of the Town of *Worcester* be empowered to furnish *George Henry Fisher*, a prisoner, sent by order of (A) this Court to *Worcester*, with clothes suitable to his necessitous circumstances, and that they lay an account of their expenses before this Court, for allowance and payment. Furthermore, that the Committee of Correspondence, (B) who thought proper to commit *John Halden*, a paper-maker by trade, to jail, for his insolent behaviour towards them, (C) be directed to keep the said *Holden* in jail until the further order of this Court.

—

Afternoon.

The Committee appointed to consider a Letter from Mr. *Greenleaf*, relative to Post-Riders, reported. Read, and accepted.

Resolved, That *Benjamin Epes*, *Cadwallader Ford*, Jun., *Isaac Colton*, *Joseph Howland*, and *Timothy Goodwin*, be, and hereby are, dismissed as Post-Riders, for the future, and the Colony be at no further charge for their riding.

On a motion, *Ordered*, That Captain *Batchelder* and Major *Currier* be on the Committee to take into consideration the Resolve of the Continental Congress, in the room of Major *Cross* and Colonel *Bowers*, who are absent.

The Committee appointed to take into consideration a Letter from Mr. *Greenleaf*, relative to Sulphur, reported verbally. Accepted, and is as follows, viz:

That, as said *Greenleaf* is desirous of having an exclusive right of manufacturing not only Copperas, but Sulphur, the Committee are of opinion that said Letter should be referred to the Committee of both Houses, appointed to take into consideration the Petition for an exclusive right of manufacturing Copperas.

The House then adjourned to nine o'clock, to-morrow morning.

—

Friday, December 8, 1775.

Benjamin Lincoln, Esq., brought down from the honourable Board a report of a Letter to his Excellency General *Washington*, relative to calling in the Militia. Read, and concurred.

On a motion, *Ordered*, That Deacon *Nichols*, Major *Johnson*, Captain *Parker*, Mr. *Hall*, and Colonel *Williams*, be a Committee to take into consideration the state of the Poor of *Boston* and *Charlestown*, now in the Province, and report what is proper to be done.

The Committee appointed to take into consideration the Petition of *Joshua Davis*, (who was appointed by this Court an officer in the Army, with the pay and rank of Lieutenant-Colonel,) praying for an allowance of part of his wages, reported. Read, and accepted.

Resolved, That there be paid to Colonel *Joshua Davis* the sum of thirty-one Pounds four Shillings, it being the pay of a Lieutenant-Colonel in the service of this Colony, from the first day of *May* up to the first day of *August*, which pay said *Davis* was allowed by a Resolve of this Court.

On a motion, *Ordered*, That a message be sent to the honourable Board, to inform them that the House proposes to come to the choice of Delegates to attend the Continental Congress, on *Wednesday* next, at three o'clock, P. M., by joint ballot, if agreeable to the honourable Board.

On a motion, *Ordered*, That Mr. *Gerry*, Mr. *Cooper*, and Mr. *Story*, be a Committee to take into consideration the conduct of Mr. *Rand*, brother of Dr. *Rand*, a suspected person, and report what is proper to be done.

A Bill, intituled "An Act for making and emitting of Bills of Publick Credit," having had three several readings, passed to be engrossed, by Colonel *Dwight*, Deacon *Nichols*, and Colonel *Cutt*.

Ordered, That Mr. Speaker be a Committee to wait on his Excellency General *Washington*, and be informed whether his Excellency chooses to take into his care the Ordnance Stores received from this Colony, and if it is agreeable to give receipts for the same, as vouchers for a charge to the Continent.

Ordered, That Doctor *Fletcher*, Colonel *Perry*, and Colonel *Thompson*, be a Committee to inquire what number of Cannon belonging to the several towns and of what sizes, are now in the Continental Army under the care of General *Washington*.

Samuel Holten, Esq., brought down from the honourable Board a Resolve of the House on the Petition of *William Young*, Chairman of the Committee of Correspondence at *Worcester*, with the following Vote of Council thereon, viz:

In Council, December 8, 1775: Read, and concurred, with the amendment at A, B and C, viz: At A, dele "this Court," and insert "the major part of the Council; dele from B to C, and insert, "of the said town, who have thought proper to recommit to Jail for some late insolent behaviour, one *John Holden*, formerly a soldier in the Ministerial army." Read and concurred.

Samuel Holten, Esq., brought down from the honourable Board the following Resolve of Council, viz:

Resolved, That the (A) Deputy Secretary be, and he hereby is directed forthwith to take copies of all such Vouchers as the Committee appointed by this Court to prepare the Accounts of charges and expenses incurred by this Colony in the defence of *American* liberty, may think needful to transmit to the honourable Continental Congress: And that he carefully compare such copies with the originals, and attest the same, in order to their being lodged in the Secretary's Office, which copies, so attested, shall have all the validity and effect the originals (B) might or ought to have.

Read, and concurred with the amendment at A and B, viz: At A dele "Deputy"; at B insert, "and the Secretary is directed to consult with the said Committee, and be

directed by them with regard to the mode of taking said copies."

Ordered, That Deacon *Plympton*, Captain *Partridge*, and Captain *Parker*, be a Committee to take into consideration, and report to the House the expediency of considering Petitions of the non-Commissioned Officers and Privates, as well as Commissioned Officers, who were wounded in the engagement of the 19th of *April*, and 17th of *June* last, and lost their arms and clothes, and what is to be taken as evidence in support of said Petitions.

—

Afternoon.

A Letter from the Committee at *Point-Shirley*, representing the distressed situation of the Poor of *Boston*, arising from their effects being plundered by the Ministerial troops on their passage.

Read, and committed to Mr. *Pitts* and Deacon *Rawson*, with such as the honourable Board may join.

Whereas, *John Pigeon*, the late Commissary of the Forces raised by this Colony, keeps his books at some distance from the Army, by reason whereof the Officers of the Army are prevented from settling their Rolls as ordered by this Court:

Therefore, *Resolved*, That the said *Pigeon* be, and he hereby is directed to furnish the Officers of said forces with such Accounts as said *Pigeon* is possessed of, necessary to the making up their Rolls at *Cambridge*, and that he be desired to attend there, to settle said Accounts, as long as his presence there may be necessary.

On a motion, *Ordered*, That Colonel *Williams*, Captain *Brown*, and Captain *Adams*, be a Committee to hear the Member from *Lincoln* and the Member from *Waltham*, relative to carrying Wood to *Cambridge* and *Winter-Hill*, and determine where each of said towns shall carry their Wood.

The House then adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow morning.

—

Saturday, December 9, 1775.

The Committee appointed to consider what is proper to be done relative to one *Rand*, a suspected person, reported. The Report was read, and accepted, and is as follows, viz:

Whereas, by information given to this Court, there is great reason to apprehend *Edward Rand*, a pewterer, of *Newburyport*, and brother of Doctor *Rand*, of *Boston*, has carried on a criminal correspondence with his brother, aforesaid, who is unfriendly to the cause of *America*:

Therefore, *Resolved*, That Captain *Epes* forthwith repair to Mr. *Winthrop Gray*, at *Malden*, or *Point-Shirley*, and inquire into the facts aforesaid, in confidence; and, provided the said *Gray* shall confirm the same, that then the said Captain *Epes* forthwith repair to the Committee of Safety and Correspondence of *Newburyport*, with this Resolve, who are hereby directed and empowered to cause said *Rand* to be immediately put under a sufficient guard, and his papers secured, until the further order of this Court.

Upon a motion, *Ordered*, That Mr. *Cooper* bring in a Resolve for agreeing with Mr. *Revere*.

Upon a motion, *Ordered*, That Colonel *Cutt*, Mr. *Lincoln*, and Mr. *Bancroft*, be a Committee to take into consideration the circumstances of the Prisoners in *Worcester* jail, in what method such Clothing as is necessary to make them comfortable shall be supplied, and report.

Moses Gill, Esquire, brought down from the honourable Board a Report of the Committee on the Resolves of the Continental Congress, lately received.

Ordered, That the Clerk write to Mr. *Freeman*, and desire his attendance as soon as may be.

Mr. *Cooper* reported concerning Plates for striking off a new emission of Bills, as follows, viz:

Resolved, That *Henry Gardiner*, Esquire, Receiver-General of this Colony, be, and hereby is directed to deliver unto Mr. *Paul Revere*, Engraver, the two pairs of Copperplates, now in the keeping of said Receiver-General, from which the last emission of Bills was struck off, one pair of said Plates to he delivered upon the return of the other; and that Mr. *Revere* be directed to proceed, with all expedition, in the cutting or engraving a new set of Plates for the striking off Bills of publick Credit, to the amount of seventy-five thousand Pounds, of the denominations specified in the Bill now pending for the emission of said sum, provided the same passes into an Act; and that he be allowed for said service one penny and a half-penny, old tenour, for each Bill he shall strike off, he finding paper and every material that shall be necessary, and allowing a deduction to be made from the foregoing allowance of the sum of thirty shillings, lawful money, for the advantage he will receive from the old Plates; and that Colonel *Thompson* be a Committee to take into keeping said *Revere's* Press, until the Plates shall be ready for the striking off said Bills, or any part of them.

The Committee appointed to consider the expediency of providing Military Stores reported an Estimate and Resolve, as follows, viz:

Estimate of Military Stores necessary to be procured for this Colony.

Ordnance,	4 18-pounders, 4 12 do. 4 9 do. at £20,	£240	0 0
	8 6 do. at £10,	80	0 0
Field-Pieces,	4 4 do. 10 3 do. 6 2 do. at £8,	160	0 0
	40 pieces in all.		
Mortars,	1 10-inch, 2 8 do.	150	0 0
Howitzers,	2 8 do.		
Travelling-carriages for two 18-pounders, two 12-pounders, two 9-pounders, four 6-pounders, twenty field-pieces, 30 pieces, at £24, with sponges, ladles, harness, for men and horses, complete,		720	0 0
Ten garrison-carriages, at £10,		100	0 0
Three mortar-beds,		72	0 0
Two carriages for howitzers,		48	0 0
Four hundred round-shot for each piece of ordnance, from 24 to 6-pounders, inclusively. One hundred round-shot for each field-piece, 39 tons, at £15,		585	0 0
Two hundred shells, 10-inch,		200	0 0
Eight hundred shells, 8-inch, at 15*s.*,		600	0 0
Fifty rounds case-shot for each 18, 12, 9, and 6-pounder. One hundred rounds for each field-piece, 16,000, at 26*s.* 8*d.*,		213	6 8
One hundred thousand flints, at 40*s.*,		200	0 0
Twenty tons of musket-ball, at £40,		800	0 0
Casting,		120	0 0
Two tons of buckshot,		100	0 0
Five hundred pickaxes, at 7*s.*,		175	0 0
Two hundred and fifty spades, Two hundred and fifty shovels, at 8*s.*,		200	0 0
Two hundred bill-hooks, at 4*s.*,		40	0 0
Five hundred axes, handled, at 7*s.*,		150	0 0
Sixty crows, at 20*s.*,		60	0 0
Fifty wheelbarrows, at 20*s.*,		50	0 0
One hundred reams of cartridge-paper, musket,		30	0 0
Ten reams cannon ditto,		24	0 0
Three thousand eight-quart iron pots, bailed, at 4*s.* 4*d.*,		650	0 0
Three thousand wooden bowls, at 9*d.*,		112	10 0
Two chests of carpenters' tools,		100	0 0
A gin and blocks, with cordage,		16	0 0
Weights and Measures for the Commissary.			
Twenty sets of tin measures, from a gallon to a half-gill,		8	10 0
Twenty sets of weights, from a fifty-six to a quarter-pound,		37	0 0
Twenty pairs of scales, £10 10*s.*—one pair large ditto, £7,		17	10 0
To be procured as the Muskets shall be obtained:			
5,000 cartridge-boxes and belts,	£832 6 8		
5,000 belts and bayonets,	750 0 0		
1,000 tents, (if the duck can he procured,)	3,000 0 0		
100 bell-tents,	150 0 0		
		4,733	6 8
One ton gun-match,		120	0 0
		£10,917	3 4

And all the powder that can be procured.

Resolved, That the Commissary of this Colony be, and he hereby is directed forthwith to provide, with the utmost diligence, sundry Military Stores, agreeable to the preceding estimate, amounting to the sum of ten thousand nine hundred and seventeen Pounds three Shillings and four Pence; that he procure such only as are of good quality, and give the preference to the persons in this Government who will supply them at the most reasonable rates; and that he give certificates, from time to time, of the articles received, and their amount, to the persons supplying the same, which certificates shall be considered by the Committees on Accounts as sufficient vouchers to the amount of said sum, exclusive of what the honourable Board shall deliver thereof to the Commissary to purchase such of the said Stores as must necessarily be procured out of this Colony; and said Committees are directed to pass, and make payment of the same, accordingly; and the honourable Board are hereby empowered to order so much of the said ten thousand nine hundred and seventeen Pounds three Shillings and four Pence out of the publick Treasury as the Commissary shall apply for and they shall find necessary, to procure what of the said articles cannot be procured in this Colony.

—

Afternoon.

Mr. Speaker communicated to the House a Letter from *Samuel Freeman*, dated *November* 25, 1775, concerning goods that were stolen at the burning of *Falmouth*.

Read, and committed to Mr. *Sullivan*, Doctor *Rice*, and Colonel *Soyer*.

Upon a motion, *Ordered*, That three o'clock on *Monday* next, P. M., be assigned for the choice of a Committee to provide for erecting a Powder-Mill, and a Manufacturer of Gunpowder.

A Petition of *Ebenezer Beal*, setting forth, that he received a wound in assisting in the taking an armed Cutter in *Machias-River*, and is thereby disabled from providing for himself, and praying for support.

Read, and committed to the Committee for receiving Petitions of wounded men.

Colonel *Whitcomb* brought down a Report of the Committee on the Letter of Governour *Trumbull*.

Whereas representation has been made to the Court, that supplies of provision more than are necessary for internal consumption, and for such voyages as may be prosecuted consistent with the Resolves of Congress and the General Assembly of this Colony, have been lately shipped from this and the neighbouring Colonies for the Islands of *Nantucket* and *Martha's Vineyard*. (B.)

Resolved, That the Committee of Correspondence for the Town of *Falmouth*, in the County of *Barnstable*, be, and they hereby are directed forthwith to return to this Court a true copy, upon oath, of all permits which they have granted to the inhabitants of *Nantucket*, or any other person, or persons, in their behalf, for obtaining provisions from the inhabitants of this and the neighbouring Colonies, to supply said inhabitants of *Nantucket*. (C.) And the Selectmen of the Town of *Sherburne*, on the Island of *Nantucket*, as also of each town on *Martha's Vineyard*, are directed forthwith to make strict inquiry into the importation of provisions into the respective towns, since the 28th of *September* last; and of all provisions now into said towns; and to make returns thereof on oath to this Court as soon as may be: And the inhabitants of this Colony, and of the other *United Colonies*, are desired to withhold further supplies of provisions (D) from said Island, until the further recommendation of this Court; and the Printers of the Colonies aforesaid are respectively desired to cause this Resolve to be inserted in their newspapers.

Read, and concurred with amendments at B, C, and D, viz: At B insert, "and that the inhabitants of the said Island of *Nontucket* have abused the indulgence of the Court by supplying our enemies with such provisions &c., as were admitted to be transported to them for their internal consumption only." At C insert, "and to suspend granting any permits in future to the said inhabitants, or any person on their behalf, until the further order of this Court. At D insert, "fuel or other necessaries."

Ordered, That Mr. *Story* procure the above Resolve to be printed in the several publick Papers of this Colony, and a copy thereof conveyed to the Selectmen of *Sherburne*, in *Nantucket*, and of the several towns in *Martha's Vineyard*, and the Committee of Correspondence in *Falmouth*.

Mr. *Gerry* communicated an extract of a Letter from one of the Delegates of this Colony at the Continental Congress, inquiring what number of men in the Colony would engage as Marines; what vessels may be hired upon Government service, at what places others may be built, &c.

Read, and *Ordered*, That Mr. Speaker, Mr. *Gerry*, and Colonel *Orne*, consider an answer to said Letter, and report.

The House then adjourned to *Monday* next, three o'clock, P. M.

—

Monday, December 11, 1775.

Upon a motion, *Ordered*, That Mr. *Watson* go with a Message to the honourable Board, and inquire whether they have passed on a Resolve of this House providing for the disposal of certain parts of the Estates of such enemies to their country as have fled therefrom.

Moses Gill, Esquire, came down from the honourable Board, and said the Resolve is now under consideration.

Ordered, That Mr. *Cooper*, Mr. *Pitts*, and Colonel *Lovell*, with such as the honourable Board shall join, be a Committee to take into consideration a Letter from *Thomas Crafts*, Junior, informing that the Small-Pox has broke out in two families that are brought out of *Boston*, and that they are in great need of fire-wood.

Moses Gill, Esq., brought down from the honourable Board the Resolve on the Letter from Governour *Trumbull*, on the conduct of the people at *Nantucket*.

In Council, *December* 11, 1775: Read, and concurred, with the foregoing amendments, with the addition at E, in the first amendment, viz: at E, add, "there is great reason to suspect."

Read, and concurred in the amendments proposed.

The Committee on the Petition of *Ebenezer Beal* reported. Read, and accepted.

Resolved, That there be paid out of the Colony Treasury unto *Ebenezer Beal*, of *Machias*, the sum of sixteen Pounds, in full for his loss of time, six months, and his boarding.

Upon a motion, *Ordered*, That a Resolve of this House, of the 7th of this instant, for dismissing certain Post-Riders, be reconsidered, and that the Report be recommitted.

Eldad Taylor, Esq., brought down from the honourable Board a Letter from the honourable the President of the Continental Congress, enclosing certain Resolves.

Read, and *Ordered*, That Mr. *Gerry*, Mr. *Pitts*, and Colonel *Orne*, with such as the honourable Board shall join, be a Committee to take into consideration the Resolves enclosed, and report.

A Petition of *Nehemiah Hinds*, setting forth, that he has acted as Chief Surgeon from *April* 19th to *July* 20th, following, and praying pay accordingly.

Read, and committed to Doctor *Fletcher*, Colonel *Mitchell*, and Mr. *Hobart*.

Upon a motion, *Ordered*, That Mr. *Story* go to the honourable Board and desire they would direct the Committee on the Militia Bill to set as soon as may be.

John Taylor, Esq., brought down from the honourable Board a Report of the Committee on the Petition of a number of Inhabitants of the Town of *Pownalborough*.

Read, and *Ordered*, That the consideration of the above be taken up at ten o'clock, to-morrow morning.

The Committee on an Extract of a Letter from a Member of this Colony at the Continental Congress, reported. Read and accepted.

In the House of Representatives, December 11, 1775.

Resolved, That it be, and it hereby is strongly recommended to the Committees of Correspondence and Safety of the Town of . . . . . , and in case of a deficiency of both said Committees, to the Selectmen of said town, that they cause to be made to this Court a true return of the number of men in said town who are desirous of inlisting, and fit for Marines, or Seamen, on board of armed vessels, either in the pay of the Continent or of this Colony, or of private adventurers, who shall fix out said vessels; also

the names of such persons as are desirous of entering the service aforesaid, and are qualified for commanders or other officers: Likewise the ships, brigantines, schooners or sloops in said town, suitable for armed vessels, which are to be sold or hired out; to whom they respectively belong; what their tonnage; the depth of water they draw; their breadth; their decks; and what their age. And that said return be made, agreeable to the schedule herewith sent them, and without delay lodged in the Secretary's Office.

Resolved, That the foregoing Resolve be printed and sent to the several maritime Towns in this Colony, with a special direction to each of the said Towns, by filling up the blank in the same, with the name of each Town to which it shall be sent.

Resolved, That Colonel *Thompson*, be a Committee to cause the foregoing Resolve, and the Schedule annexed, to be printed and sent to the Towns mentioned therein.

A Return from the Town of . . . . of persons qualified for Officers and Seamen who are desirous of inlisting on board of Armed Vessels in the service of the *United Colonies*, or of this Colony, or private adventurers; also, of the dimensions of Vessels fit for the purpose aforesaid, to be sold or hired out in said Town; the owners' names; age of the Vessels, &c., agreeable to the within Resolution of the General Courts.

Names of persons qualified for commanders.	Number of seamen.	Number of ships fit for armed vessels.	Tonnage.	Breadth.	Depth of water they draw.	Years old.	Number of decks.	Number of brigs.	Tonnage.	Breadth.	Depth of water.	Years old.	Number of decks.	Schooners and sloops.	Tonnage.	Breadth.	Depth of water.	Years old.	Decks.	Persons qualified for other offices.	Owners' names.

The House then adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow morning.

—

Tuesday, December 12, 1775.

A Petition of *Jireh Willis*, Clerk of the Committee of Correspondence of the Town of *Dartmouth*, setting forth the importance of that harbour and its defenceless state, and praying the attention of this House thereto.

Read, and *Ordered*, That Colonel *Orne* and Captain *Foster*, with such as the honourable Board shall join, be a Committee to consider the same, and report.

Samuel Holten, Esquire, brought down from the honourable Board a Report of the Committee on the Letter from *Thomas Crafts*, Jun.

In Council, December 12, 1775: *Resolved*, That the Committee of said *Point-Shirley* be, and they are hereby directed to make use of any old, decayed stores, barns, or fish-houses, as fuel for the relief of the sick and distressed, and, if necessary, to take down any publick building there for the purpose aforesaid, said Committee to render an account of their proceedings to the Court; and they are further directed to use their utmost endeavours to prevent the spreading of the small-pox, and make proper representations of the state of such persons as are put under their care to this Court, whenever they find there is occasion thereof. (A.)

Read, and concurred, with the amendment at A, viz: At A insert, "and that Captain *Foster* and Captain *Searl* be a Committee to repair immediately to *Point-Shirley*, and cause such buildings as may be thought necessary to be taken down for fuel, to be apprized, and take any measures, and give directions that shall appear to them necessary, to aid the Committee now there in procuring wood, and in preventing the spreading of the small-pox."

The Report of the Committee on the Resolves of the Continental Congress, brought down from the honourable Board on the 9th instant. Read, and ordered to be recommitted.

Mr. *Sullivan*, by order of the House, brought in the following Resolve,

Whereas, by a Resolve passed by this Court on the 6th of *December* instant, it is

Ordered, That certain persons for each County in this Colony should be appointed by the whole Court, to distribute the Certificates therein mentioned, to be signed by the Secretary for the purposes mentioned in said Resolve, under such regulations as are in said Resolve provided.

And, whereas, there would be too much expense of time in appointing such Committees by the whole Court:

It is, therefore, *Resolved*, That the Council of this Colony shall be empowered from time to time, when necessary, to appoint in each County where the same shall be needed, such person, and two in the County of *Lincoln*, to fill up and deliver out said Certificates according to the direction of the Resolve aforesaid.

Jabez Fisher, Esquire, brought down from the honourable Board a copy of a Letter from *John Hancock* and *Thomas Cushing*, Esquires, at *Philadelphia*, dated *November* 29, 1775.

Read, and upon a motion, *Ordered*, That Mr. *Story* go with a message to the honourable Board, and desired that, if they have received other Letters from gentlemen at the Continental Congress, on the subject of the Letter just communicated, that they would favour this House with a view of them.

Who returned that he had delivered the message.

Jedediah Foster, Esquire, came down from the honourable Board, and said that other Letters from gentlemen at the Continental Congress were then under the consideration of the Board, which they had determined to communicate previous to their receiving the last message.

Upon a motion, *Ordered*, That the Report of the Committee on the Petition of a number of Inhabitants of the Town of *Pownalborough*, brought down yesterday, be considered at four o'clock this afternoon.

—

Afternoon.

Upon a motion, *Ordered*, That Mr. *Story*, Colonel *Mitchell*, and Mr. *Pitts*, be a Committee to consider whether any further measures can be taken more effectually to prevent the spreading of the Small-Pox.

John Whetcomb, Esq., brought down from the honourable Board, a number of Letters from the Delegates of this Colony at the Continental Congress.

Resolved, That Mr. *Putnam*, Captain *Parker*, and Mr. *Singletary* be, and they hereby are appointed a Committee to purchase so much Land, and such a part of the Stream of Water in the Town of *Sutton*, as may be fully sufficient for the erecting a Mill in the said Town of *Sutton*, for the manufacturing (A) Powder.

And it is further *Resolved*, That the Committee aforesaid are hereby authorized and empowered to purchase the remains of a Powder-Mill in the Town of *Stoughton*, with so much of the Land and Stream adjoining the same, as may be sufficient to prepare said Mill for the manufacturing (A) Powder. And the said Committee are hereby empowered to employ such skilful persons for the erecting and preparing said Mills for the manufacturing (A) Powder, and also, to provide such skilful persons as manufacturers, as may be sufficient for that purpose, and to lay the bills of the expenses thereof before this Court; and that the said Committee contract for a sum not exceeding six hundred Pounds.

Moses Gill, Esq., brought down from the honourable Board the Report on the Resolves of the Continental Congress.

In Council, December 12, 1775: Read, and concurred, and recommitted, and *Ordered*, That *James Prescott*, Esq., be of the said Committee, in the room of *John Winthrop*, Esq., who is absent. Read, and concurred.

Upon a motion, *Ordered*, That the Committee for procuring Sulphur give publick notice, requesting all who are possessed of any quantity of that article to make sale of it to them; and, all who shall know of any parcel, that they give information thereof as soon as may be.

Ordered, That the consideration of the Petition from a number of the Inhabitants of *Pownalborough*, be referred till ten o'clock, to-morrow morning.

Joseph Palmer, Esq., brought down from the honourable

*

Board the Report on the Petition of the Selectmen of *Needham*.

In Council, December 12, 1775: Read, and concurred, as taken into a new draft.

The House then adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow morning.

—

Wednesday, December 13, 1775.

Mr. *Jewett* having informed the House that he had applied to Doctor *Calef*, agreeable to order, for information relative to a Ship lately built at the *New-Mills*, in *Danvers*, and that Doctor *Calef* is now in waiting with the Papers relative to said Ship.

It was moved, and *Ordered*, That Mr. *Gerry*, Mr. *Hopkins*, and Colonel *Cushing*, be a Committee to receive of Doctor *Calef* such Papers as he may have in possession that respect said Ship.

Jabez Fisher, Esq., brought down from the honourable Board a certificate from *J. Lowell*, Chairman of the Committee of Safety of *Newburyport*, certifying, that in consequence of a Resolve of the General Court, the said Committee have examined the papers of *Edward Rand*, and find none that have relation to his political conduct, and that at the desire of Mr. *Rand*, he is sent to *Watertown*, and submitted to the direction of the Court.

In Council, December 13, 1775: Read, and *Ordered*, That *Samuel Holten*, Esq., with such as the honourable House shall join, be a Committee to examine into the character and conduct of the said *Edward Rand*, touching the charge alleged against him, and make Report.

Read, and concurred, and Mr. *Caldwell* and Mr. *Hopkins* are joined.

Upon a motion, *Ordered*, That *Daniel Sigourney* be added to the Committee for taking care of the Inhabitants of *Boston* that may be conveyed out of that Town.

Upon a motion, *Ordered*, That Mr. *Story* go with a message to the honourable Board, informing them that the House propose to put off the choice of Delegates from this Colony at the Continental Congress, to *Friday* next, at ten o'clock, forenoon.

Who reported that he had delivered the message.

The Report of the Committee on the Petition of the Committee of Inspection for the East part of the Town of *Pownalborough*, Inhabitants of that town, read again, and

Ordered, That the further consideration of the Report be referred till the afternoon.

Mr. *Devans*, from the Committee for procuring Wood and Hay for the Army, acquainted the House that the Quartermaster-General has lately informed them, that the supply of those articles is very inadequate.

Ordered, That the consideration of this intelligence be taken up at three o'clock, in the afternoon.

Mr. *Story* brought in the following Resolve, which was read, and accepted:

Resolved, That the Inhabitants of the Towns of *Chelsea*, *Malden*, and *Lynn*, be desired to furnish the Committee of this Court at *Chelsea*, with a sufficient quantity of Fire-Wood on the present occasion; and the Committee of Correspondence and the Selectmen of each of said towns are desired to afford all necessary assistance to the Committee of this Court in furnishing them with that article.

—

Afternoon.

Upon a motion, *Ordered*, That the Committee for examining Accounts of Innholders, and others, who afforded support to Colonel *Phinney's* Regiment on their march from *Falmouth* to the Army, be directed to examine the Accounts of all Innholders, and others, to the eastward of *Cambridge*, who afforded refreshment to Soldiers and Prisoners to and from Head-Quarters.

Ordered, That Mr. *Sullivan* bring in a Resolve further empowering the Committee for supplying the Army with Wood and Hay, to procure the article of Hay.

A Petition of *Catharine Goldthwait*, setting forth: "That the Committee of Correspondence of *Marlborough* have entered on the estate of *Henry Barns*, Esq., late of said town, whereon she, the said *Catharine*, a niece and adopted heir of the said *Henry*, and who has resided with him for about seventeen years, was left with part of his family in possession; that said Committee have sold part of the effects, and propose to dispossess your petitioner and the rest of the family," and praying the interposition of this Court. Read, and committed to Mr. *Rice*, Colonel *Porter*, and Colonel *Mitchell*.

Jabez Fisher, Esq., came down from the honourable Board, and said that the Board concurred with the House in further referring the appointment of the Delegates from this Colony to the Continental Congress.

Ordered, That the Report on the Petition of the Committee of Inspection of *Pownalborough* be considered to-morrow morning, at ten o'clock, in the forenoon.

Samuel Holten, Esq., brought down from the honourable Board the Report of the Committee on the Resolves of the Continental Congress.

In Council, December 13, 1775: Read, as reported anew by the Committee, and sent down.

In the Resolve, as reported anew, there is added at A, in the Resolution of the 9th of this instant, "The Committee of Inspection, Correspondence, or Safety."

Upon a motion, *Ordered*, That the Committee for hearing the Members from *Lincoln* and *Waltham*, respecting the Inhabitants of those towns carrying Wood to *Cambridge* and *Winter-Hill*, be directed to sit forthwith.

Samuel Holten, Esq., brought down from the honourable Board a Resolve of this House of *November* 9th, providing for the due management of certain parts of the Estates of Refugees.

In Council, December 13, 1775: Read, and concurred, with the amendments at A, B, and C, viz: at A, insert, "have left no person to occupy the same, and"; at B, insert, "on oath"; at C, insert, "That justice may hereafter be done to the publick, as, also, to those individuals, when due inquiry can be made into their conduct."

Upon a motion, *Ordered*, That a message go to the honourable Board, requesting them to direct the Committee for bringing in a Militia Bill, to sit immediately.

Moses Gill, Esq., brought down from the honourable Board the Resolve empowering a Committee to procure Powder-Mills to be erected and repaired. Passed in Council, viz:

In Council, December 13, 1775: Read, and concurred, with the amendment at A, viz: at A, insert "gun."

Read, and concurred, and Captain *Crane* and Captain *Vose* are added to the Committee mentioned in said Resolve.

The House then adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow morning.

—

Thursday, December 14, 1775.

John Whetcomb, Esq., brought down the Report of a Committee appointed to prepare and bring in a Bill for raising and regulating a Militia in this Colony, containing the heads of such a Bill.

John Taylor, Esq., brought down the Petition of *William Foyie*, relative to certain Arms taken from a Sergeant in the service of the enemy, at the battle of *Lexington*, with the following Vote of Council thereon, viz:

In Council, December 14, 1775: *Ordered*, That the Petitioner notify the within-named *Joseph Hayward*, by serving him with an attested copy of this Petition and Order, that he may have opportunity to show cause, if any he hath, on the 21st day of this instant *December*, why the prayer of this Petition should not be granted.

Ordered, That Colonel *Mitchell*, Mr. *Wood*, Mr. *Whitney*, Mr. *Jewett*, Deacon *Rawson*, Captain *Dix*, and Major *Fuller*, be a Committee to proportion one hundred and fifty tons of *English*, and fifty tons of salt Hay, (to be provided for the Army,) among a number of towns in this Colony.

Ordered, That the Commissary-General of this Colony be directed to receive a number of Fire-Arms, manufactured by Mr. *Bashmar*, and allow him three Pounds each, for the same.

Ordered, That Major *Ely* be on the Committee appointed to hear the Members from *Lincoln* and *Waltham*, relative to those towns carrying Wood to *Cambridge* and *Winter-Hill*, in the room of Colonel *Williams*, absent.

Resolved, That at four o'clock, in the afternoon, this House will resolve itself into a Committee of the whole House, for the consideration of the Heads of a Militia Bill.

The Report of the Committee appointed to consider several Resolves of the Continental Congress, read, and recommitted.

—

Afternoon.

A Letter from his Excellency General *Washington*, enclosing a Letter from Colonel *Otis* and Colonel *Freeman*, relative to *Shubael Lovell*, a Tory, taken prisoner by Colonel *Otis*. Read, and sent up.*

A Petition of the Committee of Correspondence of *Pownalborough*, relative to the conduct of Captain *Timothy Langdon*, and praying the Court to explain the Resolve of Congress relative to stationing soldiers on the sea-coast. Read, and committed to Colonel *Cushing*, Captain *Gates*, and Colonel *Cutt*. Captain *Langdon* and Captain *Reed*, the bearer of the Petition, to be heard by the Committee on the subject thereof.

The Committee appointed to take under consideration the state of the Prisoners in *Worcester* Jail, reported. Read, and accepted.

Resolved, That the Selectmen of the Town of *Worcester* be, and they are hereby directed and empowered carefully to examine the said Prisoners, in said Jail, and supply them with clothing and fuel, so far as they shall think is absolutely necessary to make them comfortable, and no further, and lay their account before this Court for examination and allowance.

John Taylor, Esq., brought down the Report of the Committee of both Houses, appointed to inquire into the character and conduct of *Edward Rand*, viz: That there is no evidence sufficient to support the charge alleged against said *Rand*, and that, in general, his character stands fair, and that he be discharged without any further inquiry. SAMUEL HOLTEN, *per order*.

In Council, December 14, 1775: Read, and accepted, and *Ordered*, That the said *Rand* be discharged without further inquiry. Read, and concurred.

The House, according to the Order of the Day, resolved itself into a Committee of the whole House, to consider the Heads of a Militia Bill; and, having appointed the Hon. *William Cooper*, Esq., Chairman, the Speaker left the chair.

The Speaker reassumed the chair, and the Committee, by their Chairman, reported, that the said heads of the Militia Bill, as amended, be accepted. They were, accordingly, read, and accepted, and the Committee of both Houses, who brought in the same, were directed to bring in a Bill agreeable thereto.

Then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, ten o'clock.

—

Friday, December 15, 1775.

A Petition of *Thomas Russell*, praying that the Court would permit him to send a schooner to the foreign *West-Indies*, in ballast, &c. Read, and thereon *Ordered*, That Mr. Speaker, Mr. *Hopkins*, and Colonel *Sawyer*, with such as the honourable Board shall join, be a Committee to consider the matter at large, and report.

A Petition of *Lemuel Williams*, of *Dartmouth*, praying that he may have liberty to export a certain cargo for the purpose of procuring arms, ammunition, &c., Read, and ordered to lie.

Ordered, That a message go to the honourable Board to inform them that this House is now ready to proceed, by joint ballot with the Board, to the choice of five gentlemen to represent this Colony at the Continental Congress, agreeable to the Order of the Day.

Joseph Palmer, Esquire, came down and informed the House, that the Board are now ready to join with the House in the choice of five gentlemen to represent this Colony at the Continental Congress:

Whereupon, Mr. *Hopkins*, Colonel *Cushing*, and Cap-

* CAMBRIDGE, *December* 14, 1775.—SIR: I received the enclosed letters, and refer them, with the prisoner, to the consideration of the honourable House, at which you preside.

I am, sir, your most obedient, humble servant.

By his Excellency's command: STEPHEN MOYLAN, *P. T. S.*

To the Honourable *James Warren*, Esq., Speaker of the honourable House of Representatives, *Massachusetts-Bay*.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, *December* 14, 1775: Read, with the Letters accompanying, and sent up. J. WARREN, *Speaker*.

IN COUNCIL, *December* 18, 1775: Read, and, on examination of the said *Shubael Lovell* by the major part of the Council, *Ordered*, That the said *Shubael Lovell* be sent to the Jail in *Plymouth*, and there held in close confinement, until he give bond, with good sureties, for the liberty of the yard, and be supported there at his own expense, until the further order of the major part of the Council, and that a mittimus go to the Keeper of the said Jail accordingly.

PEREZ MORTON, *Deputy Secretary*.

—

BARNSTABLE, *December* 12, 1775.—MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY: The enclosed letter was sent me by the Governour of *Rhode-Island*, on the receipt of which, with the advice of the Field Officers of this regiment, I took up the writer, and, with the advice of Colonel *Otis*, have sent the man to your Excellency, by Lieutenant *Lothrop*. The two men mentioned in the letter, we talked with, but have dismissed them till further orders, as there was no proof against them but their being mentioned in the letter sent Captain *Ayscough*.

As to Mr. *Lovell's* character and situation, he is one that we have always looked upon as a Tory, and something busy in the Opposition. He has a large family of small children that want his assistance. I pity the man's folly. As I shall be at Head-Quarters this week, with the Militia ordered from this regiment, shall do myself the honour to wait on you further about the matter. Should be glad Lieut. *Lothrop* might have the care of him till I see your Excellency. I am your Excellency's most obedient, humble servant, JOSEPH OTIS.

To His Excellency General *Washington*, per Lieut. *Lothrop*.

—

SANDWICH, *December* 12, 1775.—MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY: Colonel *Otis*, the younger, the author of the letter to your Excellency enclosed herewith, sent the same open to me, as we were together in ordering Mr. *Lovell* apprehended and sent a prisoner to your Excellency. Upon reading it, I thought it would not be improper to add, that the two *Lovells* mentioned in this delinquent's letter, owned that they told *Shubael Lovell*, the prisoner, they wished he had returned their names to the King's officers as friends to Government, and as having refused to take up arms, &c.

This *Shubael*, though he appears an ignorant fellow, hath considerable influence among the *Barnstable* Tories, hath practised coasting to *Nantucket* the summer past, and I have no doubt hath communicated every thing of intelligence to the navy, if not frequently supplied them with provisions. Doctor *Gelston*, to whom he alludes in his letter, we have taken a number of depositions of his having supplied them considerably from *Nantucket*. He swears he will do it in defiance of the people, and threatens communicating the small-pox to any one who resists him. I wish he was taken, but cannot get any one, as yet, to join me in sending on for him. I hope your Excellency will take care that he is taken. The depositions concerning him are now in the hands of *Joseph Nye*, Esq., at the General Court. I shall be furnished with more, and be at Head-Quarters with Colonel *Otis*, this week, by *Thursday*, when shall take the liberty to wait on your Excellency. In the mean time, I am, with the greatest sincerity, your Excellency's obedient, humble servant, N. FREEMAN.

To His Excellency *George Washington*, Esq., Captain-General, and Commander of the Continental Army at *Cambridge*, per Lieutenant *Lothrop*.

—

NANTUCKET, *November* 16, 1775.—CAPTAIN AYSCOUGH. SIR: After my humble respects to you, I am very sorry of the misfortune you met with, as I was informed, by the master of your tender, that you had very much hurt one of your eyes, which I took this opportunity to let you know that I am still a good friend to Government, and to let you know, by writing, that I never have been acter in any things against Government, and have never taken up any carnal weapons against the King's troops, but have suffered so as to have my gun taken from me, because I have bore my testimony against the measures that the *America* have taken to get their liberties, as they say they do; and, as I will not take up arms against the King's troops, and to rightly bear the title of a Rebel against my King, I have been threatened of being shot by those that is greatly against Government, yet I never intend to take up arms (through Divine assistance, although I may lose my life,) against my King, knowing he has undoubted right to be a terror to evil-doers, and I hope he will be a praise to them that do right.

Captain *Ayscough*, I shall take it a great favour, and should be humbly obliged to you, if you would inform the Governour and Admiral of me, as it is not a thing impossible for me (by land) to get a letter to *Boston*, or to come myself, to let them know my mind, without risking my life, and wife and children's lives, and to lose all my estate; and, as you took me and my schooner, about two or three months ago, as I was going into *Nantucket*, and did use me with great civility, and I did then let you know my mind about the forces, and you did take my name down, and where I lived, which now makes me to take the boldness to trouble you with these few lines, desiring you would obligo me so much as to do all you can for me in these evil times, that if it should please the King's Majesty to show any mercy to any innocent persons, that I might share part with such, as a true King's subject, so that I might save my life and estate, if the King should conquer the *America*. And I would, also, inform you that I have got a brother, and a cousin, whose name is *Daniel Lovell* and *Christopher Lovell*, which, both of them, are good friends to Government, which did desire me, that if I had a chance, to inform some of the King's officers of them.

And now, pray, sir, don't let any body that is of the *America* party to know that I ever sent a letter to you, or that I ever desired you to return my name to the Governour, by no means, if you have any regard to my life; and you will, in keeping it private, greatly oblige me, your humble servant, SHUBAEL LOVELL, *of Barnstable, Living at Hingham*.

To Captain *James Ayscough*, of His Majesty's ship *Swan*.

P. S. Pray, sir, be pleased to accept a few vegetables, to be delivered to you by Doctor *Gelston*, a bold and staunch friend to Government and me, S. LOVELL.

tain *Batchelder*, were appointed to receive the votes on the part of the House.

Ordered, That a message go to the honourable Board, informing them that this House propose that the gentlemen to be elected to represent this Colony at the Continental Congress, shall continue in office until the last day of *December* next.

Walter Spooner, Esquire, came down and informed the House that the honourable Board had agreed with the said proposal.

Leave was given to Colonel *Ward* to withdraw his Return of those men in General *Ward's* Regiment, who lost their clothes in the battle on the 17th *June* last.

The Committee appointed to inquire whether the Commissary-General of this Colony and his Deputies have a right to make contracts with bakers, and whether such contracts have been made?

Reported, that upon examination had of the several papers herewith exhibited relative to that matter, they cannot find that the Commissary-General, whatever his right might have been as to contracting with bakers for the Colony aforesaid, made any other than one and the same general agreement with the whole choir; nor can they find that the Commissary-General aforesaid delegated other power to any of his sub-Commissaries; therefore, are of opinion that no distinction ought to be made in their pay upon any pretence whatever. Read, and accepted.

The Committee appointed to receive the votes of the House for five gentlemen to represent this Colony at the Continental Congress, having carried up the same,

Reported, that the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq., Honourable *Samuel Adams*, Esq., Honourable *John Adams*, Esq., Honourable *Robert Treat Paine*, Esq., and *Elbridge Gerry*, Esq., were chosen.

Jabez Fisher, Esquire, brought down the Report of the Committee of both Houses appointed to consider sundry Resolves of the Continental Congress.

—

Afternoon.

A Petition from the Town of *Malden*, setting forth the inconvenience attending its supplying the Army with three cords and-an-half of Wood daily, and praying relief.

Read, and committed to Colonel *Woodbridge*, Deacon *Batchelder*, and Major *Johnson*.

A Petition of *Samuel Brewer*, setting forth, that he was, on the 5th day of *May* last, appointed by General *Thomas*, an Adjutant-General of the Army at *Roxbury*, the duty of which office he performed till the first day of *August*, and praying a consideration for his services.

Read, and committed to Mr. *Story*, Colonel *Porter*, and Major *Wood*.

It having been represented to this House that Mr. *Elias Haskitt Derby*, a Member of this House had, contrary to the Association of the Continental Congress, imported Coffee and other things from the *English West-India* Islands:

Ordered, That Captain *Foster*, Mr. *Bryant*, and Captain *Epes*, be a Committee to repair immediately to *Salem* to make full inquiry into the matter, and to direct the attendance of the said *Derby* to his duty in this House.

Ordered, That the Doorkeeper immediately apprehend Mr. *Abiel Wood*, and him hold in safe custody until the further order of this House.

The Report of the Committee of both Houses, appointed to examine into the conduct of *Abiel Wood* and *Jonathan Williamson*, of *Pownalborough*, accepted by the honourable Board, was read and non-concurred, and ordered to be recommitted.

On a motion, *Ordered*, That Mr. *Cooper*, Captain *Batchelder*, Mr. *Hopkins*, Mr. *Phillips*, and Colonel *Thompson*, be a Committee to bring in a Resolve for the purpose of establishing Committees of Correspondence in the several towns in this Colony.

Ordered, That a message go to the honourable Board, informing them that this House propose to come to the choice of the Sea-Coast Officers, for the Town of *Gloucester*, agreeable to a late Resolve of this court.

Accordingly, *Jedediah Foster*, Esquire, came down and informed the House that the honourable Board agreed to the said proposal; and at the same time brought down the Heads of a Militia Bill, with the following Vote of Council thereon, viz:

In Council, December 15, 1775: Read, and concurred, with the amendments following, viz: at A, in the 1st, 3d, 7th and 8th Heads add, "or the major part of them."

Read, and concurred, with the amendments proposed.

In the House of Representatives, December 15, 1775.

Whereas, by papers and depositions now before this House, relating to *Abiel Wood*, of *Pownalborough*, in the County of *Lincoln*, merchant, who is now in the custody of the Doorkeeper of this House, there is great reason to believe that the said *Wood* has been, within the summer past, acting in open violation to the Association entered into by the Members of the honourable Congress of *America*, in behalf of their constituents; and that the said *Wood* has used his influence to discourage the people, as well from obeying the present Government of this Colony, as uniting in the cause of their country, and thereby has given reason to suspect him to be a person unfit to go at large.

Therefore, *Resolved*, That the said papers and affidavits be laid before the honourable Council of this Colony, and that the said Council be, and they hereby are requested to take into custody the said *Wood*, and bring him before them, and deal with him in such manner as may be for the security of this Colony and all *America*; and that he may be so secured as that he cannot hereafter use his influence to discourage the people of this Colony in manner as aforesaid.

Ordered, That the Committee appointed to bring in a Militia Bill, be directed to insert a clause to prevent the private soldiers firing away their powder without leave of their Officers.

The Report of the Committee appointed to consider sundry Resolves of the Continental Congress, brought down the 9th current, was read, amended, and accepted, and is as follows, viz:

That a Committee of both Houses be appointed to engage and fix out with all possible despatch, on the account and risk of this Colony, ten vessels, to be laden with as much provision, horses, or any other produce of this Colony, except horned cattle, sheep, hogs, and poultry, as they may deem necessary for the importation of ammunition, sulphur, saltpetre, arms, and *German* steel, for the manufacturing gun-locks, &c. And that the said Committee be empowered to give orders to the commander of every such vessel to export the said cargo to the foreign *West-Indies*, for the purposes aforesaid.

Ordered, That Mr. *Starkweather* be on the Committee appointed to explain the Commission of the Committee to consider the Petitions of those who were wounded and left their arms and clothes in battle, in the room of Mr. *Partridge*, absent.

Resolved, That all the Post-Offices and Post-Riders employed by the late Congress of this Colony, be dismissed from any further service.

Ordered, That the Doorkeeper employ two persons to hold *Abiel Wood* in safe custody until to-morrow.

Resolved, That eleven o'clock, to-morrow morning, be assigned for the choice of a Committee to fix out vessels to go to the *West-Indies* after Powder.

A Memorial of the Committee of Inspection for the Town of *Newburyport*. Read.

Ordered, That Mr. *Story* and Mr. *Wheeler*, with such as the honourable Board shall join, be a Committee to consider the Memorial from the Committee of Inspection of *Newburyport*, relative to the conduct of *Benjamin Balch*, of said town, in exporting fish, contrary to a Resolve of Congress.

A Petition of *William Crawford*, setting forth the circumstances of the people at *Penobscot-River*, and parts adjacent.

Read, and the petitioner had leave to withdraw his Petition.

The House then adjourned till to-morrow morning, ten o'clock.

—

Saturday, December 16, 1775.

Ordered, That a message go to the honourable Board

desiring that they would send down the Bill for an emission of Bills of publick Credit, if they have not passed upon it.

Ordered, That Mr. *Cooper*, Mr. *Wheeler*, and Colonel *Thurston*, be a Committee to consider a Letter from the Committee of the County of *Fairfax*, in *Virginia*, and a Letter from General *Washington*, enclosing it, relative to a sum of money sent to him for the suffering poor of *Boston*.

Moses Gill, Esq., brought down a Bill for an emission of Bills of publick Credit.

Charles Chauncy, Esq., brought down the Report of the Committee appointed to consider the representation of the Committee of Correspondence of the Town of *Dartmouth*, viz:

That by said representation, and that of Mr. *Jireh Willis*, it appears to this Committee to be a matter of such importance as to demand the attention of the publick; and the Committee are of opinion that there ought to be a Committee of Court appointed to view the premises and report.

J. Palmer, *per order*.

In Council, December 16, 1775: Read, and accepted, and *Ordered*, That *Walter Spooner*, Esq., with such as the honourable House shall join, be a Committee for the purposes mentioned in the above Report.

Read, and concurred; and Captain *Hathaway* and Dr. *Baylies* are joined to the Committee of the honourable Board.

A Letter from his Excellency General *Washington*, enclosing a copy of sundry Resolves of the Continental Congress. Read and sent up.

Ordered, That Mr. *Phillips*, Colonel *Otis*, and Major *Bliss*, be a Committee to consider and report some further and more effectual measures for supplying the Army with Wood.

Ordered, That a message go to the honourable Board, informing them that this House is ready, agreeable to the Order of the Day, to come to the choice of Sea-Coast Officers for the Town of *Gloucester*, agreeable to a late Resolve of this Court; and that the House propose to begin with the choice of a General Officer.

Voted, That this last Order be reconsidered, and that a message go to the honourable Board informing them that this House propose to put off the choice of said Officers for the Town of *Gloucester*, until *Tuesday* next, ten o'clock, A. M.

Walter Spooner, Esq., accordingly came down and informed the House that the honourable Board agreed to the said proposal.

Benjamin Lincoln, Esq., brought down the Report of the Committee relative to fixing out Vessels for Powder, &c., with the following Vote of Council thereon, viz:

In Council, December 16, 1775: Read, and concurred, and thereupon *Resolved*, That *William Sever*, *Benjamin Greenleaf*, and *Moses Gill*, Esquires, with such as the honourable House shall join, be a Committee for the purposes mentioned in the above Report.

Read, and concurred, and Mr. Speaker, Colonel *Orne*, Captain *Foster*, and Major *Cross*, are joined to the Committee of the honourable Board.

Ordered, That Mr. *Gerry*, Mr. *Phillips*, and Major *Bliss*, be a Committee to bring in a Resolve for altering the style and title of the chief officer to be appointed for the Town of *Gloucester*, agreeable to a late Resolve of this Court.

Ordered, That the Bill for an emission of Money (being amended) be sent up to the honourable Board.

James Prescott, Esq., brought down a Letter from the honourable *James Otis*, Esq., in *Barnstable*, relative to the conduct of the Tories there, and, in particular, of a person at the head of them, who professes himself a Whig, with the following Order of Council thereon, viz:

In Council, December 16, 1775: Read, and *Ordered*, That *Walter Spooner* and *Moses Gill*, Esqs., with such as the honourable House shall join, be a Committee to take the foregoing Letters and collateral papers into consideration, and report.

Read, and concurred, and Col. *Freeman*, Mr. *Cooper*, and Colonel *Cushing*, are joined.

Ordered, That a message go to the honourable Board, desiring that they would direct said Committee to sit forthwith.

A Memorial of *Jacob Boardman*, of *Newburyport*, setting forth, that he, with a number of others, inhabitants of said town, had made preparations for a voyage to *Europe*, for gunpowder, and other military stores, and praying the Court (if their intention is thought to tend to the publick advantage) to give them suitable encouragement.

Read, and committed to Colonel *Freeman*, Mr. *Crane*, and Doctor *Baylies*.

Benjamin White, Esq., brought down the Letter of General *Washington*, with a copy of sundry Resolves of the Continental Congress, (sent up to the Board this day,) with the following vote of Council thereon, viz:

In Council, December 16, 1775: Read, and committed to the Committee of both Houses already appointed to consider the former part of the said Resolves of Congress.

The Committee appointed to consider what further measures are necessary for supplying the Army with Wood, reported. Read and accepted.

Resolved, That some Member be immediately sent to the Selectmen of each of the towns, who are directed by a late Resolve of General Assembly to supply the Army daily with Wood, and make inquiry if the directions of said Resolve have been fully complied with; if not, that they enjoin said Selectmen, that they by no means fail to cause it to be done, as they tender their own safety; and that in case of any failure hereafter, they give immediate notice to the Chairman of the Committee of this Court for supplying Wood, and the reasons thereof: And also that the said Selectmen be requested to cause as much more than is set to their respective towns as they possibly can, to be daily carried to the Army. That application be made to the Selectmen of the Towns of *Medford* and *Watertown*, that the former cause the quantity of three-and-a-half cords to be carried daily to the wood-yard on *Prospect-Hill*, and the latter the quantity of three cords to be daily carried to *Cambridge*. That the Town of *Lincoln* have the liberty to carry the quantity of Wood apportioned to them to the wood-yard in *Cambridge*.

Ordered, That Mr. *Phillips*, Major *Bliss*, and Colonel *Carpenter*, be a Committee to see that the foregoing Resolve be carried into execution.

Ordered, That Capt. *Goodman* and Mr. *Starkweather* be on the Committee appointed to consider the state of the Poor of *Boston* and *Charlestown*, and report what is best to be done.

Ordered, That Mr. *Story* get the Resolve relative to the Army bringing in their Muster-Rolls to the 1st of *August*, printed in the next *Watertown* Gazette.

—

Afternoon.

John Taylor, Esquire, brought down an examination of Captain *David Duers* and Mr. *Joseph Akin* taken by the Committee of Inspection of the Town of *Dartmouth*, relative to the *Nantucket* people supplying the Army with provision, with the following Order of Council thereon, viz:

In Council, December 16, 1775: Read, and *Ordered*, That *Walter Spooner* and *Moses Gill*, Esquires, with such as the honourable House shall join, be a Committee to take the foregoing representation under consideration, and report.

Read, and concurred, and Mr. *Story*, Colonel *Cushing*, and Mr. *Pitts*, are joined.

A Petition of *Joshua Fabyan*, praying that he may be paid the amount of an account exhibited for supply to the Militia who were assembled from different parts of the County of *Cumberland*, in consequence of an attack made upon the Town of *Falmouth* by Captain *Mowat*, on the 18th of *October* last. Read, and ordered to lie.

Ordered, That Mr. *Pitts* and Mr. *Story* be on the Committee to consider the Letter of the Honourable Colonel *Otis*, relative to the *Barnstable* Tories, in the room of Colonel *Freeman* and Mr. *Cooper*, excused.

The Committee appointed to proportion one hundred and fifty Tons of *English*, and fifty Tons of salt Hay on the several Towns, to be procured for the *American* Army reported. Read, and accepted.

Whereas, a considerable quantity of Hay is wanted for the use of the *American* Army, and, unless speedily supplied, very great inconveniences, and, perhaps, fatal consequences may ensue.

It is, therefore, *Resolved*, That the several Towns mentioned in the schedule hereto annexed, be called upon immediately to furnish such quantity of Hay, and of such sort, and to cause the same to be conveyed to such camp as is therein pointed out, for which they will be allowed and paid at the rate of five Pounds per ton for *English* Hay, and forty Shillings per ton for salt Hay; and it is expected that the teamsters take of the person, or persons, authorized to receive such Hay, certificates expressing the quantity they deliver; and that such certificates be transmitted to the Secretary's Office within twenty days from the date hereof.

And it is earnestly recommended to the Selectmen and Committees of Correspondence of those Towns, respectively, as they regard their own, and their country's welfare, to see that this requisition be punctually complied with on their part; and the gentlemen hereafter named, are appointed a Committee to cause this Resolve to be communicated to the several Towns concerned; and to take such further steps as may be necessary to procure a full compliance with the same, viz: Mr. *Terry* and Mr. *Kingsbury*, for *Suffolk* County; Mr. *Phillips* and Mr. *Moody*, for *Essex*; Deacon *Plympton*, Mr. *Hoyward*, and Mr. *Bent*, for *Middlesex*; and Colonel *Cushing*, for *Plymouth*.

To be carried to Roxbury *Camp.*

	English Hay.		English Hay.
Bridgewater, -	*tons*, 6	Braintree, -	*tons*, 4
Wrentham, - - -	1	Hingham, - - -	2
Medfield, - - -	1	Weymouth, - - -	2
Dedham, - - -	5	Abington, - - -	1
Dorchester, - - -	9	Scituate, - - -	2
And 5 tons of salt Hay.		Pembroke, - - -	1
Roxbury, - - -	9	Hanover, - - -	2
And 5 tons of salt Hay.		Milton, - - -	3
Stoughton and Stoughtonham, - - -	3	Brookline, 3 tons of salt Hay.	

To be carried to Cambridge *Camp.*

	English Hay.		English Hay.
Watertown, -	*tons*, 5	Brookline, -	*tons*, 9
Newton, - - -	5	Littleton, - - -	1
Bradford, - - -	1	Stoneham, - - -	1
Ipswich, - - -	5	Lexington, - - -	2
Rowley, - - -	1	Acton, - - -	1
Boxford, - - -	1	Sudbury, - - -	9
Newbury, - - -	3	Stow, - - -	2
Southborough, - -	2	Andover, - - -	4
Medford, - - -	2	Sherburne, - - -	1
Woburn, - - -	5	Marlborough, - -	5
Malden, 10 tons salt Hay.		Lynn, 10 tons salt Hay.	
Reading, - - -	4	Concord, - - -	5
Bedford, - - -	2	Topsfield, - - -	1
Framingham, - -	3	Chelsea, 10 tons salt Hay.	
Danvers, - - -	2	Waltham, - - -	3
Beverly, 4 tons salt Hay.		Little Cambridge, -	5
Lincoln, - - -	3	And 3 tons of salt Hay.	
Holliston, - - -	2	Weston, - - -	3

The House then adjourned to *Monday* next, ten o'clock, A. M.

—

Monday, December 18, 1775.

A Petition of *William Tallman*, of *Dartmouth*, praying for liberty to export a cargo to the *West-Indies*, for the purpose of procuring Arms and Ammunition. Read, and committed to the Committee appointed to fit out Vessels for that purpose.

The Committee on the Petition of *Catharine Goldthwait*, reported. Read, and not accepted, and the Petition was dismissed.

A Petition of *Joseph Dean*, praying that the Court would permit him to send a Vessel to *Surinam* with molasses casks, to bring home the amount of a certain sum due to him in the produce of that place. Read, and committed to the Committee appointed the 15th current, to consider the subject-matter of *Thomas Russell's* Petition.

A Letter from the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esquire, President of the Continental Congress, enclosing two Resolves of said Congress relative to raising a new Army of twenty thousand three hundred and seventy-two men, officers included, to lie before *Boston*. Read, and sent up.

Ordered, That Colonel *Thompson*, Mr. *Hopkins*, and Colonel *Cushing*, be a Committee to consider a representation of *Philip Hodgkins*, relative to the capture of the Sloop *Advance*, from *Boston*, commanded by Captain *Nehemiah Eastman*, with two Depositions accompanying; together with a Memorial of the Committee of this Court at *Union-River*, respecting the same Sloop; and likewise, respecting the Brig *Betsy*, commanded by Captain *Benjamin Wormstead*, bound from *Boston* to *Halifax*, who delivered himself and Vessel to the Committee of *Deer-Island*.

And, also, a Petition of the said Committee at *Union-River*, praying for liberty to send a number of Vessels which are by them detained for countervailing the Resolves of Congress, to the Southern Colonies for provision.

Ordered, That the Committee appointed to consider the foregoing papers, be directed to inquire into the conduct of Colonel *Cargill*, relative to the said Sloop *Advance*, and report what is proper to be done.

The Committee on the Petition and Account of the Selectmen of *Newburyport*, for carting Provisions, and also for sundry articles supplied the men who marched from that town on the 19th *April* last. Read, and committed.

A Letter from the Committee of *Frenchman's Bay*, at the Eastward, representing that Captain *John Rust* has delivered to their care two hundred and eighty-eight bushels of Wheat, and nineteen barrels of Ship-stuff, being donations for the Town of *Boston;* and wishing they might have liberty to make use of it for the inhabitants of that part of the Colony, praying, however, the direction of this Court.

Read, and committed to Mr. *Cooper*, Mr. *Swift*, and Mr. *Wheeler*.

John Taylor, Esquire, brought down the Report of the Committee appointed to consider sundry Depositions relative to some of the inhabitants of the Island of *Nantucket*, and a Letter from the Honourable *James Otis*, Esquire, of *Barnstable*, relative to the conduct of the Tories of that town, viz:

The Committee find there is great reason to suspect that some of the said inhabitants of *Nantucket* have had undue connection with some of the officers and soldiers belonging to our enemy's fleet; and it having been made to appear to this Committee, by the depositions aforesaid, that a certain Doctor *Samuel Gelston*, of said Island, has been guilty of many infamous practices in supplying our said enemies with provisions, &c., contrary to the Resolution of the Continental Congress, the authority of this Court, and the known sense of the whole Continent:

Therefore, beg leave to report, by way of Resolve, viz:

Resolved, That Major *Joseph Dimock*, of *Falmouth*, in the County of *Barnstable*, be, and he hereby is empowered and directed to repair to said Island of *Nantucket*, with such assistance as he shall think sufficient, and apprehend said *Samuel Gelston*, and bring him before this Court as soon as may be, that he be dealt with according to the nature of his high-handed offence, and that he be, and he hereby is empowered and directed to command such aid and assistance as he may need, in order to apprehend said *Gelston*, and the Committee ask leave to sit again.

In Council, December 18, 1775: Read, and accepted, and the Committee are ordered to sit again. Read, and concurred.

The House considered the amendments proposed by the honourable Board to be made in a Resolve of this House, brought down the 13th current, which passed the 9th of *November* last, relative to the management of the Estates of Refugees, and thereupon concurred with the amendments proposed at B, and non-concurred with those proposed at A and C.

Ordered, That a message go to the honourable Board to know if they have passed upon the Resolve of this House, on the Petition from the Town of *Hardwick*, relative to the estate of Brigadier *Ruggles*, a Refugee.

Walter Spooner, Esquire, accordingly came down and

informed the House that the honourable Board had not passed upon it, and acquainted the House that the Board desired to know if this House had passed upon the amendments proposed by the Board to be made in a Resolve of the House passed the 9th *November* last, relative to the management of the Estates of Refugees.

Afternoon.

The Committee on the Petition of *Joshua Hathaway*, entered *December* 15, reported.

Read, and not accepted, and the Petitioner had leave to withdraw his Petition.

A Petition from a Convention of Committees from the several towns in the County of *Cumberland*, praying for liberty to send two vessels to the *West-Indies* for Powder and other warlike stores.

And also, a Petition from the Committees of the Town of *Biddeford*, *Pepperelborough*, and *Arundel*, praying that they may be permitted to fit out one vessel for the same purpose, were both read, and committed to the Committee appointed to fit out vessels for Powder, &c.

A Petition signed by *David Cheever*, Esq., per order of the late Committee of Supplies, setting forth, that from a consideration of the burden of the office of said Committee, the risk of negotiating such large sums as they accounted for, and other circumstances, they propose to exhibit an account for their services, and praying the Court would instruct them what it is proper they should charge per day. Read, and committed to Captain *Brown*, Mr. *Singletary*, and Captain *Goodman*.

Ordered, That Mr. *Sullivan* bring in a Resolve to empower the honourable Council to pay off the Muster-Rolls that are or may be lodged in the Secretary's Office.

Jedediah Foster, Esq., brought down a Bill for forming and regulating the Militia in this Colony; which was read the first time, and ordered to be read again to-morrow, ten o'clock, A. M., and all Committees of the House are directed to attend at that time.

Ordered, That the choice of Sea-Coast Officers, for the Town of *Gloucester*, be put off to ten o'clock, next *Wednesday* morning, and that a message go to the honourable Board informing them of this assignment.

Accordingly, *Joseph Palmer*, Esq., came down and informed the House that the honourable Board had agreed to come to the choice of the said Officers at the time proposed by the House.

Ordered, That Mr. *Sullivan*, Mr. *Phillips*, and Major *Ely*, with such as the honourable Board may join, be a Committee to draft a Proclamation, to be read at the opening of the several County Sessions, for the purpose of inculcating a general obedience of the people to the several Magistrates appointed under the present Government of this Colony.

Then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, ten o'clock.

Tuesday, December 19, 1775.

The Committee appointed to consider what vouchers are proper to support the Accounts of such Officers and Soldiers as were sufferers by the loss of Arms, Accoutrements, or Clothing, on the 19th of *April*, and 17th of *June* last, reported. Read, and accepted.

Resolved, That full compensation be made to such Captains, Subalterns, non-Commissioned Officers, and Privates, who sustained loss of Arms, Accoutrements, or Clothing, on the 19th of *April*, and 17th *June* last, and that each Captain and Subaltern produce a certificate from the Colonel or Commanding Officer of such Regiment, and that each non-Commissioned Officer and Private produce a certificate from the Captain or Commanding Officer of the Company to which such non-Commissioned Officer or Private did, or doth respectively belong, and that each certificate, with other circumstances concurring therewith, shall be admitted as plenary evidence.

And it is further *Provided*, That any other legal or satisfactory evidence may be admitted, as time, place, and circumstance may require, to the satisfaction of the Committee appointed by this Court to consider such losses, and compensation shall be made accordingly.

This Resolve to be printed in the *Watertown* Newspapers.

An Account of *Ely Lewis* and others, belonging to Captain *Styles's* Company, in Colonel *Sargent's* Regiment, of their loss of Arms, Accoutrements, and Clothing, on the 19th of *April*, and 17th of *June* last.

Read, and committed to the Committee appointed to consider such losses.

Ordered, That Major *Hawley* bring in a Resolve for the purpose of revoking a Resolve of this Court, appointing a Committee of both Houses to examine Muster-Rolls.

Order of the Day moved for.

Honourable *Michael Farley*, Esq., brought down the vote of this House appointing a Committee to draft a Proclamation for inculcating obedience to the Magistrates appointed under the present Government of the Colony.

In Council, *December* 19, 1775: Read, and concurred, and *William Sever* and *John Winthrop*, Esqs., are joined.

The House, according to the Order of the Day, proceeded to the consideration of the Militia-Bill.

Afternoon.

The Committee appointed to repair to *Salem* to inquire if Mr. *Haskitt Derby* had imported Coffee and other things from the *English West-India* Islands contrary to the Association of the Continental Congress, and to notify the said *Derby* to attend his duty in this House, made a verbal report, and laid a paper on the table containing the depositions of *Ebenezer Lakeman* and others, relative to that matter.

Mr. *Derby* (being present) moved that the matter might be considered, and he heard thereon, by a Committee of this House.

Whereupon the following gentlemen were appointed a Committee for that purpose, viz: Mr. *Pitts*, Col. *Mitchell*, Mr. *Hale*, Captain *Parker*, Major *Ely*, Colonel *Freeman*, and Major *Bliss*.

The House proceeded to the further consideration of the Militia Bill.

Honourable *Samuel Holten*, Esquire, brought down the following Resolve, viz:

In Council, *December* 19, 1775: Whereas, the business assigned the Committee of both Houses appointed to examine all the Muster-Rolls that shall be returned into the Secretary's Office, is found to be inconvenient and too extensive for the attention of one Committee.

Therefore, *Resolved*, That the Commission of the aforesaid Committee be in future confined to the examination of the Muster-Rolls of the several Captains in the Continental Army; and that *Michael Farley*, Esq., with such as the honourable House shall join, be a Committee to examine the several Muster-Rolls of the Sea-Coast Forces and the Militia, and as they shall pass them, exhibit the same to the Board, in order for payment.

Read, and concurred, and Colonel *Cushing*, Major *Goodwin*, and Major *Bliss*, are joined to the Honourable *Michael Farley*, &c., above named, and such other persons as the honourable Board may appoint.

Honourable *James Prescott*, Esquire, brought down the Report of the Committee of both Houses appointed to take into consideration sundry Resolves of the *American* Congress.

In Council, *December* 19, 1775: Read, and accepted.

The Committee appointed to inquire into the number, size, and quality of sundry pieces of Ordnance, removed from several Towns in this Colony, and now under the care of his Excellency General *Washington*, not charged, reported a schedule containing as exact an account thereof as can at present be obtained.

Ordered, That Mr. Speaker, Captain *Thatcher*, and Major *Hawley*, be a Committee to lay the same before his Excellency General *Washington*.

Ordered, That Mr. Speaker be excused from serving on the Committee appointed to fit out vessels for Powder, and that to-morrow morning, ten o'clock, be assigned for the choice of some other person in his stead.

Then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, nine o'clock.

Wednesday, December 20, 1775.

Ordered, That the Committee appointed to consider what part of the Sea-Coast should be garrisoned this winter, be discharged of that part of their duty which directs them to confer with General *Washington*, on the subject thereof, and they are directed to report immediately.

Ordered, That Mr. *Pitts* be on the Committee appointed to fit out vessels for Powder, &c., in the room of Mr. Speaker, excused.

Ordered, That a Message go to the honourable Board, to know if they have passed upon the Resolve relative to procuring Hay for the Army.

Upon a motion, *Resolved*, That Captain *William Johnson*, of the Schooner *Brittania* be, and hereby is directed forthwith to deliver *Richard Devans*, Esq., Commissary of this Colony, the neat proceeds of a cargo consigned him by order of the late Committee of Supplies, being per his accounts, three hundred and sixty-four Fire-Arms, five hundred and twenty-nine and-a-half pounds of Powder, (Leward weight,) two thousand Flints, seventy-five weight of Ball, and twelve Cutlasses, excepting so many of said articles as by receipts shall appear to have been delivered agreeable to the order of this Court.

And he is further directed to adjust his accounts as soon as may be with Colonel *Orne* and Mr. *Gerry*, a Committee appointed for that purpose; also, that he deliver twelve Swivel-Guns to the Committee of Safety of *Newburyport*, to be improved by them in the defence of said town, until the further order of this Court.

Ordered, That Mr. *Cross* send a copy of the foregoing Resolve to Captain *Johnson*.

A Memorial of *Hannah Sewall*, of *Brookline*, setting forth, that considerable quantities of Wood for the use of the Army have been cut and carried away from a landed estate in *Newton*, which descended to her and her brother *Samuel Sewall*, (a Refugee,) and praying relief. Read, and committed to Mr. *Nye*, of *Hardwick*, Colonel *Woodbridge*, and Deacon *Rawson*.

The Report on the Petition and Memorial of *Jacob Boardman*, of *Newburyport*, entered the 16th current, was again read, and recommitted.

Joseph Palmer, Esq., brought down the Resolve for supplying the Army with Hay, with the following Vote of Council thereon, viz:

In Council, December 18, 1775: Read, and concurred, as taken into a new draft, the same schedule being annexed.

The new draft was read, and the House concurred in the same. It is as follows, viz:

Whereas, a considerable quantity of Hay is wanted for the use of the *American* Army, and, unless speedily supplied, very great inconveniences, and, perhaps, fatal consequences, may ensue:

It is, therefore, *Resolved*, That the several Towns mentioned in the schedule hereto annexed, be called upon immediately, to furnish such quantity of Hay, and of such sort, and to cause the same to be conveyed to such camp as is therein pointed out; for which they will be allowed, and paid, at the rate of five Pounds per ton for *English* Hay, and forty Shillings per ton for salt Hay; and, it is expected, that the teamsters take of the person, or persons, authorized to receive such Hay, certificates expressing the quantity they deliver, and that such certificates be transmitted to the Secretary's Office within twenty days from the date hereof; and, it is earnestly recommended to the Selectmen, and Committees of Correspondence, of those towns, respectively, as they regard their own and their country's welfare, to see that the requisition be punctually complied with on their part.

And the gentlemen, hereafter named, are appointed a Committee to cause this Resolve to be communicated to the several towns concerned, and to take such further steps as may be necessary to procure a full compliance with the same, viz: Mr. *Perry* and Mr. *Kingsbury*, for the County of *Suffolk*; Mr. *Phillips* and Major *Moody*, for *Essex*; Deacon *Plympton*, Mr. *Hayward*, and Mr. *Bent*, for *Middlesex*; and Colonel *Cushing*, for *Plymouth*.

Mr. *Singletary* and Major *Ely* were appointed Monitors.

The Militia Bill was again considered by the House, and three o'clock, in the afternoon, assigned for the further consideration thereof.

The Committee appointed to bring in a Resolve for altering the style and title of the chief officer to be appointed for the Town of *Gloucester*, &c., reported. Read, and accepted.

Resolved, That that part of the Resolution of this Court of the 2d of *December* instant, providing, "That a General Officer be appointed to take the command of the Forces stationed at *Gloucester*, who shall be empowered to call in the neighbouring Militia, upon any emergency, as he shall judge necessary, and discharge them again as soon as the service will admit of the same," be, and it hereby is rendered null and void.

Resolved, That a Field-Officer, of the rank of Colonel, be appointed to take the command of the Forces stationed at *Gloucester*, and of the Militia that shall at any time be raised for defence of the same, unless some General Officer of this Colony shall be present; and he is hereby empowered to order the Commanding Officer of the neighbouring Regiment of Militia, upon any emergency, to repair with his Regiment to the Town of *Gloucester* aforesaid, and co-operate with him in defending the same, so long as he, the said Commanding Officer of the Sea-Coast Forces, shall judge it necessary; and, the Militia Officers and Soldiers, who shall be raised as aforesaid, are hereby directed to obey the said Commanding Officer of the Sea-Coast Forces, accordingly.

The Committee on the Memorial of *Jacob Boardman*, of *Newburyport*, reported. Read, and accepted.

Resolved, That the Vessel mentioned in the Memorial of *Jacob Boardman*, belonging to *Newburyport*, be permitted to proceed on a voyage to any part of *Europe*, the Dominions of *Great Britain* excepted, for the purpose of procuring Gunpowder, and other Military Stores, for the service of this Colony; provided, the owners of the Vessel enter into bonds, with sufficient sureties, in the sum of (A) four hundred Pounds, to be taken by the Committee of Safety of *Newburyport*, in the name of the Treasurer of this Colony; that said Vessel shall proceed upon said voyage with all possible despatch, and bring nothing back except Gunpowder, and other Military Stores, and to land the same in some part of this Colony, *Boston* and *Nantucket* excepted; and that said Vessel shall proceed in ballast, without any other loading; and this Colony engages to take all the Powder brought in said Vessel, giving for the same at the rate of five Shillings per pound, (B) he delivering the same (C) to the Commissary of this Colony.

Honourable *Charles Chauncy*, Esq., brought down the Petition of *Neal McIntyer*, of *Portsmouth*, in *New-Hampshire*, praying that the Court would order certain articles of household furniture to be delivered to him, which were shipped by his father at *Boston*, on board the Sloop *Advance*, *Nehemiah Eastman*, master, and are now in the hands of the Committee of *Frenchman's Bay*, with the following Order of Council thereon, viz:

In Council, December 20, 1775: Read, and *Ordered*, That *Jabez Fisher*, Esq., with such as the honourable House shall join, be a Committee to consider the foregoing Petition, and report.

Major *Hawley*, agreeable to order, reported a Resolve for the purpose of revoking a Resolve of this Court, appointing a Committee of both Houses to examine Muster-Rolls. Read, and recommitted to Mr. *Gerry*.

—

Afternoon.

The Committee appointed to obtain an effectual method of making Saltpetre, reported. Read, and accepted; and, thereupon,

Ordered, That Doctor *Whiting*, Mr. *Hopkins*, and Mr. *Hall*, be a Committee to publish such part of said Report, as, also, such Resolves of this Court, and such experiments that have been made in the manufactory of that article, as they may think proper.

On a motion made, *Ordered*, That Mr. *Morgan*, Captain *Carpenter*, and Mr. *Hopkins*, be a Committee to bring in a Resolve for reconsidering a Resolve of this Court, which directs that a Powder-Mill shall be erected in the Town of *Sutton*, and to provide for the erecting one at *Andover*.

The Militia Bill was again considered by the House, and ten o'clock, to-morrow morning, assigned for the further consideration thereof.

On a motion, *Ordered*, That Colonel *Sawyer* bring in a Resolve, directing that application should be made to the Selectmen of the several towns in this Colony, to purchase all the Sulphur they can on account of the Colony.

Benjamin Lincoln, Esq., brought down a Petition of *Abiel Wood*, praying that a Committee may be appointed to hear his defence against certain charges laid against him as an enemy to the country, with the following Vote of Council thereon, viz:

In Council, December 20, 1775: Read, and *Ordered*, To be committed to the Committee of both Houses, appointed to consider anew the Petition of the Committee of Inspection for the East part of the Town of *Pownalborough*. Read, and concurred.

The House then adjourned to half-after nine o'clock, to-morrow morning.

—

Thursday, December 21, 1775.

A Petition of *Aaron Wright*, Keeper of the Jail in *Northampton*, praying allowance of an Account exhibited for keeping sundry Prisoners therein named. Read, and committed to the Committee on Accounts.

The Committee on the Petition of *Samuel Brewer*, entered *December* 15, reported. Read, and accepted.

Resolved, That the Treasurer of this Colony pay him the sum of twenty-four Pounds seventeen Shillings and four Pence half-penny, in full for his service therein mentioned.

A Memorial of *William Powell*, of *Salem*, setting forth, that he has a Schooner at *Beverly* Harbour, ready to sail, and that he designs to export cash, and import powder only, and praying liberty to proceed on his intended voyage. Read, and committed to Mr. *Wheeler*, Colonel *Cushing*, and Major *Goodwin*.

Moses Gill, Esquire, brought down the Resolve on the Petition of *Jacob Boardman*, with the following Vote of Council thereon, viz:

In Council, December 21, 1775: Read, and concurred, with the amendments at A, B, and C, viz: at A, dele "four hundred," and insert "two thousand;" at B, dele "he delivering," and, at C, insert "being delivered." Read, and concurred.

Michael Farley, Esquire, brought down a Petition of the Delegates of the several Towns in the County of *Cumberland*,* met in Convention, at *Falmouth*, on the 8th of *November* last, relative to the defenceless and distressed situation of the said Town of *Falmouth*, in particular, and the County in general, and of the importance of securing the harbour of *Falmouth*, and praying relief. Read, and committed to the Committee appointed to consider a Letter from General *Frye* on the same subject.

Samuel Holten, Esquire, brought down the following Resolve, viz:

Whereas, it hath been represented to this Court that his Excellency General *Washington* doth not consider himself at liberty to furnish guards for any of the sea-coasts in this Colony, saving what relates to the general defence, and it appearing to this Court necessary that certain posts should be guarded, for the security of the inhabitants:

Therefore, *Resolved*, That *Benjamin Lincoln*, Esquire, with such as the honourable House shall join, be a Committee to wait on his Excellency, and desire him that he would inform this Court to what limits he will extend his Guards.

The House again considered the Militia Bill.

—

Afternoon.

Joseph Palmer, Esquire, brought down the Report of the Committee of both Houses appointed to take under consideration the circumstances of the Sea-Ports:

That they are of opinion that it is necessary there should be stationed at *Gloucester* two hundred and fifty men; at *Marblehead*, one hundred men; at *Tarpaulin-Cove*, one hundred and fifty men; and at *Falmouth*, in the County of *Cumberland*, three hundred men, which may serve, under a proper officer, as a guard for all the sea-coast in the Counties of *York* and *Cumberland*, excepting *Kittery*, where your Committee are of opinion that there ought to be stationed not less than fifty men, and at *Hingham*, *Braintree*, and *Weymouth*, two hundred men.

In Council, December 21, 1775: Read, and sent down.

Read, and to-morrow, ten o'clock, A. M., assigned for the consideration thereof.

Charles Chauncy, Esquire, brought down a paper, signed by Colonel *Brewer* and other Officers of the Army, testifying the bravery of *Salem Poor*, a negro man in Colonel *Frye's* Regiment, at the late battle at *Charlestown*.

Ordered, That Mr. *Phillips* bring in a Resolve for reconsidering a Resolve of this Court for erecting two Powder-Mills, and to provide for the building only one, and appointing Captain *Goodman* to consult with the person who has been applied to, to engage in this business, on the most convenient place for erecting such a Mill.

The Committee on the Memorial of *Hannah Sewall* reported. Read, and accepted.

Resolved, That the Committee appointed by this Court to provide Wood for the Continental Army in this Colony, be immediately ordered to desist from cutting any more Wood on the land of the memorialist, till the further order of this Court.

* *To the Honourable His Majesty's Council of the Colony of the* Massachusetts-Bay, *and the Honourable House of Representatives, in General Court assembled.*

The Petition of the Delegates of the several Towns in the County of Cumberland, *met in Convention, humbly showeth:*

That, in consequence of the destruction of the Town of *Falmouth*, on the 18th ultimo, this Convention met on the 31st, (and continued, by adjournments, to this day,) to consider of some ways and means to defend this County, and also this part of the country, and in particular to secure, and take possession of, and keep *Falmouth-Neck* in our own power, if possible, by our utmost exertions. Accordingly, we advised and ordered the most of the soldiers in the Colony service on these sea-coasts to be immediately set to work to make an intrenchment, to prevent boats from landing for the future, and, at the same time, appointed a Committee to view an eminence on said *Falmouth-Neck*, in order to begin to build a fort, and keep possession and advantage of the ground from our enemies, with directions to consider what number of men was necessary and proper, besides the soldiers, to carry on the affair, and apportion the same on the several towns, according to their circumstances, situation, and abilities. While these things were in agitation, and before we had well got through, the *Cerberus* man-of-war hove in sight, and ran into *Falmouth* harbour, and Captain *Symons*, the commander, sent orders and letters on shore, copies of which Mr. *Freeman* will be able to lay before you, if needed. The several towns in the County were sent to, by letters originating from the Honourable Colonel *Freeman*, with orders and advice to raise half the Militia. A number of the Militia and soldiers repaired to *Falmouth*, as soon as their distance and situation would admit; but, the weather being very stormy, nothing could be done till *Saturday*, when the ground was viewed, the men put under some regulation, and tools prepared to begin an intrenchment that night, (while Captain *Symons*, not thinking it proper to stay and see his orders put in execution, came to sail in the evening, and went out of the harbour.) The men accordingly broke ground, and worked the most of the night, and have continued so to do ever since, in all proper times for working, each town having successive drafts from the Militia to supply the places of their former drafts, so as constantly to carry on the work; while we have some who are fitting out the few cannon we have for use, with a small matter of powder we have got; but our want of men, and want of powder, and other military stores, throws us into great anxiety. We would further beg leave to suggest that this part of the country may be of some importance to all the other parts, and perhaps we might say great; here are large stocks of cattle, of all kinds, and fuel and lumber of every kind, together with masts, which have been beneficial to almost all the sea-coasts on the Continent, and to *Britain*, and may be so again, and which would be extremely advantageous to our enemies, should they get the possession of it. We would likewise beg leave further to suggest, that, although *Casco-Bay* is ten leagues across from cape to cape, yet *Falmouth* Harbour is the most likely ship-harbour in the bay to command the country around; and must, in all probability, command great part of the Province of *Maine*, be it in whose hands it will.

Thus have we very briefly presumed to lay before you our distresses and wants, and also our important situation in the present and future scale of *American* affairs. Praying that your Honours would take our peculiarly distressing circumstances into consideration, as soon as may be, and grant us relief, by affording us men, and such warlike stores, of every kind, as you shall judge proper, together with an able, faithful, and an experienced head officer, and an engineer and other officers, as you shall think needful; and also organize the Militia in this County, that they may with the more ease and expedition be drawn out, on any emergency; or otherwise relieve us, as, in your known wisdom, you shall think fit and see meet. And your petitioners, as in duty bound, shall ever pray.

Signed by order of the Convention:

Jonathan Mitchell, *Chairman*.

Falmouth, *November* 8, 1775.

In Council, *December* 21, 1775: Read, and sent down.

Perez Morton, *Deputy Secretary*.

In the House of Representatives, *December* 21, 1775: Read, and committed to the Committee appointed to consider a letter from General *Frye*, on the same subject. J. Warren, *Speaker*.

In Council, *December* 21, 1775: Read, and concurred.

Perez Morton, *Deputy Secretary*.

On a motion, *Ordered*, That Mr. *Jewett*, Deacon *Nichols*, and Captain *Carpenter*, be a Committee to inquire of the Committee appointed to purchase Saltpetre, what quantity they have a prospect of procuring, and report to the House what is a meet sum for payment of the same.

The House assigned eleven o'clock, to-morrow morning, to consider of the Report relative to Post-Riders.

Then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, ten o'clock.

—

Friday, December 22, 1775.

The Resolve brought in by the Honourable Major *Hawley*, containing directions to the Committee on Muster-Rolls, was read, and passed.

Note.—This Resolve was afterwards brought down and amended.

Resolved, That the consideration of the Report for stationing Forces to defend the Sea-Ports, be referred to three o'clock, in the afternoon.

An engrossed Bill for making and emitting Bills of publick Credit.

Read, and *Resolved*, That it pass, to be enacted.

The Militia Bill was again considered by the House.

—

Afternoon.

Resolved, That ten o'clock, to-morrow morning, be assigned for the choice of Sea-Coast Officers for *Gloucester*, and that a message go to the honourable Board, informing them of this assignment.

Accordingly, *Jabez Fisher*, Esq., came down and informed the House, that the honourable Board had agreed to come to the choice of the Officers to command at *Gloucester*, agreeable to the proposal of the House.

The Militia Bill was again considered, and recommitted.

Ordered, That the Committee appointed to procure Hay for the Army, be directed to proceed immediately to execute their commission, and to procure as much Hay as they can, over and above what is specified in the Resolve of this Court, agreeable to said Resolve.

Benjamin Lincoln, Esq., brought down the following Resolve, viz:

In Council, December 22, 1775: *Resolved*, That Colonel *Asa Whitcomb*, who was by the late Provincial Congress appointed to muster and pay the advance wages to the men at the camp at *Cambridge*, be directed forthwith to make return to this Court of the number and names of the men he hath mustered and paid, and to what Regiment and Company they severally belong, with the receipts by him received from them. As, also, the names of such Officers to whom he hath delivered money for the purpose of paying the advance wages to the men by him mustered, and who have not accounted with him therefor; with the receipts he hath received from them respectively.

Read, and concurred.

The Report of the Committee appointed to consider the circumstances of the Sea-Ports, was considered by the House.

Whereupon, *Resolved*, That there be stationed at the places hereafter mentioned upon the Sea-Coast establishment, as follows, viz:

At *Plymouth*, one Company.
At *Marblehead*, two Companies.
At *Salem*, one Company.
At *Gloucester*, two hundred and fifty men.
At *Kittery*, one Company, ten men of which to be kept at *York*.
At *Falmouth*, four hundred Men, under the command of the commanding officer there, for the defence of that town and the neighbouring places in the Province of *Maine*.
At *Tarpaulin-Cove*, one hundred and fifty men.
At *Martha's Vineyard*, one hundred and fifty men.
At *Braintree*, *Weymouth*, and *Hingham*, two hundred men.

Ordered, That Mr. *Sullivan* bring in an establishment agreeable to the foregoing Resolve.

Ordered, That Colonel *Sayer* bring in a Resolve directing the Receiver-General to put a sum of money into the hands of the Committee appointed to purchase Sulphur, to enable them to make payment for what they engage.

Then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, ten o'clock.

—

Saturday, December 23, 1775.

The Report of the Committee on the Post-Riders' Accounts read, and recommitted, and Mr. *Singletary*, Mr. *Mighill*, and Major *Smith*, were added to the Committee, in the room of three gentlemen absent.

A Petition of *Joshua Haynes*, Jun., setting forth, that he was wounded in the battle of *Lexington*, and in consequence thereof, was unable to labour until the 20th of *July* following, and praying the consideration of the Court.

Read, and committed to the Committee on the Petitions and Accounts of wounded men.

Resolved, That a Resolution of this Court, that passed the House on the 12th instant, directing Mr. *Putnam* and others to erect a Powder-Mill at *Sutton*, and repair another at *Stoughton*, be reconsidered, and that Captain *Goodman* attend Mr. *Thomas Harling* to *Andover* and *Stoughton*, to take a view of a place in each of those towns, proposed for erecting a Powder-Mill, and report to this Court at which place said Mill may be erected with the greatest convenience and despatch.

Ordered, That Captain *Vose*, Mr. *Guild*, Mr. *Stone*, of *Lexington*, and Mr. *Withington*, be added to the Committee appointed to procure Wood for the Army, and that Mr. *Sullivan* bring in a Resolve for investing the said Committee with greater power.

James Prescott, Esq., brought down the Report of the Committee of both Houses appointed to consider the Petition of the former Committee of Inspection of the East part of the Town of *Pownalborough*, the Petition of a number of the inhabitants of said Town, and the Petition of *Abiel Wood*.

On the Petition and Account of *Aaron Wright*, entered the 21st current,

Resolved, That the whole sum of the said Accounts, (excepting what is charged for the Prisoners sent by General *Washington*,) being fifteen Pounds seventeen Shillings and four Pence, be paid out of the Treasury of this Colony to *Joseph Hawley*, Esquire, to the use of the said *Wright*, in full satisfaction of the charges for the Prisoners sent by the honourable Council.

The Committee appointed to report what sum was necessary to be put into the hands of the Committee for purchasing Saltpetre, reported.

The Report was recommitted, and the Committee was directed to determine how much money shall be paid to each of the said Saltpetre Committee, for the purpose expressed in said Report.

Benjamin Lincoln, Esquire, brought down a Petition of *William Hunt*, of *Watertown*, praying that the Court would direct the Selectmen of that town to deliver him certain articles, lately the property of Lady *Franklin*, and now in their possession, agreeable to an order of Congress, accompanying said Petition.

Resolved, That it be recommended to the Towns hereafter mentioned, to supply the Army with the following quantity of Wood, daily, viz: *Walpole*, two cords, to be carried to the camp at *Roxbury*; *Medfield*, two cords, to be carried to the camp at *Roxbury*; *Concord*, three cords, to be carried to the camp at *Cambridge*.

And that the Town of *Dedham* be excused from carrying any more than two cords to the camp at *Cambridge*, and that the other cord which that town was to procure, be carried to the camp at *Roxbury*.

Ordered, That the Committee appointed to see that a Resolve of this Court, which passed the House the 16th current, relative to the procuring of Wood, proceed forthwith upon the business personally.

On a motion made, this last vote was reconsidered.

Ordered, That Colonel *Freeman* be on the Committee appointed to bring in a Resolve for establishing Committees of Correspondence, in the room of Mr. *Batchelder*, excused.

Mr. *Sullivan*, agreeable to order, reported an establishment for the Forces to be raised to garrison the Sea-Coast.

On a motion made, *Voted*, That one Company be raised to be stationed at *Sheepscut-River*.

Voted, That one of the Captains of the Companies to be stationed at *Tarpaulin-Cove*, be appointed to command over the whole, with Captain's pay, and with the rank of Major.

Voted, That one of the Captains of the Companies to be stationed at *Martha's Vineyard*, be appointed to command over the whole, for Captain's pay, with the rank of Major.

Voted, That when this House is adjourned, it be adjourned to three o'clock in the afternoon, then to meet at Mrs. *Coolidge's*, Innkeeper in this Town, and that a message go to the honourable Board to inform them of this vote.

The House then accordingly adjourned to Mrs. *Coolidge's*, at three o'clock, in the afternoon.

—

Afternoon.

The Committee appointed to consider the state of the *Boston* and *Charlestown* Poor, reported.

Whereupon, *Ordered*, That *Tuesday* next, at three o'clock, in the afternoon, be assigned for the consideration of the Report.

Mr. *Sullivan*, agreeably to order, reported a Resolve to enlarge the power of the Committee appointed to procure Wood. Read, amended, and accepted, as follows:

Whereas, by a Resolve passed in the House of Representatives, on the 3d day of *November* last, and concurred by the honourable Board on the 4th day of the same month, it is ordered that Mr. *Devans*, Captain *Thatcher*, Mr. *Cheever*, Colonel *Thayer*, Mr. *Walker*, Mr. *Dix*, and Mr. *Ellis*, should be a Committee, who were directed to afford their utmost assistance and aid to the Quartermaster General, that the Continental Army might be provided with a full supply of Wood until the further order of the Court; and, for the purpose of more effectually procuring the same, they were empowered to enter the wood-lots of such of our enemies as had fled into *Boston*, and, after having the Wood thereon growing apprized, to cause the same to be cut down and drawn to the camp, which Resolve, with one since passed for the same purpose, has proved ineffectual, and it being absolutely necessary for the preservation of the lives and property of the people of all *America* that the said Army be supplied with necessary Wood:

It is, therefore, *Resolved*, That Captain *Vose*, Mr. *Guild*, Mr. *Stone* of *Lexington*, and Mr. *Withington*, be added to the said Committee, and that either three (C) of said Committee, (A) or a greater number, in the absence of some of the Committee (B) be, and they hereby are empowered (if Wood sufficient for said Army cannot be procured at a reasonable price without it) to enter the woodlands of any person, or persons, within this Colony, and, after apprizing the Wood thereon standing and growing, to cause the same to be cut down and carried to the camp to supply said Army. And if any person, owner, and proprietor of such woodland, shall molest or hinder the said Committee, or any three of them, from acting in pursuance of this Resolve, the said Committee, or the major part of them present, being not less than three, are hereby empowered to cause such person to be arrested and sent to this Court, to be dealt with according to the demerits of his contempt. And the said Committee is hereby directed to pay each person, whose Wood they shall cause to be cut down and carried away, the price the same shall be by them apprized at; and, also, to pay all axe-men which they shall employ reasonable wages; and the owner of any team that they may employ reasonable wages for his team.

Ordered, That the Committee of three, appointed to put in execution a Resolve of this Court which passed the House the 16th current, relative to procuring Wood for the Army, who have wrote Letters to the Selectmen of the Towns from which the Wood is to be procured, urging them to supply the Army with that article as soon as possible, be directed to report to the House what effect those Letters may have.

The House then adjourned till *Monday* next, at ten o'clock, then to meet at the Meeting-House, as usual.

—

Monday, December 25, 1775.

A Petition of *James Perry*, setting forth, that being in the battle of *Lexington*, his wife sent him a horse, with provisions, and that the said horse was killed on his returning home; and, therefore, praying the consideration of the Court. Read, and committed to Mr. *Allen*, Colonel *Grout*, and Major *Hallet*.

Ordered, That the Secretary lay upon the table the Resolve of this Court for stationing two Companies at *Gloucester*.

Who laid the same upon the table accordingly.

Jedediah Foster, Esq., brought down the Resolve investing the Committee for procuring Wood with greater power, with the following Vote of Council thereon, viz:

In Council, December 25, 1775: Read, and concurred with the amendment at A B., viz: Dele from A to B.

Read, and concurred, and the House proposed a further amendment at C, viz: At C, insert the words "or more."

The Resolve for stationing Men to defend the Sea-Coasts was again read, and recommitted, and Major *Hawley*, Mr. *Gerry*, Colonel *Freeman*, and Colonel *Cushing*, are added to the Committee.

Ordered, That a message go to the honourable Board to inquire if they have passed upon the last Resolve of this House relative to Muster-Rolls.

The Report of the Committee appointed to consider the conduct of *Abiel Wood* was read, and four o'clock, in the afternoon, assigned for the consideration of it.

The Committee on the Petition of the Committee of Supplies, entered *December* 18th, reported, and eleven o'clock, to-morrow, A. M., was assigned for the consideration of the Report.

—

Afternoon.

Joseph Palmer, Esq., came down and informed the House that the honourable Board had not passed upon the Resolve of this House relative to stoppages in the Muster-Rolls, as they judged they could not consistently until they had received Colonel *Whitcomb's* (Mustermaster and Paymaster) Account.

A Petition of the Town of *Harvard*, praying the Court to use its influence with the Continental Congress to reduce the stipends granted to Officers and others in the *American* service. Read, and to-morrow, twelve o'clock, assigned for the consideration thereof.

The Committee appointed to consider the services of the Post-Riders, reported. Read and accepted.

Note.—This Resolve was afterwards taken into a new draft.

A Letter from his Excellency General *Washington*, desiring the Court to take some measures for supplying the Army with Blankets. Read, and committed to Mr. *Hopkins*, Colonel *Godfrey*, Colonel *Dwight*, Colonel *Otis*, and Major *Hawley*.

A Petition from the Town of *Murrayfield*, praying that the name of that Town, for reasons set forth in said Petition, may be altered to that of "*Mount-Asaph*." Read, and committed to Mr. *Story*, Mr. *Perry*, and Captain *Partridge*.

The House considered the Report of the Committee of both Houses on the conduct of *Abiel Wood*, brought down the 23d current, viz:

In Council, December 23, 1775: *Resolved*, That the former Committee of Inspection on the East part of the Town of *Pownalborough*, had sufficient evidence to justify them for publishing *Abiel Wood* as a violator of the Continental Association, and that in many other instances he, the said *Wood*, appeared by his conduct to be an enemy to the liberties of this country; and the said Committee deserve to be highly commended for so doing; and the Committee of Correspondence of said Town who counteracted the doings of said Committee of Inspection is very unjustifiable, as it encouraged the said *Abiel Wood* in his principles and practices, so inimical to the rights and liberties of *America*.

Further *Resolved*, That *Abiel Wood* shall be confined until he shall give bond, with two good and sufficient sureties, to the Treasurer of this Colony, in the sum of one thousand pounds; the condition whereof shall be that he, the said *Abiel*, will not, in any way, assist or correspond with any of the enemies of this country, and that he will be of good behaviour to, and peaceable towards all, and more especially towards the persons of the former Committee of Inspection for the East part of the Town of *Pownalborough*, and that he will at any time appear and answer to any complaint which may hereafter be made against him, when he shall be thereunto required by order of this Court, and that he will abide their order thereon.

In Council, December 23, 1775: Read, and accepted.

Read, and concurred.

The House concurred in the Resolve which was brought down from the honourable Board the 21st current, appointing a Committee to wait on General *Washington* to desire him to inform this Court to what limits he will extend his Guards.

And Mr. Speaker and Mr. *Cushing* were joined to the Committee of the honourable Board.

Resolved, That to-morrow morning, ten o'clock, be assigned for the choice of four persons, a Committee on the part of this House, to sign the Bills of Credit of the last emission.

A Bill providing a speedy and cheap course, or method, for the recovery of Debts. Read a first time, and ordered to be read again on *Wednesday* next, ten o'clock, A. M.

The House then adjourned till ten o'clock, to-morrow morning.

—

Tuesday, December 26, 1775.

On the Petition of *Joshua Haynes*, Jun., entered 23d ultimo,

Resolved, That there be paid to him, out of the Colony Treasury, the sum of five Pounds six Shillings and eight Pence, in full for the loss of his time and doctoring.

Order of the Day moved for.

Ordered, That Mr. *Wheeler*, Deacon *Cheever*, Mr. *Morgan*, and Mr. *Pynchon*, with such as the honourable Board may join, be a Committee to sign the Bills of Credit of the last emission.

Ordered, That Mr. *Story*, Colonel *Grout*, and Mr. *Wheeler*, be a Committee to bring in a Resolve, determining how the Bills of Credit shall be signed.

Ordered, That Captain *Partridge* and Mr. *Cushing*, with such as the honourable Board may join, be a Committee to consider in what manner the gentlemen who have been chosen to represent this Colony at the Continental Congress shall be apprized of such choice.

Ordered, That Colonel *Otis*, Colonel *Lovell*, and Mr. *Cushing*, be a Committee to consider what sum is proper to be advanced to the Committee appointed to fit out Vessels for Powder, &c.

The Report of the Committee on the Resolves of the Continental Congress was read, and ordered to lie.

On a motion, *Ordered*, That Colonel *Grout*, Mr. *Story*, and Mr. *Brown* of *Boston*, be a Committee to consider those Resolves, and report to the House.

—

Afternoon.

Ordered, That Colonel *Freeman*, Mr. *Wheeler*, Colonel *Grout*, Mr. *Cooper*, and Mr. *Brown* of *Boston*, be a Committee to consider a meet grant to the President of *Harvard* College.

The Committee appointed to bring in a Resolve, determining how the Bills of Credit should be signed, reported. Read, and accepted.

Resolved, That the Committee appointed by this Court to sign and number the Bills of publick Credit, of the seventy-five thousand Pounds emission, issued by a late Act of this Court be, and they hereby are directed, to sign them in the following manner: That is to say, the several denominations of said Bills, from eight Pence to ten Shillings, shall be signed by only one of said Committee, in such manner as they shall agree among themselves; and that the several denominations of said Bills, from ten Shillings to forty-eight Shillings, shall be signed by only two of said Committee, as they shall agree. The signing of which Bills in the manner aforesaid, shall be deemed as valid and effectual, as though each Bill was signed by the whole of the Committee appointed as aforesaid.

Ordered, That Colonel *Porter*, Mr. *Pitts*, and Mr. *Starkweather*, be a Committee to inquire into a report of there being a quantity of Powder arrived at *New-London*, which was sent for on account of this Colony, and report what is proper to be done with it.

Benjamin Lincoln, Esq., brought down the Resolve relative to the services of Post-Riders, which passed the House yesterday, with the following Vote of Council thereon, viz:

In Council, December 26, 1775: Read, and concurred, as taken into a new draft.

Read, and concurred, as follows, viz:

Resolved, That the several Post-Riders (excepting *Peter Mumford*, already agreed with at ten Pounds per quarter) be paid for their service at the rate of twenty Shillings per annum on every mile of their route for those taken into the Continental service, beginning the 1st of *June*, and ending the 5th of *October* last; the four that are dismissed from the service, (excepting *Isaac Colton*,) at the rate of twenty Shillings per annum for every mile of their route, beginning the 1st of *June*, and ending the 5th instant.

And, that *Joseph Greenleaf*, Esq., be, and hereby is directed to pay to the Treasurer of this Colony all the Moneys he has received, or may receive, from the several Post-Offices in this Colony.

And, whereas, it appears that the several Offices are inadequate to the expense incurred by riding:

Therefore, further, *Resolved*, That the Receiver-General be, and hereby is directed to pay the several Post-Riders as followeth, in full for their services, viz:

John Noble, from *Cambridge* to *Portsmouth*, sixty-five miles, twenty-one Pounds thirteen Shillings and four Pence.

Josiah Barnard, from *Portsmouth* to *Falmouth*, fifty-three miles, seventeen Pounds thirteen Shillings and four Pence.

Adams and *Hide*, from *Cambridge* to *Springfield*, eighty-seven miles, twenty-nine Pounds.

Peter Mumford, from *Cambridge* to *Providence*, forty-six miles, thirteen Pounds six Shillings and eight Pence.

The above persons began to ride the 1st of *June*, and ended the 5th of *October* last, when they entered the Continental service.

Benjamin Epes, from *Falmouth* to *Georgetown*, forty-six miles, twenty-eight Pounds fifteen Shillings.

Cadwallader Ford, Jun., from *Cambridge* to *Exeter*, forty-eight miles, thirty Pounds.

Isaac Colton, from *Springfield* to *Great-Barrington*, forty-three miles, twenty-one Pounds ten Shillings.

Howland and *Goodwin*, from *Cambridge* to *Falmouth*, eighty-one miles, fifty Pounds twelve Shillings and six Pence.

And these four last are dismissed the service.

The Militia Bill was again taken into consideration.

The House being informed that the Army was in great want of Wood,

Ordered, That the following gentlemen repair immediately to the towns respectively set against their names, and represent to the Committees of Correspondence, Selectmen, and inhabitants of such towns, the distresses of the Army on that account, and the great danger the country is exposed to from a dispersion of the Army, which must take place if it is not supplied with Wood; and, to use their utmost endeavours to prevail with them to exert themselves at this critical juncture, to supply the Army with not only such quantity as has been heretofore set on each town by this Court, but as much more as they possibly can, at least half as much more as has been set on them as aforesaid, viz:

Captain *Parker*, to the Town of *Roxbury*,
Colonel *Norton*, to the Town of *Dedham*,
Colonel *Lovell*, to the Town of *Stoughton*,
Mr. *Withington*, to the Town of *Dorchester*,
Colonel *Thayer*, to the Town of *Braintree*,
Mr. *Vose*, to the Town of *Milton*,
Colonel *Barret*, to the Town of *Concord*,
Mr. *Fessenden*, to the Town of *Lexington*,

Colonel *Howe*, to the Town of *Bedford*,
Major *Brooks*, to the Town of *Lincoln*,
Captain *Walker*, to the Town of *Wilmington*,
Colonel *Perry*, to the Town of *Natick*,
Captain *White*, to the Town of *Needham*,
Major *Fuller*, to the Town of *Newton*,
Deacon *Leonard*, to the Town of *Weston*,
Major *Blood*, to the Town of *Waltham*,
Mr. *Hendrick*, to the Town of *Stoneham*,
Captain *Hobart*, to the Town of *Malden*,
Mr. *Ingalls*, to the Town of *Reading*,
Major *Johnson*, to the Town of *Woburn*,
Captain *Brown*, to the Town of *Watertown*,
Major *Bliss*, to the Town of *Medford*,
Mr. *Perry*, to the Town of *Medfield*,
Captain *Carpenter*, to the Town of *Walpole*.

Ordered, That Mr. *Gerry*, Captain *Partridge*, Mr. *Pitts*, Colonel *Dwight*, and Colonel *Cushing*, be a Committee to consider what towns it would be expedient to send to for Wood, which are at a greater distance from the Camp than those specified in a Resolve of this House of the 2d instant, and report to the House.

Benjamin Chadbourn, Esq., brought down the Report of the Committee of both Houses appointed to wait on, and represent to General *Washington*, the circumstances of four Companies, now doing duty in the Towns of *Braintree*, *Weymouth*, and *Hingham*, viz:

The Committee of both Houses "appointed to wait on, and represent to his Excellency General *Washington*, the circumstances of four Companies now doing duty in the Towns of *Braintree*, *Weymouth*, and *Hingham*, setting forth by whose order they were raised; that they were then considered as part of the thirteen thousand six hundred men agreed to be inlisted by this Colony, where they have done duty, &c., and to request that his Excellency would order them to be paid by the *United Colonies*," beg leave to represent, that as the propriety of such an order depends upon various circumstances; and, as many important matters are constantly soliciting his Excellency's attention, the Committee report the following state of facts to be laid before him, so that he may be the better enabled to answer the request of this Court:

Upon application from the towns aforesaid, (as also from those of *Chelsea* and *Malden*,) on or about the 1st of *May* last, to the Committee of Safety of this Colony, who then had the direction of raising and stationing the forces within the same, praying that they would (from a consideration of the situation of said towns, and that the enemy could land in any of them from *Boston* Harbour within an hour after they enter their boats, and in some parts in less than half an hour; and also that they could from thence easily penetrate into the country,) order a detachment from the camps, as a guard, to be stationed in these towns. The said Committee of Safety, with the Council of War, after full inquiry and deliberation, determined that it was necessary that a party should be constantly stationed on the sea-coasts of these towns, to watch the motions of the enemy, and prevent their landing; but as no troops could well be spared at that time from either of the camps of *Cambridge* or *Roxbury*, they directed that there should immediately be raised one company in *Hingham*, one in *Weymouth*, and two in *Braintree*, (also two at *Chelsea* and *Malden*,) and that these companies should be joined to such regiments in future, as should be directed. The men were raised, as ordered, and were then, and ever have been considered as part of the thirteen thousand six hundred men to be raised by this Colony; they were so considered by the General Officers, and have been employed in such services, place, and places, as the Commanding Officer at *Roxbury* hath from time to time directed, as will appear by his orders to the several Captains of said companies, some copies of which accompany this representation. A company from *Roxbury* was, as soon as the state of that camp would admit of it, detached to the assistance of these four companies, and upon their being remanded in *August* last, two other companies, also part of the Continental Army, were sent to supply their place, and the place of a company drawn from *Cohasset*, a town adjoining to *Hingham*. When these four companies were raised, this Colony had it not in contemplation to raise men for the general defence of the sea-coasts; and they never have been considered by us in any other point of view than as part of our quota for the common defence; and being stationed far within the narrow limits of the Harbour of *Boston*, his Excellency will, undoubtedly, from all these considerations, grant the reasonable request of this Court, and order these forces to be paid by the *United Colonies*.

In Council, December 26, 1775: Read, and accepted, and, thereupon, *Resolved*, That the Committee who were appointed to wait upon his Excellency General *Washington*, with a representation of the state of the said four companies, be excused that part of their service; and that the Committee appointed to wait upon his Excellency to request his informing this Court how far he will extend his Guards, &c., present him with the foregoing Report and Representation, with the papers accompanying the same, and request his ordering payment to said companies.

Read, and concurred.

A Petition of *Duncan Campbell*, praying that he may have liberty to send a vessel to *Tobago*, in ballast. Read, and committed to Mr. Speaker, Major *Hawley*, and Mr. *Sullivan*.

Resolved, That it be recommended to the Town of *Newton*, to send to *Roxbury* one half of the Wood which they were, by a Resolve of this House, desired to send to *Cambridge*.

The Militia Bill was recommitted at large, and Major *Hawley* and Mr. *Gerry* were added to the Committee.

Ordered, That Mr. Speaker and Mr. *Cushing* be a Committee to wait upon the Quartermaster-General, and desire him to make a return to this House, weekly, of what Wood he receives from the several towns which the House has recommended to supply the Army with. And also to represent to them the necessity this House conceive there is of having proper wood-yards provided, and persons at hand to pay for what may be carried to such yards.

The House then adjourned till ten o'clock, to-morrow morning.

—

Wednesday, December 27, 1775.

A Petition of *David Pratt* and others, a Committee of *Spencertown*, in the County of *Albany*, and Colony of *New-York*, setting forth, that early last Spring the inhabitants of that town formed a company of Minute-Men, who, on the 23d of *April* last, set out on their march for *Boston*, but being stopped by the advice of Colonel *Fellows*, and that of the Committee aforesaid, who became bound to pay them for their service until the 25th of *May* following, as represented in said Petition, they then received orders to march to *Lake-George*, but General *Schuyler* having refused to pay them for any service before the said 25th *May*, without the desire of this Court, they pray the Court to signify to him their opinion hereon.

Read, and committed to Doctor *Whiting*, Mr. *Whitney*, and Deacon *Wood*.

On the Memorial of *William Powell*, entered the 21st instant:

Resolved, That the Schooner of about sixty tons, mentioned in the Memorial of *William Powell*, of *Salem*, in the County of *Essex*, be permitted to proceed on a voyage to any part of *Europe*, or to the *West-Indies*, (the Dominions of *Great Britain* excepted,) for the purpose of procuring Gunpowder, or other necessary stores, provided the owner of the vessel enter into bonds, with sufficient sureties, in the sum of one thousand Pounds, to be taken by the Committee of Safety of *Salem*, in the name of the Treasurer of this Colony; that said Schooner shall proceed on said voyage with cash only, (as is proposed in the Memorial,) with all possible despatch, and bring nothing back except Gunpowder, or other Military Stores, if a full load of the former cannot be obtained, and land the same in some part of this Colony, *Boston* and *Nantucket* excepted.

Moses Gill, Esq., brought down a Petition of Mrs. *Deborah Cushing*, wife of the Honourable *Thomas Cushing*, Esq., one of the members of the Continental Congress, setting forth, that Mr. *Cushing*, being at the time of commencing hostilities by the Ministerial troops, called out of *Boston* on publick business, was prevented from getting out any of his household furniture, except one or two beds;

and, therefore, praying the Court to grant her the use of the furniture which belonged to the late Governour *Hutchinson*, now in the hands of the Committee of Correspondence, for the Town of *Milton*.

In Council, December 27, 1775: Read, and *Ordered*, That *Moses Gill*, Esq., with such as the honourable House shall join, be a Committee to consider said Petition, and report.

Read, and concurred, and Mr. *Pitts* and Deacon *Nichols* are joined.

Resolved, That a Committee be appointed, with whom the Commissary-General may advise and consult, with respect to the purchase of Military Stores, and that Mr. *Devans*, Mr. *Phillips*, and Mr. *Pitts*, be a Committee to bring in a Resolve stating the commission of such a Committee.

The Committee on Accounts were directed to allow Doctor's Accounts, so far as they were for services done before the first day of *August* last.

Ordered, That Mr. *Partridge* bring in a Resolve directing the Committee for procuring Saltpetre to deliver what they procure into the care of the Commissary-General.

Resolved, That three o'clock in the afternoon be assigned for the consideration of the Report of the Committee appointed to consider the state of the *Boston* and *Charlestown* Poor.

Ordered, That a message go to the honourable Board to desire they would send down the Resolve which passed this House relative to the Estates of the Refugees.

Ordered, That Mr. Speaker, Mr. *Gerry*, and Colonel *Thurston*, with such as the honourable Board may join, be a Committee to consider the Petition of the Town of *Harvard*, entered the 25th current.

Resolved, That Colonel *Porter*, Deacon *Cheever*, and Mr. *Pitts*, be a Committee to advise with the Commissary-General in procuring and depositing such Ordnance and other Military Stores as this Court have ordered to be purchased for the use of the Colony.

The House considered the Petition of *Charles Chauney*, Esq., in behalf of *Neal McIntyer*, brought down *December* 20th, and the Vote of Council thereon.

Read, and concurred, and Colonel *Thompson* and Mr. *Hopkins* are joined.

James Prescott, Esq., brought down the Resolve of this House relative to disposing of the Estates of the Refugees.

The Committee appointed to inquire what quantity of Saltpetre will be procured by the Committee on Saltpetre, having acquainted themselves relative to the matter, and being persuaded that in a month or two, one ton of Saltpetre at least will be procured by them, which, at seven Shillings per pound, amounts to seven hundred Pounds:

Therefore, *Resolved*, That the Receiver-General of this Colony be directed to pay Captain *Peck* two hundred and fifty Pounds; Dr. *Whiting*, one hundred and fifty Pounds; Deacon *Baker*, one hundred and fifty Pounds; and Mr. *Phipps*, the other one hundred and fifty Pounds, which completes the sum above-mentioned—those gentlemen being the Committee upon Saltpetre, and that they severally be accountable to this Court for the above said sums.

—

Afternoon.

The Committee to whom was referred the Petition of the Committee of *Frenchman's Bay*, relative to a quantity of Grain, &c., from *Virginia*, consigned to the Committee of Donations for the Poor of *Boston*, reported, that said Petition be handed to the Committee of Donations, that they may act thereon as they shall judge proper.

Read, and accepted, and, accordingly, *Ordered*, To be handed to the said Committee of Donations, they to act thereon as they think proper.

Mr. *Watson*, by order of the Committee of Accounts, laid before the House the appointment of *Joseph Pearse Palmer*, as Quartermaster-General of the *Massachusetts* Forces, and an Account of his services, and requested the instructions of the House;

Whereupon, *Ordered*, That the Committee do not take the same into consideration until the said *Palmer* makes application by way of petition.

It was moved that the sense of the House be taken on this question, proposed by the Committee on Accounts, viz: Whether they ought to allow such Accounts of Tavernkeepers, for billeting soldiers, as are so general that the Committee cannot determine whether they are reasonable or not? And the question being put, it passed in the negative.

Ordered, That a message go to the honourable Board, to know if they have passed upon a Resolve of this House, directing how the Bills of Credit should be signed.

Ordered, That Mr. *Hobart*, Colonel *Cushing*, and Mr. *Pitts*, be a Committee to consider what shall be done with those Bills of Credit which specify a different denomination on the back to what is expressed on the face of the Bill, and to determine how they shall be received in payment.

Ordered, That a message go to the honourable Board, desiring that they would send down the Resolve of this House relative to the payment of Muster-Rolls, if they have not passed upon it.

John Taylor, Esq., brought the same down accordingly, and, also, brought down a Resolve, certifying the appointment of the gentlemen delegated by the Court to represent this Colony at the Continental Congress, and expressing their commission.

Resolved, That the Committee appointed by this Court to purchase Saltpetre, be, and they hereby are directed to deliver all the Saltpetre they shall purchase, in pursuance of their commission, to *Richard Devans*, Esq., and take his receipt for the same.

Resolved, That *Henry Gardner*, Esq., Receiver-General of this Colony, be, and he hereby is directed to pay unto *Thomas Crafts*, Esq., and others, (a Committee appointed by this Court to provide for such of the Poor of *Boston* as have, or may be sent out of said town to *Point-Shirley*,) the sum of one hundred Pounds, for the purpose aforesaid, said Committee to be accountable to this Court therefor.

The House considered the Resolve for stationing Forces to guard the Sea-Coasts.

The House then adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow morning.

—

Thursday, December 28, 1775.

Ordered, That Colonel *Otis*, Mr. *Phillips*, Captain *Carpenter*, Mr. *Morgan*, and Colonel *Norton*, be a Committee to take into consideration some proper method, by which this Colony may be supplied with a quantity of Wool.

The House considered, and non-concurred a Resolve of the honourable Board, brought down the 26th current, for the purpose of appointing a Committee to consider and report a Resolve directing how the Bills of Credit should be signed and numbered, and what allowance the signers and numberers shall have for their services;

Whereupon, *Ordered*, That Mr. *Singletary*, Mr. *Brown* of *Abington*, and Mr. *Phillips*, be a Committee for that purpose.

Ordered, That a message go to the honourable Board, to know if they have passed upon a Resolve of this House directing how the Bills of Credit should be signed.

Accordingly, *Jedediah Foster*, Esq., came down, and informed the House that the honourable Board had non-concurred the said Resolve, and, at the same time, brought down a Report of the Committee of both Houses, on the Petition of Mrs. *Deborah Cushing*, read yesterday, viz:

Resolved, That the prayer of said Petition be granted, and that the Committee of Correspondence of the Town of *Milton* be, and hereby are directed to deliver to said *Deborah Cushing* such, and so much of the household furniture now in their hands, belonging to the late Governour *Hutchinson*, (A) as she may need, and take her receipt therefor, the said *Thomas Cushing*, Esq., to be accountable to this, or some future General Assembly of this Colony, for the same, and the aforesaid Committee are directed to get such articles as said *Deborah* may receive apprized, by three indifferent persons, under oath, and lodge a copy of said apprizement in the Secretary's Office.

In Council, December 28, 1775: Read, and accepted.

Jabez Fisher, Esquire, brought down the following Resolve, which passed the honourable Board the 27th current, viz:

Whereas, many Accounts against this Colony are exhibited by Innholders, and others, without any charge of the particular articles which would justify the foot of such accounts;

Therefore, *Resolved*, That all Accounts exhibited against this Colony in future, by Innholders, or others, shall particularly specify the several articles and charges thereof, which may, collectively, make up the foot of such Accounts, and no others will be received; and that this Resolve be published in the *Watertown*, *Cambridge*, and *Worcester* Newspapers, for three weeks successively, next after the date hereof.

The Resolve of this House containing directions to the Committee on Muster-Rolls, which was brought down yesterday, was read, and recommitted to Major *Hawley*, Mr. *Sullivan*, and Captain *Partridge*, who, having amended the same, reported. Read, and accepted, as follows, viz:

Ordered, That the Committee of both Houses, lately appointed to examine the Muster-Rolls ordered by this Court to be made up to the 1st of *August* last, be directed not only carefully to see to it, that all such stoppages be made on the said Rolls as are directed to be made by the Resolve passed in the House on the 3d of *November* last, and concurred by the Council on the 6th of the same month, but that they diligently inquire, and endeavour fully to find out, whether any officer, or officers, borne on such Rolls, are indebted to the Government for any moneys received to pay their regiments or companies their advance pay, which they have not accounted for to the Paymasters of the Colony; and, also, whether any non-commissioned officers or privates have received their advance pay more than once; and in all instances where the said Committees shall find that any officers or privates are indebted to the Government on such accounts, that they stay the payment of so much of the wages of the particular person so indebted, whether officers or soldiers, borne on the said Rolls, as may indemnify the Government; and, in order more effectually to do the same, the said Committee is hereby directed and empowered to call upon such of the Commissaries, Paymasters, and Committees of Supplies, as have been in the service of this Colony, for all accounts and certificates necessary to enable them to make the stoppage, as aforesaid; and that an addition be immediately made to the said Committee, of two on the part of the House, and one on the part of the Board, and that any five of such increased Committee be a quorum, and that the said Committee be hereby directed and required, constantly to attend the business of examining and correcting the said Rolls, until they shall be finished, and, from time to time, as soon as they shall have passed on such Rolls, that they present the same to the honourable Board for their concurrence, and that the Board, as soon as they shall have passed thereon, make their warrant on the Treasurer for what shall appear to be due to each man borne on the said Rolls.

Ordered, That Major *Gooding* and Colonel *Porter* be added to the Committee above-mentioned, on the part of the House.

The House again considered the Resolve for stationing Forces to guard the Sea-Coasts, and the further consideration thereof was put off to three o'clock in the afternoon.

Ordered, That Mr. *Pitts* bring in a Resolve, empowering the Committee appointed to consider the information against Mr. *Elias Haskitt Derby*, to send for witnesses.

—

Afternoon.

John Taylor, Esq., brought down the following Resolve, viz:

In Council, *December* 28, 1775: *Resolved*, That it be, and it hereby is recommended to the Selectmen of the several Towns in this Colony, as soon as may be, to call their towns together, and to insert in the Warrants to be by them issued for calling said Town Meetings, a clause or article for devising ways and means for introducing the art of manufacturing Saltpetre into private families in such towns; and it is hereby recommended to the said towns to appoint Committees, and grant all such encouragement as they shall judge proper to this necessary business. And it is recommended to the Selectmen to lay before their towns for their consideration, the several methods for collecting materials and making Saltpetre, which have been published by the honourable the Continental Congress, and by this Court.

And it is further recommended to all private families to exert themselves in collecting earth from the foundations of houses, barns, stables, dove-houses, and all other buildings, and from cellars and other places, and in learning the art of extracting Saltpetre from the same, (A.)

The Committee appointed to bring in a Resolve directing how the Bills of Credit should be numbered and signed, reported. The Report was read, and considered, and recommitted.

The Report of the Committee appointed to bring in a Resolve for establishing of Forces to guard the Sea-Coast, was again considered, and accepted, and is as follows, viz:

Whereas, the time for which the men raised by this Colony for the defence of the Sea-Coast thereof, is near expired, and it being necessary that there should be new levies for that purpose:

It is, therefore, *Resolved*, That there shall be forthwith raised and inlisted in the pay of this Colony, for the defence of the same, twelve hundred men, upon the following establishment, to serve and be in pay from the time of their marching from their homes to their respective stations, (provided they pass muster,) to the last day of *December*, 1776, unless the General Court shall see fit to discharge them, or any part of them, before; each Company to have one Captain and two Lieutenants, three Sergeants, three Corporals, one Drummer, and one Fifer; the Captain's pay to be five Pounds eight Shillings per month; the First Lieutenant's pay, three Pounds twelve Shillings per month; and the Second Lieutenant's, three Pounds three Shillings per month; each Sergeant's pay, forty-four Shillings; each Corporal's and Drummer's, forty Shillings, and Fifer's and Private's pay, thirty-six Shillings per month; and where it may be necessary to appoint a Field-Officer or Officers over some part of the said men so raised, the pay of a Chief or First Colonel shall be nine Pounds, a Lieutenant-Colonel eight (A) Pounds, and for a Major seven Pounds per month, accounting thirty days to a month. And that each officer and soldier aforesaid, shall arm and equip himself with a good, effective fire-arm, cartridge-box, blanket, and knapsack, half a pound of powder, twenty bullets, and four flints; and no non-commissioned officer or private soldier shall be allowed to pass muster, unless so equipped and provided. And it is recommended to the Selectmen of each town, that they, out of their town's stock, supply the persons so inlisted, being inhabitants of their town, with the quantity of ammunition aforesaid, on such persons paying a reasonable price for the same, and being otherways unable to procure it.

And it is also *Resolved*, That each officer and private soldier shall within two months next after passing muster, be further armed and equipped with a bayonet and belt, and a canteen sufficient to hold one quart, upon penalty of having six Shillings a month deducted out of their wages for all the time they shall be unprovided therewith, after the expiration of the said two months; and the Captain or Commanding Officer who shall make up the Muster-Rolls, is hereby ordered to deduct the same.

And it is also *Resolved*, That the allowance of provisions to each officer and private soldier, by the day, shall be one pound of (B) flour bread, or one pound and-a-quarter of other bread, one pound of pork, or one pound and-a-quarter of beef; and where salt fish can be had, they shall be allowed one pound of fish one day in seven, instead of one day's allowance of meat; also one Shilling and eight Pence per week to purchase milk, butter, peas, and other sauce, soap, and vinegar.

And it is *Resolved*, That there shall, upon the aforesaid establishment of the twelve hundred men aforesaid, be stationed at a place called *Martha's Vineyard*, in this Colony, two Companies, consisting of seventy-five men each, including officers.

And it is also *Resolved*, That there shall be stationed upon the same establishment at the *Elizabeth-Islands*, in this Colony, two Companies, to consist of seventy-five men each, including officers; which four Companies aforesaid

shall be under the field command of a Major, to be appointed over them by the Court.

And it is also *Resolved*, That a Commissary be appointed by this Court, to supply the four Companies aforesaid with barracks, wood, and utensils to cook in, and their allowance of provisions and money, according to the aforegoing establishment, till the further order of this Court.

And it is *Resolved*, That there shall be stationed at *Plymouth*, fifty men, including officers, upon the same establishment; and that there shall be a Commissary appointed by this Court to supply said Company with barracks, wood, and utensils to cook in, and their allowance of provisions and money according to the establishment aforesaid.

And it is also *Resolved*, That there shall be stationed at *Marblehead* two Companies, to consist of seventy-five men each, officers included, one Captain of which Companies shall have the chief command of both.

And it is *Resolved*, That there be stationed at *Salem*, one Company, to consist of fifty men, including officers, and that a Commissary be appointed by this Court to supply said Companies at *Salem* and *Marblehead* with the allowance of provisions and money aforesaid, and to provide for them, if necessary, wood, barracks, and utensils to cook in.

And that there be stationed at *Gloucester*, four Companies, two whereof shall consist of sixty-three men each, including officers, and the other two to consist of sixty-two men each, including officers, and to be under the command of a Colonel, to be appointed by this Court, as already provided; and that a Commissary be appointed by this Court to supply them with the allowance as is above provided for the others on the same establishment; and with barracks, wood, and utensils to cook in, if necessary.

And it is likewise *Resolved*, That there shall be stationed at *Falmouth*, in the County of *Cumberlond*, five Companies, to consist of eighty men each, including officers; two Companies whereof shall be raised of the inhabitants of said County; two of the inhabitants of the County of *York;* and one of the inhabitants of the County of *Lincoln*, to be under the command of one Colonel and one Major, to be chosen and appointed over them by this Court; of which men the Commanding Officer shall place necessary guards on *Kennebeck-River*, at *Harpswell*, *Brunswick*, *North-Yarmouth*, *New-Casco*, *Cape-Elizabeth*, *Scarborough*, on *Saco-River*, and in such other places as he shall think necessary for the defence of the Province of *Maine*, and that a Commissary be appointed by this Court to supply said Companies with their allowance of money and provisions, according to the above establishment, and with barracks, wood, and utensils to cook in.

And it is also *Resolved*, That the Council shall, and they hereby are empowered forthwith to issue their warrant to the Treasurer, directing him to pay the aforesaid Commissaries, when chosen, the sum of fifty Shillings for each officer and soldier, which they are to provide for respectively; the said Commissaries giving bonds with sufficient sureties, as the Council shall direct, that the moneys which they shall, from time to time, receive by warrant of Council for the purpose aforesaid, shall be by them faithfully expended in supplying and providing for the Companies under their respective care, and accounted for accordingly; and the Council are further empowered, at the expiration of two months, to order to each Commissary aforesaid, who shall well and truly account with this Court, or such Committee as shall be by them appointed for this purpose, for that part of the sum aforesaid, which he shall have received, the further sum of five Pounds for each officer and soldier under his care, or such a part thereof as shall be found necessary to furnish supplies four months; and at the expiration of that, or any other time for which moneys shall be advanced to each Commissary for supplying the forces as aforesaid, to renew their drafts in the said proportion of twenty-five Shillings a man per month, or so much thereof as shall be found necessary, until the 31st of *December* next, provided the Commissaries shall, respectively, continue to account for the sums they shall receive as aforesaid, and the Forces shall not be dismissed before from the service of this Colony.

Also, *Resolved*, That the Captain of each Company aforesaid be, and hereby is directed to make up his Muster-Roll the last day of *February* next, and after that time, quarterly, so long as he shall continue in the service as aforesaid, and to direct the Company to draw on the Treasurer in favour of some person whom they shall appoint to receive the same; and that the Council are further empowered to issue their warrants on the Treasury for payment thereof, to the persons on said Rolls, or their order.

Resolved, That the Commanding Officer of each Company shall cause them to be improved in military discipline (unless otherwise upon duty) once, or oftener, each day, excepting the *Sobbath*, and order them to avoid an unnecessary expense of ammunition; and each non-commissioned officer or soldier who shall act in opposition to this Resolve, or disobey the lawful commands of either of his officers relative to the premises, and be thereof convicted before a majority of the Sea-Coast commissioned Officers, stationed in the same town with him, shall forfeit and have deducted from his wages a sum not exceeding six Shillings, nor less than one Shilling for each offence.

Resolved, That there be appointed one person in each County where the Sea-Coast Men are stationed, to muster the same; and each Sea-Coast Officer shall, on an alarm, be under command of any Officer of the Militia of superior rank; and superior to any Officer of the Militia of equal rank.

Resolved, That the Sea-Coast Forces shall be subject to, and governed by the same Articles of War, or Regulations, which shall be provided for the Militia of this Colony, when raised in consequence of an alarm; and where no Field-Officer, or Officers, are appointed over the said Forces they shall, during their continuance on any station, be so far considered belonging to the Regiment of which said station, or place, is a part, as to be tried and punished for any breach of said Articles of War, by a Court-Martial, consisting of the officers of the said Regiment, and the Forces aforesaid; or such a part thereof as the said Articles shall direct.

And it is also *Resolved*, That there shall be stationed at *Kittery-Point*, one Company, of fifty men, including officers, under the same laws, regulations, and establishments aforesaid, the Commanding Officer of which Company, shall keep a Sergeant's Guard at *York;* and that a Commissary be appointed by this Court to supply said Company with the provisions, money, barracks, &c., as above-mentioned for others on the same establishment.

Resolved, That Colonel *Freeman* be, and hereby is appointed and directed to send a printed copy of the above Establishment, with Inlisting Orders, and Forms of Inlistment, to the several Captains that may be chosen by this Court on said Establishment.

Ordered, That the Committee who reported the foregoing Resolve consider a proper provision for defence of *Sheepscut-River*, and other exposed parts of the Sea-Coast.

Resolved, That Captain *Goodman* be, and he hereby is directed to repair immediately to *Hartford*, in *Connecticut*, and engage the gentlemen, whom he was appointed to attend to *Stoughton* and *Andover*, on the business of erecting Powder-Mills, to come without delay to this place.

The House then adjourned till ten o'clock, to-morrow morning.

—

Friday, December 29, 1775.

A Petition of *Samuel Jackson*, of *Plymouth*, setting forth, that *George Erving*, of *Boston*, is in debt to him the sum of seventy-five Pounds two Shillings and four Pence; that he has in his posssesion a quantity of Molasses of said *Erving's*, which the Court ordered to be delivered to the Commissary-General of the Continental Army, and having no other way of getting his debt, prays the consideration of this Court. Read, and committed to Mr. *Sullivan*, Colonel *Porter*, and Mr. *Cooper*.

Resolved, That the form of Beating Orders and Inlistments for raising Men, in this Colony service, to defend the Sea-Coast, on the Establishment by this Court for the year 1776, be as follows, viz:

"*To* . . . . . .

"SIR: You are hereby empowered immediately to inlist a company, to consist of . . . . . able-bodied effective men, including officers, &c., as soldiers in the *Massa-*

chusetts service for the defence of the sea-coast in this Colony, agreeable to an establishment made for the defence of the sea-coast for the year 1776, and cause them to pass muster as soon as may be.

". . . . . day of . . . . . A. D. 1776."

"We, the subscribers, do hereby engage and inlist ourselves as Soldiers in the service of the *Massachusetts* Colony, for the defence and protection of the Sea-Coasts in said Colony, from the day of our inlistment to the last day of *December*, 1776, on the establishment for that purpose made, unless the said service shall admit of a discharge of a part or the whole sooner, which is to be determined by the General Court of said Colony. And we do hereby oblige ourselves to submit to all the orders and regulations of the Army, and faithfully to observe and obey all such orders as we shall, from time to time, receive from our superior officers."

Ordered, That the following gentlemen be a Committee to proportion four thousand Blankets to be procured for the Army, on the several Towns in the Counties hereafter mentioned, viz: For *Suffolk*, Colonel Lovell; *Essex*, Mr. Jewett; *Hampshire*, Major Bliss; *Barnstable*, Colonel Otis; *Dukes-County*, Colonel Norton; *Worcester*, Mr. Bancroft; *Middlesex*, Mr. Johnson; *Plymouth*, Colonel Mitchell; *Bristol*, Colonel Godfrey; *York*, Colonel Cutt; *Berkshire*, Major Smith.

The Resolve of this House relative to the Estates of the Refugees, read, and committed to Mr. *Nye*, Mr. *Hovey*, and Mr. *Hobart*.

Ordered, That the Committee appointed to apportion four thousand Blankets, &c., be instructed to pay a due consideration to those Towns from which a late draft of the Militia has been made, and also to those Towns where the Sea-Coast Forces are to be raised.

Ordered, That the Committee appointed to consider what Fees are proper to be allowed to the Courts of Admiralty, sit forthwith.

The Report of the Committee of both Houses on the Petition of *Deborah Cushing*, brought down yesterday, was read and concurred, with the amendment at A, viz: At A insert "in the judgment of said Committee."

Mr. *Pitts*, agreeable to order, reported the following Resolve, which was read, and accepted, viz:

Whereas, information has been given to the Committee appointed to inquire into the complaint against Mr. *Haskitt Derby*, relative to his having violated a Resolve of the Continental Congress, that *Israel Turner*, of *Pembroke*, Captain *Joshua Burnam*, of *Ipswich*, and *Edward Davis*, now at *Barnstable*, can give material evidence thereon;

Therefore, *Resolved*, That said Committee be, and are hereby empowered and directed to summons them to appear, or have their depositions taken, properly authenticated, and laid before this House.

The Militia Bill was again considered and recommitted.

—

Afternoon.

Mr. Speaker read to the House a Letter from *Willian Watson*, Esquire, dated *Plymouth*, *December* 27, 1775, informing him of the capture of a Sloop bound to *Boston*, from *New-York*, loaded with pork, beef, geese, apples, &c., sent by Governour *Tryon*, and taken by a *Plymouth* Privateer, accompanying a number of prisoners sent to this Court under the charge of Mr. *Elkanah Bartlett*.

Benjamin Lincoln, Esquire, brought down the following Vote of Council, viz:

In Council, December 29, 1775: Whereas, several of the *United Colonies* have of late thought it expedient and necessary to fit out Armed Vessels for the defence of *American* liberty, and it appears to this Court necessary that measures be taken by this Colony for our further protection by sea:

Therefore, *Resolved*, That *John Adams* and *Joseph Palmer*, Esqs., with such as the honourable House shall join, be a Committee to consider and report to this Court a plan for fitting out one or more Armed Vessels for the defence of *American* liberty.

Read, and concurred, and Colonel *Orne*, Mr. *Brown*, and Colonel *Otis*, are joined.

The Militia Bill having gone through a second reading:

Ordered, That it be immediately read again.

The same Bill was accordingly read a third time, and recommitted.

The House then adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow morning.

—

Saturday, December 30, 1775.

Resolved, That those Officers and Men, of the four Companies now stationed at *Braintree*, *Weymouth*, and *Hingham*, who are not inlisted into the Continental Army, be, and they are hereby directed to continue and do duty on their posts until the further order of this Court.

The Committee appointed to consider how the Bills of Credit of the present emission should be signed and numbered, reported. Read, and accepted.

Resolved, That the several Bills for completing the sum of seventy-five thousand Pounds, which this Court has ordered to be emitted by a late Act, be signed and numbered in the following manner, viz:

That the Bills of the several denominations, from eight Pence to seven Shillings, inclusively, be signed by any one of the Committee appointed for this purpose, as said Committee shall agree. That the Bills of the several denominations, from ten Shillings to forty-eight Shillings, inclusively, be signed by any two of the same Committee. That one of them shall sign with black ink, and the other with red ink. The several Bills to be numbered by the abovementioned Committee in such manner as shall by them be determined.

Ordered, That Colonel *Grout* and Mr. *Mills* be added to the Committee appointed to consider the Accounts of Selectmen of sundry Towns for Provisions supplied the Troops immediately after the battle of *Lexington;* and Colonel *Howe* in the room of Mr. *Cross*, absent.

A Letter from his Excellency General *Washington*, dated 29th current, relative to the four Companies doing duty at *Braintree*, *Weymouth*, and *Hingham*, and informing the Court that he does not think himself at liberty to extend the Continental Guards beyond *Squantum* and *Chelsea*, &c. Read, and sent up.

Order of the Day moved for.

Ordered, That Major *Bliss*, Mr. *Rice*, and Mr. *Hale*, be a Committee to count and sort the votes for some gentlemen to serve on the Committee of Accounts in the room of Major *Brooks*, excused.

Who reported that Mr. *Mighill* was chosen.

Resolved, That a message go to the honourable Board, to inform them that this House propose to come to the choice of Officers for the Sea-Coast Forces, at four o'clock, in the afternoon, by joint ballot, if agreeable to the honourable Board.

The Committee appointed to apportion four thousand Blankets on several Towns, &c., reported.

The Report was read, and three o'clock, P. M., was assigned for the consideration of the same.

—

Afternoon.

Ordered, That a message go to the honourable Board, informing them that this House is ready, according to the Order of the Day, to proceed to the choice of Officers for the Sea-Coast Forces, and propose to begin with a Colonel to command the four Companies to be stationed at *Gloucester*.

Ordered, That Colonel *Gardner*, Deacon *Rawson*, and Colonel *Sayer*, be a Committee on the part of the House to count and sort the votes for the Officers aforesaid.

Samuel Holten, Esquire, came down and informed the House, that the Board being engaged in business of importance, could not in the forenoon send a message to inform the House that they agreed to their proposal of coming to the choice of Officers to command at *Gloucester*, but that the Board was now ready to come to the choice of a Colonel to command the four Companies stationed there.

The Committee having carried up the votes for a Colonel to command the four Companies at *Gloucester*, reported that Colonel *Joseph Foster* was chosen.

The same Committee having carried up the votes for

the Officers of the First Company for *Gloucester*, reported that the following gentlemen were chosen, viz: *Daniel Warner*, Captain; *John Low*, Jun., First Lieutenant; *Solomon Gorham*, Second Lieutenant.

Ordered, That the same Committee inform the honourable Board that the House apprehend there is a pressing necessity of an immediate appointment of the several Officers to command the Forces to be raised for defending the Sea-Coast; and, especially, as the time for which the Forces were inlisted, who are now on that service, expires to-morrow, and, therefore, propose to proceed to the choice of such Officers this evening.

The same Committee having carried up the votes for the Officers of the Second Company for *Gloucester*, reported that the following gentlemen were chosen, viz: *John Lane*, Captain; *Jabez Lane*, First Lieutenant; *Moses Atkinson*, Second Lieutenant.

John Whetcomb, Esquire, came down and informed the House that the honourable Board propose to put off the further choice of Officers for *Gloucester*, to *Monday* next, ten o'clock, A. M.

John Taylor, Esquire, brought down the Resolve for stationing Forces to guard and defend the Sea-Coast, with the following Vote of Council, viz:

In Council, December 30, 1775: Read, and concurred with the amendments at A and B, viz: At A, dele the words, "thirty days to a month," and insert, "by calendar months;" and at B, add "wheat."

Read, and concurred.

Ordered, That a message go to the honourable Board, informing them that this House will put off the further choice of Officers for the Town of *Gloucester*, to *Monday* next, ten o'clock, A. M., agreeable to the proposal of the honourable Board.

The Militia Bill was again considered by the House, and recommitted.

The House adjourned till *Monday* next, ten o'clock.

—

Monday, January 1, 1776.

A Petition of *John Willman*, representing that he received a wound in his back at the battle on *Bunker-Hill*, on the 17th of *June* last, and praying allowance for his account of the charge and expense in curing it.

Read, and committed to the Committee appointed to consider Petitions and Accounts of wounded men.

A Bill to enable the Inhabitants of *Falmouth* to recover Goods taken from them during the late fire there. Read the first time, and ordered to be read again to-morrow morning, ten o'clock.

Ordered, That a message go to the honourable Board, informing them that this House is now ready, according to the Order of the Day, to come to the choice of Sea-Coast Officers for the Third and Fourth Companies at *Gloucester*.

The Committee appointed to count and sort the votes for Officers to command the Sea-Coast Forces, having carried up the votes for the Officers of the Third and Fourth Companies for *Gloucester*, reported that the following gentlemen were chosen, viz:

For the Third Company: *Bradbury Saunders*, Captain; *Isaac Somes*, First Lieutenant; *John Chandler*, Second Lieutenant.

For the Fourth Company: *William Pearson*, Captain; *Joseph Lane*, First Lieutenant; *James Haye*, Second Lieutenant.

The same Committee, having carried up the votes of the House for a Commissary for the four Companies to be stationed at *Gloucester*, reported that Major *Samuel Whittemore* was unanimously chosen.

Resolved, That three o'clock, in the afternoon, be assigned for the consideration of the pay of the Captains of the Minute-Companies.

Ordered, That Colonel *Freeman* bring in a Resolve for establishing another Commissary for the Companies to be stationed at *Martha's Vineyard* and *Elizabeth-Islands*.

Samuel Holten, Esquire, came down and informed the House that the honourable Board propose to put off the further choice of Officers for the Sea-Coast Forces to some future time.

Ordered, That a message go to the honourable Board, informing them that this House propose to proceed to the choice of Officers for the Sea-Coast Forces at three o'clock, in the afternoon, and to begin with the choice of Officers for the Companies to be stationed at *Marblehead*.

Benjamin Lincoln, Esquire, came down and informed the House that the honourable Board would proceed to the choice of Officers for the Sea-Coast Forces at three o'clock, in the afternoon, agreeable to the proposal of the House.

Ordered, That Mr. *Gray* take a fair copy of the Militia Bill, and that it be taken into consideration to-morrow, eleven o'clock, A. M.

Whereas, the late Congress of this Colony ordered that the Regiment under the command of Colonel *Edmund Phinney* should be marched from *Falmouth* to Head-Quarters, and many of the persons who billeted them kept no particular account of the articles supplied, but took the receipts of the officers commanding the parties for the same:

It is, therefore, *Ordered*, That the Committee of Accounts be directed to take under consideration those Receipts, and that, when there shall not appear any fraud or injustice in such Receipts, or any extravagance in the accounts they refer to, they shall be allowed as good vouchers thereto, without the particulars of which said Accounts consist being exhibited; and where it shall appear to said Committee that there is any extravagance in said Accounts, they are directed to deduct the same.

—

Afternoon.

Ordered, That Major *Brooks*, Mr. *Davis*, and Colonel *Godfrey*, be a Committee to consider and report some directions to the Committee on Muster-Rolls, with respect to the wages of Servants and Minors.

Colonel *Freeman*, agreeable to order, reported the following Resolve. Read, and accepted:

Whereas, by a Resolve of Court, which passed in this House on the 28th day of *December* last, for raising Forces for the defence of the Sea-Coast, it was provided that one Commissary should be appointed to supply the companies to be stationed on the *Elizabeth-Islands* and *Martha's Vineyard* with their allowance of provisions, money, wood, barracks, and utensils to cook in; and it being thought necessary there should be more than one for those Islands:

Therefore, it is *Resolved*, That there shall be appointed one Commissary for *Elizabeth-Islands*, and one for *Martha's Vineyard*, instead of one for both.

A Petition of *Ebenezer Bradish*, setting forth, that at the commencement of the unhappy troubles with the parent state, his inn was open to the free access of such part of the Army as assembled in *Cambridge*; that he freely distributed necessaries to them, for which he received no allowance, and praying the consideration of the Court.

Read, and committed to Mr. *Fessenden*, Mr. *Allen*, and Mr. *Hodges*.

A Memorial of Captain *John Lane*, of *Buxton*, setting forth, that he has been in commission upwards of twenty years; was the last year stationed with a company at *Cape-Ann*; and that, being now appointed to the same service, he prays he may rank according to his services and commission. Read, and ordered to lie.

Ordered, That a message go to the honourable Board to inquire if they have passed upon the Resolve directing how the Bills of Credit should be signed.

Ordered, That Colonel *Cutt* and Colonel *Otis* be on the Committee to count and sort the votes for Officers to command the Sea-Coast Forces, in the room of Colonel *Gardner* and Deacon *Rawson*, absent.

Who, having carried up the votes for the Officers of two Companies to be stationed at *Marblehead*, reported that the following gentlemen were chosen, viz:

For the First Company: *Francis Felton*, Captain; *Benjamin Ashton*, First Lieutenant; *Nathaniel Lindsey*, Second Lieutenant.

For the Second Company: *William Hooper*, Captain; *Robert Cloutman*, First Lieutenant; *Thomas Bowden*, Second Lieutenant.

The same Committee carried up the votes for the Offi-

cers to command the Forces to be stationed at *Martha's Vineyard*, who reported that the following gentlemen were chosen, viz:

Barachiah Basset, Esq., Major.

First Company: *Nathan Smith*, Captain; *Jeremiah Manter*, First Lieutenant; *Fortunatus Basset*, Second Lieutenant.

Second Company: *Benjamin Smith*, Captain; *Melatiah Davis*, First Lieutenant; *James Shaw*, Second Lieutenant.

Third Company: *John Grannis*, Captain; *James Blossom*, First Lieutenant; *Samuel Hallet*, Second Lieutenant.

Fourth Company: *Elisha Nye*, Captain; *Stephen Nye*, Jun., First Lieutenant; *John Russell*, Second Lieutenant.

Mr. *Stephen Nye* and Colonel *Beriah Norton*, Commissaries.

The same Committee having carried up the votes for the Officers to command the Forces to be stationed at *Falmouth*, in the County of *Cumberland*, reported that the following gentlemen were chosen, viz:

Joseph Frye, Esq., Colonel; Mr. *Daniel Ilsley*, Major; *James Sullivan*, Esq., Commissary.

For the First Company, to be raised in the County of *Lincoln: Samuel McCobb*, Captain; *Benjamin Pattee*, First Lieutenant; *William Lithgow*, Second Lieutenant.

For the Second and Fourth Companies, to be raised in the County of *Cumberland: William Crocker*, Captain; *John Skillin*, First Lieutenant; *Ebenezer Mortan*, Second Lieutenant. *John Rice*, Captain; *Josiah Davis*, First Lieutenant; *Levi Loring*, Second Lieutenant.

For the Third and Fifth Companies, to be raised in the County of *York: Benjamin Hooper*, Captain; *Humphrey Pike*, First Lieutenant; *Joseph Chadbourn*, Second Lieutenant. *Tobias Lord*, Captain; *Nathaniel Cousens*, First Lieutenant; *Edmund Webb*, Jun., Second Lieutenant.

Ordered, That the Secretary lay upon the table the establishment for the Sea-Coast Forces, together with the form of the Beating and Inlisting Orders.

Ordered, That a message go to the honourable Board, to desire that they would, forthwith, call in their absent Members, that there may be a majority of the Council present at the Board.

John Taylor, Esq., came down, and informed the House that a quorum of the Board were expected in to-morrow.

The Committee appointed to collect the votes for Officers to command the Sea-Coast Forces, having carried up the votes for the Officers of the Company to be stationed at *Kittery*, reported that the following gentlemen were chosen, viz:

Philip Hubbard, Captain; *Nathaniel Hobart*, First Lieutenant; *Nathaniel Bean*, Second Lieutenant; *Edward Cutt*, Esq., Commissary.

The House then adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow morning.

—

Tuesday, January 2, 1776.

A Letter from the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq., dated "Congress-Chamber, *December* 23, 1775," informing the Court that the money ordered by the Court in consequence of our Accounts, would be ready to be forwarded in three days, &c. Read, and sent up.

John Taylor, Esq., brought down the following Resolve, viz:

In Council, January 2, 1776: Whereas, an Order hath passed this Court, directing the Commanding Officer of the several Companies of Minute-Men and Militia, and, also, the Commanding Officers of the men stationed on the Sea-Coasts, to lodge their respective Rolls in the Secretary's Office, in order to their being examined and passed on, and no provision is made in said Order that a copy of such Roll shall be lodged with the Treasurer of this Colony;

Therefore, *Resolved*, That *Charles Chauncy*, Esq., with such as the honourable House shall join, be a Committee to consider of, and report what is further necessary for this Court to do touching the premises.

Read, and concurred, and Mr. *Mills* and Deacon *Stickney* are joined.

A Petition of *Ivory Hovey*, in behalf of the Eastern Districts, lying between the River of *Penobscot* and *Machias*, praying the Court to establish a Court of Admiralty at *Union-River*, for reasons set forth in said Petition. Read, and committed to Colonel *Orne* and Mr. *Hopkins*, with such as the honourable Board shall join.

Resolved, That three o'clock, in the afternoon, be assigned to consider the Accounts of Labour done on *Cambridge* Bridge.

Resolved, That the second reading of the Bill to enable the Inhabitants of *Falmouth* to recover Goods taken from them at the time of the late fire there, be put off to four o'clock, in the afternoon.

The Bill, intituled "An Act for forming and regulating the Militia in this Colony," read a third time, and passed to be engrossed.

—

Afternoon

Ordered, That Major *Smith*, Colonel *Freeman*, and Colonel *Thurston*, with such as the honourable Board shall join, be a Committee to inquire into the conduct of the Officers of the Companies stationed at *Falmouth*, in the County of *Cumberland*, at the time of the late fire there, and that the Committee on Muster-Rolls be directed to defer passing on the Muster-Rolls of those Companies, until the Committee now appointed shall report.

A Petition of *Joseph Pearse Palmer*, praying a grant for his services as Quartermaster-General, from the 1st day of *May* last to the 14th of *August* following. Read, and committed to Colonel *Orne*, Mr. *Brown*, of *Boston*, and Mr. *Bent*.

Ordered, That Mr. *Sullivan*, Colonel *Orne*, and Mr. *Gerry*, be a Committee to confer with Mr. *Phillips*, on a proposal made by him for erecting a Powder-Mill at *Andover*.

The Committee to whom was referred a Letter wrote by order of his Excellency General *Washington*, relative to a donation he had received from *Fairfax*, in *Virginia*, and requesting this House to receive and distribute the same, reported. Read, and accepted.

Resolved, That Mr. *Brown* and Mr. *Pitts* be a Committee to wait on his Excellency General *Washington*, and acquaint him that a major part of the Committee of Donations are now out of *Boston*; and, as said Committee were appointed for the purpose of distributing those charities, and, being the best judges of the circumstances of said Poor, are better able to answer the benevolent intentions of the contributors; this Court would, therefore, recommend it to his Excellency, that said Donation may be paid to the Committee of Donations, for them to distribute among said Poor, if his Excellency shall judge proper.

Ordered, That Mr. *Sullivan*, Mr. *Gerry*, and Colonel *Orne*, be a Committee to bring in a Resolve for erecting another Powder-Mill.

Ordered, That Major *Hawley*, Mr. *Sullivan*, Mr. *Gerry*, Colonel *Freeman*, and Colonel *Orne*, be a Committee to consider some proper Orders and Regulations, to be observed by the Militia of this Colony when they shall be drawn out on an alarm, and, also, to report what further measures are proper to be taken for the defence of this Colony.

The Bill for enabling the Inhabitants of *Falmouth* to recover Goods taken from them at the time of the late fire there. Read a second time, and ordered to lie.

Ordered, That Mr. *Freeman*, Mr. *Sullivan*, and Mr. *Hopkins*, be a Committee to bring in a Resolve for the purpose of the aforesaid Bill.

The House then adjourned till ten o'clock, to-morrow morning.

—

Wednesday, January, 3, 1776.

The House considered the Resolve of the honourable Council, brought down the 28th ultimo, recommending to the several Towns in the Colony to encourage the manufacture of Saltpetre, and passed the following vote, viz:

Read, and concurred, with the following addition at A, viz: At A, add, "and the same price shall be allowed for any quantity under fifty pounds, as is allowed by this Court for any quantity above fifty pounds weight."

Ordered, That Major *Bliss*, Mr. *Singletary*, Major *Ely*, Major *Smith*, and Mr. *Hobart*, be a Committee to look into the Establishment for the Field-Officers of the Forces raised by this Colony in *April* and *May* last, and report what they ought to be allowed per month, all circumstances considered.

James Prescott, Esq., brought down the Report of the Committee of both Houses, appointed to consider what is further necessary to be done, before the Minute-Men and Sea-Coast Rolls are paid off, viz:

Whereas, no direction is given to the Commanding Officers of the several companies of Minute Militia, and also, the Sea-Coast Men, for lodging their respective Rolls in the Treasurer's Office, great damage may arise to this Colony thereby; and whereas, some Companies are stationed at a very considerable distance, which will occasion much charge and difficulty, for want of a duplicate of said Rolls;

Therefore, *Resolved*, That some person be immediately employed to take copies of such Rolls as have been (A) examined and passed upon, and no duplicate left, (B) and further that none of such be received in for the future without a duplicate as aforesaid attending them, (C) said copies to be examined and certified by the Committee on said Rolls, and lodged in the Secretary's Office.

In Council, January 3, 1776: Read, and accepted.

Read, and concurred, with the following amendments, viz: At A insert, "or may be;" and dele from B to C.

The Report of the Committee appointed to bring in a Resolve for procuring Blankets, was again read, and ordered to lie, and the Members of the several Counties were directed to apportion the number of Blankets set on each County, on the several Towns of their respective Counties.

The Bill providing a speedy and cheap course or method for the recovery of Debts. Read a second time, and the further consideration of it put off to three o'clock, in the afternoon.

Resolved, That ten o'clock, to-morrow, A. M., be assigned for the consideration of the Resolve containing the appointment and commission of five gentlemen to represent this Colony at the next Continental Congress.

—

Afternoon.

The House concurred the Resolve of the honourable Board, brought down the 28th ultimo, relative to Accounts exhibited against the Colony by Innholders and others.

The Committee appointed yesterday to confer with Mr. *Phillips*, on his proposal of erecting a Powder-Mill, reported a Resolve, which was read, amended, and accepted, and sent up for concurrence.

Note.—The foregoing Resolve was afterwards taken into a new draft, and, therefore, is not inserted here.

Ordered, That Colonel *Grout* and Mr. *Cushing* be on the Committee to consider some further provision for defence of the Sea-Coast, in the room of Colonel *Cushing* and Colonel *Freeman*, absent.

The Committee of this day appointed to inspect the establishment of the Field-Officers, &c., reported.

Read, and recommitted, and the Committee were directed to inquire thoroughly into the matter in particular; to examine the Records and Papers of the Congress and Committee of Safety, and to make application to some of the Officers of the Army for the original, or an attested copy of the establishment, and to avail themselves of the grounds on which the Colonels expected fifteen Pounds per month.

The House then adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow morning.

—

Thursday, January 4, 1776.

The Committee on the Petition of the Selectmen of the Town of *Bridgewater*, reported. Read, and not accepted, and ordered to be recommitted.

A Petition and Memorial of the Town of *Salem*, setting forth their distressed circumstances, and praying that they may be exonerated the whole of the Colony tax laid on them for the current year. Read, and the petitioners had leave to withdraw their Petition.

Ordered, That Mr. *Story* get the Resolve for procuring Blankets printed as soon as it has passed the honourable Board.

Afternoon.

Colonel *Joseph Foster*, having been appointed to the command of the Forces to be stationed at the Town of *Gloucester*, moved the House that a precept may issue to that Town for the choice of some person to represent it in his stead:

Whereupon, *Ordered*, That Mr. *Davis*, Mr. *Gardner*, and Major *Blood*, be a Committee to consider the said motion, and report.

Ordered, That the Secretary be directed to lay upon the table the Resolve of Court appointing a Committee to sign the Bills of Credit.

The Secretary laid the same on the table, accordingly.

The Secretary came in with the following Message from a majority of the honourable Council, viz:

Gentlemen of the House of Representatives:

The danger that a correspondence would be carried on between a few disaffected inhabitants of this Colony and the enemies of *America*, through the Town of *Hull*, to the men-of-war lying in and near *Nantasket-Road;* and that our enemies might be supplied in that channel, induced the General in *July* last to cause the inhabitants of said town to be removed, and to place and constantly keep up a guard at the entrance of the beach leading into that town; the guards continued until the 1st of *December* past, at which time their inlistment expired, and they returned to their several homes in *Connecticut*. Upon this, and Colonel *Lincoln* being told, that several persons had been seen to go to *Hull*, but none being observed to return, he directed a small guard from the Militia in the vicinity to be placed at the entrance of said town, and to continue there until they should receive further orders; he immediately laid the whole matter before the Council. They sent a message to his Excellency General *Washington*, requesting that he would place a guard there, and relieve the Militia; he gave encouragement to our messenger that he would give orders for that purpose; but it hath been delayed, and now the Council are acquainted that the lines at *Cambridge* and *Roxbury* are so thin that no men can be spared for the purpose aforesaid. The Council, therefore, thought it their duty to make this representation to the honourable House, and recommend to them that provision be immediately made, not only for guarding the passage into said town, but, also, that suitable guards be placed in the towns of *Braintree*, *Weymouth*, and *Hingham*.

W. Spooner,	Charles Chauncy,
Caleb Cushing,	B. Lincoln,
B. Chadbourn,	Michael Farley,
John Adams,	S. Holten,
John Whetcomb,	Jabez Fisher,
James Prescott,	John Taylor,
Eldad Taylor,	B. White.
J. Palmer,	

Council Chamber, January 4, 1776.

Read, and committed to the Committee appointed to consider some provision for defence of the Sea-Coast.

Ordered, That the Committee appointed to sign the Bills of Credit be directed to proceed immediately upon that business.

Ordered, That the Secretary be directed to attend this House, that he may be inquired of concerning the proceedings of the honourable Board with respect to Dr. *Gelston*.

The Secretary attended accordingly, and informed the House that the honourable Board had passed a Resolve for liberating the said *Gelston*, on his giving certain bonds.

Whereupon, *Ordered*, That the Secretary lay the same upon the table.

The Secretary laid the same upon the table accordingly.

Ordered, That a message go to the honourable Board, desiring that they would not suffer Doctor *Gelston* to go at large till some orders had passed both Houses respecting him.

Jabez Fisher, Esquire, brought down the following Resolve of the honourable Board:

In Council, January 4, 1776: Whereas, a Committee of both Houses have been appointed for signing and numbering the Bills of Credit for the seventy-five thousand Pounds emission, and as the publick affairs of the Colony press hard upon the Board, they cannot (without injuring the

publick) spare any of their Members in the hours they usually sit upon business:

Therefore, *Resolved*, That Colonel *Cushing*, with such as the honourable House shall join, be a Committee to take into consideration the matter of signing and numbering said Bills, and report some effectual mode of raising a Committee for that purpose, so that the Treasury may be seasonably supplied.

Read, and concurred, and Colonel *Thompson* and Mr. *Crane* are joined.

Benjamin White, Esq., brought down the following Vote of Council, viz:

In Council, January 4, 1776: On a motion, *Ordered*, That *John Adams* and *Joseph Palmer*, Esqs., with such as the honourable House shall join, be a Committee to examine into the character and conduct of Doctor *Samuel Gelston*, lately apprehended by the order of the General Court, and now before them ready for examination, and report.

Read, and concurred, and Colonel *Freeman*, Mr. *Brown*, of *Boston*, and Colonel *Grout*, are joined.

The Resolve for procuring Blankets, which passed in the forenoon, was reconsidered and recommitted for amendment.

The Committee appointed to consider some further provision for the defence of the Sea-Coast, reported. Read, and accepted.

The Committee appointed to take under consideration and report what Forces are necessary to defend the Sea-Coast, beg leave further to report the following Resolve:

In the House of Representatives, January 4, 1776.

It is *Resolved*, That there be raised on the Sea-Coast establishment made by this Court for the present year, one Company, to consist of fifty men, including officers, and stationed at the mouth of *Sheepscut-River* and places adjacent, as the Commanding Officer of said Company shall order; and that a Commissary be appointed by the General Court to supply them with provisions and money according to the establishment aforesaid.

And that there be stationed at *Pemaquid*, for the defence of the Sea-Coast near *Damariscotta-River*, and the places adjacent, one Company consisting of fifty men, including officers, on the establishment aforesaid, and that there be a Commissary appointed to supply them with money and provisions according to said establishment.

And that there be stationed at *Georges*, *Medumcook*, and *Penobscot*, as the Commanding Officer shall order, one Company of men, consisting of fifty, including officers, and that there be a Commissary appointed to supply them with provisions and money, as by the establishment aforesaid is provided.

And that the Company, by the establishment aforesaid at *Salem*, be augmented to one hundred men, including officers, and to be supplied as by the said establishment is provided.

And it is, also, *Resolved*, That there be stationed at *Truro*, one Company of fifty men, including officers, and that there be a Commissary appointed to supply them with provisions and money according to the establishment aforesaid.

And it is, also, *Resolved*, That the Council be, and they hereby are empowered to make out their Warrant to the Treasurer to supply the Commissaries of the Companies before-mentioned to be stationed at *Truro*, *Sheepscut*, *Pemaquid*, and *George's*, in the same manner, and the same proportion as is provided in the establishment of the Sea-Coast Men, passed by the General Court in *December* last; and, also, to draw on the Treasurer for sufficient sums to pay the Muster-Rolls of the aforesaid Companies agreeable to said establishment.

And it is, also, *Resolved*, That no new Barracks shall be built for the Sea-Coast Men in this Colony by the Commissaries, or any other person, at the expense of this Colony, without the express order of the General Court.

A Memorial and Petition of *Hannah Sewall*, of *Brookline*, setting forth, that Mr. *Alexander Sheppard*, of *Newton*, and other persons, have entered her woodland, cut and carried off large quantities of wood therefrom. Read, and and the Petitioner had leave to withdraw her Petition.

The House then adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow morning.

Friday, January 5, 1776.

A Petition of *John Bunker*, of *Mount-Desert*, representing that in *November* last he took and carried into *Goldsborough* a Schooner, between fifty and sixty tons, bound from *Nova-Scotia* to *Boston*, and laden with cattle, butter, cheese, &c., and praying that he may have orders from the Court to remove her to some secure place for his benefit and that of his country. Read, and committed to Mr. *Ingalls*, Colonel *Thurston*, and Mr. *Low*.

Michael Farley, Esq., brought down the following Vote of Council, viz:

In Council, January 4, 1776: On a motion, *Ordered*, That *Walter Spooner*, *John Adams*, *Joseph Palmer*, *James Prescott*, *Benjamin Lincoln*, *Jabez Fisher*, and *John Taylor*, Esqs., be a Committee of the Board, to confer with such Committee of the honourable House as shall be chosen for that purpose, upon the subject-matter of the Militia Bill, and upon the manner in which the Officers shall be appointed.

Read, and concurred, and Major *Hawley*, Mr. *Sullivan*, Captain *Stone*, Mr. *Gerry*, Colonel *Grout*, Colonel *Freeman*, Colonel *Orne*, and Deacon *Nichols*, are appointed a Committee on the part of the House for the purpose above expressed.

John Whetcomb, Esq., brought down the Petition of *Ivory Hovey*, read *January* 2d, with a Report thereon; accepted by the honourable Board, viz:

In Council, January 5, 1776: Read, and accepted; and thereupon, *Ordered*, That the Petitioner have leave to withdraw his Petition.

Read, and concurred.

A Petition of the Town of *Falmouth*, in the County of *Cumberland*, setting forth the distressing circumstances to which the inhabitants of that town are reduced by the burning a great part of the town by Captain *Mowat*, and praying the Court to release the said town from the Province Tax laid on them the present year, or otherwise relieve them. Read, and ordered to lie.

On a motion, *Resolved*, That a Committee, to consist of three, be appointed to repair to *Falmouth*, in the County of *Cumberland*, in the next recess of this Court, and inquire into the state and circumstances of that town, and such other towns as they may think proper, and report to the House at the next session, and that next *Tuesday*, ten o'clock, A. M., be assigned for the choice of such Committee, by ballot.

The Resolve for procuring Blankets, being amended, was accepted, and is as follows, viz:

Whereas, his Excellency General *Washington*, has represented to this Court the necessity of providing Blankets for the Army, and has requested the immediate assistance of this Court in this interesting affair:

Therefore, *Resolved*, That there be collected from the several Towns hereafter named, according to the schedule hereto annexed, four thousand Blankets.

And whereas, it is of great importance that said Blankets should be speedily in camp:

It is also *Resolved*, That a Committee be appointed to repair to the Selectmen of the several towns mentioned in said schedule; and the Selectmen in each of said towns are hereby earnestly desired to use their utmost endeavours in aiding and assisting the Committee in effecting the above business. And that the sum of two thousand six hundred Pounds be delivered into the hands of said Committee, in the following proportions, viz:

To Mr. *Lincoln*, the sum of one hundred and sixty-nine Pounds.

To Colonel *Barret*, the sum of three hundred and seventy-eight Pounds six Shillings.

To Major *Moody*, the sum of two hundred and thirty-two Pounds one Shilling.

To Mr. *Mills*, the sum of one hundred and ninety-five Pounds.

To Mr. *Knowles*, the sum of one hundred and ninety Pounds nine Shillings.

To Mr. *Thomas Durfee*, the sum of two hundred and fifty-eight Pounds fourteen Shillings.

To Colonel *Mitchell*, the sum of one hundred and seventy-six Pounds sixteen Shillings.

To Mr. *Singletary*, the sum of three hundred and eighty-eight Pounds fourteen Shillings.

To Mr. *Thomas Durfee*, the sum of four hundred and twenty-two Pounds ten Shillings.

To Deacon *Hovey*, the sum of forty-eight Pounds two Shillings.

To Captain *Hyde*, the sum of fifty-two Pounds.

To Deacon *Allen*, the sum of eighty-eight Pounds eight Shillings.

To enable them to pay for said Blankets, and the transporting them to the Commissary-General of the Colony, the Committee to be accountable to this Court for the same; and said Committee are further directed to deliver said Blankets to the said Commissary-General, and take his receipt therefor.

And it is further *Resolved*, That the price which shall be agreed upon by the above Committee and Selectmen, together with the name of the town where such Blankets are purchased, be by them affixed to each Blanket.

From the County of SUFFOLK, *two hundred and sixty, viz:*

Roxbury,	16	Brookline,	15
Dorchester,	17	Needham,	13
Milton,	13	Stoughton & Stoughtonham,	22
Braintree,	22	Medway,	15
Weymouth,	15	Bellingham,	11
Hingham & Cohasset,	22	Walpole,	11
Dedham,	22	Chelsea,	9
Medfield,	15		
Wrentham,	22		

From the County of MIDDLESEX, *five hundred and eighty-two, viz:*

Watertown,	20	Groton,	18
Woburn,	25	Pepperell,	13
Concord,	20	Townshend,	10
Reading,	27	Stoneham,	9
Newton,	30	Natick,	3
Marlborough,	30	Dracut,	12
Billerica,	18	Medford,	25
Framingham,	20	Holliston,	12
Lexington,	20	Tewkesbury,	10
Chelmsford,	12	Acton,	10
Sherburne,	11	Dunstable,	11
Sudbury,	20	Lincoln,	14
Malden,	20	Wilmington,	10
Weston,	30	Cambridge,	15
Bedford,	12	Charlestown Farms,	11
Littleton,	10	Ashby,	5
Westford,	15	Shirley,	5
Waltham,	24	Hopkinton,	14
Stow,	11		

From the County of ESSEX, *three hundred and fifty-seven, viz:*

Salem,	52	Haverhill,	26
Danvers,	18	Topsfield,	10
Ipswich,	29	Boxford,	16
Newbury,	26	Amesbury,	16
Newburyport,	26	Bradford,	16
Lynn,	14	Wenham,	8
Andover,	22	Middleton,	8
Beverly,	20	Manchester,	10
Rowley,	16	Methuen,	8
Salisbury,	16		

From the County of HAMPSHIRE, *three hundred, viz:*

Springfield,	12	South-Brimfield,	6
Wilbraham,	6	Monson,	6
North-Hampton,	17	Pelham,	4
South-Hampton,	6	Greenwich,	7
Hadley,	10	Blanford,	12
South-Hadley,	6	Leverett,	4
Amherst,	8	Palmer,	6
Granby,	7	Greenville,	14
Hatfield,	11	New-Salem,	7
Whately,	7	Belchertown,	7
Westfield,	32	Brimfield,	10
Deerfield,	10	Colerain,	7
Greenfield,	10	Barnardston,	2
Shelburne,	7	Chesterfield,	5
Conway,	7	Southwick,	7
Sunderland,	10	West-Springfield,	12
Montagu,	7	Warwick,	4
Northfield,	7		

From the County of BARNSTABLE, *two hundred and three, viz:*

Barnstable,	45	Wellfleet,	18
Sandwich,	40	Truro,	18
Yarmouth,	40	Chatham,	26
Hardwick,	40	Falmouth,	26
Eastham,	40		

From the County of DUKES-COUNTY, *one hundred and thirty-six, viz:*

Edgartown,	48	Tisbury,	40
Chilmark,	48		

From the County of BRISTOL, *three hundred and ninety-eight, viz:*

Taunton,	20	Attleborough,	20
Rehoboth,	60	Freetown,	16
Swanzey and Shawamett,	33	Easton,	13
Dartmouth,	183	Raynham,	8
Norton,	16	Berkley,	8
Mansfield,	9	Dighton,	12

From the County of PLYMOUTH, *two hundred and seventy-two, viz:*

Plymouth,	23	Pembroke,	26
Scituate,	28	Kingston,	13
Duxbury,	6	Hanover,	13
Marshfield,	26	Halifax,	13
Middleborough,	36	Wareham,	16
Rochester,	23	Bridgewater,	30
Plympton,	20	Abington,	8

From the County of WORCESTER, *five hundred and ninety-eight, viz:*

Worcester,	27	Sturbridge,	14
Lancaster,	33	Leominster,	14
Brookfield,	30	Hardwick,	14
Oxford,	9	Holden,	8
Charlton,	13	Western,	14
Sutton,	30	Douglass,	8
Leicester,	14	Grafton,	13
Spencer,	14	Petersham,	15
Paxton,	18	Westminster,	13
Rutland,	14	Athol,	8
Hutchinson,	18	Templeton,	8
Southborough,	10	Princeton,	13
Westborough,	13	Mendon,	20
Northborough,	13	Oakham,	10
Lunenburgh,	25	Hubbardston,	8
Shrewsbury,	13	New-Braintree,	13
Uxbridge,	7	Fitchburgh,	10
Harvard,	23	Royalston,	8
Dudley,	13	Ashburnham,	7
Bolton,	18	Winchendon,	7
Upton,	9	North-Bridge,	5

From the County of NANTUCKET, *viz:*

Sherburne, 650

From the County of YORK, *seventy-four, viz:*

York,	13	Arundel,	7
Kittery,	15	Biddeford and Pepperelborough,	12
Wells,	10		
Berwick,	17		

From the County of BERKSHIRE, *eighty, viz:*

Great-Barrington,	10	Tyringham,	6
Sheffield,	12	Lenox,	7
Pittsfield,	9	Richmond,	6
Stockbridge,	7	Lanesborough,	8
New-Marlborough,	6	Williamstown,	9

Resolved, That the following gentlemen be a Committee for the purpose mentioned in the foregoing Resolve, viz:

For the Counties of *Suffolk:* Mr. Lincoln, Colonel McIntosh, Deacon Sale.

Essex: Major Moody, Mr. Ingalls, Mr. Story, Captain Epes.

Middlesex: Colonel Barrett, Mr. Whitney, Colonel Spaulding, Captain Sartell, Mr. Bryant.

Hampshire: Mr. Mills, Colonel Field, Mr. Dickinson, Captain Needham.

Plymouth: Colonel Mitchell, Deacon Thomas.
Barnstable: Major Hallett, Captain Knowles.
Bristol: Mr. Durfee, Captain Stearns, Mr. Godfrey.
York: Deacon Hovey.
Dukes-County: Deacon Allen.
Worcester: Esquire Singletary, Mr. Allen, Mr. Rice.
Nantucket: Mr. Durfee.
Berkshire: Captain Hyde.

—

Afternoon.

On a motion, *Ordered*, That Major *Hawley*, Mr. *Sullivan*, and Mr. *Rice*, be a Committee to bring in a Resolve empowering the Selectmen and Committees of Correspondence of the several towns in this Colony, where there are Estates of any Refugees, to dispose of them in such a manner as they may judge most just and prudent, any Resolve of this Court or Congress of this Colony notwithstanding.

A Bill to enable the Inhabitants of *Falmouth* to recover Goods taken from them during the late fire there, read a second time, and ordered to be read again to-morrow, eleven o'clock, A. M.

Whereas, at the present important crisis of our publick affairs, the intention of this Court for causing to be erected Mills for manufacturing Gunpowder hath not hitherto been so far executed as the exigency of the times most evidently requires; and the attention of the Court to each step to be taken in this measure must further retard it, and unnecessarily interrupt the urgent business of the Court:

It is, therefore, *Resolved*, That Mr. *Putman*, Mr. *Crane*, and Mr. *Vose*, be, and they hereby are appointed a Committee to purchase the remains of a Powder-Mill at *Stoughton*, and land and privileges convenient to improve the same, and to repair said Powder-Mill, or purchase a privilege for, and erect one at *Sutton*, as they, after having consulted the master-workman who shall undertake the same, shall judge expedient; and the said Committee are directed to give their constant and diligent attendance to this business until it shall be perfected; and the Council are empowered to draw on the Treasury for a sum not exceeding three hundred Pounds, in favour of said Committee, to enable them to pay the charges of purchasing and repairing, or erecting a Mill as aforesaid, they to be accountable to the Court for the same.

Ordered, That a message go to the honourable Board to desire them to send down the Resolve appointing a Committee of Conference on the subject of the Militia Bill, and also to desire that they would send down the Resolve which passed this House for erecting a Powder-Mill at *Andover*, if they have not passed upon the same.

John Taylor, Esq., brought down the Resolve appointing a Committee of Conference on the Militia Bill, and at the same time informed the House that the Resolve for erecting a Powder-Mill at *Andover* was in the hands of the Committee of which Colonel *Palmer*, who is gone to *Cambridge*, is Chairman, but that when he returned it should be sent down.

Voted, That the appointment of a Committee to confer with a Committee of the honourable Board on the subject of the Militia Bill, be reconsidered.

Whereupon, *Ordered*, That Major *Hawley*, Mr. *Gerry*, Colonel *Orne*, Mr. *Sullivan*, Deacon *Nichols*, Major *Bliss*, and Colonel *Freeman*, be a Committee for that purpose.

The Committee on the Petition of *Joseph Pearse Palmer*, read *January* 2d, reported fifteen Pounds per month for his services as Quartermaster-General.

Read, and not accepted, and *Ordered*, to be recommitted, and the Committee were instructed to compute his services at twelve Pounds per month.

The Committee appointed to report what sum is necessary to be put into the hands of the Committee who are empowered to fit out vessels for Powder, reported. Read, and recommitted.

Ordered, That Mr. *Singletary* make application to the Secretary for the original, or an attested copy of the Resolve for procuring Blankets, that it may be immediately printed.

A Petition of the Committee of Safety of *Deer-Island*, representing the dangerous and distressed situation of the inhabitants, for want of men and ammunition to protect them from the enemy, and praying relief.

Read, and committed to the Committee on the state of the Sea-Coast.

The House then adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow morning.

—

Saturday, January 6, 1776.

The two following Petitions were committed to the Committee appointed to consider the Petitions and Accounts of wounded men, viz:

A Petition of Captain *Charles Miles*, who received a wound at *Charlestown*, on the 19th *April* last.

A Petition of *Joshua Felt*, who received a wound at *Concord*, on the same day.

A Bill to enable the inhabitants of *Falmouth* to recover Goods taken from them during the late fire there. Read a third time, and passed to be engrossed.

John Taylor, Esq., brought down the Resolve of this House for erecting a Powder-Mill at *Andover*.

The Committee appointed to consider what sum of money should be put into the hands of the Committee for fixing out Vessels, on account of this Colony, for importing Powder and other warlike stores, reported. Read, and accepted.

Resolved, That the Receiver-General of this Colony be, and hereby is directed to pay said Committee the sum of eight thousand Pounds, they to be accountable to the General Court for the same.

Resolved, That ten o'clock, next *Tuesday* morning, be assigned for the consideration of the Report of the Committee relative to the Poor of *Boston* and *Charlestown*.

Ordered, That the Doorkeeper be directed immediately to take into custody Doctor *Samuel Gelston*, and put him under a proper guard till the further order of Court.

Benjamin Lincoln, Esq., brought down the Report of the Committee of both Houses appointed to consider the matter of signing and numbering the Bills of Credit.

In Council, January 6, 1776: Read, and accepted, and thereupon *Resolved*, That two persons, such as the honourable House shall choose, be appointed to sign and number the Bills of Credit of the last emission, in the room of *James Prescott* and *Joseph Palmer*, Esqs., who are hereby excused.

Read, and concurred, and Doctor *Rice* and Major *Ely* are appointed to sign and number the Bills accordingly, and the Committee are directed to sit forthwith.

Charles Chauncy, Esq., brought down a Resolve recommending the Militia to remain in the Army beyond the time of inlistment, if needed.

On the Petition of *Joseph Pearse Palmer:*

Resolved, That there be paid to him out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, the sum of forty-five Pounds eight Shillings and seven Pence half-penny, in full consideration for his service as Quartermaster-General, at twelve Pounds per month, in the Army under the command of General *Ward*.

Ordered, That the Resolve for erecting a Powder-Mill at *Andover* be recommitted.

—

Afternoon.

Ordered, That one-quarter of the Town of *Newton's* quota of Wood for the Army be delivered at *Roxbury;* the other three-quarters at *Cambridge;* and also, one-quarter of the Town of *Needham's* quota of Wood for the Army be delivered at *Roxbury*, and the other three-quarters at *Cambridge*, till further order of this Court.

Ordered, That Mr. *Phillips*, Mr. *Cushing*, and Major *Fuller*, be a Committee to wait upon his Excellency General *Washington*, on *Monday* morning next, to know of him whether he thinks there will be a necessity of retaining any or all of the Militia in camp after the 15th instant, and if any, how many he shall then stand in need of, and for what time.

Then the House adjourned till *Monday* next, ten o'clock, A. M.

Monday, January 8, 1776.

Voted, That the Order of the House, of the 6th current, appointing a Committee to wait upon General *Washington*, be reconsidered.

Ordered, That Mr. *Cushing* and Major *Fuller*, with such as the honourable Board shall join, be a Committee to inquire of General *Washington*, whether he thinks there will be a necessity of retaining any or all the Militia, now in camp, after the 15th current, and, if any, how many he shall stand in need of, and for what time.

Ordered, That Mr. *Sewall*, Doctor *Fletcher*, and Captain *Parker*, be a Committee to bring in a Bill for establishing the Fees of the Courts of Admiralty in this Colony.

The Committee on the Muster-Rolls of the Army having requested instructions with regard to some Rolls which contain the service of men, who marched on the alarm a short time before they inlisted,

Ordered, That such service be struck out of said Rolls, and made up in the Minute or Militia Rolls, agreeable to the directions of Court.

The Committee to whom was committed a Resolve of this House, for erecting a Powder-Mill at *Andover*, reported. The Report was considered, and recommitted.

—

Afternoon.

The Committee to whom was committed a Resolve of this House, for erecting a Powder-Mill at *Andover*, reported. Read, and accepted.

Whereas, Mr. *Samuel Phillips*, Jun., has proposed to build a Mill with all expedition at *Andover*, for manufacturing Gunpowder, and this Court is willing to give all reasonable encouragement to so important and necessary an undertaking:

It is, therefore, *Resolved*, If the said Mill shall be erected within a reasonable time, in the judgment of the General Court, that during the term of one year next after the said Mill shall be erected and fitted to go, there shall be delivered to the said *Phillips*, by this Colony, from time to time, so much Saltpetre as shall be sufficient to keep the said Mill constantly employed, provided the same can be manufactured and purchased within this Colony, at the rate and bounty which is already, or that hereafter may be established by the General Court for the same; and, also, that the Committee of this Court (A) be not obliged to reserve by them, at any one time, a larger quantity than will be sufficient to keep the said Mill in employ for more than the term of one week, (B); and, if it shall be made to appear at the expiration of the year to the satisfaction of the said Court, that the Mill has been unemployed during part of the said time from the want of a supply of Saltpetre, there shall be delivered to said *Phillips*, to manufacture into Powder as aforesaid, sufficient quantity of Saltpetre to employ the Mill so long as to make up the lost time as aforesaid, and there shall be likewise delivered as much Sulphur, if the said *Phillips* shall require or need the same, as will be necessary to mix with said quantities of Saltpetre in manufacturing the same into Powder, the said *Phillips* paying the Colony so much for what Sulphur he shall receive therefrom, as said Sulphur shall cost the same. (C). *Provided*, That the said *Phillips* shall enter into bonds, as the Council shall order, that he will well and truly deliver the Commissary-General of this Colony, so many pounds of good merchantable Gunpowder as he shall be able to manufacture of the Saltpetre which he shall receive from the Colony, or any Committee appointed by the General Court, to manufacture or procure the same; and, also, be at the expense of transporting said Powder to the Colony Store, and of transporting to his said Mill such Sulphur and Saltpetre as the Colony, or the Committee of said Colony, shall deliver him; and, also, that he will cause to be published all the discoveries which he shall make relative to the construction of said Mill, and the manufacturing Powder as aforesaid.

And it is, also, *Resolved*, That the said *Phillips* shall be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, eight Pence per pound, for as many pounds of good merchantable Gunpowder as he shall manufacture of the Saltpetre which he shall receive of the Colony as aforesaid, on his delivering such Gunpowder to the Commissary of the Colony.

And it is also, *Resolved*, That the several Committees that are, or may be appointed by the General Court, to procure Saltpetre, or Sulphur, are hereby directed to deliver said *Phillips*, from time to time, so much Saltpetre and Sulphur as shall be sufficient to keep the said Mill constantly employed as aforesaid, and to take duplicate receipts thereof, specifying the quantity of each, and also the price of the Sulphur—one whereof shall be lodged with the Commissary aforesaid, and the other the said Committee are directed to keep.

Resolved, That the Receiver-General of this Colony be, and he hereby is directed, to pay into the hands of the Honourable *Benjamin Greenleaf*, Esq., Captain *Jonathan Greenleaf*, and Major *Stephen Cross*, a Committee appointed by this Court to purchase Sulphur, the sum of three hundred Pounds, to enable them to make payment for the quantities of Sulphur they have, or shall engage to receive, they to be accountable to the General Court for the same.

The Committee on the Petition of *John Bunker*, reported. Read, and recommitted.

Moses Gill, Esq., brought down the Report of the Committee this day appointed to inquire of General *Washington*, whether he thought there would be a necessity of retaining the Militia now in camp, &c., viz: That from the best information his Excellency could get, the *New-Hampshire* Militia were determined to return home after the expiration of the time they engaged for; and he apprehended it would be necessary for the whole of the Militia of this Colony, now in camp, to remain there until the last of this month.

JOHN TAYLOR, *per order*.

Resolved, That three o'clock, to-morrow afternoon, be assigned for the choice of a Committee, to present the state of disbursements of this Colony in the defence of *American* liberty, to the honourable Continental Congress for approbation and allowance; and, also, for the choice of a Committee for certain purposes expressed in a Resolve brought in by Mr. *Gerry*.

The Resolve of Council, brought down the 6th current, recommending to the Militia now doing duty in the Continental Army, to tarry there a fortnight, or three weeks, after the 15th instant, was read, and Major *Hawley*, Colonel *Orne*, Mr. *Gerry*, Deacon *Nichols*, and Major *Bliss*, were appointed a Committee to consider the same, and report what is further expedient to be done.

Resolved, That next *Thursday* afternoon be assigned for the several members from each County to determine what division shall be made for the Regiments of Militia in their respective Counties. The extent of each Regiment when determined on, to be laid upon the table.

Mr. *Gerry*, agreeable to order, reported the following Resolve, which was read, and accepted, viz:

Whereas, the Committee appointed to examine the Muster-Rolls of the Regiments raised by this Colony, now in the Continental Army, have represented to this Court, that some of the Colonels of the Regiments aforesaid, have made up their Rolls at fifteen Pounds for a chief Colonel, and the said Committee have applied for directions in this affair: And whereas, by referring to the Records of the Provincial Congress, it plainly appears, that on the 23d of *April* last, it was "Resolved, That the Colonels of Regiments, consisting of one thousand men, being part of the Army then voted to be raised by this Colony, should be entitled to fifteen Pounds per month, for a Colonel;" and, that on the 25th it was "Resolved, That each Regiment should consist of about five hundred and ninety men," and the Committee of Safety proceeded to issue inlisting orders, with copies of said establishment, wherein it appeared that each Colonel of a Regiment, consisting of five hundred and ninety-eight men, and raised as aforesaid, should be entitled to fifteen Pounds per month: And whereas, on the 29th of *April* aforesaid, the Congress having found that great uneasiness prevailed in the Colony and camp, and soldiers were prevented from inlisting on account of the high wages engaged to the Field-Officers, by the establishment aforesaid, sent a Committee to the camp to represent the circumstances of this affair to such Field-Officers as were then engaged, and recommended it to them to consent that their wages should be reduced to twelve Pounds for a Colonel, and in proportion for Lieutenant-Colonels and Majors; and the

Committee reported that they had collected together all the Field-Officers who had inlisting orders, and could be found by said Committee, and that the said officers promised to acquiesce in the final determination of Congress relative to this matter, which established the said Colonels at twelve Pounds, and other Field-Officers in proportion: And whereas, this Court consents to the payment of the Field and other officers, according to the last mentioned establishment, notwithstanding few, if any, of said Regiments contained five hundred and ninety-eight men, agreeable to the terms thereof; but had no expectation that any of the Field-Officers would claim the first establishment, because it so happened that the general confusion of the Colony, and hurry of business, did not admit of the said establishments being recalled by the Congress, or Committee of Safety, and thus the Colonels were permitted to hold them; and such claim appears to this Court very unjustifiable:

Resolved, That the Committee on the Muster-Rolls aforesaid be, and they are hereby directed to cause the same to be made up, agreeable to the establishment made on the 29th *April* aforesaid, and to direct such Field-Officers (if any there be) who require wages agreeable to the establishment of the 23d *April*, to prefer to the Court a Petition for the wages which they may suppose to be due, in addition to what they will receive upon the last establishment, that they may be heard, and proper order be taken thereon, and that the said Committee show a copy of this Resolve to each of the Field-Officers who shall apply to them on this matter as aforesaid.

The Committee appointed to bring in a Resolve for disposing of the Estates of the Refugees, reported. Read and accepted.

Whereas, several persons belonging to this Colony have joined the Ministerial troops, and others, who are in an hostile manner endeavouring to further the measures of the *British* Administration for enslaving the uniting *American Colonies*, and several others belonging to this Colony have absconded and removed themselves out of this Colony, with intent either to promote and further the said measures of Administration, or to escape the trouble and expense of a necessary opposition to such wicked and arbitrary measures, and divers of both sorts have left estate, either real or personal, within this Colony; and whereas, much estate so left has been already wasted, and more thereof is liable to be wasted and perish; and whereas, some of the said absconding persons have, by various arts, procured the rents of their deserted real estates, and their personal estate itself, or the proceeds thereof, to be remitted to them:

Therefore, *Resolved*, That the Selectmen and the Committee of Correspondence of any town in this Colony, where the estate, either real or personal, or both, belonging to any such person, or persons, above described, shall be found, be, and hereby are empowered and directed, according to their best discretion and judgment, so to manage, order, and lease such real estate, as that waste may be prevented as much as possible for the future, and, also, to take possession of, order, and dispose of such personal estate as (A) above described, in such manner as that the same may not be embezzled or suffered to perish, and also in such manner as neither the rents of such real estate, nor the personal estate itself, nor the proceeds thereof, should get to the hands or use of any of (B) the above described persons, or any of them, in no case wherein such Selectmen and Committee shall judge it inexpedient and against the publick good of the Colony, any former orders or Resolves of Congress or General Court to the contrary notwithstanding.

And that such Selectmen and Committee of Correspondence keep such fair and full accounts of all their proceedings and doings in the premises, as that they may be able to inform the General Court thereof (C) whenever they shall be thereto required.

The House then adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow morning.

—

Tuesday, January 9, 1776.

A Petition of Captain *Caleb Hyde*, setting forth, that on the 10th day of *May* last, by order, he marched part of a Company of Militia at the alarm at *Ticonderoga*, one hundred and forty miles, at his own expense, and praying consideration and allowance. Read, and committed with the Roll accompanying, to Colonel *Williams*, Captain *Parker*, and Mr. *Hale*.

A Pay-Roll of a Company which marched from *Stockbridge* and *West-Stockbridge* the 10th *May* last, under the command of Captain *Abraham Brown*, for the reduction of *Ticonderoga*, at the request of Colonel *Benedict Arnold*, &c. Read, and committed to the same Committee.

The House put off the choice of a Committee to repair to *Falmouth*, to three o'clock, to-morrow afternoon.

And the consideration of the Report relative to the Poor of *Boston* and *Charlestown*, to ten o'clock, to-morrow forenoon.

The Committee on the Petition of Captain *John Bunker*, read *January* 5th, reported. Read, and accepted.

Whereas, Mr. *John Bunker* and others, did on the 24th day of *November* last, at *Mount-Desert*, take a Schooner called the *Falmouth-Packet*, *Isaac Danks*, master, laden with live-stock, butter, cheese, sauce, &c., and in our enemy's service, bound to *Boston*; and said *Bunker*, not knowing any provision made in such cases, delivered said Schooner and cargo into the hands of the Committee of *Goldsborough*, till he should have the order of this Court thereon:

Therefore, *Resolved*, That the Committee of *Goldsborough* be, and they hereby are directed to deliver said Schooner with her cargo, or the proceeds thereof, if the same or any part thereof hath been disposed of by said Committee, as also the papers and appurtenances to her belonging, unto the said *John Bunker*, that said vessel may be brought to trial at some Court of (A) Admiralty, erected by the General Court of this Colony, (B.)

Ordered, That the Committee appointed to consider the Petitions and Accounts of wounded men, be also a Committee to consider the Petitions and Accounts of Soldiers that have been sick.

The Committee appointed to consider sundry Accounts from *Machias*, reported. Read, and ordered to lie till the House received further information with respect to the vessels taken by the people there.

—

Afternoon.

Jedediah Foster, Esquire, brought down the Resolve of this House on the Petition of Captain *John Bunker*, with the following Vote of Council thereon, viz:

In Council, *January* 9, 1776: Read, and concurred, with the amendments at A and B, viz: At A, dele "Admiralty," and insert "Justice;" and at B insert, "to try the capture of Vessels." Read, and concurred.

Benjamin Chadbourn, Esquire, brought down the Report of the Committee appointed, the 2d current, to inquire into the conduct of the Officers of the companies statloned at *Falmouth*, viz:

That, upon the best inquiry, they cannot find that the officers stationed at said *Falmouth* have been guilty of breaking their orders at the time of the late fire in that town; and, as there is no evidence against them in that respect, the Committee are of opinion their Muster-Rolls pass for payment according to the establishment.

In Council, *January* 9, 1776: Read, and accepted; and thereupon,

Resolved, That the Committee of Muster-Rolls be directed to pass on the Rolls of the Officers stationed at *Falmouth*, in common with others, without preference or distinction.

Ordered, That Major *Smith* and Mr. *Guild*, with such as the honourable Board shall join, be a Committee to consider a Resolve of this Court, which passed both Houses on the 9th ultimo, recommending to the inhabitants of this and the other Colonies to withhold further supplies of Provisions from the Islands of *Nantucket* and *Martha's Vineyard*, and report what they think is necessary to be done for the relief of the inhabitants of *Martha's Vineyard*.

Resolved, That the choice of the Committee to present the state of Disbursements, &c., to the Continental Congress, also for a Committee for certain purposes expressed in a Resolve brought in by Mr. *Gerry*, be put off to four o'clock, to-morrow afternoon.

*

Benjamin Lincoln, Esquire, brought down the Resolve, which passed this House yesterday, for erecting a Powder-Mill at *Andover*, with the following Vote of Council thereon, viz:

In Council, January 9, 1776: Read, and concurred, with the amendments at A, B, and C, viz: At A, insert "appointed to purchase Saltpetre;" dele from B to C; and then insert: "In case said Mill shall be obliged to stand still any part of said year, for want of Saltpetre, and the same be made to appear to the satisfaction of this Court, said *Phillips* shall be allowed to receive a sufficient quantity of Saltpetre to employ said Mill the same length of time it was obliged to stand still, and to manufacture it into Powder, on the same terms as during the aforesaid year; and, in case said *Phillips* requires it, there shall be delivered to him so much Sulphur as is necessary to manufacture the Saltpetre into Gunpowder, he (the said *Phillips* paying this Colony the first cost of the Sulphur; and he (the said *Phillips*) shall, at his own expense, not only provide a sufficient quantity of good charcoal for all the Gunpowder he shall manufacture for the Colony, but also provide and keep, at his own cost, a good and sufficient guard at his Powder-Mills, at all times, to prevent any wicked and designing persons from destroying the same, and to be at all other necessary expenses in manufacturing said Powder." Read, and concurred.

Benjamin Lincoln, Esquire, brought down a Letter from Mr. *Joshua Elderkin*, of *Windham*, in *Connecticut*, acquainting the Court that he has made such progress in the manufacture of Saltpetre as to be able to produce fifty pounds per week, and declaring his willingness to communicate his discoveries in such way as to the Court may seem meet.

A Petition of Doctor *Stephen Ball*, of *Northborough*, praying an allowance for his account of doctoring divers soldiers of the *American* Army, who were sick, and had leave to return home. Read, and the Petitioner had leave to withdraw his Petition, and to exhibit an account to the 1st of *August*.

Ordered, That a message go to the honourable Board, informing them the House has now under consideration a Resolve recommending to the Militia now doing duty in the Continental Army to tarry there until the last of *January* instant, and to request that the Board would not yet adjourn.

Charles Chauncy, Esquire, brought down the Report of the Committee on the services of the Committee that signed the bills of the one hundred thousand Pounds emission, with the following Vote of Council thereon, viz:

In Council, January 9, 1776: Read, and concurred, with the amendments at A, viz: At A insert, "Read, and accepted, and *Ordered*, That the said Committee be discharged accordingly."

Read, and accepted, with the following amendment at B, viz: At B, dele the words "Read, and accepted, and *Ordered*," and insert the words "and, also."

Whereas, it appears to this Court that the part of the Militia of this Colony now in the *American* Army as a temporary reinforcement, in consequence of a Resolve of said Court, of the 1st of *December* last past, did conceive, at the time of their inlistment, that by said Resolve they were intituled to one penny per mile for their travel from their respective homes to the camp, and back again, and that his Excellency General *Washington* did only engage to the Committee of said Court, when upon a conference with him relative to this matter, that there should be allowed to said Militia so much per day for their travel as the value of their rations in the camp would amount to; and whereas, by referring to the said Resolve, it appears that the said Militia were promised "rations while on their march to and from the camp, to *bear their expenses* in the same," and the said mode of expression may be naturally construed by the inhabitants of this Colony to mean the usual allowance of this Colony of one penny per mile for travel, whatever might have been the real intent of the Court at the time of passing said Resolve; and whereas, it is the duty and interest of every Government strictly to keep their faith and engagements with all persons whatever, and this Court is disposed to give all reasonable satisfaction to the persons aforesaid, and any other inhabitants of the Colony, while they continue to act with the spirit and patriotism which appears at present to influence their conduct:

It is, therefore, *Resolved*, That the Captain or commanding officer of each Company of the Militia aforesaid be, and he hereby is directed forthwith to make up a Roll of the travel of each man of his respective Company, from his home to the camp, and back again, and the amount thereof at one penny per mile, therein deducting the sum or sums which shall have been paid to him or his Company, as rations for travel as aforesaid, and he is further directed to meet the Committee of this Court, viz: Colonel *Lovell* and Major *Bliss*, at *Cambridge*, at the house of Mr. *Jones*, Innholder, or Colonel *Williams* and Mr. *Perry*, at *Roxbury*, at the house of Mr. *Blany*, Innholder, on the 13th day of *January* instant, or if his duty in the Army will not admit thereof on said day, to attend on *Monday*, the 15th of said *January*, in order to receive the balance that shall be due for said travel, to pay the men borne on said Rolls. And the Commissary-General of the Army aforesaid, is requested to deliver said Committee a schedule of the sums that he shall have paid to each Company for rations as aforesaid; and the Council are hereby empowered to issue their warrants on the Treasurer of this Colony to pay to said Colonel *Lovell* and Major *Bliss*, the sum of four hundred Pounds, and to Colonel *Williams* and Mr. *Perry*, the sum of eight hundred Pounds, to enable them to pay off said Rolls as aforesaid, said Committee to be accountable to the General Court for the same:

And whereas, his Excellency General *Washington* has signified to this Court, that he shall need the assistance of the said Militia until the last of this month, and from the late virtuous zeal and ardour manifested in their conduct, the Court have the highest confidence in their readiness to afford the same:

Resolved, That it be, and hereby is strongly recommended to the Officers and Soldiers of each Company aforesaid, to reinlist themselves to serve in the said Army until the last day of *January* instant, or for such a part of said time as his Excellency General *Washington* shall require, upon the pay, and under the regulations expressed in the former inlistment.

Resolved, That the Committee aforesaid are hereby directed to cause the foregoing Resolve to be forthwith printed in handbills, and copies thereof delivered to each Captain and commanding officer of the Companies aforesaid, who are directed to cause the said Resolve to be read to their several Companies.

Whereas, the Soldiers who were inlisted into the *American* Army belonging to this Colony, who have been discharged, and had received Fire-Arms and Cartridge-Boxes, which were purchased and delivered to them by this Colony, were ordered to return the same to *Richard Devans*, Esquire, Commissary-General of this Colony, and to take his receipt for the same, to entitle them to receive the sums deducted for such Guns and Cartridge-Boxes out of their wages, as made up in their Pay-Rolls as lately exhibited: And whereas, the said Fire-Arms and Cartridge-Boxes were purchased for the use of the Continental Army, and the Soldiers alleged that they have accordingly returned the same to the Ordnance Storekeeper of the *American* Army, or such other persons as were properly authorized to receive the same by his Excellency General *Washington*:

Therefore, *Resolved*, That any Soldier who has received a Gun or Cartridge-Box from the Colony Store, and shall produce a certificate either from the Quartermaster-General or his Deputies, or the Ordnance Storekeeper of the *American* Army, that such Gun or Cartridge-Box has been by them returned into the Continental Store, the same certificate shall be deemed sufficient to all intents and purposes as if the same was certified by *Richard Devans*, Esq., the Commissary-General of this Colony, according to the former Resolve of this Court.

The House then adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow morning.

—

Wednesday, January 10, 1776.

A Receipt of *Timothy Edwards*, dated 12th *August* last,

for one hundred pounds of Gunpowder, received of the Selectmen of the Town of *Stockbridge*, for the use of Colonel *Eastman's* Regiment at *Crown-Point*; and an order drawn by said Selectmen the 5th *December* last, on Deacon *Elnathan Curtis*, to procure or pay for ammunition, as mentioned in said order.

Read, and committed to Captain *Brown*, of *Abington*, Mr. *Hale*, Mr. *Hobart*, Major *Smith*, and Mr. *Guild*, who were directed to consider the matter thereof at large.

The Letter of Mr. *Joshua Elderkin*, brought down yesterday, was read, and committed to Major *Brooks* and Deacon *Nichols*, with such as the honourable Board should join.

Mr. Speaker communicated to the House a Letter from his Excellency General *Washington*, enclosing a copy of *Peleg Wadsworth's* account of *Cape-Cod* Harbour. Read, and sent up.

Jabez Fisher, Esquire, brought down the Report of a Committee appointed to consider the Petition of some of the inhabitants of *Majabigwaduce* against the conduct of *John Bakeman*, Esquire, &c., viz:

The Committee appointed upon the Petition of some of the inhabitants of *Majabigwaduce*, against the conduct of *John Bakeman*, Esquire, relative to his conduct with the people of that place, have attended that service, and heard the said *Bakeman* in his defence of the charges alleged against him in said Petition, and have examined the depositions and declarations relating to the conduct of the Committee of Safety, and numbers of the inhabitants of that place. Your Committee have great reason to suspect that a number of said inhabitants and petitioners, under the countenance of some of the Committee of Safety of that place, have the last year, in many instances, supplied our enemies with wood and live stock, thereby counteracting the Resolves of the Congress.

And it does not appear to the Committee that the said *Bakeman* has acted an unfriendly part to his country, or has done any thing to forfeit the trust reposed in him by his appointment to the office of a Justice of the Peace for the County of *Lincoln*; and with respect to the riot committed on said *Bakeman* in *December* last, it being of such an alarming nature, we think that unless some methods are speedily taken in order to bring the perpetrators thereof to condign punishment, it will prove of very mischievous consequences, and that it is a matter of so much importance, that it deserves the attention of the whole Court.

BENJAMIN CHADBOURN, *per order.*

In Council, January 10, 1776: Read, and accepted, and *Ordered*, That *Moses Gill* and *John Taylor*, Esqs., with such as the honourable House shall join, be a Committee to consider the subject-matter of the above Report, and what is further necessary to be done.

Read, and concurred, and Colonel *Norton*, Mr. *Hovey*, and Captain *Hathaway*, are joined.

—

Afternoon.

Michael Farley, Esq., brought down the Report of the Committee of both Houses, appointed to consider the Petition of *Charles Chauncy*, Esq., read *December* 20, viz:

That the prayer of the Petition be granted, and that an Order pass this Court to the person, or persons, who may have the Goods, Clothing, or Furniture, mentioned in the Petition, or Invoice, in their possession, to deliver the same to the order of *Charles Chauncy*, Esq., or Mr. *Neal McIntyer*, as soon as demanded.

JABEZ FISHER, *per order.*

In Council, January 10, 1776: Read, and accepted, and,

Thereupon, *Resolved*, That the Committee of *Frenchman's Bay* be directed to deliver all the Goods, Clothing, or Furniture, mentioned in the enclosed schedule, to the order of *Charles Chauncy*, Esq., or Mr. *Neal McIntyer*, on demand. Read, and concurred.

Resolved, That the choice of a Committee to go to *Falmouth* be put off to *Friday* next, ten o'clock, A. M.

The House proceeded, according to the Order of the Day, to the choice of a Committee on the part of the House, for the purposes expressed in a Resolve brought in by Mr. *Gerry*. And Colonel *Porter* and Mr. *Brown*, of *Boston*, being nominated, were appointed.

The Resolve being amended, passed the House, and is as follows, viz:

Resolved, That Colonel *Porter* and Mr. *Brown*, of *Boston*, with such as the honourable Board shall join, be, and they hereby are appointed a Committee to settle the Accounts remaining unsettled on the Books of the late Committee of Supplies, and to collect or pay the balances that may be due to or from the Colony on said Accounts; also, to take care of the Brigantines *Rockingham* and *Unity's* cargoes, and such a part of the Schooner *Maccaroni*, as belongs to the Colony; also, to see that the order of this Court be complied with by Captain *William Johnson*, late commander of the Schooner *Brittania*, relative to his delivering to the Commissary of said Colony the neat proceeds of the cargo of said Schooner, consigned him by the said late Committee of Supplies, exclusive of what he shall produce receipts of having delivered agreeable to any order of said Court. And they are further directed, to receive from the files of said Committee of Supplies all the papers relative to said vessel, or any of the persons having Accounts unsettled, as aforesaid, and, upon the arrival of any of them, to cause the proceeds of their cargoes (if vested in military stores) to be delivered to the Colonial Commissary, and take his receipts therefor, and to certify to the Standing Committee on Accounts the sums which they shall find necessary to discharge the portage-bills, hire, and other necessary charges attending the said voyages, that shall be due from the Colony aforesaid. And the Standing Committees on Accounts are hereby empowered to pay and discharge the portage-bills, hire of vessels, and other charges that shall be examined and certified by the Committee now chosen, as aforesaid, they to be accountable to the General Court for their doings.

Ordered, That Major *Bliss*, Dr. *Fletcher*, and Mr. *Bancroft*, be a Committee to count and sort the votes for some persons to repair to *Philadelphia*, with the state of Disbursements of this Colony, &c.

On a motion, *Resolved*, That the Committee consist of one person only, and that twelve o'clock, to-morrow, be assigned for the choice of some person for that purpose.

Whereas, in the present contest with *Britain* the Militia of the several *United Colonies* of *America* may be frequently called forth to defend their invaluable rights and liberties, and it is indispensably necessary to the welfare of the Colonies that such of the said Militia as shall have conducted in the service with a laudable zeal and fidelity, should be fully satisfied with publick measures, and at all times so accommodated and rewarded for their services, that the Colonies may have the fullest assurance of a renewal of their engagements, whenever the same shall be required; and whereas, it will be much for the convenience and advantage of any part of the said Militia, when called as a temporary reinforcement for the *American* Army, to receive their wages at the time of their dismission, as the trouble and expense of a future application for the same would greatly reduce the reward of their services, and may tend to discourage their inlisting again:

It is, therefore, *Resolved*, As the opinion of this Court, that it will greatly tend to promote the service in this Colony, and encourage the reinlistment of that part of the Militia of said Colony, now in the *American* Army as a temporary reinforcement, if they could be assured by his Excellency General *Washington* that they should be paid their wages at the time of their discharge from service.

Resolved, That Mr. Speaker and Colonel *Thayer*, with such as the honourable Board shall join, be, and they hereby are appointed a Committee to apply to his Excellency General *Washington*, with a copy of the preceding Resolve, and, also, of a Resolve of this Court relative to the reinlistment of the Militia, aforesaid.

A Petition of *John Tufts*, of *Belfast*, in *Penobscot*, setting forth, that he came from thence to inform the Court that fourteen families now dwelling on *Long-Island*, have, from time to time, supplied the Ministerial forces with cord-wood and other necessaries, and praying that they may be removed, or otherwise discountenanced; also, praying for ammunition, and for the direction of the Court with respect to a large quantity of wood on the sea-shore at *Belfast*.

Read, and committed to the Committee of both Houses,

appointed to consider the subject-matter of a Report on the Petition of a number of the Inhabitants of *Majabigwaduce*, relative to the conduct of *John Bakeman*, Esq.

The Committee appointed to consider and report some Directions to the Committee on Muster-Rolls, with respect to Minors and Servants, reported. Read, and not accepted.*

Benjamin Lincoln, Esq., brought down the Militia Bill, with sundry amendments thereof proposed by the honourable Board, and the same were considered by the House.

The House then adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow morning.

—

Thursday, January 11, 1776.

Jedediah Foster, Esq., brought down the Report of the Committee of both Houses, appointed to consider a Plan for fitting out Armed Vessels for the defence of *American* liberty.

Joseph Palmer, Esq., brought down a Letter from his Excellency General *Washington*, dated the 10th current, relative to the strength of the Lines, Recruits, and Recruiting-Officers.

Read, and committed to Captain *Stone*, Mr. *Jewett*, of *Ipswich*, and Major *Brooks*, with such as the honourable Board may join.

Charles Chauncy, Esq., brought down the following Resolve, viz:

In Council, January 11, 1776: Whereas, by a Resolve of the General Court, passed the 9th of *November* last, among other things, it was

Resolved, That the Captains and other Officers who marched on the alarm of the 19th of *April* last, be directed to make up their respective Rolls as soon as may be, and lodge them in the Secretary's Office, for the consideration of the Court; and whereas, by the said Resolve the payment of said Rolls were ordered to be stayed till the Accounts of the Innholders, and others, who afforded entertainment or money to bear their expenses to the men borne on said Rolls, in their march to and from the place of rendezvous, should be preferred and considered by this Court, which accounts were directed to be exhibited to this Court on or before the 20th day of *December* then next; and whereas, the said Order of Court directing the Accounts of Innholders, and others, to be exhibited, hath not been complied with, and the Officers who have presented their Rolls are soliciting the payment thereof:

Therefore, *Resolved*, That *Samuel Holten*, Esq., with such as the honourable House shall join, be a Committee to take the premises into consideration, and report some remedy for the foregoing difficulty.

Read, and concurred, and Captain *Stone* and Colonel *Lovell* are joined.

Caleb Cushing, Esq., brought down the Resolve which passed this House the 8th instant, relative to the Estates of Refugees, with the following Vote of Council thereon, viz:

In Council, January 11, 1776: Read, and concurred with the amendments specified in the annexed Paper.

The amendments proposed by the honourable Board, are as follows, viz: At A, dele "above described," and insert, "who have joined the Ministerial troops and others, or who have absconded this Colony as aforesaid." At B, dele "the above described persons, or any of them," and insert, "those who have joined the Ministerial troops and others, or who have absconded the Colony as aforesaid."

* In the House of Representatives, *January* 10, 1776: Whereas, in consequence of a Resolve of this Court, the Captain of each Company that engaged in the Army raised by this Colony before they became a Continental Army, was directed to make up Muster-Rolls for themselves, and companies under their respective command, until the first day of *August* last past; and whereas, in said companies there may be divers persons borne on said Rolls who are minors, indented servants, and slaves for life, and many doubts have arisen to whom the wages of such persons ought to be paid:

Therefore, *Resolved*, That any person that shall make it appear to the Receiver-General of this Colony, that any person borne on the Rolls aforesaid is a Minor, Indented Servant, or Slave for life, the Master, Parent, or Guardian of such person, shall be allowed to receive the one-half of the wages due to such Soldier, from the time he inlisted to the said first day of *August*, unless such Soldier has already received more than one-half of his wages; and, in such case, the aforesaid Master, Parent, or Guardian, to receive the remainder of his wages; and the said Receiver-General is directed to conduct accordingly.

Not accepted.

At C, add, "to whom they are to be accountable, provided always, that nothing in the foregoing Resolve shall extend to such estates, real or personal, as are now improved by persons late inhabitants of the Town of *Boston*, who have given up their estates in said town to the owners of the estates on which they now dwell."

Read, and non-concurred, and the House propose the following amendments, viz: At A, dele "above described," and insert, "who have joined the Ministerial troops and others, or who have absconded this Colony as aforesaid." At B, dele "the above described persons, or any of them," and insert, "those who have joined the Ministerial troops and others, or who have absconded this Colony as aforesaid."

Mr. Speaker communicated to the House a Letter from the Honourable *William Williams*, Esq., Speaker of the House of Assembly, of *Connecticut*, enclosing three Acts passed in that Colony, viz:

One intituled, "An Act for restraining and punishing all persons who are inimical to the liberties of this and the rest of the *United Colonies*, and for directing proceedings therein."

Another intituled, "An Act for raising and equipping a body of Minute-Men, to be held in readiness for the better defence of that Colony."

The other intituled, "An Act for encouraging the manufacture of Saltpetre and Gunpowder."

All which Acts were read, and committed to Mr. Speaker and Major *Hawley*, with such as the honourable Board may join.

The amendments proposed by the honourable Board to be made in the Militia Bill, were again considered and non-concurred, and the House proposed divers other amendments, which were sent up for concurrence.

—

Afternoon.

A Petition of *Elisha Wheeler*, praying (for reasons particularly set forth in said Petition,) consideration and allowance for a Horse which was shot under him on the day of the battle of *Lexington*.

Read, and committed to Major *Hodges*, Mr. *Bent*, and Deacon *Rawson*.

A Petition of *Charles White*, praying consideration and allowance for a Horse belonging to him, which was taken and carried away in the time of the battle of *Lexington*.

Read, and the Petitioner had leave to withdraw his Petition.

Ordered, That the Committee on Muster-Rolls be directed to disallow the wages of such as are noted on the Rolls as deserters.

Ordered, That the Committee on Muster-Rolls be directed to pursue the instructions given them in a late Resolve of this Court.

Benjamin Lincoln, Esq., brought down the Militia Bill, with the following Vote of Council, viz:

In Council, January 11, 1776: Read, and concurred with the amendments proposed by the honourable House, with the additional amendment at CC, viz: At CC insert, "Justices of the Peace."

Read, and non-concurred, and the House adhere to their own vote.

Ordered, That the Members from the Sea-Coast Counties, where any Officers are to be appointed, prepare a list, to be laid upon the table as soon as may be.

The House then adjourned till ten o'clock, to-morrow morning.

—

Friday, January 12, 1776.

A Petition of *Joseph Pearse Palmer*, setting forth, that he officiated solely in the capacity of Quartermaster-General from *May* 1st to *August* 14th, and praying to be reimbursed the expenses he was at during that time, agreeable to an Account annexed.

Read, and committed to Deacon *Stickney*, Mr. *Jewett*, of *Littleton*, and Major *Smith*.

Ordered, That Major *Fuller*, Deacon *Stickney*, and Colonel *Howe*, be a Committee to inquire into the state of the Treasury, and report what money there now is, or is likely to be therein in two or three days.

Ordered, That a message go to the honourable Board, to inquire if they have any matter to send down that requires an immediate attention of the House.

Jabez Fisher, Esq., came down and informed the House that the Board do not expect to send any Messenger down this forenoon.

A Petition of the Selectmen of *Watertown*, praying to be reimbursed the expense of mounting eight pieces of Cannon that were brought out from *Boston* in *October* last. Read, and committed to the Committee on Accounts.

—

Afternoon.

Moses Gill, Esq., brought down a Letter from Mr. *Timothy Parsons*, dated *Pownalborough*, *January* 2, 1776, relative to the conduct and behaviour of one *Baker* and one *White* there, and praying that something may be done by the Court for the peace of the town, with the following Vote of Council thereon, viz:

In Council, *January* 12, 1776: Read, and committed to the Committee on the Petition of *Majabigwaduce*.

Read, and concurred.

Jedediah Foster, Esq., brought down the Militia Bill, with a vote of Council proposing amendments therein.

The House considered the Report of the Committee appointed to consider a Plan for fitting out Armed Vessels, &c.

Whereupon, *Ordered*, That the Report be recommitted, and the Committee are directed to report an estimate of the expenses of building and furnishing the Vessels therein proposed to be provided.

John Whetcomb, Esq., brought down the Report of the Committee of both Houses on the two Petitions of the Selectmen of the Town of *Dorchester*.

In Council, *January* 12, 1776: Read, and accepted.

John Whetcomb, Esq., at the same time brought down a Deposition of *Ebenezer* and *James Goodel*.

The House then adjourned to nine o'clock, to-morrow morning.

—

Saturday, January 13, 1776.

A Petition of *Samuel Osgood*, praying an allowance for his services as Major of Brigade, from the 19th of *April* to the 28th of *July*. Read, and committed to Mr. *Pitts*, Mr. *Hobart*, and Mr. *Phillips*.

The Report of the Committee of both Houses on the two Petitions of the Selectmen of *Dorchester*, was considered, and not accepted, and ordered to be recommitted, and the Committee are directed to consider and report upon said Petitions separately.

A Petition of the Committee of Correspondence for the Town of *Manchester*, praying that they may have liberty to raise a Company of men to be under the direction of Colonel *Foster*, of *Gloucester*, for particular reasons set forth in the Petition, or that the town may be otherwise assisted and relieved. Read, and committed to the Committee on the state of the Sea-Coast.

John Whetcomb, Esquire, brought down a Deposition of *Ebenezer* and *James Goodel*, relative to one *Joseph Bowditch*, of *Salem*, his refusing to take Bills of publick Credit in discharge of a bond due to him from Mr. *George Small*, with the following Vote of Council thereon, viz:

In Council, *January* 12, 1776: Read, and committed to *John Taylor*, Esq., with such as the honourable House shall join.

Read, and concurred, and Colonel *Grout* and Mr. *Brown*, of *Boston*, are joined.

Ordered, That a message go to the honourable Board, informing them that the House propose, on *Monday* next, ten o'clock, A. M., to come to the choice of Officers for the Company to be stationed at *Plymouth*, for Officers of the Company to be stationed at *Truro*, and for a Captain to command a Company at *Cumberland*, in the room of Captain *Rice*, engaged in the Continental service, if agreeable to the honourable Board.

Whereas, the Captains and Lieutenants of the Militia who have lately joined the Army, as a temporary reinforcement, have not been commissioned according to the several stations to which they may have been elected, and whereas they may continue a longer time in service than was at first expected:

Therefore, *Resolved*, That the honourable Council of this Colony be desired to commissionate all such Officers as aforesaid, according to their several ranks, who, with fifty men or upwards, (accounting in said number Officers, and also, such men as have inlisted from the respective Companies into the Continental Army,) shall incline to continue in the service till the last of this month, or till the 10th of *February* next, if occasion shall require, upon their being certified of their appointments, according to the Resolves of this Court, and of their retaining the number of men specified in this Resolve.

Ordered, That Major *Hawley*, Mr. Speaker, and Mr. *Gerry*, with such as the honourable Board may join, be a Committee to revise the Militia Bill, and report what amendments they think are proper to be made therein.

Then the House adjourned till *Monday* next, ten o'clock, A. M.

—

Monday, January 15, 1776.

Captain *Phineas Smith*, who was returned a Member from the Town of *Granby*, made his first appearance in the House.

A Petition of the Selectmen of *Rehoboth*, setting forth, that the inhabitants of said town have erected a breastwork for their defence, and mounted four pieces of ordnance therein, and praying some consideration and allowance therefor, and liberty to raise a Company in said town. Read, and committed to the Committee on the state of the Sea-Coast.

The Memorial of *William Hunt*, brought down *December* 23. Read, and dismissed.

Resolved, That ten o'clock, to-morrow, A. M., be assigned for consideration of the Report relative to the Poor of *Boston* and *Charlestown*.

Resolved, That twelve o'clock, to-morrow, be assigned for the choice of a Committee to go to *Falmouth*, in the recess of the Court.

Resolved, That three o'clock, to-morrow, P. M., be assigned for the consideration of the Resolve for erecting a pentagonal Fortification for the security of warlike stores.

Ordered, That a message go to the honourable Board, to inform them that the House propose, at three o'clock, in the afternoon, by joint ballot, to come to the choice of Officers for the Company to be stationed at *Truro*, and also for a Captain to command a Company to be raised in the County of *Cumberland*, in the room of Captain *Rice*, if agreeable to the honourable Board.

Whereupon, *Benjamin Lincoln*, Esquire, came down and informed the House that the honourable Board had agreed to come to the choice of the above-mentioned Officers, agreeable to the proposal of the House.

Resolved, That four o'clock, in the afternoon, be assigned for the choice of some person to go to *Philadelphia* with the Accounts of this Colony, &c.

Ordered, That Mr. *Cooper* bring in a Resolve for raising the price of Hay which has been, or may be, procured for the Army, by order of the Court, to six Pounds per ton, and to recommend to those towns who have not procured the quantity set on them, respectively, to provide the same immediately.

Ordered, That Mr. *Cooper*, Major *Davis*, Captain *Thatcher*, Mr. *Jewett*, and Colonel *Thompson*, be a Committee to consider what further is necessary to be done for supplying the Army with Hay.

A Letter from his Excellency General *Washington*, relative to a want of Fire-Arms for the Army. Read, and committed to Mr. *Pitts*, Colonel *Woodbridge*, and Captain *Smith*, with such as the honourable Board may join.

The Committee on the Petition of *Caleb Hyde* reported. Read, and recommitted; and Mr. *White*, of *Hatfield*, and Mr. *Hobart*, are added to the Committee; and the Committee were directed to inquire thoroughly into the matter.

Resolved, That the person from *Hartford*, who was sent for on the business of erecting Powder-Mills, proceed first to *Andover*.

Ordered, That Mr. *Gerry*, Mr. *Pitts*, Colonel *Thurs-*

ton, Colonel *Norton*, and Mr. *Cushing*, be a Committee to consider, and report at large, the best method of supplying the camp with Wood.

Ordered, That a message go to the honourable Board, to desire them, if they have concurred with a vote of this House on General *Washington's* Letter, to enjoin the Committee to sit forthwith.

On a motion, *Ordered*, That Major *Hawley*, Mr. *Gerry*, Mr. *Cushing*, Mr. *Pitts*, and Colonel *Thompson*, be a Committee to consider what further is necessary to be done for the defence of the Sea-Coast.

Resolved, That the honourable Board be, and they hereby are empowered to draw an order on the Treasurer of this Colony, in favour of the Honourable *James Warren*, Esquire, Paymaster-General of the Continental Army, for the sum of fifty thousand Pounds, lawful money, upon the said *James Warren*, Esquire, giving his note to return the said sum to the said Treasurer as soon as he shall receive a supply of money from the Continental Congress.

Jedediah Foster, Esquire, brought down the Militia Bill, with proposed amendments.

Afternoon.

Whereas, the Town of *Plymouth* will derive but little additional strength from the Company to be stationed there, if it be formed wholly from the Inhabitants of said towns:

Therefore, *Ordered*, That the Officers who shall be appointed to raise and command said Company, do not inlist of the Inhabitants of the Town of *Plymouth* into said Company more than one-quarter of the same, including Officers.

Ordered, That Colonel *Otis* be on the Committee to consider the Letter from General *Washington*, in the room of Mr. *Pitts*, engaged on another Committee.

Moses Gill, Esq., brought down the Report of the Committee on his Excellency General *Washington's* Letter, of the 10th instant.

Samuel Holten, Esq., brought down a Letter from the Honourable *John Hancock*,* Esq., dated *January* 2d, enclosing sundry Resolutions of the honourable Continental Congress; and, also, a Letter from the Honourables *John Hancock*†, *Thomas Cushing*, *Samuel Adams*, and *Robert Treat Paine*, Esquires, enclosing an invoice of four hundred and forty-three thousand three hundred and thirty-three dollars, and one-third of a dollar, advanced by the honourable Congress aforesaid, in part of the Account of this Colony, which accompanied a Memorial sent to the said Congress. All which were read, and committed to Mr. Speaker, Major *Hawley*, and Mr. *Pitts*, with such as the honourable Board may join.

Ordered, That a message go to the honourable Board to inform them, that this House propose, at five o'clock, this afternoon, to come to the choice of a Commissary for *Tarpaulin-Cove*, in the room of Mr. *Stephen Nye*, who declines serving, by joint ballot, if agreeable to the honourable Board.

Ordered, That a message go to the honourable Board, informing them that this House is now ready, agreeable to the Order of the Day, to come to the choice of Officers for the Companies to be stationed at *Plymouth* and *Truro*, and for a Captain to command a Company in the County of *Cumberland*, in the room of Captain *Rice*, and that they propose to begin with the Officers for *Plymouth* Company.

Then, *Ordered*, That Colonel *Howe*, Mr. *Dix*, and Major *Brooks*, be a Committee to receive and sort the votes, who having carried up the votes, for the Officers of the Company at *Plymouth*, reported that the following gentlemen were chosen, viz: *Jesse Hurlow*, Captain; *James Churchill*, First Lieutenant; *Timothy Goodwin*, Second Lieutenant; *William Watson*, Esq., Commissary.

The same Committee having carried up the votes for Officers for the Company at *Truro*, reported that the following gentlemen were chosen, viz: *Joseph Smith*, Captain; *Hezekiah Harden*, First Lieutenant; *Seth Smith*, Second Lieutenant; and Captain *Samuel Harden*, Commissary.

The same Committee having carried up the votes for a Captain to command a Company at *Falmouth*, in the County of *Cumberland*, reported that Captain *Bryant Morton* was unanimously chosen.

The same Committee having carried up the votes for a Commissary at *Tarpaulin-Cove*, reported that Mr. *Thomas Jones*, Jun., was chosen.

Ordered, That Deacon *Rawson*, Deacon *Nichols*, and Mr. *Low*, be a Committee to count and sort the votes for some person to go to *Philadelphia* with the Accounts of this Colony, &c.

Who reported that Mr. *Isaac Lothrop* was unanimously chosen.

On a motion, *Ordered*, That a message go to the honourable Board, informing them that the House propose to complete the choice of Officers for the Sea-Coast Forces, by joint ballot, to-morrow, at five o'clock, in the afternoon, if agreeable to the honourable Board.

Ordered, That the Resolve, empowering the honourable Council to draw on the Treasurer in favour of the Honourable *James Warren*, Esq., be taken into a new draft, which being done accordingly, was read, and accepted, viz:

Whereas, representation has been made to this Court by a Committee thereof, that his Excellency General *Washington* was desirous of borrowing, for the use of the Continental Army, a supply of Money:

Resolved, That the Council be, and they hereby are empowered, to draw on the Treasurer of this Colony for the sum of fifty thousand Pounds, lawful money, in favour of his Excellency aforesaid, as Commander-in-chief of the Continental Army, or for such a part of said sum as his Excellency shall have a present demand for, he giving an obligation, in his capacity aforesaid, to return the same to the said Treasurer when demanded.

The House considered and agreed to the amendments proposed by a Committee of both Houses to be made to the Militia Bill, the amendments on the last label being first taken into a new draft.

Resolved, That Major *Cross* be desired to furnish Colonel *Lovell* with some Saltpetre, made agreeable to Doctor *Whiting's* plan, that he may make an experiment of the same by manufacturing it into Gunpowder.

The House then adjourned, till ten o'clock, to-morrow morning.

---

* PHILADELPHIA, *January* 2, 1776.—HONOURABLE GENTLEMEN: I have the honour to transmit you several resolutions passed in Congress, to which I beg leave to refer you. The money ordered in consequence of the accounts you were pleased to transmit to your Delegates, sets off this day, of which Mr. *Cushing* is so kind as to take charge. I hope it will arrive safe, and that the conduct of your Delegates, in this instance, will meet your approbation.

As I am now called upon to attend publick business, I beg leave to refer you to Mr. *Cushing* for further particulars. Wishing you the compliments of the season, I have the honour to be, gentlemen, your most obedient servant, JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

To the Honourable the Assembly.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, *January* 15, 1776: Read, and committed, with the papers accompanying, to Mr. Speaker, Major *Hawley*, and Mr. *Pitts*, with such as the honourable Board may join. Sent up for concurrence. J. WARREN, *Speaker*.

IN COUNCIL, *January* 16, 1776: Read, and concurred, and *Walter Spooner* and *Jedediah Foster*, Esquires, are joined. PEREZ MORTON, *Deputy Secretary*.

The Committee report that the above Letter, and Resolves of Congress accompanying it, ought to be registered on the records of the General Court; and they beg leave to sit again.

IN COUNCIL, *January* 23, 1776: Read, and accepted, and *Ordered*, That the same be recorded accordingly; and the Committee are allowed to sit again. Sent down for concurrence. PEREZ MORTON, *Deputy Secretary*.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, *January* 24, 1776: Read, and concurred. Sent up. J. WARREN, *Speaker*.

IN COUNCIL, *January* 26, 1776: Read, and *Ordered*, That *John Winthrop*, Esq., be of the above Committee, in the room of *Walter Spooner*, Esq., who is absent. PEREZ MORTON, *Deputy Secretary*.

---

† PHILADELPHIA, *January* 1, 1776.—HONOURABLE GENTLEMEN: We have had the honour to receive the memorial of the General Court to the Congress, and the accounts accompanying the same, which we immediately laid before the Congress. They were referred to a Committee, but could not be passed upon, as the vouchers did not come with them. However, they have voted to advance to the Colony, in part of their accounts, the sum of four hundred and forty-three thousand three hundred and thirty-three dollars and one-third of a dollar, which we have received, and hired a light wagon to convey it to *Watertown*, under the care of Mr. *Cushing*. Enclosed, you have an invoice of the same, which we wish safe to hand.

We are, with great respect, your Honours' most obedient, humble servants, JOHN HANCOCK, SAMUEL ADAMS, THOMAS CUSHING, ROBERT TREAT PAINE.

To the Honourable the Members of the General Assembly of the *Massachusetts-Bay*, at *Watertown*.

Tuesday, January 16, 1776.

A Petition of *William Henshaw*, praying consideration and allowance for his services as Adjutant-General, under the appointment of the Provincial Congress, in the Army under the command of General *Ward*.

Read, and committed to Colonel *Thurston*, Captain *Ward*, and Captain *Carpenter*.

Ordered, That the consideration of the Report relative to the Poor of *Boston* and *Charlestown*, be put off to ten o'clock, to-morrow morning.

Resolved, That Mr. *Isaac Lothrop* be, and he hereby is empowered to present the preceding state of disbursements of this Colony in the defence of *American* liberty, to the honourable Continental Congress for approbation and allowance, and to receive the balance of such sum, or sums, as shall be allowed thereon, and pay or cause to be paid the same to the Treasurer of the Colony aforesaid.

The Report of the Committee of both Houses on his Excellency General *Washington's* Letter of the 10th instant, was read, considered, and accepted as follows, viz:

The Committee appointed to consider what further measures are necessary to be taken for procuring Hay for the Army, reported. Read and accepted.

Whereas, by a Resolve of this Court, which passed this House the 16th of *December* last, it was recommended to a number of towns in the Counties of *Suffolk*, *Essex*, *Middlesex*, *Plymouth*, and *Worcester*, as they regarded their own safety, and the general welfare of these Colonies, to take effectual measures to supply the camps at *Cambridge* and *Roxbury* with such quantities of Hay, as was set to the respective towns named in said Resolve, at the rates of five Pounds per ton for *English* Hay, and forty Shillings per ton for salt Hay: And whereas, upon a thorough inquiry made by this Court, it now appears that the allowance then made is below the market price, and short of what has been usually given by the inhabitants of this Colony, under a like scarcity with the present:

Resolved, That it be recommended to those towns which have not as yet forwarded to the camps the quantities of Hay which have been assigned them, that they send their respective quantities immediately, and receive pay therefor, at the rate of six Pounds per ton for *English*, and fifty Shillings per ton for salt Hay; provided the same shall be brought into camp within ten days from the date hereof; and lest the other towns mentioned in said Resolve, which, from an early regard to the recommendations of this Court, have already furnished their respective quantities of Hay, should be sufferers for so doing, they are to receive out of the Colony Treasury such sums as have been short paid them of the prices now allowed to be given therefor, on their producing proper certificates to the honourable Board of the quantities furnished as aforesaid, who are hereby empowered to grant warrants for the same; and the Selectmen and Committees of Correspondence in those towns are desired to transmit to this Court the receipts for the Hay they have already carried into camps, that so their regard to the credit of this community, and zeal for the common safety, may appear upon the publick records of this Colony.

And whereas, it may so happen, that at the expiration of said ten days, some towns may still remain deficient; to prevent the sad consequences of such neglect, the Selectmen of any delinquent town are hereby directed and empowered to impress therein, for the use of the Continental Army, so much Hay as will make up the full quantity assigned such town by the aforesaid Resolve of this Court.

And the Committee named in the former Resolve, are directed to see that and the foregoing carried into execution; and Colonel *Thompson* is directed to get this Resolve printed in handbills, and dispersed through the several towns mentioned in the schedule annexed to the first Resolve.

Ordered, That the Committee appointed to wait on his Excellency General *Washington*, on the subject of his Letter of the 10th instant, be a Committee to present his Excellency a copy of the Resolve of this Court for lending him the sum of fifty thousand Pounds.

On a motion, *Ordered*, That the Committee appointed to procure Sulphur, be directed to make an average of the price of what they may deliver to Mr. *Samuel Phillips*, Jun., according to what the Sulphur cost, which they may buy from time to time.

Eldad Taylor, Esq., brought down the Report of the Committee of both Houses on his Excellency General *Washington's* Letter of the 15th instant, relative to the want of Fire-Arms for the Army, viz:

That his Excellency be informed, that it is the opinion of this Court, there would be a general supply of Fire-Arms brought into the camp, if he would give publick notice that if the Recruits would come well armed they should be allowed for the use of their Arms, and, if lost in the service, the just value of them should be paid, and that their Arms shall not be detained from them when their time of service shall expire. And that to detain the Arms of the Militia without their consent, would neither promote the good of the service, nor facilitate the arming the forces, as it would produce a general uneasiness through the country. And that his Excellency be also informed that this Colony have in store but about two hundred Fire-Arms, part of which are out of repair; such as will do for the service, although provided for the particular use of this Colony, we shall be ready to deliver if they shall be needed, and do all in our power to aid his Excellency in arming the troops.

JAMES PRESCOTT, *per order*.

In Council, January 16, 1776: Read, and sent down.

Read, and accepted, and thereupon *Ordered*, That the Committee appointed to wait upon his Excellency General *Washington* upon the subject of his Letter of the 10th current, be a Committee to present him a copy of the foregoing Report.

The House, agreeable to the Order of the Day, proceeded to the consideration of the Bill for reviving and continuing sundry Laws that are expired, or near expiring.

Ordered, That the further consideration of the same be put off to three o'clock, P. M.

Ordered, That the choice of a Committee to go to *Falmouth*, in the recess of the Court, be put off to four o'clock, to-morrow, P. M.

Afternoon.

Ordered, That Deacon *Nichols*, Deacon *Watson*, Major *Brooks*, Mr. *Baldwin*, Capt. *Pilsbury*, Deacon *Wood*, and Mr. *Nye*, be added to the Committee on Muster-Rolls, and the Committee are enjoined to sit forthwith, and give constant attendance.

The Bill for reviving and continuing sundry Laws that are expired, and near expiring, was again considered by the House, and it having gone through a second reading,

Ordered, That it be read again to-morrow, eleven o'clock, A. M.

Walter Spooner, Esq., came down and informed the House that the honourable Board were now ready to come to the choice of the rest of the Officers for the Sea-Coast Forces, and desired to be informed what Officers the House propose to begin with.

Whereupon, *Ordered*, That a message go to the honourable Board, informing them that the House propose to begin with the Officers for the Company to be stationed at *Salem*.

Ordered, That Mr. *Bancroft*, Mr. *Cushing*, of *Plympton*, and Deacon *Cheever*, be a Committee on the part of the House to receive and sort the votes for the Sea-Coast Officers now to be chosen.

Who having carried up the votes for the Officers for the Companies to be stationed at *Salem*, reported that the following gentlemen were unanimously chosen, viz:

Benjamin Ward, Captain; *Jonathan Harrenden*, First Lieutenant; *William Marston*, Second Lieutenant.

The same Committee having carried up the votes for a Mustermaster for the County of *Cumberland*, reported, that Major *Peter Noyes* was unanimously chosen.

The same Committee having carried up the votes for a Mustermaster for the County of *Dukes-County*, reported, that Colonel *Beriah Norton* was unanimously chosen.

The same Committee having carried up the votes for a Mustermaster for the County of *Essex*, reported, that Mr. *Daniel Hopkins* was unanimously chosen.

The same Committeee having carried up the votes for

the Officers of the Company to be stationed at *Sheepscut-River*, in the County of *Lincoln*, reported, that the following gentlemen were chosen, viz:

Israel Davis, Captain; *Nathaniel Winslow*, First Lieutenant; *Christopher Woodbridge*, Second Lieutenant; *David Reed*, Commissary.

Ordered, That a message go to the honourable Board to inform them that this House propose to put off the choice of Sea-Coast Officers till to-morrow, twelve o'clock.

Resolved, That Mr. *Hopkins* have leave to bring in a Resolve for the appointing of another Commissary for the *Salem* and *Marblehead* Companies.

Ordered, That the Secretary lay upon the table the last establishment for Sea-Coast Forces, viz: for three Companies to be stationed in the County of *Lincoln*, one at *Truro*, in the County of *Barnstable*, &c.

Mr. *Hopkins*, agreeable to order, reported. Read, and accepted.

Whereas, by a Resolve of this Court of the 27th of *December* last, provision is made for a Commissary for the Forces stationed on the Sea-Coast at *Salem* and *Marblehead*, and as it appears to be more for the publick benefit that there should be a Commissary for each of these towns:

It is, therefore, *Resolved*, That the Commissary already appointed be a Commissary for the Companies at *Marblehead* only; and that a Commissary be appointed for the Forces stationed in the Town of *Salem*.

The House then adjourned till ten o'clock, to-morrow morning.

—

Wednesday, January 17, 1776.

Ordered, That the Doorkeeper direct the attendance of Major *Sewall*.

Ordered, That Deacon *Cheever* be of the Committee to consider a meet grant to the President of *Harvard* College, in the room of Colonel *Freeman*, absent.

On the Petition of *Samuel Osgood*, read *January* 13th:

Resolved, That the Treasurer be directed to pay him, or order, the sum of twenty-four Pounds, in full discharge for his services as Major of Brigade in the Army, from the 19th of *April* to the 20th of *July* last.

Colonel *Lovell*, agreeable to order, reported. Read, and accepted.

Whereas, his Excellency General *Washington* hath informed this Court, that he doth not think himself at liberty to pay four Companies of men who have generally done duty at *Braintree*, *Weymouth*, and *Hingham*, the last year; and the said Companies having received no part of their pay from him since *August* last:

Therefore, *Resolved*, That the Officers of the said four Companies be directed to make up their Rolls to the first day of *January* current, and observe such rules as were given to the Officers in the camps at *Cambridge* and *Roxbury*.

A Petition of *Lazarus Goodwin*, of *Plymouth*, for himself and brother *Nathaniel*, setting forth, that they have a valuable sum of money, to the amount of one thousand Pounds, sterling, and upwards, at *Cadiz*, and praying that they may be permitted to send a vessel therefor, for particular reasons set forth in said Petition.

Read, and committed to Mr. *Brown*, of *Boston*, Colonel *Otis*, and Mr. *Wheeler*.

The Resolve containing a commission of the gentlemen delegated by this Court to represent the Colony at the Continental Congress, brought down *December* 27th. Read, and committed to Mr. Speaker, Major *Hawley*, and Mr. *Cooper*, with such as the honourable Board may join; and said Committee are directed to form Instructions to said Delegates.

Ordered, That the Committee appointed to prepare a Fee-Bill for the Admiralty Courts, be directed to report forthwith.

A Petition of *Joseph Ward*, praying a reward for his services as Aid-de-camp and Secretary to General *Ward*, from the 19th *April* to the 20th *July*. Read, and committed to Mr. *Jewett*, of *Ipswich*, Deacon *Cheever*, and Major *Johnson*.

Benjamin Lincoln, Esq., brought down the Militia Bill, with the following Vote of Council, viz:

In Council, January 17, 1776: Read, and concurred, with the following amendment on the annexed label H H, viz: Dele the words "by any Officer inferior to the Colonel of the Regiment to which they belong."

Mr. *Freeman*, agreeable to order, reported the following Resolve, which was read and accepted, viz:

Resolved, That that part of the Sea-Coast establishment which respects the raising two Companies in the County of *Cumberland* be so far reconsidered, as that Captain *Bryant Morton*, lately appointed by this Court to command one of the said Companies, be, and he is hereby empowered and directed to inlist the whole, or any part thereof in any other County in this Colony where he can fill up the same with the greatest despatch, except in Sea-Port Towns, and that Colonel *Thompson* be, and hereby is empowered and directed to sign inlisting orders, and give a Form of Inlistment to the said *Morton*, agreeable to the establishment before-mentioned.

Ordered, That the Secretary lay upon the table the Report of the Committee on his Excellency General *Washington's* Letter of the 10th instant.

Whereupon, Mr. *John Lowell*, Deputy Secretary, *pro tem.*, came down and informed the House that it was not upon the file, and supposed that through the hurry of business the Committee carried it to the General's.

On motion, *Ordered*, That seven Regiments, of seven hundred and twenty-eight men each, including officers, be immediately raised from the Militia of this Colony, to join the Continental Army; and that Major *Bliss*, Mr. *Crane*, Colonel *Thurston*, Captain *Thatcher*, Mr. *Turner*, Mr. *Davis*, Colonel *Godfrey*, Deacon *Hovey*, Major *Learned*, Mr. *Herrick*, Captain *Morton*, and Captain *Davis*, be a Committee to proportion the same upon the several towns in their respective Counties.

A Letter from his Excellency General *Washington*, of this day, desiring the Court to order in, with as much expedition as the nature of the case will admit, seven Regiments agreeable to the establishment of this Army, to continue in service till the 1st of *April*, if required; also, relative to the purchase of Fire-Arms; and, proposing to accept of a loan of half the sum which the Court has offered to lend him.

Read, and committed with a copy of the establishment of the Continental Army to the Committee of Twelve, above chosen.

The Committee appointed to report a Bill for establishing Fees for the Courts of Admiralty, reported. Read, and considered, and ordered to be brought in, in form of a Resolve.

A Letter from the Committee of *St. Georges*, relative to the conduct of Captain *Francis Haskill*, in carrying a sloop-load of wood to *Boston*, &c. Read, and committed to Colonel *Orne*, Mr. *Cushing*, and Major *Cross*.

The amendment proposed by the honourable Board to be made in the Militia Bill, was considered by the House, and the Bill was recommitted to Mr. *Gerry*, Major *Hawley*, and Mr. *Cooper*.

—

Afternoon.

Jedediah Foster, Esq., brought down the two Petitions of the Selectmen of *Dorchester*, with Reports thereon.

The Committee appointed to consider the Account of the Selectmen of *Stockbridge*, with regard to the Powder by them delivered for the use of this Colony, or Army, and being directed to take up the same at large, reported by way of Resolve. Read, and accepted.

Resolved, That the Committees, or Selectmen of the several Towns in this Colony, send a just and true account of all the Powder, Lead, and Flints, by them delivered, by order of the Congress, or House of Representatives of this Colony, for the use of said Colony, or Army, to the Committee of Accounts by the 1st day of *April* next, in order to their being paid for the same, the Powder at five Shillings per pound, the Lead at five Pence per pound, the Flints at five Shillings per hundred, unless they choose to have the same replaced when the state of this Colony will permit of.

And it is further *Resolved*, That the Selectmen, or Com-

mittees as aforesaid, send an account of all the Powder, Lead, and Flints, delivered to the Minute-Men or others, that was used or left in the camp for the benefit of the Army on the alarm on the 19th day of *April* last, or otherwise be left in the camps for the use of the Army, that the same may be paid for by this Court.

On the Petition of *Elizabeth Sampson* and others, *Indian* inhabitants of *Grafton*, praying to be relieved respecting their income by the Interest money in the hands of the Guardians of that Tribe:

Resolved, That whereas, the Honourable *Artemas Ward*, Esquire, one of their present Guardians, is necessarily employed in the Continental Army, and the others have neglected to relieve those *Indians*, it is become necessary that new Guardians should be appointed, who shall, by such appointment, be vested with the same power, in all matters respecting the property of those *Indians*, as the present Guardians have.

The List of Fees for the Courts of Admiralty were again considered, and recommitted to Colonel *Otis*, Mr. *Jewett*, and Mr. *Perry*.

The Committee to whom the Militia Bill was recommitted, reported an amendment to it. Read and accepted.

The Bill for reviving and continuing sundry Laws that are expired, and near expiring: Read a third time, and passed to be engrossed.

On a motion, *Ordered*, That Mr. *Cooper*, Major *Cross*, and Colonel *Lovell*, be a Committee to consider the necessity of raising a Company of Matrosses to defend the fortresses erected in the Town of *Marblehead*.

The House then adjourned till ten o'clock, to-morrow morning.

—

Thursday, January 18, 1776.

An Account of Mr. *Joseph Palmer*, for his time and expense in bringing Doctor *Gelston* from *Falmouth*.

Read, and committed to the Committee on Accounts.

An Account of the Selectmen of the Town of *Worcester*, for providing Clothes for the Prisoners in the Jail in the County of *Worcester*. Read, and committed to the Committee on Accounts.

It was moved, That a Committee be appointed to consider the expediency of establishing a Chaplain and an Armourer for the Forces to be stationed at *Falmouth*, in the County of *Cumberland*; and the question being put, it passed in the negative.

Moses Gill, Esq., brought down the Militia Bill, with the following Vote of Council, viz:

In Council, January 17, 1776: Read, and non-concurred, and passed to be engrossed, with the label H H, and the label at the end of the Bill, reported by the Committee appointed to revise the Bill, and accepted by the honourable House.

Read, and concurred.

Benjamin Lincoln, Esq., brought down the Report of the Committee of both Houses appointed to examine into the character and conduct of Doctor *Samuel Gelston*, lately apprehended by order of the General Court.

In Council, January 17, 1776: Whereas, it appears by Doctor *Gelston's* confession, that he has contravened the Resolves of the *American* Congress, and has supplied the enemies of *American* liberties with sundry articles of provision; and, by other evidence, it appears that the said *Samuel Gelstan* is unfriendly to the liberties of this country, and is a dangerous person:

Therefore, *Resolved*, That the said *Samuel* shall not be liberated until he shall give bond, with two good sureties, to the Treasurer of this Colony, in the penal sum of one thousand Pounds; the condition whereof shall be, that the said *Samuel* will not, in any way, assist or correspond with any of the enemies of this country, and that he will be of good behaviour and peaceable towards all persons who are friendly to *American* liberty, and that he will at any time appear and answer to any complaint which may hereafter be made against him, when he shall be thereunto required by order of this Court, and that he will abide the order thereon.

Read, and non-concurred.

Whereas, it appears by Doctor *Gelston's* confession, that he has contravened the Resolves of the *American* Congress, and has supplied the enemies of *American* liberties with sundry articles of provision; and, by other evidence, it appears that the said *Samuel Gelston* is unfriendly to the liberties of this country: And whereas, the greatest danger must necessarily result from permitting such persons to go at large and continue their traitorous practices of opposing the measures adopted for our defence, of spreading false and discouraging rumours, and of communicating information of all our operations to our unnatural enemies:

And it is, therefore, *Resolved*, That the honourable Board be, and they hereby are desired to cause the said *Samuel Gelston* to be forthwith confined in some Jail in this Colony, until it shall appear to the General Court, or other proper authority of this Government, that he can with safety to the *United Colonies* be again set at liberty.

The Committee of both Houses on the Petition from the Town of *Dorchester*, relative to *Jane Jackson* and her two children, report by way of Resolve, viz:

Whereas, it appears that *Jane Jackson* and her two children, have been sent over from *Castle-William* into the Town of *Dorchester*, since which they have been maintained at the expense of the said town, notwithstanding their application to General *Washington* (by order of this Court) to desire his assistance in conveying them back to *Boston*, he refusing to concern himself in the matter:

Therefore, *Resolved*, That the Selectmen of *Dorchester* be, and they are hereby directed to remove the said *Jane Jackson*, with her two children, into some inland town, where they may be maintained at the cheapest rate; and provided either of the said persons are able to work, that they be put out for that purpose to lessen the charge of their maintenance as aforesaid. The said Selectmen to lay their Accounts before this Court for examination and allowance.

In Council, January 17, 1776: Read and accepted.

Read and concurred.

Charles Chauncy, Esq., brought down the Report of the Committee of both Houses appointed to consider the Resolve of the honourable Board on the appointment of the gentlemen delegated to represent this Colony at the Continental Congress, viz:

In Council, January 18, 1776: Whereas, *John Hancock*, *Samuel Adams*, *John Adams*, *Robert Treat Paine*, and *Elbridge Gerry*, Esqs., have been chosen, by joint ballot of the two Houses of Assembly, to represent the Colony of *Massachusetts-Bay*, in *New-England*, in the *American* Congress, until the first day of *January*, A. D. 1777:

Resolved, That they, or any one or more of them, are hereby fully empowered, with the Delegates from the other *American* Colonies, to concert, direct, and order such further measures as shall to them appear best calculated for the establishment of right and liberty to the *American* Colonies, upon a basis permanent and secure against the power and arts of the *British* Administration, and guarded against any further encroachments of their enemies, with power to adjourn to such times and places as shall appear most conducive to the publick safety and advantage.

Read, and concurred, and the Secretary is hereby directed, as soon as may be, to signify to each of those gentlemen their appointment, with an attested copy of this order.

On information received from the Committee of Correspondence of *St. Georges*, respecting two vessels held in custody by said Committee:

Resolved, That the Vessels mentioned in said information from the Committee of *St. Georges*, be held in custody by the said Committee, until the Courts shall be opened for the trial of Vessels which have been in any way employed in aiding and assisting our enemies, (according to the Act of this Colony made for that purpose,) and that the said Vessels, and their appurtenances, be delivered into the hands of the captors, when said Courts shall be opened for the aforesaid purposes.

It was represented to the House that Colonel *Arnold*, now in this town, had an open letter, and other papers, directed to some gentlemen in *Philadelphia*, which lately came from *England*, and which he was not willing to show to any private person, but would communicate it to this House, if requested:

Whereupon, *Ordered*, That Colonel *Thompson* make inquiry into this matter, and report to the House.

Ordered, That the Members from the several Counties proportion the number of men to be raised in each County on the several towns in their respective Counties, agreeable to the following Report, viz:

Suffolk, - - - -	460	York, - - - -	238
Essex, - - - -	830	Worcester, - - -	749
Middlesex, - - -	571	Lincoln, - - - -	99
Plymouth, - - -	472	Cumberland, - -	180
Barnstable, - - -	260		4,368
Bristol, - - - -	509		

Six Regiments at 728 each, is 4,368.

A Petition of the Town of *Templeton*, expressing the uneasiness on the minds of the people there, on account of the high wages of the Officers of the Army, and of the extraordinary pay which it is therein said has been given to persons employed in the service of the Colony, and praying the consideration of the Court.

Read, and committed to Major *Hawley*, Colonel *Barret*, and Mr. *Cooper*.

Resolved, That to-morrow, ten o'clock, A. M., be assigned for the choice of some person to go to *Philadelphia* with the Accounts of this Colony, in the room of Mr. *Lothrop*, excused.

The House considered the Fee-Bill for the Admiralty Courts.

The House then adjourned till ten o'clock, to-morrow morning.

—

Friday, January 19, 1776.

Ordered, That Major *Hawley* report a Resolve to stop the collecting Blankets from the Counties of *Berkshire* and *Hampshire*.

Ordered, That the Commissary-General be directed to inform his Excellency General *Washington*, that he has a number of Blankets by him, and is ready to deliver them, and such as shall come in, to his order; for which he is to take a receipt.

Resolved, That the men to be raised in the County of *Barnstable*, be laid on the County at large, and not proportioned on the several towns.

Joseph Palmer, Esq., brought down the following Vote of Council, viz:

In Council, January 18, 1776: *Ordered*, That *Moses Gill*, Esq., with such as the honourable House shall join, be a Committee to consider the propriety of commissionating such Captains and Subalterns as marched and joined the Continental Army from the Militia, with full Companies, in pursuance of the Resolve of the General Court on the first of *December* last.

Read, and concurrred, and Captain *Parker* and Colonel *Ward* are joined.

John Whetcomb, Esq., brought down the Resolve respecting the Estates of the Refugees, with the following Vote of Council thereon, viz:

In Council, January 18, 1776: Read, and concurred, as taken into a new draft.

Major *Hawley*, agreeable to order, reported. Read, and accepted.

Whereas, this Court is well informed that General *Washington* has resolved to apply to this Court that the Officers for one Regiment may be appointed by the same in the Counties of *Hampshire* and *Berkshire*, for the raising a full Regiment in them, to be employed at the northward; and the Blankets to be collected in these Counties will be absolutely necessary for the use of those men to be so raised; and as these Blankets may be on their way,

Therefore, *Ordered*, That the Blankets collected, or collecting, in those Counties be stayed therein, or if on their way, that they be ordered back. Those collected in the County of *Hampshire*, to the Towns of *Northampton* or *Springfield*; and those collected in the County of *Berkshire*, to the Towns of *Barrington* or *Pittsfield*, and delivered to the Selectmen of said towns, respectively, till further orders.

Ordered, That every of the members of either of those Counties have leave to endeavour that the same be effected.

Ordered, That Major *Hawley*, Mr. *Gerry*, and Colonel *Porter*, be a Committee to bring in a Resolve for raising the men proportioned on the several towns, and to prepare the Form of an Inlistment.

On a motion, *Ordered*, That Mr. *Sewall*, Mr. *Hale*, and Mr. *Woodbridge*, with such as the honourable Board may join, be a Committee to confer with Mr. *Thomas Harling*, on the subject of erecting a Powder-Mill, and to determine where such Mill shall be built.

Mr. Speaker communicated to the House a Letter from General *Heath*, desiring to be informed whether he is to be paid as a General Officer before he received a Continental commission, or as a Colonel of a Regiment late his own, and in what capacity the General Officers belonging to this Colony, who had Regiments the last campaign, are to be made up in the Rolls.

Ordered, That Mr. *Cooper* get the Militia Bill (when engrossed) printed in the next *Monday's* Paper.

—

Afternoon.

Benjamin White, Esq., brought down a Letter from Mr. *Samuel Jordan*, dated *Goldsborough*, *November* 30, 1775, relative to the conduct of Colonel *Cargill*, with the following Vote of Council thereon, viz:

In Council, January 19, 1776: Read, and *Ordered*, That *Eldad Taylor*, and *John Taylor*, Esqs., with such as the honourable House shall join, be a Committee to take the foregoing Letter, and papers accompanying it, into consideration, and report.

Read, and concurred, and Mr. *Hopkins*, Colonel *Thompson*, and Colonel *Cushing*, are joined.

Benjamin White, Esq., at the same time brought down a Petition of *George Henry Fisher*, setting forth, that being suspected as an enemy to the rights of the people, he was, in *September* last, sent to the care of the Committee of the Town of *Worcester*, and is now suffering for want of clothes, and praying that he may be therewith supplied. Read, and committed.

The Committee appointed in the forenoon to bring in a Resolve for raising the men proportioned on the several towns, reported.

Read, and accepted, with the schedule annexed, made agreeable to the reports of the Members from the several Counties, viz:

Whereas, it is of great importance, not only to the inhabitants of this Colony, but, also, of all the *United Colonies*, that the lines and fortifications at *Cambridge* and *Roxbury* should, at all events, be maintained; and that the Army investing *Boston* should be of strength sufficient to act offensively as well as defensively: And whereas, his Excellency General *Washington* has applied for a temporary reinforcement from *Connecticut*, *New-Hampshire*, and this Colony, to be at the said places as soon as possible, the proportion of which to this Colony, is four thousand three hundred and sixty-eight men:

Resolved, That the commanding officer of each Company of Militia in the towns hereafter mentioned, chosen agreeable to the direction of the Provincial Congress, be, and hereby is directed to cause his Company to be mustered without delay; and that out of the Companies in such town they cause to be voluntarily inlisted, the number of effective men hereinafter affixed to such towns, respectively, to serve in the *American* Army, on the Continental establishment, from the day of their inlistment to the first day of *April* next. And that each Officer and Soldier shall be allowed and paid for their service, respectively, the same sums by the calendar month, as are allowed to such Officers and Soldiers in the Army on the said establishment: the time of service to be computed from the time of his inlisting to the time of his discharge, and allowing sufficient time for his return home; that is to say, accounting one day for every twenty miles' travel; also, one penny per mile to compensate his expenses to the camp, and at the same rate, per mile, to bear his expenses from the camp home; his travelling expenses to the camp to be paid by himself, and each man to be compensated therefor at the rate above said, upon his arrival in camp; and the allowance to defray his expenses thence to his home, to be paid before or upon his discharge. And the Selectmen and Committees of Correspondence and Safety of each town

hereafter mentioned, are requested, without fail, to afford their immediate assistance, fully to effect this business with despatch, as they regard their country's, and their own welfare and safety.

And it is further *Resolved*, That all the Field and Staff Officers shall be appointed by this Court, and commissionated by the Council, on or before they arrive in camp; and the Captains, Subalterns, and non-Commissioned Officers of the several Companies shall be chosen by the Companies, respectively, from such as are inlisted, or others; and the Captains and Subalterns shall be commissionated by the Council on or before they arrive in camp; and no officer, who shall be chosen to serve on this occasion, shall be considered as so connected with the Continental Army, as to be thereby disqualified from being an officer in the Militia of this Colony, by virtue of any clause in any Act providing for the regulation of the said Militia.

Whereas, this Court, at the request of his Excellency General *Washington*, have thought it necessary that a temporary reinforcement of the Army should be made with all possible despatch; and, to effect the same, have proportioned among the several towns in this Colony such a number of men as they apprehend each town ought to raise upon the present emergency, and have appointed a Committee, out of each County, to assist in raising the men, and forming them, when raised, into Companies, which Committee is as follows, viz:

For the County of *Suffolk*, Mr. *Guild*, Colonel *Lovell*, and Colonel *McIntosh*,

For the County of *Essex*, Mr. *Phillips*, Mr. *Jewett*, Mr. *Hopkins*, and Major *Cross*.

For the County of *Middlesex*, Colonel *Spaulding*, Major *Brooks*, Colonel *Perry*, Captain *Sartle*, and Major *Bryant*.

For the County of *Plymouth*, Captain *Cushing*, Colonel *Cushing*, and Captain *White*, of *Middleborough*.

For the County of *Barnstable*, Colonel *Otis*, and Colonel *Cobb*.

For the County of *Bristol*, Captain *Hodges*, Mr. *Starkweather*, and Doctor *Baylies*.

For the County of *Worcester*, Captain *Parker*, Mr. *Fessenden*, Mr. *Allen*, Mr. *Rice*, and Colonel *Hill*.

For the County of *York*, Colonel *Sawyer*, Mr. *Sullivan*, and Major *Goodwin*.

For the County of *Cumberland*, Mr. *Fabyan* and Captain *Cutter*.

For the County of *Lincoln*, Captain *Howard* and Colonel *Jones*.

Therefore, *Resolved*, That the persons aforenamed, for each of the several Counties aforesaid, be, and they hereby are directed to use their utmost endeavours with the Committees of Correspondence and Safety, and the Selectmen of each town, to have the several proportions of men affixed to each town, in their several Counties, raised with all possible expedition, and, when raised, to form them into Companies of ninety men each, including officers; and as soon as each Company have chosen their several officers, that they cause them to march forthwith to the camp at *Cambridge* or *Roxbury*, as his Excellency General *Washington* shall direct, viz:

County of SUFFOLK.

Boston,	0	Brookline,	10
Roxbury,	27	Needham,	23
Dorchester,	25	Stoughton,	35
Milton,	25	Stoughtonham,	20
Braintree,	40	Medway,	25
Weymouth,	25	Bellingham,	20
Hingham,	25	Hull,	00
Dedham,	45	Walpole,	25
Medfield,	20	Chelsea,	00
Wrentham,	55	Cohasset,	16

County of ESSEX.

Lynn,	38	Rowley,	31
Bradford,	23	Salisbury,	26
Danvers,	37	Amesbury,	26
Marblehead,	91	Haverhill,	36
Ipswich,	68	Gloucester,	50
Newburyport,	64	Topsfield,	16
Andover,	48	Boxford,	18
Beverly,	42	Wenham,	13
Middleton,	16	Manchester,	16
Salem,	91	Methuen,	22
Newbury,	58		

County of MIDDLESEX.

Cambridge,	21	Westford,	23
Charlestown,	2	Waltham,	9
Watertown,	13	Stow,	17
Woburn,	22	Groton,	29
Concord,	26	Shirley,	10
Newton,	16	Pepperell,	14
Reading,	24	Townsend,	18
Marlborough,	26	Ashby,	9
Billerica,	25	Stoneham,	4
Framingham,	25	Natick,	4
Lexington,	12	Dracut,	16
Chelmsford,	24	Bedford,	6
Sherburne,	12	Holliston,	14
Sudbury,	33	Tewkesbury,	13
Malden,	9	Acton,	13
Weston,	13	Dunstable,	13
Medford,	10	Lincoln,	8
Littleton,	14	Wilmington	7
Hopkinton,	17		

County of PLYMOUTH.

Plympton,	25	Hanover,	19
Wareham,	17	Scituate,	52
Rochester,	49	Pembroke,	33
Middleborough,	81	Marshfield,	36
Halifax,	14	Duxborough,	22
Bridgewater,	95	Kingston,	15
Abington,	24		

County of BRISTOL.

Taunton,	74	Mansfield,	24
Dartmouth,	74	Dighton,	30
Rehoboth,	74	Berkley,	17
Swanzey,	39	Raynham,	22
Freetown,	34	Norton,	44
Attleborough,	49	Easton,	28

County of BARNSTABLE, 260.

To be raised in the County at large.

County of WORCESTER.

Worcester,	32	Sturbridge,	17
Leicester,	13	Charlton,	16
Holden,	11	Dudley,	12
Spencer,	17	Southborough,	13
Paxton,	10	Westborough,	17
Lancaster,	46	Shrewsbury,	25
Harvard,	25	Northborough,	9
Bolton,	23	Grafton,	15
Princetown,	11	Rutland,	17
Mendon,	33	Petersham,	22
Uxbridge,	13	Hutchinson,	23
Northbridge,	6	Athol,	13
Upton,	15	Templeton,	16
Douglass,	15	Winchendon,	11
Brookfield,	49	Royalston,	8
Western,	16	Hubbardston,	8
Hardwick,	29	Lunenburgh,	20
New-Braintree,	15	Leominster,	13
Oakham,	10	Westminster,	16
Sutton,	39	Fitchburgh,	10
Oxford,	11	Ashburnham,	10

County of YORK.

York,	41	Arundel,	15
Kittery,	40	Biddeford,	20
Berwick,	41	Pepperelborough,	14
Wells,	35	Sanford,	12
Lebanon,	10	Buxton,	10

County of CUMBERLAND.

Falmouth,	30	Cape-Elizabeth,	12
North-Yarmouth,	22	Windham,	10
Scarborough,	20	New-Gloucester,	25
Brunswick,	19	New-Boston,	9
Gorham,	20	Pearsontown,	9
Harpswell,	14		

County of LINCOLN.

Georgetown,	12	Vassalborough,	7
Woolwich,	6	Winslow,	6
Pownalborough,	10	Boothbay,	5
Bowdoinham,	5	Edgcombe,	6
Topsham,	8	New-Castle,	8
Hallowell,	6	Bristol,	8
Winthrop,	8	Gardnerstown,	4

Form of Inlistment.

"We, the subscribers, do hereby severally inlist ourselves into the service of the *United Colonies* of *America*, to serve until the 1st day of *April* next, if the service shall require it; and each of us do engage to furnish and carry with us into the service, a good effective fire-arm and blanket, (also, a good bayonet and cartridge-pouch, if possible;) and we severally consent to be formed by such person as the General Court shall appoint, into a company of ninety men, including one Captain, two Lieutenants, one Ensign, four Sergeants, four Corporals, one Drummer, and one Fifer, to be elected by the companies; and, when formed, we engage to march to Head-Quarters of the *American* Army, with the utmost expedition, and to be under the command of such field-officer, or officers, as the General Court shall appoint; and we further agree, during the time aforesaid, to be subject to such Generals as are, or shall be appointed, and to be under such regulations, in every respect, as are provided for the Army aforesaid. Dated this ..... day of ..... A. D. 1776."

Thomas Cushing, Esquire, brought down the Report of the Committee of both Houses appointed to confer with Mr. *Thomas Harling* on the subject of erecting a Powder-Mill, &c., viz:

That they have conferred with said *Harling*, who has viewed the Streams both at *Sutton* and *Stoughton*, and are of opinion, that it will be most for the benefit of this Colony, that said Mill should be built at *Stoughton*.

CALEB CUSHING, *per order.*

Read, and accepted, and Mr. *Gerry* was appointed to bring in a Resolve accordingly.

Mr. Speaker communicated to the House a Letter from his Excellency General *Washington*, and several copies of Letters relative to the death of General *Montgomery*, the wounding Colonel *Arnold*, and the late unsuccessful assault upon the City of *Quebeck*, with Minutes of a Council of War held at Head-Quarters in *Cambridge*, *January* 18th current.

Ordered, That Major *Sewall*, Doctor *Rice*, and Mr. *Woodbridge*, be a Committee to proportion on the several Towns in the County of *York* the men to be raised in that County.

Moses Gill, Esquire, brought down the Proclamation prepared agreeable to order by a Committee of both Houses.

Ordered, That Mr. *Gerry* bring in a Resolve for raising a Regiment of seven hundred and twenty-eight men, including officers, in the Counties of *Hampshire* and *Berkshire*, to go into *Canada*, agreeable to General *Washington's* Letter, and for the appointment of Field-Officers for said Regiment, agreeable to the method pointed out in the Militia Bill.

Ordered, That the Members from the Counties aforesaid forthwith prepare a list of Field-Officers for said Regiment, and lay the same on the table.

Mr. *Gerry*, agreeable to order, reported the following Resolve, viz: Read, and accepted.

Resolved, That the Committee lately appointed for erecting a Powder-Mill for this Colony be, and they hereby are directed to cause the same to be built at *Stoughton*, without delay, and to exert themselves for executing this most important and necessary business in preference to every other engagement which they may be at present under to this Court, and to cause the same to be constructed in such manner as shall appear to them most advantageous.

Mr. *Gerry*, agreeable to order, reported the following Resolve. Read, and accepted, viz:

Resolved, That the request of his Excellency General *Washington*, relative to raising one Regiment, to consist of seven hundred and twenty-eight men, including officers, agreeable to the Continental establishment to reinforce the Army in *Canada*, be forthwith complied with, and that the said Regiment be inlisted from the Counties of *Hampshire* and *Berkshire*, to continue in the service of the *United Colonies* until the first of *January* next, if required thereto, and that the Field-Officers be now appointed by ballot of one House of Assembly, and concurrence of the other, and when so chosen, the said officers be commissioned by the Council, and ordered on the service of recruiting without delay.

Ordered, That Major *Learned* assist the Members from the County of *Berkshire* in proportioning on the several towns in that County the men to be raised therein.

The House proceeded, by ballot, to choose the Field-Officers for the Regiment to be raised in the Counties of *Hampshire* and *Berkshire*, to reinforce the Continental Army in *Canada*, agreeable to a Resolve of this day, and unanimously made choice of *Elisha Porter*, Esq., Colonel; *Thomas Williams*, Esquire, Lieutenant-Colonel; and Mr. *Abner Morgan*, Major.

Ordered, That Mr. *Gerry*, Colonel *Orne*, and Mr. *Hopkins*, be a Committee to bring in a Resolve for raising a Regiment in the Counties of *Hampshire* and *Berkshire*, agreeable to the proportion laid on the several towns by the Members from those Counties, and to empower a Committee to appoint the Staff-Officers.

Moses Gill, Esquire, brought down the following Vote of Council, viz:

On a motion, *Ordered*, That *John Winthrop* and *Thomas Cushing*, Esquires, with such as the honourable House shall join, be a Committee to take under consideration a Resolution of the *American* Congress, passed *January* 2d, 1776, and report.

Read, and concurred, and Mr. Speaker, Mr. *Hopkins*, and Mr. *Cooper*, are joined.

The House then adjourned till ten o'clock, to-morrow morning.

—

Saturday, January 20, 1776.

Major *David Wells* was returned a Member from *Shelburne*, and made his first appearance in the House.

Two Accounts of the Honourable *John Adams*, Esquire, of his expenses at *Philadelphia*, and also, of going to and returning from that place. Read, and committed to Captain *Stone*, Major *Moody*, and Mr. *Hale*.

Colonel *Thompson* was directed to alter with a pen the date of the Resolve for procuring Hay, which was printed this day, from the 16th to the 20th instant.

A Petition of *Philip Hodgkins*, setting forth the cruel treatment he met with from Colonel *Cargill*, and praying the consideration of the Court. Read, and committed to the Committee appointed to consider the Letter from Mr. *Samuel Jordan*, brought down yesterday.

It was moved, that a bounty should be given to the Regiment which is to be raised in the Counties of *Hampshire* and *Berkshire*, to reinfore the Army at *Canada*.

—

Afternoon.

The House considered the expediency of paying a bounty to the Regiment to be raised in the Counties of *Hampshire* and *Berkshire*, to reinforce the Army at *Canada*.

On a motion, *Ordered*, That Mr. Speaker, Major *Hawley*, Deacon *Rawson*, Colonel *Cushing*, and Mr. *Cooper*, be a Committee to confer with his Excellency General *Washington* at large, on the subject of raising a Regiment for reinforcing the Army in *Canada*.

Ordered, That a message go to the honourable Board desiring them to send down his Excellency General *Washington's* Letter, relative to the raising a Regiment to go into *Canada*.

Walter Spooner, Esquire, brought it down accordingly.

A Petition of *Jonathan Hastings*, representing that he some time since preferred a Petition to this Court, praying that compensation might be made him for his time and trouble, for the accommodation of Officers, and others, at the battle of *Lexington* and *Charlestown*, &c., which Petition being mislaid, he again prays consideration of his Account. Read, and ordered to lie.

Ordered, That the following gentlemen be a Committee to see that the men proportioned on the Counties hereafter mentioned, be immediately raised, viz:

Suffolk: Mr. Guild, Colonel Lovell, Colonel McIntosh.
Essex: Mr. Phillips, Mr. Jewett, Mr. Hopkins, Major Cross.
Middlesex: Colonel Spaulding, Major Brooks, Colonel Perry, Captain Sartle, Mr. Bryant.
Plymouth: Captain Cushing, Colonel Cushing, Captain White.
Barnstable: Colonel Otis, Colonel Cobb.
Bristol: Captain Hodges, Mr. Starkweather, Doctor Baylies.
Worcester: Captain Parker, Mr. Fessenden, Mr. Allen, Mr. Rice, Colonel Hill.
York: Colonel Sawyer, Mr. Sullivan, Major Goodwin.
Lincoln: Captain Howard, Colonel Jones.
Cumberland: Mr. Fabyan, Mr. Cutter.

Ordered, That Mr. *Story* bring in a Resolve expressing the commission and business of the above Committee.

Mr. Speaker communicated to the House a Letter from Mr. *Benjamin Fessenden*, dated "*Sandwich, January* 13," relative to a sloop's sailing to the *West-Indies*, contrary to the Resolution of the Continental Congress, said to be owned by *Solomon Nye*, of *Falmouth*, with a Vote of a number of members of the Committee of Correspondence of said *Sandwich* concerning that matter.

Read, and committed to Mr. *Davis*, Mr. *Story*, and Colonel *Thompson*.

Ordered, That Mr. *Lincoln*, Mr. *Ingalls*, Captain *Thatcher*, Colonel *Cushing*, Colonel *Otis*, Major *Goodwin*, Captain *Ward*, Colonel *Godfrey*, Colonel *Thompson*, and Doctor *Rice*, be a Committee to divide the men that are to be raised for a temporary reinforcement of the *American* Army into Regiments.

Ordered, That the Clerk get a Notification inserted in the next *Monday's* Paper, for calling in the absent Members.

Ordered, That Captain *Knowles* consider the state of the two Companies stationed at *Martha's Vineyard*, with respect to Powder, and report what is proper to be done.

The House then adjourned till twelve o'clock, to-morrow.

—

Sabbath-Day, January 21, 1776.

The House met at twelve o'clock, according to adjournment.

The Committee appointed to confer with General *Washington* on the subject of raising men to go into *Canada*, reported verbally, that his Excellency was of opinion it would not be expedient to pay a bounty to them.

On a motion, *Resolved*, That there be advanced to the non-Commissioned Officers and Soldiers of the Regiment to be raised for a reinforcement of the Army in *Canada*, one month's Pay, over and above that which will be paid to them by his Excellency General *Washington*.

The Committee appointed to divide into Regiments the four thousand three hundred and sixty-eight men to be raised from the Militia in this Colony, to serve in the *American* Army before *Boston*, reported. Read, and recommitted.

Ordered, That Mr. Speaker and Mr. *Cooper* be of the Committee appointed to bring in a Resolve for raising the Regiment to go into *Canada*.

Ordered, That a message go to the honourable Board, informing them that this House has nothing special to lay before them at this time, but propose to adjourn to four o'clock, in the afternoon.

Then the House adjourned to four o'clock.

The House met according to adjournment.

The Committee appointed to bring in a Resolve for raising the Regiment to go into *Canada*, reported. Read, and accepted.

Whereas, it is of very great importance to our brethren, the inhabitants of *Canada*, and to the inhabitants of the *United Colonies*, especially to the western and northern Counties thereof, that the advantages gained under the smiles of Providence by the *American* arms, during the year last past, over the Ministerial forces in *Canada*, should be maintained, and the remainder of them there effectually subdued, as well as the rights and liberties of our brethren in that Colony secured: And whereas, his Excellency General *Washington* has applied to each of the Colonies of *Connecticut*, *New-Hampshire*, and *Massachusetts-Bay*, severally, to furnish a Regiment, consisting of seven hundred and twenty-eight men, including officers, to be raised with all possible despatch, on the *American* establishment, and to serve the *United Colonies* until the first day of *January* next, if required thereto:

It is, therefore, *Resolved*, That a Regiment, consisting of seven hundred and twenty-eight men, be raised, for the purpose aforesaid, in the Counties of *Hampshire* and *Berkshire*, and to be under the command of *Elisha Porter*, Esq., as Colonel; *Thomas Williams*, Esq., as Lieutenant-Colonel; and *Abner Morgan*, Esq., as Major; who have been unanimously chosen by the General Court of this Colony to those offices, respectively. And that the commanding officer of each company of Militia in the towns of the said Counties of *Hampshire* and *Berkshire*, hereafter mentioned, chosen agreeable to the direction of the Provincial Congress, be, and hereby is directed to cause his company, without delay, to be mustered, and that, out of the company or companies in such town, they cause to be voluntarily inlisted the number of effective men herein affixed to such town, respectively, to serve the *United Colonies* on the Continental establishment, and under their Generals, until the first day of *January* next, if the service shall require it. And that each officer and soldier shall be allowed and paid for their service, respectively, the same sum, by the calendar month, as is allowed to other officers and soldiers in the establishment aforesaid, the time of service to be computed from the time of his inlistment or entering the same, to the time of his discharge, and allowing sufficient time for his return home; that is to say, accounting one day for every twenty miles' march; also, one penny per mile, to compensate his expenses on his march to and from the camp, for so many miles as he shall bear his travelling expenses in the march aforesaid. And each non-commissioned officer and soldier shall be allowed a blanket, or twelve shillings to pay for the same if he finds it himself.

And whereas, the season is severe, and the service both important and necessary:

It is further *Resolved*, As a further encouragement to such non-Commissioned Officers and Soldiers as shall appear to inlist for the succour of their brethren in *Canada*, and for the defence and support of the just cause of *America* on this occasion, that, in addition to one month's advance wages to be paid them by his Excellency General *Washington*, there shall be paid them, also, out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, one other month's advance wages, upon their passing muster, by a Mustermaster to be appointed by his Excellency, in full confidence that the justice of the Congress will order the same to be reimbursed. And the Treasurer is hereby ordered to pay the sum of thirteen hundred and ninety-eight Pounds eight Shillings to Colonel *Porter*, for that purpose, he to be accountable to this Court for the same.

And the Selectmen, and Committees of Correspondence and Safety of each of said towns, are requested, without fail, to afford their immediate assistance, fully to effect this business with the utmost despatch, as they regard their country's and their own safety and welfare.

And it is further *Resolved*, That the Captains, Subalterns, and non-Commissioned Officers of the several companies, shall be chosen by the companies, respectively, from those inlisted, or others, and commissioned by the Council, and that the Committee appointed by this Court, in conjunction with the Field-Officers aforesaid, distribute the men inlisted as aforesaid, into companies.

For the County of BERKSHIRE.

Sheffield,	24	Hopeland and Glass-works,	9
Sandisfield,	11		
New-Marlborough,	16	Pittsfield,	21
Egremont,	11	Hartwood,	8
Great-Barrington,	15	Lanesborough,	19
Alford,	7	Partridgefield,	8
Tyringham,	13	Gageborough,	8
Stockbridge,	12	Jericho,	8

West-Stockbridge,	7	New-Providence,	10
Richmond,	13	Williamstown,	14
Lenox,	13	East-Hoosick,	9
Becket,	9	Loudon,	5

County of Hampshire.

Springfield,	19	South-Brimfield,	10
Wilbraham,	11	Monson,	8
West-Springfield,	21	Pelham,	12
Northampton,	23	Greenwich,	9
Southampton,	9	Blanford,	10
Westfield,	18	Leverett,	5
Southwick,	9	Palmer,	11
Hadley,	10	Granville,	13
South-Hadley,	9	New-Salem,	12
Amherst,	14	Belchertown,	12
Granby,	7	Colerain,	10
Hatfield,	10	Ware,	7
Whately,	6	Warwick,	6
Williamsburgh,	7	Barnardston,	9
Deerfield,	13	Murrayfield,	6
Greenfield,	11	Charlemont,	7
Shelburne,	10	Ashfield,	8
Conway,	12	Worthington,	8
Sunderland,	7	Shutesbury,	9
Montague,	9	Ludlow,	5
Northfield,	10	Norwich,	4
Brimfield,	13	Chesterfield,	12

Mr. *Story*, agreeable to order, reported. Read, and accepted.

Whereas, this Court, at the request of his Excellency General *Washington*, have thought it necessary that a temporary reinforcement of the Army should be made with all possible despatch, and, to effect the same, have proportioned among the several towns in this Colony such a number of men as they apprehend each town ought to raise, upon the present emergency; and (A) whereas, this Court, That the men agreed to be furnished by this Colony should be raised with all expedition, (B) have appointed a Committee out of each County to assist in raising the men, and forming them, when raised, into companies, which Committee are as follows, viz:

For the County of *Suffolk:* Mr. Guild, Colonel Lovell, Colonel McIntosh.

Essex: Mr. Phillips, Mr. Jewett, Mr. Hopkins, Major Cross.

Middlesex: Colonel Spaulding, Major Brooks, Colonel Perry, Captain Sartle, Mr. Bryant.

Plymouth: Captain Cushing, Colonel Cushing, Captain White, of *Middleborough*.

Barnstable: Colonel Otis, Colonel Cobb.

Bristol: Captain Hodges, Mr. Starkweather, Doctor Baylies.

Worcester: Captain Parker, Mr. Fessenden, Mr. Allen, Mr. Rice, Colonel Hill.

York: Colonel Sayer, Mr. Sullivan, Major Goodwin.

Cumberland: Mr. Fabyan, Captain Cutter.

Lincoln: Captain Howard, Colonel Jones.

Therefore, *Resolved*, That the persons aforenamed, for each of the several Counties aforesaid, be, and they hereby are directed to use their utmost endeavours with the Committees of Correspondence and Safety, and Selectmen of each town, to have the several proportions of men affixed to each town in their several Counties raised with all possible expedition, and, when raised, to form them into Companies of ninety men each, including officers, and, as soon as each Company has chosen their several officers, that they cause them to march forthwith to the camp at *Cambridge* or *Roxbury*, as his Excellency General *Washington* shall direct.

Ordered, That the following gentlemen be a Committee to see that the men to be raised from the Counties of *Hampshire* and *Berkshire* be divided into Companies, and equipped with all expedition, viz:

For the County of *Hampshire:* Colonel Field, Mr. Dickenson, Major Pyncheon, Major Ely, Major Bliss, and Colonel Howe.

For the County of *Berkshire:* Doctor Whiting, Captain Goodrich, and Major Smith.

Ordered, That Colonel *Otis* get four hundred of the Resolves, which respect the raising six Regiments to serve in the Continental Army before *Boston*, immediately printed, and to see that the press is corrected, and the Form for Inlistment printed on one side by itself.

Ordered, That Captain *Brown*, of *Watertown*, get one hundred of the Resolves which respect the raising a Regiment in *Hampshire* and *Berkshire*, printed as soon as possible, and to see that the press is corrected, and that the following Form of an Inlistment be printed on one side by itself, and when printed to deliver the same to the Committee above-mentioned.

Form of an Inlistment.

"We, the subscribers, do hereby severally inlist ourselves into the service of the *United American Colonies*, until the 1st day of *January* next, if the service should require it; and each of us do engage to furnish and carry with us into the service aforesaid, a good effective fire-arm and blanket; (also, a good bayonet, cartridge-pouch, and a hatchet, or tomahawk, or cutting-sword, if possible;) and we severally consent to be formed by such person, or persons, as the General Court shall appoint, into a company of ninety men, including one Captain, two Lieutenants, one Ensign, four Sergeants, four Corporals, one Drum, and one Fife, to be elected by the company, and commissionated by the Council, and when formed, we engage to march into *Canada*, with the utmost expedition, and to be under such Field-Officers as the General Court have appointed, or shall appoint; and we further agree, during the time aforesaid, to be subject to such Generals, or superior officers, as are or shall be appointed, and to be under such regulations in every respect as are provided for the Army aforesaid.

"Dated the . . . . . of . . . . . A. D. 1776."

Major Hawley brought in a Resolve for removing the concern and uneasiness of some people in the Colony on account of the establishment of wages to be paid to the Officers in the *American* Army.

Read, and *Ordered*, That Mr. *Gardner*, Deacon *Rawson*, and Deacon *Nichols*, be a Committee to inquire into the truth of the facts therein stated.

Whereas, it is of great importance that the Regiment to be raised by this Colony to serve the *United Colonies* in *Canada*, should be inlisted and marched with the utmost despatch, and the appointment of the Staff Officers by this Court, and making commissions to Captains and Subalterns for said Regiment may occasion delay:

Resolved, That the Field-Officers of the Regiment, together with Major *Pynchcon*, Major *Ely*, Colonel *Field*, Mr. *Dickenson*, Major *Bliss*, Colonel *Howe*, Doctor *Whiting*, Captain *Goodrich*, and Major *Smith*, or the major part of them be, and they hereby are appointed a Committee to appoint a Quartermaster, an Adjutant, a Chaplain, Surgeon, and Surgeon's Mate for said Regiment; and the honourable Board are hereby empowered to deliver to said Committee five blank warrants for the said Staff Officers, also, a sufficient number of blank commissions for the Captains and Subalterns aforesaid, signed. And the said Committee are directed to fill up the said blank commissions with the names of such commissioned officers as the Companies shall, respectively, choose.

Moses Gill, Esq., brought down the Resolve reported this afternoon by Mr. *Story*, with the following Vote of Council, viz:

In Council, January 21, 1776: Read, and concurred with the amendment, viz: Dele from A to B.

Read, and concurred.

The House then adjourned till ten o'clock, to-morrow morning.

—

Monday, January 22, 1776.

An engrossed Bill, intituled, "An Act for forming and regulating the Militia within the Colony of the *Massachusetts-Bay*, in *New-England*, and for repealing all the laws heretofore made for that purpose."

Read, and *Resolved*, That it pass to be enacted.

Resolved, That there be allowed and paid out of the the publick Treasury, to *Elisha Porter*, Esq., for the use of *Carmi Wright*, the sum of two Pounds five Shillings, in full for a Gun lost in the battle at *Charlestown*, the 17th

June last, (A,) and *Henry Gardner*, Esq., is directed to pay the same accordingly. (B.)

Whereas, *Joseph Trumbull*, Esq., Commissary-General of the Continental Army, has applied to *Henry Gardner*, Esq., Treasurer of this Colony, for the loan of two thousand Pounds, to enable him, in his said capacity, to make provision for the Troops marching into *Canada*, to succour and recruit the Army there; and it appears to this Court that it be necessary to advance the service that the Treasurer should comply with his request:

Therefore, *Resolved*, That *Henry Gardner*, Esq., Treasurer of this Colony be, and he hereby is empowered to advance out of the Treasury two thousand Pounds to *Joseph Trumbull*, Esq., taking his obligation for the repayment of the same on demand.

Whereas, this Court, at the request of his Excellency General *Washington*, have ordered that a Regiment should be raised in the Counties of *Hampshire* and *Berkshire*, to reinforce the Army in *Canada*, with all possible despatch, and to effect the same, have proportioned among the several towns in those Counties such a number of men as they apprehend each town ought to raise, and have appointed a Committee out of each County to assist in raising the men, and forming them, when raised, into Companies, viz: Major *Pyncheon*, Major *Ely*, Colonel *Field*, Mr. *Dickenson*, Major *Bliss*, and Colonel *Howe*, for the County of *Hampshire;* and Doctor *Whiting*, Captain *Goodrich*, and Major *Smith*, for the County of *Berkshire:*

Therefore, *Resolved*, That the said Committee be, and they are hereby directed to use their utmost endeavours with the Field-Officers of the Regiments to be raised as aforesaid, and the Committees of Correspondence and Safety, and the Selectmen of each town within their respective Counties, to have the several proportions of men affixed to each town therein, raised with all possible expedition, and, when raised, to form them into Companies of ninety men each, including officers, and as soon as each Company have chosen their several officers, that they cause them to march forthwith into *Canada*.

Ordered, That Mr. *Story* bring in a Resolve for paying to the order of Colonel *Porter*, the sum of one hundred Pounds, for procuring necessaries for the Regiment to be raised for reinforcing the Army in *Canada*.

Mr. *Story* agreeable to order, reported. Read, and accepted.

Whereas, it has been represented to this Court, that sundry articles are necessary to be procured to supply the Regiment agreed to be raised to march into *Canada;* and as the Quartermaster-General has no money in his hands at present sufficient to advance for that purpose:

Therefore, *Resolved*, That there be allowed and paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony to *Elisha Porter*, Esq., the sum of one hundred Pounds, to enable him to purchase such articles as are necessary for the men that are to be under his command, to proceed to *Canada*, he, the said *Porter*, leaving with the Treasurer an order on the Quartermaster-General of the Army for the amount of said sum.

And it is further *Resolved*, That the Blankets that were provided by order of this Court, in the Counties of *Hampshire* and *Berkshire*, for supply of the Army, be delivered to the said *Porter*, for the use of his Regiment, he paying unto the Treasurer of this Colony the amount of what the said Blankets cost.

—

Afternoon.

On a motion, *Ordered*, That Mr. *Story*, Mr. *Cooper*, Captain *Batchelder*, Mr. *Mills*, and Mr. *Nye*, be a Committee to revise the several Resolves of this Court relative to Saltpetre, and report what is proper further to be done.

Ordered, That Major *Ely*, Captain *Brown*, of *Watertown*, and Major *Brooks*, be a Committee to make an experiment of the Powder which was manufactured at *Weymouth*, from Saltpetre made in this Colony, and brought to the House by Colonel *Lovell*, and that Colonel *Lovell* attend them in making the experiment.

Ordered, That the Treasurer be directed to pay the two thousand Pounds which the Court have this day resolved to lend *Joseph Trumbull*, Esquire, Commissary-General of the Continental Army, in Continental Bills, if said *Trumbull* should desire it.

The House considered the List of Fees for the Courts of Admiralty, and ordered that it be recommitted; and Mr. *Story* and Captain *Batchelder* were added to the Committee, in the room of Mr. *Jewett* and Mr. *Perry*, absent.

Resolved, That the Men ordered by this Court to be raised from the Militia in this Colony, to serve in the *American* Army until the 1st day of *April* next, be divided into Regiments, as follows, viz:

460 *Suffolk*, and 238 *York*,	698	for one Regiment.
830 *Essex*,	830	for another Regiment.
472 *Plymouth*, and 260 *Barnstable*,	732	for another Regiment.
749 *Worcester*,	749	for another Regiment.
509 *Bristol*, and 180 *Cumberland*,	689	for another Regiment.
571 *Middlesex*, 99 *Lincoln*,	670	for another Regiment.
4,368	4,368	

Resolved, That ten o'clock, to-morrow, A. M., be assigned for the choice of Field and Staff-Officers for the six Regiments to be raised from the Militia in this Colony, to serve in the Continental Army before *Boston*, till the 1st of *April;* and that such Officers be chosen agreeable to the method pointed out in the Militia Bill.

Major *Hawley*, by leave of the House, brought in the following Resolve. Read, and accepted:

Whereas, a certain Act, intituled "An Act for establishing and regulating the Fees of the several Officers within this Province hereafter mentioned," made and passed at the session of the Great and General Court of this Colony, begun and held at *Boston*, in the County of *Suffolk*, upon *Wednesday*, the 6th day of *January*, 1773, expired on the last day of *October* last, and at present there is no Act or laws of this Colony now in force for establishing and regulating the fees of the several officers in the said Act mentioned, excepting a certain Act made and passed in the fourth year of the reign of *William* and *Mary*, King and Queen, entitled "An Act for regulating Fees," which last-mentioned Act has, by divers temporary Acts, from time to time, been superseded and suspended as insalutary, and the fees thereby settled and established appear to be, in many instances, extravagant and unreasonable:

It is, therefore, *Resolved*, That henceforward, until the further order of the General Court, it shall be lawful for all Officers named and mentioned in the Act first above mentioned to take and receive, for the several services therein specified, such and no higher Fees than the Fees, or sums of Money, specified in the said first-mentioned Act, and be subject to the pains and penalties there provided for the offences against the same.

The House then adjourned till ten o'clock, to-morrow morning.

—

Tuesday, January 23, 1776.

The Committee appointed to make an experiment of some Powder which was manufactured at *Weymouth*, from Saltpetre made in this Colony, reported, that they had effectually proved the same, and found it very good; and at the same time laid on the table two flatted leaden balls which were discharged from a small-arm, loaded with two inches of powder, into a tough white-oak tree, at the distance of eight rods, which penetrated the tree two inches.

The Members were called in.

The House considered and passed upon the Proclamation brought down the 19th instant, viz:

By the Great and General Court of the Colony of Massachusetts-Bay:—A Proclamation.

The frailty of human nature, the wants of individuals, and the numerous dangers which surround them through the course of life, have, in all ages, and in every country, impelled them to form Societies and establish Governments.

As the happiness of the People is the sole end of Government, so the consent of the People is the only foundation of it, in reason, morality, and the natural fitness of things; and, therefore, every act of Government, every

exercise of sovereignty, against, or without the consent of the People, is injustice, usurpation, and tyranny.

It is a maxim, that in every Government there must exist, somewhere, a supreme, sovereign, absolute, and uncontrollable power; but this power resides always in the body of the people, and it never was, nor can be delegated to one man, or a few; the great Creator having never given to men a right to vest others with authority over them, unlimited either in duration or degree.

When Kings, Ministers, Governours or Legislators, therefore, instead of exercising the powers intrusted with them, according to the principles, forms, and proportions stated by the Constitution, and established by the original compact, prostitute those powers to the purposes of oppression; to subvert, instead of supporting a free Constitution; to destroy, instead of preserving the lives, liberties, and properties of the people, they are no longer to be deemed Magistrates vested with a sacred character, but become publick enemies, and ought to be resisted.

The Administration of *Great Britain*, despising equally the justice, humanity, and magnanimity of their ancestors, and the rights, liberties, and courage of *Americans*, have, for a course of years, laboured to establish a sovereignty in *America*, not founded in the consent of the people, but in the mere will of persons a thousand leagues from us, whom we know not, and have endeavoured to establish this sovereignty over us, against our consent, in all cases whatsoever.

The Colonies, during this period, have recurred to every peaceable resource in a free Constitution, by Petitions and Remonstrances, to obtain justice; which has been not only denied to them, but they have been treated with unexampled indignity and contempt; and at length, open war of the most atrocious, cruel, and sanguinary kind has been commenced against them. To this, an open, manly, and successful resistance has hitherto been made. Thirteen Colonies are now firmly united in the conduct of this most just and necessary war, under the wise councils of their Congress.

It is the will of Providence, for wise, righteous, and gracious ends, that this Colony should have been singled out by the enemies of *America*, as the first object both of their envy and their revenge; and after having been made the subject of several merciless and vindictive statutes, one of which was intended to subvert our Constitution by Charter, is made the seat of war.

No effectual resistance to the system of tyranny prepared for us could be made, without either instant recourse to arms, or a temporary suspension of the ordinary powers of Government and tribunals of justice: to the last of which evils, in hopes of a speedy reconciliation with *Great Britain*, upon equitable terms, the Congress advised us to submit; and mankind has seen a phenomenon, without example in the political world, a large and populous Colony subsisting in great decency and order, for more than a year, under such suspension of Government.

But as our enemies have proceeded to such barbarous extremities, commencing hostilities upon the good people of this Colony, and with unprecedented malice exerting their power to spread the calamities of fire, sword, and famine through the land, and no reasonable prospect remains of a speedy reconciliation with *Great-Britain*, the Congress have resolved, "that no obedience being due to the Act of Parliament for altering the Charter of the Colony of *Massachusetts-Bay*, nor to a Governour or Lieutenant-Governour, who will not observe the directions of, but endeavour to subvert that Charter; the Governour and Lieutenant-Governour of that Colony are to be considered as absent, and their offices vacant; and as there is no Council there, and inconveniences arising from the supension of the powers of Government, are intolerable especially at a time when General *Gage* hath actually levied war, and is carrying on hostilities against his Majesty's peaceable and loyal subjects of that Colony; that, in order to conform as near as may be to the spirit and substance of the Charter, it be recommended to the Provincial Convention to write letters to the inhabitants of the several places which are entitled to representation in Assembly, requesting them to choose such Representatives; and that the Assembly when chosen, do elect Counsellors; and that such Assembly and Council exercise the powers of Government until a Governour of His Majesty's appointment will consent to govern the Colony according to its Charter."

In pursuance of which advice the good people of this Colony have chosen a full and free representation of themselves, who, being convened in Assembly, have elected a Council, who, as the Executive branch of Government, have constituted necessary officers through the Colony. The present generation, therefore, may be congratulated on the acquisition of a form of Government more immediately, in all its branches, under the influence and control of the people; and, therefore, more free and happy than was enjoyed by their ancestors. But as a Government so popular can be supported only by universal knowledge and virtue in the body of the people, it is the duty of all ranks to promote the means of education for the rising generation, as well as true religion, purity of manners, and integrity of life, among all orders and degrees.

As an Army has become necessary for our defence, and in all free states the civil must provide for and control the military power, the major part of the Council have appointed Magistrates and Courts of Justice in every County, whose happiness is so connected with that of the people, that it is difficult to suppose they can abuse their trust. The business of it is to see those laws enforced which are necessary for the preservation of peace, virtue, and good order. And the Great and General Court expects and requires, that all necessary support and assistance be given, and all proper obedience yielded to them; and will deem every person who shall fail of his duty in this respect towards them, a disturber of the peace of this Colony, and deserving of examplary punishment.

That piety and virtue, which alone can secure the freedom of any people, may be encouraged, and vice and immorality suppressed, the Great and General Court have thought fit to issue this Proclamation, commanding and enjoining it upon the good people of this Colony, that they lead sober, religious, and peaceable lives; avoiding all blasphemies, contempt of the Holy Scriptures, and of the Lord's Day, and all other crimes and misdemeanors; all debauchery, profaneness, corruption, venality, all riotous and tumultuous proceedings, and all immoralities whatsoever; and that they decently and reverently attend the publick worship of *God*, at all times acknowledging with gratitude His merciful interposition in their behalf, devoutly confiding in Him as the *God* of Armies, by whose favour and protection alone they may hope for success, in their present conflict.

And all Judges, Justices, Sheriffs, Grand Jurors, Tythingmen, and all other civil officers within this Colony, are hereby strictly enjoined and commanded that they contribute all in their power, by their advice, exertions, and examples, towards a general reformation of manners; and that they bring to condign punishment every person who shall commit any of the crimes or misdemeanors aforesaid, or that shall be guilty of any immoralities whatever; and that they use their utmost endeavours to have the Resolves of the Congress, and the good and wholesome laws of this Colony duly carried into execution.

And as the Ministers of the Gospel within this Colony have, during the late relaxation of the powers of civil Government, exerted themselves for our safety, it is hereby recommended to them, still to continue their virtuous labours for the good of the people, inculcating by their publick ministry and private example, the necessity of religion, morality, and good order.

In Council, January 19, 1776: *Ordered*, That the foregoing Proclamation be read at the opening of every Superior Court of Judicature, &c., and Inferior Court of Common Pleas, and Court of General Session for the Peace, within this Colony, by their respective Clerks and at the Annual Town-Meetings in *March*, in each Town.

And it is hereby recommended to the several Ministers of the Gospel throughout this Colony, to read the same in their respective Assemblies on the Lord's Day next after their receiving it, immediately after Divine service.

Read, and concurred.

Charles Chauncy, Esquire, brought down the following Papers, viz:

A Report of the Committee of both Houses on the Petition of *Thomas Russell*.

A Report of the Committee of both Houses appointed to consider the propriety of commissionating such Captains and Lieutenants as marched, and joined the Continental Army from the Militia in this Colony, &c., and,

A Report of the Committee of both Houses on the Petition of *Joseph Deane*.

Moses Gill, Esquire, brought down the Report of a Committee appointed to consider a plan for fitting out Armed Vessels, with the following Vote of Council thereon, viz:

In Council, January 23, 1776: *Ordered*, That *Thomas Cushing*, Esquire, be of the aforesaid Committee on the part of the Board, in the room of *John Adams*, Esquire, who is absent.

Read, and concurred.

Ordered, That Deacon *Codding*, Colonel *Thompson*, and Major *Lock*, be a Committee to count and sort the votes for Officers of the Six Regiments to be raised to join the Army before *Boston*.

On a motion, *Voted*, That this last Order, as also the Vote of yesterday for choosing such Officers agreeable to the method pointed out in the Militia Bill, be reconsidered, and that they be chosen by nomination.

The House then proceeded to the choice of Field and Staff-Officers for the Six Regiments to be raised from the Militia in this Colony, to serve in the *American* Army before *Boston* till the first day of *April* next, and the following gentlemen were accordingly chosen, viz:

For the Suffolk *and* York *Regiment.*

Lemuel Robinson, Colonel; *Noah Moulton Littlefield*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *James Metcalf*, Major; Rev. *David Sandford*, Chaplain; Captain *Sabin Mann*, Adjutant; *John Grant*, Quartermaster; Doctor *Nathaniel Ames*, Surgeon; *Elisha Pond*, Jun., Surgeon's Mate.

For the Essex *Regiment.*

Ipswich, Isaac Smith, Colonel.
Beverly, Henry Herrick, Lieutenant-Colonel.
Salisbury, Joseph Page, Major.
Andover, John Peabody, Jun., Adjutant.
Haverhill, James Bricket, Surgeon.
Ipswich, Reverend John Cleveland, Chaplain.
Boxford, Benjamin Foster, Quartermaster.
Samuel Hezzletine, Surgeon's Mate.

For the Plymouth *and* Barnstable *Regiment.*

Bridgewater, Simon Cary, Colonel.
Falmouth, Barachiah Basset, Lieutenant-Colonel.
Scituate, William Turner, Major.
Chatham, Thomas Hamilton, Adjutant.
Plymouth, Andrew Campbell, Quartermaster.
Bridgewater, John Shaw, Jun., Chaplain.
Wareham, Andrew Mackay, Surgeon.
Harwich, Nathaniel Hall, Surgeon's Mate.

For the Worcester *Regiment.*

Harvard, Josiah Whitney, Colonel.
Western, Danforth Keys, Lieutenant-Colonel.
Sutton, Jonathan Holman, Major.
Leominster William Warner, Adjutant.
Rutland, Caleb Clap, Quartermaster.
Grafton, Timothy Daling, Surgeon.
Rutland, Spencer Field, Surgeon's Mate.
Reverend Elisha Fish, Chaplain.

For the Bristol *and* Cumberland *Regiment.*

Jacob French, Colonel; *Thomas Kempton*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Nathaniel Jordan*, Major; *Archibald Campbell*, Chaplain; *Daniel Hathaway*, Surgeon; *Nathaniel Cook*, Surgeon's Mate; *Thomas Berry*, Adjutant; *Jacob Fuller*, Quartermaster.

For the Middlesex *and* Lincoln *Regiment.*

John Robertson, Colonel; *Michael Jackson*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Samuel McCobb*, Major; *Joseph Thaxter*, Chaplain; *Nathaniel Slow*, Quartermaster; *Jabez Brown*, Adjutant; *Asaph Fletcher*, Surgeon; Dr. *Little*, of *Westford*, Surgeon's Mate.

Ordered, That Mr. *Baldwin* go out to the County of *Worcester* to promote the Levies in that County, in the room of Mr. *Allen* excused.

Afternoon.

Ordered, That a message go to the honourable Board, to know if they have passed upon the Resolve of this House for confining Doctor *Gelston*.

Joseph Palmer, Esquire, brought down the Resolve of the House for confining Doctor *Gelston*, with the following Vote of Council thereon, viz:

In Council, January 22, 1776: Read, and concurred, and the Board having reconsidered their former Vote, passed the following Resolve, viz:

That the said *Samuel Gelston* be sent to the Town of *Groton*, in the County of *Middlesex*, and that he give bond, with two good sureties, to the Treasurer of this Colony, in the penal sum of one thousand Pounds, the condition whereof shall be, that he, the said *Samuel*, will not depart out of the limits of the said Town of *Groton*, until the further order of this Court, and that he will not in any wise assist or correspond with any of the enemies of this country, and that he will be of good and peaceable behaviour towards all persons who are friendly to *American* liberty, and that he will at any time appear and answer to any complaint which may be made against him, when he shall be thereto required by order of this Court, and that he will abide their order thereon.

And on failure of the said *Samuel's* giving bond as aforesaid, *Resolved*, That he be committed to the Jail in *Newburyport*, until the further order of this Court.

Read, and non-concurred, and the House adhere to their own Vote.

On a motion, *Ordered*, That Colonel *Freeman* bring in a Resolve empowering the Committee appointed to promote Levies in the County of *Barnstable*, to take from the *Elizabeth-Islands* one half the men stationed there, agreeable to a late Resolve of this Court; and, also, to empower the Committee for promoting Levies in the County of *Cumberland* to take one Company from the four hundred men stationed at *Falmouth*.

Moses Gill, Esq., brought down the Letter and Resolves received from the Continental Congress, read the 15th current, with the Report of the Committee of both Houses thereon.

In Council, January 23, 1776: Read, and accepted, and *Ordered*, That the same be recorded accordingly, and the Committee are allowed to sit again.

Read, and concurred.

The House, according to the Order of the Day, considered the Report of the Committee appointed to consider and report some General Rules, by which the Committee on Accounts shall govern themselves, in the allowance they shall make for service of Committees sent out from this Court.

It was moved, That the last clause in the Report should be deled, viz: "And that the attendance of the Members of this Court, for their services this year, be paid by Government, as other charges are this year; this not to be a precedent for the future." And the question being put, it passed in the affirmative, viz:

For the question, sixty. The number of the House was one hundred and one.

It was moved, That the Committee on Accounts be instructed not to pass upon the Accounts of any Committee of the Court for their services, till further order of the Court; and the question being put, it passed in the negative.

On a motion, *Ordered*, That Mr. *Cooper*, Col. *Orne*, and Major *Brooks*, be a Committee to bring in a Resolve relative to paying Committees of the Court for their services.

The House then adjourned, till ten o'clock, to-morrow morning.

—

Wednesday, January 24, 1776.

Ordered, That Mr. *Brown*, of *Boston*, Mr. *Story*, and Mr. *Ellis*, be a Committee to bring in a Resolve for advancing a sum of money to the gentlemen chosen to represent this Colony at the Continental Congress.

Ordered, That a message go to the honourable Board, to desire them to send down the Resolve appointing Field and Staff Officers for the six Regiments to be raised for reinforcing the Army before *Boston*, if they have not passed upon it.

*

A Petition of *John Albee*, and others, Commanders of the several Companies of Militia and Minute-Men in the Town of *Mendon*, who marched on the alarm of the 19th *April* last, praying that they may be allowed the sum of eighteen Pounds twelve Shillings and four Pence, due to said Companies for billeting.

Read, and committed to the Committee on Selectmen's Accounts.

Colonel *Freeman*, agreeable to order, reported the following Resolve. Read, and accepted, (the House having previously voted to reconsider the vote of yesterday, for drawing off one Company of Sea-Coast Men from *Falmouth*,) viz:

Whereas, there are two Companies, of seventy-five men each, raised and stationed at the *Elizabeth-Islands*, by a former Resolve of this Court, and it being apprehended that one of those Companies will be sufficient to guard those Islands till the first day of *April* next; and as it is of importance to reinforce the Continental Army before *Boston* with the greatest expedition:

Therefore, it is *Resolved*, That the Committee for raising men in the County of *Barnstable*, be directed to include in the proportion of men to be raised in that County, one Company of the said men stationed at the *Elizabeth-Islands* aforesaid, in case they will inlist; and all such Officers and Soldiers of them who shall inlist and engage in the service of the Continental Army till the said first day of *April*, shall receive the same allowance for travelling to and from the camp, as also the same wages, as others raised for the purpose of reinforcing the said Continental Army, and shall be released from their service at the said *Elizabeth-Islands* till the first day of *April* next, and then shall return to that service and establishment again: And if one set of Officers shall inlist one Company, of seventy-five men, of said Companies, stationed at said Islands, they shall, in that case, be the officers of that Company, and may fill up by inlistment the remainder of the Company, to make up the number of ninety men in the whole, including officers, and the whole of said Company shall then proceed to the choice of an Ensign, to serve till the first day of *April*.

And whereas, *Barachiah Basset*, Esq., was appointed by this Court as a Major to command the Forces stationed at the Islands aforesaid, and at *Martha's Vineyard*, and his attention to said service from this time till the first of *April* next, being thought unnecessary, and the said *Basset* being chosen as a Lieutenant-Colonel by this Court, for the Regiment to be raised in the Counties of *Plymouth* and *Barnstable*, to reinforce the Continental Army till the said first day of *April*:

Therefore, it is further *Resolved*, That the said *Barachiah Basset*, Esq., be released from his service at the said Islands, until the said first day of *April*, and then to return to said station and establishment.

Jedediah Foster, Esq., came down and informed the House, that the honourable Board had passed upon the Resolve appointing Field and Staff-Officers for the six Regiments to reinforce the Army before *Boston*, and that it was now in the Secretary's Office.

On a motion, *Ordered*, That Captain *Stone*, Captain *Smith*, and Captain *Batchelder*, be a Committee to consider meet allowance for those gentlemen who served as General Officers previous to the Continental establishment of the Army.

Resolved, That Major *John Butrick*, of *Concord*, be, and hereby is appointed Lieutenant-Colonel of the Regiment to be raised from the Counties of *Middlesex* and *Lincoln*, in the room of Colonel *Jackson*, who has already joined the Army.

The House considered the Report of the Committee of both Houses on the Petition of *Joseph Deane*, viz:

The Committee of both Houses on the Petition of *Joseph Deane*, have attended that service, and having considered the same, report the following Resolve, which is submitted.

Resolved, That *Joseph Deane* be allowed to send the Brigantine, in his Petition mentioned, to the foreign *West-Indies*, in order to collect any Moneys which may be due him there, he giving bonds, with sufficient sureties, in the sum of one thousand Pounds, to the Treasurer of this Colony, that he will not export in said Brigantine any cash, or produce of the Colonies:

And it is recommended to the said *Joseph Deane*, to purchase and return here, Arms, Ammunition, and any species of Military Stores enumerated in a late Resolution of the Congress, if there to be obtained.

In Council, January 23, 1776: Read, and accepted.

Read, and concurred.

The House considered the following Report, viz:

The Committee appointed by both Houses to consider the propriety of commissionating such Captains and Lieutenants as marched and joined the Continental Army from the Militia, with full Companies, in pursuance of the Resolve of the General Court on the 1st day of *December* last, have attended their duty, and are of opinion, that the commissionating all the Captains and Lieutenants in the order in which they were chosen by their respective Companies, as they marched into camp, is what said Officers expected; and as they have done the duty, sustained the office, and expect the pay due to them by the establishment of the Continental Army, your Committee conclude they ought to be commissionated. Therefore, beg leave to report a Resolve for that purpose.

Resolved, That all the Captains and Lieutenants that marched into the camp as a temporary reinforcement to the Continental Army by order of this Court, of the 1st of last month, be now commissionated by the Council, agreeable to their several ranks, and in the order in which they were chosen by their respective Companies, any thing in a Resolve of this Court of the 13th instant, to the contrary notwithstanding. And that said commissions bear date the 10th of last month, the day on which most of them arrived in the camp.

In Council, January 23, 1776: Read, and accepted.

Read, and concurred.

The House considered the Report of the Committee of both Houses on the Petition of *Thomas Russell*, viz:

Resolved, That *Thomas Russell* be allowed to send a Schooner, of which *Matthew Groves* is master, to the foreign *West-Indies*, in order to collect any Moneys which may be due to him there, he giving bonds, with sufficient sureties, in the sum of one thousand Pounds, to the Treasurer of this Colony, that he will not export in said Schooner any cash, or produce of the Colonies. And it is hereby recommended to the said *Thomas Russell*, to direct the master of said Vessel to purchase Arms, Ammunition, or any kind of Military Stores enumerated in a late Resolution of the Congress, if there to be obtained.

In Council, January 23, 1776: Read, and accepted.

Read, and concurred.

Major *Hawley*, agreeable to order, reported the following Resolve. Read, and accepted.

Whereas, by one Resolve of this Court, passed in the House of Representatives on the 7th of *November* last, and concurred by the Council, directing the method of making up the Rolls of the service, and travel of the Minute-Men and others, who in consequence of the alarm made on the 19th of *April* last, marched for the defence of the Colony against the Ministerial troops, it is, among other things, provided and directed that the payment of the contents of the said Rolls shall be stayed until the accounts of the Innholders and others, who afforded entertainment or money to bear expenses to the men borne on the said Rolls on their march to and from the place of rendezvous, should be presented and considered by this Court, and that such sums, as by this Court should be allowed on such accounts, shall be stopped and deducted out of the sums due on such Rolls for the discharging such accounts; but it appears that there is no direction given in the said Resolve for drawing out the money so stopped on such Rolls to the person, or towns, for whose use or benefit any sums might be stopped as aforesaid:

It is, therefore, *Resolved*, That the honourable Council be, and hereby are empowered to make their Warrants on the Treasurer for the payment of all such sums allowed on such Accounts, either by this Court, or any Committee of the same thereunto empowered by the Court, to the person, or persons, or town, for whose use and benefit such moneys were stopped on the Rolls aforesaid.

The Committee appointed to bring in a Resolve for advancing a sum of money to the gentlemen chosen to represent this Colony at the Continental Congress reported.

Read, and accepted.

Resolved, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, in Continental Bills, to the Honourable *John Hancock*, *Samuel Adams*, *Robert Treat Paine*, and *Elbridge Gerry*, Esquires, Delegates from this Colony in Continental Congress, the sum of one hundred and thirty Pounds each, to enable the said gentlemen to defray their expenses, and support the dignity of their office; they to be accountable to the General Court for the same.

The Committee on the Petitions and Accounts of Selectmen and Committees for supplies to the Soldiers, &c., after the battle of *Lexington*, reported several Resolves for paying the Selectmen, &c., of the towns hereafter mentioned, the following sums, respectively.

Read, and passed, viz:

To the Selectmen of *Holliston*, the sum of -	£61	9	0
To the Committee of Supplies of *Upton*, -	16	12	11
To the Selectmen of *New-Braintree*, - -	23	15	0
To *Israel Nichols*, Esquire, for the use of the Selectmen of *Leominster*, - - - - -	11	18	2
To the Selectmen of *Lunenburgh*, - - -	13	0	0
To Mr. *Israel Hobart*, for the use of the Selectmen of *Townsend*, - - - - - -	7	10	0
To Mr. *Elisha Cranson*, for the use of the Selectmen of *Ashfield*, - - - - - -	3	9	0
To the Selectmen of *Bellingham*, - - -	7	3	4
To the Selectmen of *Athol*, - - - - -	16	8	3
To the Selectmen of *New-Salem*, - - -	16	6	11
To the Selectmen of *Templeton*, - - - -	18	9	3

All which were read, and accepted.

—

Afternoon.

Samuel Holten, Esq., brought down the following Vote of Council on the last Resolve of this House relative to Doctor *Gelston*, viz:

In Council, January 24, 1776: Read, and non-concurred, and ordered to be recommitted.

Read, and concurred, and recommitted accordingly, to Colonel *Freeman*, Colonel *Thompson*, and Deacon *Stickney*, with such as the honourable Board may join.

The House passed several Resolves for payment of Accounts for losses on *Bunker's Hill*, &c., as reported by the Committee appointed to consider such losses.

On a motion, *Ordered*, That the Votes of the House on the Accounts last mentioned be reconsidered, and that Mr. Speaker, Major *Hawley*, Mr. *Gerry*, Colonel *Orne*, and Colonel *Thayer*, be a Committee to consider a Resolve of this Court which passed the House on the 19th of *December* last, containing instructions to the Committee aforementioned, and to report an explanatory Resolve.

Resolved, That the Receiver-General have liberty to pay the fifty thousand Pounds which this Court have offered to lend his Excellency General *Washington*, either in Continental Bills, or other money.

Major *Hawley* had leave to bring in a Resolve empowering the honourable Council to draw on the Treasurer in his favour for money to pay for the Blankets which are or may be purchased for the Regiment to be raised in the Counties of *Hampshire* and *Berkshire*, to go into *Canada*.

Ordered, That Colonel *Freeman* get the Proclamation which passed yesterday, printed; one for the Clerk of each Court in the Colony; one for each Town-Clerk, and one for each Minister.

The Committee appointed to consider a meet grant to the President of *Horvard* College, reported. Read, and accepted.

Resolved, That there be allowed and paid out of the publick Treasury, to Doctor *Samuel Langdon*, President of *Harvard* College, the sum of one hundred Pounds over and above the rents of *Massachusetts-Hall*, which, with a former grant of one hundred Pounds, is in full for his services for one year, ending the 14th day of *October*, 1775.

Resolved, That the Committee on Accounts be, and hereby are empowered and directed to allow the Reverend Doctor *Langdon* for such account of expenses as shall appear to them to have been incurred by the removal of his Goods and Furniture from *Cambridge* to *Concord*, when the same shall be exhibited to them.

The list of Fees for the Courts of Admiralty was again considered by the House, and recommitted to Major *Sewall*, Deacon *Curtis*, and Deacon *Whitney*, the House having previously voted that the Judges of said Court should severally be paid for the trial of any cause, at the rate of twenty Shillings per day.

The House then adjourned till ten o'clock, to-morrow morning.

—

Thursday, January 25, 1776.

A Petition of *Timothy Munro*, setting forth, that he was wounded in battle on the 19th of *April* last, has been at great expense for doctoring and nursing, and is now unable to support his family, and praying consideration and relief.

Read, and committed to the Committee appointed to consider Petitions of a like nature.

Major *Hawley*, by leave of the House, brought in the following Resolve. Read, and accepted.

Whereas, this Court, by one Resolve passed in the House of Representatives on the 21st day of *January* current, and concurred by the Council on the same day, has engaged that such non-Commissioned Officers and Soldiers in the Regiment to be immediately raised in the Counties of *Hampshire* and *Berkshire*, for the succour of our brethren in *Canada*, shall be allowed a Blanket, or twelve Shillings to pay him for the same, if he shall find it himself:

It is, therefore, *Resolved*, That the sum of three hundred and twelve Pounds sixteen Shillings, shall be paid out of the Treasury of this Colony, to Major *Joseph Hawley*, to convey and deliver the same to *Elisha Porter*, Esq., of *Hadley*, lately appointed a Colonel of the Regiment, to be by him paid to such non-Commissioned Officers and Soldiers who shall engage and inlist in the said service, and shall provide a good Blanket for himself, he, the said *Porter*, to be accountable to this Court therefor.

A Memorial of the Selectmen of the Town of *Sherburne*, praying that a Resolve of this Court, forbidding the importation of Fuel and Provisions into that town, may be reconsidered, or that the inhabitants, some of whom are already reduced thereby to great distress, may be otherwise relieved. Read, and committed to Colonel *Freeman*, Mr. *Brown*, of *Boston*, and Mr. *Davis*, of *Barnstable*, with such as the honourable Board may join, and the Committee are directed to report what is proper to be done.

The House again considered the Resolve for establishing Fees for the Courts of Admiralty.

It was moved, That the Vote of yesterday, for allowing the Judges twenty Shillings per day for sitting on Trial, be reconsidered.

After debate thereon, the question was put, and it passed in the negative.

Then the House passed the following Resolve, viz:

Resolved, That the Fees to be hereafter demanded and received in the Courts of (A) "Admiralty," within this Colony, shall be as follows, viz:

To the Constable, for warning a Town-Meeting and drawing Jurymen, two Shillings.

For summoning each Juror or Witness, six Pence.

To the Sheriff, or Constable, for every mile's travel from the place of abode to the place of trial, in making a return of warrant or summons, two Pence.

To each Juror, or Witness, for every mile's travel from the place of his abode to the place of trial, two Pence.

To every Witness, for attendance, per day, two Shillings and eight Pence.

For the attendance of the Foreman of the Jury, in each cause, per day, four Shillings and six Pence.

For the attendance of each of the other Jurors, per day, four Shillings.

For the Clerk's attendance, each day, five Shillings.

For the Sheriff or Constable's attendance, each, per day, four Shillings.

To the Clerk, for recording the proceedings of the Court, for every page containing twenty-four lines, of eight words in a line, six Pence; for taxing the Bill, five Shillings; for all attested copies, six Pence per page, as above.

To the Sheriff, for selling a vessel and cargo, &c., paying out the proceeds to the captors, and the fees to the Colony

Treasurer, three Pence on the Pound, or one and-a-quarter per cent.

To the Judge, for receiving information, six Shillings; for every warrant, five Shillings; for his travel from home to the place of trial, for every ten miles, five Shillings; for every day's sitting on trial, one Pound; for notifying, or advertising, exclusive of the expense to the printers, eight Shillings; for every summons for one or more Witnesses, six Pence.

—

Afternoon.

Ordered, That the Committee appointed to revise the Resolves of Congress relative to Saltpetre be directed to sit forthwith; and that Mr. *Hobart* be added to the Committee, in the room of Mr. *Nye*, absent.

Benjamin Lincoln, Esquire, brought down the Report of the Committee of both Houses, appointed the 9th current, to consider a Resolve of the Court for withholding supplies of Provision from *Martha's Vineyard*, &c., viz:

Whereas, upon inquiry, it doth not appear that many of the inhabitants of the Island of *Martha's Vineyard* ever had a disposition to supply the enemy with Provisions, and it doth not appear, by the Resolve of the 9th of *December* last, that they were suspected of corruptly doing the same; and such measures having been taken as, in all probability, will prevent the enemy from being supplied from that Island, and the inhabitants thereof must suffer while under the aforementioned restraint:

Therefore, *Resolved*, That the Order of this Court, of the 9th of *December* last, so far as it respects *Martha's Vineyard* only, be, and hereby is annulled; and this Resolve be printed in the *Cambridge* and *Watertown* Papers.

In Council, January 25, 1776: Read, and accepted.

Read, and concurred.

John Whetcomb, Esquire, brought down a Petition of *Robert Robbins*, praying that the Court would order a quantity of Provisions, taken with his schooner, and carried into *Beverly*, on the 8th of *November* last, to be delivered to him, for reasons therein set forth, with the following Vote of Council thereon, viz:

In Council, January 25, 1776: Read, and committed to *Benjamin Lincoln*, Esquire, with such as the honourable House shall join.

Read, and non-concurred, and ordered that the Petition be dismissed.

The Committee appointed to consider and report a meet allowance to the General Officers, reported. Read, and accepted:

Whereas, there has no establishment been made for the General Officers, appointed by the Congress of this Colony, for their services in the *Massachusetts* Army, from the time they entered into said service until they were put into the pay of the Continent, or were otherwise discharged:

Therefore, *Resolved*, That there be allowed and paid, out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to the General Officers appointed by the Congress of this Colony, for their services in the *Massachusetts* Army, from the time they entered into said service until they were put into the pay of the Continent, or were otherwise discharged, at the several rates following, viz:

To the Honourable General *Ward*, who served this Colony as Commander-in-chief, twenty-one Pounds per month.

To General *Thomas*, who served this Colony as Lieutenant-General, eighteen Pounds per month; and

To Generals *Whetcomb*, *Heath*, *Frye*, and *Pomeroy*, who served this Colony as Major-Generals, sixteen Pounds per month, each, accounting twenty-eight days to a month; and they are hereby, respectively, desired to make their Accounts accordingly, and lodge them with the Secretary of this Colony, for examination and allowance of the Committee on the Muster-Rolls of the Army.

The Committee appointed yesterday, to report a Resolve explanatory of a Resolve of this Court, which passed the House the 19th ultimo, reported. Read, and accepted.

Whereas, this Court observe, that in consistency with the letter of the purview of their Resolve of the 19th of *December* last, relative to the compensation for the loss of Arms, Accoutrements, and Clothing, sustained by certain persons who engaged the Ministerial forces on the 19th of *April*, and 17th of *June*, last past, accounts of losses may be exhibited to the Committee of this Court from officers and privates not so much as raised by this Colony, and others may make a claim of compensation for losses, which losses were not caused by their being actually engaged in fight with the Ministerial troops, on the days above said, or either of them, which is evidently diverse, and without the true intent and design of the Court at the time of their passing the said Resolve, as appears from the preamble thereof, as well as the justice and reason of the case:

It is, therefore, *Resolved*, That the aforesaid Resolve, of the 19th of *December* last, ought not to be taken or construed to extend to any Commissioned, non-Commissioned Officers, or Privates, who, on the said 19th day of *April*, or 17th of *June*, or either of them, were not on the establishment of this Colony, or to losses which were not caused by such persons having been actually engaged in battle against the Ministerial troops on the said days, or either of them; and no Committee, or Committees, of this Court, or of either House, appointed to consider of the claims of persons for compensation of losses, in consequence of the said Resolve of the 19th of *December*, ought to allow, or report in favour of an allowance of any such claim, without satisfactory evidence that the person, or persons, making such claim, was on the establishment of this Colony, and that he was actually engaged in fight with the said Ministerial troops.

Charles Chauncy, Esquire, brought down the Resolve for establishing Fees for the Courts of Admiralty, with the following Vote of Council thereon, viz:

In Council, January 25, 1776: Read, and concurred with the amendment at A, viz: At A, dele "Admiralty," and insert, "Courts of Justice for the trial of the capture of Vessels."

Read, and concurred.

The Members of this House from the several Counties in the Colony were directed to lay upon the table the division of their respective Counties into Regiments; and to-morrow, ten o'clock, was assigned for consideration thereof.

Resolved, That *Tuesday* next, at ten o'clock, A. M., be assigned for the choice of Military Officers, agreeable to the late Act for regulating the Militia of this Colony, and to begin with the Major-Generals.

A Petition of *Nathaniel Guild*, praying that he may have liberty to cut a quantity of wood, necessary to keep in blast this winter a furnace, in which he is making a quantity of warlike stores, for the use of the Continental Army. Read, and committed to Captain *Crane*, Colonel *Mitchell*, and Captain *Vose*.

A Petition of *Nathan Putnam*, setting forth, that he was wounded at the battle of *Lexington*, and is yet unable to perform a day's work at his trade, and praying consideration of the Court, and allowance of his account for expenses in nursing him, &c., and for a gun lost at that time. Read, and committed to the Committee on the Petitions of sick and wounded Soldiers.

Petition of the Selectmen of the Town of *Reading*, representing that Mr. *John Temple*, the Representative of that town, by reason of sickness, is unable to attend the House; and "as representation and taxation are so twisted together in our happy Constitution, and being desirous of having a share in planning, as well as prosecuting plans for our safety, defence, and deliverance," they pray that a precept may be issued for the choice of another gentleman, in colleague with said *Temple*. Read, and ordered to lie.

A Petition of the Overseers of the Poor of the Town of *Boston*, praying the Court to grant them a further sum of five hundred Pounds to furnish the Poor of *Boston*, removed to the Alms-House in *Salem*, with necessaries to sustain them through the winter. Read, and committed to Captain *Stearns*, Captain *Carpenter*, and Deacon *Codding*.

The Committee appointed to report a Resolve for paying Committees of this Court for their services, reported. Read, and not accepted.

On the Petition of *Dennison Wallis*, who, on the 19th of *April* last, in pursuit of the Ministerial troops, was taken prisoner by them, and stripped of his gun, bayonet, cartouch-box, watch, and fifteen dollars, and praying allowance therefor, as, also, for the charge of nursing and doctoring, being wounded by the enemy in making his escape:

Resolved, That there be paid to Captain *Epes*, for his use, the sum of eight Pounds eleven Shillings and Pence, which is in full for his gun, bayonet, nursing, board, and doctoring.

Resolved, That ten o'clock, to-morrow morning, be assigned for the appointment of Guardians for the *Indians*, at *Grafton*.

The Committee on the affair of Mr. *Elias Haskill Derby*, reported. Read, and considered, and ordered to be recommitted; and the Committee are directed to report a recommendation to the Committees who have the care of the goods, in what manner to proceed therewith.

The House then adjourned till ten o'clock, to-morrow morning.

—

Friday, January 26, 1776.

A state of the Ordnance, Ordnance Stores, and Ammunition for Small Arms, in the Town of *Falmouth*, *Casco-Bay*. Read, and committed to Colonel *Thompson*, Deacon *Bradley*, and Colonel *Freeman*.

A Petition of *Daniel Lothrop*, praying allowance, and payment, for the service of a Company of Artillery, agreeable to a Pay-Roll accompanying, and, also, for the charge of removing of Cannon, &c. Read, and the House being informed that the gentleman who wrote the Petition for said *Lothrop*, received eight Shillings therefor:

Ordered, That inquiry be made of Mr. *Lothrop* of the truth thereof.

Mr. *Lothrop* being admitted on the floor, informed the House that one Mr. *Taylor* demanded, and received, eight Shillings for writing said Petition; whereupon,

Ordered, That Colonel *Freeman*, Mr. *Stickney*, and Mr. *Hale*, be a Committee to hear Mr. *Taylor* thereon.

The Petition was committed to Deacon *Nichols*, Mr. *Swift*, and Captain *Gates*.

On a motion, *Ordered*, That Mr. *Story*, Major *White*, and Colonel *Freeman* be, and they hereby are empowered and directed, to employ some person, or persons, at their discretion, to pursue, and if possible, apprehend Doctor *Samuel Gelston*, who has lately fled from the custody of the Messenger of this House, and him bring forthwith.

A Petition of *John Stone*, of *York*, praying that he may have liberty to send a Vessel to *Saltertudas* with Lumber, or Cash, to procure a cargo of Salt for the Inhabitants of that town. Read, and the Petitioner had leave to withdraw his Petition.

The Committee on the Petition of *Joseph Ward*, Esq., read the 17th current, reported. Read, and accepted.

Resolved, That there be paid to the said *Joseph Ward*, Esq., twenty-four Pounds, in full for his services as Aid-de-camp and Secretary to the Honourable General *Ward*, from *April* 20th to *July* 20th, 1775.

A Petition of the Selectmen of the Town of *Beverly*, by order, and in behalf of the town, praying that the Court, in consideration of their being much exposed to the enemy, would grant them one hundred men for their defence, or otherwise relieve them. Read, and committed to Mr. *Johnson*, of *Lynn*, Captain *Smith*, and Mr. *Kingsbury*.

A Petition of *Solomon Pierce*, of *Lexington*, setting forth, that he was wounded on the 19th *April* last, whereby he was rendered unable to labour for upwards of a month, and was at some expense for a Surgeon, and praying consideration and relief. Read, and committed to the Committee on the Petitions of sick and wounded Soldiers.

A Petition of the Committees, and other Inhabitants of the Townships of *Machias*, *Goldsborough*, *Number-Four*, *Narraguagus*, *Pleasant-River*, and *Chandler's River*, in the County of *Lincoln*, representing that, by reason of the present unhappy situation of our publick affairs, their Lumber trade is stopped, and they are thereby prevented from procuring the means of supporting themselves and families; that great pains have been taken by the Government of *Nova-Scotia* to engage the *Indians* on their frontiers, &c., and praying the consideration of the Court. Read, and committed to Colonel *Bowers*, Colonel *Thompson*, Captain *Stearns*, Captain *Carpenter*, and Deacon *Codding*.

A Petition of the Committee, and others, inhabitants of *Machias* and *Goldsborough*, in the County of *Lincoln*, praying an allowance over and above six Shillings per week, for billeting a Company of Soldiers stationed at those places, for reasons therein set forth. Read, and committed to the same Committee.

A Petition of *William Nichols*, Chairman of the Committees for the four Townships of *Goldsborough*, *Number-Four*, *Narraguagus*, and *Pleasant-River*, praying that they may have an allowance, over and above six Shillings per week, for billeting a Company stationed to guard the Sea-Coast, under the command of Captain *Francis Shaw*; and, also, for assistance of Fire-Arms and Ammunition. Read, and committed to the same Committee.

Ordered, That a message go to the honourable Board to inform them that this House propose, at twelve o'clock this day, to come to the choice of Guardians for the *Indians* at *Grafton*, by joint ballot, if agreeable to the honourable Board.

Jabez Fisher, Esq., came down and informed the House that the honourable Board had agreed to come to the choice of Guardians for the *Grafton Indians*, agreeable to the proposal of the House.

On a motion, *Ordered*, That Major *Sewall*, Mr. *Putnam*, and Captain *King*, be a Committee to consider at large the matter of building Powder-Mills, and report.

Thomas Cushing, Esq., came down and informed the House, that the Board were ready to come to the choice of Guardians for the *Grafton Indians*.

Whereupon, *Ordered*, That Mr. *Ward*, Captain *Batchelder*, and Captain *Bragdon*, be a Committee on the part of the House to count and sort the votes.

Ordered, That a message go to the honourable Board to desire that they would direct the Committee on the Resolves of the Continental Congress to sit forthwith.

The Committee appointed to count and sort the votes for Guardians for the *Grafton Indians*, having carried the same up to the honourable Board, reported, that *Edward Rawson*, Esq., Captain *Stephen Maynard*, and Deacon *Willis Hall*, were chosen.

—

Afternoon.

Ordered, That Mr. Speaker, Colonel *Orne*, and Mr. *Story*, with such as the honourable Board may join, be a Committee to examine the late Act of this Court for encouraging the fitting out Armed Vessels, and the Resolves of the Honourable Continental Congress, relative to the capture of Vessels; and report what is proper to be done thereon.

Ordered, That Mr. *Story* bring in a Resolve for empowering the Committee of the Court appointed to erect a Powder-Mill at *Stoughton*, and to purchase a Stream for that purpose, to take a lease of such Stream and privileges as may be necessary, in behalf of the Colony, if they think best.

A Petition of the Selectmen and Committee of Correspondence of the Town of *Walpole*, praying that they may be released from the Resolve of Court, recommending them to supply the Army with two cords of Wood daily, for reasons therein set forth. Read, and the Petitioners had leave to withdraw their Petition.

A Petition of *Thomas Townshend*, of *Lynn*, administrator to the Estate of *Daniel Townshend*, late of *Lynn*, who was killed at the battle of *Lexington*, praying consideration and allowance for sundry articles of which the body of said *Daniel* was stripped by the enemy. Read, and committed to the Committee on the losses at *Bunker's Hill*, &c.

A Petition of *Hannah Ramsdel*, of *Lynn*, setting forth, that her husband was killed at the battle of *Lexington*, and praying consideration and allowance for his gun, accoutrements, and hat, which were lost at the same time. Read, and committed to the same Committee.

The Committee on the Petition of the Overseers of the Poor of the Town of *Boston*, reported. Read, and accepted.

Resolved, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to Messrs. *William Greenleaf*, *Isaac Smith*, *Gibbins Sharp*, *John Sweetser*, *Ebenezer Putnam*, *William Shelleber*, and *Samuel Gardner*, lately appointed by this Court Overseers of the Poor of the Town of *Boston*,

the sum of five hundred Pounds, to be by them applied for the support of such of those poor as are, or may be removed from said town to the Hospital at *Salem*, and that said *Greenleaf* be empowered in behalf of said Overseers, to receive said sum, he giving a receipt therefor, and they to be accountable to this Court for the same.

Colonel *Norton* brought in the following Resolve. Read, and passed, viz:

Whereas, an application hath been made to this Court for Powder to supply the soldiers raised on the Island of *Martha's Vineyard*, for the defence of the Sea-Coasts in this Colony:

Therefore, *Resolved*, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury, to Colonel *Beriah Norton*, the sum of seventy-five Pounds, lawful money, to enable him to procure Powder, for the use of the soldiers aforesaid, he being accountable to this Court for the same.

A Petition of the Selectmen of *Rehoboth*, read *January* 15th, was committed to Colonel *Doane*, Colonel *Bowers*, and Mr. *Rawson*, the Committee to whom it was then committed being absent.

The House then adjourned till ten o'clock, to-morrow morning.

—

Saturday, January 27, 1776.

The House considered the Report of the Committee of both Houses, on the Resolve of the Continental Congress relative tosuch persons whose going at large may endanger the safety of the Colony, or the liberties of *America*.

In Council, December 19, 1775: Read, and accepted.

Read, and non-concurred, and ordered to be recommitted to the Committee appointed to consider a Letter and Papers enclosed from the Honourable Speaker of the Assembly of *Connecticut*, which Committee are directed to sit forthwith.

Mr. *Story*, agreeable to order, reported. Read, and accepted.

Whereas, this Court, on the 5th day of *January*, current, passed a Resolve empowering Mr. *Putnam*, Mr. *Crane*, and Mr. *Vose*, to purchase the remains of a Powder-Mill at *Stoughton*, and Land and privileges convenient to improve the same, or purchase a privilege for, and erect one at *Sutton*, as they, after having consulted the master-workman who shall undertake the same, shall judge expedient: And whereas, by a Resolve of this Court of the 19th day of *January*, current, the said Committee were directed to build the said Mill at *Stoughton*; but the Committee aforesaid are not invested with sufficient power to hire the Land and Stream at *Stoughton*, but are restricted to purchase the same:

Therefore, *Resolved*, That the Committee aforesaid be, and they hereby are fully authorized and empowered to purchase, or hire, as they shall judge most advantageous, the Land and Stream at *Stoughton*, whereby they have, or shall agree to erect a Powder-Mill for such a term of years, and for such yearly rent as they shall think proper, and that they, in behalf of this Colony, take a deed or lease of the same, as they shall agree to purchase or hire.

The House then adjourned to *Monday* morning, ten o'clock.

—

Monday, January 29, 1776.

Moses Gill, Esq., brought down the Report of the Committee of both Houses, appointed to consider sundry Resolves of the *American* Congress, viz:

The Committee of both Houses, appointed to take into consideration sundry Resolves of the *American* Congress, have attended their duty, and beg leave to report, as their opinion:

1st. That direction be given to review the Act for fixing out Armed Vessels, and conform it to the Resolves of Congress, except in the instance of taking prizes without commissions, and that a representation of the inconveniences attending that Resolve be made to Congress, praying that it may be reconsidered and altered.

2d. That a representation of the situation and state of the Island of *Nantucket*, and the conduct of the inhabitants, be made to Congress, and of the disadvantages arising from supplying them with provisions under their circumstances.

3d. That a Bill be brought in to ascertain the number of Inhabitants in this Colony, and to cause a return to be made of them.

4th. That a Bill be brought in prohibiting the arrest of Soldiers in the Continental Army, and the attachment of their estates for small debts.

5th. That the Secretary be directed to transmit, from time to time, to the Congress, a true account of the Military Stores, &c., imported into this Colony, and of the produce exported, agreeable to their Resolve of *July* 15th, with the price and value of both.

6th. That some methods be taken for encouraging the manufacture of Salt.

7th. That the Honourable *Thomas Cushing*, Esq., who received, at *Philadelphia*, on the account of this Colony, four hundred and forty-one thousand three hundred and thirty-three dollars and one-third of a dollar, and a draft made by Mr. *Cabot*, of two thousand dollars, amounting in the whole to four hundred and forty-three thousand three hundred and thirty-three dollars and one-third of a dollar, being so much granted to this Colony by a vote of Congress, be discharged, on his paying into the Treasury the said sum of four hundred and forty-one thousand three hundred and thirty-three dollars and one-third of a dollar, and lodging with the Treasurer the draft of Mr. *Andrew Cabot* for two thousand dollars.

All which is humbly submitted.

JOHN WINTHROP, *per order*.

In Council, January 27, 1776: Read, and accepted, and, thereupon, *Resolved*, That the Committee appointed on the 26th instant, to examine the Act of this Court for fixing out Armed Vessels, be directed to sit forthwith.

And that *Thomas Cushing*, Esq., with such as the honourable House shall join, be a Committee to make the representation to Congress mentioned in the second paragraph of the foregoing Report.

And that *Jedediah Foster*, Esq., with such as the honourable House shall join, be a Committee to bring in a Bill agreeable to the third paragraph mentioned in the within Report.

And that *William Sever*, Esq., with such as the honourable House shall join, be a Committee to bring in a Bill to take up the substance of the fourth paragraph.

And that *Benjamin Greenleaf* and *Charles Chauncy*, Esquires, with such as the honourable House shall join, be a Committee on the sixth paragraph.

And that the Secretary be directed to transmit, from time to time, to the Congress, a true account of the military stores, &c., imported into this Colony, and of the produce exported, agreeable to the Resolve of *July* 15, with the price and value of both.

And that the Honourable *Thomas Cushing*, Esq., who received at *Philadelphia*, on account of this Colony, four hundred and forty-one thousand three hundred and thirty-three dollars and one-third of a dollar, and a draft by Mr. *Cabot* of two thousand dollars, amounting in the whole to four hundred forty-three thousand three hundred and thirty-three dollars and one-third of a dollar, being so much granted to this Colony by a vote of Congress, be discharged, on his paying into the Treasury the said sum of four hundred and forty-one thousand three hundred and thirty-three dollars and one-third of a dollar, and lodging with the Treasurer the draft of Mr. *Andrew Cabot* for two thousand dollars.

Read, and concurred, and Colonel *Freeman* and Colonel *Mitchell* are joined to the Honourable *Thomas Cushing*, Esq., to make the representation to Congress mentioned in the second paragraph.

And Major *Fuller* and Colonel *Thompson* are joined to the Honourable *Jedediah Foster*, Esq., to bring in a Bill agreeable to the third paragraph.

And Colonel *Godfrey* and Mr. *Mills* are joined to the Honourable *William Sever*, Esq., to bring in a Bill agreeable to the fourth paragraph.

And Major *Sewall*, Mr. *Mills*, and Colonel *Hill*, are joined to the Honourable *Benjamin Greenleaf*, and *Charles Chauncy*, Esquires, on the sixth paragraph of the foregoing Report.

A Petition of *Benjamin Foster* and *James Noble Shannon*, in behalf of the Committee of Safety of *Machias*,

praying the consideration of the Court with respect to the Estate of *Ichabod Jones*, at said *Machias*. Read, and committed to Captain *Carpenter*, Mr. *Hovey*, and Colonel *Woodbridge*.

John Taylor, Esquire, brought down a Letter from the Committee of Correspondence from *Hatfield*, enclosing an intercepted Letter, wrote by *Elisha Allis*, Jun., of that town, to Major *Gray*, of *Stockbridge*, and praying directions concerning him. Read, and committed to Mr. *Cooper* and Colonel *Thompson*, with such as the honourable Board may join.

Caleb Cushing, Esq., brought down a Petition of *John Underwood*, setting forth, that on the first of *December* last, he presented a Memorial to this Court relative to the conduct of one *Nehemiah Eastman*, which, not having been acted upon, he now prays the consideration of the Court; with the following Vote of Council thereon, viz:

In Council, January 29, 1776: Read, and committed to *Charles Chauncy*, Esq., with such as the honourable House shall join.

Read, and concurred, and Doctor *Gunn* and Colonel *Norton* are joined.

A Petition of *Jacob Bacon*, who was wounded on the 19th of *April*, praying consideration and allowance. Read, and committed to the Committee on the Petitions and Accounts of sick and wounded men.

—

Afternoon.

John Whetcomb, Esq., brought down a Muster-Roll and Petition of *Jeremiah Obrien*, representing that on the 21st of *August* last, he was commissioned by the honourable Council as commander of two armed vessels, with authority to navigate them with thirty men each. And as no establishment has been made for cruisers, he prays a meet allowance for their service. Read, and committed to Mr. *Gates*, Major *Currier*, and Mr. *Allen*.

A Petition of the *Indian* inhabitants of the Town of *Stockbridge*, praying for reasons therein mentioned, that a law may be passed to prevent their being sued for debts for the term of two years, and that tavern-keepers may be restrained from selling them spirituous liquors. Read, and committed to Dr. *Fletcher*, Deacon *Curtis*, and Mr. *Allen*.

The House enjoined all its Committees to sit, and then adjourned till to-morrow morning, ten o'clock.

—

Tuesday, January 30, 1776.

The Committee on the Petition from the Committees and other inhabitants of *Machias*, *Goldsborough*, *Number-Four*, and other townships in the County of *Lincoln*, were instructed to report that the Committees and other inhabitants of those places, now in *Watertown*, give security for repayment of the money that may be put into their hands for the use of said inhabitants, and that they have the use of the same one year without interest.

A Petition of *William Hodgkins* and *Thomas Hill*, Committee of Safety of *Frenchman's Bay*, representing that their lumber trade being stopped, the inhabitants have no way of procuring the means of subsistence; and, therefore, pray the Court to supply them with a quantity of provisions, or lend them money that they may supply themselves. Read, and committed to the Committee on the Petition from *Machias*, &c., above-mentioned.

Order of the Day moved for.

Ordered, That Mr. *Wheeler*, Colonel *Freeman*, and Doctor *Rice*, be a Committee to collect and sort the votes for Militia Officers, agreeable to the Militia Act.

The House then proceeded, according to the Order of the Day, to the choice of three Major-Generals, agreeable to the late Act for regulating the Militia of this Colony, and the Committee appointed to collect the votes, having counted the same, it appeared that the following gentlemen were chosen, viz:

Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq., First Major-General;
Honourable *James Warren*, Esq., Second Major-General;
Honourable *Azor Orne*, Esq., Third Major-General.

The same Committee having collected and sorted the votes for Brigadiers, for the Counties hereafter mentioned, it appeared that the following gentlemen were chosen, viz:

For the County of *Suffolk*, Honourable *Benjamin Lincoln*, Esq.
For the County of *Essex*, Honourable *Michael Farley*, Esq.
For the County of *Middlesex*, *John Cummings*, Esq.
For the County of *Hampshire*, *Timothy Danielson*, Esq.
For the County of *Barnstable*, *Joseph Otis*, Esq.
For the County of *Bristol*, *George Godfrey*, Esq.

Ordered, That it be an instruction to the Committee appointed to bring in a Bill to prevent the bodies of soldiers to be arrested for debt, or their goods attached in certain cases, in the same Bill to make provision to prevent desertion from the Army, and any person from harbouring deserters.

—

Afternoon.

On a motion, *Ordered*, That Mr. Speaker, Mr. *Gardner*, and Mr. *Hyde*, be a Committee to wait upon his Excellency General *Washington*, on the subject of a Regiment raising in the County of *Berkshire*, by Colonel *Fellows*.

The House proceeded to the further choice of Brigadiers, agreeable to the Militia Act. And the Committee for collecting the votes, having collected and sorted the same, for the Counties hereafter mentioned, it appeared that the following gentlemen were chosen, viz:

For the County of *York*, *Jotham Moulton*, Esq.
For the County of *Worcester*, *John Whetcomb*, Esq.
For the County of *Cumberland*, *Samuel Thompson*, Esq.
For the County of *Lincoln*, *Arthur Noble*, Esq.
For the County of *Berkshire*, *John Fellows*, Esq.

The same Committee having received and counted the votes for Field-Officers for the First and Second Regiments, in the County of *Berkshire*, it appeared that the following gentlemen were chosen, viz:

For the First Regiment: *Mark Hopkins*, Colonel; *Aaron Root*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Giles Jackson*, First Major; *Jacob Brown*, Second Major.

For the Second Regiment: *Benjamin Symonds*, Colonel; *Jonathan Smith*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *David Rossetter*, First Major; *Caleb Hyde*, Second Major.

Resolved, That Captain *Benjamin Hawes* be, and hereby is appointed Major of the Regiment of Militia to be raised in the County of *Suffolk* and *York*, in the room of Major *James Metcalf*, who declines serving.

Ordered, That the further choice of Military Officers be put off to ten o'clock, to-morrow morning.

Mr. *Story*, agreeable to order, reported. Read, and accepted.

Resolved, That there be allowed and paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to Messrs. *Thomas Crafts*, Jun., *Edward Procter*, *Winthrop Gray*, and *Daniel Sigourney*, or any two of them, a Committee of this Court to receive the inhabitants of *Boston* at *Chelsea*, and prevent the spreading the Small-Pox, the sum of two hundred Pounds, further to enable them to pay the expenses of supporting said inhabitants whilst they remain there, and prevent the spreading said distemper, they to be accountable to this Court for the same.

Mr. *Brown*, agreeable to order, reported. Read and accepted.

Whereas, it appears to this Court that the sum of sixty Pounds, now in the hands of *Thomas Crafts*, Jun., *Edward Procter*, *Winthrop Gray*, and *Daniel Sigourney*, was the property of *Joseph Goldthwait*, a noted enemy to the rights of *America*, and now actually employed in the Ministerial Army in *Boston*:

Resolved, That the above-mentioned *Thomas Crafts*, Jun., *Edward Procter*, *Winthrop Gray*, and *Daniel Sigourney*, be, and they are hereby directed to pay the above-mentioned sum of sixty Pounds into the hands of *Henry Gardner*, Esq., Treasurer and Receiver-General for this Colony, there to remain for the further order of the General Court.

The House then adjourned till ten o'clock, to-morrow morning.

—

Wednesday, January 31, 1776.

A Petition of *Benjamin Crocker*, of *Falmouth*, setting forth, that he and others of that town, have about seven

hundred Pounds due to them at *Tobago* and *Grenada*, and praying for liberty to sail in a vessel there, to collect the same. Read, and committed to Mr. *Rawson*, Deacon *Codding*, and Mr. *Allen*.

The Committee on the Petition of the Committee and other inhabitants of *Machias*, *Goldsborough*, and other townships in the County of *Lincoln*, (read *January* 26,) reported. Read, and accepted.

Resolved, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to the aforementioned *Benjamin Foster* and others, the sum of three hundred and fifty Pounds, lawful money, provided the said *Benjamin Foster* and others, before named, shall all of them give their bonds, jointly and severally, to pay the same in one year from the date thereof, to the Treasurer of this Colony, for the use of the same, which money the afore-mentioned persons shall dispose of in the best manner they can, to purchase Provisions for the inhabitants of *Machias*, *Chandler's River*, *Goldsborough*, *Narraguagus*, *Number-Four*, and *Pleasant-River*, to be divided among the said Plantations as the afore-mentioned persons shall direct, having respect to their circumstances, numbers, and necessities.

The same Committee reported on the two other Petitions committed to them at the same time.

Thereupon, *Resolved*, That the Petitioners have leave to withdraw the said Petitions.

Mr. Speaker communicated to the House an anonymous Letter, dated *Dartmouth*, *January* 12th, hinting that it is suspected *English* goods are clandestinely imported from *England*, by the way of the *West-Indies* and *Nantucket*, into the said Town of *Dartmouth*. Read, and committed to Colonel *Barret* and Mr. *Durfee*, with such as the honourable Board may join.

Resolved, That Major *James Stone* be, and hereby is appointed Lieutenant-Colonel of the Regiment of Militia to be raised in the County of *Worcester*, to join the Army before *Boston*, till the first of *April* next, in the room of Colonel *Danforth Keys*, who declines serving.

Ordered, That Mr. *Hobart* get the Militia Bill printed and dispersed to the several towns in the Colony.

Resolved, That on *Friday* next, at ten o'clock, A. M., the House will take into consideration the Report of a Committee relative to the Poor of *Boston* and *Charlestown*.

Resolved, That on *Friday* next, at three o'clock, P. M., the House will proceed to the choice of a Committee to go to *Falmouth*, agreeable to a Vote of the House which passed the 5th current.

Ordered, That a message go to the honourable Board to desire them to send down the division of the several Counties into Regiments, if they have agreed on them.

Benjamin Lincoln, Esq., brought down the division of several Counties, accordingly, viz: *Hampshire*, *Suffolk*, *Worcester*, *Lincoln*, *Plymouth*, and *Berkshire*.

Joseph Palmer, Esq., brought down the Report of a Committee of both Houses on the Letter from the Committee of Correspondence of the Town of *Hatfield*, read 29th current.

In Council, *January* 31, 1776: Whereas, the General Court have received such information as that there is reason to apprehend that a confederacy is forming by some evil-minded persons, in this and other Colonies, which may injure the credit of the Continental Bills, and the Bills of this and the other Colonies:

Therefore, *Resolved*, That it be recommended to the Committees of Inspection and Correspondence, in all the towns in this Colony, to make strict inquiry in their several towns, and if they shall find any person within the same endeavouring by any way whatever to prevent the credit of the Continental Bills, or the Bills of this or any other of the *United Colonies* of *America*, or to alter or counterfeit the same, that they cause such person to be arrested and secured, and give information thereof to this Court, in order that such person may be proceeded with according to the just demerit of such high crimes and misdemeanors, and that this Resolve be published in all the Newspapers in this Colony. Read, and concurred.

The House, according to the Order of the Day, made choice of Field-Officers for the Regiments hereafter mentioned, viz:

For the First, Fourth, Fifth, Seventh, and Eighth Regiments, in the County of *Worcester*. For the six Regiments in the County of *Lincoln*, and for the two Regiments in the County of *Barnstable*.

—

Afternoon.

Michael Farley, Esq., brought down the division of the County of *Barnstable* into Regiments.

Charles Chauncy, Esq., brought down the arrangement of the Regiments in the County of *York*.

The House then adjourned till ten o'clock, to-morrow morning.

—

Thursday, February 1, 1776.

The Petition of the Selectmen of *Rehoboth*, read 26th current. Read again, and *Ordered*, That Captain *Stearns*, Doctor *Baylies*, and Colonel *Thayer*, be a Committee to repair to *Rehoboth*, and view the Fortifications mentioned in the said Petition: And, also, that said Committee view *Taunton-River*, near *Kade's Ferry*, at *Freetown*, and make report to this Court of the true circumstances of those places, and what would be proper for this Court to do to put them in a defensible state.

On a motion, *Ordered*, That Mr. Speaker, Col. *Orne*, and Colonel *Freeman*, with such as the honourable Board may join, be a Committee to bring in a Bill establishing a Test, by which all persons inimical to the rights and liberties of *America*, shall be distinguished from their friends, and to provide some methods to secure us against the practices and designs of our enemies.

On a motion, *Ordered*, That Colonel *Thompson*, Colonel *Doane*, and Colonel *Smith*, with such as the honourable Board shall join, be a Committee to see if there is sufficient provision made for making the Continental Bills, and the Bills of Credit of this Colony, a tender in all payments, and to prevent the counterfeiting and depreciation of the same, and if there is not, to bring in a Bill for that purpose.

Resolved, That three o'clock, in the afternoon, be assigned for the choice of some persons to go to *Philadelphia* with the Accounts of this Colony, and the vouchers thereof.

The Committee on the Petition of *Nathaniel Guild*, (read *January* 25,) reported. Read, and not accepted.

And thereupon, *Ordered*, That Captain *Ellis*, Mr. *Perry*, and Captain *Carpenter*, be a Committee to repair to *Stoughtonham*, and make inquiry relative to the matter of the said Petition, and, in particular, whether the Furnace therein mentioned can be well supplied with Wood, without taking any from the farm of *Isaac Royal*, Esq., and report a state of the wood-lots in the neighbourhood of that Furnace.

The House made choice of *Joseph Cushing*, Esq., as Brigadier for the County of *Plymouth*.

The House made choice of Field-Officers for the Regiment in *Dukes-County*, for the Second and Third Regiments in the County of *Plymouth*, and for the Second Regiment in the County of *Worcester*.

Ordered, That a message go to the honourable Board with the arrangement of Regiments in the County of *Suffolk*, and desire the Board to include therein a Regiment for *Boston*, and rank the whole as they see fit.

—

Afternoon.

The Committee on the Petition of *Benjamin Crocker*, read yesterday, reported. Read, amended, and accepted.

Resolved, That *Benjomin Crocker* be allowed to go in a Vessel, of which himself is master, to the *West-Indies*, in order to collect any moneys which may be due to him and others there; he giving bonds, with sufficient sureties, in the sum of one thousand Pounds to the Treasurer of this Colony, that he will not carry in said Vessel any cash or produce of the Colonies; and that he will return to some port of the *United Colonies* (other than *Boston*, *Nantucket*, or *New-York*) with the proceeds of the collectors of such debts, and not purchase any goods from any Island contrary to the Continental Association. And it is hereby recommended to the said *Crocker*, to purchase Arms, Ammunition, or any kind of Military Stores enumerated in a late Resolution of the Congress, if there to be obtained.

And that the Committee of Inspection of *Falmouth* be, and hereby are directed, to see that there be no more provision carried off in said Vessel than what is necessary for victualling the people belonging to her during the voyage.

Thomas Cushing, Esq., brought down the list of Brigadiers, as chosen by this House the 30th ultimo, with the following Vote of Council thereon, viz:

In Council, February 1, 1776: Read, and concurred with the amendment at A, viz: At A, dele the name of "*John Cumming*," and insert "the Honourable *James Prescott*, Esquire."

A Bill for Preventing the commencement and prosecution of Civil Actions. Read a first time, and, on a motion made that a time be assigned for the second reading of the same, and debates had thereon, the question was put, it passed in the negative.

Benjamin White, Esq., brought down the Vote of this House, appointing a Committee to bring in a Bill for establishing a Test, &c., with the following Vote of Council thereon, viz:

In Council, February 1, 1776: Read, and concurred, with the amendment at A, and *William Sever* and *Thomas Cushing*, Esquires, are joined.

At A, insert, "and that it be an instruction to the Committee that they immediately, and previous to their reporting any Bill for this purpose, write to the Delegates of this Colony at the *American* Congress, and obtain information from them, whether the Congress have taken, or are about to take any measures for this purpose, or if they have taken any, what those measures are."

Read, and non-concurred, and the House adhere to their own vote.

Benjamin White, Esq., at the same time brought down the arrangement of the Regiments of Militia in the County of *York*. And, also, the Report of the Committee of both Houses, appointed to make an estimate of the expense of building and furnishing two Vessels for the defence of *American* liberty.

The House, according to the Order of the Day, proceeded to the choice of some person to repair to *Philadelphia* with the Accounts of this Colony, and the vouchers to said Accounts; and the Committee appointed to collect the votes, reported that Mr. *Joseph Henderson* was unanimously chosen.

On a motion, *Ordered*, That Colonel *Freeman*, Major *Sewall*, and Mr. *Story*, be a Committee to agree with Mr. *Henderson* on the terms for which he will perform the aforesaid service.

The House were informed that Doctor *Gelston*, and one *Brown*, who was suspected of assisting said *Gelston* in making his escape from the Messenger of this House, were at the door, under the custody of Mr. *Sanger*.

Whereupon, *Ordered*, That Colonel *Freeman*, Major *Sewall*, and Mr. *Story*, be a Committee to employ some persons to take said *Gelston* and *Brown* into close custody, and them secure until the further order of the Court.

Ordered, That Mr. *Singletary*, Deacon *Hovey*, and Colonel *Jones*, be a Committee to collect and count the votes for Military Officers, in the room of the Committee first chosen for this purpose, who are absent.

The House then proceeded to the choice of Officers for the First, Fifth, and Sixth Regiments in the County of *Middlesex*.

The House then adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow morning.

—

Friday, February 2, 1776.

Ordered, That the Secretary immediately give notice to the gentlemen elected Field and Staff-Officers of the several Regiments, to be raised in this Colony, to join the Army before *Boston* until the 1st of *April* next, of their appointment to said offices, respectively.

A Letter from *William West*, of *Middleton*, on *Rhode-Island*, relative to the apprehending Doctor *Gelston*, and other papers accompanying.

Read, and committed to the Committee of both Houses appointed to examine Doctor *Gelston*; and the said Committee are directed to examine Mr. *Brown*, who was taken with said *Gelston*, and report what is proper to be done with him; and also to report what ought to be done with some Tea found in his saddlebags.

Jedediah Foster, Esq., brought down a Petition of Captain *Jeremiah Obrien*, representing that the Vessels in which he has been cruising since the 21st of *August* last, in the service of the Colony, now lie at *Newbury*, completely equipped for sea, with about fifty men on board them, &c., and praying the Court to determine whether they shall be discharged or not. Read, and committed to Colonel *Orne*, Major *Cross*, and Mr. *Caldwell*.

On a motion, *Resolved*, That *Tuesday* next, ten o'clock, A. M., be assigned for the consideration of the Report of a Committee relative to the Poor of *Boston* and *Charlestown*.

Ordered, That a message go to the honourable Board, to know if they passed upon the Vote of this House relative to Doctor *Gelston*.

Moses Gill Esq., came down to desire the House to send back the list of Brigadiers.

James Prescott, Esq., came down and informed the House, that the Papers relative to Doctor *Gelston* were in the hands of the Committee of both Houses, who have not yet reported.

Ordered, That a message go to the honourable Board, to desire that they would direct the Committee to examine Doctor *Gelston* to sit forthwith.

On a motion, *Ordered*, That Colonel *Orne*, Mr. *Cooper*, and Colonel *Freeman*, be a Committee to bring in a Resolve for explaining that part of the Militia Bill which excludes all persons belonging to, or being a part of, the established Forces of the *United Colonies* of this Colony, from being elected to, or holding any office in the Militia of this Colony.

The House made choice of Field-Officers for the Third and Fourth Regiments of Militia in the County of *Bristol*, for those of the Third Regiment in the County of *Middlesex*, and for those of the Second and Third Regiments in the County of *York*.

—

Afternoon.

The House, according to the Order of the Day, made choice of Colonel *Daniel Thurston*, Mr. *Jewett*, of *Littleton*, and Captain *Walker*, to repair to *Falmouth*, in the County of *Cumberland*, in the next recess of this Court, and inquire into the state and circumstances of that town, and such other towns as they may think proper, and report to the House at the next sitting of the Court. The same was sent up accordingly.

The Members from each County were directed to complete the list of Officers for the Regiments in their respective Counties.

Whereas, the non-Commissioned Officers and Soldiers who inlisted into this Colony's service in the late campaign became entitled to the bounty of a Coat, or money for the same; and sundry of said non-Commissioned Officers and Soldiers are since deceased, and left no estate worth administering upon; therefore, to enable the heirs of those deceased to receive the bounty aforesaid, without taking administration on the estate of such deceased,

Resolved, That where there is no Administrator qualified to receive the Bounty aforesaid, upon the Selectmen of such Town where such non-Commissioned Officer or Soldier belonged, or had his last residence, certifying to the Committee of Clothing that there is no administration appointed on the estate of any such deceased; and, also, the said Selectmen, or some of the commissioned officers of the Company to which such deceased belonged, signifying to what Company and Regiment he, or they, belonged; and that the bounty aforesaid hath not been received, the said Committee of Clothing be, and they hereby are directed to pay unto the Selectmen (or their order) of each town, respectively, where such deceased non-Commissioned Officer or Soldier belonged, or had his last residence, the sum of twenty-five Shillings, for the use and benefit of the heirs of such deceased; but, in case such deceased non-commissioned Officer or Soldier hath left no heir, that then the said bounty be retained for the use of this Colony.

The Committee on Clothing were directed to get the above Resolve printed in the *Watertown* Newspapers.

The Committee on the Petition of the Selectmen of *Stoughton*, reported. Read, and recommitted, and the Committee are directed to ascertain facts.

James Prescott, Esq., brought down the Report of the Committee of both Houses appointed to take into consideration a Memorial of the Selectmen of *Sherburne*, in the Island of *Nantucket*, viz:

That a representation of the present state of that Island, and of the conduct of the inhabitants, be made to the *American* Congress, and that the inhabitants be supplied with necessaries for their subsistence, in the manner directed by a Resolve of the Congress, until their determination on such representation may be had. All which is humbly submitted. J. WINTHROP, *per order*.

In Council, February 2, 1776: Read, and accepted, and thereupon *Ordered*, That a representation, to the purpose mentioned in the foregoing Report, be made to the *American* Congress accordingly. And that *John Winthrop*, Esq., with such as the honourable House shall join, be a Committee to make said representation.

Read, and concurred, and Mr. *Brown*, of *Boston*, and Mr. *Cushing*, of *Scituate*, are joined.

On a motion, *Ordered*, That Colonel *Bowers*, Major *Cross*, and Colonel *Orne*, be a Committee to make an estimate of the expense of fitting out ten Armed Sloops, to carry sixteen carriage guns, each.

The House then adjourned till ten o'clock, to-morrow morning.

—

Saturday, February 3, 1776.

Benjamin Lincoln, Esq., brought down the Report of the Committee of both Houses appointed to examine Doctor *Samuel Gelston* and Mr. *John Brown*.

An Account of *John Newton* and others, for their time and expense in guarding Doctor *Gelston* and *John Brown*, from *Rhode-Island* to *Watertown*, and for their time going back. Read, and committed to Mr. *Dix*, Mr. *Ingalls*, and Colonel *Godfrey*.

A Petition of *William Eaton*, of *Deer-Island* District, representing that said District is in a distressed situation, and praying that a Company may be stationed there for its protection. Read, and the Petitioner had leave to withdraw his Petition.

The Committee on the Petition of *Jeremiah Obrien*, read *February* 2d, reported. Read, and recommitted.

A Letter from the Honourable *John Whetcomb*, Esq., declining to take a commission as Brigadier for the County of *Worcester*, on account of his age and infirmity.

A Petition of *Thomas Winship*, of *Lexington*, setting forth, that he was wounded at the battle of *Lexington*, on the 19th *April* last, whereby he lost his musket and a fortnight's labour, and praying the consideration of Court. Read, and the Petitioner had leave to withdraw his Petition.

—

Afternoon.

The House considered the Report of the Committees of both Houses who were appointed to examine Doctor *Gelston* and Mr. *Brown*, viz:

In Council, February 3, 1776: Whereas, it appears by Doctor *Gelston's* confession that he has contravened the Resolves of the *American* Congress, and has supplied the enemies of *America* with sundry articles of provision, and by other evidence it appears, that the same *Samuel Gelston* is unfriendly to the rights and liberties of this country: And whereas, the greatest danger must necessarily result from permitting such persons to go at large, and continue their traitorous practices of opposing the measures adopted for our defence, and of spreading false and discouraging rumours, and of communicating information of all our operations to our unnatural enemies: And whereas, the said *Gelston* did make his escape from the Messenger of the honourable House of Representatives, who had him in his keeping, and it appears that he should be effectually secured:

It is, therefore, *Resolved*, That the said *Samuel Gelston* be forthwith confined (A) at his own expense, in some Jail in this Colony, (B) there to remain till the further order of the Council.

And whereas, it appears by the examination of *John Brown* and Doctor *Gelston*, that the said *Brown*, also, contravened the Resolves of the *American* Congress, and aided the said Doctor *Gelston* in making his escape from the Messenger of the honourable House of Representatives, who had him in his custody, and carried him off to *Rhode-Island*, where he and the said *Gelston* were apprehended and secured by order of the honourable House:

It is, therefore, *Resolved*, That the said *John Brown* be forthwith confined (A) at his own expense, in some Jail in this Colony, (B) there to remain till the further order of the Council.

And whereas, there was found in the custody of the said *Brown*, about ten pounds weight of *India* Tea, which is now in the custody of the Committee of this Court:

Therefore, *Resolved*, That the Messenger of the honourable House of Representatives be directed to cause the said Tea to be publickly consumed by fire this day, at (C) one o'clock, P. M.

In Council, February 3, 1776: Read, and accepted.

Read, and concurred, with the following amendments, viz: At A, dele the words, "at his own expense." At B, insert, "that the Council shall order;" and at C, dele "one" and insert "five."

The Committee appointed to bring in a Resolve to explain a clause in the Militia Bill, reported. Read, and debated, and the further consideration put off to *Tuesday* next, ten o'clock, A. M.

The House then adjourned till ten o'clock, *Monday* morning.

—

Monday, February 5, 1776.

Upon application of Mr. *Phillips*, *Ordered*, That Mr. *Harling*, the master-workman of the Powder-Mill erecting for the use of the Colony, have leave to repair to *Andover* at any time after he has given such directions concerning the Mill at *Stoughton*, as that the other workman employed in that business may proceed thereon in his absence, and assist the said *Phillips* in the Mill erecting at his risk.

Whereas, representation has been made to this House, that Colonel *Doane*, of *Barnstable* County, has sent two Vessels to the *West-Indies*, loaded with the produce of the Colonies, and that Mr. *Solomon Davis*, of said *Barnstable*, is now loading two Vessels, and Mr. *Cutt*, of *Saco*, another, and that a Vessel at *Falmouth*, *Casco-Bay*, is likewise loading with the like produce, contrary to the Resolutions of the *American* Congress:

Therefore, *Ordered*, That Mr. Speaker, Major *Cross*, and Mr. *Story*, with such as the honourable Board may join, be a Committee to make inquiry into the matter, and report what is proper to be done.

The House made choice of Officers for the First and Second Regiments of Militia in the County of *Cumberland*.

Ordered, That Colonel *Thompson* procure all the Resolves of the Continental Congress that can be had.

Mr. Speaker was also desired to write to some of the Delegates of this Colony at the Continental Congress for four sets of all the Proceedings of said Congress, that are, or may from time to time be published.

The Commissary-General having asked some directions of the House with respect to procuring Cannon:

Ordered, That in this matter he use his best discretion in procuring the same as speedily as possible.

—

Afternoon.

A Petition of *Nathan Jones*, of *Goldsborough*, setting forth, that a Vessel, &c., was taken from him in the month of *August* last, by sundry persons from *Deer-Island*, and praying to be heard thereon. Read, and committed to Mr. *Davis*, Mr. *Whitney*, and Mr. *Allen*.

A Petition of a number of the inhabitants of the Easterly part of the County of *Lincoln*, representing, that the *Indians* of *St. John's* are in great want of Clothing and Ammunition; that the Government of *Nova-Scotia* have offered to supply them; that the said Tribes are willing to join the service of the Colonies, and have sent three of their Chiefs to wait on the Court; and praying that they may be supplied by the Court, and that a Truckmaster might be appointed for that purpose. Read, and com-

mitted to Mr. *Story* and Colonel *Smith*, with such as the honourable Board may join.

And the Committee are directed to confer with the *Indians* on the subject.

The Committee on the Letter of *Benjamin Fessenden*, dated *Sandwich, January* 13th, reported. Read, and committed, with the papers accompanying, to the Committee of both Houses this day appointed to consider a representation made to this House of several Vessels loading with the produce of the Colonies, &c.; and the Committee are directed to consider the matter at large, and report what is proper to be done, and to sit forthwith.

A Petition of *Benjamin Foster*, and others of *Machias*, praying the Court to purchase several Vessels, &c., which they took last summer. Read, and the Petitioners had leave to withdraw their Petition,

A Petition of *Benjamin Foster* and *James Noble Shannon*, in behalf of the Committee of Safety of *Machias*, praying that the Court would authorize some persons to take charge of a number of Armed Vessels which were taken from our enemies the summer past, by the inhabitants of said *Machias*, together with some valuable articles which were in the Vessels; and also praying that the doings of said Committee may be established. Read, and committed to Mr. *Davis*, Deacon *Stone*, and Mr. *Knowles*.

Another Petition of the said *Foster* and *Shannon*, representing that Captain *John Coulson* sailed from *Machias* about the first of *December* last, for *St. Croix*, and agreed with the Committee of Safety at said *Machias* to bring from thence fifteen hundred weight of Powder, and praying the directions of the Court. Read, and committed to the same Committee.

Another Petition of said *Foster* and *Shannon*, signed also by *James Lord*, representing that one *Ebenezer Beal* was wounded in taking the Schooner *Margaretta* on the 12th *June* last, and is now in this place in a languishing condition, and praying that the Court would order him to be received into some Hospital. Read, and committed to the same Committee.

Benjamin White, Esquire, brought down the Report of a Committee of both Houses, appointed to consider the subject-matter of a Report of a Committee of this Court, the 10th ultimo, relative to the Petition of some of the inhabitants of *Majabigwaduce*, against the conduct of *John Bakeman*, Esquire.

In Council, February 7, 1776: *Resolved*, That *William Lithgow, John Taylor, Ezekiel Pettee, Thomas Stinson*, and *Waterman Thomas*, Esquires, Justices of the Peace for the County of *Lincoln*, or any three of them, (quorum unus,) are hereby required to make inquiry into the riot and injury committed by a number of persons, armed and disguised, against the person and property of *John Bakeman*, Esquire, and, also, respecting the conduct of some of the inhabitants of the County of *Lincoln*, in supplying the enemy with provisions and fuel, and of all breaches of the peace, and other disorders, committed in said County; and, also, to inquire what persons have been guilty of contravening the Resolves of the *American* or Provincial Congresses, or the Acts or Ordinances of the General Court of this Colony; and the said Justices are hereby empowered (A) to cause to come before them any persons accused in the premises, and such witnesses as may be found, and of them inquire, on oath, of all matters relative to the premises; and all persons who shall by such Justices be found so far guilty of the breach of the laws of this Colony, especially provided, or the breach of the peace, or of evil intent against the rights and liberties of *America*, as that, in their judgment, they ought to be brought to trial for their respective crimes and offences, that they cause such persons to recognise, with sureties, in such sums as shall appear to them reasonable, according to the circumstances of the accused, that they will appear and answer for their respective crimes and misdemeanors, at the Superior Court of Judicature, Court of Assize, and General Jail Delivery, next to be holden at *Falmouth*, in the County of *Cumberland*, within and for the Counties of *Cumberland* and *Lincoln;* and in default of their recognising, as aforesaid, the said person, or persons, to commit to prison, until they shall so recognise, or be legally discharged; and all persons, of what quality or denomination soever, within the said County of *Lincoln*, are hereby commanded to assist the said Justices in the inquiry into, and execution of all matters in the foregoing Order contained; which Justices, Officers, and Witnesses, shall be paid for their cost and expenses as in the law of this Colony is provided, in case of conviction; and in case there shall not be a conviction before the Court of Assize, they shall be paid as this Court shall hereafter order.

In Council, February 5, 1776: Read, and accepted.

Read, and concurred, with the amendment at A, viz: At A, add "and directed."

Ordered, That Major *Brooks*, Colonel *Perry*, and Captain *Wilson*, be a Committee to inquire for some proper persons to be appointed Assay-Masters for Saltpetre, and report to the House.

On a motion, *Ordered*, That Colonel *Dwight*, Deacon *Plympton*, and Colonel *Norton*, be a Committee to examine and make trial, or cause trial to be made, of any earths, mines, or materials, which may be thought proper for the production of Sulphur, at any place within the Colony.

On a motion, *Ordered*, That Major *Brooks*, Major *Fuller*, and Captain *Brown*, of *Watertown*, with such as the honourable Board may join, be a Committee to take into consideration the present high price of Goods, and report what is proper to be done, at the next sitting of the Court.

The House then adjourned till ten o'clock, to-morrow morning.

—

Tuesday, February 6, 1776.

On the Petition of the Selectmen of the Town of *Spencer*, for Provisions supplied a Company of Minute-Men of said town, who marched, on the 19th of *April* last, in defence of the country, which they procured of Mr. *Jeremiah Whittemore:*

Resolved, That there be paid therefor, to Deacon *Oliver Watson*, the sum of six Pounds eight Shillings and three Pence, for the use of said *Whittemore*.

On a motion, *Ordered*, That a Messenger go to the honourable Board, desiring them to pass on all publick matters as soon as possible, that the Court might have a recess this week.

The Committee on the Petition of *Caleb Hyde* reported. Read, and accepted:

Resolved, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury to the said *Caleb Hyde*, and others mentioned in said Petition, at the same rates as were allowed to the Minute-Men who marched on the 19th of *April* last, for billeting and wages, they preparing and presenting Muster-Rolls to the Committee for examination, in the same manner as is ordered for the services of Minute-Men.

The House, agreeable to the Order of the Day, considered the Report of a Committee relative to the Poor of *Boston* and *Charlestown*.

Ordered, That the further consideration thereof be referred to the first *Tuesday* of the next session.

A Petition, Remonstrance, and Address, of the Town of *Pittsfield*, relative to the present form of Government in this Colony, and praying that the Court would issue orders for the election of a Governour and Lieutenant-Governour; that every Town may have the privilege of nominating Justices of the Peace, and every County its Judges, as well as the soldiers of every Company of Militia their Officers; and that no person may, at present, be allowed to sue for private debts, &c. Read, and ordered to lie.

The House made choice of Field-Officers for the Eighth Regiment of Militia, in the County of *Essex*.

Joseph Palmer, Esquire, brought down the Report of the Committee on the conduct of Colonel *Cargill*. Read, and recommitted, and Mr. *Caldwell* is appointed on said Committee, in the room of Colonel *Freeman*, absent.

On a motion, *Ordered*, That Colonel *Bowers*, Colonel *Lowell*, and Colonel *Godfry*, be a Committee to bring in a Resolve for building ten Sloops, for Privateers.

—

Afternoon.

The House passed several Resolves for the payment of

the following sums to Captain *Samuel Epes*, for the use of the persons hereafter mentioned, in full for their several Accounts for losses of guns, &c., at battle, on the 19th of *April* last, viz:

For *Jonathan Tarbell*,	£2 11
For *Henry Jacobs*,	3 8
For Heirs of *Benjamin Deland*, Jr., deceased,	2 14
For *Samuel Cook*,	2 12
For *Thomas Gardner*,	1 4
For *Nathaniel Goldthwait*,	2 0

Eldad Taylor, Esq., brought down the Report of the Committee of both Houses, appointed to view the Harbour of *Dartmouth*, read *January* 29th, viz:

That said Harbour is very convenient for all vessels from the *West-Indies* and the Southern Colonies, to retreat to in time of danger, and is the only one for a great extent of sea-coast, which can be secured in such a manner as to serve for that purpose. We, therefore, think it will be advantageous to the publick to fortify and secure the same, which we apprehend may be done by stationing at that place a company of seventy-five men, including officers, some of whom to be of the train, and supplying them with ten pieces of cannon, viz: four nine-pounders and six six-pounders, with a requisite quantity of powder and ball.

All which is humbly submitted.

In Council, February 6, 1776: Read, and sent down.

Read, and accepted.

The House passed several Resolves for the payment of Accounts for losses at *Bunker-Hill*, on the 17th of *June* last, and at the battle of *Lexington* on the 19th of *April* last.

To *Elisha March*, the sum of	£3 4 0
To *John Hemanway*,	2 6 0
To *Reuben Carlton*, Administrator on the Estate of *Ebenezer Herriek*, who was killed in battle,	6 16 0
To *John Jones*, the sum of	1 4 0
To the Heirs, or Master of *David Robbins*, who was killed,	2 12 0
To *Robert Phelps*, wounded,	2 0 0
To *Israel Willard*,	2 0 0
To *Joseph Wilder*,	1 0 0
To *Nathaniel Cleaves*,	2 12 0

The House made choice of the following Officers for the Company to be stationed at *Pemaquid*, in the County of *Lincoln*, &c., viz: *Caleb Turner*, Captain; *George Rogers*, First Lieutenant; *Thomas Thompson*, Second Lieutenant; *Robert Giving*, Commissary.

The House also made choice of the following Officers for the Company to be stationed at *St. Georges*, in said County, viz: *Benjamin Plummer*, Captain; *Joseph Robinson*, First Lieutenant; *James Thompson*, Second Lieutenant; *James Minot*, Commissary.

And *Thomas Rice*, Esq., Mustermaster for the three Companies to be stationed in the County aforesaid.

The Committee appointed to bring in a Resolve for building ten Armed Sloops, reported. Read, and accepted.

Resolved, That there be built, at the publick expense of this Colony, for the defence of *American* liberty, ten Sloops-of-War, of one hundred and ten tons, or fifteen tons each, suitable to carry from fourteen to sixteen carriage-guns, (six and four-pounders,) and that Captain *Batchelder*, Colonel *Bowers*, and Mr. *Durfee*, be a Committee, with such as the honourable Board shall join, to provide materials, and employ proper persons to build said vessels, as soon as may be, for the purpose above said; and that the sum of ten thousand Pounds be delivered to the said Committee, to enable them to proceed in building, rigging, and finishing said Vessels, as soon as possible, and that each one of the Committee be accountable to the General Court of this Colony, when thereunto called by the said Court, for the money he shall receive.

The House then adjourned till ten o'clock, to-morrow morning.

—

Wednesday, February 7, 1776.

Mr. Speaker informed the House that Colonel *Parsons* was at the door, from his Excellency General *Washington*, and desired to be admitted into the House.

He was admitted accordingly, and informed the House that he had seventy-nine Fire-Arms in his possession, the property of this Colony, and requested that they might be appraised and put into the Continental Store for the use of the Army. His request was granted, and Mr. *Cranson*, Captain *Ellis*, and Mr. *Devans*, were appointed to appraise the same accordingly, and Mr. *Partridge* was appointed to bring in a Resolve for this purpose.

Mr. *Partridge*, agreeable to order, reported. Read, and accepted.

Whereas, application has been made to this Court by his Excellency General *Washington*, for seventy-nine Fire-Arms, the property of this Colony, now in the possession of Colonel *Parsons*:

Resolved, That Mr. *Cranson*, Mr. *Devans*, and Mr. *Ellis*, be a Committee to appraise said Arms, and deliver them to General *Washington*, or his order, he paying the appraisement, or giving his receipt for the same; and said Committee are hereby ordered to pay the money, if received, to the Treasurer of this Colony, and lodge his receipt in the Secretary's Office.

The House made choice of Field-Officers for the Third and Fourth Regiments of Militia, in the County of *Cumberland*; for those of the Second Regiment, in the County of *Bristol*; for those of the Seventh Regiment, in the County of *Middlesex*; for those of the Fifth Regiment, in the County of *Essex*; and for those of the Fourth Regiment (except the Second Major) in the County of *Plymouth*.

Ordered, That a message be sent to the honourable Board, to know if they have passed upon the Resolve which passed the House the 27th day of *December* last, for supplying the Committee for purchasing Saltpetre with seven hundred Pounds.

Samuel Holten, Esq., came down, and informed the House that the honourable Board had non-concurred the Resolve of the House for depositing seven hundred Pounds into the hands of the Committee for purchasing Saltpetre.

The Committee on the Petition of *Jeremiah Obrien*, brought from the honourable Board the 2d current, reported. Read, and recommitted.

The Committee on the Petition of *Jeremiah Obrien*, again reported. Read and accepted.

Whereas, it is of importance that the enemies of the *United Colonies* should, as far as possible, be deprived of necessary supplies, whereby they may be rendered the less capable of distressing this and the other Colonies aforesaid; and to effect this purpose, it is expedient and necessary Armed Vessels should be fitted out and employed, to prevent supplies getting into the hands of our said enemies:

Therefore, *Resolved*, That the Committee of Correspondence, Inspection and Safety, of *Newburyport*, with Captain *Jeremiah Obrien*, be a Committee to prepare, and in all respects equip and man, with fifty men each, including officers, the Sloop *Machias-Liberty*, and Schooner *Diligent*, now lying at *Newburyport*, and that the said Committee recommend such proper persons to the honourable Council as may be necessary for officers of said Vessels, for the purpose above-mentioned, and when said Vessels are prepared, as aforesaid, the officers belonging to said Vessels be commissionated by, and following such directions as they shall receive from time to time from the Council of this Colony.

And it is further *Resolved*, That the following sums, set against the several officers and men engaged in the above service shall be paid them upon their faithfully discharging the duties assigned them, viz: A Captain, four Pounds per month; First Lieutenant, three Pounds per month; Second Lieutenant, two Pounds ten Shillings per month; Surgeon, two Pounds ten Shillings per month; Master, two Pounds per month; Boatswain, one Pound ten Shillings per month; Carpenter, one Pound ten Shillings per month; Gunner, one Pound ten Shillings per month; Pilot and Quartermaster, one Pound ten Shillings per month; Steward, one Pound ten Shillings per month; Master-at-Arms, one Pound ten Shillings per month; Foremast-Men, one Pound four Shillings per month.

And for further encouragement to the said Officers and Seamen:

It is further *Resolved*, That they shall be intituled to one-third the proceeds of all captures that shall be by them

made and finally condemned agreeable to a law of this Colony, made and passed in the present session of the General Court, intituled, "An act for the fixing out Armed Vessels, and for the trial and condemnation of Vessels that have been employed in aiding and assisting our enemies," and in such proportions as is allowed the officers and seamen of the Armed Vessels fitted out on account of the *United Colonies*, by his Excellency General *Washington*, (A.)

—

Afternoon.

Benjamin Lincoln, Esq., brought down a Letter from Mr. *Nathaniel Shaw*, Jun., dated *New-London*, *February* 5, 1776, relative to the arrival of Captain *Packwood*, with Powder.

Read, and committed to the Committee appointed by a Resolve of this Court, which passed the House the 10th of *January* last, to settle the Accounts remaining unsettled on the books of the late Committee of Supplies, and to take care of several cargoes, &c. And the Committee are directed to take order with respect to the sum left in *St. Eustatia* and *Martinico*, by Captain *Packwood*, to purchase Powder.

And *David Cheever*, Esq., is hereby appointed on said Committee, in the room of Colonel *Porter*.

On a motion, *Ordered*, That Colonel *Orne*, Major *Brooks*, and Brigadier *Godfry*, be a Committee to consider at large the matter of paying Officers and Soldiers for their losses in battle on the 19th of *April* and 17th of *June* last, and report.

Resolved, That Doctor *John Greenleaf* be joined to the Committee appointed to receive, examine, and pay for all good and merchantable Saltpetre, at the rate heretofore established by this Court, that shall be manufactured in this Colony; and that there be paid to the said Committee out of the Treasury of this Colony, the sum of fourteen hundred Pounds, to enable them to pay for the same, they to be accountable to this Court for the money they, or either of them shall receive; and Mr. *Jedediah Phips* is directed to attend at *Watertown* on the second and fourth *Tuesdays* of each month, for that purpose, until the first day of *June* next, and to advertise this order for their attendance, in the *Watertown* and *Cambridge* Newspapers three weeks successively.

A Petition of a number of Inhabitants of the Eastern part of the County of *Lincoln*, praying that some Companies may be raised for the defence of the sea-coast there. Read, and committed to Mr. *Hathaway*, Colonel *Thompson*, and Colonel *Bowers*.

The Committee appointed to consider the conduct of Mr. *Elias Haskitt Derby*, in importing Coffee and other goods from the Island of *Dominica*, contrary to the Resolves of Congress, reported, viz:

The Committee to whom was referred the consideration of Mr. *Elias Haskitt Derby's* conduct in importing Coffee and other goods from the Island of *Dominica*, contrary to the Resolves of Congress, have attended that service, and examined the several depositions in the case, as well as the orders given by Mr. *Derby* to Captain *Lander*, and heard several witnesses on the affair; upon the whole are of opinion, that the said *Lander* has acted quite contrary to the orders of his owner, and in direct violation of the Resolves of the Continental Congress; and as to Mr. *Derby's* conduct in this matter, the Committee are unanimously of opinion, that he has not himself, in the importation of those goods from *Dominica*, acted in any way contrary to the Resolves of the Continental Congress, and that he ought not to be charged with the misconduct and misbehaviour of the said *Lander*. Per order:

WILLIAM STORY, *Chairman*.

The Committee are further of opinion, that the following Resolve pass this Court:

Resolved, That the Coffee and such other articles as were imported contrary to the Association, in the Schooner *William*, *Peter Lander*, master, from *Dominica*, in the hands of the Committee of Correspondence of the Town of *Ipswich*, and of the Town of *Beverly*, or in the hands of whoever else, be stored at the charge and risk of the owner, and kept in safe custody till the further order of this Court. Read, and accepted.

Michael Farley, Esq., brought down a Bill for encouraging the fixing out of Armed Vessels, &c., and of repealing a former Act for that purpose.

John Taylor, Esq., brought down two Petitions, viz: A Petition of *Ann Coshommon*, *Indian* woman, of *Chilmark*, in *Dukes-County*, and *Benjamin Obadiah*, *Indian* man, of *Dartmouth*, in the County of *Bristol*, praying for liberty to make sale of a certain tract of Land in *Dartmouth*, for reasons therein set forth, with the following Resolve of Council thereon, viz:

In Council, *February* 6, 1776: *Resolved*, That the prayer of the Petition be granted, and that *Walter Spooner*, Esq., be, and he hereby is empowered to make sale of the tract of Land mentioned in said Petition, of which *John Quanimon* died seized, for the most the same will fetch, and make and execute a good deed, or deeds, in law, of the same to the purchaser, or purchasers, he observing the rules and directions in the law provided for the sale of real estates by executors and administrators, and the money arising by said sale to be put to interest, on good security, for the benefit of the legal heirs of the said *John Quanimon*, and the interest of the money to be paid annually to the said heirs, on their making application to the said *Walter Spooner*, Esq., he to be accountable to the General Court of this Colony when thereto required.

Read, and concurred.

John Taylor, Esq., brought down a Petition of *Thomas Symonds* and *Mary Thomas*, native *Indians*, of *Middleborough*, in the County of *Plymouth*, praying liberty to make sale of a piece of Land in *Dartmouth*, with the following Resolve of Council thereon, viz:

In Council, *February* 6, 1776: *Resolved*, That the prayer of the Petition be granted, and that *Walter Spooner*, Esq., be, and he hereby is empowered to make sale of the tract of Land mentioned in said Petition, for the most the same will fetch, and to make and execute a good deed or deeds of the same to the purchaser, or purchasers, he observing the rules and directions of the law for the sale of the real estates by executors and administrators, and the money arising by such sale to be laid out by the said *Walter Spooner*, Esq., in purchasing so much land for the benefit of said *Indians*, of where it will best accommodate them, as it will pay for, after deducting the necessary charges of such sales and purchase, and that the said *Walter Spooner*, Esq., be accountable to the General Court of this Colony for his doings touching the premises.

Read, and concurred.

On the Petition and Account of a number of Soldiers in Captain *Samuel Gridley's* Regiment of Artillery, for losses sustained in the battle of *Bunker's Hill*, on the 17th of *June* last,

Resolved, That there be allowed, and paid out of the publick Treasury, to Captain *Samuel Gridley*, for the use of the several persons undernamed, the several sums set against each person's name, in full discharge of their account, viz:

Ephraim Flagg,	£3	4	0
Solomon Kimball,	2	8	0
John Kimball,	2	8	0
Jonathan Silver,	0	14	0
Enoch Davis,	1	13	2
Caleb Foot,	2	2	0
William Patten,	0	18	0
Manuel Grace,	0	18	0
Paul Giles,	2	2	0
Ezra Reynolds,	1	14	0
Zachariah Holden,	0	11	0
James Sabres,	0	9	0
Zachariah Willis,	1	0	0
Christopher Blanding,	1	6	0

The House then adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow morning.

—

Thursday, February, 8, 1776.

A Bill for encouraging the fixing out of Armed Vessels to defend the Sea-Coast of *America*, and for erecting a Court to try and condemn all Vessels that shall be found infesting the same. Read a first time, and ordered to be read again at twelve o'clock, this day.

Thomas Cushing, Esq., brought down the Resolve of this House of the 30th *January* last, containing the ap-

pointment of the three Major-Generals, with the following Vote of Council thereon, viz:

In Council, February 8, 1776: Read, and concurred, with the amendment at A, viz: At A dele the name of "Honourable *James Warren*, Esq., second Major-General."

Voted, as the sense of this House, that the Money lent General *Washington* remain in the hands of the Paymaster-General till he receives a supply from the Continental Congress.

Moses Gill, Esq., brought down the Resolve which passed the House yesterday on the Petition of *Jeremiah Obrien*, with the following Vote of Council thereon, viz:

In Council, February 8, 1776: Read, and concurred, with the amendment at A, viz: At A insert, "the above establishment to continue until the last day of *December* next, unless this Court should think it expedient to discharge them sooner."

Read, and concurred.

The Petition of the Selectmen of *Reading*, read *January* 25, read again, and the prayer thereof granted; and, thereupon,

Ordered, That a precept issue to that Town for the choice of a Representative accordingly.

Whereas, by a Resolve of the General Court, passed the 19th of *December* last, all Officers and Soldiers who were, on the 19th of *April* and 17th of *June* last past, engaged in battle with the Ministerial troops, and suffered loss of Clothing, Arms, and Accoutrements, should, upon application made to the General Court, with sufficient evidence of their having sustained such loss, be compensated: And whereas, delay in exhibiting those Accounts has prevented, and may further prevent, detection of fraud in many instances:

Therefore, *Resolved*, That no Officer or Soldier who sustained any loss of Clothing, Fire-Arms, Ammunition, &c., on the 19th of *April*, or on the 17th of *June* last past, by being engaged with the Ministerial troops, shall be entitled to any compensation therefor, who shall not exhibit the account thereof to this Court, on or before the first *Tuesday* of the next sitting of this Court; and this Resolve shall be published in the *Watertown* Paper.

(No account for losses on *Bunker-Hill* to be allowed which are not exhibited before the first *Tuesday* of the next sitting of the Court.)

Azor Orne, Esq., having been appointed by the Court a Major-General of the Militia of this Colony, moved that he might be excused from accepting that appointment. Considered, and

Ordered, That the further consideration thereof be put off till to-morrow morning, ten o'clock.

—

Afternoon.

Ordered, That a message be sent to the honourable Board, to know if they have passed upon the Resolve of the House for supplying the Committee for procuring Saltpetre with money for that purpose.

Benjamin Lincoln, Esq., came down and informed the House that the honourable Board had not passed upon the same, but that it was under consideration of the Board.

Whereupon, the House directed Mr. *Perry* to desire Mr. *Phips* to tarry in town.

The Bill for encouraging the fixing out of Armed Vessels, &c., read a second time, and committed to Mr. Speaker, Mr. *Story*, and Colonel *Orne*.

Resolved, That to-morrow, eleven o'clock, A. M., be assigned for a third reading of the said Bill.

The House considered the Vote of the honourable Board on the Resolve of this House appointing three Major-Generals.

An engrossed Bill for reviving and continuing sundry Laws that are expired, and near expiring, read, and

Resolved, That it pass, to be enacted.

The Selectmen of *Bridgewater* had leave to withdraw their Petition.

A Petition, signed *Robert Harrington*, *James Kenny*, and *Moses Eayer*, praying the Court to advance them the sum of two hundred Pounds, to enable them to procure necessary Stock to mount a number of Cannon, &c. Read, and committed to Captain *Stone*, Colonel *Barret*, and Mr. *Kingsbury*.

A Return from *Cape-Elizabeth*, of a Schooner proposed to be fitted out as a Privateer, and the number of men who would engage in that service, with a Petition of *Isaac Battle* and *Samuel Nichols*, praying that said Schooner may be fitted out for that purpose. Read, and committed to the Committee appointed by the Court to build ten Armed Sloops; and the said Committee are empowered to purchase, instead of building, Vessels as are suitable for the purpose.

Ordered, That a message be sent to the honourable Board, to desire them to send down the Report on Mr. *Derby's* affair, if not passed upon.

Benjamin Lincoln, Esq., brought the same down accordingly.

The Committee on the three Petitions of *Benjamin Foster* and *James Noble Shannon*, entered 5th current, reported. Read, and not accepted; and the Petitioners had leave to withdraw that which was first entered, and the other two were dismissed.

On a Petition of the Selectmen of the Town of *Mendon*, praying allowance of an Account for Provision supplied the Companies that marched from that town on the 19th of *April* last:

Resolved, That there be paid to the said Selectmen, out of the publick Treasury, the sum of thirty-eight Pounds four Shillings and four Pence, in full discharge thereof.

The House then adjourned till ten o'clock, to-morrow morning.

—

Friday, February 9, 1776.

Ordered, That a message be sent to the honourable Board, to desire them to send down the Report of the Committee appointed to view the Harbour of *Dartmouth*, if not passed upon by the Board.

Moses Gill, Esq., brought it down accordingly.

Read, and committed to Captain *Toby*, Mr. *Walker*, and Captain *Goodman*, to bring in a Resolve for the purpose expressed in said Report.

Walter Spooner, brought down a number of Resolves of the honourable Continental Congress, and a Letter from the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq., brought by Mr. *Fessenden*, express. Read, and committed to Captain *Stone*, Mr. *Partridge*, Mr. *Batchelder*, Mr. *Rice*, and Colonel *Lovell*.

The House assigned three o'clock, in the afternoon, to hear a Petition of the Committee on Accounts, and several other Committees of the Court.

James Prescott, Esq., brought down the list of Brigadiers, as chosen by the House the 30th *January* last, with the following Vote of Council thereon, viz:

In Council, February 8, 1776: Read, and concurred with the amendment at A, B, C, viz: At A, dele "Generals;" at B, dele "for the County of *Middlesex*, *John Cummings*, Esq.;" and at C, dele "for the County of *Lincoln*, *Arthur Noble*, Esq."

Read, and concurred.

The Bill for encouraging the fixing out of Armed Vessels, read a third time, and passed to be engrossed, with amendments.

John Taylor, Esq., brought down the following Resolve, viz:

In Council, February 9, 1776: Whereas, Accounts have been presented to this Court for payment by several towns in this Colony, for Provisions supplied the men who marched from such towns, respectively, on the alarm on the 19th of *April* last, and after, and no sufficient vouchers are lodged with such Accounts whereby it may be made evident that the publick had the benefit of such Provisions: And whereas, this Colony allowed to each man so marching, one penny per mile to refund his expense in travelling into camp, &c.:

Therefore, *Resolved*, That each Town who have presented their Accounts to this Court for payment, and yet remain unpaid, and those who shall in future present such Accounts for payment, shall lodge with them, before they shall be passed on, a Certificate from the Officer who commanded such men on the alarm aforesaid, that no part of

the Provisions mentioned in such Accounts were expended in their march to Head-Quarters, and a certificate from the Commissary what number of days such Company were in camp, and did not draw their allowance from the publick stores. Read, and concurred.

Resolved, That the following be the Form of an Inlistment to be signed by such Soldiers as are to be raised by this Colony in the Counties of *Hampshire* and *Berkshire*, to join the *American* Army in *Canada;* and Brigadier *Thompson* is hereby appointed to get the same printed as soon as possible, viz:

"We, the subscribers, do hereby severally inlist ourselves into the service of the *United American Colonies*, until the first day of *January* next, if the service should require it; and each of us do engage to furnish and carry with us into the service aforesaid, a good effective fire-arm and blanket, (also, a good bayonet, cartridge-pouch, and a hatchet, or tomahawk, or cutting-sword, if possible;) and we severally consent to be formed into a Regiment under the command of such Field-Officers, Captains, and Subalterns, as are or may be appointed and commissionated by the *American* Congress, and, when so formed, we engage to march under said Officers into *Canada*, with the utmost expedition. And we further agree, during the time aforesaid, to be subject to such Generals, (A,) or superior officers, as are, or shall be appointed; and to be under such regulations, in every respect, as are provided for the *American* Army.

"Dated the . . . . . of . . . . . A. D. 1776."

The House assigned four o'clock, in the afternoon, for the choice of a Brigadier for the County of *Middlesex*, in the room of *John Cummings*, Esq., negatived by the honourable Board.

Ordered, That Mr. *Story* bring in a Resolve for supplying the Committee for fixing out Vessels for Powder, with the sum of two thousand Pounds.

The Committee on the Petition of *Jeremiah Obrien*, reported. Read, and recommitted.

—

Afternoon.

Benjamin Lincoln, Esq., brought down the Form of an Inlistment for the Soldiers going into *Canada*, with the following Vote of Council thereon, viz:

In Council, February 9, 1776: Read, and concurred, with the amendment at A, viz: Dele "or superior," and insert in place thereof, "and other."

Read, and concurred.

An Account of *Lydia Webb*, widow, for sundries lost by her late husband at the battle at *Bunker-Hill*.

Also, a Petition of *Thomas Winship*, of *Lexington*, representing, that being wounded in battle on the 19th of *April* last, he lost his musket, and praying consideration and allowance.

Read, and committed to the Committee appointed to consider Accounts of a like nature.

Mr. Speaker laid upon the table a sum of Money brought from *Philadelphia*, by Mr. *Fessenden*, to defray the expense of raising, equipping, and paying the Forces to be sent by this Colony into *Canada*.

Whereupon, *Ordered*, That Major *Partridge*, Mr. *Wheeler*, and Mr. *Brown*, of *Boston*, be a Committee to receive the same, and pay it into the hands of the Receiver-General, and take a receipt therefor, which receipt shall be lodged in the Secretary's Office.

Ordered, That a message be sent to the honourable Board, to know if they have passed upon the Resolve of the House for supplying the Committee for examining, receiving, and buying, Saltpetre, with money, to enable them to pay for what they purchase.

Mr. *Story* reported. Read, and accepted.

Resolved, That there be allowed and paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony to the Honourable *Benjamin Lincoln*, Esq., and others, a Committee of this Court for fitting out ten Vessels to procure Gunpowder and Ammunition, &c., the sum of two thousand Pounds for that purpose; they to be accountable to this Court for the same.

The Committee on the Petition of *Robert Harrington* and others, reported. Read, and accepted.

Reconsidered, and thereupon, *Ordered*, That a sum of Money be put into the hands of the Commissary-General for the use in said Petition mentioned. Recommitted for that purpose.

Four Petitions of Colonel *James Cargill:*

One, praying an allowance for Mr. *Shubael Williams*, of *Long-Island*, at *Penobscot*, who, to assist the Sea-Coast Guards to prevent the enemy from getting Wood from said Island, was obliged to quit his home, whereby he lost one hundred bushels of Grain, &c. Read, and dismissed.

Another, praying an allowance for the service of part of the Militia of the East Regiment in the County of *Lincoln*, which he sent to *Penobscot-Bay* and *Fort-Pownal*, and with which he drove off several Vessels that were supplying the enemy. Read, and the Petitioner had leave to withdraw his Petition.

Another, setting forth, that he was appointed by the Court to take the command of the six Companies on the Sea-Coast, in the County of *Lincoln*, and there being no establishment for him, prays the direction of Court. Read, and committed to Mr. *Perry*, Major *Ely*, and Mr. *Fessenden*.

The other praying directions with regard to the Schooner *Dolphin*. Read, and committed to the same Committee.

The House then adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow morning.

—

Saturday, February 10, 1776.

The Committee on the Resolve of Congress relative to the Forces going into *Canada*, reported. Read, and accepted.

Whereas, the votes and proceedings of the honourable Continental Congress respecting the Regiment now raising in this Colony to join the Continental Army in *Canada*, make it necessary that some alterations should be made in the Resolves of this Court of the 21st of *January* last, respecting the encouragement thereby offered and proposed to such as should inlist themselves into the said service; and whereas, it is apprehended the mode of appointing the Captains, Subalterns, and non-Commissioned Officers therein recommended, will retard the speedy inlistment, and forming the several Companies to be raised, (which ought to be forwarded with all possible despatch.)

Therefore, *Resolved*, That the order of Court of the 21st of *January* last, relative to raising a Regiment of men in the Counties of *Hampshire* and *Berkshire*, to serve in *Canada*, so far as it relates to the two months' advance wages; the electing Captains, Subalterns, and non-Commissioned Officers by the men; and the Officers being confined to raise said Regiment in the Counties aforesaid, be reconsidered.

Resolved, That the blank Commissions for the Captains, Subalterns, and Staff-Officers sent to this Court by the Continental Congress for the said Regiment, be lodged in the hands of the Field-Officers appointed to raise and command said Regiment, as, also, Inlisting Papers, with orders to them, to deliver such Inlisting Papers to those men who come recommended to them for their loyalty to their country, their courage and good conduct, as properly qualified for Officers, and upon their raising the complement of men assigned them, to deliver them their commissions.

And for the encouragement of such as shall inlist themselves into the said service:

It is, therefore, *Resolved*, That agreeable to the Resolves of the honourable Continental Congress, there shall be paid to each effective, able-bodied non-Commissioned Officer and Soldier, who shall inlist as aforesaid, and be properly accoutred according to the terms of their inlistment, the sum of forty Shillings, lawful money as a bounty.

And, also, that there shall be advanced and paid to every Officer and Soldier one month's advance wages, that they may be enabled to purchase necessary Clothing; both the said sums to be paid them upon passing muster.

It is further *Resolved*, That those who have inlisted already, upon the former inlistment given out, upon their signing the inlistment now ordered, shall be entitled to the same bounty and privileges as if they had not before inlisted, and shall be entitled to receive pay from the date of their first inlistment; the said sums of one month's advance wages, and forty Shillings bounty, to be in lieu of the two months' advance wages ordered in the said Resolves of the 21st of *January*.

And whereas, by the said Resolves of the 21st of *January*, three Companies were to be raised from the County of *Berkshire*, as part of the said Regiment: And whereas, nearly four hundred men have already inlisted and marched from the said County of *Berkshire*, into *Canada*, to serve the *United Colonies* there, until the 15th of *April* next, many of whom, it is hoped, and expected, will be willing to continue in the said service until the 1st day of *January* next:

Therefore, *Resolved*, That the Field-Officers of the said Regiment be directed to inlist, as soon as possible, out of those already marched as aforesaid, two whole Companies, to join the said Regiment; whose advance wages and bounty, including what they have already received from General *Schuyler*, shall be made equal in every respect to those who now inlist, according to the terms proposed by the honourable Continental Congress; and that six Companies only be now raised for the said Regiment, until this Court shall be informed of the success of raising the said two Companies out of those now in *Canada*, as aforesaid.

Ordered, That Brigadier *Thompson* get the foregoing printed.

Ordered, That Mr. Speaker and Major *Hawley*, with such as the honourable Board shall join, be a Committee to wait on his Excellency General *Washington*, to inform him that this Court is about to rise, and to know if he has any application to make to the Court.

The Committee appointed to examine the Money brought from *Philadelphia* by Mr. *Fessenden*, reported verbally:

That they had examined the same, and found it agreeable to the invoice; that they had deposited it in the publick Treasury, and had taken the Treasurer's receipt therefor, which they had lodged in the Secretary's Office.

The House made choice of *Samuel Harnden*, Esq., as Brigadier for the County of *Lincoln*, in the room of *Arthur Noble*, Esquire, who has been non-concurred by the Council.

The House made choice of *Oliver Prescott*, Esq., as a Brigadier for the County of *Middlesex*, in the room of *John Cummings*, Esq., non-concurred by the Council.

The Committee appointed to consider the necessity of raising a Company of Matrosses to defend the Fortress erected at *Marblehead*, reported. Read, and accepted.

Whereas, it appears to be of great importance to the safety and welfare of this Colony, that the Harbour of *Marblehead* be effectually secured against the attacks of our enemies: And whereas, the inhabitants of that town have at a very great expense, erected Batteries, wherein twenty pieces of Cannon are mounted, and it being absolutely necessary for a successful defence, that there should be a number of men, well acquainted with the management of Cannon, appointed to said Batteries:

Therefore, *Resolved*, That a Company of Matrosses, consisting of thirty-eight men, exclusive of officers, be immediately raised for the purpose aforesaid, and that a Captain and two Lieutenants be chosen for said Company, their pay to be the same with officers of the like rank on the Sea-Coast establishment; and the Commanding Officer of the two Companies of Sea-Coast men stationed at *Marblehead*, is hereby directed and empowered to draft twenty-five men from each of said Companies to be joined to said Company of Matrosses, which will then consist of one hundred men, officers included.

—

Afternoon.

A Petition of *Stephen Smith*, of *Machias*, praying allowance for the expense he was at in supporting a number of *Indians* of the *St. John's* and *Passamaquoddy* Tribes, who came to *Machias* in *December* last, to agree upon some methods for establishing trade, and to promote a union between said Tribes and this Colony. Read, and committed to the Committee appointed to consider the Report of a Committee relative to the *Indians*, &c.

Whereas, the Committee on Accounts, the Committee for Signing, &c., the Bills emitted by order of this Court, the Committee on Clothing, and the Committees on the Muster-Rolls of the Army and Militia, have in their Memorial represented, that in order to their discharging the duties required of them, most o their time has been employed, they having been deprived the pleasure and benefit of the publick debates, have been in a great measure prevented doing their duty to their particular constituents, by which they have been not a little injured, and praying that for part of their services they may be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony.

Therefore, *Resolved*, That the above Committee be paid for their respective services, one half out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, and the Committee on Accounts are hereby directed to pay the same accordingly, and the other half to be made up in the Pay-Roll of the House of Representatives.

The Committee on the state of the Ordnance, &c., at *Falmouth*, reported. Read, and accepted.

Whereas, it appears from a state of the Ordnance Stores and Ammunition, for Small-Arms, at *Falmouth*, in the County of *Cumberland*, exhibited to this Court, that most of the Cannon there are unfit for use, and that the quantity of Shot, Powder and Flints, is very small. And as it is necessary for the general safety of the Province, and of that part of it in particular, that a supply of these articles should be immediately procured:

Therefore, *Resolved*, That the Commissary-General of this Colony be, and hereby is empowered and directed to procure, as soon as possible, at the expense of this Colony, ten good Cannon, as follows, viz: three twelve-pounders, three nine-pounders, and four six-pounders, together with one hundred round-shot for each Cannon, suitable for the same; also nine hundred weight of Powder, and one thousand Flints.

The House then adjourned till ten o'clock, to-morrow morning.

—

Monday, February 12, 1776.

Mr. Speaker communicated to the House a Letter from his Excellency General *Washington*, representing that the Army is in want of Fire-Arms, and proposing that the Court would depute some of its Members to make application to the different Towns for a quantity thereof.

Read, and committed to Colonel *Orne* and Mr. *Cushing*, with such as the honourable Board may join.

The Resolve appointing Mr. *Isaac Lothrop* to present the state of disbursements of this Colony, &c., to the Continental Congress, was read, and Mr. *Isaac Lothrop* having declined accepting that trust, his name was erased, and that of Mr. *Joseph Henderson*, who was appointed by the House in the room of Mr. *Lothrop*, on the first of *February* current, was inserted instead thereof.

Resolved, That Mr. *Henderson* be allowed for such service the sum of thirty-five Pounds, provided he is not obliged to tarry at *Philadelphia* longer than one fortnight, in which case he is to have a further allowance, as this Court shall judge reasonable, and that Colonel *Orne* bring in a Resolve expressive of this agreement.

Eldad Taylor, Esquire, brought down the following Vote of Council, viz:

In Council, February 12, 1776: *Ordered*, That *John Winthrop*, Esquire, with such as the honourable House shall join, be a Committee to prepare a Proclamation for a General Fast throughout this Colony.

Read, and concurred, and Major *Hawley* and Mr. *Hopkins* are joined.

A Petition of *Hannah Goldthwait*, late of *Boston*, setting forth, that she is in low and declining circumstances, and praying the Court to order a sum of money to be paid to her which was taken by order of Court from Mr. *White*, of *Marblehead*, who brought the same out of *Boston*, from her husband for her.

Read, and committed to Mr. *Dix*, Mr. *Cooper*, and Mr. *Hobart*.

The Committee to whom was referred the consideration of the Petition of a number of the inhabitants of the County of *Lincoln*, reported, that they are of opinion, that it is of great importance that the *St. John's* and *Passamaquoddy Indians* should be furnished by this Colony with ammunition and such articles as are necessary for them, and that they may not be obliged to seek supplies elsewhere; and, therefore, report the following Resolves, viz:

Resolved, That a Truckmaster be appointed by this Court to reside at *Machias*, and that the sum of four hundred Pounds be paid out of the publick Treasury of this

Colony to said Truckmaster, to enable him to procure such Ammunition, and other articles of goods, as may be necessary to supply the said *Indians* with, and that he set the article he shall supply them with at a moderate advance, and take in return therefor their furs and other things they may procure in hunting, he, the said Truckmaster to be accountable to this Court for the said money, and his conduct in this affair.

And it is further *Resolved*, That *John Steele* be desired to repair to *Machias*, as soon as may be, and there act as Armourer in repairing the said *Indians'* guns, and such others as may be sent him by order of this Court, and that for his service and the use of his tools, there be allowed and paid to him after the rate of four Pounds per month, to commence from the time of his setting off from *Newburyport*, till the further order of this Court.

And that the said Truckmaster furnish the said Armourer with stock to proceed in his business, and receive from the *Indians*, and others, such pay on account of this Colony as shall be reasonable for the stock and work done.

The House made choice of *Jonathan Warner*, Esquire, as a Brigadier for the County of *Worcester*, in the room of Brigadier *Whetcomb*, who declines accepting that appointment.

—

Afternoon.

The Petition of Doctor *James Pecker*, read, and committed to the Committee on Accounts.

The Committee on the Petition of *Hannah Goldthwait* reported, that they found the fact set forth in said Petition true, and that the sum taken into custody by order of this Court was sixty Pounds.

Whereupon, *Resolved*, That the said sum of sixty Pounds be granted and paid out of the publick Treasury, to her, or her order, for the purpose mentioned in said Petition.

Colonel *Orne*, agreeable to order, reported. Read, and accepted.

Whereas, Mr. *Joseph Henderson* is, by this Court, appointed to carry, exhibit, and adjust the Accounts of this Colony with the honourable Continental Congress at *Philadelphia:*

Therefore, *Resolved*, That there shall be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to the said *Joseph Henderson*, for his time and expenses on said journey to and from *Philadelphia*, for the above purposes, the sum of thirty-five Pounds; and should the said *Joseph Henderson* be detained longer at *Philadelphia* than fourteen days on said service, he shall in that case receive a further compensation for his services.

Samuel Holten, Esq., brought down the Report of the Committee of both Houses on the Letter of his Excellency General *Washington*, this day received. Read, and accepted.

Resolved, That a Committee be appointed in the several Counties of *Suffolk*, *Essex*, *Middlesex*, *Hampshire*, *Worcester*, *Plymouth*, *Bristol*, and *York*, to purchase, as early as possible, in the recess of this Court, all the good and effective Fire-Arms which are to be obtained in the several towns in the Counties aforesaid, on the best terms they may be had, and forward them without delay to his Excellency General *Washington*, or his order.

Resolved, That it be recommended to his Excellency to deliver to the Chairman of each Committee for the several Counties aforesaid, such sum, or sums, of money as may be sufficient to enable them to execute their commission with ease and despatch; they to be accountable to his Excellency for the same.

The House assigned eleven o'clock, to-morrow, A. M., for the choice of a Committee for the purposes expressed in the foregoing Resolves.

The Committee appointed to consider the Account of Captain *Jeremiah Obrien*, reported:

That by examining said *Obrien's* Account, they find the whole of the provision, &c., for billeting the men under his command, amounts to no more than five Shillings and six Pence per week each, and as said Captain *Obrien* has no other vouchers, the Committee are of opinion that his Account is just; said Account being three hundred and seventy-one Pounds, and the Account for cordage, tallow, iron, &c., belonging to the vessels, by said *Obrien's* account, is the further sum of one hundred and twenty-five Pounds five Shillings, which sums amount to four hundred and ninety-six Pounds five Shillings, out of which sum he, the said *Obrien*, has received the sum of one hundred and sixty Pounds, which leaves the sum of three hundred and thirty-six Pounds five Shillings. The said Committee, therefore, report the following Resolve, viz. Read, and accepted.

Resolved, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to the said Captain *Jeremiah Obrien*, the sum of three hundred and thirty-six Pounds five Shillings, in full discharge of said Accounts.

Further *Resolved*, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to Captain *Jeremiah Obrien*, his Officers and Seamen, under his command, since the 21st day of *August*, 1775, on board the Sloop *Machias-Liberty*, and the Schooner *Diligent*, the sum of eight hundred and four Pounds four Shillings and two Pence, in full discharge for their services on board said Vessels, until the first day of *February*, 1776.

The Committee on the Memorial of *Benjamin Foster*, and *James Noble Shannon*, reported. Read, and not accepted, and they had leave to withdraw their Memorial.

Benjamin White, Esq., brought down the Resolve of the House of the 8th current, limiting the time for receiving Accounts for losses on *Bunker-Hill*, &c., with the following Vote of Council thereon, viz:

In Council, February 12, 1776: Read, and concurred, as taken into a new draft, viz:

Whereas, by a Resolve of the General Court, passed the 19th of *December* last, all Officers and Soldiers who were, on the 19th of *April* and 17th of *June* last past, engaged in battle with the Ministerial troops, and suffered loss of Clothing, Arms, and Accoutrements, should, upon application made to the General Court, with sufficient evidence of their having sustained such loss, be compensated: And whereas, (A) by delaying to exhibit said Accounts, (B) the persons who suffered those losses may be deprived of the evidence necessary for them to produce in order to their being compensated: (C.)

Resolved, That all Officers and Soldiers who sustained any loss of Clothing, Fire-Arms, Ammunition, &c., by being engaged in battle with the Ministerial troops on the 19th *April* and 17th of *June* last, are hereby notified, that unless they shall exhibit a particular account of their losses to this Court, on or before the second *Tuesday* of the next sitting of the same, they will be deprived of the benefit of compensation; and that this Resolve be priuted in the *Watertown* and *Cambridge* Newspapers, three weeks successively.

Read, and concurred, with the amendment at A, B, and C, viz: At A, dele "by" and insert "the," and dele from B to C, and insert "may give occasion to fraud and impositions."

The House then adjourned till ten o'clock, to-morrow morning.

—

Tuesday, February 13, 1776.

Ordered, That Mr. *Story* procure and forward to the Members of the Continental Congress, who represented this Colony, the Journals of this House, and Acts of the Court.

Jedediah Foster, Esq., brought down a Bill entitled "An Act to carry into execution a Resolve of the *American* Congress, for ascertaining the number of Inhabitants in this Colony."

Read a first time, and ordered to be read again at four o'clock, in the afternoon.

Also the following Resolve, viz:

In Council, February 12, 1776: Whereas, it has been found necessary to deposite in the hands of Committees large sums of money, for defraying the charges incurred in the present unhappy contest, and a balance is often left in the hands of such Committees, which sums, though they may be paid into the Treasury of this Colony, and a receipt given by the Treasurer for the same, yet, unless the Treasurer should credit the Colony for such sums, a loss may happen by such receipts being mislaid or forgotten:

Therefore, *Resolved*, That all such receipts be lodged with the Secretary, who, upon his receiving the same, shall immediately enter all such sums in a book, to be by

him kept for that purpose, to be produced when there shall be an adjustment of the Treasurer's Accounts. And all Committees who shall be hereafter trusted with sums of publick moneys, shall not be considered as discharged of such balance in their hands, until they shall lodge the Treasurer's receipts in the Secretary's hands, for the purpose aforesaid.

Read, and concurred.

Moses Gill, Esq., brought down a Resolve for encouraging the building of Powder-Mills.

Read, and non-concurred.

Ordered, That Major *Hawley*, Mr. *Cushing*, and Mr. *Brown*, of *Boston*, be a Committee to bring in a Resolve to encourage the building of Powder-Mills.

Whereas, it appears to this Court that it will be greatly conducive to the safety and welfare of this and the other Colonies, at a time of common danger, that a Committee be chosen in each town, and one only, for the special business of attending to the political and general interests of the Colonies, while the attention of the other Officers are employed about the particular concerns of their respective towns; in order to this, and to prevent the confusion and mischiefs which may arise by the multiplying of Committees diversely denominated, for purposes nearly the same:

Resolved, That the several Towns in this Colony be, and hereby are directed and empowered at their Annual Town-Meetings in *March*, to choose by written votes of such as are qualified by law to vote for Representatives, or in town affairs, such a number of the Freeholders, inhabitants of said towns, respectively, as they shall think proper, whose principles are known to be friendly to the rights and liberties of *America*, to serve as a Committee of Correspondence, Inspection, and Safety, for the year then next ensuing; and any or either of them for unfaithfulness in their office to remove, and others choose in their room, at any other Town-Meeting legally assembled for that purpose; whose business shall be to communicate with despatch any matters of importance to the publick, that may come to their knowledge, to the Committees of the same denomination of any other Town, County, or Colony, which it may particularly concern, or to the General Assembly of this Colony, or, in their recess, to the Council; and also to inspect whether there are any inhabitants of, or residents in their respective towns, who violate the Association of the Continental Congress, or any other the resolves, directions, or recommendations of said Congress, or Acts or Resolves of the General Court and preceding Congresses of this Colony, respecting the present struggle with *Great Britain*; and if any such be found, that they proceed with them in such manner as the Resolves of the Continental Congress, or the Laws or Resolves of this Colony do or shall direct: That they make known to the General Court, or to the Council, all gross breaches of trust in any Officers, or Servants of this Colony, that may come under their observation, that they use their utmost influence to promote peace and harmony in their respective towns; as, also, faithfully to execute any Orders or Resolves of this Court which may be to them directed, from time to time, during their continuance in office.

And in order to enable said Committee to proceed in a uniform and judicious discharge of the duty assigned them:

It is further *Resolved*, That said Committee be duly furnished with all the Resolves of the Continental Congress, which have been or may hereafter be published, that has any relation to their office; and that Captain *Brown*, of *Watertown*, be a Committee during the recess of this Court, to procure and cause the same to be printed and sent to the Town-Clerks of the several towns in this Colony, for the use and inspection of said Committees, &c., and also this Resolve in handbills, immediately, and sent to the several towns in this Colony.

Mr. Speaker communicated to the House a Letter from *St. Eustatia*, signed *Yankoo*, dated *December* 14th, enclosing a number of Newspapers. Read, and sent up.

—

Afternoon.

Resolved, That the Receiver-General of this Colony be, and hereby is empowered and directed to make use of the Continental Money now in the Treasury, transmitted to this Colony by the honourable Continental Congress, as well as the Bills emitted by this Colony, for discharging all Warrants drawn upon by the Council of this Colony.

The Commissary-General having informed the House that it was the opinion of Mr. *Burbeck*, Engineer, that it would be best that the Field-Pieces which the said Commissary was directed to procure for the use of this Colony be all three-pounders,

Ordered, That this matter be committed to Mr. *Devans* and Colonel *Orne*, with such as the honourable Board may join, to consider thereon, and report.

The Committee on the Petition of *Samuel Jackson*, of *Plymouth*, reported. Read, and the Petitioner had leave to withdraw it and his Petition.

Benjamin White, Esq., brought down a Letter from Colonel *Otis*, of *Barnstable*, in the County of *Barnstable*, relative to raising men in that County and the County of *Plymouth*. Read, and concurred to lie.

The House proceeded to the choice of Committees to purchase Fire-Arms in the recess of the Court, agreeable to a Resolve of yesterday, viz:

For the County of *Suffolk:* Captain Ellis, Mr. Witherton, Colonel Thayer, and Mr. Metcalf.

For the County of *Essex:* Mr. Jewett, Captain Epes, Mr. Ingalls, and Mr. Johnson, of *Lynn*.

For the County of *Middlesex:* Colonel Barret, Mr. Stickney, Colonel Perry, Mr. Bryant.

For the County of *Hampshire:* Captain Goodman, Mr. Cranson, Colonel Field, Major Ely, and Major Bliss.

For the County of *Worcester:* Mr. Singletary, Captain Parker, Captain Moore, Mr. Stone, and Colonel Grout.

For the County of *Plymouth:* Colonel Mitchell, Major Cushing, Major White, and Mr. Partridge.

For the County of *Bristol:* Colonel Williams, Mr. Hathaway, Captain Tobey, and Mr. Starkweather.

For the County of *York:* Mr. Hovey, Captain Bragdon, and Major Goodwin.

A Petition of *Abijah Moore*, of *Putney*, in the Province of *New-York*, praying the Court to take under consideration a Roll exhibited with said Petition, of a number of men who marched to *Cambridge* soon after the 19th day of *April* last. Read, and referred to the next session. Reconsidered, and committed to the Committee on the Muster-Rolls of the Minute-Men and Militia.

Ordered, That a message be sent to the honourable Board, to desire them to send down the Resolve of Congress for numbering the Inhabitants.

Moses Gill, Esq., brought the same down accordingly.

On the Account of *Lydia Webb*, for sundries lost by her late husband on the 19th of *April* last:

Resolved, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury, to the Heirs of *Jotham Webb*, the sum of three Pounds fourteen Shillings and four Pence, in full of said Account.

The Bill, intituled, "An Act to carry into execution a Resolve of the *American* Congress for ascertaining the number of Inhabitants in the Colony." Read a second time, and committed to Major *Hawley*, Captain *Stone*, and Doctor *Rice*.

The House gave Mr. Speaker leave of absence after to-morrow noon.

Ordered, That a message go to the honourable Board, to know if they have passed on the choice of a Brigadier for the County of *Worcester*.

Accordingly, *Moses Gill*, Esq., came down, and informed the House that the honourable Board had concurred the same.

The Committee appointed to bring in a Resolve to encourage the building of Powder-Mills, reported. Read, and accepted.

Whereas, the invention and industry of the inhabitants of this Colony have been excited by the barbarous policy of *Britain*, and by the encouragement given by the General Court to seek internal resources of warlike stores, and have been so far succeeded that much greater quantities of that capital article, Saltpetre, has, and probably will be made here, than the Powder-Mills now erecting at *Stoughton* and *Andover* will be able to manufacture into Gunpowder: And whereas, experience, and the present appa-

rent designs of Administration, strongly dictate the necessity of guarding against the want of that important article, which we presume may be done by encouraging individuals to erect Powder-Mills:

Therefore, *Resolved*, That a bounty, or premium, of fifty Pounds, shall be paid out of the Treasury of this Colony, to the person, or persons, who shall, at his or their own expense, erect the first Powder-Mill in this Colony, other than the aforementioned, capable of manufacturing at least fifty pounds weight of Powder per day, and shall make and manufacture therein ten hundred pounds weight of good and merchantable Gunpowder, to be judged and approved of by a Committee to be appointed by this Court. Also, that a bounty, or premium, of thirty Pounds, shall be paid out of the Treasury of this Colony, to the person, or persons, who shall, in like manner, erect a second Powder-Mill, (other than those mentioned in the Preamble,) and make and manufacture therein ten hundred pounds weight of good, merchantable Gunpowder, to be judged of and approved as aforesaid: *Provided, always*, That the said Mills shall be erected, and the Powder manufactured therein within six months from the 15th day of *February*, current; and that the said Mills shall be erected within such Towns or Plantations as the General Court of this Colony shall license, or, in the recess of the same, as shall be licensed by the Council, and in such part or parts of such licensed town, as shall be approved by the major part of the Selectmen thereof.

The House then adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow morning.

—

Wednesday, February 14, 1776.

Resolved, That *Richard Devans*, Esq., Commissary-General of this Colony, be, and hereby is added to the Committee to examine, receive, purchase, and pay for Saltpetre.

An engrossed Bill, for encouraging the fixing out of Armed Vessels to defend the Sea-Coasts of *America*, and for erecting a Court to try and condemn all Vessels that shall be found infesting the same.

Read, and *Resolved*, That it pass to be enacted.

On one of the Petitions of Colonel *Cargill*, read *February* 9th:

Resolved, That he be allowed to detain the Schooner therein mentioned till further orders of this Court, and be accountable for her earnings when required.

A Petition of a number of Inhabitants of the Eastern part of the County of *Lincoln*, earnestly praying the Court to consider the situation of that part of the Colony, and to grant them some protection. Read, and committed (together with the last part of the Report of the Committee of both Houses on the conduct of Colonel *Cargill*) to Mr. *Davis*, Colonel *Thompson*, and Colonel *Thurston*.

Resolved, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to the Committee of this Court appointed to procure Wood for the Continental Army, the sum of one thousand Pounds, to enable them to perform that service, they to be accountable to this Court for the same.

Resolved, That there be allowed and paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to *Thomas Crafts*, Esq., Captain *Edward Procter*, and Messrs. *Daniel Sigourney* and *Winthrop Gray*, (or any two of them,) a Committee of this Court to receive the Inhabitants of *Boston* at *Chelsea*, and prevent the spreading of them Sall-Pox, the sum of three hundred Pounds, further to enable them to defray the expense which has arisen, or may arise by supporting said inhabitants, until they can be removed to other towns with safety to the country, they to be accountable to this Court for the same.

Ordered, That a message go to the honourable Board, to know if they have passed upon the Resolve of the House for appointing a Truckmaster at *Machias*.

John Taylor, Esq., came down, and informed the House that the honourable Board had concurred the same.

Ordered, That a message go to the honourable Board, to inform them that the House propose, at twelve o'clock, this day, to come to the choice of a Truckmaster, to reside at *Machias*, by joint ballot with the Board.

Walter Spooner, Esquire, came down and informed the House that the honourable Board agreed to come to the choice of a Truckmaster, to reside at *Machias*, agreeable to the proposal of the House.

Ordered, That a message go to the honourable Board, to inform them that this House is ready to proceed to the choice of a Truckmaster for *Machias*. Then,

Ordered, That Deacon *Stickney*, Captain *Vose*, and Colonel *Spaulding*, be a Committee to count and sort the votes.

Thomas Cushing, Esquire, came down and informed the House that the Board were ready to proceed to the choice of a Truckmaster for *Machias*.

The Committee, having carried up the votes, reported that Mr. *Stephen Smith* was unanimously chosen.

The Committee on the Resolve of Congress reported a Resolve for collecting Silver and Gold. Read, and Committees being appointed for that purpose, agreeable thereto, the Report was recommitted to Mr. *Story*, to be drawn into a Resolve.

Ordered, That Colonel *Orne* bring in a Form of an Inlistment, to be signed by the Company of Matrosses to be raised for *Marblehead*.

The House made choice of Field-Officers for the First Regiment of Militia for the County of *Essex*.

—

Afternoon.

A Pay-Roll of the Company which marched thirty-six miles from *Stockbridge* and *West-Stockbridge*, *May* 10, 1775, under the command of Captain *Abraham Brown*, for the reduction of *Ticonderoga*, at the request of Colonel *Benedict Arnold*, &c. Read, and committed to the Committee on the Rolls of the Militia and Minute-Men.

Resolved, That Colonel *Orne* be, and he hereby is appointed to raise, as soon as may be, and muster, a Company of Matrosses, to be stationed in the Town of *Marblehead*, agreeable to a Resolve of this Court, passed the House of Representatives the 10th instant; and that the following be a Form of Inlistment for the said Company of Matrosses:

"We, the subscribers, do hereby engage and inlist ourselves, as Matrosses, in the service of the *Massachusetts* Colony, for the defence and protection of the Sea-Coasts in said Colony, from the day of our inlistment to the last day of *December*, 1776, on the establishment for that purpose made, unless the said service shall admit of a discharge of a part, or the whole, sooner, which is to be determined by the General Court of said Colony; and we do hereby oblige ourselves to submit to all the orders and regulations of the Army, and faithfully to observe and obey all such orders as we shall, from time to time, receive from our superior officers."

Ordered, That a message go to the honourable Board, to desire them to send down Captain *Obrien's* Muster-Roll, if they have not passed upon it.

Jedediah Foster, Esquire, brought it down accordingly, and it was recommitted to Captain *Epes*, Captain *Hathaway*, and Captain *Partridge*.

Mr. *Story*, agreeable to order, reported. Read and accepted.

Whereas, the honourable the Continental Congress have desired this Court to make application to the several towns in this Colony, to know what quantity of Silver and Gold can be procured in exchange for the Continental Bills, as that sort of money is greatly wanted, to support that part of the Army gone against *Quebeck:*

Therefore, *Resolved*, That the persons hereafter named, in each County of this Colony, be a Committee to make inquiry, what money, in Silver and Gold, can be procured in exchange for Continental Bills; and the same Committee are required to obtain subscription, in their several Counties, of all persons that are willing, in this time of danger and distress, to exchange hard money for said Bills, and that each person set down, against his name, the amount of such sum as he is ready to exchange; and that the said Committee make report of their doings therein on the second day of the next sitting of this Court; and that Mr. *Perry*, Colonel *Lovell*, and Colonel *Davis*, for the County of *Suffolk;* Colonel *Orne*, Major *Cross*, Mr. *Hopkins*, and Mr. *Phillips*, for the County of *Essex;* Mr.

Hall, Colonel *Barret*, and Mr. *Hobart*, for the County of *Middlesex;* Major *Hawley*, Major *Ely*, Colonel *Bliss*, and Captain *Goodman*, (A,) for the County of *Hampshire;* Mr. *Cushing*, Mr. *Turner*, and Major *White*, for the County of *Plymouth;* Colonel *Otis* and Colonel *Doan*, for the County of *Barnstable;* Mr. *Durfee*, Colonel *Bowers*, Colonel *Godfrey*, and Colonel *Carpenter*, for the County of *Bristol;* Captain *Parker*, Esquire *Caldwell*, Deacon *Rawson*, Mr. *Singletary*, Mr. *Bancroft*, and Mr. *Wheeler*, for the County of *Worcester;* Deacon *Curtis*, Doctor *Whiting*, and Mr. *Dickenson*, for the County of *Berkshire;* Captain *Bragdon*, Deacon *Hovey*, and Colonel *Sayer*, for the County of *York;* Mr. *Freeman*, Brigadier *Thompson*, and Mr. *Fabyan*, for the County of *Cumberland;* Mr. *Rice*, Captain *Howard*, Major *Sewall*, and Captain *Jones*, for the County of *Lincoln;* Colonel *Norton*, for the County of *Dukes-County;* and Mr. *Stephen Hussey*, for the County of *Nantucket*, be a Committee for the purposes above said; and that Esquire *Davis* give notice to Mr. *Hussey* of his being appointed for the purpose aforesaid.

The Committee to whom was committed the Report of a Committee of both Houses, relative to the defence of *Dartmouth* Harbour, reported. Read, and recommitted; and the Committee were directed to make an estimate, &c.

John Taylor, Esquire, brought down the Report of a Committee of both Houses, appointed to inquire after virgin Lead.

The Committee appointed to appraise a number of Fire-Arms, the property of this Colony, in the possession of Colonel *Parsons*, reported, that they have appraised the same at forty-eight Shillings each, amounting, in the whole, to one hundred and eighty-nine Pounds twelve Shillings, and delivered them to General *Washington;* that they have received the money for the same, and paid it into the hands of the Treasurer of this Colony, and taken his receipt therefor, which they have lodged in the Secretary's Office.

Whereas, the Honourable *Joseph Frye*, Esquire, who has been appointed by this Court to the command of the forces stationed at *Falmouth*, in the County of *Cumberland*, is appointed Brigadier-General in the Continental Army, and as it may be necessary, in case of his accepting the said trust, to have some other person appointed to the command at *Falmouth*, before the next sitting of this Court:

Therefore, *Resolved*, That the Council be, and hereby are empowered to appoint some person to such command at *Falmouth*, on their being certified, in the recess of the Court, that the said *Joseph Frye*, Esquire, has accepted the appointment of the office of Brigadier-General, as aforesaid.

A new draft of a Bill, entitled "An Act for the carrying into execution a Resolve of the *American* Congress for ascertaining the number of Inhabitants in this Colony." Read a first and second time, and ordered to be read again to-morrow, nine o'clock, A. M.

Ordered, That Mr. *Perry* procure a transcript of the Resolve of Congress recommending the several Provincial Assemblies to assist the General in procuring Fire-Arms, printed, one for each of the Committees who are appointed to procure them.

Whereas, sundry persons of this Colony have joined our unnatural enemies, who are, in a hostile manner, endeavouring to enslave the *United Colonies*, and others have absconded, and removed themselves out of this Colony, with intent either to aid the despotick measures of our enemies, or to escape the trouble and expense of a manly opposition to our wicked adversaries; and divers of both sorts have left estates, either real or personal, much of which has been already wasted, and more is liable to waste; and as some of said persons have, by various arts, obtained the rents of such deserted estates, and such personal estates, also, or the proceeds thereof:

Therefore, *Resolved*, That the Selectmen and the Committee of Correspondence (if any such) of any town in this Colony, where, in their opinion, there is any such real or personal estate as aforesaid, shall, and they hereby are empowered and directed, until the further order of this Court, according to their best discretion and judgment, to take possession of, and so to order and lease such real estate, as that waste may be prevented, as much as possible, for the future; and, also, to take possession of, and so to order and dispose of such personal estate, as that the same may not be embezzled or wasted; and, also, in such manner as that no part of such estates, or of the profits arising therefrom, should get into the hands, or any way benefit such persons, who have (or shall have) joined our enemies, or absconded as aforesaid; any former Order or Resolve of the Congress of this Colony, or of our General Court to the contrary notwithstanding. And such Selectmen and Committees of Correspondence (if any such) shall keep fair and full accounts of all their proceedings and doings in the premises, and shall render such accounts to this Court, when thereunto required, and unto whom they shall be accountable: *Provided*, *always*, That nothing in the foregoing Resolve shall be construed to extend to such estates as aforesaid, whether real or personal, as are now held and possessed by any person friendly to this Colony, by virtue of any written conveyance, or agreement, bearing date, and actually executed, on or before the 22d day of *May*, 1775.

The House then adjourned to nine o'clock, to-morrow morning.

—

Thursday, February 15, 1776.

On the Muster-Roll of Captain *Jeremiah Obrien*,

Resolved, That there be allowed, and paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to Captain *Jeremiah Obrien*, his Officers and Seamen, under his command, or their order, the several sums set against their respective names in the first Muster-Roll, amounting, in the whole, to the sum of seven hundred and sixty-three Pounds six Shillings and a Penny, in full discharge for services on board said vessels to the 1st day of *February* current.

John Whetcomb, Esquire, brought down the Report of a Committee appointed to consider whether the Field-Pieces which the Commissary-General of this Colony was to procure, should all be three-pounders, or not, with the following Vote of Council thereon, viz:

In Council, *February* 15, 1776: Read, and accepted. Read, and concurred, as taken into a new draft, viz:

Resolved, That the Commissary-General of this Colony be, and hereby is directed to procure, for the use of the Colony, twenty Field-Pieces, of three-pounders each, instead of the twenty of several sizes, which, by a former Resolve of this Court, he was directed to procure, any thing in said Resolve to the contrary notwithstanding; and, also, that said Commissary do advise with Colonel *Burbeck*, the Engineer, respecting said Pieces.

Jedediah Foster, Esq., brought down the Resolve of this House appointing Committees to collect Silver and Gold, with the following Vote of Council thereon, viz:

In Council, *February* 15, 1776: Read, and concurred, with the amendment at A, viz: At A add "Colonel *Field*." Read, and concurred.

Ordered, That Mr. *Perry* get the Resolve of this Court for collecting hard Money printed; and, also, the Resolve of Congress in that respect. The number printed to be one hundred.

Ordered, That the Committee, who prepared the Bill for numbering the people, be a Committee to prepare a blank form of a List for each Committee-man appointed to this service, and report to the House; and that Colonel *Orne* be on said Committee, in the room of Captain *Stone*, absent.

The new draft of a Bill, entitled, "An Act for the carrying into execution a Resolve of the *American* Congress for ascertaining the number of Inhabitants in this Colony," read a third time, and passed, to be engrossed.

It was *Moved*, That a Committee be appointed to bring in a Resolve for empowering the Council to appoint Militia Officers in the recess of the Court, in the room of any already appointed, who may refuse to accept; and the question being put, it passed in the negative.

Resolved, That there be stationed at *Quoshnet* Harbour, in *Dartmouth*, seventy-five Men, including Officers, to consist of one Captain and two Lieutenants, and that a proper proportion of said men as shall be judged necessary by the commanding officer, be of the train, and that ten pieces of Iron Ordnance be purchased for that purpose, to consist of four nine-pounders, and six six-pounders, with a

suitable quantity of Powder and Shot, not less than fifty rounds for each piece of Ordnance; and that the above said men be inlisted by the 1st day of *April* next, and to continue in the service until the last day of *December* following, if the service should require, and to be upon the same establishment as other men on the Sea-Coast service; and that three hundred Pounds be deposited in the hands of the Honourable *Walter Spooner*, Esq., who is directed to lay out the same in the best manner he can to procure Ordnance and Stores as above directed, and that he be accountable to this Court for the same.

—

Afternoon.

Michael Farley, Esq., brought down the new draft of a Bill for numbering the People, with the following Vote of Council thereon, viz:

In Council, February 15, 1776: Read, and concurred, with the amendments at A and B, viz: At A insert "on the 20th day of *March* aforesaid;" at B insert "last;" also, insert the *Christian* names of the Committee-men, where they are not already inserted.

Read, and concurred, with the amendment at A and B, and non-concurred with the proposed amendment of inserting the *Christian* names, &c., and the House proposed the following amendment in the Bill at C, viz: insert "at their Annual Meeting in *March*."

Eldad Taylor, Esq., brought down a Letter from his Excellency General *Washington*, enclosing the following extract of a Letter from Governour *Trumbull*, viz: "Three thousand weight of Powder we conclude to order to Major *Thompson*, Agent for the *Massachusetts* Colony, on account of money he supplied to Mr. *Shaw*, the importer for that end, and you will consult him, or them, concerning the use of it;" and requesting that it may be procured and sent to Head-Quarters for the use of the *United Colonies*, &c. Read, and thereupon the House passed the following Resolve, viz:

On consideration of an application of his Excellency General *Washington*, that three thousand weight of Powder, the property of this Colony, lately imported by Mr. *Shaw*, of *Connecticut*, may be lent, or sold to him for the use of the *United Colonies*, on its arrival in this Colony, which application was made this day by a Letter addressed to the Honourable *Walter Spooner*, Esq., the President of the Council:

It is *Resolved*, That the honourable Council of this Colony be, and hereby are empowered, in case the said Powder shall arrive in this Colony during the next recess of this Court, on consideration of the engagements of this Colony to particular towns for Powder lent to the Colony, as, also, the pressing exigencies of this Colony for that article, to determine in behalf of this Court, whether General *Washington* shall be supplied with the said Powder, or any part thereof, or not, and to act thereon as they shall judge most expedient, and conducive to the general safety.

A List of the Members of this House, with their travel and attendance, was read, and allowed by the House.

Ordered, That Colonel *Barret*, Major *Eli*, and Captain *Brown*, of *Boston*, be a Committee to bring in a Resolve directing the Commissary-General to dispose of the Fire-Arms in his custody to his Excellency General *Washington*, who reported as follows: Read, and accepted.

Resolved, That the Commissary-General be, and he is hereby empowered and directed, to deliver to his Excellency General *Washington*, or his order, such Colony Fire-Arms as are in his keeping that are fit for service, he paying the price they shall be set at, by a Committee to be appointed by this Court to appraise the same; and that Captain *Brown*, of *Watertown*, Colonel *Thatcher*, and Major *Fuller*, be a Committee for that purpose, who are directed to keep an account of the number of the Guns so appraised, and the amount thereof, and to report the same to this Court.

John Taylor, Esq., brought down a Letter from *James Lyon*, Chairman of the Committee of *Machias*, praying directions with respect to some goods taken in the Schooner *Diligent*, with the following Vote of Council thereon, viz:

In Council, February 15, 1776: Read, and committed to *Benjamin Lincoln*, Esq., with such as the honourable House shall join.

Read, and concurred, and Colonel *Lovell* and Colonel *Bliss* are joined.

John Taylor, Esq., brought down the Report of the Committee of both Houses on the Petition of *Abijah Moore*, read the 13th current, viz: That the facts set forth in said Petition are true, and that the prayer of the Petitioner be granted. Read, and accepted.

The Committee on the Petition of *Nathan Jones*, reported. Read, and recommitted.

The House then adjourned till nine o'clock, to-morrow morning.

—

Friday, February 16, 1776.

Whereas, the Committee for erecting a Powder-Mill at *Stoughton*, has informed this House that they meet with difficulty in procuring lodging for the workmen employed in building said Mill; and that there are several Beds now in the custody of the Selectmen and Committee of Correspondence of the Town of *Milton*, belonging to the late infamous Governour *Hutchinson*, which lay useless:

Therefore, *Resolved*, That the Selectmen and Committee of Correspondence of *Milton* be, and hereby are directed to deliver three of said Beds to the Committee of this Court for erecting said Powder-Mill, to accommodate the workmen they have, or shall employ in said business, for the space of two months from the date above; said Committee to return the Beds, and to account with the Selectmen and Committee of Correspondence of *Milton*, for the use of the same.

Ordered, That Mr. *Perry* get the Resolve, appointing Committees to purchase Guns, printed in handbills, viz: fifty of them; also, the Resolve empowering unincorporated places to choose Committees of Correspondence, printed, viz: eighty of them.

The House taking into consideration the disbursements, expenses, and time of service of the Honourable *Thomas Cushing*, Esq., a late member of the Continental Congress on the part of this Colony:

Thereupon, *Resolved*, That the sum of one hundred and forty-six Pounds eight Shillings, be allowed, and paid to *Thomas Cushing*, Esq., for the two hundred and forty-four days' attendance on the business of the Colony at the Continental Congress last year—his account of disbursements and expenses, for the Colony, to be considered as acted upon the next session of the General Assembly.

A Letter from Mr. *William Cutter*,* of *North-Yarmouth*, informing the House that he has, agreeable to the directions of the Court, raised a Company of ninety men to join the Army before *Boston;* and that said Company have made choice of their Officers named in said Letter. Read, and sent up.

Resolved, That no matters of a private nature be taken up by the House the present Session.

It was *Moved*, That the Committee appointed by the Court to build ten Armed Sloops, be directed to suspend the setting up more than half that number, if, in their judgment, they think there is no prospect of procuring Rigging, Iron, or other materials. And the question being put, it passed in the affirmative.

And Mr. *Batchelder* was directed to bring in a Resolve, accordingly.

Jedediah Foster, Esq., brought down a Letter from the Council of Safety in *Charlestown, South-Carolina*, informing the Board that they have sent Captain *Robert Cochran* to procure Seamen in this Colony for the defence of that, and desiring the assistance of the Board, with the following Vote of Council thereon, viz:

* To the whole Court: I would inform your Honours, as *Joshua Fabyan*, Esq., and myself, were appointed to raise two Companies in the County of *Cumberland*, we have attended that service, and by agreement with Esquire *Fabyan*, I engaged to raise a Company in the Easterly part of the County. I would acquaint your Honours, that I have inlisted a Company in *North-Yarmouth, Brunswick, Harpswell, New-Gloucester, New-Boston, and Windham*, consisting of ninety men, including officers. The above said Company met this day, and chose for their Captain Mr. *Winthrop, Boston;* Messrs. *Nathan Merrill* and *Robert Dunning*, Lieutenants; Mr. *Thomas Adams*, Ensign—then immediately marched for *Cambridge*, where I hope they will soon arrive.

I am, with great respect, your humble servant, William Cutter.

In the House of Representatives, *February* 16, 1776: Read, and sent up. William Cooper, *Speaker pro tem.*

In Council, February 16, 1776: Read, and *Ordered*, That *Walter Spooner* and *Thomas Cushing*, Esquires, with such as the honourable House shall join, be a Committee to take the foregoing Letter into consideration, and report.

Read, and concurred, and Colonel *Orne*, Brigadier *Thompson*, and Mr. *Brown*, of *Boston*, are joined.

Whereas, this Colony cannot be supplied with a sufficient quantity of Paper for its own consumption, without the particular care of its Inhabitants in saving Rags for the Paper-Mills:

Therefore, *Resolved*, That the Committees of Correspondence and Inspection (A) in the several Towns in this Colony be, and they hereby are required immediately, to appoint some suitable person in their respective towns, (where it is not already done,) to receive in Rags for the Paper-Mills; and the Inhabitants of this Colony are hereby desired to be very careful in saving even the smallest quantities of Rags proper for making Paper, which will be a further evidence of their disposition to promote the publick good.

Ordered, That Mr. *Cushing*, Mr. *Story*, and Captain *Goodman*, be a Committee to consider at large the expediency of stopping the proceedings of the Courts in respect to Civil Actions, and report.

Ordered, That Mr. *Phillips*, Colonel *Orne*, and Colonel *Howe*, be a Committee to bring in a Resolve for encouraging the manufacture of Sulphur.

—

Afternoon.

The Committee appointed to prepare a blank form of Lists for the Committees who are appointed to take the number of Inhabitants of this Colony, reported as follows, viz:

A List, or Return on oath, of the names of the Householders in the Town of . . . . . in the County of . . . . . in the Colony of the *Massachusetts-Bay*, and of the number of souls in each family, including inmates and boarders.

The names of the heads of each family.	The number of white people in each family.	The number of negroes and mulattoes in each family.	Whole number in each family.

Resolved, That the List to contain the Return of the number of the Inhabitants of each Town in the Colony of the *Massachusetts-Bay* to be made by the Selectmen of the respective Towns pursuant to a late Act intituled "An Act for the carrying into execution a Resolve of the *American* Congress for ascertaining the number of Inhabitants in this Colony," shall be of the foregoing form, and that two hundred and sixty Lists, of the form aforesaid, and the like number of said Acts, be printed, and sent to the Selectmen of the several Towns in this Colony as soon as may be; and that Captain *Jonathan Brown* be a Committee to procure the printing the said Lists and Acts, and that the said Committee take effectual care that such Lists be transmitted to such Selectmen.

A List, or Return on oath, of the Householders dwelling in the unincorporated places called . . . . . in the County of . . . . . in the Colony of the *Massachusetts-Bay*, and of the number of souls of each family, including inmates and boarders.

The names of the heads of each family.	The number of white people in each family.	The number of negroes and mulattoes in each family.	The whole number in each family.

Resolved, That the List to contain the Return of the number of the Inhabitants of the unincorporated places in the Colony of the *Massachusetts-Bay*, to be returned by the several Committees appointed by this Court, pursuant to a late Act, intituled "An Act for carrying into execution a Resolve of the *American* Congress for ascertaining the number of Inhabitants in this Colony," shall be of the preceding form. And that sixty Lists of the form aforesaid, and the like number of said Acts, be printed, and delivered or sent to the several Committees named in the said Act, as soon as may be; and that Captain *Jonathan Brown* be a Committee to procure the printing of the said Lists, and that he take effectual care that such Lists and Acts be delivered or sent to the several Committees named in the said Act.

The Committee appointed to bring in a Resolve to suspend the building one-half of the ten Armed Sloops voted by this Court to be built, reported. Read, and accepted.

Resolved, That the Committee lately appointed to build, rig, and fix ten Armed Sloops be, and they hereby are empowered to suspend contracting for more than five of that number, until upon making full inquiry, they shall have a probable prospect of obtaining necessary materials for rigging and equipping the same, and instead thereof, said Committee are hereby also authorized to purchase, rig, and fix, five suitable Vessels, already built, for the purpose of defence, of any other denomination and dimensions than those specified in a former Resolve, according to their best discretion. And said Committee are further empowered to import at the risk and expense of this Colony, any materials they shall find necessary for rigging, and fixing any of the aforesaid vessels, as they shall judge best, not infringing upon any Resolve of the Continental Congress.

Ordered, That Mr. *Rice* bring in a Resolve for supplying the people at the Eastward part of this Colony with the sum of four hundred Pounds.

Thomas Cushing, Esquire, brought down the Resolve of this House to encourage the saving of Rags, with the following Vote of Council thereon, viz:

In Council, February 10, 1776: Read, and concurred, with amendment at A, viz: At A add "and Safety." Read, and concurred.

The Committee appointed to bring in a Resolve to encourage the manufacture of Sulphur, reported. Read, and accepted.

Whereas, it is of the utmost consequence that there be procured a sufficient quantity of Sulphur for manufacturing into Gunpowder the Saltpetre that may be obtained:

Resolved, That there be allowed and paid out of the Treasury of this Colony, for every pound of good and merchantable Sulphur that shall be refined from mines and ores within this Colony, and delivered to the Commissary-General of this Colony before the first day of *July* next, a bounty of nine Pence per pound, in addition to the like sum which the Committee of this Court, for procuring that article, are already directed to give, the venders of such Sulphur producing a certificate from the major part of the Selectmen of any town where such Sulphur is refined, certifying in what Town and County within this Colony the same was produced and refined; and that Captain *Brown* get this Resolve printed in the several Newspapers.

An engrossed Bill, intituled, "An Act for carrying into execution a Resolve of the *American* Congress, for ascertaining the number of Inhabitants of this Colony."

Read, and *Resolved*, That it pass to be enacted.

On a motion, *Ordered*, That Colonel *Orne*, Mr. *Phillips*, Major *Hawley*, Colonel *Bliss*, and Mr. *Pitts*, be a Committee to consider what supplies are necessary to be procured for the use of this Colony, besides what the Commissary-General is directed to procure, and report to the House.

Whereas, this Colony, for several months past, has been made by *Great Britain* the seat of an unnatural war, by reason of which this Court has not, as yet, had opportunity to make suitable provision for opening all the Executive Courts for hearing and finally determining upon civil actions as usual:

It is, therefore, *Resolved*, That no action, suit, or process, of a civil nature, be commenced or carried on before any Justice of the Peace in any Inferior Court of Common Pleas within this Colony, until the further order of this Court, and that the further consideration of this matter be taken up on the second *Wednesday* of the next sitting of this Court.

Also, *Resolved*, That all actions commenced before the 18th of this month, the Justices of the Court where such actions are brought, are hereby directed to continue the same until the further order of this Court.

This Resolve to be printed in the *Cambridge*, *Watertown*, and *Worcester* Newspapers.

Benjamin Lincoln, Esquire, brought down the Report of the Committee of both Houses on the Letter of the Council of Safety in *Charlestown, South-Carolina*.

In Council, February 16, 1776: Read, and accepted, and thereupon,

Resolved, That Captain *Robert Cochran* be permitted, by the major part of the Council, to inlist a number of Seamen for the defence of *South-Carolina*, not exceeding three hundred men, out of the inhabitants of this Government, excepting such as are employed in the Continental Army, in the Armed Vessels fitted out either by this Colony, or by any of the inhabitants thereof, or in the Forces raised by this Government for the defence of the Sea-Coasts, (A.)

Read, and concurred, with the amendment at A, viz: At A, add "of whom none are to be inlisted."

The Committee on the Petition of *Nathan Jones*, reported. Read, and the consideration thereof referred to the next session.

Resolved, That the twentieth day of *March* next will be a proper time to which this Court may be adjourned.

Mr. *Rice*, agreeable to order, reported. Read, and accepted.

Whereas, the condition of the Inhabitants of that part of the County of *Lincoln*, lying between *Penobscot-River* and *Goldsborough*, appears to this House so necessitous and distressing, as that humanity dictates they should be relieved by the General Court:

Therefore, *Resolved*, That there be lent, out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to *Philip Hodgkins*, *Alexander Campbell*, *Francis Shaw*, *Benjamin Foster*, and *Stephen Smith*, the sum of four hundred Pounds, to be by them laid out in some of the Southern Colonies on this Continent, to purchase Provisions and Ammunition, which, when imported into said County, to be by them distributed among said Inhabitants between *Penobscot-River* and *Goldsborough*, in the most equal manner they can, they, the said *Philip Hodgkins*, *Alexander Campbell*, *Francis Shaw*, *Benjamin Foster*, and *Stephen Smith*, giving bond, jointly and severally, to the Treasurer of this Colony, or his successor in said office, for the payment of said sum, on or before the 16th day of *February* next.

The House then adjourned till nine o'clock, to-morrow morning.

—

Saturday, February 17, 1776.

The Committee of both Houses appointed to make inquiry after virgin Lead, &c., beg leave to report:

That a sub-Committee has been to *Northampton*, and examined a Lead Mine there, which has been worked, and in which, as Mr. *Clap*, the Clerk of the Works informed us, much loss had been sustained. He also told us, that Mr. *Bowdoin*, Colonel *Ward*, and Mr. *Hedge*, were the present proprietors; that they owned about two hundred and twenty-five acres of land; had a store-house, stamping-mill, and smelting-house; that they would sell all their estate there for one thousand pounds, lawful money, as he believed; that their land is bounded about half a mile upon a river, upon which is said mill. Said *Clap* also said, that many assays had been made upon the ore, and it produced, in that small way, from fifty to seventy-five per cent. head; but in smelting, in the large way of business, they could not produce any lead, but it all ran into glass, they not understanding the business; he said that they stamped and washed the ore, and in that state, without smelting, they sold considerable quantities to the potters.

The sub-Committee are of opinion, that if the present proprietors' right is purchased, it will be necessary to purchase other lands, perhaps to the amount of one thousand pounds, lawful money, more, so as to command the river, roads, and the summit of the mountain, in which it is likely are better mines than that which has been opened; and as the buildings are much out of repair, and others will be needed to carry on the business, it will require at least one thousand pounds, lawful money, more to set the work in a good way of business. There will be twelve or fourteen miles cartage to water carriage.

The sub-Committee also examined a Lead Mine in *Southampton*, very convenient for working and water; but as this had not been opened, and the winter preventing, they could not make full discovery of the quantity. They also examined a mine in *Worcester*; but its situation would not admit of its being worked to advantage.

The sub-Committee brought from *Northampton* some of the ore, and obtained Mr. *Clark* to make an assay, in doing which he saved twenty-five per cent. lead, and he supposed that he lost twenty-five per cent. more. They have, also, endeavoured to have another assay made by Mr. *Hurd*, but his fire-place being very small, the assay failed, he not being able to raise a sufficient heat.

The Committee beg leave to sit again, and desire to be instructed whether they shall now transmit this Report to the *American* Congress, or wait for further light in this matter; and, also, whether they shall examine into the process, &c., of the lead-works now carrying on at *Middletown*, in *Connecticut*.

ELDAD TAYLOR, *per order*.

Resolved, That the said Committee be (A) instructed to transmit a copy of the foregoing Report to the *American* Congress, and that they examine into the process, &c., of the Lead-Works now carrying on at *Middletown*, in *Connecticut*, and that they be desired to sit again.

John Whetcomb, Esq., brought down the Resolve of the House for suspending proceedings in Civil Courts, with the following Vote of Council thereon, viz:

In Council, February 17, 1776: Read, and concurred, as taken into a new draft.

Read, and non-concurred, and Major *Hawley* and Mr. *Phillips*, with such as the honourable Board shall join, are appointed a Committee to prepare a new draft.

On a motion, *Resolved*, That all matters that have had day in this House during the present session, which have not, or cannot now be acted upon, have the same day in the next session of the General Court.

Moses Gill, Esq., brought down the Resolve of the House for granting four hundred Pounds for the use of the Inhabitants of this Colony below *Penobscot;* with the following Vote of Council thereon, viz:

In Council, February 17, 1776: Read, and concurred, with the amendment at A, B, viz: Dele from A to B, and in place thereof, insert "for the purpose of supplying the necessities of the Inhabitants between *Penobscot-River* and *Goldsborough*, with Provision and Ammunition."

Read, and concurred.

Ordered, That a message be sent to the honourable Board to know if they have given out Commissions to the Major-Generals and the several Brigadiers elected by this Court.

The Secretary came in, and informed the House that a major part of the honourable Council had issued only a Commission for the first Brigadier in the Colony.

Ordered, That a message go to a major part of the honourable Council, and desire them to suspend granting Commissions to the Brigadiers till the next sitting of the Court.

Ordered, That Mr. *Dix* and Major *Johnson* be added to the Committee on the Rolls of the Militia and Minute-Men, who are to sit in the recess of the Court, so long as while a quorum of the Council shall sit.

Ordered, That Major *Rice*, Deacon *Rawson*, and Mr. *Watson*, be a Committee to bring in a Resolve containing some instructions to the Committee on the Rolls of the Minute-Men and Militia.

—

Afternoon.

The Committee appointed in the forenoon to bring in a Resolve containing some instructions to the Committee on the Rolls of the Minute-Men and Militia, reported. Read, and not accepted.

The Committee appointed to consider what further Supplies are necessary to be procured for the use of the Colony, reported. Read, and accepted.

Whereas, the Administration of *Great Britain*, by their despotick and cruel measures from time to time, and, finally, by shedding the blood of the inhabitants of the *British American* Colonies, has obliged us to take up arms for our defence, and thereby we are engaged in an unnatural war, which has, in a considerable degree, prevented the importation of bread, corn, flour, and other articles of subsistence and defence, into this Government from the neighbouring Colonies, whereby great part of the usual supply is cut short, and as the sea-coasts of this Colony are surrounded with ships-of-war and cutters, which makes it necessary for

our defence an armed force should be stationed in various parts thereof, which army cannot be subsisted and defended without an importation of those supplies, and it being of great importance proper measures should be pursued to prevent the distresses that may arise from the want of the said articles:

Therefore, *Resolved*, That *Daniel Davis*, Esq., *Thomas Durfee*, Esq., and Captain *Josiah Batchelder*, with such as the honourable Board shall join, be, and they hereby are appointed a Committee to agree for, and fix out, with all possible despatch, on account of this Colony, on the best terms, as many vessels as may be sufficient for the importing ten thousand barrels of Flour, two thousand casks of Rice, and one hundred tons of Pig-Iron, from any of the Southern Colonies that shall to them appear most safe, and may be effected in the most expeditious manner; and that the said Committee deliver unto the Commissary-General of this Colony the aforesaid Flour, Rice, and Iron, when imported, taking his receipt for the same.

And it is further *Resolved*, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, into the hands of the said Committee, the sum of eighteen thousand Pounds for the above purposes, said Committee to be accountable to this Court for the same.

Resolved, That the Commissary-General be directed to lend his Excellency General *Washington*, fifty pounds of Saltpetre for the Continental Laboratory, if he shall desire it.

Moses Gill, Esq., brought down the Resolve of this House on the Report of a Committee relative to virgin Lead, with the following Vote of Council thereon, viz:

In Council, February 17, 1776: Read, and concurred with the amendment at A, B, viz: Dele from A to B, and insert in place thereof, "directed to sit again, and to transmit a copy of the foregoing Report to the *American* Congress, and also to examine into the process, &c., of the lead works now carrying on at *Middletown*, in *Connecticut*, and report." Read, and concurred.

The Doorkeeper was directed to call in the Members.

The Members were enjoined to give their attendance, and not depart without leave of the House.

Michael Farley, Esq., brought down a new draft of a Resolve, reported by a Committee of both Houses, relative to Civil Actions. Read, and concurred as taken into a new draft.

The House reconsidered the vote of yesterday, fixing upon the 20th of *March* next as a suitable time to which this Court might be adjourned.

Samuel Holten, Esq., brought down the following Vote of Council, viz:

Whereas, *Benjamin Greenleaf*, Esq., was appointed one of the Committee of this Court for building sundry Sloops-of-War, and as his attendance at the Council is necessary for the despatch of the important business of this Colony, on which account he has desired to be excused from the service of building the said Sloops:

Therefore, *Ordered*, That *Richard Derby*, Jun., Esq., be appointed on said Committee for building the said Sloops in his room.

On a motion, *Ordered*, That Mr. *Phillips*, Colonel *Brooks*, and Mr. *Vose*, with such as the honourable Board, may join, be a Committee to make some further experiments of the Saltpetre that is manufactured in this Colony.

Ordered, That a message go to the honourable Board to know if they concurred the Resolve of the House relative to Civil Actions.

Thomas Cushing, Esq., came down and informed the House, that the honourable Board had the same now under consideration, and that when they had passed upon it they would inform the House.

Samuel Holten, Esq., brought the same down, with the following vote of Council thereon, viz:

In Council, February 17, 1776: Read, and unanimously non-concurred, and the Board adhere to their own vote.

Voted, That the Members present give their attendance at the time to which this House shall be adjourned, and inform the absent Members they meet with, that the House require their attendance likewise at that time.

The House then adjourned till ten o'clock, *Monday* morning.

—

Monday, February 19, 1776.

Ordered, That Major *Hawley*, Colonel *Freeman*, Major *Fuller*, Deacon *Cheever*, and Captain *Goodman*, be a Committee to go up to the honourable Board and acquaint them that this House is desirous of a Conference of both Houses (immediately, if the Board pleases) on the subject of regulating law processes in civil causes, and the proceedings of the Inferior Courts of Common Pleas, in the several Counties in this Colony, until some day in the sitting of this Court after their next meeting.

Samuel Holten, Esq., brought down a Letter from the Honourable *James Otis*, Esq., directed to the honouable Council, informing them that on *Saturday* last, a *French* Vessel ran on shore, on the South side of the Cape, with upwards of an hundred hogsheads of Molasses, and other small articles; that she had a *French* master, and one *Pinkham*, of *Nantucket*, an *English* master; that their Papers were all in *French;* that there was on board said Vessel one Monsieur *Le Buron*, a gentleman who took passage on board said Vessel, with a design to go to *Philadelphia*, who appeared to be much of a gentleman, and says he was in the King of *Prussia's* service more than twenty years, and who says that the *French* and *English* masters talked of going into *Boston;* that the goods were taken into custody by Major *Mallet*, and others, who desire the directions of the Court.

Read, and committed to Major *Hawley*, Colonel *Freeman*, Captain *Batchelder*, and Mr. *Davis*, with such as the honourable Board may join.

Thomas Cushing, Esq., came down and informed the House, that the honourable Board agreed to the proposal of the House for a Conference on the subject of regulating law proceedings in civil causes, &c., and as there was not sufficient room for the House in the Council-Chamber, the Board propose that the Conference should be held in the Meeting-House, &c.

Ordered, That a message go to the honourable Board, and inform them that the House are now ready for the proposed Conference, and propose that the President of the honourable Board should preside at the same, and that the pews on each side of the pulpit be assigned for the Members of the honourable Board.

A Conference on the subject aforesaid was held accordingly, and it being ended, the Members of the Council left the House, and the Speaker having resumed the chair, the House adjourned to half an hour after three o'clock.

—

Afternoon.

On a motion, *Ordered*, That Major *Hawley*, Mr. Speaker, Colonel *Brooks*, Major *Fuller*, and Colonel *Bliss*, with such as the honourable Board may join, be a Committee to consider what is proper to be done with respect to regulating proceedings in Civil Causes, &c., and report.

On a motion, *Ordered*, That the Clerk take down the names of those Members who have departed without leave of the House, since the injunction laid on them last *Saturday* afternoon.

Some Members present then gave in the following names, viz: Colonel *Mitchell*, Colonel *White*, of *Rochester*, Mr. *Jewett*, of *Littleton*, Deacon *Rawson*, and Deacon *Watson*, of *Spencer*.

The Members of the House were enjoined to give their attendance, and not to depart without leave of the House.

Ordered, That the Messenger of the House employ some person, or persons, to repair forthwith to the towns hereafter mentioned, to direct the immediate attendance of the Representatives thereof at this House, viz:

Medford, Mr. Benjamin Hall.
Malden, Mr. Ezra Sargent.
Roxbury, Colonel Aaron Davis.
Stoneham, Mr. Joseph Bryant, Jun.
Woburn, Josiah Johnson, Esq.
Dedham, Mr. Abner Ellis.
Milton, Captain Daniel Vose.

The House then adjourned till ten o'clock, to-morrow morning.

Tuesday, February 20, 1776.

Ordered, That Mr. *Story* be of the Committee to consider the subject-matter of the Letter from the Honourable *James Otis*, Esq., in the room of Major *Hawley*, otherwise engaged.

It having been the laudable practice of this Government to recommend and appoint days for Fasting and Prayer upon solemn and special occasions, besides our Annual Fasts, and as this Court apprehend that the present time is big with the most important events to this and the other Colonies, and that these events are in the hand of the Supreme Governour of the Universe:

Therefore, *Resolved*, That the honourable Board be, and hereby are desired to set apart *Thursday*, the 7th day of *March*, to be observed as a Day of Solemn Humiliation and Prayer, devoutly to implore of Almighty *God*, that the vocal dispensations of Providence, in the peculiar events which have lately taken place, may be duly resented, and the great end for which they were designed happily accomplished; that He will, also, command His blessing upon our Council and Arms in the present struggle with *Great Britain*, for those inestimable rights, civil and religious, with which *God* and Nature has invested us, and made it our duty to endeavour, at every hazard, to hand down to posterity, and that they cause a Proclamation to be immediately issued and sent to the Ministers and Pastors of the several denominations of Christians in this Colony for the purposes aforesaid.

Michael Farley, Esq., brought down the Report of the Committee of both Houses appointed to consider what was proper to be done, relative to regulating proceedings in Civil Causes, viz:

Whereas, this Colony, for several months past, has been made by *Great Britain* the seat of an unnatural war, by reason whereof, and the constant attention of this Court to the necessary means of defence, there has not as yet been opportunity to make sufficient provision for regulating, in all respects, the Executive Courts in this Colony, and especially with regard to the fees for services in and about civil actions, which fees have heretofore been very unequal and disproportionate to the service, and, in some instances, plainly excessive; and as this Court are deeply impressed with the necessity of making divers alterations in the fees and allowances for such services, that all oppression, and every appearance thereof in our Courts of Justice, may be wholly taken away and prevented, and have the fullest intention immediately after their next meeting, most seriously to attend to this matter, and to make such regulations therein, as that on the one hand none who are necessarily employed in the course of civil actions, should fail of receiving a reasonable allowance, and that on the other hand none, by any cunning arts or fictions, should take exorbitant sums on any pretence whatsoever:

It is, therefore, *Resolved* and *Ordered*, That no Civil Action shall be entered with any Justice of the Peace, and that no judgment shall be rendered on any action which is now pending, or that shall be entered and pending in any Inferior Court of Common Pleas in this Colony, before the 3d day of *April* next, without the further order of this Court; but that such actions shall be continued of course, until the term next after the 3d day of *April* next, whether there be an appearance of the defendant or not; and that no Fees shall be allowed, or costs taxed, by any Inferior Courts of Common Pleas in this Colony, on any action which shall be commenced or entered between the passing this Resolve, and the said 3d day of *April* next, but such as shall be allowed by some future Act or Order of this Court, any law, act, or resolve to the contrary hereof notwithstanding.

This Resolve to be published in the next *Cambridge*, *Watertown*, and *Worcester* Newspapers.

Whereas, it is of the utmost consequence that effectual care be taken to provide a sufficient Magazine of Provision for the use of this Colony, and it is possible we may be disappointed of part of the Flour and Rice lately ordered to be imported from the Southward:

Therefore, *Resolved*, That Deacon *Elnathan Curtis*, of *Stockbridge*, *Gideon Wheeler*, Esq., of *Lanesborough*, and Mr. *Benedict Dewy*, of *Great-Barrington*, be a Committee to purchase in the western parts of this Colony, a quantity of good merchantable Flour, not exceeding two thousand barrels, provided the same is delivered at *Springfield* and *Hadley* at sixteen Shillings per hundred, including every charge. And in order to prevent any loss from failure in the quality of this article:

It is *Ordered*, That every vender thereof cause to be marked on each barrel his name, and the town to which he belongs.

And it is further *Resolved*, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury, to Captain *Noah Goodman* and Major *William Pyncheon*, the sum of one thousand Pounds, to enable them to pay for the Flour, and transportation thereof, on its delivery at the said Towns of *Springfield* and *Hadley;* they to be accountable to this Court for the same.

Whereas, it is probable it may be for the interest of the Colony that part of the quantity of the Flour and Rice, lately ordered to be imported from the Southward, should be brought into some port eastward of *Boston:*

Resolved, That, in addition to the Committee already appointed to procure the same, there be chosen from that part of the Province two more for the same purpose; and Major *Cross* is accordingly chosen on the part of this House.

Ordered, That a message go to the honourable Board, to desire them to inform the House whether they have any matters to send down; and, if they have not, to acquaint a major part of the honourable Council, that it is the desire of the House that the Court might be adjourned to the 20th of *March* next.

On a motion, *Ordered*, That a message go to the honourable Board, informing them that the House have reconsidered their vote proposing that the Court might be adjourned to the 20th of *March* next, and that it is the opinion of the House that the 13th of the same month would be a more proper time.

Resolved, That there be granted and paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to *Samuel Freeman*, the sum of one hundred Pounds, for the use of those persons who are sufferers by the burning of the Town of *Falmouth;* said sum to be applied in the same manner as was directed in a former Resolve of this Court, granting the sum of two hundred and fifty Pounds for that purpose; said *Freeman* to be accountable to this Court for the same.

The Secretary came into the House, and said:

Mr. Speaker: I am directed, by a major part of the honourable Council, to inform this House that they have consented to the enacting of the following Bills, viz:

An Act for making and emitting Bills of Publick Credit.

An Act for forming and regulating the Militia within the Colony of the *Massachusetts-Bay*, in *New-England*, and for repealing all the laws heretofore made for that purpose.

An Act for altering the place by law appointed for holding the Superior Court of Judicature, Court of Assize and General Jail Delivery, and the Courts of General Sessions of the Peace, and Inferior Courts of Common Pleas, within and for the County of *Suffolk*.

An Act for altering the places appointed by law for holding the Superior Court of Judicature, Court of Assize and General Jail Delivery, within and for the County of *Middlesex;* and, also, for altering the places for holding some of the Courts of General Sessions of the Peace, and Inferior Courts of Common Pleas, within said County.

An Act for reviving and continuing sundry Laws that are expired and near expiring.

An Act to enable the Inhabitants of *Falmouth* to support prosecutions against persons who have in their possession goods taken from said Inhabitants during the late Fire there.

An Act for encouraging the fixing out of Armed Vessels to defend the Sea-Coasts of *America*, and for erecting a Court to try and condemn all Vessels that shall be found infesting the same.

An Act for carrying into execution a Resolve of the *American* Congress for ascertaining the number of Inhabitants of this Colony.

And then the Secretary said:

Mr. Speaker: I am likewise directed, by a major part of the honourable Council, to inform this House that they have seen fit to adjourn the Great and General Court to

*

Wednesday, the 13th day of *March* next, at ten o'clock in the forenoon, then to meet in this place, at which time and place the said Great and General Court is accordingly adjourned.

—

The following is a List of the Field-Officers of the several Regiments of Militia in this Colony, as chosen by the House the present Session, viz:

For the County of SUFFOLK.

Boston Regiment.

First Regiment: William McIntosh, Colonel; Eleazer Weld, Lieutenant-Colonel; Aaron Guild, First Major; Abijah Draper, Second Major.

Second Regiment: Solomon Lovell, Colonel; David Cushing, Lieutenant-Colonel; Thomas Lothrop, First Major; Isaiah Cushing, Second Major.

Third Regiment: Benjamin Gill, Colonel; Samuel Pierce, Lieutenant-Colonel; Joseph Badcock, First Major; Elijah Hewins, Second Major.

Fourth Regiment: Ephraim Wheelock, Colonel; Benjamin Hawes, Lieutenant-Colonel; James Metcalf, First Major; Seth Bullard, Second Major.

Fifth Regiment: Joseph Palmer, Colonel; Jonathan Bass, Lieutenant-Colonel; Edmund Soper, First Major; Ebenezer Thayer, Second Major.

For the County of ESSEX.

First Regiment: Timothy Pickering, Colonel; John Flagg, Lieutenant-Colonel; Joseph Sprague, First Major; David Parker, Second Major.

Second Regiment: Jonathan Titcomb, Colonel; Henry Morril, Lieutenant-Colonel; Ralph Cross, Jun., First Major; Winthrop Merril, Second Major.

Third Regiment: Jonathan Cogswell, Jun., Colonel; Isaac Dodge, Lieutenant-Colonel; Charles Smith, First Major; Joseph Gould, Second Major.

Fourth Regiment: Samuel Johnson, Colonel; John Whittier, Lieutenant-Colonel; Asa Perly, First Major; Samuel Bodwell, Second Major.

Fifth Regiment: Jonathan Glover, Colonel; Thomas Gerry, Lieutenant-Colonel; Joshua Orne, First Major; Nicholas Broughton, Second Major.

Sixth Regiment.

Seventh Regiment

Eighth Regiment: Henry Herrick, Colonel; Jeremiah Page, Lieutenant-Colonel; Archelaus Fuller, First Major; Samuel Epes, Second Major.

For the County of MIDDLESEX.

First Regiment: Samuel Thatcher, Colonel; Benjamin Hammond, Lieutenant-Colonel; Samuel Barnard, First Major; John Gardner, Second Major.

Second Regiment: Jonathan Fose, Colonel; Benjamin Brown, Lieutenant-Colonel; Timothy Walker, First Major; Joseph Bryant, Second Major.

Third Regiment: James Barret, Colonel (2); Bradyl Smith, Lieutenant-Colonel (3); Eleazer Brooks, First Major; Francis Faulkner, Second Major (5).

Fourth Regiment: Henry Gardner, Colonel; Ezekiel Howe, Lieutenant-Colonel; Jonathan Hapgood, First Major; Cyprian Howe, Second Major.

Fifth Regiment: Samuel Bullard, Colonel; Micah Stone, Lieutenant-Colonel; Abner Perry, First Major; John Trowbridge, Second Major.

Sixth Regiment: Oliver Prescott, Colonel (12); Jonathan Reed, Lieutenant-Colonel (13); Josiah Sartel, First Major (15); Jonathan Minot, Second Major (15).

Seventh Regiment: Simeon Spaulding, Colonel; William Thompson, Lieutenant-Colonel; William Hildreth, First Major; Ebenezer Bancroft, Second Major.

For the County of HAMPSHIRE.

First Regiment: Charles Pyncheon, Colonel; John Bliss, Lieutenant-Colonel; William Pyncheon, First Major; Jonathan Hale, Second Major.

Second Regiment: Seth Pomeroy, Colonel; John Dickenson, Lieutenant-Colonel; Ezra May, First Major; Jonathan Clap, Second Major.

Third Regiment: John Mosely, Colonel; Timothy Robinson, Lieutenant-Colonel; Benjamin Ely, First Major; David Leonard, Second Major.

Fourth Regiment: Samuel Howe, Colonel; Ruggles Woodbridge, Lieutenant-Colonel; John Chester Williams, First Major; Josiah White, Second Major.

Fifth Regiment: David Field, Colonel; David Wells, Lieutenant-Colonel; Hezekiah Smith, First Major; David Dickenson, Second Major.

Sixth Regiment: Phineas Wright, Colonel; Samuel Williams, Lieutenant-Colonel; Joseph Locke, First Major; Daniel Whitmore, Second Major.

For the County of PLYMOUTH.

First Regiment: Gamaliel Bradford, Jun., Colonel; Thomas Lothrop, Lieutenant-Colonel; George Partridge, First Major; Seth Cushing, Second Major.

Second Regiment: Anthony Thomas, Colonel; John Cushing, Jun., Lieutenant-Colonel; Jeremiah Hall, First Major; Nathaniel Cushing, Second Major.

Third Regiment: Edward Mitchell, Colonel; David Jones, Lieutenant-Colonel; Simeon Cary, First Major; Eliphalet Cary, Second Major.

Fourth Regiment: Ebenezer Sprout, Colonel; Ebenezer White, Lieutenant-Colonel; Israel Ferril, First Major.

For the County of BARNSTABLE.

First Regiment: Nathaniel Freeman, Colonel; Joseph Dimmock, Lieutenant-Colonel; Joshua Gray, First Major; George Lewis, Second Major.

Second Regiment: Joseph Doan, Colonel; Elisha Cobb, Lieutenant-Colonel; Zenas Winslow, First Major; Gideon Freeman, Second Major.

For the County of BRISTOL.

First Regiment: Thomas Carpenter, Colonel; Luther Thurber, Lieutenant-Colonel; Nathan Dagger, First Major; Peleg Slead, Second Major.

Second Regiment: Edward Pope, Colonel; John Hathaway, Lieutenant-Colonel; Silvester Richmond, tertius, First Major; Joshua Hathaway, Second Major.

Third Regiment: George Williams, Colonel; Zephaniah Leonard, Lieutenant-Colonel; Abiel Mitchell, First Major; James Williams, Second Major.

Fourth Regiment: John Dagger, Colonel; Ephraim Lane, Lieutenant-Colonel; Isaac Dean, First Major; Elkanah Clap, Second Major.

For the County of YORK.

First Regiment.

Second Regiment: John Frost, Colonel; Ichabod Goodwin, Lieutenant-Colonel; Joseph Prince, First Major; John Shapleigh, Second Major.

Third Regiment: Tristram Jordan, Colonel; Joseph Storer, Lieutenant-Colonel; Thomas Cutt, First Major; Jonathan Stone, Second Major.

Fourth Regiment.

For the County of DUKES-COUNTY.

First Regiment: Beriah Norton, Colonel; Melatiah Davis, Lieutenant-Colonel; Brotherton Dogget, First Major; Mayhew Adams, Second Major.

Second Regiment.

For the County of WORCESTER.

First Regiment: Samuel Denny, Colonel; Benjamin Flagg, Lieutenant-Colonel; Paul Raymond, First Major; Asa Baldwin, Second Major.

Second Regiment: Josiah Whitney, Colonel; Ephraim Sawyer, Lieutenant-Colonel; Jonas Houghton, First Major; Ebenezer Jones, Second Major.

Third Regiment: Ezra Wood, Colonel; Joseph Chapen, Lieutenant-Colonel; Joseph Daniels, First Major; Caleb Whiting, Second Major.

Fourth Regiment: Jonathan Warner, Colonel; Joseph Gilbert, Lieutenant-Colonel; Reuben Reed, First Major; Joseph Bowman, Second Major.

Fifth Regiment: Jonathan Holman, Colonel; Daniel Plympton, Lieutenant-Colonel; William Learned, First Major; Jacob Davis, Second Major.

Sixth Regiment.

Seventh Regiment: Nathan Sparhawk, Colonel; Jonathan Grout, Lieutenant-Colonel; Jonas Wilder, First Major; Daniel Clap, Second Major.

Eighth Regiment: Abijah Stearns, Colonel; Josiah Carter, Lieutenant-Colonel; John Rand, First Major; Ebenezer Bridge, Second Major.

For the County of CUMBERLAND.

First Regiment: John Waite, Colonel; Peter Noyes, Lieutenant-Colonel; Nathaniel Jordan, First Major; William Frost, Second Major.

Second Regiment: Jonathan Mitchell, Colonel; Nathaniel Purrington, Lieutenant-Colonel; Charles Gerrish, First Major; Nathaniel Larabee, Second Major.

Third Regiment: Reuben Fogg, Colonel; Richard Lombard, Lieutenant-Colonel; Timothy McDaniel, First Major; Ephraim Row, Second Major.

Fourth Regiment: Timothy Pike, Colonel; Moses Merril, Lieutenant-Colonel; William Knight, First Major; Samuel Mathews, Second Major.

For the County of LINCOLN.

First Regiment: Samuel McCobb, Colonel; Samuel Harnden, Lieutenant-Colonel (10); Dummer Sewall, First Major (11); James Hunter, Second Major.

Second Regiment: Joseph North, Colonel; William Howard, Lieutenant-Colonel; Ezekiel Pettee, First Major; Rowland Cushing, Second Major.

Third Regiment: William Jones, Colonel; Edward Emerson, Lieutenant-Colonel (6); John Farley, First Major; Moses Davis, Second Major.

Fourth Regiment: Moses Wheaton, Colonel; William Farnsworth, Lieutenant-Colonel; James Minot, First Major; Sands Robinson, Second Major.

Fifth Regiment: Jonathan Buck, Colonel; Matthew Patten, Lieutenant-Colonel; Edmund Moore, First Major; Jonathan Buck, Jun., Second Major.

Sixth Regiment: Benjamin Foster, Colonel; Alexander Campbell, Lieutenant-Colonel; Samuel Jordan, First Major; Francis Shaw, Jun., Second Major.

For the County of BERKSHIRE.

First Regiment: Mark Hopkins, Colonel; Aaron Root, Lieutenant-Colonel; Giles Jackson, First Major; Jacob Brown, Second Major.

Second Regiment: Benjamin Symonds, Colonel; Jonathan Smith, Lieutenant-Colonel; David Rosseter, First Major; Caleb Hyde, Second Major.

Note.—The figures annexed to the names of some persons in the foregoing list show that they have been elected to other offices, or declined accepting their appointment, or were non-concurred by the Council, as will appear by the Journals, and refer, respectively, to the following gentlemen, who have been elected in their room, viz:

1. John Gray,
2. Eleazer Brooks,
3. Francis Faulkner,
4. Nathaniel Barret,
5. Samuel Lamson,
6. Andrew Reed,
7. Nicholas Holt,
8. Silas Bayley,
9. Ebenezer Jones,
10. Dummer Sewall,
11. John Hews,
12. Jonathan Reed,
13. Josiah Sartel,
14. Jonathan Minot,
15. Samuel Stone,
16. Joseph Gilbert,
17. Enoch Hallet,
18. Joseph Dimmick.

The following shows the division of the Militia of each County into Regiments, and the rank of each Regiment, as ordered by the honourable Council:

SUFFOLK.

Boston Regiment.—Boston, to be called the *Boston Regiment*, and to take rank of all the other Regiments in the County of *Suffolk*.

First Regiment: Roxbury, Dedham, Needham, Brookline.

Second Regiment: Weymouth, Hingham, Cohasset, Hull.

Third Regiment: Dorchester, Milton, Stoughton, Stoughtonham.

Fourth Regiment: Medfield, Wrentham, Medway, Bellingham, Walpole.

Fifth Regiment: Braintree.

ESSEX.

First Regiment: Salem, Lynn.

Second Regiment: Newburyport, Salisbury, Amesbury.

Third Regiment: Ipswich, Topsfield, Wenham.

Fourth Regiment: Haverhill, Andover, Bradford, Boxford, Methuen.

Fifth Regiment: Marblehead.

Sixth Regiment: Gloucester, Manchester.

Seventh Regiment: Newbury, Rowley.

Eighth Regiment: Beverly, Danvers, Middleton.

MIDDLESEX.

First Regiment: Cambridge, Charlestown, Watertown, Newton, Malden, Medford, Waltham.

Second Regiment: Woburn, Reading, Wilmington, Stoneham.

Third Regiment: Concord, Lexington, Weston, Acton, Lincoln.

Fourth Regiment: Sudbury, Marlborough, Stow.

Fifth Regiment: Framingham, Sherburne, Hopkington, Natick, Holliston.

Sixth Regiment: Littleton, Westford, Groton, Shirley, Pepperel, Townsend, Ashby.

Seventh Regiment: Billerica, Chelmsford, Dracut, Bedford, Tewkesbury, Dunstable.

HAMPSHIRE.

First Regiment: Springfield, Wilbraham, Brimfield, South-Brimfield, Palmer, Monson, Ludlow.

Second Regiment: Northampton, Hatfield, Whately, Williamsburgh, Chesterfield with the Gore, Southampton, Worthington, Norwich, Number-Five.

Third Regiment: West Springfield, Westfield, Southwick, Granville, Blanford, Murrayfield.

Fourth Regiment: Hadley, South-Hadley, Granby, Belchertown, Ware, Greenwich, Pelham, Amherst.

Fifth Regiment: Deerfield, Greenfield, Charlemont, with the Wards' Grant, Merryfield, Colerain, Barnardston, Shelburne, Conway, Ashfield, Hatfield, Equivalent, Number-Seven, No-Town.

Sixth Regiment: Northfield, Sunderland, Leveret, Shutesbury, New-Salem, Ervinshire, Montagu, Warwick.

PLYMOUTH.

First Regiment: Plymouth, Plympton, Halifax, Kingston, Duxborough.

Second Regiment: Scituate, Marshfield, Hanover, Pembroke.

Third Regiment: Bridgewater, Abington.

Fourth Regiment: Middleborough, Rochester, Wareham.

BARNSTABLE.

First Regiment: Barnstable, Sandwich, Yarmouth, Falmouth.

Second Regiment: Harwich, Eastham, Chatham, Wellfleet, Truro, Provincetown.

BRISTOL.

First Regiment: Rehoboth, Swanzey.

Second Regiment: Dartmouth, Freetown, Dighton, Berkley.

Third Regiment: Taunton, Easton, Raynham.

Fourth Regiment: Attleborough, Norton, Mansfield.

YORK.

First Regiment: York, Sandford, the Plantations called Cox-Hall and Mossabeseck, and the first Parish in Wells.

Second Regiment: Kittery, Berwick, Lebanon.

Third Regiment: Biddeford, Arundel, Pepperelborough, Buxton, the Plantation called Little-Falls, and the second Parish in Wells.

DUKES-COUNTY.—(Blank.)

WORCESTER.

First Regiment: Worcester, Leicester, Holden, Spencer, Paxton, (including the new Parish called Boggychoge.)

Second Regiment: Lancaster, Harvard, Bolton, Princeton.

Third Regiment: Mendon, Uxbridge, Northbridge, Upton, Douglass.

Fourth Regiment: Brookfield, Western, New-Braintree, Hardwick, Oakham.

Fifth Regiment: Sutton, Oxford, Sturbridge, Charlton, Dudley, (including adjacent lands lying in No-Town.)

Sixth Regiment: Southborough, Westborough, Shrewsbury, Northborough, Grafton.

Seventh Regiment: Rutland, Petersham, Hutchinson, Athol, Templeton, Winchendon, Royalston, Hubbardston.

Eighth Regiment: Lunenburgh, Leominster, Westminster, Fitchburgh, Ashburnham, (including adjacent lands lying north of Princeton.)

CUMBERLAND.

First Regiment: Falmouth, Cape-Elizabeth.

Second Regiment: North-Yarmouth, Brunswick, Harpswell, and the new township called Royalston.

Third Regiment: Scarborough, Gorham, and the new township called Pearsontown, and the settlements back of them.

Fourth Regiment: Windham, New-Gloucester, and the township called New-Boston, with the settlements back thereof, and the settlements back of Royalston.

LINCOLN.

First Regiment: Georgetown, Woolwich, Topsham, Bowdoinham, and the South-Company in the East Precinct in the Town of Pownalborough.

Second Regiment: The North Company, in the East Precinct, in Pownalborough, and the Company in the West Precinct in said Town; the Plantation called Ball's Town, so far east as Dyer's River; the Plantation called Gardinerstown; the Towns of Hallowell, Winthrop, Vassalborough, and Winslow, with the adjacent settlements on Kennebeck-River.

Third Regiment: The Third Regiment to include the Towns of Boothbay, Edgecombe, New-Castle, and Bristol, with the Plantation called Walpole, and the adjacent settlements on Damascotta-Pond.

Fourth Regiment: Waldoborough, the Plantations called St. Georges, Medumcook, and Camden; the Town of Belfast, with all the settlements on the western side of Penobscot-River.

Fifth Regiment: All the settlements within said County, lying between Penobscot-River and Union-River.

Sixth Regiment: All the settlements in said County between the river called Union and St. Croix.

BERKSHIRE.

First Regiment: Sheffield, Great-Barrington, Egremont, New-Marlborough, Sandisfield, Tyringham, Alford, Louden.

Second Regiment: Stockbridge, West-Stockbridge, the Glass-Works, Lenox, Richmond, Pittsfield, Lanesborough, Jericho, Becket, Hartwood, Partridgefield, Gageborough, New-Providence, Ashawillet, Equivalent, New-Ashford, Williamstown, East-Hoosick.

ORDER IN COUNCIL.

At the Court of *St. James's*, the 21st day of *February*, 1776. Present: The King's Most Excellent Majesty in Council.

Whereas, the time limited by His Majesty's Order in Council of the 22d of *November* last, for the prohibiting the exporting out of this Kingdom, or carrying coastwise, Gunpowder, Saltpetre, or any sort of Arms or Ammunition, will expire on the 23d of this instant, *February:* And whereas, it is judged expedient, that the said prohibition should be continued for some time longer, except in those cases where (for the benefit and advantage of trade, and for the use and defence of ships trading to foreign parts, and of the transports and victualling vessels employed in His Majesty's service) His Majesty by his several Orders in Council of the 13th and 27th of *October*, and of the 6th and 22d of *November*, 1775, and of the 5th and 19th of this instant, *February*, has thought proper to permit and allow the exportation of and carrying coastwise, Gunpowder, Saltpetre, Arms and Ammunition, under certain conditions and restrictions mentioned in the said Orders; His Majesty doth, therefore, by and with the advice of his Privy Council, hereby order, require, prohibit, and command, that no person, or persons, whomsoever, (except the Master-General, Lieutenant-General, or principal officers of the Ordnance for His Majesty's service,) do at any time during the space of three months, to commence from the said 23d day of this instant, *February*, presume to transport into any parts out of this Kingdom, or carry coastwise, any Gunpowder, Saltpetre, or any sort of Arms or Ammunition, or ship or lade any Gunpowder, Saltpetre, or any sort of Arms or Ammunition, on board any ship or vessel, in order to transporting the same beyond the seas, or carrying the same coastwise, except in the cases comprised within the aforementioned Orders in Council of the 13th and 27th of *October*, and the 6th and 22d of *November*, 1775, and of the 5th and 19th of this instant, *February*, without leave or permission in that behalf first obtained from His Majesty, or his Privy Council, upon pain of incurring and suffering the respective forfeitures and penalties inflicted by an Act passed in the twenty-ninth year of his late Majesty's reign, intituled, "An Act to empower His Majesty to prohibit the exportation of Saltpetre, and to enforce the law for empowering His Majesty to prohibit the exportation of Gunpowder, or any sort of Arms and Ammunition; and, also, to empower His Majesty to restrain the carrying coastwise of Saltpetre, Gunpowder, or any sort of Arms or Ammunition;" and the Lords Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury, the Commissioners for executing the office of Lord High Admiral of *Great Britain*, the Lord Warden of the Cinque Ports, the Master-General of the Ordnance, and His Majesty's Secretary at War, are to give the necessary directions herein as to them may respectively appertain.

G. CHETWYND.

ORDER IN COUNCIL.

At the Court at *St. James's*, the 28th day of *February*, 1776. Present: The King's Most Excellent Majesty in Council.

Whereas, the time limited by His Majesty's Proclamation, of the 3d of *January* last, "for encouraging Seamen to enter themselves on board His Majesty's ships-of-war," will expire on the 29th of this instant, *February;* and whereas, it is judged expedient for His Majesty's service, that the several encouragements thereby given should remain and continue in force for some time longer: His Majesty doth, therefore, by and with the advice of his Privy Council, hereby order, that the time limited by the aforementioned Proclamation be prolonged and extended from the said 29th day of this instant, *February*, to the 30th day of *April* next, inclusive; and that the bounties and rewards thereby given and granted be continued to be paid until the said 30th day of *April;* whereof all persons concerned are to take notice, and govern themselves accordingly.

G. CHETWYND.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO CAPTAIN FULFORD.

[No. 21.] Annapolis, February 21, 1776.

SIR: From an opinion of your knowledge of cannon, we have thought proper to appoint you to prove those to be supplied this Province, by Messrs. *Samuel* and *Daniel Hughes*, and request you will immediately repair for that purpose to their works at *Antietam*. We enclose you an order on the Committee of Observation for the Middle District of *Frederick* County, for what powder may be wanting, and will defray any expense you may necessarily incur on that service. The commission for Mr. *Massenback*, to be Second Lieutenant, you will please to deliver him, and give him proper instructions how to act with regard to the company of Matrosses, during your absence.

We are, &c.

To Captain *Fulford*.

JACOB YOUNG TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Fredericktown, February 21, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Finding, by the resolves of last Convention, that commissioned officers of Minute-Men are excused from appearing among the Militia in a lower station, I take the liberty of applying to you for the following commissions, for myself and my inferior officers, that we may convince the most prejudiced that we are justly entitled to the above indulgence: *Jacob Young*, Captain; *Peter Grosh*, First Lieutenant; *Archibald Boyd*, Second Lieutenant; *Rezin Davis*, Ensign.

I am, with much respect, gentlemen, your very humble servant,

JACOB YOUNG.

To the Council of Safety, of *Maryland*.

OFFICERS OF THE THIRD BATTALION NOW RAISING IN THE PROVINCE OF NEW-JERSEY.

Elias Dayton, *Colonel;* Anthony Walton White, *Lieutenant-Colonel;* Francis Barber, *Major.*

Captains: Samuel Potter, Joseph Bloomfield, Peter Dickerson, Thomas Patterson, John Ross, Anthony Sharp, Thomas Reading, William Eugene Emley.

First Lieutenants: Rynear Blanchard, Josiah Seely, John Mott, John Anderson, Edward McMihell, Stephen Dunham, Samuel Flanagan, Richard Lloyd.

Second Lieutenants: Josiah Quimley, William Gifford, David Tuttle, William McDonold, Rulf Gill, Richard Cox, Jun., Samuel Hazelet, Daniel Pearson.

Ensigns: William Ten Broeck, Ebenezer Elmer, Edward Patterson, Cornelius Honson, Nathaniel Leonard, Thomas Corthy, Robert Hagan, Edgar Gildat.

Samuel Sheppard, *Adjutant;* William Nauenoss, *Quartermaster.*

JOSEPH ROBINSON TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

Jamaica, Long-Island, February 21, 1776.

Sir: I received a letter from you (as President of the Provincial Congress) desiring me to collect what evidence I can against those persons that were taken up here in our County, by order of the Continental Congress, and to transmit the same to our Convention, to prove that they are inimical to our glorious contest, and of their receiving powder. I think the Congress is furnished with the strongest and clearest proof that can be desired: their own publick opposition, and their many publick publications against the mode pursuing by the *United Colonies;* and, likewise, their own acknowledging the receiving and getting powder, I think as clear proof as can be desired to prove them enemies to our cause; so clear that even our own Convention publickly published them as such, and summoned, I believe, the major part of those gentlemen to appear before the Congress and answer for their conduct; which summons, sir, they despised and refused to obey. Mr. *Peter Clowes* is a proper person to refer you to for information of their conduct concerning the summons, and who were present when he went among them. To prove those of the gentlemen (who live in our township) being very industrious in riding to persuade the ignorant to oppose us, the Congress need only summons any of our inhabitants here.

As this letter will be read publickly, I cannot, consistent with my safety, publickly name persons who would be proper evidences; but I think Colonel *Heard* can inform the Congress of those that received and distributed out the powder. Whatever I can evidence, I shall readily obey the summons of the Congress.

I am, sir, yours, and the Congress's very humble servant,

JOSEPH ROBINSON.

To the *New-York* Congress.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read March 4, 1776.]

Albany, February 21, 1776.

Sir: I forgot yesterday to mention, that I thought it highly expedient to direct the Commissary-General to send Deputies into *Canada*, in order to put that branch upon a proper footing there. I fear that for the want of such persons as understand the business, all will run into confusion, if it is not already so.

Mr. *Livingston* has just informed me that Mr. *Price* intended to apply for the Commissary-Generalship in *Canada*. I immediately sent a note to Mr. *Price*, but he had left town; if he had informed me that he had such an intention, I should not have hesitated to have recommended the appointment, as such an officer is much wanted in *Canada*, and Mr. *Price* is certainly entitled to it.

I shall, however, direct Mr. *Livingston* to send on Messrs. *Swart* and *Benson*, who are the persons he has appointed, and if the Commissary-Generalship is conferred on Mr. *Price*, he may employ them as his Deputies, if he finds they will serve.

I am, sir, most respectfully, your obedient, humble servant,

PHILIP SCHUYLER.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq., &c.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

Albany, February 21, 1776.

Sir: Mr. *Payne* has been employed during part of last campaign in the artillery way; he seems active and lively, and if you have not already appointed the officers of the Artillery company, it might be well to employ him, as he expresses a desire for the service, and is willing to return immediately into *Canada*.

I am, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

PHILIP SCHUYLER.

To the President of the *New-York* Congress.

GENERAL WOOSTER TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read March 5, 1776.]

Montreal, February 21, 1776.

Gentlemen: Our distressing circumstances, together with the fatal consequences we have reason to apprehend, for want of hard money, have induced me to send my Secretary, Mr. *Cole*, to you, to bring forward what can be instantly procured. Provisions and wood cannot be obtained, nor can we pay for the transporting of any thing, but with hard cash, which, if we are not immediately supplied with, we must either starve, quit the country, or disgrace our army and the *American* cause, by laying the country under contribution; there is no other alternative. We have not by us half money enough to answer the pressing demands of the country people, to whom we are indebted. By the middle of *March*, or a little later, we shall not be able to pass with any thing up and down this country; our flour is already in a manner gone, and every other kind of provision soon will be, yet a large supply must be sent to the camp before the roads are impassable. Our friends here can supply us with specie no longer; our credit sinks with the inhabitants. Mr. *Walker* and Mr. *Price* will inform you more fully the absolute necessity of supplying the army before it is too late; a few days delay, at this critical time, may be attended with fatal consequences. I understand there is a quantity of pork at *Fort George*, which I have desired General *Schuyler* to forward across the Lakes; whether he will do it or not, I cannot say: I hope he will. Being certain that the Congress want nothing but information of the necessities of the army, in order, as far as possible, to supply them, I now take the liberty to give the necessary information, and am, with the greatest respect, gentlemen, your most obedient, and very humble servant,

DAVID WOOSTER.

To the Honourable Continental Congress.

GENERAL GREENE TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Prospect-Hill, February 21, 1776.

Colonel *Varnum* and Colonel *Bond* have made choice of Mr. *Davids* for Chaplain for their Regiments: Colonel *Hitchcock* and Colonel *Little* have made choice of the Rev. Mr. *Noble* as Chaplain to their Regiments, providing your Excellency approves thereof.

I am, with due respect, your Excellency's most obedient, humble servant,

NATHANIEL GREENE, *B. G.*

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

VIRGINIA COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

In Committee of Safety, Williamsburgh, February 22, 1776.

Mr. *Walter Hatton*, of *Accomack* County, being taken up for trial by the Committee of that County, as having written a letter to *Nathaniel Coffin*, Esq., containing sentiments very unfriendly to the rights of *America*, an extract from which was published in Mr. *Purdie's* Gazette of the 2d instant, was, at his own request, referred by the said Committee to the determination of this Board. Mr. *Hatton* accordingly appeared, and, being shown the manuscript extract from the said letter, transmitted from *Philadelphia*, declared himself well satisfied that it was faithfully taken from the original, and was willing the Committee should proceed to his trial upon that as his letter. He, at the same time, expressed his contrition for having written the letter, and his intention, in future, to conduct himself without offence. Whereupon, he was desired to retire, and re-

duce to writing what he was willing to say on that subject, and deliver it in the next morning. He accordingly, the next day, gave in the following paper, viz:

"Whereas, I, in *November* last, wrote a letter to *Nathaniel Coffin*, Esq., of *Boston*, wherein I mentioned sundry things disrespectful of the *American* cause; I, therefore, do now freely acknowledge my imprudence in so doing, and am sorry for the same; and I do hereby further agree and promise, that, for the future, (during the present unhappy dispute between *Great Britain* and *America*,) I will not, either by writing or speaking, give any information to any person in power, or any other person whatsoever, prejudicial to the *American* cause; but, that I will conduct myself entirely, henceforward, so as to give no occasion of offence.

"Walter Hatton.

"Williamsburgh, February 22, 1776."

Which being satisfactory to the Committee, Mr. *Hatton* is discharged, and recommended to the friends of *America* to be restored to the peace and protection of society, so long as he observes the rule of conduct he has promised as aforesaid; and, it is *Ordered*, That these proceedings be published in the *Virginia* Gazette.

For the Committee:

Edmund Pendleton, *President.*

Northampton County, Virginia, February 22, 1776.

About a week ago two Minute Companies arrived here from *Maryland*—one from *Kent* County, under the command of Captain *William Henry*, the other from *Queen-Anne*, under the command of Captain *James Kent*. They are two very fine companies, extremely well armed, having amongst them many gentlemen of family and fortune, and are examples of good discipline and subordination. The day after their arrival, the Committee met, and addressed them as follows:

To Captain William Henry, *and Captain* James Kent, *and the Troops under their command.*

Gentlemen: The Committee of *Northampton* County beg leave to congratulate you upon your safe arrival into this County, after a fatiguing march, at this rigorous season.

When gentlemen of easy fortunes, such as the companies we have seen from your Province, and who can enjoy at home every convenience and elegance of life, enter themselves voluntarily to serve their country, by undertaking a tedious march at an inclement season, and cheerfully submitting to every inconvenience consequent thereto, it cannot be doubted that they are actuated by the noblest principles; they are justly entitled to the thanks of their country, and we hope Providence will ever crown them with honour and success.

The peaceful state which this once happy County ever enjoyed, till the present unnatural, though unavoidable contest, renders us totally unprovided for the proper reception of a number of armed men; and we hope, gentlemen, you will consider the very indifferent accommodations which you meet with here as solely owing to this cause, and not from want of respect and attention to your circumstances. We, however, beg leave to assure you, that nothing in our power shall be wanting to promote your convenience and happiness, which the situation of our County will permit, in full confidence that you will, at all times, during your residence amongst us, cheerfully co-operate with this Committee in maintaining good order and regularity in this place, and in opposing the dangerous designs of all the secret and avowed enemies of *American* liberty.

To which the Committee received the following Answer:

Head-Quarters, Northampton Court-House, February 22, 1776.

Mr. President, and Gentlemen of the Committee for Northampton *County*, Virginia:

We return thanks for your very polite Address to us, and the companies under our command, upon our arrival at this place, as, also, for your attention in making the necessary provision for our reception.

Impressed with a lively sense of the duty we owe to our country, and animated with the glorious cause of *American* liberty, we cheerfully left our habitations, thinking no difficulties too much for a people to encounter who were determined to die or live free, and shall esteem ourselves happy in proportion to the services we shall be able to render the Colony, and this County in particular.

We are not insensible of the many inconveniences attending the accommodation of soldiers in a country hitherto a stranger to war, and with pleasure we find your assiduity has conquered these difficulties, and made our residence easy and agreeable.

Be assured, gentlemen, we shall be always ready to give you any assistance in our power, consistent with our duty, to preserve good order and regularity; and shall be at all times thankful for your advice and directions in the execution of the trust reposed in us, especially as we are strangers to what is and may have been transacted in this place.

We beg leave to subscribe ourselves, with the greatest respect, gentlemen, your very obedient servants,

William Henry,
James Kent.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO BALTIMORE COMMITTEE.

[No. 22.] Annapolis, February 22, 1776.

Gentlemen: The repeated instances you have given of your readiness to co-operate with us in such measures as we have thought conducive to the interest and security of this Province under our present unhappy circumstances, have proved very acceptable, and the information communicated by Mr. *Samuel Purviance*, Jun., by your order, that you will assist in providing shot suitable for the cannon, for which we have the pleasure to hear you have engaged a number of workmen in making wheels and carriages, agreeable to our requisition, when at *Baltimore*, affords us real satisfaction. Confiding in your zeal and diligence, we request you will immediately employ some able and skilful person in supplying a sufficient quantity of ball proper for those guns; and as we are advised some of the shot furnished the ship *Defence* are not round, that you will be particularly attentive to the casting of them, and receive none but what are truly formed and fit for service. We have not yet been wrote to by Mr. *Hughes*, for a Proofmaster to try the cannon he agreed with the last Convention to furnish for the use of this Province, or had any satisfactory information in what forwardness they are; however, as we are anxious to expedite this business, and presume Mr. *Hughes* must have run some of them by this time, we have appointed Captain *Fulford* to approve them, and have wrote him upon the subject; and from a wish to have every thing in readiness against the guns are brought down, we desire you will immediately contract for fit and proper carriages for them, to be supplied as expeditiously as they can. We are, &c.

To the Committee of Observation for *Baltimore* County.

CHARLES CARROLL TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Mount Clare, February 22, 1776.

Gentlemen: The enclosed was sent to my house at *Annapolis*, and by my clerk sent me up here. Mr. *Hughes*, by what he has heard, supposes there may be twenty nine-pounders cast by this time, though he has not, since we saw him at *Baltimore* Town, received any letter from his brother. There will be, he tells me, one thousand and eighty pounds of powder wanting to try them all; one hundred and eighty weight for the twenty nine-pounders, and nine hundred for the fifty eighteen-pounders, at the weight of the ball in powder for each gun. This, I suppose, must be ordered from *Fredericktown;* however, you will consider whether it may be necessary to send the powder for the eighteen-pounders till all or some of them at least be cast. You will observe what he says about the kinds of powder. I suppose that sent from *Annapolis* to *Frederick* was proper for cannon, if not, I do not know that we have any; the only method then we can fall upon, must be to diminish the quantity in proportion to the strength; this, I collected from him, was what he desired. I really do not know any person of experience and knowledge that we could appoint to attend the proving of them, and trying of their boxes, to find whether they were clear of material flaws. Major *Pierce*, if he be with you, perhaps may be able to inform you of one. Mr. *Hughes* mentioned Mr. *Steel* and Mr. *Baird;* if they understand it and will be pleased to undertake it, I am sure I shall not have the least objection to them. Mr. *Cummings* waits on you with his

bond; he has made some alterations; if you agree to them I shall have no objection.

I am, gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servant,

CHARLES CARROLL.

To the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

GOVERNOUR OF PENNSYLVANIA TO THE ASSEMBLY.

Thursday, February 22, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: In consequence of your message of the 25th of *November* last, founded on a letter addressed to you from the County of *Northumberland*, respecting the *Connecticut* settlers at *Wyoming*, I took the earliest opportunity of giving orders to the Magistrates of that County to put the laws of this Province in execution in their County. The letter I have since received from the Magistrates and Sheriff, which I have ordered the Secretary to lay before you, will inform you of the steps they took in pursuance of my order, and of the unfortunate event of their proceedings.

As a considerable expense must have arisen on this attempt to execute the laws of the Government, I doubt not you will readily make provision for defraying it.

JOHN PENN.

LETTER TO THE GOVERNOUR FROM NORTHUMBERLAND.

Sunday, December 30, 1775.

SIR: In pursuance of your Honour's letter of the 25th ult., the Magistrates of this County delivered into the hands of our Sheriff warrants and other legal processes against a number of persons residing at *Wyoming*, in this County, who have been charged on oath with the most illegal practices, and some of them with the greatest crimes. The Sheriff, apprehensive of resistance, judged it prudent to raise the Posse of the County; a body of near five hundred men accompanied him to the neighbourhood of *Wyoming*, where they were met by some people from *Wyoming*, (one of whom was said to be an officer;) to these men the intention of the Sheriff and his Posse was sufficiently explained, and the strongest assurances given that no violence or molestation should be offered to any person submitting to the laws. The Sheriff proceeded, however, but a little farther, when he was most unexpectedly fired upon—one man *(Hugh McWilliams)* killed, and three others dangerously wounded. It was soon found impossible to force a passage on that side of the river, as the Narrows, naturally strong, had been fortified with the greatest care, and were lined with numbers of men, to which ours bore no reasonable proportion. An attempt was made to cross the river, with design, if possible, to arrive at the settlement of the persons against whom process had issued, without further molestation. This attempt was, for greater secrecy, made in the night. When the boats had nearly reached the opposite shore, and were entangled in a margin of ice, too thin to bear the weight of a man, they were, without any previous challenge, fired upon repeatedly by a party from the top of the bank. *Jesse Lukins* received a mortal wound, of which he is since dead. Sundry others narrowly escaped. As a landing could not be effected, the boats returned. Baffled in this second attempt, the weather being intolerably severe, and receiving information that the persons we wished to arrest were the chief in command in their breastworks, it was thought advisable to desist from any further attempt. The boat with the wounded men was fired on, while within gunshot; a constant fire was kept up on our men from the opposite side, while they retreated through a long narrows; one man only, however, was wounded, in the arm.

We are sorry to inform your Honour that a very considerable expense is incurred in this unfortunate affair. We, however, hope that the other branch of the Legislature will show the same readiness, in properly resenting this daring insult on the Government of the Province, which we have ever experienced in your Honour.

We are, with great respect, your Honour's most obedient, and most humble servants,

WILLIAM SCULL, *Sheriff*,
SAMUEL HARRIS, *Coroner*,
WILLIAM PLUNKET,
SAMUEL HUNTER,
MICHAEL TROY,
JOHN WEITZEL.

To the Honourable the Representatives of the Freemen of the Province of PENNSYLVANIA, *in General Assembly met. The Memorial of the Committee of Safety.*

In Committee of Safety, Philadelphia, February 22, 1776.

The Committee have, ever since their appointment, applied themselves with the greatest zeal and fidelity to the important trust confided to them, in providing means for the defence of this Province; they were, however, such means only as were thought more immediately requisite for our security against the attempts made by a naval armament, and were, besides, necessarily confined within the limits of the funds allotted to them by your honourable House; but they beg leave to represent, that, as every day brings with it fresh proofs of the violence of the *British* Ministry, and of their fixed purpose to subdue the free spirit of *America*, that has yet given such obstruction to all their schemes of tyranny and despotism—a purpose assisted, too, by an obsequious Parliament, which may not speak the genuine sense of the nation, though it has, unhappily, the direction of its force, it truly becomes us to prepare seriously for the storm gathering over the Colonies, and which, in the uncertainty of its course, may, in a few weeks, fall upon this Province. This being the idea of the Committee, they have come to the following resolution, claiming the most earnest attention of your honourable House thereto:

"*Resolved*, That application be made to the honourable the House of Representatives, praying that they will take order for the raising of two thousand men to act in the defence of this Province; and this Board will represent it as their opinion, that they will be most for the publick service, that one Battalion of Regular Troops be formed out of that number, and the remainder be a body of Riflemen."

The Committee beg leave to solicit your attention to another object, also of extensive importance—the Military Association; the general sentiments concerning which, they have, in the recess of Assembly, had an opportunity of collecting, and though such numbers already have, and, we hope, will still engage in it, under its present form, as may prove a considerable addition to our strength, yet, as there are material objections made to it, and, as they understand, are to be laid before your honourable House by divers respectable bodies of men, they submit to you, whether it will not be highly expedient, and consistent with good policy, immediately to remove every cause of discontent on this head from the minds of the Associators, who, under an apprehension of partial and unequal burdens imposed on them, have, nevertheless, had the virtue not to refuse their services to their country, in confidence that your honourable House will reconsider the several provisions and regulations complained of, and give them satisfaction therein.

By order of the Committee:

ALEXANDER WILCOCKS, *Chairman*.

ORANGE COUNTY (NEW-YORK) COMMITTEE TO PROVINCIAL CONGRESS.

In Committee, February 22, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Upon receiving blank warrants, the Committee are now met to acquiesce with the request of Congress to fill them; but debates ensuing which of the officers on nomination for raising two companies should have the preference and have the warrants made out, on motion, it was carried that the warrants be returned, and the Congress to use their discretion, as our doing otherwise would involve us in heated parties and precinct disputes; we, therefore, pray you will not impute this measure to want of zeal to do every thing in our power for the general good, and do earnestly desire the honourable Congress to fill up the warrants as may seem meet to you, or otherwise furnish us with one other set of warrants, as each of the parties in nomination have spent much time in making advances towards raising their respective companies, which will extricate us out of the difficulty we now labour under.

We are, gentlemen, your humble servants,

DAVID PYE,
Deputy Chairman of County Committee.
JOHN COLEMAN, *Deputy Clerk.*

To the President of the Provincial Congress, *New-York*.

E. W. KIERS TO THOMAS SMITH.

Haverstraw, New-York, February 22, 1776.

SIR: A very disagreeable division is like to break out amongst us on account of two companies agreed upon by the Committee to be raised at the south side of the mountain. Captain *Amos Hutchings* and Captain *Ary King*, were recommended by the Committee. Mr. *Hutchings* has, to my knowledge, been at a great fatigue and expense already, in engaging a number of hearty men in order to have his company full as soon as possible; he has about fifty men ready engaged. Captain *Ary King* has also an inclination to serve his country. We have but one set of warrants come up. We are at a very great loss how to act. If you will be instrumental in obtaining two sets of warrants for this side of the mountains, which, I think, will be the only means of settling all division in these parts, you will greatly oblige your most humble servant,

E. W. KIERS.

[A copy of the above was directed to *Jesse Woodhull*.]

GENERAL LEE TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[February 26, 1776, referred to Mr. McKean, Mr. John Adams, Mr. L. Morris.]

New-York, February 22, 1776.

SIR: Last night I had the honour of receiving yours, with the resolves and commands of the Congress, which I shall obey with the greatest zeal and alacrity, and all possible expedition. The confidence reposed in me is extremely flattering, and I shall labour to deserve their good opinion.

As I am yet very weak and tender, after my illness, I shall take the liberty to remain here a few days, at least until I am able to walk and ride with a tolerable degree of ease, which, at present, I am incapable of doing; in fact, venturing upon a journey in the state I am in might risk a relapse, which might totally incapacitate me from being of any service in that part of the world or elsewhere.

The cannon ordered by the Congress to *Canada*, shall be fitted out and despatched without loss of time; the Provincial Congress are now preparing the means. Mortars there are none, which is very unfortunate, as in the attack of towns they are absolutely necessary.

I was much disappointed, sir, in not being joined by a battalion from *Philadelphia*, as I was taught to expect. I did not apply for them merely with a view of opposing Mr. *Clinton* with the troops he should bring with him. I had sufficient, and more than sufficient force to cope with him, but it was agreed, in the conference held with the three gentlemen who were here, as a Committee from the Congress, that it would be necessary to retrench a camp in *Long-Island*, capacious enough to contain at least three thousand men; and although it was thought impracticable to fortify the sea side of the town against shipping, it was allowed and determined to be expedient to throw up divers works in the city and its environs, in order to prevent the enemy's getting possession of it. To accomplish these works, sir, not a small number of hands are requisite. Our present numbers are so far from being adequate to the business, that they are scarcely sufficient to mark out the works, and, at the same time, do the necessary garrison duty. As to the Minute-Men, no account ought to be made of them. Had I been as much acquainted with them when they were summoned as I am at present, I should have exerted myself to prevent their coming. The expense of these gentry is most intolerable. They have, upon an average, about two men to one officer; but the expense of their subsistence is not all; the loss of powder to the publick is dreadful. They leave their homes without a grain; they expect, and must be supplied out of the publick magazines; when they return they carry it with them. Upon the whole, sir, I cannot help expressing my wishes, that the Congress will find means of establishing one great Continental regular army, adequate to all the purposes of defence. Every consideration, that of economy as well as security, dictate the measure.

At present, we have here Lord *Stirling's*, *Waterbury's*, and *Ward's* Battalions. *Waterbury's* and *Ward's* are only inlisted to the 12th of *March*. In eighteen days, therefore, the whole force will consist of Lord *Stirling's* Regiment, not quite five hundred men fit for duty. I own I tremble for this important place; I cannot help fearing that the enemy will have possession of it. I submit it to the wisdom of the Congress whether a force should not be immediately provided to prevent so fatal an event. If they depend on the four regiments ordered to be raised in this Province, they will, I am afraid, be cruelly disappointed: for, from all those I have conversed with on the subject, many months will be required for their completion, if they are ever completed. I hope you will excuse my being so diffuse with respect to *New-York*, I thought it my duty to be particular on so important a subject.

I have a favour to ask of the Congress. Doctor *Fague*, who is settled at *Fairfield*, in *Connecticut*, is a *French* gentleman of ability, probity, and skill in his profession. He knows *Canada* very well; is known and esteemed there. He speaks *French* and *English* with great ease and fluency. He is extremely desirous of accompanying me. If, sir, there is a possibility of placing him in the Hospital, but in a station and rank proportioned to his pretensions, I apprehend he might not only be of great use to me, but to the publick. If the Hospital is already disposed of, I should think it worth while to appoint him to some other office.

Before I conclude, sir, I ought to apprize you that a very considerable number of the guns we took from the Battery are absolutely unfit for service. The enclosed is a return of those that are good, and those that may be used on occasion.

I am, sir, with the greatest respect, your most obedient servant,

CHARLES LEE.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq., President of the Continental Congress.

GENERAL HEATH TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Camp at Cambridge, February 22, 1776.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY: I some time since reported that Colonels *Prescott* and *Phinney* had chosen the Reverend Mr. *Foster* for the Chaplain for those regiments. This choice is but temporary, as it is at present uncertain whether Mr. *Foster* can be absent from his own Parish for more than a month or two. I now beg leave further to report, that Colonels *Greaton* and *Baldwin* have made choice of the Reverend Mr. *Barnum* for the Chaplain of their regiments.

Having five regiments in the brigade under my command, Colonel *Sargent* finds it difficult to join another regiment, at present; and, as there are nine regiments in the camp at *Roxbury*, one of them must, of necessity, join with some regiment in this camp, and, as the situation of Colonel *Prescott's* regiment seems to point out that as the most proper one, it has been proposed that such a junction take place, and that Colonel *Sargent* and Colonel *Phinney* should join. This, however, seems at present a little embarrassed, on account of the uncertainty of Mr. *Foster's* continuing the whole campaign.

All which is humbly submitted, by your Excellency's most humble servant,

W. HEATH, *Brigadier-General*.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GENERAL LEE.

Cambridge, February 22, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I fully expected, by the two last posts, to have received your favours, with an account of the measures you have been, and are pursuing, for the defence of *New-York*, and of such occurrences as you might have thought worthy of notice; as I did not, nor got several other letters which I expected, I cannot but suppose they have been intercepted at some of the offices, or by some accident prevented coming to my hands.

I need not mention my impatience to hear from you, and beg that you will write me by every opportunity.

I am, dear sir, &c.,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To General *Lee*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Cambridge, February 22, 1776.

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL: In my letter to you of the 19th

instant, I mentioned that I was sorry to find that there were come but forty-two hundred and seventeen pounds of powder, instead of six or eight thousand I had expectations of. I had taken my information from Governour *Cooke's* letter, which, upon a reperusal, I find mentions that weight, including the casks. I have since had it weighed by the Commissary, an exact return of which you have enclosed, by which you will see that the nett weight is three thousand five hundred and seventy-seven pounds; five hundred and seventy-seven pounds thereof will be placed to the credit of your Colony, and the whole settled for in whatever manner will be most agreeable.

I have just received a letter from *J. Huntington*, Esq., with the agreeable account of his having forwarded two tons of powder to this camp, by your order. Accept, sir, of my thanks for this seasonable supply. When it arrives I shall send you an account of it, and, when you point out the mode, it shall be paid for, or replaced, in the manner you and the rest of your Legislature shall think proper.

I have nothing new at present to communicate to you from hence, but you may be assured that I am, with great esteem, sir, your most obedient servant,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To Governour *Trumbull*.

JOHN LANGDON TO NEW-HAMPSHIRE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Portsmouth, February 22, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I have just enrolled nearly one hundred men in the Ship-Yard, and have ordered every man to attend the muster at an appointed time, with a good fire-arm, powder, and ball, some of which are already completely equipped; but, as there is no powder to be had, only what is in the publick stores, would submit it to the consideration of the honourable Committee, whether it would not be best to order that those men who are not supplied already, to be supplied by the publick, when occasion requires, or, if it is best, for each to appear with one half pound of powder in his horn, for which a receipt to be taken, and if it is not returned, or made use of against the enemy, to pay double of the value at this time, which I will stop out of their wages; which I think will effectually prevent waste, and put those who have no powder upon the same footing with those who have but their own ammunition. I think I may with safety serve the Colony in this matter, and not in the least interfere with the Continental business. I should be glad to have some answer from the honourable Committee relative to this matter, as I have ordered every man to be ready for mustering by such a day, and should be glad to have every man furnished.

I am, with great respect, your most obedient servant,

JOHN LANGDON.

To the Honourable Committee of Safety of the Colony of *New-Hampshire*.

Williamsburgh, Virginia, February 23, 1776.

Two paragraphs from Lord *Dunmore's Virginia Gazette*, (as he calls it,) printed on board his own ship, *February* 3d, 1776, may serve to show us what is the wish, and, we should presume, the intention of the Ministry:

"I hope that the *British* spirit is not so debased, that, for a little temporary interest, and precarious tranquillity, you will give up your dignity and honour, and render your nation contemptible in the eyes of all *Europe*. No, let them feel what it is to provoke and insult a great and powerful people, who have so lately astonished the world by their achievements. When they return to their duty and sue for pardon, let the conditions be: lay down your arms, deliver up your leaders to just punishment, retire quietly to your homes, and submit to the Legislature of your parent state.

"Do not sink, my Lord, under the glorious struggle; let not ignominious accommodation with our rebellious and ungrateful Colonies fade and tarnish your country's glory, and efface the remembrance of your former great conduct; let difficulties animate you to the utmost exertion of your powers. You have the confidence of your Sovereign, the support of the most independent Parliament that ever sat within those walls; you have the warmest approbation of every wise and good man, the body of the nation is with you, and you may command their natural force."

It is true, these are only extracts from the *Publick Advertiser*, but they were addressed to Lord *North*, and have a strong resemblance to his and the King's speech; and I will remark here, by-the-by, that these extracts were published and circulated by Lord *Dunmore* seven days after the date of his friendly letter.

A writer [in *Dunmore's Gazette*] who signs himself *Candidus*, supposed to be one *Finlayson*, a young *Scotchman*, formerly a shopkeeper in this city, who was genteelly caned by a certain Captain, some time before Captain *Foy* left the country, introduces the letter, from which the above extracts are made, in an elaborate piece, in which he complains of the publication of falsehood and concealment of truth, in all the newspapers except the one his Lordship has pressed into his service, (and a few others,) and which *Candidus* is supposed to superintend.

"I must do you, sir, the justice [says he to his printer] to say, that your press does not come within the description above given, being, undoubtedly, much in favour of *American* measures; it is the more necessary at this time, in order to give room for such truths and wholesome advice, as cannot otherwise be conveyed to the ears of the people, or is not, through the prostitute presses at present on the Continent. I am insensibly drawn into these reflections, while I meant to convey to you the following paper to be published, from the *Publick Advertiser*."

But, to return to the subject of a reconciliation: *America*, finding that the *British* Parliament, not content with restraining her trade within the most narrow bounds, had proceeded to drain her, by internal taxes, of the little circulating cash she had, remonstrated and petitioned in vain against such unjust and oppressive acts, and resolved "to contract herself within her little sphere, and be contented with her homespun," and, to use the words of the *Virginia* Petition to the King, this is all we did, and all we threatened, and for this the vengeance of an avaricious and tyrannical Administration has been poured out upon us. The national debt is so enormous, the expense of dependants and pensioners so heavy, that the Ministry could not think of leaving it to *America* to determine what part of it she would pay off; they thought they should stick at nothing to carry into execution the plan they had so much at heart, and which would make them absolute masters of the property of every man in *America*, to the lightening of their own burdens, the satisfying their avarice, and gratifying their lust of power. Hence, they could not scruple to encourage *Indians*, and Slaves to assist in their bloody plan of crushing and enslaving us.

It is evident that Administration, whatever it may do now, never wished for an accommodation; every step that they have taken was evidently calculated to preclude all hopes of it; it was their interest, wish, and intention, on the supposition that they could conquer *America* at a little risk and small expense, to force us into rebellion, to have a pretence for subduing and enslaving us, and glutting their avarice with the forfeited estates in *America*. As the Ministry could not wish for an accommodation before their disappointment, we have some reason to be on our guard during the negotiation, especially as they seem determined to send out a powerful armament with their Commissioners. They are determined to treat with us with the sword at our breasts; we should, therefore, be armed with a shield, and, with drawn swords, be ready to parry the thrusts which may be made at us, if we should refuse to submit to some insulting proposal.

Let no one think me an enemy to accommodation; I only caution my countrymen against being thrown off their guard, for I confess I suspect the sincerity of the Ministry. What occasion have they to send over Commissioners, fleets, and armies, if they intend to repeal the acts we complain of? We asked but for "peace, liberty, and security," and promised to disband our troops and return to a full and free trade with *Great Britain*, if the King would recall his troops and the Parliament repeal the obnoxious acts. What requests could be more reasonable? What easier for *Britain* to do? If this had been done, all would be right; there could be no room for fears and suspicions on our part, and we should have been bound in honour, and

have fulfilled our promises in the petition, and, without any delay, or expense of a negotiation, peace and happiness would instantly be diffused throughout *America*.

I fear this fleet and armament can never be the harbingers of peace; therefore, however ardently I wish for peace, I most earnestly recommend it to my countrymen to be prepared for war.

A Virginian.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO THE SEVERAL COMMITTEES OF OBSERVATION.

[No. 23.] Annapolis, February 23, 1776.

To Committees where only Fifty Men are stationed:

Gentlemen: We perceive, by the proceedings of the Convention, that one-half of Captain *Rezin Beall's* company are to be stationed in your County. We understand the officers of that company are drawing their men together, and are desirous of knowing where they are to be stationed, so as to answer the purpose intended. We know not where proper houses can be got in your County, and, therefore, request you would make inquiry, and let us know your sentiments, where the men ought to be stationed, and whether convenient houses can be got for them.

Annapolis, February 23, 1776.

To Committees for those Counties where whole Independent Companies were stationed:

Gentlemen: Agreeable to the resolves of the last Convention, an Independent Company is to be stationed at such place in your County as the Council of Safety may think proper; but, as we are not so well acquainted with your County as to determine where they may be most conveniently posted, we shall be glad the Committee of Observation would take the matter under consideration, and give us their sentiments of the place which may best answer the intended purpose. We are, &c.

RICHARD BARNES TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Leonardtown, February 23, 1776.

Gentlemen: Agreeable to the directions of our Committee, I send you, by Lieutenant *Neale*, seven gun-locks, which are all we have belonging to the publick. I have also sent you some gold, which be kind enough to give him paper money for. *Philip Reed*, Second Lieutenant in the *Leonardtown* company of Militia, has desired leave to resign his commission, as being very inconvenient for him to attend; should, therefore, be glad you would appoint *Bennet Combs*, in his place, (who is Ensign in the company,) and *James Williams*, Ensign. The company belongs to the twenty-first battalion of Militia. If agreeable, send the commissions by Mr. *Neale*.

We have received no powder, as yet, from *Charles* County.

I remain, gentlemen, your humble servant,

Richard Barnes.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

FREDERICK RHINELANDER TO PETER VAN SCHAACK.

New-York, February 23, 1776.

Dear Sir: At my return from *Philadelphia*, I had the happiness to receive your long letter. As I am to consider it as an answer to mine, of six and a half lines, I am the more obliged to you for its contents.

I forbear to mention the distressed state of this once happy city. Though General *Lee* has every thing to recommend him as a General, yet I think he was out of luck when he ordered the removal of the guns from the Battery, as it was without the approbation or knowledge of our Congress; consequently, the inhabitants were unprepared for so melancholy an event. The inclemency of the weather heightened our distress. The wind, too, was so high, that the rivers could not be crossed, but with the utmost hazard. *Samuel Bayard* was made prisoner. The Secretary's office is removed to *Nicholas Bayard's*, where *Samuel* is yet under a guard. Mr. *Stevens* is made prisoner by the *New-England* troops, and sent to *Hartford*. A flag was sent on board the *Asia*, with a proposal to exchange *Stevens* for a *New-England* officer, taken by the *Asia*, last summer. No answer has been sent. General *Clinton* has gone to the Southward. It is said he expects to be joined by seven thousand troops from the other side the water.

General *Lee* is taking every necessary step to fortify and defend this city. The men-of-war are gone out of our harbour; the *Phenix* is at the Hook; the *Asia* lies near *Bedlow's Island*; so that we are now in a state of perfect peace and security, were it not for our apprehensions of future danger. To see the vast number of houses shut up, one would think the city almost evacuated. Women and children are scarcely to be seen in the streets. Troops are daily coming in; they break open and quarter themselves in any houses they find shut up. Necessity knows no law. Private interest must give way to the publick good. Mr. *Jacob Walton* was ordered to remove, and give up his house, which is now occupied by the soldiers. I have not moved an article out of town yet, though I have taken a house for my family, at a place called *Paramus*. The Speaker has desired me to get a place for him in the same neighbourhood. I think it will be out of the route of the Army.

We are going to raise a new battalion. Colonels *Lasher* and *Gouverneur Morris* are candidates for the command. As both the gentlemen have great merit, it is hard to tell which will succeed.

General *Lee* is ordered to take the command at *Canada*; General *Schuyler* to command at *New-York*.

Yours, &c.,

Frederick Rhinelander.

ROBERT BOYD, JUN., TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

New-Windsor, February 23, 1776.

Gentlemen: Your favour of the 12th instant came safe to hand, and I note the contents; but am at a loss to ascertain exactly what number of gun-barrels, &c., I can furnish by the 1st of *April*, as therein required. I hope, at or near that time, to have as many completed as will pay up the publick money I received, and then propose waiting on the honourable Congress, and determine whether I am to proceed any further, or not; but am inclined to think I shall not, on the strength of the old contract, as by that contract there is no fixed number to be made, only a definite number given, if that could be completed within six months. At the time I contracted, my ideas relative to executing the business were exceedingly erroneous. I thought one month would be sufficient for preparation in order to begin the business; but, with sundry hindrances, four months elapsed before that could be done. I also thought there would be no difficulty in procuring hands who understood the business, or, if there should, I could procure common smiths, who, in a little time, would learn; but found myself egregiously disappointed in both these opinions. In relation to the first, I sent both to East and West, in order to procure hands, but found them all employed on such terms as rendered it out of my power to remove them; and in relation to the second, the difficulty arose from my being circumscribed within the narrow limits of a few months, and could not foresee what would take place at the end of that time; therefore, could not, without a manifest risk, pursue that mode, as it is no trifling affair to teach a number of hands in a business they are wholly ignorant of, at a private expense, without having such a kind of certainty of prosecuting it as will, in the end, reimburse the expense accrued in teaching them. I believe no reasonable man will doubt the sincerity of my intention of carrying on the business to a considerable extensiveness, when they see that I have been at one hundred and twenty pounds expenses in preparing for it; and I do think there is not such a shop in this or any of the neighbouring Governments, (that hath come under my view,) for convenience in carrying on the business aforesaid. But this answers very little purpose, when the superintendent thereof must employ his own fingers at every piece of business that is done in it. But, even in this case, more might have been done, had not much of my time been spent in attendance on publick business, which it was out of my power to avoid.

As I have imposed on the patience of the honourable House in proceeding to this length, therefore shall now conclude, with only observing, that if the honourable Con-

gress think it proper, I will immediately wait on them, and then inform them more fully, concerning this affair, than is consistent with the length of a letter. If not, I shall remain at home till I get the before-mentioned barrels, &c., completed.

I am, gentlemen, with all due esteem, your most obedient, humble servant,

ROBERT BOYD, JUN.

To the Honourable the Provincial Congress for the Colony of *New-York*.

N. B. I have the number of barrels, &c., before-mentioned, in hand, fit for boring; but my works have been so frozen up this whole winter, that I could neither bore nor grind.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read March 4, 1776.]

Albany, February 23, 1776.

SIR: At two, yesterday afternoon, an express arrived here, in three days, from General *Wooster*, and brought me a letter, of which the enclosed is a copy.

I was apprehensive that we should meet with difficulties in supplying the Army in *Canada* with provisions, as I had been informed that much waste had been committed; and, on the 29th ultimo, I desired General *Wooster* to "send me a return of the names of the Commissaries of Provisions now in *Canada*, and to advise me how the Army was supplied with provisions." I am, in sentiment, with him, that it is necessary to send a quantity of provisions immediately; for I am morally sure that our cause will suffer, if it is not done; and, as the winter is on the point of leaving us, a delay may be dangerous. I shall, therefore, venture to send four hundred barrels of pork, without waiting the determination of Congress, although it will cost us not less than three pounds a barrel to transport it to *Montreal*, and, even at that rate, it will be very difficult to procure sleds, as there is hardly any forage left in the country. No time is, also, to be lost in forwarding the cannon, and what military stores are at *Ticonderoga* and *Crown-Point*; they will, however, be of little service, unless a considerable quantity of powder is immediately sent. What is gone is very trifling.

I fear I shall not be able to get shoes made in this part of the country sufficient, even, for the troops that are now on their march. I am informed there are none in *Canada*, and our troops will be greatly distressed for them unless a large number are sent into *Canada*, as soon as the Lakes are passable by water.

Colonel *Wynkoop*, to whom I have paid the expenses accrued by the prisoners in *Ulster* County, has shown me a resolution of Congress for their future subsistence. Would it not be well if Congress was to determine how much money should be allowed, instead of a ration, as the prisoners are quartered upon the people, who cannot find them with the articles allowed by Congress.

As the Commissary-General cannot possibly furnish our troops with all the articles allowed them, I shall make an estimate of what such as he cannot procure will amount to, and order an equivalent in the other species: this is become necessary, as I have already had applications for milk money, &c.

Yesterday, Captain *Solomon*, one of the chiefs of the *Stockbridge Indians*, brought me a letter from Mr. *Edwards*, of which the following is a copy:

"Stockbridge, February 20, 1776.

"DEAR SIR: The bearer, Captain *Solomon*, with this, waits upon you to give information of the disposition of the *Indians* in this Town, and to take your directions concerning their going against our enemies in *Canada*; the refusing their proffered service, is an affair of delicacy, to which you will readily attend.

"I am, dear sir, your friend, and most obedient, humble servant,

"TIMOTHY EDWARDS."

Solomon urged me to let the *Stockbridge Indians* go to *Canada*. I considered it as a matter too delicate for me to decide upon, and told him that I would lay his request before Congress. He hinted that they would expect pay.

General *Washington*, in a letter of the 27th ultimo, says, "I am a little embarrassed to know in what manner to conduct myself with respect to the *Caughnawoga Indians* now here. They have, notwithstanding the treaty of neutrality, which I find they entered into with you the other day, (agreeable to what appears to be the sense of Congress,) signified to me a desire of taking up arms in behalf of the *United Colonies*. The Chief of them, and whom, I understand, is now the first man of the nation, intends, as it is intimated to me, to apply to me for a commission, with assurance of raising four or five hundred men when he returns." To which, I answered: "It is extremely difficult to determine what should be done in what you mention respecting the offer made by the *Caughnawaga Indians;* but, if you can get decently rid of their offer, I would prefer it to employing them. The expense we are at in the *Indian* Department, is now amazing; it will be more so when they consider themselves as in our service, nor would their intervention be of much consequence, unless we could procure that of the other nations." I am very confident that we should be justified in employing the Savages, since the Ministry have made attempts to engage them against us, and if no other consideration prevented, I should be for it; but, besides the reasons I have given to General *Washington*, I may add, that they will consider our employing them is of necessity, and they will look upon themselves of more consequence than they really are, and rise in their demands upon us.

I have not yet received any nails, and my carpenters will soon be out of work, unless I employ them in procuring timber for an additional number of batteaus. I find many more of last year's are gone than I imagined. Please to let me have the direction of Congress if I should go beyond one hundred, and how many.

On board of the vessels which were taken near *Montreal* on the 19th of *November*, seven hundred and sixty barrels of pork, and six hundred and seventy-five of flour, were found; a quantity sufficient, of the first article, to have served two thousand men to the 3d instant, of the other, to the 22d ultimo. A considerable quantity had been taken a month before at *Chambly;* a large quantity was at *St. John's; Bedel's* and *Warner's* detachments had provisions bought for them; much has been bought since the surrender of *Montreal;* hence, a waste or embezzlement must have taken place. I can easily account for the loss by only imputing it to the inability of the Commissaries, and the culpable inattention of the officers. I gave orders last year, which, if they had been complied with, would have prevented this evil and extra expense in sending supplies. I have made additions to these orders and sent them into *Canada*. I have since drawn others; copies of which I shall transmit as soon I can find a little time; but all this will have no effect: Commissaries of reputation must be procured—men that may be depended upon, and genteel pay allowed; unless we have such, the next campaign will be still more expensive in this article than the last; and I believe ten thousand pounds will not more than pay the waste and embezzlement.

Enclose you a letter from General *Arnold*. That gentleman has acquainted me with the contents. Congress will see that he agrees with me in the necessity of sending a Committee into that country.

I have employed persons to collect all the hard money in this quarter on my own personal security. I am in hopes of procuring two or three thousand pounds in that way; whatever the same may be, I shall immediately transmit it to General *Wooster*, who must stand in great need of it, as our paper money will not, by any means, pass. I am informed that our soldiers offer to pay three dollars for necessaries to the value of two only. This is an alarming circumstance, and I fear will be attended with no less consequence than that all the men whose time will expire in *April*, will leave *Canada*.

St. Luke la Corne arrived with Major *Melchior*, and some other prisoners are since come. I shall send them all to *Ulster* County, there to remain until the further orders of Congress.

I am this moment informed that some nails are arrived from *Canada*, and a considerable quantity are on their way.

The shipwrights, to construct the scows in *Hudson's River*, are not yet arrived. These vessels will be greatly wanted.

Colonel *Wynkoop* inclines to continue in the service. I

do not know an officer more attentive to his duty, and more careful of the publick stores.

None of Colonel *Burrell's* Regiment yet arrived.

A Mr. *Henry*, of this town, has, as he informs me, brought cloth sufficient for five hundred tents. If Congress should not have otherwise provided, this might be procured; but here are not a sufficient number of persons to be got to make them up.

I am, sir, most respectfully, and most sincerely, your obedient, humble servant,

PHILIP SCHUYLER.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, &c., &c.

Montreal, February 19, 1776.

SIR: The Paymaster has arrived, but has brought no hard cash with him. We can buy no provisions or wood with Continental currency, yet they must be had, and that before the middle of *March;* after that time, there will be no passing up and down this river for three or four weeks. Perhaps the expedition may fail for want of supplies. Flour may be purchased for nine livres per hundred weight. We ought to purchase a quantity of beef also. What we have will now soon be gone. I understand there is a quantity at *Ticonderoga*. I think it very necessary that it should be pushed over the Lake immediately. I need say nothing more than inform you that there is not one thousand left of the money which you sent us, and that will be gone in a very few days. I hope our friends will not suffer the enterprise to fall through for want of it.

I am told there is a Mr. *Brazier*, a gunner, at *Crown-Point*, who may be, doubtless, spared from there, and will be much wanted at *Quebeck*.

I shall be obliged to you if you will be good enough to inform me, whether there are any twelve or twenty-four-pound shot, or eight-inch shells, at *Ticonderoga* or *Crown-Point;* if there are, we shall be very glad to have them sent us; they will be much wanted. We have, at *St. John's*, a twenty-four-pound, and several twelve-pound cannon, and an eight-inch howitzer. It will not be worth while to take them to *Quebeck*, unless we have shot and shells for them.

I am, in haste, your most obedient, humble servant,

DAVID WOOSTER.

To Major-General *Schuyler*.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

Albany, February 23, 1776.

DEAR SIR: General *Wooster* has given me a very handsome character of Mr. *Melchior*. I should be guilty of injustice to the young gentleman, if I did not mention it to you. He was, also, recommended to my attention by Generals *Washington* and *Lee*.

I am, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

PHILIP SCHUYLER.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq., &c.

Worcester, Massachusetts, (Friday,) March 1, 1776.

We are told a gentleman, who came out of *Boston* last *Friday*, reports, that the enemy have taken away their mortars from *Bunker's Hill*, and carried them to *Boston;* that a Council of War had been held in *Boston* for several days; that General *Howe* had advised the Mandamus Counsellors to go to *England*, and the Tories to leave the town; that all the vessels in the harbour that were not in the King's service, were taken up to transport the Tories and their effects; and that it was surmised in *Boston*, that, should another battle ensue, and the Regulars be defeated, they would set fire to the town, and remove to some other part of the Continent.

It is a prevailing opinion that something extraordinary will turn up in the course of a few days.

NEW-HAMPSHIRE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Saturday, January 20, 1776.

The General Court of this Colony having appointed a new Committee of Safety, consisting of the following persons, viz: *Meshech Weare, Nathaniel Folsom, Ebenezer Thompson, Philips White, Josiah Moulton*, and *Pierce Long*, Esq., they proceeded to business.

Appointed the Honourable *Meshech Weare*, Chairman.

Ordered the Receiver-General to pay *Israel Morey* and *John Bellows*, Esquires, three thousand two hundred and eighty-seven Pounds twelve Shillings, being for two months wages of the Regiment now raising for *Canada*.

Ordered the Treasurer to pay *Morey* and *Bellows* aforesaid, six hundred and thirty Pounds, for procuring Provisions, Billeting, &c., for which they are to account.

Sunday, January 21, 1776.

Delivered Colonel *Waite*, four Warrants for Captains to inlist men, and Orders as Lieutenant-Colonel. Copies filed.

Delivered Colonels *Morey* and *Bellows*, Orders for procuring Necessaries for Colonel *Bedel's* Regiment. Copy filed.

Monday, January 29, 1776.

Met—not Members enough present to proceed to business.

Tuesday, January 30, 1776.

Took into consideration a Letter received from the Chairman of the Committee of *Portsmouth*, requesting leave for Captain *Sylvester* to load Boards for *Rhode-Island*, and determined the request could not be granted.

Ordered the Receiver-General to pay *Samuel Atkinson*, one Pound eleven Shillings, for his time and expenses going after Colonel *Bedel*.

Petitions being preferred by Captain *George Turner*, and Lieutenant *Thomas Pickering*, complaining of each other:

Determined that Major *George Gains* be desired to receive from Captain *George Plumer*, the Field-Pieces, together with the Stores belonging to them, and deposite the same in some safe place till further orders.

Ordered the Quartermaster to deliver Colonel *Morey* seven hundred and twenty Gun Flints, for the use of Colonel *Bedel's* Regiment.

Gave directions to Colonel *Morey* to request *Jonathan Blanchard*, Esq., to muster and pay Captain *Archelaus Town's* Company their advance money.

Wednesday, January 31, 1776.

Ordered the Receiver-General to pay Colonel *Thornton* and Captain *Moulton* the balance of their Account, for going as a Committee to wait on General *Washington*, four Pounds three Shillings and one Penny.

By desire of General *Sullivan*, gave an Order on the Receiver-General, to pay Major *Peter Coffin*, for advance to pay a Regiment raising under Colonel *John Waldron*, for which said *Sullivan* is to account, one thousand three hundred and ninety-eight Pounds eight Shillings.

Wrote to *Jonathan Blanchard* and *John Bellows*, Esqs., by express, to forward the inlisting Colonel *Bedel's* Regiment.

Ordered Colonels *Morey* and *Bellows* to pay each Soldier whom they should muster, being an able-bodied effective man, well accoutred, forty Shillings, lawful money, as a bounty and two months' pay to each Commissioned Officer; also, one month's pay to each non-Commissioned Officer, and a Soldier, at the rates established by the Continental Congress, and assist in providing for, and forwarding the Regiment with all speed; and make return of your doings with all speed to the General Court of this Colony, or Committee of Safety. You are likewise to observe that the Soldiers that receive the Colony Guns, are to be informed that they are to allow one dollar for the use of the same; and should they not return them at the end of the campaign, they are to allow therefor forty-five Shillings, lawful money, each; and the Officers are to take care that the above stoppages are made upon making up the Pay-Rolls. Those Guns manufactured in *New-Hampshire* to be sixty Shillings.

Wrote to *Thomas Sparhawk*, one of the late Commit tee of Supplies, to come and close his Account.

Gave Major *Welch* an order on the Receiver-General for one Pound, for going express to *Merrimack*.

Thursday, February 1, 1776.

Ordered Captain *Titus Salter* to deliver the Field-Pieces and Stores, lately took from Captain *Turner*, to him again, without delay.

Wrote to a number of Towns who have been deficient in sending in the number of Inhabitants, to do it without delay.

Ordered the Treasurer to pay *George Gains* the balance of his Account exhibited this day, amounting to sixty-nine Pounds five Shillings one and three-fourths of a Penny; his whole Account, not exhibited, because many bills out.

Ordered the Treasurer to pay Major *Gains*, to be by him accounted for, as Quartermaster, one hundred Pounds.

Ordered the Treasurer to pay Colonel *Morey* one thousand Pounds, to buy Snow Shoes, Blankets, Hatchets, and Rum, for the *Canada* Regiment.

—

Friday, February 2, 1776.

Spent in writing a number of Letters, and waiting for Colonel *Bedel*.

—

Saturday, February 3, 1776.

Filled up Continental Commissions for Colonel *Bedel's* Regiment.

Ordered the Receiver-General to pay *Theophilus Gilman*, for Axes and Hatchets, seventeen Pounds five Shillings.

Ordered ditto, to pay Messrs. *Thurstin & Jones*, for ditto, seven Pounds seven Shillings and six Pence.

Ordered ditto, to pay Messrs. *Rundlet & Son*, for ditto, twenty-eight Pounds seven Shillings and four and-a-half Pence.

Ordered ditto, to pay *Richard Champney*, for his expenses after Tin Kettles, one Pound two Shillings and ten Pence.

Gave orders to Colonel *Morey* to be Paymaster to Colonel *Bedel's* Company, Lieutenant *Thornton's*, and Ensign *Wheeler's*; and ordered the Treasurer to pay him one hundred and forty Pounds; likewise to pay Colonel *Morey* the balance of his Account, sixty-three Pounds seven Shillings and three Pence.

Gave orders to Major *Gains* to muster *Salter's* and *Daniels's* Company.

Adjourned to *Tuesday*, ten o'clock.

—

Tuesday, February 6, 1776.

Not Members enough present to proceed on business.

—

Wednesday, February 7, 1776.

Ordered the Treasurer to pay the Roll of Captain *Peter Coffin*, amounting to ninety-four Pounds twelve Shillings and five Pence, stopping from Captain *Coffin*, thirteen Pounds two Shillings.

—

Thursday, February 8, 1776.

Ordered the Treasurer to pay Captain *William Cooper*, his Pay-Roll, six Pounds seventeen Shillings and six Pence.

—

Friday, February 9, 1776.

Ordered the Receiver-General to pay Captain *Henry Elkins*, his Pay-Roll, one hundred and seventeen Pounds seven Shillings and four Pence.

Gave liberty to Captain *William Furnald* to proceed to *Philadelphia*, *Virginia*, *Maryland*, or *North-Carolina*, he giving a bond to the Committee of Safety of the Town of *Portsmouth*, with sureties, in a sufficient sum, that he will by no means break or intrude on any Resolve, or declaration of the Continental Congress.

Ordered the Receiver-General to pay Colonel *Ebenezer Folsom*, the amount of expenses of the *Indians* who came here from Head-Quarters, three Pounds two Shillings and five Pence.

—

Saturday, February 10, 1776.

Ordered the Treasurer to pay Mr. *Nicholas Nichols*, twenty-four Shillings, towards his expenses in transporting the *Indians*.

Ordered the Treasurer to pay Secretary, *Matthew Thornton*, his wages, and price of rations as made up in the Roll, amounting to eighteen Pounds nineteen Shillings and two Pence.

To the following persons, soldiers in *Osgood's* Company, the sums set against their names, being in full of their wages, exclusive of Coat money: *Andrew Healy*, three Pounds fifteen Shillings and three Pence; *Solomon Todd*, four Pounds nine Shillings and eight Pence; *John Wallace*, four Pounds nineteen Shillings and one Penny; *Stephen Bethel*, six Pounds eleven Shillings and nine Pence; *John Ryant*, nine Pound six Shillings and two Pence; *Duncan McGregor*, eight Pounds seventeen Shillings and two Pence; *Joseph Hatch*, seven Pounds thirteen Shillings and one Penny.

Ordered the Receiver-General to pay *Joseph Ayers*, to be by him accounted for out of his expense, in transporting the *Indians*, six Pounds.

Ordered the Treasurer to pay *Abner Chamberlin* the sum of sixteen Pounds eleven Shillings and four Pence, for going express to *Canada* to carry money to Colonel *Bedel*.

Ordered the Treasurer to pay Captain *James Osgood* his own wages, price of rations and stoppages, out of the soldiers' wages, accounted to his Pay-Roll; also the wages, &c., due to *Ezekiel Walker*, *George Kentfield*, *Supply Walker*, *Ebenezer Green*, *Nathaniel Eastman*, *Benjamin Heath*, *Leonard Herryman*, *Jonathan Johnson*, *Barnes Hazelton*, *Ezekiel Stickney*, *John Moore*, *Joseph Colby*, *Zephaniah Petty*, *Daniel Chandler*, *Jonathan Dresser*, *Abiel Messer*, *Daniel Emerson Cross*, *Thomas Spring*, *Archibald Sterling*.

Ordered the Receiver to pay Mr. *Theodore Carlton* ten Pounds three Shillings, for the expenses of *Indians*, &c., while at his house.

Ordered the Receiver-General, Mr. *Ebenezer Green*, to pay the following sums, being stoppages, viz:

To Captain *Parker*, fifty-two Pounds seven Shillings and six Pence.

To Colonel *Bedel's* Company, Lieutenant *Abner Palmer*, seventy-seven Pounds nineteen Shillings and seven Pence.

To Colonel *Bedel's* Staff-Roll, nineteen Pounds fourteen Shillings and one Penny.

Ordered the Receiver-General to pay Mr. *John Noble* six Shillings, for bringing a Letter from Head-Quarters from General *Washington*.

Ordered the Treasurer to pay Captain *John Parker* his wages, price of rations, and stoppages, amounting to one hundred and fifty-nine Pounds thirteen Shillings and ten Pence.

Also, Lieutenant *Asa Pattee's* wages, sixteen Pounds ten Shillings and seven Pence; *John Pattee*, ten Pounds nine Shillings and five Pence: *Joseph Harwel*, eleven Pounds three Shillings and ten Pence; *Alexander Packer*, eight Pounds seventeen Shillings and ten Pence; *William Duriah*, ten Pounds eleven Shillings and four Pence; *Samuel Packer*, ten Pounds six Shillings and six Pence; *James Thompson*, ten Pounds one Shilling and six Pence; *Stephen Lowell*, eight Pounds eight Shillings and three Pence; *Samuel Gault*, six Pounds fifteen Shillings and eight Pence; *Asa Pattee*, Jun., two Pounds two Shillings and nine Pence; *Samuel Smith*, four Pounds nine Shillings and nine Pence; *John Loring*, six Pounds nineteen Shillings and eleven Pence.

Ordered the Receiver-General to pay Colonel *Timothy Bedel*, seven hundred and eighty-five Pounds, lawful money, to be by him delivered to *Israel Morey*, Esq., to pay off the Troops at *Cohasset*.

Ordered the Receiver-General to pay *Tread Tracy* thirty-six Dollars, for bringing twelve thousand five hundred Dollars from *Philadelphia*, and delivering the same to said Receiver-General.

Ordered the Receiver-General to pay Colonel *Timothy Bedel* forty-eight Pounds nineteen Shillings and two Pence, lawful money, for supplying the sick of four Companies.

Ordered the Receiver-General to pay Colony *Timothy Bedel* fifty Pounds, lawful money, in Gold and Silver, to be by him accounted for.

Ordered the Receiver-General to pay Captain *James*

Osgood thirteen Pounds seven Shillings and six Pence, for expenses attending the sick of his Company.

Ordered the Receiver-General to pay *Pierce Long* one hundred Pounds, to be by him accounted for as Barrack-master.

—

Sunday, February 11, 1776.

Spent in fitting off despatches for Colonel *Morey*, Colonel *Bedel*, and the *Canada* Officers.

—

Tuesday, February 13, 1776.

Ordered the Receiver-General to pay Doctor *Josiah Gilman* his account for doctoring the *Indians*, one Pound six Shillings and nine Pence.

—

Wednesday, February 14, 1776.

Ordered the Receiver-General to pay *Samuel Brooks*, Jun., for his time, expenses and horse-hire, to *Hampton* and to *Portsmouth*, express, for a carriage and man, to carry the *Indians* to *Suncook*, it being very stormy, fourteen Shillings.

—

Thursday, February 15, 1776.

Ordered the Receiver-General to pay Captain *Titus Salter's* Roll to each man, respectively, he having accounted for three hundred and sixty-two Pounds eighteen Shillings and eleven Pence, per his Receipt to the Treasurer. Likewise, ordered him to pay his short Roll, of thirty-nine Pounds sixteen Shillings and nine Pence.

—

Friday, February 16, 1776.

Ordered the Receiver-General to pay *Samuel Cutts*, as Commissary, three hundred and twenty Pounds, to be by him accounted for.

—

Saturday, February 17, 1776.

Ordered the Receiver-General to pay *Nicholas Nichols* thirty-five Shillings, for Trucking while at *Portsmouth*.

Ordered the Receiver-General to pay Mr. *Benjamin Partridge* fourteen Pounds one Shilling and four and-a-half Pence, for placing Fire-Rafts, &c.

Ordered the Receiver-General to pay the Roll of Captain *David Copp*, for his Company at *Portsmouth*; at the same time to deduct out of Captain *Copp's* Roll three Pounds he received in advance, and forty Shillings paid Lieutenant *Gilman*.

Ordered the Receiver-General to pay Captain *Eliphalet Daniel's* Roll to each man, up to the 31st *December*, he having accounted for two hundred and thirty-four Pounds eighteen Shillings and ten Pence, received, as per his Roll, at the Treasury.

Ordered the Receiver-General to pay to Mr. *Richard Champney* for his time, horse-hire, and expenses, going to *Milton* after Paper to print Money on, three Pounds ten Shillings and six Pence.

Ordered the Receiver-General to pay off the Roll of Captain *Joseph Parsons*, for his Company at *Portsmouth*.

Ordered the Receiver-General to pay the Roll of Captain *Eliphalet Daniels* up to the 17th *February*, inclusive.

—

Thursday, February 22, 1776.

Ordered the Receiver-General to pay the Roll of Captain *Jacob Webster*; also, to pay Captain *Webster* two Pounds one Shilling and one Penny, for stoppages.

Ordered the Receiver-General to pay Captain *Titus Salter's* Roll, made up to the 16th *February*, inclusive.

Ordered the Receiver-General to pay Deacon *John Hill* seventy-one Pounds nineteen Shillings and six Pence, being the cost, after making the necessary deductions of two pair of Fire-Rafts, made at *Berwick*, and for delivering the same at *Portsmouth*.

Ordered the Receiver-General to pay Captain *Moses Baker* one hundred and twenty Pounds and six Pence, being the balance due on his Roll.

Ordered the Receiver-General to pay Lieutenant *Deering's* Roll, made up from the 11th to the 15th *November*, being four days only.

Ordered the Receiver-General to pay Captain *George Turner's* Roll, made from 15th *November*, 1775, to 15th *January*, 1776.

Ordered the Receiver-General to pay Captain *George Turner* his Roll, made from the 15th to the 30th *January*, at which time they were discharged.

Major *George Gains* made a return of the Soldiers mustered in Captain *Salter's* Company.

Do. of those in Captain *Daniels's* Company.

—

Friday, February 23, 1776.

Received a Letter from Captain *John Langdon* requesting some Powder for his Carpenters. In answer to which, we advised him that the Quartermaster should be ordered to deliver them half a hundred weight each out of the publick stock, at the time of danger, to be by them accounted for.

Ordered the Receiver-General to pay Major *Gains* forty-one Pounds seventeen Shillings and four and-a-half Pence, balance due per Account.

Ordered Major *Gains* to apply to Major *Hackett*, Mr. *John Marshall*, and Captain *John Hill*, to appraise the damages the Gondolas and Boats have sustained in the service of the Colony.

At the request of the proprietors of the Schooner privateer, called the *Enterprise*, we have appointed *Thomas Palmer* Commander, in the room of Captain *Daniel Jackson*, who has resigned.

Ordered the Receiver-General to pay Colonel *Jacob Gale* fourteen Pounds one Shilling and six Pence, being the amount of his Account for Shot, Hoes, &c.

Ordered the Receiver-General to pay Major *Gains*, to be accounted for, three hundred and seventy-five Pounds.

—

Saturday, February 24, 1776.

Captain *Benjamin Boardman* returned to the Receiver two Fire-Arms; likewise, four Pounds sixteen Shillings, cash, in lieu of two others not returned.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM A MEMBER OF THE PROVINCIAL CONGRESS OF NORTH-CAROLINA TO COLONEL HOWE, DATED HALIFAX, FEBRUARY 24, 1776.

A gentleman, of the name of *Smith*, has just now lodged seven of the leaders of the Regulators in *Halifax* jail, among whom are four of the *Fields*. The names of the others I do not know, but neither *Hunter* nor *Piles* are amongst them. He informs me that the insurrection is entirely suppressed with respect to the Regulators, and says he thinks the *Highlanders* are dispersed before now. I do not give implicit credit to this last-mentioned conjecture, because we have later accounts than Mr. *Smith's*, (who was only as low down, I believe, as *Chatham* Court-House,) which contradict it. However, it is clear to me that there will not be a gun fired upon this occasion; for the number of our troops (not less, perhaps, than five thousand) will, undoubtedly, awe the *Highlanders* into submission, if they are not already dispersed. Governour *Martin*, it seems, had kept up a correspondence with the disaffected in the western part of this Province, and formed a plan of insurrection, issued Colonels' commissions to many Counties for this purpose, and ordered that such men as should take arms should repair to the Royal standard, at *Brunswick*, by the 15th of this month, promising that they should be then and there supported by five thousand Regulars.

Your mind being relieved from all anxiety for us, you will be at full liberty to exert all your powers for the good of *Virginia*; and I flatter myself that your conduct will bring credit to your County, and honour to yourself.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO DELEGATES IN CONGRESS.

[No. 24.] Annapolis, February 24, 1776.

Gentlemen: We some time since informed you that we had appointed a number of persons, in each County of the Province, to collect all the gold and silver coin that can be got within this week, or ten days. We have had applications from several of those who were appointed to

furnish them with cash to exchange, without which, they tell us, many people will not part with the gold and silver. We would willingly supply Provincial money, but the state of our Treasury prevents us. The demands are very considerable for raising clothing, and paying the troops, and furnishing rations, to say nothing of other disbursements. If you do not send us down the plates and paper soon, the Treasury will be totally exhausted; therefore, we take the liberty again to remind you of forwarding them to us.

With regard to gold and silver, we think something handsome might be collected, but cannot say how much. Should the Congress approve of sending down Continental money, we will engage to return gold and silver for whatever they send, not exceeding eight thousand pounds, or to return the money again. Without this, we apprehend gold and silver cannot be procured, in any considerable quantity, until the new emission of our money, when we can supply the collectors with cash. We lay the affair truly before you, and must leave it to yourselves to move the Congress, or not, as you may think best. We wish to hear from you on every important occasion, and are much obliged to Mr. *Alexander* for the intelligence he hath been so kind as to communicate to us, from time to time.

Our troops are drawing together very fast. We should be glad to have the arms intended for this Province as soon as possible, that we may distribute them. The manufacture of guns goes on but slowly amongst us, from the best information we can get. Pray purchase, for the use of this Province, fifty reams of cartridge-paper, and send it to us by the first opportunity. We will remit the money as soon as we are furnished with the cost of it.

We are, &c.

To the Deputies of *Maryland* in Congress.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO COLONEL DASHIELL.

[No. 25.] Annapolis, February 24, 1776.

Sir: We received yours of the 10th instant, enclosing a list of officers for Captain *Wales's* Company, who, you say, have resigned. This may be the case, but the Council of Safety think it not regular to issue new commissions, until the old ones are transmitted to us, and, therefore, have not sent them. We have before us, also, a petition from the *Eden-School* Company, for a change of officers. Their Captain, *Andrew Adams*, they allege, had a commission made out by the Convention surreptitiously and fraudulently. This, we think, ought most properly to be referred to the Convention themselves, which will meet again in *April*, and all parties will then have an opportunity of being heard. We cannot think of displacing officers appointed by the Convention, without a full hearing, and we recommend an application to them, as most proper, under all circumstances; and are, your most, &c.

To Colonel *George Dashiell*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO QUEEN-ANNE'S COUNTY COMMITTEE.

[No. 26.] Annapolis, February 24, 1776.

Gentlemen: We have received your letter, respecting the Minute Company under the command of Captain *Kent*, and are much obliged to you for communicating to us the contents of this letter.

We conceived, some time ago, that it might be advisable to write to Captain *Kent* on the principal subjects he has mentioned in his letter, and have accordingly wrote, and are in great hopes he will thereby receive every satisfaction we have it in our power to afford.

To the Committee of Observation, *Queen-Anne's* County.

J. A. THOMAS TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Leonardtown, February 24, 1776.

Gentlemen: At the time I waited on you at *Annapolis*, I gave orders to Mr. *Stewart*, the First Lieutenant of my company, to be at *Leonardtown*, with the party of thirty men, which he returned to me, on *Tuesday* last, but have heard not a word, either of him or the men, since that time. The men inlisted by me are now here, supported by Mr. *Ford*, and we are endeavouring to instruct them as fast as possible we can. I am sorry to request that you will interfere in the business, and order Mr. *Stewart* down, with the thirty men that he has inlisted.

Information was lodged this day with the Committee, that two men, well dressed, were passing through this County, who, from their appearance and behaviour, the Committee had reason to suspect. They, therefore, requested me to send after them, which I immediately did; but the two men that I sent were delayed a considerable time, from the difficulty of procuring horses. I would beg you to consider whether, as it will be frequently necessary to advise you of what may be passing here, and the numberless occasions we must have, it would not be proper to allow a horse for the use of the company. If you think it proper, be pleased to acquaint me by Mr. *Neale*, who will deliver you this. I have, also, to request that you will send me about one hundred pounds, the money that I last received being all expended in board, blankets, clothes, and neither of the two last yet fully got. Mr. *Neale* also brings up seven gun-locks, sent by the Committee, and six purchased here by me, the account of which Mr. *Neale* will deliver. We have, as yet, received no powder from *Charles* County, and, from what I hear, there is no reason to expect any. I am much afraid we shall be pushed for a drummer and fifer. I have been informed by Mr. *Davidson*, the Second Lieutenant, that there is a servant in *Baltimore*, who has two years to serve, who is a good fifer, which he will sell for fifteen pounds, or thereabout; as his wages in one year would pay that sum, and find his clothes, I should be much obliged to you to allow me to purchase him. Of the several matters be pleased to inform me by Mr. *Neale*.

I am, gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servant,

J. A. Thomas.

To the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

NEW-JERSEY PROVINCIAL CONGRESS TO CONTINENTAL CONGRESS.

[Read February 26, 1776.—Referred to Mr. McKean, Mr. J. Adams, and Mr. L. Morris.]

In Provincial Congress, New-Jersey, Brunswick, February 24, 1776.

Gentlemen: This Congress having taken into their serious consideration the necessity of defending such parts of this Colony as are more immediately exposed to an invasion of the enemy, are of opinion, that the city of *Perth-Amboy*, in *East-Jersey*, from its open channel and safe harbour, and from its local situation, is a place deserving the utmost attention at this time. As the city of *New-York* has, at present, a large body of troops, and fortifications are now erecting for its defence, it is more than probable that the enemy, sensible of these preparations, will attempt a lodgment at *Perth-Amboy*, from whence incursions might easily be made into the heart of the country, before a sufficient force can be collected to oppose them.

That part of *West-Jersey*, which is situate on the River *Delaware*, below *Philadelphia*, appears also to merit great attention at this time. Opposite to *Reedy-Island*, at a place called *Elsenborough*, in the County of *Salem*, a landing might easily be effected. This is within forty miles of *Philadelphia*, in a country abounding with provisions; and from whence an army might easily make its way to *Cooper's* Ferry, in a very short space of time.

This Congress would be happy if they had it in their power to take into pay a sufficient body of troops for the defence of both these important posts; but as this will be an expense too great for this Colony to support on its own bottom, and as the being guarded at all points is a matter of the utmost importance to the common cause, more especially to the cities of *Philadelphia* and *New-York*, this Congress beg leave to submit to the consideration of your honourable House the urgent necessity of making some immediate preparation to prevent any attempts of the enemy to land an army in those parts of this Province, which appear to be so situated as greatly to facilitate the success of such an attempt. One or two battalions, with two Artillery companies, may be sufficient for this important service; and we humbly submit to your consideration the necessity and propriety of such a step being immediately adopted.

We wish not to send this Continent to this expense for the sole defence of the inhabitants of this Colony; but the interest of this Colony in particular being so connected with that of the *United Colonies* in general, as to render an invasion in *New-Jersey* a matter of the utmost importance to all, we humbly conceive that the necessity of the occasion will induce the wisdom of your honourable House to take into Continental pay two battalions and two companies of Artillery, or such a body of forces as may be thought sufficient to answer this desirable purpose.

The express, by which this is forwarded, will wait your commands; and I am to request the favour of an answer as soon as possible. I am, likewise, to request that commissions may be sent for the officers of the Third Battalion; some of the companies are already full, and others in a fair way.

I am, gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servant,
Signed by order of Congress:

SAMUEL TUCKER, *President.*

To the Honourable Continental Congress.

To the Honourable Provincial Congress of NEW-YORK, *now convened.*

The Memorial of your Memorialist, humbly sheweth:

That your memorialist has had the honour of serving as First Lieutenant in Captain *John Lamb's* company of Artillery, in the late expedition against *Canada;* that he has been at great expense in preparing himself for that service; that he has put himself out of all other business for that purpose, and that he has endured a very tedious and fatiguing campaign in the defence of his country. Your memorialist continuing zealously desirous of serving his country, in her present struggle for liberty, humbly requests that your honourable House will appoint him to the care of a company of Artillery; and your memorialist, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

JOSEPH CRANE.

New-York, February 24, 1776.

ROBERT H. HARRISON TO WILLIAM WATSON.

Cambridge, February 24, 1776.

SIR: Your favour to his Excellency of the 22d, came to hand. Enclosed is a pass for Captain *James Hall* and *Jonathan Grindle*, to pass to *Virginia*, if they choose to go before trial, recommending to his care the articles that will be necessary for the men-of-war, and every thing else that is on board the prize. Ordered the *Harrison* out of commission, and that particular care be taken of every article belonging to the Continent on board.

The owner received one hundred and fifty-six dollars, to be taken notice of when you settle with him. The crew are permitted to remain on board, if not attended with risk, provided they cannot get employ, before the trial is decided.

I am, sir, yours, &c.,

ROBERT H. HARRISON.

To *William Watson*, Esq., *Plymouth.*

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO COLONEL WATERS.

[No. 27.] Annapolis, February 25, 1776.

SIR: Enclosed we send you the commissions for two companies of Militia, agreeable to the enrolments sent us. We have not sent any commission for Captain *McClester* or his officers, because there are no more than fifty persons enrolled, non-commissioned officers and privates included, which is not sufficient, without the enrolment be made by the special permission of the Committee of Observation. You will send us that permission, and the commission shall be transmitted you. We are, &c.

To Colonel *Peter Waters.*

MARYLAND DELEGATES TO COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Philadelphia, February 25, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Mr. *Alexander Ross*, a gentleman of our acquaintance, has applied to us to procure for him, from Congress, a passport to Lord *Dunmore*, upon whom, he says, he has a very considerable claim, which he hopes he should be able to secure, could he have an opportunity of making a personal demand.

From the multiplicity of business now before the Congress, an application of this kind would be attended with great delay, and, as a license from your honourable Board will be, at least, as effectual, we take the liberty of recommending him to your indulgence, being well persuaded he will religiously observe any injunction you may think proper to lay him under.

We are, gentlemen, your most obedient servants,

J. ROGERS,
ROBERT ALEXANDER.

To the Council of Safety of *Maryland.*

LORD STIRLING TO WILLIAM LIVINGSTON.

[Referred to Mr. Chase and others.]

New-York, February 25, 1776.

DEAR SIR: The enclosed affidavits were this day delivered to me by Mr. *Michael Kearney*, who was proprietor of the boat *York*, of *Amboy*, which was impressed into the Continental service, and made use of in taking the ship *Blue-Mountain-Valley*, and which boat, it seems, is seized and detained by Captain *Parker* as a prize, on the pretence of her having been employed on that service. I have encouraged Mr. *Kearney* to hope that the Congress will not suffer his private property to be injured on this occasion, and that his loss will be made up to him out of the proceeds of the ship and cargo. I must beg the favour of you to lay his case before Congress, and to obtain their final answer on this matter as soon as possible, as his attendance at *Philadelphia* will tend to increase his damage.

I am your most humble servant,

STIRLING.

To *William Livingston*, Esq.

City of NEW-YORK, *ss.*

David Collins, late master of the *Amboy* passage-boat called the *York*, and *Nathan Culver*, one of the hands belonging to the said boat, being duly sworn on the Holy Evangelists of Almighty *God*, depose and say: That they sailed from *Amboy*, aforesaid, with the said boat, on *Monday* last past, about eleven of the clock, in the forenoon, having on board nothing but passengers bound to this city; that about four of the clock, in the afternoon of the same day, as they were nearly entering the Narrows, a gun was fired at them from His Majesty's ship, the *Phenix*, then at anchor under *Long-Island* shore, a little below *Demesse's Reef;* that the deponents still kept on, in hopes of getting clear of the said ship, but, being pursued by one of the barges, which also kept firing at them, and the wind being very light, they found it impossible to escape; that they then were as near *Staten-Island* shore as it was possible for them to go, and the wind directly on shore, and the barge gaining upon them at a great rate; and being under the command of the *Phenix's* guns, they were obliged to bring to, and the barge's crew coming on board, carried the said passage-boat alongside of the *Phenix*, and still have her in possession; that these deponents did every thing in their power to prevent the said boat from being taken, and should have been happy in escaping, and were not, directly, nor indirectly, concerned in any steps that occasioned the said boat being taken. And further saith not.

DAVID COLLINS,
NATHAN CULVER.

Sworn this 24th day of *February*, 1776, before me,

P. MATTHEWS.

And the said *David Collins* further saith: That on being carried on board the said ship-of-war, the *Phenix*, Captain *Parker*, who commands the said ship, told the deponent that the only cause of his taking the said passage-boat was because she had been employed in taking the store-ship that was lately carried to *Elizabethtown-Point.*

DAVID COLLINS.

Sworn this 24th day of *February*, 1776, before me,

P. MATTHEWS.

PHILADELPHIA, *ss.*

On the 9th day of *March*, Anno Domini 1776, before *George Bryan*, one of the Justices of the Peace in and for

the City and County of *Philadelphia*, cometh *Michael Kearney*, of the city of *Perth-Amboy*, in *New-Jersey*, and on his solemn oath on the Holy Gospels deposeth and saith: That the passage-boat, or sloop, in the preceding affidavits called the *York*, was the property of this deponent at the time of the seizure thereof in said affidavits set forth, and that the said passage-boat was of the value of three hundred pounds, current money of *New-York*. And further this deponent saith not.

MICHAEL KEARNEY, JUN.

Taken and sworn the day and year afore-written, before,
GEORGE BRYAN.

GENERAL WOOSTER TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Montreal, February 25, 1776.

SIR: Your favour of the 27th ultimo I have received, and nothing but want of time, when proper opportunities presented, has prevented my answering it sooner.

I am fully sensible of the importance of reducing *Quebeck*, and keeping possession of this Province, for the accomplishing of which you may depend upon my utmost exertions. I am, also, with you, fully of opinion that the Ministry will send a powerful armament here in the spring, for which reason I think it of almost infinite importance that we have a large army here, properly provided, early, to oppose them upon their first arrival; indeed, it appears to me that our every thing in this Province depends upon it. If we have the greatest force, we have the *Canadians* our friends; on the other hand, should our enemies arrive with a superior force to ours, I fear the consequences may be fatal.

I cannot learn from General *Schuyler* that we are like to have any cannon, mortars, shot, or shells, from across the Lake, and, as we have not here proper cannon, &c., for cannonading of *Quebeck*, I rather imagine we shall be obliged to try once more by assault, which, notwithstanding the late unhappy repulse, I think must be successful, when attempted by three or four thousand good men. However, every other method will be first tried.

Troops are now daily coming in, and I hope, in a few days, to be able to leave this place and join General *Arnold*, who has, to his great honour, kept up the blockade with such a handful of men, that the story, when told hereafter, will be scarcely credited. He is now so reinforced as to be out of danger from a sortie.

Be pleased to accept of my best wishes for your success and happiness, and believe me, with the greatest respect, your most obedient, and very humble servant,

DAVID WOOSTER.

To General *Washington*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GENERAL SCHUYLER.

Cambridge, February 25, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Notwithstanding I have adopted every measure which my judgment directed for procuring arms in these Governments, for the Army under my command, as well by application to the several Assemblies and Conventions, as by sending officers to the several towns to purchase, I am under the disagreeable and melancholy necessity of informing you that there is, at this important crisis, a very great deficiency, and that there is now a considerable number of men at these encampments without any in their hands, nor do I know that there is any prospect or probability of providing them. Can you, my dear sir, assist me with any from your parts? If you can procure or purchase any in the towns, fit for use, I beg that you will do it, and have them forwarded with all possible expedition to me; I will pay for them immediately on delivery, and the charges of bringing them. I am told that a Major *Duncan*, at *Schenectady*, has about three hundred King's arms; these, or such of them as are good and serviceable, will be of great use, and I doubt not may be readily procured. If they can, I request that they may, and be forwarded, with any others that you may get, with the price. I would not be thus pressing and thus importunate, were it not for my situation, which is truly alarming and distressing: to be within musket-shot of a formidable army, well provided with every necessary, without having the means, on my part, of maintaining even a defensive war.

Relying on your friendship, and that every thing in your power will be done to serve me, I shall only add, that I am, dear sir, with great regard, your affectionate, humble servant,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To General *Schuyler*.

KING-WILLIAM COUNTY (VIRGINIA) COMMITTEE.

At a Committee held for *King-William* County, the 22d day of *February*, 1776.

Captain *Benjamin Temple* having informed the Committee that a report has been propagated much to his prejudice, respecting his conduct as to the raising of men in this County for the Minute service:

Ordered, At the instance of said *Temple*, that it is the unanimous opinion of this Committee that he hath used every effort and endeavour in his power, as far as they know or believe, towards the promotion of said service, and are fully convinced that every such report is without a just foundation.

Ordered, That a copy of the above Resolution be transmitted to the Publick Printer of this Colony, who is requested to put the same in the *Virginia Gazette*.

JOHN WATKINS, *Clerk*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO CAPTAIN HINDMAN.

[No. 28.] Annapolis, February 26, 1776.

SIR: We have received yours of the 25th instant, signifying Mr. *Edmondson's* refusing to accept of his commission.

The Council do not incline to make any changes among the officers commissioned by the Convention, but wish to have a recommendation from you of a proper person to fill the place of Mr. *Edmondson*. We have agreed with some of the officers to allow twenty shillings for each pair of leather breeches furnished the troops, and the remainder of the price to be deducted out of the men's wages.

The Council apprehend the Captains of the Independent Companies are to provide clothing for their men, and have agreed to allow Captain *J. A. Thomas* a sum not exceeding three pounds five shillings each suit, and hope you will be able to clothe your men at that price. We think the price of the hats ought not to exceed five shillings and six pence each hat, but cheaper, if to be got. As to blankets, they will be provided as soon as possible. If you can purchase osnaburghs for making hunting-shirts at two shillings per yard, we recommend it to you to get so much as will be sufficient for your company, and have them made up as soon as you can. We are, &c.

To Captain *James Hindman*.

DORCHESTER COUNTY COMMITTEE TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Dorchester County, Cambridge, February 26, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: We this day received your letter of the 21st instant, and the Committee being sitting, agreeable to your request took the matter mentioned therein into consideration, and are of opinion that the town of *Cambridge* is the most convenient and proper place for the Independent Company of this County to be stationed in. It is the most central place in the County, and the company may, with great ease and conveniency, march from thence to any part of the County that may happen to be attacked, which they could not so readily do should they be posted any where else; and we also think it would be very difficult to accommodate them in any other place than in this neighbourhood. These, among others, are the reasons why we prefer *Cambridge* to any other part of the country.

We are, very respectfully, gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servants. Signed per order:

JAMES MURRAY, *Chairman*.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

CHARLES COUNTY (MARYLAND) COMMITTEE.

At a meeting of the Committee of Observation for *Charles* County, on *Monday*, the 26th *February*, 1776: Brigadier-General *John Dent*, Chairman, and *John Gwinn*, Clerk.

*

The following gentlemen are recommended as Officers, to be commissioned to fill up the vacancies of the late Company of Colonel *William Harrison*, to wit: *William Winter*, Jun., Captain; *George Dent*, Jun., First Lieutenant; *John S. Chilton*, Second Lieutenant; and *William Barker*, Ensign; and, in consequence of a letter of resignation received from *John S. Chilton*, the Committee thought proper to recommend *Burdit Hamilton* in his stead.

Ditto, for the late Company of Major *John Marshall: Benjamin Philpot*, Captain; *Henry Dent*, First Lieutenant; *Burford Cottrell*, Second Lieutenant; and *Philip Marshall*, Ensign.

Ditto, for the late Company of Colonel *Samuel Harrison: William McPherson*, Captain; *Peter Green*, First Lieutenant; *Thomas Green*, Jun., Second Lieutenant; and *Leonard Hamilton*, Ensign.

Ditto, for the late Company of Colonel *Francis Ware: Walter Hanson*, of *John*, Captain; *Thomas Simms*, First Lieutenant; *Jos. W. Harrison*, Second Lieutenant; and *John Beal Twener*, Ensign.

Ditto, for the late Company of Colonel *Josias Hawkins: John Hanson*, Youngest, Captain; *Henry Massey Hanson*, First Lieutenant; *James Russell*, Second Lieutenant; and *John Griffin*, Ensign.

Ditto, for the late Company of Major *Thomas Harris: Jonathan Yates*, Captain; *Richard Hendly Courts*, First Lieutenant; *John Neall*, Second Lieutenant; and *Raphael Boarman*, Jun., Ensign.

Ditto, for the late Company of Captain *William Campbell: Walter Winter*, Captain; *Richard Bennett Boarman*, First Lieutenant; *Jonathan Thomas*, Second Lieutenant; and *Nehemiah Gibbons*, Ensign.

Ditto, for the late Company of Captain *John H. Stone: George Swann*, Captain; *John Gwinn*, First Lieutenant; *Michael Stone*, Second Lieutenant; and *William Lamar*, Ensign.

Mr. *James Farnandis*, who was First Lieutenant to Captain *Robert Sennett's* Company, having entered into the regular service, made a recommendation of Officers necessary for that Company, and the following gentlemen are recommended, to wit: *John Muschett*, First Lieutenant; *William McConkie*, Second Lieutenant; and *Samuel Stone*, Jun., Ensign.

To fill up the vacancies in the Company lately commanded by General *John Dent: Henry Ward*, Captain; *George Dent*, First Lieutenant; *Thomas McCartie*, Second Lieutenant; and *John Grant*, Ensign; were recommended by a majority of thirty-two privates of the said Company, met for that purpose.

The Committee think proper to recommend to the honourable the Council of Safety, Captain *Thomas Hanson Marshall*, who lives in the Hundred to which the said Company belongs, but is not one of that Company, having enrolled in a neighbouring one of Militia. *Henry Ward*, who is above recommended by the said Company for Captain, was chosen Second Lieutenant by a former election, and, in the judgment and opinion of the Committee, it would tend most to the publick service for the honourable Council of Safety to commission the said *Thomas Hanson Marshall*, Captain for the said Company; *George Dent*, First Lieutenant; *Henry Ward*, Second Lieutenant; and *John Grant*, Ensign.

The honourable Council of Safety are requested to inquire of Colonel *William Smallwood* for a recommendation of Officers for the Company he commanded.

Signed by order: JOHN GWINN, *Clerk*.

In Committee, Port-Tobacco, February 26, 1776.

Resolved, That every Member of this Committee produce, by the first *Tuesday* in *April* next, of his own manufacturing, six pounds of crude Nitre, under the penalty of twelve Shillings currency.

Signed by order: JOHN GWINN, *Clerk*.

COLONEL BARTLETT TO MESHECH WEARE.

Philadelphia, February 26, 1776.

SIR: The enclosed order of Congress, of the 23d instant, I am directed to transmit to our Colony, and I make no doubt (if they have not already) they will speedily comply with the recommendations.

The necessity of arms and ammunition for our defence, and the danger of disappointment, shows the necessity of our using our utmost efforts to be supplied as much as may be within ourselves. And though I can, with pleasure, inform you that large quantities of powder and saltpetre have arrived here, and more is daily expected, yet, as we have reason to believe that as soon as the spring opens, our harbours will be much infested by the *British* cruisers, who have orders to seize all *American* vessels, and as large quantities of military stores will be wanted for sea, as well as land service, I humbly conceive it will be prudent to endeavour to supply ourselves with the necessaries of life and defence within ourselves, and leave as little to the uncertainty of winds, weather, and enemies, as possible, at least for the present.

You will please, sir, to see that the several orders of our Convention or Assembly for manufacturing arms, gunpowder, and saltpetre, be transmitted to me, and an account of what has been done in consequence of such orders, as it is necessary the Congress should know, as soon as may be, the true state of all the Colonies, with regard to their supplying themselves with these necessary articles; and when our Assembly meets, you will please to lay these resolves before them, and, in the mean time, communicate them to the Council or Committee of Safety, or whoever they have left to transact business in their recess.

I am, your most obedient servant,

JOSIAH BARTLETT.

To the Honourable *Meshech Weare*, Esq.

TO THE AUTHOR OF COMMON SENSE.

New-Jersey, February 26, 1776.

SIR: In your famous pamphlet, entitled *Common Sense*, by which I am convinced of the necessity of independency, to which I was before averse, you have given liberty to every individual to contribute materials for that great building, the grand charter of *American* liberty. I shall, therefore, venture to lay before you and the publick, a few hints, as they may occur to my mind, not having seen your second edition. And, for reasons already published, must consider independency as that which must take place in a few months at farthest; the temper, and fixed designs of the King, Ministry, and Parliament of *Great Britain*, being incompatible with the safety of these Colonies in any other way. Nor are we under any obligations to the contrary, from any thing contained in either of the petitions to the King, as some vainly argue, because they have both been rejected by him, to whom alone they were addressed: and that rejection sealed by the blood of many of the Colonists, who, being treated like Rebels, have been murdered while innocent. Of this number are General *Montgomery*, and all those brave men slain in this war, whose lives might have been saved by the King's having immediately put a stop to all hostilities, as soon as he received our last petition. For I can truly affirm, that the death of one *American*, whose life might have been saved by the King's immediate compliance with that petition, is sufficient to discharge *America* forever from any obligations to reconciliation on that account. But, to return, it is the custom of wise architects to lay their foundations deep, lest the basis should sink from under the superstructure. Should this letter point out one good stone for that purpose, though it were placed under ground, I am amply rewarded for my trouble.

Equality in strength, riches, and honours, are necessary to safety, mutual confidence, and friendship. Hence, the so much talked of balance of power in *Europe*, so necessary to the safety of those countries, but more especially of the weaker kingdoms and states. Hence, also, those common proverbs, "the poor is despised of his neighbour;" and "the weakest goes to the wall." *Æsop's* iron and earthern pots cannot swim with safety together. Therefore, let it be the work of your Continental Conference to set bounds to their claim as an associated Continent, which ought to include, at least, the thirteen at present associated Colonies, with those of *Quebeck* and *Nova-Scotia*. Then, let there be at least three new Colonies formed, viz: *Montreal*, *Albany*, and *Susquehannah*. *Montreal* may be formed by dividing *Canada* into two Colonies by a line running from south to north, and crossing *St. Lawrence*

between *Montreal* and the *Three-Rivers*. The Province of *New-York* is at present too long and too large for convenience in Government, as the Deputies, in the extremities of it, at some seasons especially, cannot be so soon convened as urgent necessity might require; for *Hillsborough*, which lies twenty miles north of *Crown-Point*, is three hundred miles distant from *New-York*, the half of which distance ends about fifteen miles below *Albany;* near that place, let the Province be intersected by a line running thence west to *Delaware-River*, and east to *Connecticut-River*, through part of *Massachusetts;* thence northerly, up said river to the latitude of *Hillsborough;* thence west, crossing Lake *Champlain*, till it meets a line running north from the west end of the south line first mentioned. This Colony, to be named *Albany*, will include the lands in dispute between *New-York* and *New-Hampshire*, and, by taking them away from both, will settle that matter so far as it respects Government. The like dispute will be settled by forming a Colony on *Susquehannah*, to include all those lands contended for by *Connecticut* and *Pennsylvania*. The reason for dividing *Canada* is the same as that for *New-York*. All the Colonies in *New-England* must undergo some alteration in their boundaries, because *Rhode-Island* bears no proportion to that of *Massachusetts-Bay*, the former not having sixty thousand inhabitants, while the latter hath four hundred thousand, an odds of near seven to one, and a much greater difference in their extent of territory; while *Connecticut* has one hundred and ninety-two thousand, and *New-Hampshire*, one hundred and fifty thousand; therefore, let about two Counties on the north of *Connecticut* be taken from *Massachusetts*, and added to *Connecticut*, so as to join that Colony on the north to that of *Albany;* and in lieu of this addition, let *Connecticut* spare from its east side, the Counties of *Windham* and *New-London*, to *Rhode-Island*, which Colony may also be further increased by the addition of one County more from the *Massachusetts*, lying next to *Connecticut* and *Rhode-Island*, after which, if the *Bay* is still too strong for her neighbours, take part from her on the other side, and annex it to *New-Hampshire;* still remembering to leave her a little superior to them, for she is worthy, as our elder sister, and the nurse and defender of *American* liberty. Let the bounds of the more Southern Colonies also be ascertained, either as they now are, or more advantageously; perhaps by forming a second tier on the back of the first, leaving *Pennsylvania* and *Virginia*, each, equal to *Massachusetts;* and let the name of dominion be reprobated in *Virginia*, or assumed in all the other Colonies. All these new boundary lines to be so run as not much to incommode any particular Town or County. To this scheme of assizing the Colonies, it may be objected, that the Delegates in Conference from those Colonies which will thereby be lessened, will oppose such alteration, and that the rest of them will not presume on so arbitrary a stretch of power, as to proceed therein without their consent. Let such objectors consider, that the strength and happiness of *America* must be Continental, and not Provincial, and that whatever appears to be for the good of the whole, must be submitted to by every part; this holds true, and ought to be a governing maxim in all societies. Neither will there, on such alteration, arise any considerable inconvenience to any one Colony, which will not be fully atoned for by a convenience arising from the same. So that I conceive the objection is removed. The benefits arising from equality in the Colonies, are too apparent to need further elucidation, among which, an equal representation in Congress is none of the smallest.

The reason why *Canada* and *Nova-Scotia* must be included in the Continental compact, is, that they cannot be happy without being so, as we shall be obliged to treat them in some measure as our enemies, till they are; nor is there any thing sufficient to hinder them from joining us immediately, but their fear of *Great Britain*, they being both under the dreadful tyranny of martial law, from which they would soon emerge were they properly assisted by Continental troops, *Deo co-operante*. That good work, I hope, is almost already completed in *Canada*, and may be repeated in *Nova-Scotia*.

At the meeting of the first Congress, after the Charter is formed, as proposed in *Common Sense*, let a just return be carried in by the Delegates of each Colony then in the Association, of all the Militia resident in their respective Colonies, including Continental troops of all kinds, being free white men, from sixteen years to fifty, and their returns to be made annually. From this annual return, let the Grand Congress ascertain the number of Delegates to be elected in the several Colonies for the ensuing year, yearly, as one is to one thousand. So that, if the return of the Militia in *New-Jersey*, be twenty-six thousand, this Colony will, the ensuing year, send twenty-six members to Congress, and so of the rest; the whole Congress consisting of about five hundred members, who are to give their votes in Congress personally, not by Colonies. The number of Deputies in each Provincial Assembly, to be chosen annually by towns, as one to two hundred Militia, through the Colony, no town, however small, to send less than one. So that *New-Jersey*, on the above supposition, will have an Assembly of one hundred and thirty members. These large Assemblies will be acquainted with all the material circumstances of their constituents. Delegates to the Continental Congress to be elected by ballot, in the several Counties, the number each County is to elect to be ascertained by the Provincial Assembly according to the above rule, no County sending less than one. Every free man, above the age of twenty-one years, having had a deed for lands for the space of one year, immediately preceding the election, or having in his possession either real or personal estate to the value of one hundred dollars, to have a vote in either of the above elections. Widows, paying taxes, to have an equal right to vote as men of the same property. Every person excluded by the above rules from a share in the choice of Representatives, to be exempted from paying taxes raised for the support of legislation; but of County, Town, and Poor Rates, &c., raised for such like social purposes, they shall be liable to pay a just proportion.

Hints on the regulation of the Continental Militia, which, at a moderate computation, are about five hundred thousand, &c., may be given in some future letter, from, honoured sir, your great admirer and advocate,

ESSEX.

RICHMOND COUNTY (NEW-YORK) COMMITTEE TO PROVINCIAL CONGRESS.

Richmond County, February 26, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: In consequence of your letter, dated *February* 21st, three of our Committee went to *Elizabethtown*, and applied to the Chairman of the Committee, for the inhabitants of our County then in their prison to be returned. Said Chairman, knowing not by what authority Colonel *Heard* and Colonel *Thomas* had taken them in custody, referred the matter to said Colonels. Accordingly, one of our Committee went to *Woodbridge*, waited on the Colonels, who then promised the prisoners should be delivered up with the charge alleged against them. On returning to *Elizabethtown*, Colonel *Thomas* informed our Committee-men, that he could not then furnish them with the charges, but would send the prisoners on *Saturday* morning, under a guard, to be delivered at *Richmondtown*, with the charges, to our Committee. Accordingly, our Committee attended at the time and place, in order to receive them, but none appeared. The Committee then adjourned till this day; when, being assembled, Mr. *Isaac Decker* appeared, informed the Committee that on *Saturday* last, at sun-set, the Sheriff of *Elizabethtown* opened the prison door, desired said *Isaac Decker* and *Minno Burger* to wait on Colonel *Thomas*, which they accordingly did. Said Colonel then told them, that on promising they would appear this day before the Committee in the County of *Richmond*, he would discharge them. Accordingly *Isaac Decker* has appeared; *Minno Burger*, unwell, could not appear. Our Committee is at a loss how to act; the above Colonel has not sent any charge against them. We shall, therefore, wait your direction. *Richard Connor*, Esq., on giving his obligation to Colonel *Thomas* to appear when called upon, was admitted to return home before your letter came to hand; said obligation has not been returned to us, nor any charge against him. *Abraham Starrow*, we are informed, is detained in prison on account of a debt.

We are, gentlemen, your most obedient and most humble servants. By order of the Committee:

CHRISTIAN JACOBSON.

P. S. The foregoing have, by reason of bad weather, been detained; have this day received from Col. *Thomas* the accusation against the prisoners; we shall proceed to trial as soon as possible. C. J.

February 28.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read March 5, 1776.]

Albany, February 26, 1776.

SIR: I do myself the honour to enclose you a copy of a letter this moment received from General *Wooster*, by the bearer of this, whom the General sends express to Congress.

I have ordered one hundred and fifty stall-fed oxen to be bought, and have taken such measures as that I hope to get them in *Canada* soon, and make them draw so much provisions as will pay for their forage, and the sleds that I must purchase for the occasion. I hope to send the General some money to-morrow, together with four hundred barrels of pork, and the cannon, cannon-shot, and shells, &c. What shall I do for blankets and arms for the *Pennsylvania*, *New-Jersey*, and *Connecticut* troops? The latter will arrive in a few days.

I am, sir, most respectfully, your obedient and humble servant,

PHILIP SCHUYLER.

Montreal, February 21, 1776.

SIR: The Paymaster has arrived, but has brought nothing but paper money. Our flour is nearly expended; we have not more than enough for the army one week. We can purchase no provisions or wood, or pay for transporting of any thing, without hard cash. We are now not able to pay half the debts we owe the country people. Our credit sinks daily; all the provisions and wood that we want for the army, for two or three months to come, must be purchased and transported to camp by the middle of *March*; after that time there will probably be no passing for a month or six weeks; these things, therefore, must be provided immediately, or the consequence will be dreadful. I have, therefore, sent Mr. *Cole* (a young gentleman from *Quebeck*, who I have employed as a Secretary) on purpose to hasten the forwarding of specie, as a few days may be of infinite consequence.

I am, sir, your most obedient and very humble servant,

DAVID WOOSTER.

JAMES DEANE TO GENERAL SCHUYLER.

[Enclosed in General Schuyler's, February 26, 1776.—Referred to Mr. Rutledge, Mr. Wythe, Mr. W. Livingston.]

Kanonwarohare, February 24, 1776.

SIR: The *Indians* who went to attend the meeting lately held at *Niagara* are returned, and say that Mr. *Butler* spoke nothing to them but of peace. I expect there will be a general meeting of the *Six-Nations* held very soon, at their Central Council-House. The *Oneidas* are already sent to, to hold themselves in readiness to attend. The *Onondagas* have advised to postpone sending for Mr. *Butler* till after the meeting at *Onondaga*, when it is proposed to send two or three from each tribe on that errand, and the *Oneidas*, willing to gratify them, have agreed to the proposal.

Onus, alias Governour *Penn*, has sent to the *Six-Nations*, inviting them down to *Philadelphia* in the Spring, and particularly informs them that he calls them down in his own name, without respect to any one else. The *Oneidas* have detained the message until they shall hear from you, and learn whether you know any thing of the affair, or whether it has your approbation. If you know nothing of the matter, they desire that you would take an opportunity to send to *Philadelphia* and learn the truth of it, and whenever they have a return from you, they will forward *Onus's* message, if it be agreeable to you. The *Indians* are much at a loss to comprehend *Onus's* design in calling them down to *Philadelphia*, as they say that *Albany* is the place appointed for the *Six-Nations* to treat with their brethren, the white people, upon all matters whatever.

I am, sir, your most obedient, and very humble servant,

JAMES DEANE.

To the Honourable *Philip Schuyler*, Esq.

P. S. SIR: This instant a messenger is arrived here from *Onondaga*, desiring the *Oneidas* to give their immediate attendance at the Central Council-House. An express will be despatched directly to the *Mohawk* Castle.

J. D.

Albany, February 27, 1776.

SIR: The above is just delivered me. I beg the direction of Congress what answer to give with respect to Governour *Penn's* request, as it is a matter I dare not decide upon alone. I am, respectfully, sir, your most obedient, humble servant, PHILIP SCHUYLER.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, &c., &c.

JACOB BAYLEY TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Newbury, February 26, 1776.

SIR: The view I had in sending men from hence to *Canada*, was as follows:

That I had a rumor of General *Montgomery's* defeat at *Quebeck*, but no certainty. I wanted to know, that we might do every thing in our power to strengthen and encourage them.

That they in *Canada* might know that help, even from *Cambridge*, might be soon and certain with them; and that your Excellency might have some certainty that the plan I proposed to Colonel *Little*, some time since, to make a road to *Canada*, by way of *Missisque*, was not founded on imagination, or not of selfish views, which may be suggested, as I live near the line the road must go.

I have also sent enclosed the journal of the men who went over, as also a copy of my letter to General *Wooster*, with his answer, to satisfy your Excellency of the view I had; and can further assure your Excellency that a post may go from hence to *Montreal* without any difficulty or obstruction; the point from hence is nearly north-west.

I must beg your Excellency's pardon for troubling you with this letter, and beg leave to subscribe myself your Excellency's most obedient, humble servant,

JACOB BAYLEY.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

Newbury, Coos, January 21, 1776.

DEAR SIR: We have, here, the melancholy news of a defeat of General *Montgomery*, at *Quebeck*; though we are not certain of the truth of it, yet think it our duty to send men, not only to get intelligence ourselves, but that the situation of affairs in *Canada* may be known at Head-Quarters, and the quickest way to march from *Cambridge* to *Canada*. We are apprehensive that, from hence, men might march to you in six or seven days, which the bearers can inform you. If you have any express to General *Washington*, in three days from hence we can convey it to him. This is only by the Committee of *Haverhill* and *Newbury*, yet you will be so good as to supply them for their return. Nothing new here; only four vessels taken from *England*, by Captain *Manly*, and another privateer. This is from the servants of the Colony, and yours.

By order of the Committees of *Haverhill* and *Newbury*.

JACOB BAYLEY.

To Brigadier-General *Wooster*, *Montreal*.

We, the subscribers, being employed by Colonel *Jacob Bayley*, and consented to by the Committees of *Haverhill* and *Newbury*, did, on the first day of *February*, instant, set out from *Newbury* on a journey to *Montreal*, with a letter to Brigadier-General *Wooster*.

The journal of our journey is as follows, viz: The first day we went to Mr. *Harvey's*, twelve miles; from thence, second, third, fourth, fifth, and sixth days, on a marked road, fifty-nine miles, to Mr. *Metcalf's*, at *Missisque-Bay*: the best country for a road either of us ever saw, through any woods of the same length; the snow deep, and very bad snow-shoeing: the seventh day to *St. John's*; the eighth day to *Montreal*; tarried two days and a half. The second night on our return lodged at Mr. *Metcalf's*. The third and fourth day, travelled only one day's march, by reason of hail and rain falling some days before, the crust would not bear without snow-shoes, and bad standing with. The fifth, sixth, and seventh days good, except the trees

being loaded with ice; lodged at Mr. *Harvey's;* and, *Sunday*, the 18th, returned to Colonel *Bayley's*, and delivered a letter from General *Wooster* to Colonel *Bayley*. We carried a compass with us. The marked road is north forty-four degrees west, and from Mr. *Metcalf's* to *Montreal*, about the same course.

FRYE BAYLEY,
ABIEL CHAMBERLIN,
SILAS CHAMBERLIN.

Montreal, February 10, 1776.

DEAR SIR: The publick is much obliged to you, and to the Committees of *Haverhill* and *Newbury*, for your attention and care to promote the interest of the country. I was happy to find, and shall gratefully remember your patriotick and friendly concern for our little army in this country. We have truly been very critically situated since the repulse at *Quebeck*, but by being particularly vigilant, and doubling duty, which has been very severe, we have kept our ground good; and as we have already received some succour, and daily expect more from our friends in the Colonies, we still hope to give an account of our brave countrymen who were unfortunately made prisoners. The Congress seem determined to support us. The securing this Province is truly an object of great importance to our cause, and I hope will be considered in that light by all true friends to the country, and I doubt not proper provision will be made for that purpose. The route from *Cambridge* to *Canada*, by *Missisque*, has been already represented at Head-Quarters. You will accept of my best wishes for yourself and the Committees of *Haverhill* and *Newbury*, and believe me, respectfully, your most obedient and very humble servant, DAVID WOOSTER.

Colonel *Jacob Bayley*, at *Newbury*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GENERAL LEE.

Cambridge, February 26, 1776.

GENERAL LEE: I received your esteemed favour of the 14th instant, which gave me great pleasure, being impatient to hear from you. I rejoice to find that you are getting better, and could not avoid laughing at Captain *Parker's* reasons for not putting his repeated threats into execution.

I take notice of your intended dispositions for defence, which I request you will lose no time in putting into execution, as, from many corroborating accounts I have received, the enemy seem to prepare for their departure from *Boston;* they have removed the two mortars from *Bunker's Hill*, and carried them, with a great part of their heavy brass cannon, on board their ships; they have taken all the topsail vessels in the harbour into the service; they are ready watered and their sails bent. All this show may be but a feint, but if real, and they should come your way, I wish you may be prepared to receive them. If I find that they are in earnest and do go off, I will immediately send you a reinforcement from this camp, and, if necessary, march the main body to your assistance, as circumstances may require. I shall keep a good watch on their motions, and give you the speediest information possible.

Lechmere's Point is now very strong, and I am now sending some heavy cannon thither; the platform for a mortar is preparing to be placed in the works there; another at *Lambsdam*, and we are making the necessary dispositions to possess ourselves of *Dorchester-Hill*, which must bring them out if any thing will. If they do not interrupt us in that work, I shall be confirmed in my opinion that they mean to leave the town. A little time must now determine whether they are resolved to maintain their present ground, or look out for another post. I will now return to your letter.

The accounts you give of our *New-York* brethren are very satisfactory. I should be glad to know how many men you are likely to have, that you can depend upon remaining with you. I very much fear that the sailing of *Clinton* will keep back those you expected from *Pennsylvania*. Let me hear from you upon this and every thing else that concerns you, as soon and as often as you possibly can. I shall pay due attention to your recommendations of Captain *Smyth* and Captain *Badlan*. With respect to the *Canada* expedition, I beg leave to assure you that it was not my intention to propose your going there. I only meant what I thought would happen, that the Congress would make you that proposal. I am now of opinion that you will have work enough upon your hands where you are, and I make no doubt but your presence will be as necessary there as it would be in *Canada*. I am glad that Colonel *Ritzema* is gone to Congress, and hope they will expedite an army thither, not only to preserve what we have already got, but also to possess ourselves of *Quebeck* before it can be reinforced from *Europe*, or elsewhere; it is an object of such vast importance that it will be madness not to strain every sinew for effecting that purpose. I am in some pain for our little fleet, as I am informed that the *Asia* and *Phenix* are sailed in quest of them. You doubtless had good reasons for the appointment you mention to have made; as it is temporary, it can have no bad effect.

I am, with great regard, &c.,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To General *Lee*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO COUNCIL OF MASSACHUSETTS.

Cambridge, February 26, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: As I am making all possible preparations to take possession of the Heights of *Dorchester*, which I expect I shall be able to accomplish by the last of this week, it is expected that this, if any thing can, will bring the enemy out of *Boston* to oppose, as at *Charlestown*, our erecting any works there. To weaken our lines on the north side of *Cambridge-River* too much, with a view to strengthen those of *Dorchester* before any move is made that way by the enemy, might expose an opening they would gladly avail themselves of, and to delay it till an attack is begun would be too late, as the contest will soon be decided, for or against us, after this happens. Under this state of the matter, and to avoid risking a defeat, when victory, under Providence, may be reduced to a certainty, I submit it to the wisdom of your Board if it will not be best to direct the Militia of some of the towns most contiguous to *Dorchester* and *Roxbury*, to repair to the lines at those two places, with their arms, ammunition, and accoutrements, instantly, upon a signal given.

If you approve of this, you will please to fix, with General *Thomas*, who waits upon you on purpose, upon the signal to be given, and issue your notice thereof accordingly.

I have the honour to be, with great respect and esteem, gentlemen, your most humble and obliged servant,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO JOSEPH REED.

Cambridge, February 26, 1776.

DEAR SIR: We have, under many difficulties, on account of hard frozen ground, completed our work on *Lechmere's Point*. We have got some heavy pieces of ordnance placed there, two platforms fixed for mortars, and every thing for any offensive operation. Strong guards are now mounted there, and at *Cobble-Hill*.

About ten days ago the severe freezing weather formed some pretty strong ice from *Dorchester* to *Boston-Neck*, and from *Roxbury* to the Common. This, I thought, knowing the ice could not last, a favourable opportunity to make an assault upon the troops in town. I proposed it in Council; but behold, though we had been waiting all the year for this favourable event, the enterprise was thought too dangerous. Perhaps it was; perhaps the irksomeness of my situation led me to undertake more than could be warranted by prudence. I did not think so, and I am sure yet, that the enterprise, if it had been undertaken with resolution, must have succeeded; without it, any would fail; but it is now at an end, and I am preparing to take post on *Dorchester-Heights* to try if the enemy will be so kind as to come out to us. Ten regiments of Militia, you must know, had come in to strengthen my hands for offensive measures; but what I have said respecting the determinations in Council, and the possessing of *Dorchester-Point*, is spoken under the rose. I am, &c.,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To *Joseph Reed*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read March 6, 1776.]

Cambridge, February 26, 1776.

SIR: I had the honour of addressing you on the 18th and 21st instant, by Mr. *Hooper*, since which nothing material has occurred. We are making every necessary preparation for taking possession of *Dorchester-Heights* as soon as possible, with a view of drawing the enemy out; how far our expectations may be answered, time can only determine. But I should think, if any thing will induce them to hazard an engagement, it will be our attempting to fortify these Heights, as, on that event's taking place, we shall be able to command a great part of the town, and almost the whole harbour, and to make them rather disagreeable than otherwise, provided we can get a sufficient supply of what we greatly want.

Within these three or four days I have received sundry accounts from *Boston* of such movements there, such as taking the mortars from *Bunker-Hill;* the putting them with several pieces of heavy ordnance on board of ship, with a quantity of bedding; the ships all taking in water; the baking a large quantity of biscuit, &c., as to indicate an embarkation of the troops from thence. A Mr. *Ides*, who came out yesterday, says that the inhabitants of the town generally believe, that they are about to remove either to *New-York* or *Virginia*, and that every vessel in the harbour, on *Tuesday* last, was taken up for Government's service, and two months' pay advanced them; whether they really intend to embark, or whether the whole is a feint, is impossible for me to tell; however, I have thought it expedient to send an express to General *Lee*, to inform him of it, in order that he may not be taken by surprise, if their destination should be against *New-York*, and continued him on to you. If they do embark, I think the possessing themselves of that place and of the *North-River*, is the object they have in view, thereby securing the communication with *Canada* and rendering the intercourse between the Northern and Southern *United Colonies* exceedingly precarious and difficult. To prevent them from effecting their plan, is a matter of the highest importance, and will require a large and respectable army and the most vigilant and judicious exertions.

Since I wrote by Mr. *Hooper*, some small parcels of powder have arrived from *Connecticut*, which will give us a little assistance.

On *Thursday* night, a party of our men, at *Roxbury*, made the enemy's out-sentries, consisting of a corporal and two privates, prisoners, without firing a gun or giving the least alarm. I shall be as attentive to the enemy's motions as I can, and obtain all the intelligence in my power, and if I find them embark, shall, in the most expeditious manner, detach a part of the light troops to *New-York*, and repair thither myself, if circumstances shall require it. I shall be better able to judge what to do when the matter happens; at present I can only say, that I will do every thing that shall appear proper and necessary.

Your letter of the 12th instant, by Colonel *Bull*, came to hand yesterday evening, and shall, agreeable to your recommendation, pay proper notice to him. The supply of cash came very seasonably, as our treasury was just exhausted, and nothing can be done here without it.

I have the honour to be, with great regard, your most humble servant,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

P. S. This was intended to have been sent by express, but meeting with a private opportunity the express was countermanded.

—

GENERAL ORDERS.

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, February 15, 1776.

(Parole, *Fitzwilliams.*) (Countersign, *Archer.*)

The Regiments upon the new establishment, and the Regiments of Militia, lately arrived at *Cambridge* and *Roxbury*, to deliver to the Brigade-Majors they respectively belong to, at Orderly time, on *Saturday*, an exact return of their numbers, according to the form the Adjutant-General has this day given to each of the Brigade-Majors.

Such of the Regiments as are in want of leather shot-bags with straps, to hold ball and buck-shot, may have them by applying to the Adjutant-General. It is intended that every non-commissioned officer and soldier be supplied.

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, February 16, 1776.

(Parole, *Cholmondly.*) (Countersign, *King.*)

The Congress have been pleased to appoint *Joseph Frye*, Esq., a Brigadier-General in the Continental Army. He is to be obeyed as such; and his Excellency, the General, orders that he shall take the command of the vacant Brigade commonly called the *Cambridge* Brigade.

All the Regiments are immediately to be completed to twenty-four rounds of ammunition a man. The Colonel, or commanding officer of each, is to pass his receipt to the Commissary for the cartridges, or powder and lead necessary to do this, and to take receipts from their several Captains for the total quantity in each company; the Captains are to do the like from each of their men, who are to account satisfactorily for any load they have passed their receipt for, or pay four pence for each deficient. The Colonels, or commanding officers of Regiments, are to take especial care that this order is strictly complied with; that those fines are charged without fail to the delinquent soldiers, and credit given for them in making out the pay-abstracts. This order is to be read to, and impressed upon the minds of every man by their officers.

The General is surprised to find the Militia applying for cartouch-boxes and other accoutrements, when he had not a doubt but they would have come completely equipped. As the case, however, is otherwise, he directs that they should be served with powder-horns and shot-pouches, in lieu of cartouch-boxes, and that every thing which is delivered to them be charged to the Regiment that received it, that it may be redelivered, or paid for at the expiration of the term for which they stand engaged, and to this the Quartermaster-General and Commissary of Stores, are to give particular attention without further direction upon this head.

The intrenching tools of every kind, are to be carefully looked up, and put in good order; the Quartermaster-General is to give proper directions upon this head. No time is to be lost in the doing of it.

To prevent any mistakes, or impositions in the purchasing of arms, the Colonels are immediately to have the several arms, belonging to their respective Regiments, branded with the number of the Regiment, or stamped and marked in such a manner as they may be known.

Colonel *Knox* is to report the exact number of cannon cartridges, which are filled and ready for use, specifying the sorts and sizes.

—

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, February 18, 1776.

(Parole, *Shelburne.*) (Countersign, *Stamford.*)

—

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, February 19, 1776.

(Parole, *Ponsonby.*) (Countersign, *Abington.*)

A General Court-Martial to sit to-morrow morning, at eleven, at *Pomeroy's* Tavern, in *Cambridge*, to try such prisoners as shall be brought before them. All evidences and persons concerned to attend the Court.

—

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, February 20, 1776.

(Parole, *Manchester.*) (Countersign, *Boyle.*)

As it is necessary that every Regiment should be furnished with colours, and that those colours should, if it can be done, bear some kind of similitude to the uniform of the Regiment to which they belong; the Colonels, with their respective Brigadiers, and the Quartermaster-General, may fix upon such as are proper and can be procured. There must be to each Regiment the standard, (or Regimental colours,) and colours for each grand division; the whole to be small and light. The number of the Regiment is to be marked on the colours, and such a motto as the Colonel may choose; in fixing upon which the General advises a consultation amongst them.

The Colonels are to delay no time in getting this matter fixed, that the Quartermaster-General may provide the colours as soon as possible; they are, also, to consider what camp equipage may be further necessary, that no time may be lost in providing it, as the season is fast approaching for taking the field.

The General cannot again help urging it, in the strongest terms, to the Colonels the necessity of the strictest attention to the discipline of their men; learning them to march

and perform all the different evolutions and manœuvres, which is of more essential service than dwelling too long upon the manual exercise. He, also, recommends to the Colonels a proper attention to the clothing of their officers and men, that they may appear in a soldierlike manner.

The General desires that the Brigadiers who have not complied with the orders of the 6th instant, concerning the ammunition, and that of the 7th, respecting the arrangement of Chaplains, may be informed that he expects an immediate report from them.

—

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, February 21, 1776.

(Parole, *Devonshire.*) (Countersign, *Grafton.*)

The General, being anxious to have the established Regiments completed, with all possible expedition, desires the Colonels and commanding officers forthwith to send an officer from each incomplete company, into the country, upon the recruiting service, who are expressly forbid inlisting any boys, old men, or slaves. These officers are, also, to use their best endeavour to get what good arms they can. The recruiting in camp, is, also, to be continued.

The Colonels and commanding officers of Regiments are to send to the Quartermaster-General, to-morrow morning, the names of the Sutlers licensed by them to supply their respective corps.

—

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, February 22, 1776.

(Parole, *Scarborough.*) (Countersign, *Exeter*)

John English, of Captain *Waterman's* Company, in Colonel *Arnold's* Regiment, tried at a late General Court-Martial, for "absenting himself from his Regiment, and inlisting in Colonel *Varnum's* Regiment." The Court were unanimously of opinion, that the prisoner is guilty of the crimes whereof he was accused, and adjudge him to receive ten lashes on the bare back, and order the advance pay due to him, in Colonel *Arnold's* Regiment, to be paid the officer who gave him the advance pay in Colonel *Varnum's* Regiment. The General approves the sentence, and orders it to be put in execution at guard-mounting to-morrow.

The Brigadier-Generals, with their Majors of Brigade, the Colonel of Artillery, the Quartermaster-General, with the Barrackmaster of the four Brigades in the *Cambridge* Department, to be at Head-Quarters to-morrow morning, at ten o'clock.

—

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, February 23, 1776.

(Parole, *Canterbury.*) (Countersign, *St. Asaph.*)

Lieutenant *Thomas Cummings*, tried at a General Court-Martial, for "behaving in a scandalous and infamous manner, unbecoming the character of an officer and gentleman," is sentenced to be cashiered. The General approves the sentence, and orders it to take place immediately.

The General, also, confirms the sentence upon *James McCormick*, of Captain *Farrington's* Company, in Colonel *Sargent's* Regiment, and commands the execution of it, at the discretion of his Colonel.

—

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, February 24, 1776.

(Parole, *Hopkins.*) (Countersign, *Alfred.*)

The General having the credit of this Army much at heart, and anxious that it should not only behave well, but look well, recommends it to, and does expect that every officer, from the highest to the lowest, doth exert himself to accomplish those ends, to attain which the Brigadiers are desired to be attentive to every matter and thing relative to their Brigades, and where orders are not, or cannot be complied with immediately, to report the reason thereof.

From henceforward it is expected that the weekly returns of every Regiment will, before they are brought in to the Commander-in-chief, be examined and certified by the Brigadier to whose Brigade they respectively belong; who is, also, to direct his Major of Brigade to keep a book, and have them regularly entered, always comparing the return to be made with the one preceding, and inquiring minutely into the cause of every change or alteration from the last. The Colonel, or commanding officer of every Regiment, is to observe the same conduct with respect to the returns of his Companies, and keep a book for the regular entry thereof. These precautions are taken to prevent the many blunders and mistakes which have heretofore happened in making out the pay-abstracts, all of which, for the future, are to be inspected by the Brigadiers, compared with their books, and certified by them, before a warrant will be granted. A very strict attention will be expected to this order; for if these books are called for, and do not correspond with this order, the officer neglecting will meet with no favour.

The commanding officer of each Regiment may apply for a warrant for five hundred dollars, to put into the hands of such officers as they send into the country on the recruiting service, to buy arms; these officers are, in an especial manner, charged to purchase no arms but such as are good and fit for immediate use; *King's* muskets, or guns as near that quality as can be had, should be got, and with bayonets, if possible. As there is a Committee in each of the Counties of the *Massachusetts-Bay*, appointed by the General Court to purchase arms for this Army, the officers are to take care not to raise the price, by bidding against each other.

Mark Noble, of Captain *Noble's* Company, in Colonel *Patterson's* Regiment, tried by a late General Court-Martial, whereof Colonel *Phinney* was President, for "desertion," is found guilty, and sentenced to receive fifteen lashes upon his bare back, and mulcted one month's pay to defray the expense of apprehending and bringing the prisoner to camp. The General approves the sentence, and commands the execution of it, at such time and place as the Colonel of the Regiment shall direct.

—

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, February 25, 1776.

(Parole, *Virginia.*) (Countersign, *Norfolk.*)

It being a matter of too much importance to intrust the wounds and lives of officers and soldiers to unskilful Surgeons, the General requests the Director-General and Surgeons of the Hospital, (taking, also, to their assistance such Regimental Surgeons, as, upon examination they approve of,) will sit and examine the Surgeons and Mates of the whole Army, and give certificates to those who are found qualified to discharge the duties of their office, in order that they may receive commissions. Gentlemen of candour and knowledge in their profession, will see the utility of this measure, and approve of it. None, but those who are conscious of their inability, will decline the examination.

The Surgeon of every Regiment is immediately to report to the Director-General of the Hospital, in what manner he and his Mate are at present furnished with instruments, medicines, bandages, &c., that the true state and condition may be known. The first Court of Examination will sit on *Tuesday* next, at the Convalescent Hospital, in *Cambridge*, at eleven, in the forenoon, at which all the Surgeons and their Mates, of General *Sullivan's* Brigade, are to attend.

—

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, February 26, 1776.

(Parole, *New-York.*) (Countersign, *Lee.*)

The commanding officers of Regiments are immediately to order all the axes, pick-axes, spades, shovels, and other intrenching tools, now in their possession, to be forthwith sent to the Quartermaster-General's Store in *Cambridge*.

All officers, non-commissioned officers, and soldiers, are positively forbid playing at cards, and other games of chance. At this time of publick distress men may find enough to do in the service of their *God* and their country, without abandoning themselves to vice and immorality.

—

EXTRACT OF A LETTER TO A GENTLEMAN IN PHILADELPHIA, DATED WILLIAMSBURGH, VIRGINIA, FEBRUARY 27, 1776.

Colonel *Corbin* is returned from his fruitless journey to Lord *Dunmore*, who refused to give a commission for holding an Assembly, and only proposed that the principal gentlemen in the country should sign propositions for an accommodation, with which he would go home; but, we presume, he must get them signed by his old friends in the fleet, or about *Norfolk*, as he will get very few gentlemen's names to it. He said Commissioners were to negotiate, but did not say who they were.

His Lordship is not recalled, but has leave to go, if he chooses it. His conduct is approved of, and he has unlimited power to draw on the Treasury. Colonel *Corbin* says, that he, General *Clinton*, and Captain *Hammond*, all

appeared in good humour, the latter declaring he had forbid his tenders to offer injury to individuals, or their property, his sole design being to watch the water, and enforce the acts of trade. General *Clinton* had four companies, who had not landed, but, on the contrary, the transports, with the *Mercury*, had fallen down into the Roads (*Hampton*) under sailing orders: he did not mention his destination, but it was gathered from the young officers, that they were to pay a visit to Governour *Martin*, at *Cape-Fear*, and then proceed to *South-Carolina*. On hearing that part of our letter to Colonel *Corbin* read, "that we were not authorized or inclined to intermeddle in the mode of negotiation, which must be left to Congress," the General said there was nothing *America* could ask, in a constitutional way, but would be granted; but, if we relied on the Congress, we had nothing to expect from Parliament.

Lord *Dunmore* wanted to borrow *Clinton's* troops to drive ours from *Kemp's;* he asked if ours would not return; the other said he supposed they would; then, says the General, "I do not think it worth while to meddle with them."

P. S. We have just received intelligence from *Hampton*, that General *Clinton*, with his troops, the *Mercury*, *Kingfisher*, and two or three tenders, went out of the Capes yesterday.

JOHN DAY SCOTT TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Annapolis, February 27, 1776.

Gentlemen: I am under the necessity of applying to you for some money, for the support of the troops here, under my command, the whole of what I had an order for being expended; shall be glad if you could let me have an order for one hundred and fifty pounds, if you think proper. I have fifty men at lodgings, and expect more shortly; you will be capable of judging what sum will be sufficient; whatever you may think proper to give an order for, please deliver to Lieutenant *Goldsmith*.

I will have my account ready made out against you come down, for the whole of disbursements on raising and lodging my men.

Am, gentlemen, your most obedient, and very humble servant,

John Day Scott.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

ROBERT ALEXANDER TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Philadelphia, February 27, 1776.

Gentlemen: Your letter, by the post, is received. On your application to Congress, they have ordered twenty-two thousand dollars, equal to eight thousand two hundred and fifty pounds, to be advanced. This money I shall receive, and transmit you by the first safe conveyance.

The cartridge paper I have purchased; twenty-five reams, part of the quantity, shall be sent off by the stage this week; the remainder will follow next week, and I shall then furnish you with the account; the price is sixteen shillings by the ream.

I called on Mr. *Morris* to know the quantity of arms and powder, imported by him for the Province. He was from home; his clerk informed me, about four hundred stand of arms, and three thousand five hundred pounds of cannon powder. I have directed a gentleman of *Maryland*, now in this city, to receive them, and to forward them by the stages to *Elk*, from thence, to send them in a boat to *Back-River*, in *Baltimore* County, with orders for the skipper of the boat to proceed to *Baltimore* Town, and there take directions in what manner to land them. I have taken this precaution to avoid all danger; for should any tender or armed vessel be cruising in *Patapsco-River*, the boat can proceed to the head of *Back-River*, and land the arms and powder within five miles of the town; if no vessel of the enemy, she can run round without any great expense incurred by the delay.

Last night a ship arrived here from *Bristol*, which she left the 17th of *December*. She cleared out for *Cork* to avoid suspicion; notwithstanding which, she was strictly searched, and a letter being discovered, directed to a merchant in *Philadelphia*, the ship was detained, but the letter being merely on private business, the Captain, on his petition, was discharged, and permitted to sail. Some newspapers, and private letters, are brought in; they were stored away by a messenger in the bottom of a barrel of bread, which being placed in a careless manner, as if for the ship's use, it escaped the search. One of the letters was directed to *Willing & Morris*, without any signature; it contained a printed copy of my Lord *North's* Conciliatory Act, by which all *American* vessels found on the coast of *Great Britain* or *Ireland*, are to be seized and confiscated on the 1st day of *January*. All *American* vessels sailing into, or out of the ports of *America*, after the 1st of *March*, are to be seized and confiscated; all foreign vessels trading to *America* after the 1st of *June*, to be seized; all communication between *Great Britain* or *Ireland*, or the *British West-Indies*, with *America*, to be cut off; all captures made by *British* ships-of-war, or by the officers of the King's troops in *America*, adjudged by this act, to be lawful prizes; and as such, Courts of Admiralty to proceed in their condemnation. All orders for the regulation of Courts of Admiralty in *America*, heretofore made by the King in Council, or which may hereafter be made, are confirmed. The *Boston* Port Bill, the Fishing Bill, and the Restraining Act, are repealed by this bill; the Colonies being in the like circumstances and situation. The last clause of this more than diabolical act enables the King to appoint Commissioners to grant pardons, and receive the submissions of any Province, County, Town, or District. I shall make no comments on this act; it is only a further stay in that system of tyranny hitherto pursued by that ———, who, under the influence of a *Scotch* Junto, now disgraces the *British* Throne.

What measures Congress may pursue in consequence of this act, I know not. With me, every idea of reconciliation is precluded by the conduct of *Great Britain;* and the only alternative, absolute slavery or independency; the latter I have often reprobated, both in publick and private, but am now almost convinced the measure is right, and can be justified by necessity.

The gentleman who enclosed the bill to *W. & M.*, writes, that about twenty-six thousand troops are to be employed in *America;* that a sufficient body of men are to defend *Boston*, while different bodies are to attack *New-York*, *Virginia*, and *South-Carolina;* that Lord *Cornwallis* is destined for the last place, with five thousand men, and was to sail in *January*. The gentleman adds, the minority gains ground, that some of the *Bedford* party had deserted, ... ; that the *Scotch* faction, headed by Sir *G. Elliot*, ostensibly, and by Lords *Bute* and *Mansfield*, privately, directed and influence the councils and measures of the Court.

I make no doubt you have heard Mr. *Chase* is ordered to *Canada*. He sets off in a few days. Mr. *Rogers* has leave of absence; should he leave Congress, *Maryland* will be without representation. I mention this to show the necessity of your requesting Messrs. *Johnson* and *Stone* to attend. I wrote Mr. *Tilghman*, but have not any answer. Although my private business requires my presence in *Maryland*, I shall not leave this city until a sufficient number of my brethren arrive.

I am, with respect, gentlemen, your very humble servant,

R. Alexander.

To the Council of Safety of *Marylond*.

GEORGE STRICKER TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Fredericktown, February 27, 1776.

Gentlemen: A gentleman in this town having lately purchased an assortment of goods, amongst which, (besides a sufficient quantity of deep blue broadcloth, from fifteen shillings to fifteen shillings and six pence per yard, to clothe about two hundred men, and six thousand good oiled gunflints,) he has about two hundred of the best kind of *French* match-coat blankets, which he will spare for the County's use, at one pound three shillings a pair, that being (he says) the price the Province of *Penusylvania* allows him for them. I should be glad to know whether, or not, I may be permitted to purchase a sufficient quantity of the blankets for the use of my company at that price, as I know of none else here to be had, and the company cannot do without. I have purchased cloth for the use of my company, though at a higher price than limited; but, as the men are very agreeable the overplus should be deducted out of their wages, hope you will be kind enough to be answerable for

the full amount. I have likewise agreed for their breeches, and they are all well armed; and, as their clothes will be finished in about a week, nothing will retard our march, after the expiration of that time, but the want of blankets.

I am, honourable gentlemen, with due respect, your obliged, humble servant,

GEORGE STRICKER.

To the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

To the Honourable the Representatives of the Freemen of the Province of PENNSYLVANIA, *in General Assembly, met:*

The Petition of the Committee of Inspection for the County of BUCKS, *humbly sheweth:*

That, as a general uneasiness prevails among the Associators in this County, on account of the late Military Resolutions of this honourable House, and many persons have signed them under a full persuasion that amendments would be made therein; and as there are many able-bodied men, between the age of fifty and sixty years, possessed of large estates, who are entirely exempt from military duty and experience, your petitioners, therefore, humbly pray that the Association may be extended to the age of sixty.

And as the tax upon the non-Associators is considered an equivalent for personal services, and the Associators have no compensation for their arms and accoutrements, not to mention the dangers they will be exposed to when called into actual service, your petitioners pray that an additional tax be laid upon the estates of non-Associators proportionate to the expenses of the Associators, necessarily incurred for the general defence of property.

And as, by marching whole battalions, or companies of Militia, large tracts of country will be left destitute of men, except those who either hold all resistance unlawful, or such as are disaffected to the present measures, your petitioners, therefore, beg leave to submit it to the consideration of the House, whether it would not be better to direct the Colonels to draft from their battalions such number as shall, from time to time, be requisite, thereby affording an opportunity for those whose circumstances will not always admit their going, to get volunteers in their stead, and, at the same time, leaving sufficient force in every part of the country to quell any local insurrections.

All which your petitioners humbly pray may be taken into the consideration of the House, and such amendments made as you, in your wisdom, shall see meet.

Per order of the Committee:

JOSEPH HART, *Chairman*.

In Committee, Bucks-County, February 27, 1776.

GENERAL LEE TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read March 4, 1776.]

New-York, February 27, 1776.

SIR: Since I did myself the honour of writing to you last, Messrs. *Price*, *Walker*, and *Bonfield*, are arrived from *Canada*, a circumstance which I consider as very fortunate, as they are able to give the best intelligence, and communicate the necessary lights on the measures to be adopted with respect to that country. In consequence of their representations, and as the season of the year, and precariousness of the weather, will admit of no delay, I shall, without waiting for orders from the Congress, take the liberty to contract immediately for four thousand barrels of pork, and a considerable quantity of rum. I have likewise written to General *Wooster*, ordering him to purchase, and grind into flour, twenty thousand bushels of wheat. I have, also, engaged a company of carpenters, on terms, as it appears to me, very reasonable. The captain is to have one dollar per diem, the men half-a-dollar; but they are not only to furnish their own tools, but each man is to provide himself with a gun and bayonet, and act occasionally as soldiers. Lord *Stirling* has, at my request, written to engage another company, on the same terms, and to consist of the same number of men, which is twenty-five. As these terms are so moderate, and the time so pressing, I hope that the Congress will approve of the step. These are times when it is impossible, without great danger to the publick cause, to wait for formal instructions; but as I shall never take this liberty, unless urged by necessity, and a view to the publick service, I flatter myself I shall never incur the censure of the Congress.

There is, certainly, nothing more important, in the present circumstances of *America*, than giving proper encouragement to the military spirit, inciting a military ardour, and recompensing those who have acquitted themselves with zeal and valour. On this principle, sir, I take the liberty of recommending to the favour of the Congress Major *Ogden*, who was a volunteer with Colonel *Arnold* in his hazardous expedition, who was with him, and received a wound in the attack. This gentleman, by his absence, (though he was absent in the service of his country,) has been thrown out of the way of promotion in his own Province; but as there are several vacant Lieutenant-Colonelcies and Majorities in the *New-York* battalions, I beg leave to recommend him for one of them. I have no particular connection or intimacy with the gentleman, but, merely from a motive of justice, and a conviction that it will be proper to reward men of his stamp, I venture on the recommendation. By some unfortunate accident, or mistake, a considerable list of meritorious officers, who have served the campaign in *Canada*, are struck out of employment. It must be submitted to the justice and wisdom of the Congress, whether it will not be right to remedy a grievance, before it is too late, which, neglected, may be attended with very bad consequences.

I am, sir, with the greatest respect, your most obedient, humble servant,

CHARLES LEE.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esquire, President of the Continental Congress.

P. S. I find myself considerably better since my last, and hope to be able to set out in two or three days, though I must confess I leave this place in its present state with no small anxiety of mind. As there are no measures taken for its security, I tremble lest the enemy should take possession of it.

You have not favoured me with an answer on the subject of Doctor *Fague*. The gentlemen arrived from *Canada* are of opinion he might be of great service there. I should think that if some Jesuit, or *religieuse* of any other order, (but he must be a man of liberal sentiments, enlarged mind, and a manifested friend to civil liberty,) could be found out, and sent to *Canado*, he would be worth battalions to us. This thought struck me some time ago, and I am pleased to find, from the conversation of Mr. *Price* and his fellow-travellers, that the thought was very far from a wild one. Mr. *Carroll* has a relative, who exactly answers the description.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

Albany, February 27, 1776.

SIR: When an officer has acted with remarkable attention and propriety, it becomes a duty in his commander to give publick testimony of it. Such has been the conduct of Captain *Willet*, during the last campaign. He is, therefore, entitled to the attention of his country.

I am, sir, your most humble servant,

PHILIP SCHUYLER.

To *Nathaniel Woodhull*, Esquire, President of the *New-York* Congress.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read March 5, 1776.]

Albany, February 27, 1776.

SIR: I am honoured with your letter of the 20th, by express, advising me of the new arrangement in command. I shall ever, sir, be contented to remain where Congress thinks I can be of service. My disorder is become very alarming to the physicians here, but I do not think that it is so dangerous as they imagine; and I hope a little relaxation from the business of the closet, and a moderate degree of exercise, will re-establish me tolerably well.

I shall not be able to leave this until all the troops destined for *Canada* are passed, and until the batteaus are built at *Fort-George*, and every thing got into such a train as that General *Lee's* intended military operations in *Canada* may not be retarded, nor the Army suffer for want of provisions.

The Convention of *New-York*, in a letter of the 22d, advises me that they are unable to supply me with either arms, blankets, or clothing, for Colonel *Van Schaack's* Regiment. I hope I shall be able to equip them, although it will be very difficult to procure arms.

In a letter from the Committee appointed by the *New-York* Convention to convey the heavy cannon destined for *Quebeck*, they ask me what shot there is at the posts above. I have answered, "none for the cannon they have in charge;" and as they have said nothing about carriages, I fear they have not attended to it. I have, therefore, wrote them on the subject, that the cannon may not be detained, on their arrival here, until the carriages are constructed. The best of the common carriages in the country are insufficient to transport the least of them.

There is scarcely pork sufficient to be got on the east side of *Hudson's River* to supply the small quantities intended to be stored near that river. What is gone to *Canada*, and remains at the posts above, will serve the Army but a very short time; and no supplies of the meat kind can be had, even with hard cash, in *Canada*, from the beginning of *April* until the middle or latter end of *September;* hence, a very considerable quantity of provisions will be wanted. I shall, therefore, order the Commissary-General to send for one thousand barrels of pork to *New-Jersey;* but, being apprehensive that the men-of-war will not suffer any vessels to pass, I have directed that it should be sent by water to *Hackensack*, from whence I believe the traverse to *Hudson's River* is short, and sloops may be sent down to transport it to this place. But as this will be far from being a sufficiency, I propose, if agreeable to Congress, and that they judge fresh meat cheaper than salt pork, (which is very doubtful with me, on account of the numbers lost in driving, extra waste in issuing, &c.,) that a continued supply of cattle should be sent to *Onion-River*, to be from thence conveyed in our vessels and row-galleys to *St. John's;* but not to be put on board at *Onion-River* until there is a fair wind, lest they should suffer in the passage. I do not mean that the cattle should be sent before there is grass sufficient for their subsistence on the road, and sedge, or something, to be got to feed them during the passage.

Since writing the above, I have considered, that as *Hudson's River* is not yet open, the delay of laying the matter about the pork before Congress, for their determination, cannot be attended with any evil consequences, and they may probably adopt a better mode. If they can give orders to some person in *Jersey* to purchase the pork, and send it as above, Mr. *Peter Zabriskie*, of *Hackensack*, a real friend to our cause, might be employed to see it transported to *Hudson's River*.

Enclose the orders I have issued for regulating the issuing of provisions. These are, in a great measure, similar to those I made on the 20th of *July* last. An immediate punishment on the first offender, will, I hope, have the desired effect. I shall order a strict watch to be kept, and the first Commissary that breaks the orders I will cause to be turned out of the employ.

The best of the batteaumen may be got for three shillings a day, currency, which is cheaper than to employ soldiers; for, in thirty days, it amounts to only six shillings and eight pence more than a soldier's pay and fatigue-money, and they will transport nearly double the quantity of stores, in the same time, that a like number of men would do who are unaccustomed to the business; and they are employed as soon as raised, which will take only four or five days. If the Lakes should open before I can hear from Congress, I will venture to raise a company of one hundred, for I foresee that great quantities of provisions must be sent into *Canada*.

I am, sir, most respectfully, your obedient, humble servant,

PHILIP SCHUYLER.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esquire, &c.

GENERAL ORDERS.

Head-Quarters, Albany, February 27, 1776.

Whereas, great abuses have heretofore prevailed, as well in the returns made for drawing provisions, and in issuing the same, as by embezzlements of those employed in the transportation: In order to prevent which for the future, the following orders are strictly and minutely to be attended to and complied with: The Deputy Commissary-General, and his Deputies, to keep exact accounts of all stores, of what kind soever, by him or them forwarded from one place to another, specifying the particulars sent, the time when, the person, or persons, carrying them, delivering, at the same time, a copy of such account to the person taking the provision, or stores, in charge; upon the delivery whereof, such person shall receive a certificate from the Commissary, or person to whom the same was so to have been delivered; but, if there shall be a deficiency in any of the articles, the Commissary, or person to whom the same shall be delivered, shall mark such deficiency on the certificate, and charge the person to whose care the provision, or stores, had been delivered, with such deficiency, in a book to be kept for that purpose, and transmit a monthly return thereof to the Deputy Commissary-General, who shall immediately send a copy thereof to the Deputy Paymaster-General, that he may, and he is hereby required, to deduct the amount out of the pay of such person into whose care the provisions and stores were delivered: provided, always, that if any provisions, or stores, shall be lost by unavoidable accidents, and the same can be proved to be so, by sworn witnesses, before any officer commanding at the post where such provisions, or stores, were intended to be sent to, such officer's certificate, with the proofs annexed, shall be a sufficient voucher to the Commissary to cancel such charge, by writing over against the charge, "Cancelled, by order of . . . . . , commanding here." No provision to be issued to any troops, but upon the return, signed by the officer commanding a corps, or by the Quartermaster, or by the officer, or non-commissioned officer, commanding a party thereof, when detached. And whereas, it has frequently happened that troops, who had been victualled at one post to a certain time, and were ordered from thence, and removed to another post, before the time to which they were victualled was expired, and have, nevertheless, on their arrival at such post, drawn provisions as though they were entitled to it; to prevent which, whenever any corps moves from one place to another, the commanding officer shall procure a certificate from the Commissary, signifying to what day, inclusive, such corps was victualled. The commanding officer of every party shall do the same; and if a detachment is composed of men from different corps, and who may be victualled to different days, the return shall be made, and the certificate shall specify the time to which each was victualled; and the Commissary at any post shall revictual such men, unless such certificate be produced; but lest, by the negligence of any officer in not procuring the certificates, the men should suffer for want of provisions, and the service be obstructed, the Commissary is permitted to victual the corps, or party, and to charge the officer commanding therewith, and make returns, that the same may be deducted out of his pay, as in the preceding article: provided that, if such certificate be procured and delivered within thirty days after the drawing of such provision without certificate, the Commissary shall cancel the charge, in manner before directed. Every Commissary to keep the accounts of provision issued to every corps, or parts or detachments of corps, separately, that it may be readily compared with the monthly returns, as a check upon the provision returns. All provision returns, or orders to issue provisions, to be by the Commissary numbered and endorsed, with the date, and number of men victualled, and carefully filed, to be produced when called for. A weekly return to be made to the commander-in-chief of the Department, and to the General Officer commanding the troops in *Canada*, of what provisions are in store at every place in the Northern Department. The Commissary to apply to the commanding officers at every post for working parties, to assist in securing the provisions and stores; and such commanding officers are hereby required to give such working parties, and offer all kind of assistance in their power, to secure the provisions and publick stores. Every Commissary in the Northern Department to keep their orders continually posted up in his issuing-store, that no person who may be concerned in the execution of them may plead ignorance. The officers commanding at the different posts to have copies of them posted up in one or more publick places about their posts.

HENRY B. LIVINGSTON, *Aid-de-camp.*

Estimate showing the value of different species of Provisions to be given in lieu of another, or the value of one specie to be given in lieu of the whole species, according to the bill of fare settled by the honourable the Continental Congress, the 9th of NOVEMBER, 1775, *viz:*

Two pounds of bread, or flour, and one pound of pork, are equal to one ration of all species.
One pound of bread, or flour, one pound of pork, and two pints of peas, are equal to one ration of all species.
One pound of bread, or flour, twelve ounces of pork, and six ounces of butter, are equal to one ration of all species.
One pound of bread, or flour, one and-a-half pounds of beef, a half-pint of rice, or one pint *Indian* meal, are equal to one ration of all species.
One pound of bread, or flour, one and-a-half pounds of beef, one quart of spruce beer, or cider, or one gill of rum, are equal to one ration of all species.
Five pounds of bread, or flour, are equal to one ration.
Three pounds of beef are equal to one ration.
Twenty-eight ounces of pork are equal to one ration.
Sixteen ounces of butter are equal to one ration.
One gallon and a half-pint of peas are equal to one ration.
Four pints of rice are equal to one ration.
Eight pints of *Indian* meal are equal to one ration.

GENERAL ARNOLD TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Camp before Quebeck, February 27, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: I wrote you the 14th ultimo, of our situation and prospects, since which nothing of consequence has occurred here. The enemy, to the number of about five hundred, have twice sallied out at *Palace-Gate*, with design of seizing our field-pieces, near the Nunnery, but, on our troops advancing to attack them, they made a precipitate retreat under cover of their guns. Desertions from the garrison are frequent, by which we learn they are much distressed for fuel, and must soon burn their houses and ships. Two officers taken at *St. John's* were lately sent with a flag to the walls, with a view of getting their families at liberty, but were refused admittance, which, I am told by several deserters, incensed the inhabitants very much, and caused a great uneasiness in the garrison, who, I believe, begin to grow heartily tired of salt provisions and confinement. We have received a reinforcement of four hundred men; many are daily coming in. I hope in the course of this month we shall have four or five thousand men. I am fearful we shall not be supplied with shot, shells, mortars, &c., I am, therefore, preparing ladders for an assault if necessary; the extensiveness of their works I think will render their defence impracticable.

I have, this minute, the pleasure of your favour of the 27th ultimo. I am greatly obliged to you for your good wishes, and the concern you express for me. Sensible of the vast importance of this country, you may be assured my utmost exertions will not be wanting to effect your wishes, in adding it to the *United Colonies*. I am fully of your opinion, that the balance will turn in whose favour it belongs. The repeated successes of our raw, undisciplined troops, over the flower of the *British* army; the many unexpected and remarkable occurrences in our favour, are plain proofs of the overruling hand of Providence, and justly demands our warmest gratitude to Heaven, which I make no doubt will crown our virtuous efforts with success. No doubt Administration will exert themselves in sending a large force this way in the spring; but if we are fortunate enough to reduce the city before they arrive, I make no doubt of keeping it, as we shall have the interest of the country in general, to which the raising two regiments of *Canadians* (which Congress have ordered) will not a little conduce.

I am sorry to inform you, notwithstanding every precaution that could be used, the small-pox has crept in among the troops; we have near one hundred men in the Hospital; in general it is favourable, very few have died. I have moved the inhabitants of the vicinity of *Quebeck* into the country, and hope to prevent its spreading any further.

The severity of the climate, the troops very illy clad, and worse paid; the trouble of reconciling matters among the inhabitants, and lately an uneasiness among some of the *New-York*, and other officers, who think themselves neglected in the new arrangement, while those who deserted the cause and went home last fall, have been promoted; in short, the choice of difficulties I have had to encounter, has rendered it so very perplexing, that I have often been at a loss how to conduct matters.

As General *Schuyler's* ill state of health will not permit his coming this way, I was in hopes General *Lee*, or some experienced officer, would have been sent to take the command here. The service requires a person of greater abilities and experience than I can pretend to. General *Wooster* writes me his intention of coming down here; I am afraid he will not be able to leave *Montreal*.

I have the pleasure to inform you my wound is entirely healed, and I am able to hobble about my room, though my leg is a little contracted and weak. I hope soon to be fit for action. We are waiting impatiently, expecting to hear of some capital blow being struck with you.

I beg my compliments to the gentlemen of your family, and am, with great respect and esteem, dear General, your obedient, and very humble servant,

B. ARNOLD.

To General *Washington*.

EDWARD WILLIAMS TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Hartford, February 27, 1776.

SIR: I find myself under the necessity of applying to you by letter, as the restrictions I am laid under by this Committee deprive me at present of a personal interview, which I requested on my arrival here near a fortnight ago. The artillery, which belonged to the late garrison at *St. John's*, were, by some mistake, during my absence, separated from Major *Preston* and the rest of the garrison. They are at present dispersed so far beyond the limits assigned to me, that it is out of my power to discharge the trust reposed in me as their commanding officer, to see them properly taken care of, or to be answerable for their good conduct.

John Miller, matross in my company, by trade a carpenter, is gone to work at some very considerable distance, forty or fifty miles from this place, without the knowledge or consent of Lieutenant *Smith*, who he ought to have applied to; nor can any of the gentlemen of this Committee inform me whether he obtained a pass from them. Three men, billeted at or near *Windsor*, have sold the new clothing, which I had just supplied them with, though they received two months' subsistence at the same time; yet these men expect, no doubt, that Government will continue to clothe and pay them. These, sir, are grievances which I hope you will redress, by ordering, or at least requesting, that no person whatever shall purchase any clothing or necessaries from a soldier.

The troops under Major *Preston*, at *Lancaster*, being all quartered together, are properly inspected and kept in good order by their officers; and as the Artillery now in this Province are under the same capitulation, I must beg of you to order them to be billeted within my limits, that I may discharge my duty to them, agreeable to the spirit and design of the capitulation, which provided for the garrison being together. In the mean time I must request your leave for Lieutenant *Smith* and myself, to go to *Canaan* and *Salisbury*, &c., on *Monday* next, in order to pay the men some subsistence, particularly as some of them have families and are in want of many necessaries. We shall return on *Wednesday* or *Thursday*. The orders of Congress, respecting the limits assigned to us, will not, I apprehend, be infringed by this leave, as that order is general, and, consequently, leaves particular exceptions to the judgment of the Governour.

If you think proper to send me the order for removing the men within my limits, I can have it executed while I am upon the spot. I have only further to beg the favour of you, to send me your leave to come to *Lebanon*, as soon as convenient, as the shortest and easiest matters become long and difficult to settle by letter.

I am, sir, your very humble servant,

EDWARD WILLIAMS.

To His Excellency Governour *Trumbull*, at *Lebanon*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GENERAL SCHUYLER.

Cambridge, February 27, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Last night I received your favour of the

14th instant, by Mr. *Bennett*, enclosing a general return of the artillery and military stores in our possession, in *Canada*.

It gives me great pleasure to hear that you are improving in your health. Before long I most sincerely hope you will be so recovered as to be able to go to the Army in *Canada*, where, I am convinced, you are much wanted, and would be of the highest service at this important crisis. I doubt not of there being a good deal of confusion and disorder in that quarter, which, I flatter myself, would in a great measure subside, and be composed by your presence. It is natural enough that Mr. *Walker's* resentment should be up for the wrongs he has suffered; it is incident to humanity, but yet the passions of individuals ought never to prevail so far as to injure the state.

I am sorry to find that the quantity of artillery and military stores is so small and inconsiderable, as appears by the return. I had hoped that you were better provided with the former, and, also, with much more ammunition than you have, particularly powder, and that the distresses no where else were equal to mine for want of this capital necessary. Would Fortune but give you possession of *Quebeck*, then would our wants be mostly supplied; may she smile propitious, and your virtuous struggles be crowned with success. The reduction of this fortress would be attended with consequences of the most happy and salutary nature to our great cause, and as General *Arnold*, with a handful of men, has been able to maintain the blockade, I look forward with pleasing confidence to the day when your being properly reinforced, will oblige it to surrender.

We have just completed a large and strong work on *Lechmere's Point*, opposite to *New-Boston*, and are about to take post on the Heights of *Dorchester*, with a view of drawing the enemy out. These Heights will command a large part of the town, and almost the whole harbour, and give us an opportunity of distressing the enemy whenever we may be properly provided with necessaries for carrying on a cannonade and bombardment. If any thing will induce General *Howe* to risk an engagement, it will be this. I am determined to do every thing in my power to bring on one, and that as soon as possible. How far my views may be answered, time must determine.

When I sent Colonel *Knox* in pursuit of artillery, I did not design that you should have been disfurnished; I only meant that he should have brought from *Canada* such ordnance as you could conveniently spare; but from your letter and the return, I am led to think that you are in want. I have been informed that General *Lee* has lately secured a large number of heavy cannon and shot that were at *New-York*, from whence, I imagine, you may get a supply of what you want, which you cannot be supplied with elsewhere. If you will acquaint me, I will most readily give you every assistance in my power, and deem myself happy if I can contribute to relieve your necessities in any manner.

I am, dear sir, with great regard, your affectionate, humble servant,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To the Honourable General *Schuyler*.

STEPHEN MOYLAN TO GENERAL WOOSTER.

Cambridge February 27, 1776.

SIR: I have it in command from his Excellency General *Washington* to acquaint you that the *Indians*, who were lately here from *Canada*, are very much dissatisfied that Mr. *St. Luke La Corne*, is suffered to be at liberty; he is, by all accounts, a dangerous person, therefore, think it will be better for our own safety, and to quiet the minds of the *Indians*, to have that gentleman sent out of that Province. Your compliance herewith will be pleasing to his Excellency, and he is strongly of opinion will be of very great service to the *American* cause.

I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

STEPHEN MOYLAN, *P. T. S.*

To General *Wooster*.

COLONEL PATRICK HENRY'S RESIGNATION.

Williamsburgh, Virginia, March 1, 1776.

Yesterday morning the troops in this city being informed that *Patrick Henry*, Esq., Commander-in-chief of the *Virginia* Forces, resigned his commission the day preceding, (*February* 28th,) and was about to leave them, the whole went into mourning, and, under arms, waited on him at his lodgings, when they addressed him in the following manner:

"*To* PATRICK HENRY, JUN., *Esq.:*

"Deeply impressed with a grateful sense of the obligations we lie under to you, for the polite, humane, and tender treatment manifested to us throughout the whole of your conduct, while we had the honour of being under your command, permit us to offer you our sincere thanks, as the only tribute we have in our power to pay to your real merits.

"Notwithstanding your withdrawing yourself from the service fills us with the most poignant sorrow, as it at once deprives us of our father and General, yet, as gentlemen, we are compelled to applaud your spirited resentment to the most glaring indignity. May your merit shine as conspicuous to the world in general as it hath done to us, and may Heaven shower its choicest blessings upon you.

"Williamsburgh, February 29, 1776."

To which he returned the following Answer:

"GENTLEMEN: I am extremely obliged to you for your approbation of my conduct. Your Address does me the highest honour. This kind of testimony of your regard to me would have been an ample reward for services much greater than I have had the power to perform. I return you, and each of you, gentlemen, my best acknowledgments, for the spirit, alacrity, and zeal, you have constantly shown in your several stations. I am unhappy to part with you. I leave the service, but I leave my heart with you. May *God* bless you, and give you success and safety, and make you the glorious instruments of saving our country."

After the Officers had received Colonel *Henry's* kind answer to their Address, they insisted upon his dining with them, at the *Raleigh* Tavern, before his departure, and after dinner a number of them proposed escorting him out of town, but were prevented by some uneasiness getting among the soldiery, who assembled in a tumultuous manner and demanded their discharge, and declaring their unwillingness to serve under any other commander. Upon which Colonel *Henry* found it necessary to stay a night longer in town, which he spent in visiting the several barracks, and used every argument in his power with the soldiery to lay aside their imprudent resolution, and to continue in the service, which he had quitted from motives in which his honour, alone, was concerned, and that, although he was prevented from serving his country in a military capacity, yet his utmost abilities should ever be exerted for the real interest of the *United Colonies*, in support of the glorious cause in which they had engaged. This, accompanied with the extraordinary exertions of Colonel *Christian*, and the other officers present, happily produced the desired effect, the soldiers reluctantly acquiescing. And we have now the pleasure to assure the publick that those brave fellows are now pretty well reconciled, and will spend the last drop of their blood in their country's defence.

Address to PATRICK HENRY, JUN., *Esq., late Commander-in-chief of the Virginia Forces.*

SIR: Deeply concerned for the good of our country, we sincerely lament the unhappy necessity of your resignation, and with all the warmth of affection assure you, that whatever may have given rise to the indignity lately offered to you, we join with the general voice of the people, and think it our duty to make this publick declaration of our high respect for your distinguished merit. To your vigilance and judgment, as a Senator, this United Continent bears ample testimony, while she prosecutes her steady opposition to those destructive Ministerial measures which your eloquence first pointed out and taught to resent, and your resolution led forward to resist. To your extensive popularity the service, also, is greatly indebted for the expedition with which the troops were raised; and while they were continued under your command, the firmness, candour, and politeness, which formed the complexion of your conduct towards them, obtained the signal approbation of the

wise and virtuous, and will leave upon our minds the most grateful impression.

Although retired from the immediate concerns of war, we solicit the continuance of your kindly attention. We know your attachment to the best of causes; we have the fullest confidence in your abilities, and in the rectitude of your views, and, however willing the envious may be to undermine an established reputation, we trust the day will come when justice shall prevail, and thereby secure you an honourable and happy return to the glorious employment of conducting our councils and hazarding your life in the defence of your country.

With the most grateful sentiments of regard and esteem, we are, sir, very respectfully, your most obliged and obedient, humble servants.

Signed by upwards of ninety Officers, at Kemp's Landing, Suffolk, *and* Williamsburgh.

—

Williamsburgh, March 9, 1776.

The following is an exact copy of the Commission sent from the General Congress to the Committee of Safety, appointing Colonel *Henry* to the command of the First Regiment or Battalion in this Colony taken upon the Continental establishment, agreeable to the requisition of the last Convention.

In Congress.

The Delegates of the United Colonies *of* New-Hampshire, Massachusetts-Bay, Rhode-Island, Connecticut, New-York, New-Jersey, Pennsylvania, *the Counties of* New-Castle, Kent, *and* Sussex, *on* Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North-Carolina, South-Carolina, *and* Georgia, *to* Patrick Henry, *Esquire.*

We, reposing especial trust and confidence in your patriotism, valour, conduct, and fidelity, do by these presents constitute and appoint you to be Colonel of the First Battalion of *Virginia* Forces, in the Army of the *United Colonies*, raised for the defence of *American* liberty, and for repelling every hostile invasion thereof. You are, therefore, carefully and diligently to discharge the duty of Colonel, by doing and performing all manner of things thereunto belonging. And we do strictly charge and require all officers and soldiers under your command to be obedient to your orders as Colonel, and you are to observe and follow such orders and directions, from time to time, as you shall receive from this or a future Congress of the *United Colonies*, or Committee of Congress for that purpose appointed, or Commander-in-chief (for the time being) of the Army of the *United Colonies*, or any other superior officer, according to the rules and discipline of war, in pursuance of the trust reposed in you. This commission to continue in force until revoked by this or a future Congress.

By order of the Congress:

John Hancock, *President.*

Attest: Charles Thomson, *Secretary.*

Philadelphia, February 13, 1776.

—

Williamsburgh, March 15, 1776.

I am informed a report is prevailing throughout the Colony that the Committee of Safety were the cause of Colonel *Henry's* resigning the command of his battalion, which it is supposed hath received confirmation from the Address of the Officers to that gentleman, in which they speak of a glaring indignity having been offered him, if it was not wholly derived from that source. That the good people of the country may be truly informed in this matter, the following state of facts is submitted, without comment, to the impartial judgment of the publick:

As soon as the last Convention had voted the raising seven new battalions of troops, besides augmenting the old ones, the Committee of Safety informed our Delegates to Congress of that vote, desiring they would use their best endeavours to have the whole supported at Continental expense; in answer to which a letter was received from the Delegates, dated the 30th of *December*, of which the following is an extract:

"The resolutions of Congress for taking our six additional (they would not agree to take the other two) battalions into Continental pay, and for permitting any exportation for supplying our countrymen with salt, are enclosed."

It was supposed, from hence, an intention prevailed in Congress to pass by the two old battalions and take six of the new ones into Continental pay, which, as it was said those officers would take precedency of Provincial ones of equal rank, was generally thought wrong, since it would degrade the officers of the first two battalions; and, to avoid this, the Convention came to a Resolution the 10th *January*, of which the following is part:

"Should the Congress adhere to their resolution of taking into Continental pay no more than six battalions, let it be earnestly recommended to them to suffer our two present battalions (to be completed as before-mentioned) to stand first in the arrangement, since otherwise the officers first appointed by this Convention, most of whom have already gone through a laborious and painful service, will be degraded in their ranks, and there is too much reason to apprehend that great confusion will ensue."

The worthy gentleman (not a member of the Committee of Safety) who proposed this Resolution, informed the Convention he had consulted some of the officers of the First Regiment, who wished to have their rank preserved, though it was foreseen the pay would be reduced.

The Committee of Safety, in a letter to the Delegates, dated the 25th of *January*, enclosing this Resolution, thus write:

"You have a list of the Field-Officers, as they stand recommended, and we doubt not receiving their commissions in the like order, with blanks for the proper number of Captains and Subalterns. If, however, the resolution of Congress should be unalterably fixed to allow us but six battalions, you will please to attend to that part of the resolve which recommends their being the first six, as a point of great consequence to our harmony, which may be involved in the good of the common cause."

The Committee of Safety afterwards received the commissions (wholly filled up) for the Field-Officers of six battalions, in the rank they stood recommended by the Convention, beginning with Colonel *Henry*, and ending with Colonel *Buckner*, of the Sixth Battalion, with directions to deliver them. Colonel *Henry* was accordingly offered his commission, which he declined accepting, and retired without assigning any reasons.

As to the General Officers, the Convention left them entirely to the choice of the Congress, without recommendation, nor did the Committee of Safety at all intermeddle in that choice.

A Friend to Truth.

—

The Address of the Officers to Colonel *Henry*, and the Colonel's reply, has led some of our enemies to hope there would be a great discontent in the Army, by which our military operations would be retarded, and that there would be a considerable murmuring against the Congress; but they are much mistaken. It is true, the officers and soldiers were very unhappy at parting with so amiable a commander as Colonel *Henry*, and might be a little imprudent in some expressions on the occasion; but there is not a man of them who is not so warmly attached to the glorious cause he is engaged in, as to serve with alacrity under any commander, rather than it should suffer; and Colonel *Henry*, himself, is a gentleman of so much honour, and so true a patriot, that he never will countenance a murmur against the Congress; nay, so far from it, that it is highly probable he will soon be found in that august assembly, urging, with his powerful eloquence, the necessity of prosecuting the war with redoubled vigour.

I am a sincere friend to the Congress and Colonel *Henry*.

—

AN HONEST FARMER TO MR. PURDIE.

I was not surprised to see, in your last week's Gazette, the resignation of *P. Henry*, Esq., late Commander-in-chief of all the *Virginia* Forces, and Colonel of the First Regiment. From that great man's amiable disposition, his invariable perseverance in the cause of liberty, we apprehend that envy strove to bury in obscurity his martial talents, fettered and confined, with only an empty title, the mere echo of authority, his superior abilities lay inactive, nor could be exerted for his honour or his country's good.

Virginia may truly boast, that in him she finds the able statesman, the soldier's father, the best of citizens, and

liberty's dear friend; clad with innocence, as in a coat of mail, he is proof against every serpentile whisper. The officers and soldiers, who know him, are riveted to his bosom: when he speaks, all is silence; when he orders, they cheerfully obey; and in the field, under so sensible, so prudent an officer, though hosts oppose them, with shouts they meet their armed foe, the sure presages of victory and success.

Let us, my countrymen, with grateful hearts, remember that he carried off the standard of liberty, and defeated *Grenville* in his favourite Stamp Act.

An Honest Farmer.

—

CATO TO MESSRS. DIXON AND HUNTER.

Gentlemen: For any man, or body of men, to fling out general reflections in common newspapers, with an intention to degrade the characters of gentlemen acting in publick stations, is as unmanly as it is disingenuous. True, genuine honour revolts against such conduct; it abhors general accusations, which do not discriminate the persons accused, or point out the crimes for which they are to answer. Such accusations are scarcely to be met with in history of the most barbarous nations; they expose the innocent to the malevolence of the ill-natured, crafty, and designing, and are repugnant to the great duties of moral obligation.

I was led, Mr. Printers, into this way of thinking upon reading two Addresses from some officers to Colonel *Henry*, published in *Purdie's* paper, containing many severe and general censures, without distinguishing the persons for whom they were intended. As Colonel *Henry*, in his answer to the first Address, has not attempted to remove these censures, but seems to admit them to be just, I have taken the liberty to lay before the publick a fair and candid detail of facts, relative to Colonel *Henry's* appointment as an officer to command in our military establishment, and leave it to the publick to determine whether these censures are just or not.

I have no inclination to enter into a literary controversy; I am willing to give honour to whom honour is due, but I disdain to become the sycophantick flatterer, or to heap commendations upon any man when I am convinced he does not deserve them, especially, when such commendations may be disadvantageous to the true interest of my country.

The Convention, which met at *Richmond* in *July* last, passed an ordinance for raising and embodying a sufficient force for the defence and protection of this Colony. By this ordinance two regiments of regular forces were to be raised, each regiment to be commanded by a Colonel, Lieutenant-Colonel, and a Major, who were to be appointed by the General Convention. The other officers were to be appointed by the Committees of the several districts into which the ordinance divided the Colony. Besides these two regiments of regular forces, Minute battalions, consisting of five hundred men each, were to be raised in the several districts, to be commanded by proper officers appointed by the District Committees; the Militia of the several Counties were to be new regulated, under officers to be appointed by the Committees of the Counties.

Agreeable to the direction of the ordinance, the Convention proceeded to the appointment of field-officers to command the two regiments, and determined the choice should be made by ballot. Mr. *Patrick Henry*, Mr. *Hugh Mercer*, Mr. *Thomas Nelson*, and Mr. *William Woodford*, were severally recommended to be Colonel of the First Regiment. It was objected to Mr. *Henry*, that his studies had been directed to civil and not to military pursuits; that he was totally unacquainted with the art of war, and had no knowledge of military discipline; and that such a person was very unfit to be at the head of troops who were likely to be engaged against a well disciplined army, commanded by experienced and able Generals. These objections were answered by one gentleman, who said, that Mr. *Henry* solicited the appointment, which he supposed Mr. *Henry* would not have done if he did not think himself qualified to command. Mr. *Mercer* was objected to for being a *North-Briton*. In answer to this objection, it was admitted that Mr. *Mercer* was born in *Scotland*, but that he came to *America* in his early years, and had constantly resided in it from his first coming over; that his family, and all his other connexions were in this Colony; that he had uniformly distinguished himself a warm and firm friend to the rights of *America;* and what was of principal consideration, that he possessed great military, as well as literary abilities. Mr. *Nelson* acknowledged Mr. *Mercer's* military abilities, declared he would not oppose his appointment, and hoped that he himself should not be voted for. Mr. *Woodford*, who was not at that time of the Convention, spoke very largely without doors in favour of Mr. *Mercer*, declared he was willing to serve under him, as he knew him to be a fine officer.

Upon examining the votes in the ballot-box, the numbers appeared as follows: For *Hugh Mercer*, Esq., forty-one; for *Patrick Henry*, Esq., forty; for *Thomas Nelson*, Esq., eight; and for *William Woodford*, Esq., one. But as the number of votes upon the ballot, for Mr. *Mercer*, were not a majority of the whole House, the question, according to rule established by the Convention, was then put, whether Mr. *Mercer* or Mr. *Henry*, upon whom the greatest numbers fell, should be appointed to command the said regiment, when a small majority appeared in favour of Mr. *Henry;* and, thereupon, it was resolved that the said Mr. *Henry* be appointed Colonel of the First Regiment.

Mr. *Henry* being thus appointed to the command of the First Regiment, and the other officers chosen according to the direction of the ordinance, a Committee was appointed to draw up and report proper forms of commissions to be granted for the officers of the regular forces, Minute battalions, and Militia. This Committee did not make their report till the last day of the session, when the House was very thin, and only fifty-five members present. The commission reported by them, as proper to be granted to the Colonel of the First Regiment, began with the following preamble: "Whereas, by a resolution of the Delegates of this Colony, in Convention assembled, it was determined, that you, the said *Patrick Henry*, Esq., should be Colonel of the First Regiment of Regulars, and Commander-in-chief of all the Forces to be raised for the protection and defence of this Colony." This was certainly a mistake in the Committee, as no determination of the Convention had appointed him Commander-in-chief of all the Forces to be raised for the defence of the Colony, but only Colonel of the First Regiment. Whether this mistake was attended to by the Convention when the report was made, I do not pretend to know; but let that be as it may, these words could not give him any other command than that of Commander-in-chief of the two regiments, and of such detachments from the Minute battalions and Militia as should be directed by the Convention, or Committee of Safety, to act in conjunction with them, according to the express provision of the ordinance by which they were to be raised, and the express declaration of his commission. The commission itself makes this evident, as it requires him to pay due obedience to all orders and instructions which from time to time he should receive from the Convention, or Committee of Safety appointed and empowered during the recess of the Convention, to superintend and direct the military operations for the defence and protection of the Colony, and this commission was to be held by him during the pleasure of the Convention, and no longer.

The last Convention judged it necessary to augment the two regiments to ten companies each, and to raise six new regiments for the defence of the Colony, each consisting of ten companies, besides a battalion of five hundred men, to be stationed at the *Eastern-Shore;* the whole to be commanded by a Major-General and two Brigadier-Generals, who were to be appointed by Congress. The great expense which would necessarily be incurred if so large a force, exclusive of the Minute and Militia establishment, were kept up and maintained by the Colony, determined the Convention to direct their Delegates at the General Congress to endeavour to have them put upon the Continental establishment. In answer to this requisition the Delegates informed the Convention, that "the Congress agreed to take the six new additional battalions into Continental pay, but would not take the two old ones;" and that "Continental officers were to have the command of Provincial officers of equal rank, whenever they might happen to act together." When this information from our Delegates in General Congress was taken under the considera-

tion of the Convention, they directed the Committee of Safety to inform them, among other important matters, that it be earnestly recommended to the Congress, that should they adhere to their resolution of taking into Continental pay no more than six battalions, to suffer the two old regiments to stand first in the arrangement; since otherwise the officers of those regiments would be degraded in their ranks. This requisition of the Convention arose principally from an information given them by some of their members, that the officers of the two old regiments were much dissatisfied with the resolution of the Congress for refusing to take their regiments upon the Continental establishment, which would occasion them to lose their rank when acting in conjunction with Continental officers.

As the Convention made no doubt but that this requisition would be complied with by the Congress, they declared, in their ordinance for raising an additional number of forces for the defence and protection of this Colony, "that all commissions granted by the Committee of Safety, in pursuance of the said, or a former ordinance of Convention, to any regular officer, should be void as soon as such officer, or any other in his stead, should be appointed or commissioned by the General Congress; and that the pay of every such officer should, from the time of such appointment, and notice thereof, given to the Committee of Safety, be the same as was settled by the General Congress.

Upon the 25th of *February*, the Committee of Safety received a packet from the Delegates in Congress, enclosing commissions for the officers of the six regiments the Congress had agreed to take upon the Continental establishment, of which the old regiments were two. Those to the Field-Officers were completely filled up, the others for the Captains and inferior officers were left blank, to be filled up by the Committee of Safety. Colonel *Henry* being appointed by one of those commissions to the command of the First Regiment, the Committee informed him thereof in a polite letter, and that they were ready to deliver him his commission, whenever he should think proper to call for it. In consequence of this letter, Colonel *Henry* came to the Committee, and the President delivered him the commission, which, after reading, he returned to the President, and declared that he would not accept of it, but gave no reasons for his refusal, and immediately left the Committee.

Thus, Mr. Printers, I have given you an honest detail of the publick proceedings, so far as they relate to Colonel *Henry*, from his first appointment to the command of the First Regiment to his refusal of the Continental commission, appointing him to the same command, according to the desire and resolution of the Convention; and I protest I cannot discover any thing invidious in these proceedings, or that the least indignity has been offered to Colonel *Henry's* honour. But I will make no reflections: I submit what I have said to the determination of the impartial publick.

CATO.

CAPTAINS KENT AND HENRY TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Head-Quarters, Northampton Court-House, Virginia, February 28, 1776.

HONOURABLE GENTLEMEN: Your much esteemed favour of the 14th instant is now before us, the contents of which has given much satisfaction to us, and our companies in general. The company from *Kent* County arrived here the 12th, and the company from *Queen Anne's* on the 14th instant, in good health and spirits.

Sunday night last a schooner that lay in *Hunger's Creek*, loaded with provision, was taken possession of by thirteen Negroes, who attempted to make their escape to Lord *Dunmore*, but the next morning she was pursued by a whale boat, which overhauled her upon *York-Spit*, and returned with her *Monday* night; the Negroes are now under guards. This is the only remarkable circumstance that has happened since our arrival here.

We have not heard what officer is to take the command over us; the Field-Officers of the Regulars raised in *Accomack* and this County are on the *Western-Shore*, but expected over every day. The Militia and Regulars here are in a very defenceless state, and see no anxiety among them to get either disciplined or accoutred. The resolve under which we marched mentioned our coming to the assistance of the inhabitants of *Accomack* and *Northampton* Counties; but, we are persuaded, should we have an engagement at this time, we should have but little assistance from them, but hope in a few days some companies will arrive from the *Western-Shore*. General *Clinton's* arrival at *Norfolk*, with one thousand troops, we imagine you are informed of.

It is said *Dunmore* has many friends in this place, though the complexion of the Tories, (we are told,) changed much on our arrival here; however, we can say with truth, that we were received here with every mark of esteem and friendship, and the Committee has spared no pains to procure us comfortable quarters. We beg leave to observe, your wish for our continuing here the time mentioned by the Convention, although we had enrolled only to serve till the 1st of *March*; what you have said on this head, and putting it in our power to draw on the Treasurer for money to pay wages, we hope will have a good effect with the companies, but could wish the Convention had recommended our staying the time mentioned, rather than ordered. The 1st of *March* is very near, when we expect a few must return home from necessity. As each company has brought a physician with them from home, which we every day find useful and necessary, hope some provision may be made for them, otherwise they must be considerably out of pocket, as they have been, and must be, until their return home, at their own expense, besides finding all the medicines and instruments necessary. And as you request the companies to return in a body to their respective Counties, hope some money will be paid us to defray the expense of our march back. Though one of our companies was only fifteen, and the other twelve days on their march to this place, yet the one hundred pounds received of the Treasurer was expended, and our Commissary not prepared to receive us, which much distressed us for a few days. If an opportunity offers to this place, should be glad to be furnished with the Continental regulations relative to wages and victualling, the latter of which our Commissary either does not, or pretends not to know any thing about. We shall endeavour whilst here to give all the satisfaction we can to the inhabitants of this place, as far as is consistent with our duty; but more particularly the Province to which we belong, and shall cheerfully obey every command of our Representatives, as far as can be done by a people who are determined to preserve their liberties; and hope the conduct of our companies this campaign will not reflect dishonour, either on the Province to which they belong, or themselves.

We are, with every mark of esteem and respect, gentlemen, your obedient, humble servants,

JAMES KENT,
WILLIAM HENRY.

To the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO GENERAL LEE.

Philadelphia, February 28, 1776.

SIR: Your letter of 22d instant has been duly received, and referred to a Committee of Congress, who have not yet reported thereupon.

As soon as the Congress have come to a determination I shall do myself the pleasure to communicate the same to you. In the mean while I am directed to desire you not to set out for *Canada*, until you receive further orders from Congress.

I have the honour to be, sir, your obedient, humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

To Major-General *Lee*.

PLAIN HINTS ON THE CONDITION OF THE COLONIES.

Philadelphia, February 28, 1776.

Nothing can be more surprising than the great chain of events which have taken place in the *American* Colonies within the small compass of a few years. Possibly no instances occur in the history of mankind in which the universal opinion has been more frequently opposed. It is no wonder, then, that we now find ourselves at a loss, and uncertain where to fix. That the King can do no wrong; that the interests of *Great Britain* and the Colonies were the same, reciprocal and inseparable; that she could not injure

us without injuring herself, and, therefore, we were safe; that she was a tender parent, in whom we might confide implicitly; that she was the grand support of freedom and the Protestant religion; that the King was imposed upon by his Ministers; that a change in Administration would rectify evils complained of; that the abilities and weight of our friends in Parliament would prevent extremities; that our friends throughout the nation would return a better Parliament than the last; that the act declaring their right to tax us, in all cases whatever, would not be carried into execution, but remain a harmless letter; that the several repeals and seeming alterations in their plan of conduct, proved a relinquishment of any evil intentions; that the power of *Britain* was such as we could not oppose through one single campaign; that our Provincial troops could not face the regularity and discipline of *British* forces; that we have no resources to carry on a war; that jealousies and opposition of interests would ever prevent a junction of the Colonies. These, and a thousand other opinions in succession have taken full possession of us; and after a little while we have found ourselves obliged to relinquish them. They were the grafts which might be expected to grow from that attachment to, and veneration for, the idea we had been taught to form of the wisdom, justice, and tenderness of *Britain*. It has, also, been supposed, that we are so connected with, and dependant on *Great Britain*, that repeated injuries committed with an avowed intent to do them, and more, and that plundering, murder, executions, and conflagration, in short, that all the havock of halters, fire, sword, and famine, cannot destroy the debt of gratitude and justice we owe to that state, or make it our interest to dissolve the connection.

Let us examine this matter: Possibly the facts on which this opinion is founded may bear the inquiry not much better than the facts referred to above.

It is said we are indebted to *Great Britain* for the settlements of the Colonies. The truth is, when they were discovered it was the effect of accident, concurring with the disposition of the hardy adventurer. The settlement was made by persons who had no great reason to be obliged to King or Parliament; they were persecuted at home, and retired from mankind to a wilderness: There they suffered much, and risked all. If they obtained grants from the King, it could only be of security from further oppressions of his hand; more he could not grant; even this was for a while refused. The land was inhabited by Natives to whom *God* had given the property and dominion: Of these Natives the property was bought by the settlers, who cleared the country, cultivated the soil, and grew and prospered in the arts and in Government, without any expense to the King, or Parliament of *Britain*. It is said we are indebted to *Great Britain* for protection from our foes. It should be said, we have to charge *Britain* with all the foes and wars we ever had. In the infancy of the Colonies they were thought of little value, not worth contending for. The very settling of them has been treated with neglect and contempt. Then they were in no danger. When their consequence afterwards became more apparent, and, indeed, from their first origin to the present time, they have been so much advanced in population, wealth, and every advantage, as to be under no apprehensions from any of their neighbours: And had they, at any intermediate period, extended their trade generally to all parts of *Europe*, it is possible that the interest of every part in our commerce, might have prevented any one Power from oppressing or injuring us; even *Britain* herself would have found it her interest to protect our peace and trade. But our forefathers were fond of the pageantry of a King, and attached to the country that gave them birth. They chose the King of *England* to be their supreme head, and flattered themselves, that though they were persecuted at home, yet, that he would leave to them peace, liberty, and safety, in the wilderness. Thus we have been involved in every *British* war. Even a dispute in *Hanover* was sufficient to deluge *America* in blood; and till the year 1756, no war had any particular reference in its principles to *American* interests; nor ought we to be charged even with that. However, the Parliament of *Britain* has done us the justice to acknowledge we then overdid our proportion, and they have refunded accordingly. In all instances our coasts have by them been left unguarded, and our frontiers defenceless. When *France* and *Spain* scoured our shores because we were connected with *Britain*, we have been left without a single ship-of-war. When we trafficked with the *Indians* back for their land, or for peace, or repelled their incursions, it was at our own expense, though in many cases they were set on us by the foes of *Britain*. Shall any commercial advantages which we have enjoyed be urged as a ground of gratitude or retribution? Let the most zealous advocate for continual dependance on *Britain* point out a single instance of preference given by that Court to the *American* trade if he can; and while he hunts the rusty records in vain for any such, let him not turn over unnoticed the numberless acts passed to restrict our free commerce, to clog with impositions and duties, to discourage manufacturers and employments for our poor, and to give advantages, at our cost, to the lordly *West-Indians*. In a few words, the Colonies have paid more to *Britain* in a course of trade, by giving a greater price for goods of inferior value, &c., than if they had gone to other *European* markets, than any claims the *British* partisan can feign.

It is said, that under this connection and dependance we have grown and thriven. That we have thriven amazingly is true. The present state of these Colonies is the admiration of all who have given attention to the progress of mankind, of arts and sciences. But was it because our trade was restricted? Was it because we have never, as men, had the full improvement of our lands and property in our power? Was it because, as societies, or Governments, we had not the full and complete powers of legislation among ourselves? Let this account be fairly stated. Let us only make an experiment of an open trade, for half the time we have shackled ourselves with confinement to, as it were, one port. Let us try what improvements we may be drawn into by a general correspondence with the whole world, with people who will require from us every different article our lands, our different climates, can produce; and from whom may be had directly, at first hand, every thing requisite for us. Let us have access to the lowest and best market for every commodity. Let this be the case, but for half the time the Colonies have already existed, and the doubts and struggles too, concerning independence, will be at an end. Let all those people who are now groaning under oppression and poverty, in *Europe*, know that *America* is become an asylum for the injured, and is capable of giving encouragement to the industrious and skilful in every art and business of life, and, perhaps, the most sanguine expectations would fall vastly short of the multitude of honest, active, and ingenious citizens who would in a few years flock into this country. *America* has been hitherto little known abroad. Even our brethren in *Britain*, whom we left but a few years ago, and with whom we have a constant intercourse, know but little of us and our situation. The other parts of *Europe* must have been inconceivably less acquainted with it. The case is now greatly altered. Our late transactions have attracted the attention even of the common people of most of the *European* States; the lovers of liberty abroad have their eyes turned towards us; even to the head of the *Rhine*, it is said, they applaud our virtuous efforts, and wish us success. The fruits of our success they will wish with us to enjoy. A free and general intercourse will throw the doors of information and opportunity open. Possibly it might not totally depopulate the old world, but, without a doubt, it would multiply the millions now in this new one. Let it be granted we have grown under the connection and dependance contended for; are we, therefore, involved in a debt even of gratitude? Be it so: What obligations then is *Britain* under to us? Our connection with them has been acknowledged to be of the utmost consequence to their trade, to their well-being. This is the language of their best writers on commerce, and of almost every act of Parliament in which *America* is mentioned. Before they had Colonies, what was their fleet? How great was their dependance on other nations for the most necessary articles to carry on a war, even for their own defence, and for their manufactories? It has been said by themselves, that one person in *America*, supported four in *Britain*. Allow one in *Britain* to be supported by every person in *America*, and so striking an instance cannot be named in which we have received benefits from her. It is not necessary to depreciate the advantages derived from the connection; let it only be under-

stood, that they have been reciprocal, and at least equal on the part of *Britain*. This destroys the idea of any debt or any duty. As of inferiors, if a religious submission to this connection has rendered our growth and prosperity less flourishing, than they would have been in a general connection, it can only be compared to the situation of a tree in a little earth between two rocks, which, though it looks fair, and grows to a certain size, yet, had it been able to spread its roots, and imbibe the nourishment of an extended soil, might soon become the largest tree of the forest.

A. B.

SPEECH OF A FARMER TO AN ASSEMBLY OF HIS NEIGHBOURS OF PHILADELPHIA COUNTY, ON HIS ENGAGING IN THE CONTINENTAL SERVICE.

My Friends and Countrymen:

I have observed that some of you are a little surprised that I, with so many inducements as I have to remain at home, should have resolved to quit my family and my farm for the fatigues and dangers of war. I mean you should be perfectly satisfied as to my motives. I am an *American*, and am determined to be free. I was born free, and have never forfeited my birthright; nor will I ever, like the infatuated son of *Isaac*, sell it for a mess of pottage. I will part with my life sooner than with my liberty; for I prefer an honourable death to the miserable and despicable existence of slavery.

The tyrant who would rob me of my property, because he thinks he has use for it and is able to take it from me, would as soon, for the same reason, rob me of my life, if it stood in his way. But it is *God* Almighty who gave me my life, and my property as a necessary means, among others, of preserving and enjoying it; and it is He only that hath an absolute and unlimited right and power to take either or both away. Being the Creator, the Supporter, the perfect Ruler and Judge of all the earth, He, only, can do no wrong. Should, therefore, any creature whatsoever, or number of them, dare to usurp this sole prerogative of Heaven over me, I could neither answer it to my Maker, nor my conscience, nor my honour, if I did not resist, though it were to the last drop of my blood. It is in the free enjoyment of those blessings, uncontrolled by any human powers, (except so far as the voice of the society in general, of which we are members, may have resigned a part for the preservation of the whole,) that civil liberty substantially consisteth. Let no one, therefore, wonder, if of all earthly benefits my Creator hath bestowed on me, I do most esteem my liberty. Anarchy, indeed, I deprecate, but tyranny infinitely more. The reason is obvious: the former, like a common surfeit, occasioned by an irregular and intemperate indulgence of the bodily appetites, if but a little helped by simple medicine, will almost always, as I may say, cure itself; whereas the latter, like a devouring cancer, the longer it is let alone without the application of violent caustics, the faster and deeper it will root itself into the frame, until it gnaws out the very life of the body. Government is neither of these; it is an ordinance of Heaven, to restrain the usurpations of wicked men, to secure us in the enjoyments of our natural rights, and to promote the highest political interests and happiness of society. The claims, therefore, of the *British* Parliament of a power to bind us in all cases whatsoever, to give away our property in what measure and for what purpose they please, and to dispose of our lives as they think proper, when we have no voice in the legislation, nor constitutional power allowed us to check their most violent proceedings, are not of the nature of Government, but in the true and strict sense of the word, Tyranny.

Of the tendency and operation of this diabolical system, our country hath already had too deep and affecting experience not to be sensible of them; and it requires not the spirit of supernatural prophecy to foretell the end of them, should they not be seasonably controlled. Controlled, did I say? Blest be the spirit of *American* liberty, wisdom, and valour! they have been controlled. But, my friends, it is evident we can never have safety, liberty, and peace, until, by an unremitting and vigorous application of the axe, now laid to the root of the tree, we have totally overturned, in these Colonies, the power that would demolish us. Not to speak of the unwearied art and assiduity of the *British* King and Parliament these twelve years past, to fasten on us the shackles of slavery, let me only remind you of the base and cruel measures to subjugate us, since we have been obliged to take up arms in our defence. What stone have they left unturned? What device to ruin us, though never so mean, barbarous, and bloody—such as no heart but that of a devil and a tyrant can refrain shuddering at—have they not pursued? Have not all the powers of *Europe* been meanly courted and bribed not to supply us with the means of resistance? Hath not the most barbarous nation in it been applied to, to assist them with at least twenty thousand savages, to complete their intended massacre? Have they not attempted to spirit up the *Indian* Savages to ravage our frontiers, and murder, after their inhuman manner, our defenceless wives and children? Have not our *Negro* slaves been enticed to rebel against their masters, and arms put into their hands to murder them? Have not the King of *England's* own slaves, the *Hanoverians*, been employed? And were not the poor *Canadians* made slaves, that they might be made fit instruments, with other slaves and savages, to make slaves, and more wretched beings than savages of us?

Now, what kind of reconciliation can be reasonably expected with a Power so basely, so cruelly, so industriously, and obstinately bent on our destruction? In short, we have no alternative left us, but to fight or die. If there be any medium, it is slavery; and ever cursed be the man who will submit to it! I will not. But who would ever have imagined, that a people who a few years ago assisted their brethren of *Great Britain*, with their blood and treasure, to humble the power of *France* and *Spain*, and who from their first existence as a people, have, by their trade and industry, been enriching and exalting them above all the nations of the world—who, I say, would have imagined that this very people should, by these, their very brethren, be now reduced to so dreadful an alternative: Yet hear ye Heavens, and give ear, O Earth, and bear witness, this is the return we have received for all our love, loyalty, industry, treasure, and blood!

Had we begun this quarrel, had we demanded some new privileges unknown to the Constitution, or some commercial licenses, incompatible with the general interest of the Empire; had we presumed to legislate for *Great Britain*, or plotted with the *Bourbon* family to reinstate the execrable race of the *Stuarts*, and fled to arms, unprovoked, to accomplish these designs, there would then be some plausible apology for the severest hostile treatment we have received. But, what have we done? When alarmed, ere we had yet rested from the toils of the last war, by new unconstitutional demands of revenue, we asserted our rights, and petitioned for justice. Was this a crime? As unconstitutional statutes of different forms were repeatedly enacted, we repeated our petitions for redress. Was this a crime? We suffered ourselves to be insulted by the introduction of an armed force to dragoon us into obedience; we suffered them to take possession of our towns and fortifications, still waiting with decent and anxious expectation, from the wonted justice, humanity, and generosity of *Britons*. Was this a crime? Disposed to try every pacifick measure which might probably procure our relief, we agreed to withhold our commerce from them, in hopes that, feeling the effects of their injustice, they might see how ruinous their proceedings were to their own interests, and return in time to wisdom and peace. Was this a crime? Nor did we once lift the sword, even in our defence, until provoked to it by a wanton commencement of hostilities on their part. What, then, have we done to merit such cruel proceedings? My friends, I am firmly persuaded that no truth will appear in future history with more glaring evidence, and that the whole mass of guilt contracted by this unnatural war lieth at the door of the King of *Britain*, his abandoned Ministers, and corrupted Parliament; and so that not only all future generations of men, but the great Judge of all the earth, will finally condemn their measures, as a scene of tyranny and murder. I, therefore, conceive myself as having taken up arms in defence of innocence, justice, truth, honesty, honour, liberty, property, and life; and in opposition to guilt, injustice, falsehood, dishonesty, ignominy, slavery, poverty, and death; not that I have any fondness for the bloody profession; not that I delight in the carnage of my species, or sigh for an occasion of

*

proving my courage: Heaven and you are my witnesses, that my voice was for some time, perhaps too long, and with too much earnestness, against any military preparations; but the times are altered; 'tis a dreadful necessity that calls me, and calls every man who can be spared from his other occupations.

I will not, however, fight as one who beateth the air. I speak plainly; I consider this year as the grand and final period of *British* Administration in this *American* world. I see no probability of their proffering such terms as we can accept of, consistently with our safety, honour and peace. Nay, should they grant all that our publick Councils have heretofore claimed, we should still be in a most dangerous situation, liable to renewed encroachments and renewed hostilities. What else can be supposed from such a situation, and from the views, temper, and prejudices that must and will prevail in the *British* Court and Parliament? Besides, who, in that case, will reimburse our losses? or how shall our publick debts be paid? I do solemnly declare, and that with respect to the best reconciliation that can reasonably be expected with so corrupt, treacherous, and tyrannous Administration, that if I thought we should again revert to a dependance on *Britain*, I should from this day lay down my sword, and weep that I was born in *America*. But far other prospects are before us: glory, empire, liberty, and peace, are, I am persuaded, unless we are lost to ourselves, very near at hand. And on every consideration of the present state and progress of our publick affairs, compared with the spirit of *Britain*, and the spirit, the interest, and internal advantages of *America*, methinks I hear a voice, as if an angel from heaven should proclaim, "Come out from among them, and be ye separate from them. Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues."

TO THE INHABITANTS OF PENNSYLVANIA.

Philadelphia, February 28, 1776.

The town has been lately amused with a new political pamphlet, intituled *Common Sense*.

This piece, though it has taken a popular name, and implies that the contents are obvious and adapted to the understandings of the bulk of the people, is so far from meriting the title it has assumed, that, in my opinion, it holds principles equally inconsistent with learned and common sense.

I know not the author, nor am I anxious to learn his name or character; for the book, and not the writer of it, is to be the subject of my animadversions.

'Tis the glory of a free country to enjoy a free press, and of this, that the sentiments and opinions of the meanest, equally with those of the greatest, are brought to view; for we know, by frequent instances, that the rich and high-born are not the monopolizers of wisdom and virtue. On the contrary, these qualities are oftener to be found among the middling class in every country, who, being less dissipated and debauched than those who are usually called their betters, apply themselves with more industry to the culture of their understandings, and in reality become better acquainted with the true interests of the society in which they live.

But to my great grief I have too often seen instances of persons in every class of life, whose publications, at the same time they have reflected honour on the parts and genius of the authors, have been so shamefully wanting in candour as to attempt, by the cadence of words, and force of style, a total perversion of the understanding.

The pamphlet in question seems to be plainly calculated to induce a belief of three things:

1st. That the English form of Government has no wisdom in it, and that it is by no means so constructed as to produce the happiness of the people, which is the end of all good government.

2d. That monarchy is a form of Government inconsistent with the will of *God*.

3d. That now is the time to break off all connection with *Great Britain*, and to declare an independence of the Colonies.

It must be obvious to every impartial eye, that the author reasons from the abuses of, against the benefits derived from the *English* Constitution; and after reciting these abuses, concludes, very unfairly, that "it is incapable to produce what it seems to promise." For if an argument of this sort is to be received, it will prove, perhaps, rather more than the author would choose—it would even prove that the *Jewish* theocracy was quite as improper, and as incapable to produce what it aimed at, as the reprobated *English* Government. The records of sacred history inform us, that the law was given to the people from *God*, and that the Great Jehovah himself condescended to call them his chosen people. He signally interposed in their behalf in bringing them out of bondage, in preserving them from the rage of *Pharoah's* army, and seating them in a land flowing with milk and honey, under his immediate government and laws, "written with his own finger."

"And he will love thee and bless thee, and multiply thee: he will also bless the fruit of thy womb and the fruit of thy land, thy corn, and thy wine, and thy oil; the increase of thy kine, and the flocks of thy sheep, in the land which he sware unto thy fathers to give thee."—*Deuteronomy* vii, 13.

"Thou shalt be blessed above all people; there shall not be male or female barren among you, or among your cattle."—*Deuteronomy* vii, 14.

But what effects did all these extraordinary favours and promises of the Deity himself produce upon that wicked, perverse, stiff-necked people? *Moses* tells them,

"From the day that thou didst depart out of the land of *Egypt* until ye came unto this place, ye have been rebellious against the Lord."—*Deuteronomy* ix, 7.

"You have been rebellious against the Lord from the day that I knew you."—*Deuteronomy* ix, 24.

Profane, as well as sacred history, informs us of the ineffectuality of the best Governments and the wisest laws among a corrupt, degenerate people. It does not regularly follow, that if the people are not happy under an excellent form of civil polity, that the fault is in the Government; it may be owing to the corruption of the people, and this I take to be the case in *Great Britain* at this day. When the *British* Parliament is properly balanced, and each branch of the Legislature faithfully executes its duty, I think I am safe in affirming there was never yet a form of Government in the world so well calculated for the happiness of a free people as this; and yet we are told by the author of the pamphlet, that the "prejudice of *Englishmen* in favour of King, Lords, and Commons, arises as much, or more, from national pride than reason." The world has already seen numberless instances of fine-spun political theories, which, like the quackeries of mountebank Doctors, are to cure all the political evils to which human nature is liable; but, when the experiment is made, they become astonished at the ill-success of their boasted schemes; they find a thousand little passions and interests continually interfering with their designs, and, at length, retire again to their closets, chagrined they had not thought it necessary to study the great volume of human nature, before they ventured to say what was the best for mankind.

The author, after venting his spleen against the *English* form of Government, comes next to consider the subject of Monarchy, and hereditary succession; in treating which, he plainly discovers the utmost prepossession in favour of a Republick. I shall not follow him through his Scripture quotations, which he has so carefully garbled to answer his purpose, but beg leave to oppose some authorities to it.

The celebrated *Trenchard*, in No. 60, of *Cato's* Letters, says, "there is no Government now upon earth which owes its formation or beginning to the immediate revelation of *God*, or can derive its existence from such revelation. It is certain, on the contrary, that the rise and institution, or variation of Government from time to time, is within the memory of men, or of histories; and that every Government which we know, at this day, in the world, was established by the wisdom and force of mere men, and by the concurrence of causes evidently human."

"Nor has *God* by any revelation nominated Magistrates, showed the nature or extent of their powers, or given a plan of civil polity for mankind.—*Hutch. Mor. Philos. p.* 272.

"There being no natural or Divine law for any form of Government, or that one person rather than another should have the sovereign administration of affairs, or have power over many thousand different families, who are by nature all equal, being of the same rank, promiscuously born to the same advantages of nature, and to the use of the same

common faculties, therefore, mankind is at liberty to choose what form of Government they like."

"*God's* providence, or permission, suffered his own peculiar people, the *Jews*, to be under divers governments at divers times; as first, under Patriarchs, *Abraham*, *Isaac* and *Jacob*, &c.; then under Judges, *Othniel*, *Ehud*, and *Gideon*; then under High-Priests, *Eli* and *Samuel*; then under Kings, *Saul*, *David*, and the rest; then under Captains and High-Priests, again, as *Zerubbabel*, *Judas*, *Maccabeus*, and his brethren; and the government, was, lastly, taken from them, and they brought under the power of *Rome*. And that *God* permits such magistrate, or magistrates, as the community thinks fit to approve, is plain by the testimony of Holy Scriptures, when *God* said to *Solomon*, "By me Kings rule, even all the Judges of the earth."—*Proverbs* viii, 16.

"When the sons of *Samuel* were Judges over *Israel*, they took bribes and perverted judgment; therefore, the elders of *Israel* desired *Samuel* to make them a King;" and though the elders are only mentioned to have asked a King of *Samuel*, they seem to have been deputed from the whole congregation; for *God* said unto *Samuel*, "Hearken to the voice of the people in all that they say unto thee."—1 *Samuel* viii, 4, 7.

"And *Samuel* told the people the manner of the kingdom, and wrote it in a book, and laid it up before the Lord."—1 *Samuel* x, 25. 'Tis plain the manner of the kingdom signifies the Constitution of the Government, by which was meant the conditions on which *Saul* was to be King, and they his subjects; for though *God* had given him the crown, it was to rule the people according to justice and laws.

"After the battle between *Saul* and the *Ammonites*, *Samuel* said to the people, Come, let us go to *Gilgal*; and there they made *Saul* King before the Lord."—1 *Samuel*, xi, 1, 5, 6, 7, 14, 15.

"Now, therefore, behold the King whom ye have chosen; and behold the Lord hath set a King over you."—*Samuel* xii, 13.

These latter quotations are taken from the great Lord *Somers's* book, called "The Judgment of the whole Kingdoms and Nations, concerning the rights of Kings and the People." This nobleman was Lord High Chancellor of *England* in King *William's* reign, and was remarkable for his Revolution principles, great learning, and unshaken integrity in publick and private life.

It does, therefore, from the foregoing testimonies appear, that Monarchy, (especially a limited one, such as that of *England*,) is not inconsistent with the Holy Scriptures, as is set forth in said pamphlet; but that it is as pleasing to the Almighty, if agreeable to the people, as any other form of Government, even the author's beloved Republick.

The writer next proceeds to inform his readers of the numerous wars and scenes of blood acted in *England* under their Kings, and asserts that "Monarchy and succession have laid the world in blood and ashes. 'Tis a form of Government which the word of *God* bears testimony against, and blood will attend it." Here are bold assertions, indeed! To the latter part, I have already endeavoured to make some reply, so far as he asserts it is contrary to the word of *God*; but, will the author's candour permit him to inform his readers of the infinite distractions and mischiefs which have happened in the ancient and modern Republicks? Under this form, there are always two parties, which divide the whole body of the people, and an eternal warfare subsists between them for power; the contest is dreadful enough, but which soever party prevails, there is no rod heavy enough, no sword sufficiently sharp to punish those whom they have subdued; it then becomes a many-headed monster, a tyranny of many.

Let any man read with an unprejudiced eye the accounts which the historians give us of the famous *Grecian* Commonwealths, and I will venture to speak for him, that he will not bestow great commendations upon them. The *Athenians*, a wise and polished people, very often banished their best citizens, from an apprehension of their power—a glorious reward for a virtuous citizen, who, as was the case in more instances than one, had preserved his country from destruction. In the latter times of the *Carthagenian* and *Roman* Republicks, what constant scenes of blood and devastation does history present to us. The multitude in a perpetual ferment, like the ocean in a storm—in a storm did I say?—like waters of the sea, agitated by a dreadful whirlwind—nothing but the fury of one party encountering the rage of another. Every trace of humanity being thus lost, men change their natures, and become as fierce and savage as wolves and tigers.

But, let us descend nearer to modern times: let us look for happiness and security in the Republick of *Holland*, so often mentioned, and so little known: let us recollect the fate of the two brothers, *Cornelius* and *John De Witt*, *Dutch* ministers, who were massacred by the people in the year 1672. *Holland* itself, from being a republick, is become a downright aristocracy. Liberty did not continue long in that country, notwithstanding the blood and treasure that were expended to acquire it. The people, so far from being free, have had no voice for many years past in the election of persons to represent them in the States-General; nor have they any thing to do in the forming of laws by which they are to be governed. Whenever one of them dies, the vacancy is filled up without any interference of the people, and this important change was made in the state because of the intolerable feuds and animosities which attended the elections of Representatives. Had they been to have chosen a King, what dangerous and destructive tumults must it have produced. Founded on the woful experience of ages, it is now become a general fixed opinion, that hereditary is preferable to elective monarchy, on account of the terrible disorders, outrages, and confusion, which usually attend the election of a King; a pregnant instance of which, in our times, is the Kingdom of *Poland*.

In our own history we see the effect of the much wished for Commonwealth, after the death of the tyrant *Charles*; it did not produce liberty; it presently ended in arbitrary power. The moment, almost, after the reins of Government fell from *Charles's* hands, *Cromwell* took them up and governed the nation with absolute sway.

I cannot agree with the author of the pamphlet in opinion, that this is the time to declare an Independence of the Colonies. This ought to be the dernier resort of *America*. Let us not yet lose sight of the primary object of the dispute, namely, a safe, honourable, and lasting reconciliation with *Great Britain*, until we are under a necessity of doing it. If an advantageous accommodation can be had, and a free Constitution for this country be established on mutual agreement and compact, 'twill be better and happier for us; but if justice is still denied us, and we are to contend for liberty by arms, we will meet them in the field, and try our manhood against them, even to spilling the blood of every brave man we have. Should the Ministry have recourse to foreign aid, we may possibly follow their example; and, if it be essential then to our safety to declare an Independence, I would willingly embrace the necessity.

RATIONALIS.

NEW-YORK PROVINCIAL CONGRESS TO PRESIDENT HANCOCK.

[Read March 4, 1776.—Referred till to-morrow.]

In Provincial Congress, New-York, February 28, 1776.

SIR: In obedience to the resolution of Congress, we have now the honour to transmit a list of gentlemen nominated by us as Field-Officers for the four Battalions ordered to be raised for the defence of this Colony.

In this nomination, we have endeavoured to pay due attention to the merits of those officers who served in the last campaign, and are willing to continue in the service. To these, we have added a number of gentlemen who now tender their services to their country. As soon as the Field-Officers are fixed by Congress, we beg their commissions may be forwarded. The other officers are appointed, and recruiting in different parts of this Colony.

It may not be improper to mention that some of the Captains and Subalterns who served in our regiments last year are now in *Canada*; these gentlemen we have not been able to provide for in the four battalions now raising, as we were uncertain when they would return, or whether they were not provided for in the *Canada* Regiments; we were apprehensive, if we provided for them in our battalions, it might impede the raising the troops, and thereby injure the service.

In justice to these gentlemen, we thought it our duty

to mention this, and to enclose a list of their names; and doubt not but that their services will be duly considered by Congress, and that proper provisions will be made for them, if they are not already provided for.

We are, most respectfully, sir, your most obedient and very humble servants.

By order:

NATHANIEL WOODHULL, *President.*

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq., President of the Continental Congress.

In Provincial Congress, New-York, February 28, 1776.

List of Gentlemen nominated, out of which to elect Field-Officers for the four Regiments to be raised for the defence of the Colony of NEW-YORK, *viz:*

Colonels: *Alexander McDougall, James Clinton, Rudolphus Ritzema, Peter Yates, Cornelius D. Wynkoop, Philip Cortland, John Jasper, Seth Warner.*

Lieutenant-Colonels: *Hermon Zedtwitz, Peter Gansevoort*, Jun., *Barnabas Tuthill, Henry G. Livingston, Peter P. Schuyler, John Hathorn, Egbert Dumont, Gouverneur Morris.*

Majors: *Frederick Van Weisenfels, John Fisher, Daniel Griffin, Henry B. Livingston, Marinus Willet, Cornelius Van Dyck, John Nicholson, Joseph Benedict.*

The following Officers are now in Canada:

First Regiment: *Herman Zedtwitz, John Brogden, Israel Evans, William Tapp.*

First Company: *Frederick Van Weisenfels, Richard Platt.*

Second Company: *Marinus Willet, William Gilleland*, (unfit,) *Leonard Bleecker.*

Fourth Company: *William Goforth, Ranald S. McDougall.*

Fifth Company: *Abram Austin, John Houston.*

Sixth Company: *John Copp, Daniel Gano.*

Seventh Company: *Gershom Mott, Benjamin Petton, Timothy Hughes.*

Eighth Company: *Jonathan Pearcy, Garret Van Wagener.*

Ninth Company: *Digby Odlum.*

Tenth Company: *Matthias Clark, J. Hubble, George Nicholson*, (acting as Town Major at *Montreal*, and Second Lieutenant or Ensign;) *John L. Lyn*, Surgeon; *Hunlock Woodruff*, Mate.

Second Regiment: *Peter Gansevoort, Henry Van Woort.*

First Company: *John Fisher.*

Second Company: *Guy Young.*

Third Company: *Barent J. Ten Eyck, Dirck Hanson, John G. Lansing.*

Eighth Company: *Elisha Benedict.*

Ninth Company: *John Graham, Nicholas Van Rensselaer, Stephen McCrea*, Surgeon.

Third Regiment: *James Clinton.*

Second Company: *John Nicholson.*

Fourth Company: *Lewis Dubois, Elias V. Buntchoten.*

Seventh Regiment: *Jacobus Bruyn, Thomas Dewit, Albert Paulding.*

Ninth Company: *Cornelius T. Jansen.*

Tenth Company: *Robert Johnson, Samuel Cooke*, Surgeon.

Fourth Regiment: Second Company: *Samuel Sacket.*

Fifth Company: *Ambrose Horton, Samuel J. Pell.*

Sixth Company: *Daniel Mills.*

Tenth Company: *David Palmer, William Crane, William Mathewman.*

The Names of Commissioned and non-Commissioned Officers of the First Battalion of NEW-YORK, *who are willing to enter in the service of their country, and likewise some of the Privates which may be depended upon.*

Colonel, - - -	*John Lasher.*	
Major, - - - -	*Sebastian Banmen.*	
Captain, - - -	*James Alner*, - -	Prussian Blues.
Captain-Lieutenant,	*Henry Livingston*,	Fusiliers.
Captain, - - -	*Abram Van Wycke*,	Sportsmen.
Adjutant, - - -	*Philip Brasher.*	
First Lieutenant, -	*Gerardus Beekman*,	Sportsmen.
First Lieutenant, -	*John Wiley*, - -	Light Infantry.
First Lieutenant, -	*John Johnson*, - -	Rangers.
First Lieutenant, -	*Henry Tiebout*, -	Prussian Blues.
Second Lieutenant,	*John Bancker*, - -	Rangers.
Second Lieutenant,	*Nicholas Fish*, - -	Fusiliers.
Second Lieutenant,	*Henry Brasher*, -	Prussian Blues.
Third Lieutenant, -	*William Wilcocke*, -	Fusiliers.
Third Lieutenant, -	*A. B. Bancker*, -	Rangers.
Sergeant, - - -	*George Harsen*, -	Grenadiers.
Sergeant, - - -	*John Vredenbergh*, -	Grenadiers.
	William Forbis, -	Light-Horse.
	Abraham Brasher, -	Grenadier.
	David Cree, - -	Grenadier.
	Samuel Morlidge, -	Grenadier.
	George Masaver, -	Grenadier.
	Edward Dunscomb,	Fusilier.
	John Farrell, - -	Fusilier.
	And. Oughterson, -	Fusilier.
Sergeant, - - -	*Cornelius Becker*, -	Sportsmen.
Corporal, - - -	*Benjamin Burris*, -	Light Infantry.
	George Lucom, -	Grenadier.
	John Waldron, - -	Grena'r 2d Bat.
Sergeant-Major, -	*Joseph Fortune.*	
Sergeant, - - -	*Frederick Hymes*, -	Light Infantry.
Sergeant, - - -	*Benjamin Davis*, -	Light Infantry.

JOHN HILL TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

Ulster County, February 28, 1776.

DEAR SIR: As a friend to my country, I am obliged to address you and the venerable body in which you are a member, about an affair which, I am advised by the most discerning of my neighbours, ought to come under your inspection. The fact is thus: *Cadwallader Colden*, Esq., son to the Lieutenant-Governour, some years ago obtained a mortgage from me, with a bond and judgment, for security of a certain sum of money due to him from me, and he being unreasonably urgent for his money, which I could not immediately pay, on account of the slow success I had in collecting my own debts, I was obliged to sell part of my lands to satisfy him; but, after I had got the money, and wanted to discharge my bond, he utterly refused to accept of it on account of its being Continental money. The sum was as large as two hundred pounds, and I could not find any person who would change it for other money. Our Committee was about to sit, and hearing of the affair, sent for Mr. *Colden*, who signed a paper, in which he asserted that he had sold the bond in question to his brother, *David Colden*, of *Long-Island*, better than a year ago; that he only offered to receive the money specified in the bond, on this account, and was afraid, in case he would accept of the Congress money, his brother would be dissatisfied, as he had formerly refused such money. This apology passed with our Committee, so that they dismissed Mr. *Colden*. I immediately sent the money to *David Colden*, who declared he never had such a bond from his brother, and, in order to satisfy my messenger, examined all the bonds in his possession, but could not find mine, and said his brother *Cadwallader* had it still.

I am really at a loss how to conduct myself about this matter. Double interest is every day to be paid on the money, and I run the risk of being daily liable to have my estate seized on account of said bond, and, perhaps, have it sold for the twentieth part of what it is worth, as I am certain that no person can make the payments in any other money than the Continental, especially in these parts. I rest the matter on your wise decision. I have advanced nothing but matters of fact, which can be attested by several evidences of credit. In case it be thought necessary to write to me, the letter may be directed to *John Hill*, Esq., near *New-Windsor.*

Your most obedient and humble servant,

JOHN HILL.

To the President of the Provincial Congress, *New-York.*

JOHN HAMMELL, JUN., TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

At Dr. Hemmena's, New-York, February 28, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Desirous of taking an active part in the *American* struggle, and willing to engage as a Surgeon to

the last forces raised in this Province, I applied to the honourable Provincial Congress for their approbation, but received no answer. Still, actuated by the purest motives, (the love and welfare of my country,) and understanding four more battalions are shortly to be raised in this Colony, I again offer myself to the consideration of your honourable body. I do not mean, gentlemen, to impose myself on any body of men, nor do I wish an appointment, without previously discovering myself capable of the trust. Doctor *Hemmena's* thoughts on my abilities, I presented with my last application. Shall only observe that I have been almost eight years to the practice, and would be pleased in being Surgeon of a battalion, or First-Assistant, as, gentlemen, you shall think most proper of your very humble servant,

JOHN HAMMELL, JUN.

To the Honourable Provincial Congress of *New-York*.

DAVID STEWART TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Baltimore, February 29, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Enclosed you have a state of the adventure per schooner *Seaflower*, *Waters*, master, from hence to the *West-Indies* and back, which please to examine, and the Managers will wait on you to-morrow to know your determination therein.

I am, gentlemen, your obedient servant,

DAVID STEWART.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

CAPTAINS KENT AND HENRY TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Head-Quarters, Northampton County, Virginia, February 29, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Enclosed you have a Monthly Return of the Minute Companies under our command; also, a list of the men's names. Gentlemen, we are, very respectfully, your most obedient servants,

JAMES KENT.
WILLIAM HENRY.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

A Monthly Return of Captain WILLIAM HENRY'S *Minute Company, from* KENT *County.*

Commissioned Officers: 1 Captain, 2 Lieutenants, 1 Ensign.

Non-Commissioned Officers: 1 Surgeon, 1 Adjutant, 4 Sergeants, 4 Corporals, 1 Fifer, 1 Drummer.

Rank and File: 60.

Went home *March* 1: *John Wilmer*, *George Little*, Sen., *Salathiel Freeman*, *John Burnsides*, *Francis Lemmon*, *William Miers*, *Nathaniel Knock*, *Charles Irons*, *George Little*, Jun., *John Hurt*.

Total: 86.

Given under my hand at Head-Quarters, *March* 29, 1776, *Northampton* County, *Virginia*.

WILLIAM HENRY.

A Monthly Return of Captain JAMES KENT'S *Minute Company*, MARCH 1, 1776.

Commissioned Officers: 1 Captain, 2 Lieutenants, 1 Ensign, 1 Surgeon.

Non-Commissioned Officers: Sergeant-Major, Quartermaster-Sergeant, 4 Sergeants, 2 Corporals, Fife-Major, Drum-Major, 1 Fifer, 1 Drummer.

Rank and File: Fit for duty, 65; Sick, 1.

Total: 79.

The sick man set down in this Return, is *John Kent*, who was much hurt the 6th *February*, on our march down, and since returned home; he was not able to join the Company after.

JAMES KENT.

A List of the Minute Company that marched from QUEEN-ANNE'S *County*, MARYLAND, FEBRUARY 3, 1776.

Captain: James Kent; *First Lieutenant:* Thomas Tillotson; *Second Lieutenant:* John Charris.
Ensign: John Dames; *Surgeon:* James Brown.
Sergeants: George Findley, Ephraim Wyn Story, Philemon Davis, Samuel Copper.
Corporals: John Jackson, Thomas Meredith Bryon.
Drummer: Thomas Freshwater; *Fifer:* John Findley.

William Stinson,	Christopher Yewell,	Thomas Lane Emory,
Matthew Mason,	John Keene,	William Holding,
Edward Wright,	Thomas Meredith,	Samuel Earle,
John Hawkins,	Jonathan Gibson,	Edward Taylor,
James Clayland,	Joseph Wright,	Peregrine Ashford,
William Robinson,	John Kent,	William Briggs,
Benjamin Blunt,	Thomas Harris,	Robert Dawson,
Walter Meeds,	William Middleton,	William Morgan,
James Browne,	Henry Courscy,	Richard Emory,
Edward Tryall,	John Carman,	William Roe,
William Scott,	Edward Harris,	William Larry,
Robert Bussum,	John Thomas,	Gideon Emory,
John Burnett,	Samuel W. Thomas,	Robert Love,
Richard Wicks,	Robert Wright,	Christopher Jackson,
William Deford,	William W. Emory,	Edward Downes,
Solomon Pratt,	Thomas Mayson,	James Gould Sparks,
Samuel Sweeney,	William Tarr,	John Emory Hall,
John Hargadine,	Samuel White,	Samuel Boulsover,
Barnaba Sinnott,	James Harris,	James Clayland, Jr.,
Joseph Elliott,	Nathaniel Tucker,	John Lloyd,
John Godwin,	William Bruff,	Jacob Gibson,
Charles Scrivenor,	John Smith,	Richard Bruff.

N. B. *John Kent* was wounded the 6th *February*, and has not been able to join the Company since. *William Middleton*, *William Roe*, and *John Findley*, left the Company the 1st *of March*.

JAMES KENT.

JOHN GUNBY TO DANIEL OF ST. THOMAS JENIFER.

Princess-Anne, Somerset County, February 29, 1776.

SIR: Mr. *Forrest*, my First Lieutenant, waits on your Board for instructions with respect to several matters relating to my company.

In obedience to your instructions, communicated to me by Mr. *Scott*, I have provided houses for my company, and rugs and blankets for as many of them as I could. I have, also, provided them with fuel, and such utensils as judged absolutely necessary for dressing their provisions, all which things I have purchased out of my own and my officers' money, as the two hundred pounds ordered me from the *Eastern-Shore* Treasury was not more than sufficient to pay the advance money, directed by the Convention to be advanced with soldiers and non-commissioned officers. The subsistence money has also been advanced to the several recruits as it was necessary.

If it is not going further than your Board may think themselves justifiable in, I would submit it, whether it would not be expedient, in order to save the trouble of frequent applications to the Council and expenses to the Treasury, to advance to the several Captains of Independent Companies such a sum of money as may provide their respective companies in such articles as are to be provided by the Captains, and, also, to pay up the arrearages of subsistence money; each Captain to render his account, with proper vouchers, for the money by him expended for the use of his company. If the Board think this ought to be done, I should be glad to receive, by Mr. *Forrest*, your order on Mr. *Hindman*, for such sum as you may judge necessary for the purpose.

I am, also, to request of the Council that they will take such order as they think proper for furnishing the company with muskets, drum, and fife, as they are at present absolutely unable to exercise for want of arms.

The Committee have fixed the station of the company at *Princess-Anne*, the County town for this County, where I have been able to provide for them very sufficient cover at reasonable rates. I am exceedingly anxious to have the company provided with arms as soon as may be, as most of them are entirely without, and it is impossible to do any thing with them (though many of them are very raw) until furnished with arms, and, from their situation, it is not improbable but they may be pretty soon called into action.

I am, sir, with respect, your most obedient servant,

JOHN GUNBY.

To the Honourable *Daniel of St. Thomas Jenifer*.

ANDREW BEALL TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Bladensburgh, February 29, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The reason I have not waited on your Honours for a commission as a Field-Officer, is, that there has been so much clamour about the appointment of Field-Officers, that I did not choose to accept of a commission unless I was agreeable to the people, for which purpose I have done myself the pleasure of waiting upon several companies, to take their sentiments on the matter, and

have met with their general approbation. Therefore, if your Honours think proper to promote me as a Field-Officer, please do me the favour to send a commission by Captain *Lucas*, who will satisfy your Honours that I am the oldest person in commission, except Colonel *Joshua Beall*, of the Twenty-Fifth Battalion, and that I have, heretofore, exerted myself in the cause of liberty as much as any one in the Province, and you may rely upon an exertion of my utmost abilities, in future, to support the cause, whatever my station may be.

You will please to defer issuing commissions to my company till I come up, which will be within a fortnight from this time, when I shall return recommendations for officers agreeable to the company.

Confiding in your doing me justice respecting this application, I remain, with the greatest regard, gentlemen, your Honours' most obedient, humble servant,

ANDREW BEALL.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

AN APOLOGY FOR THE PENNSYLVANIA ASSEMBLY.

Philadelphia, February 29, 1776.

It has always appeared more meritorious in my eyes to make a good and sufficient apology for any seeming deficiency in the conduct of others, (especially of publick officers,) than forever to be censuring them for conduct, the reasons of which they do not fully attend to.

Insinuations have been thrown out in pamphlets and newspapers, against certain proceedings of our honourable House of Representatives, which I think injurious. As the best causes have not been assigned them, I would, therefore, beg leave to offer such reasons for those parts of their conduct which to some have appeared exceptionable, as I trust will fully acquit them, and remove the censure from that honourable Body to those to whom it of right belongs.

I have often heard them condemned for their backwardness in the cause of liberty, the great dislike they discover to certain measures, and the reluctance with which they proceed in an effectual opposition to a Government which sets no bounds to its claims, and exercises the most unrelenting cruelty in the prosecution of them. Insensibility itself, it is said, might be roused by their madness, and nothing but disaffection to the cause could account for such conduct. If proper attention were paid to the delicacy of their situation, I am persuaded our Assembly would escape without censure. It is a principle in philosophy, and ought to be admitted in every other science, never to admit of more causes than are sufficient to account for the effect, nor to permit a bad cause to be assigned while a good one can be found which will equally solve the phenomenon.

The Representatives of a free people, who are chosen purely for their publick merit and characters, must ever be considered as men of integrity, wisdom, and capacity for the service; a supposition of a contrary nature would reflect more disgrace upon the electors than the elected. In this light I mean to view our present Representatives, and to justify their conduct upon these principles only. An oath or affirmation is surely the most sacred and solemn of all obligations, the most distant appearance of a breach of which a conscientious man, and particularly the Legislators of a nation, would carefully avoid, as the happiness of the community in a great degree depends on the reverential awe and dread in which such an appeal to the Divinity is held by the people. And of all oaths, those that are undefined in their nature, and extensive in meaning, create the greatest perplexity in the consciences of religious men. To this, alone, I ascribe the backwardness of the Assembly to enter on such decisive measures as would give general satisfaction to their constituents—not to a dislike of the cause. And any one who will particularly attend to the late instructions given to our Delegates in Congress, will plainly perceive that I have pointed out the true principles on which they are founded. To the oaths which they are obliged to take before they can sit to hear a debate or vote in the House, and not to a disaffection to the cause, is their conduct on some important occasions to be ascribed. We ought never to charge that to a bad principle which can be accounted for on a good one. I beg, therefore, that my defence of their conduct may be impartially attended to, and not slightly passed over because it appears in a newspaper.

Men who are conscientiously careful to prove to the world that a solemn oath or affirmation is a sacred thing, and not to be trifled with, must find themselves under peculiar embarrassments when called upon to act against a Government to which they have sworn; and, if I am not ill-informed, some members have had their objections to taking it at this very sitting.

I beg leave to transcribe a part of the affirmation which the members are obliged to take on being admitted to a seat in the House, which, I am persuaded, will sufficiently apologize for the seeming reluctance with which they pursue measures that may appear to them to interfere with the oaths they have taken:

"I, A B, do solemnly, sincerely, and truly acknowledge, profess, testify, and declare, that King *George* is the lawful and rightful King of the Realm of *Great Britain*, and of all others his dominions and countries thereunto belonging; and I do solemnly promise, that I will be true and faithful, and bear true allegiance to King *George*, and to him will be faithful against all traitorous conspiracies and attempts whatsoever, which shall be made against his Crown and dignity, and I will do my best endeavour to disclose and make known to King *George* and his successors all treasons and traitorous conspiracies, which I know to be made against him or any of them."

Now, this short extract, though but a small part of the whole, is so full of words of uncertain sense and import, so crammed with expressions, the extent of whose signification is so undefined and ill-limited, that a conscientious man may readily be at a loss to know how far he may proceed with safety, and where he must stop, or be perjured. Our Representatives certainly deserve great credit for the truly patriotick part of their conduct, and a too conscientious regard to their oaths ought to apologize for what they have left undone, as well as for some parts of their proceedings, particularly their instructions. It is hard to oblige men to do any thing that they may think interferes with their consciences. It is acknowledged that a bad oath is better broken than kept; and yet, few among us would be quite free from uneasy sensations and reflections on being reduced to the necessity of violating it. I readily admit the justness of that reasoning which, in the present case, alleges, that where the obligation is mutual, breach of covenant on one side of necessity releases the other. This is certainly implied in the nature of the compact.

But the clearest implication does not always relieve the conscience from scruples. If sacred history tells truth, *Abraham's* servant, when about to swear, on a more trivial occasion, would not be content with any implied release from his oath, but insisted on having the terms of it particularly and clearly defined, and the clause of release fairly and fully stated, that neither his own conscience, nor the tongue of slander might be able, however falsely, to accuse him of perjury. I also remember, a gentleman lately told me that he had just been reading the oath of allegiance, and, for his part, he said he could not, consistent with it, oppose the present proceedings of *Great Britain*. I told him the oath was conditional; but it would not do. Now, there may be many men in our House of Assembly who have like consciences with this man and *Eleazer*.

I conclude, therefore, that every degree of inactivity, backwardness, or inconsistency, with which they are chargeable, proceeds wholly from the oaths they have taken. Their situation is, in this respect, very delicate, and ought to be taken into consideration by every one who takes upon him to judge of their conduct. I am sure nothing heretofore alleged can so easily account for the instructions given by them to our Delegates in Congress, and the unanimity with which they were agreed to in the House. Their oaths, they might imagine, tied them, and they must tie their Delegates. Let us fully acquit them of all sinister motives. Here is principle sufficient to account for the matter; a principle more consonant to our ideas of their integrity and virtue, and the patriotick part of their proceedings, and, therefore, more worthy of credit than the charge of Toryism. Men of equal integrity, but more confined in their notions, would have refused to act at all, and rather submitted to any terms than made an opposition.

I cannot, therefore, help hinting, that if their constituents condemn them for backwardness and inconsistency on the present occasion, they have much greater reason for accusing their constituents of unreasonableness in expecting such things at their hands, while an oath is in the way.

The Assembly and a Convention are both Representatives of the People; yet, on the present occasion a Convention acts more to the minds of the people. Why so? Not, surely, because the members that compose it are greater friends to their country, or more warmly attached to the liberties of *America*? By no means; but, because they have no oaths to embarrass them. Why, then, is the Assembly laid under these difficulties, when they can be avoided?

If people would consider this matter properly, and show that regard to their Representatives which they certainly merit, they would not lay such stumbling-blocks in their way. If no other body of men would do what is required of them, necessity would plead on their behalf, and save them from self-reproach; but, as this is not the case, their backwardness is justifiable, and they, alone, are to be blamed, who have it in their power to remove the difficulty, and yet will not do it. For my part, I was always against troubling the Assembly with the matter. Were it not for a kind of tacit interfering with their oaths, who, that has the high esteem of them which is due to upright Representatives, can doubt but they would have recommended the calling a Convention before this time? The Committee of Inspection for this City and District have it in their power to take the load off their shoulders, and, if they do not, blame not your Assembly. I have shown sufficient cause why they cannot enter into the necessary measures. The Committee lies under no such difficulties. Let blame, for the future, fall on the deserving.

THE APOLOGIST.

JAMES MEASE TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read March 1, 1776.—Referred to a Committee—Mr. Rutledge, Mr. Paine, Mr. Howes.]

Philadelphia, February 29, 1776.

SIR: Through the want of any regular Department to apply to for instructions how to act in cases that appear uncertain, I am under the necessity of troubling you, in order to procure the necessary directions upon the several points herewith handed you, to which I humbly beg you will please (as soon as possible) to send the necessary information.

Captain *Watson* is under marching orders, and hath applied to have his company paid up, which I shall immediately do when I know how to proceed as to the fifth and sixth points, which appear to me the most dubious of the whole.

I beg leave to inform you that there are not near blankets enough yet procured for the two battalions, but I believe the deficiency could be easily made good, if the City Committee were just requested to complete the collection of them from the inhabitants, which they some time ago begun, and in part carried through.

I hope you will excuse my adding to the multiplicity of your business from the occasion, and believe me to be, with the most unfeigned respect, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

JAMES MEASE.

To the Honourable Colonel *John Hancock*.

GENERAL LEE TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

New-York, February 29, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: I am now so far recovered, though far from well, that I shall set out in two days.

The stripping *Ticonderoga* so entirely of its heavy cannon is a most unfortunate circumstance, as the transportation of them from this place is a business of monstrous difficulties, expense, and labour.

The Congress have, as yet, not taken the least step for the security of this place. The instant I leave it, I conclude the Provincial Congress and inhabitants will relapse into their former hystericks; the men-of-war, and Mr. *Tryon*, will return to their old stations at the wharves, and the first regiments who arrive from *England* will take quiet possession of the town and *Long-Island*. I have written letters till I am tired on the subject, to the Congress, but have received no answer. The Committee of three, who were here to confer with me, agreed that it was necessary that five thousand men should be in the place. They left us, and no notice has been taken of the affair since. Great and extensive works are resolved upon, and we have scarcely sufficient numbers to mark out the ground, much less to throw up the works. In short, I know not what to make of this apathy on so important a subject.

Messrs. *Price*, *Walker*, and, since them, the volunteer, *Melchior*, are arrived from *Canada*. It is very lucky, for they can communicate all the necessary lights to the Congress, with respect to the measures which must be taken in that country. By their accounts, nothing is so much wanted as artillerymen. Captain *Lamb's* Company were all taken prisoners. I wish, indeed it is necessary, you should spare us a company from *Boston;* we cannot possibly do without them; we have none here. I entreat, dear General, you would detach Captain *Badlam's* Company. The Captain and I are now well acquainted, and agree wonderfully.

The *Pennsylvania* and *Jersey* troops, who marched for *Canada*, are good, and strong in numbers. The spirit of inlisting prevails through the whole country. I am told, but cannot believe it, that the *New-England* Delegates oppose the inlisting for a year. They say, by means of a shorter engagement the whole country would be soldiers. A curious whim, this. Who the devil can fill their heads with such nonsense? I should think a letter from you on the subject, to either of the *Adams's*, would have a good effect.

I have this moment received yours of the 22d. It is a sort of reprimand for not having more exactly informed you of the occurrences here. I do assure you, General, that I have wrote fully and frequently. It is true, I believe, two posts have carried no letters from me, but I would not trouble you when I had nothing material to communicate. I shall not intrench myself behind the parade of great business, for my first business is to be attentive to my General; nor shall I make a plea of the loss of *Palfrey*, since whose departure I have been obliged to write with my own hand every, the most trifling note. But, in fact, though I confess I am naturally remiss, I have not neglected my duty in this point. I have suffered no safe opportunity to escape me. But enough of this.

I shall now give you a detail of what we have been doing, and in what circumstances we are: Our force, including the Minute-Men, amounts to about seventeen hundred men. *Ward's* Regiment, which is the stay, I have stationed in *Long-Island*. They are employed in making fascines, and preparing other materials for constructing three redoubts, one of which will, in great measure, (in correspondence with a battery which I have sunk opposite to it in the city,) secure the entrance of the *East-River*. *Waterbury's* and *Stirling's* Regiments are quartered in the city; the former in the Upper Barracks, the latter in the Lower. Two hundred Minute-Men are likewise lodged in the town. *Drake's* Regiment of Minute-Men, and one more company, (in all about two hundred,) are stationed at *Horn's Hook*, which commands the pass of *Hell-gate*. They are employed in throwing up a redoubt, to contain three hundred men. As to the town's having few hands, and the necessary duty being hard, I have been able to effect little. I have, indeed, thrown down the side of the fort next the town, to prevent its being converted into a citadel for the use of the enemy. It was absolutely impossible to be moulded into any thing which could annoy their ships. I have likewise thrown a traverse, or barrier, across the *Broadway*, two hundred yards in the rear of the fort, with four pieces of cannon, to prevent the enemy lodging themselves in the remains of the fort, and repairing it. It is likewise my intention to barricade all the streets leading into the *Broadway*, both on the right and left, to secure us against being taken in reverse. Batteries are to be erected on the eminence behind *Trinity* Church, to keep their ships at so great a distance as not to injure the town. As we are surrounded by navigable waters, I consider enclosed works as rather dangerous; it was, therefore, my intention to throw up a great number of large fleches, or redans, at certain distances, one behind another, so as to render it a disputable field of battle against any

force. *King's Bridge*, being a most important pass, (without the command of which we could have no communication with *Connecticut*,) I had resolved to make as strong as possible. Such were my schemes; but as the Congress have not furnished the force which I was taught to expect from *Philadelphia*, we have not had it in our power to effect more than I have related. Governour *Tryon* and the *Asia* still continue betwixt *Nutten* and *Bedlow's Islands*. It has pleased his Excellency, in violation of the compact he had made, to seize several vessels from *Jersey*, laden with flour. It has, in return, pleased *my* Excellency to stop all provision from the city, and cut off all intercourse with him—a measure which has thrown the Mayor, Council, and Tories, into agonies. The propensity, or rather rage, for paying court to this great man, is inconceivable. They cannot be weaned from him. We must put wormwood on his paps, or they will cry to suck, as they are in their second childhood.

Captain *Smith* has just returned from *Fort-Constitution*. He gives a most terrible account of it. The expense of its construction has been enormous; its defects, both in point of situation, laying out, finishing, &c., are numerous. He has made the plan of another, which will command, as far as I can judge from it on paper, the river effectually.

I have now related, as minutely as necessary, our situation. As I shall set out very soon, it will probably be my last from this place. I must entreat, once more, dear General, that you will spare us a company of Artillery. *Badlam* seems rather averse on proposing it.

Adieu, dear sir. Yours, with the greatest respect and affection,

CHARLES LEE.

HENRY REMSEN TO COLONEL WOODHULL.

New-York, February 29, 1776.

SIR: A parcel of powder (about three tons) is arrived here, but without any directions where it is to be forwarded; about the same quantity may be expected here to-morrow. I am desirous that this powder should be transported without delay, and, therefore, have sent a person express, to have your directions by return of Mr. *Saffron*, the bearer of this.

The Committee for the County of *Essex* are now met. They would cheerfully have forwarded this powder, had any direction been sent to them. One gentleman of the Committee spoke to Mr. *Lewis*, (one of the Delegates for *New-York*,) who informed him that the powder was to go to *Cambridge*. Should our Provincial Congress be unacquainted with the destination of this powder, it will be expedient to consult Mr. *Francis Lewis* on the subject. Should it be ordered to *New-York*, a sufficient guard will be necessary to attend to the transportation of it from *Paulus-Hook* to *New-York*. You will please to give directions as soon as possible.

I am, respectfully, your most obedient servant,

HENRY REMSEN.

To Colonel *Woodhull*.

CAPTAIN SINCLAIR TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

Huntington, February 29, 1776.

SIR: It being the practice of all nations to allow the subjects of the respective States at variance to retire, I trouble the Congress with this application for being permitted to go to *Europe* in the first vessel from *New-York*.

I am, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

PATRICK SINCLAIR.

To the President of the Congress, *New-York*.

SAMUEL GALE TO JOHN McKESSON.

Fairfield, February 29, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Give me leave to inform you that I am now in close confinement, in the common jail of this town. I am also of opinion (and I have but too much reason to suspect it) that there is a design against my person, formed by some person, or persons, of the County of *Cumberland*, whose actions you are already acquainted with. True it is, there is a law in this Colony of *Connecticut*, but in the County of *Cumberland*, you know, there is none. I, therefore, (to clear myself before *God*,) expect my life and safety at the hand of those who hold the governing reins of the Province of *New-York*, the Metropolis of which Province I now call my residence.

Thaddeus Burr, Esquire, the Sheriff of this County, informs me that he is acquainted with you. I, therefore, request that you will inform him, by the return of the bearer, what you know of my character, as, also, the character which I bore among mankind before the commencement of these unhappy troubles; and I desire, if my release be not immediately granted, that I may be under the protection of the law till such time arrives.

You well know that my sentiments have been uniform and steady, even if erroneous; and, therefore, I consider myself entitled, at the least, to the privileges and protection which, by the laws of all Christian nations, are granted to prisoners of war—(I call it prisoner of war, not as being an enemy, in heart, to any man breathing, but as being, by birth and education, one of that country between which and this country a war subsists)—and, for that purpose, I conceive myself entitled to an impartial hearing, where prejudice does not prevail; and I hope that is the case in the Congress of which you are a member. Let me request that I may either be allowed the privilege granted by all Christians to a prisoner of war, or, else, the birthright of a *British* subject, the writ of habeas corpus. If the former, only, be allowed, you may mention what you choose in the parole; but I would choose, by all means, if possible, to be at *New-York* or *Philadelphia*, where I may finish my intended publication on surveying, which, you well know, is allowed by all parties to be a matter of great actual service to *America*. I should be glad you would not fail to be immediate in your proceedings herein, and I would look upon it as an additional favour, if you would acquaint Lord *Stirling*, (with whom I had formerly a small acquaintance,) as, also, Mr. *Duane*, of my present situation.

I remain, with the greatest esteem, (notwithstanding all political sentiments,) dear sir, your most humble servant,

SAMUEL GALE.

To *John McKesson*, Esquire, Attorney-at-Law.

P. S. I have, at *New-York*, the copy of the letter which was sent by the *Westminster*, or, rather, *Cumberland* Committee, to Mr. *Livingston*; as, also, a vindication of the conduct of the Sheriff and Posse, by the oaths of, I believe, thirty persons, a great part of whom were on the prejudiced side. These oaths being in favour of the Sheriff and Posse, was the reason, as I have been informed, of their not being sent to your body according to promise.

I would be glad Mrs. *Gale* might not be informed of this letter, lest its contents should occasion her miscarriage.

Mr. *Sturges*, the jailer here, would be glad of half a ream of writing paper. If you are not acquainted with him, I should be glad you would put the expense to my account, and I will repay you next time I see you.

P. S. extraordinary, *March* 2d. I have been favoured with what is called a copy of my letter to Colonel *Bellows*. I aver, from the bottom of my soul, that both the words and the sense are materially altered, and that, consequently, it is not a copy of any letter ever by me written.

The firm belief of there being a design formed against my person occasions me to send a man on purpose with this letter, (by the Sheriff's permission.) If you are desirous of knowing what the letter actually was, I am of opinion that, by the help of the pretended copy, my memory will enable me to furnish a true copy, which shall be at your service

Confinement in a common jail, where the cold wind through the bars (for the windows are not glazed) far exceeds the warmth of all the fire that is obtained, leads me to wish that I could be accommodated in a genteeler apartment, till I come to *New-York*. As you and the Sheriff are acquainted, I wish you would pass your word for my stay, and you may rely on the word of an honest and sincere (if an erroneous) man, that I shall not deceive either you or him; nor shall I start one inch from such limits as may be prescribed.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read March 7, 1776.]

Cambridge, February 29, 1776.

SIR: I beg leave to inform you, at the request of the Committee of Pay-Table of the Colony of *Connecticut*,

that I have not advanced to any of the regiments from that Government any money, except the sum of seven thousand one hundred and seventy-two and one-ninth dollars, on the 20th of *November* last, to Major-General *Putnam*, for the Thirty-Fourth Regiment, under his command. I should have paid them in the same manner I did the rest of the Army, had I not been prevented by the Colonels, who expressed their inclination to receive the whole at once, upon their return home at the expiration of service, as was customary in their Colony. For this reason, I never included them in any estimates of money, and have made no provision for their payment, always imagining that whatever payments the Colony made them, Congress would apply to their credit in the general account against the *United Colonies*, or refund, upon application.

I have the honour to be, with great esteem and regard, sir, your most humble servant, GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, President of the Continental Congress.

COMMON SENSE.*

I. *Of the Origin and Design of Government in general, with concise Remarks on the* ENGLISH *Constitution.*

Some writers have so confounded society with Government as to leave little or no distinction between them; whereas, they are not only different, but have different origins. Society is produced by our wants, and Government by our wickedness; the former promotes our happiness positively, by uniting our affections, the latter negatively, by restraining our vices. The one encourages intercourse, the other creates distinctions. The first is a patron, the last a punisher.

Society in every state is a blessing; but Government, even in its best state, is but a necessary evil; in its worst state an intolerable one: for when we suffer, or are exposed to the same miseries by a Government, which we might effect in a country without Government, our calamity is heightened by reflecting that we furnish the means by which we suffer. Government, like dress, is the badge of lost innocence; the palaces of Kings are built on the ruins of the bowers of Paradise. For were the impulses of conscience clear, uniform, and irresistibly obeyed, man would need no other lawgiver; but that not being the case, he finds it necessary to surrender up a part of his property to furnish means for the protection of the rest; and this he is induced to do by the same prudence which, in every other case, advises him, out of two evils to choose the least. Wherefore, security being the true design and end of Government, it unanswerably follows, that whatever form thereof appears most likely to insure it to us, with the least expense and greatest benefit, is preferable to all others.

In order to gain a clear and just idea of the design and end of Government, let us suppose a small number of persons settled in some sequestered part of the earth, unconnected with the rest; they will then represent the first peopling of any country, or of the world. In this state of natural liberty, society will be their first thought. A thousand motives will excite them thereto, the strength of one man is so unequal to his wants, and his mind so unfitted for perpetual solitude, that he is soon obliged to seek assistance and relief of another, who, in his turn, requires the same. Four or five united would be able to raise a tolerable dwelling in the midst of a wilderness, but one man might labour out the common period of life without accomplishing any thing; when he had felled his timber he could not remove it, nor erect it after it was removed; hunger in the mean time would urge him from his work, and every different want call him a different way. Disease, nay even misfortune, would be death; for though neither might be mortal, yet either would disable him from living, and reduce him to a state in which he might rather be said to perish, than to die.

Thus necessity, like a gravitating power, would soon form our newly arrived emigrants into Society, the reciprocal blessings of which would supersede, and render the obligations of law and Government unnecessary while they remained perfectly just to each other; but, as nothing but Heaven is impregnable to vice, it will unavoidably happen, that in proportion as they surmount the first difficulties of emigration, which bound them together in a common cause, they will begin to relax in their duty and attachment to each other; and this remissness will point out the necessity of establishing some form of Government to supply the defect of moral virtue.

Some convenient tree will afford them a State-House, under the branches of which the whole Colony may assemble to deliberate on publick matters. It is more than probable that their first laws will have the title only of Regulations, and be enforced by no other penalty than publick disesteem. In this first Parliament every man by natural right will have a seat.

But as the Colony increases, the publick concerns will increase likewise, and the distance at which the members may be separated, will render it too inconvenient for all of them to meet on every occasion as at first, when their number was small, their habitations near, and the publick concerns few and trifling. This will point out the convenience of their consenting to leave the legislative part to be managed by a select number chosen from the whole body, who are supposed to have the same concerns at stake which those have who appointed them, and who will act in the same manner as the whole body would act were they present. If the Colony continue increasing, it will become necessary to augment the number of the Representatives, and that the interest of every part of the Colony may be attended to, it will be found best to divide the whole into convenient parts, each part sending its proper number; and that the elected might never form to themselves an interest separate from the electors, prudence will point out the propriety of having elections often: because as the elected might by that means return and mix again with the general body of the electors in a few months, their fidelity to the publick will be secured by the prudent reflection of not making a rod for themselves. And as this frequent interchange will establish a common interest with every part of the community, they will mutually and naturally support each other; and on this (not on the unmeaning name of King) depends the strength of Government, and the happiness of the governed.

Here then is the origin and rise of Government; namely, a mode rendered necessary by the inability of moral virtue to govern the world; here too is the design and end of Government, viz: freedom and security. And, however our eyes may be dazzled with show, or our ears deceived by sound; however prejudice may warp our wills, or interest darken our understanding, the simple voice of nature and of reason will say, 'tis right.

I draw my idea of the form of Government from a principle in nature which no art can overturn, viz: that the more simple any thing is, the less liable it is to be disordered, and the easier repaired when disordered; and with this maxim in view, I offer a few remarks on the so much boasted Constitution of *England*. That it was noble for the dark and slavish times in which it was erected is granted. When the world was overrun with tyranny, the least remove therefrom was a glorious rescue. But that it is imperfect, subject to convulsions, and incapable of producing what it seems to promise, is easily demonstrated. . .

*

* INTRODUCTION.—Perhaps the sentiments contained in the following pages are not yet sufficiently fashionable, to procure them general favour; a long habit of not thinking a thing wrong, gives it a superficial appearance of being right, and raises at first a formidable outcry in defence of custom. But the tumult soon subsides. Time makes more converts than reason.

As a long and violent abuse of power, is generally the means of calling the right of it in question, (and in matters too which might never have been thought of, had not the sufferers been aggravated into the inquiry,) and as the King of *England* hath undertaken in his own right, to support the Parliament in what he calls theirs, and as the good people of this country are greviously oppressed by the combination, they have an undoubted privilege to inquire into the pretensions of both, and equally to reject the usurpation of either.

In the following sheets the author hath studiously avoided every thing which is personal among ourselves. Compliments as well as censure to individuals make no part thereof. The wise, and the worthy, need not the triumph of a pamphlet; and those whose sentiments are injudicious, or unfriendly, will cease of themselves unless too much pains are bestowed upon their conversion.

The cause of *America* is, in a great measure, the cause of all mankind. Many circumstances hath, and will arise, which are not local, but universal, and through which the principles of all lovers of mankind are affected, and in the event of which, their affections are interested. The laying a country desolate with fire and sword, declaring war against the natural rights of all mankind, and extirpating the defenders thereof from the face of the earth, is the concern of every man to whom nature hath given the power of feeling; of which class, regardless of party censure, is the AUTHOR.

Absolute Governments, (though the disgrace of human nature) hath this advantage with them, that they are simple; if the people suffer, they know the head from which their suffering springs; know likewise the remedy; and are not bewildered by a variety of causes and cures. But the Constitution of *England* is so exceedingly complex, that the nation may suffer for years together without being able to discover in which part the fault lies; some will say in one and some in another, and every political physician will advise a different medicine.

I know it is difficult to get over local or long standing prejudices, yet if we will suffer ourselves to examine the component parts of the *English* Constitution, we shall find them to be the base remains of two ancient tyrannies, compounded with some new Republican materials.

First. The remains of Monarchical tyranny, in the person of the King.

Secondly. The remains of Aristocratical tyranny, in the persons of the Peers.

Thirdly. The new Republican materials, in the persons of the Commons, on whose virtue depends the freedom of *England*.

The two first by being hereditary are independent of the people; wherefore, in a constitutional sense, they contribute nothing towards the freedom of the State.

To say that the Constitution of *England* is a union of three powers, reciprocally checking each other, is farcical; either the words have no meaning, or they are flat contradiction.

To say that the Commons is a check upon the King, presupposes two things:

First. That the King is not to be trusted without being looked after; or, in other words, that a thirst for absolute power is the natural disease of Monarchy.

Secondly. That the Commons, by being appointed for that purpose, are either wiser or more worthy of confidence than the Crown.

But as the same Constitution which gives the Commons a power to check the King by withholding the supplies, gives afterwards the King a power to check the Commons by empowering him to reject their other bills, it again supposes that the King is wiser than those whom it has already supposed to be wiser than him. A mere absurdity!

There is something exceedingly ridiculous in the composition of Monarchy; it first excludes a man from the means of information, yet empowers him to act in cases where the highest judgment is required. The state of a King shuts him from the world, yet the business of a King requires him to know it thoroughly; wherefore, the different parts, by unnaturally opposing and destroying each other, prove the whole character to be absurd and useless.

Some writers have explained the *English* Constitution thus: the King, say they, is one, the People, another; the Peers are an House in behalf of the King; the Commons in behalf of the People; but this hath all the distinctions of an House divided against itself; and though the expressions be pleasantly arranged, yet when examined they appear idle and ambiguous; and it will always happen, that the nicest construction that words are capable of, when applied to the description of something which either cannot exist, or is too incomprehensible to be within the compass of description, will be words of sound only, and though they may amuse the ear, they cannot inform the mind; for this explanation includes a previous question, viz: How came the King by a power which the people are afraid to trust, and always obliged to check? Such a power could not be the gift of a wise people, neither can any power which needs checking be from *God;* yet the provision which the Constitution makes, supposes such a power to exist.

But the provision is unequal to the task; the means either cannot, or will not accomplish the end, and the whole affair is a *felo-de-se:* for as the greater weight will always carry up the less, and as all the wheels of a machine are put in motion by one, it only remains to know which power in the Constitution has the most weight, for that will govern; and though the others, or a part of them, may clog, or as the phrase is, check the rapidity of its motion, yet so long as they cannot stop it, their endeavours will be ineffectual; the first moving power will at last have its way, and what it wants in speed is supplied by time.

That the Crown is this overbearing part in the *English* Constitution needs not be mentioned, and that it derives its whole consequence merely from being the giver of places and pensions is self-evident; wherefore, though we have been wise enough to shut and lock a door against absolute Monarchy, we, at the same time, have been foolish enough to put the Crown in possession of the key.

The prejudice of *Englishmen* in favour of their own Government, by King, Lords, and Commons, arises as much, or more, from national pride than reason. Individuals are undoubtedly safer in *England* than in some other countries; but the will of the King is as much the law of the land in *Britain* as in *France*, with this difference, that instead of proceeding directly from his mouth, it is handed to the people under the more formidable shape of an Act of Parliament. For the fate of *Charles* the First hath only made Kings more subtile—not more just.

Wherefore, laying aside all national pride and prejudice in favour of modes and forms, the plain truth is, that it is wholly owing to the Constitution of the People, and not to the Constitution of the Government, that the Crown is not as oppressive in *England* as in *Turkey*.

An inquiry into the constitutional errors in the *English* form of Government, is at this time highly necessary; for as we are never in a proper condition of doing justice to others, while we continue under the influence of some leading partiality, so neither are we capable of doing it to ourselves while we remain fettered by any obstinate prejudice. And as a man who is attached to a prostitute is unfitted to choose or judge of a wife, so any prepossession in favour of a rotten Constitution of Government will disable us from discerning a good one.

II. *Of Monarchy and hereditary succession.*

Mankind being originally equals in the order of creation, the equality could only be destroyed by some subsequent circumstance: The distinctions of rich and poor, may in a great measure be accounted for, and that without having recourse to the harsh, ill-sounding names of oppression and avarice. Oppression is often the consequence, but seldom or never the means of riches; and though avarice will preserve a man from being necessitously poor, it generally makes him too timorous to be wealthy.

But there is another and greater distinction, for which no truly natural or religious reason can be assigned, and that is, the distinction of men into Kings and Subjects. Male and female are the distinctions of nature; good and bad the distinctions of Heaven; but how a race of men came into the world so exalted above the rest, and distinguished like some new species, is worth inquiring into, and whether they are the means of happiness or of misery to mankind.

In the early ages of the world, according to the Scripture chronology, there were no Kings; the consequence of which was, there were no wars: it is the pride of Kings which throws mankind into confusion. *Holland*, without a King, hath enjoyed more peace for this last century than any of the monarchical Governments in *Europe*. Antiquity favours the same remark; for the quiet and rural lives of the first Patriarchs hath a happy something in them, which vanishes away when we come to the history of *Jewish* Royalty.

Government, by Kings, was first introduced into the world by the Heathens, from whom the children of *Israel* copied the custom. It was the most prosperous invention the Devil ever set on foot for the promotion of idolatry. The Heathens paid Divine honours to their deceased Kings, and the Christian world hath improved on the plan by doing the same to their living ones. How impious is the title of sacred Majesty applied to a worm, who, in the midst of his splendour, is crumbling into dust!

As the exalting one man so greatly above the rest cannot be justified on the equal rights of nature, so neither can it be defended on the authority of Scripture; for the will of the Almighty, as declared by *Gideon* and the Prophet *Samuel*, expressly disapproves of Government by Kings. All anti-monarchical parts of Scripture have been very smoothly glossed over in monarchical Governments, but they undoubtedly merit the attention of countries which have their Governments yet to form. "Render unto *Cæsar* the things which are *Cæsar's*" is the Scripture doctrine of Courts, yet it is no support of monarchical Government,

for the *Jews* at that time were without a King, and in a state of vassalage to the *Romans*.

Near three thousand years passed away from the *Mosaick* account of the creation, till the *Jews*, under a national delusion, requested a King. Till then, their form of Government (except in extraordinary cases where the Almighty interposed) was a kind of Republick, administered by a Judge and the Elders of the Tribes. Kings they had none, and it was held sinful to acknowledge any Being under that title but the Lord of Hosts. And when a man seriously reflects on the idolatrous homage which is paid to the persons of Kings, he need not wonder that the Almighty, ever jealous of his honour, should disapprove of a form of Government which so impiously invades the prerogative of Heaven.

Monarchy is ranked in Scripture as one of the sins of the *Jews*, for which a curse in reserve is denounced against them. The history of that transaction is worth attending to:

The children of *Israel* being oppressed by the *Midianites*, *Gideon* marched against them with a small army, and victory, through the Divine interposition, decided in his favour. The *Jews*, elate with success, and attributing it to the generalship of *Gideon*, proposed making him a King, saying, "Rule thou over us, thou and thy son, and thy son's son." Here was temptation in its fullest extent; not a kingdom only, but an hereditary one; but *Gideon*, in the piety of his soul, replied, "I will not rule over you, neither shall my son rule over you; the Lord shall rule over you." Words need not be more explicit; *Gideon* doth not decline the honour, but denieth their right to give it; neither doth he compliment them with invented declarations of his thanks, but, in the positive style of a Prophet, charges them with disaffection to their proper Sovereign, the King of Heaven.

About one hundred and thirty years after this, they fell again into the same error. The hankering which the *Jews* had for the idolatrous customs of the Heathens, is something exceedingly unaccountable; but so it was, that laying hold of the misconduct of *Samuel's* two sons, who were intrusted with some secular concerns, they came in an abrupt and clamorous manner to *Samuel*, saying, "Behold thou art old, and thy sons walk not in thy ways, now make us a King to judge us like all the other nations." And here we cannot but observe that their motives were bad, viz: that they might be like unto other nations, i. e. the Heathens, whereas their true glory laid in being as much unlike them as possible. "But the thing displeased *Samuel* when they said, Give us a King to judge us: and *Samuel* prayed unto the Lord, and the Lord said unto *Samuel*, Hearken unto the voice of the people in all that they say unto thee, for they have not rejected thee, but they have rejected me, that I should not reign over them. According to all the works which they have done since the day that I brought them up out of *Egypt* even unto this day, wherewith they have forsaken me and served other gods: so do they also unto thee. Now, therefore, hearken unto their voice; howbeit, protest solemnly unto them and shew them the manner of the King that shall reign over them:" i. e. not of any particular King, but the general manner of the Kings of the earth, whom *Israel* was so eagerly copying after. And notwithstanding the great distance of time and difference of manners, the character is still in fashion. "And *Samuel* told all the words of the Lord unto the people, that asked of him a King. And he said, this shall be the manner of the King that shall reign over you. He will take your sons and appoint them for himself, for his chariots, and to be his horsemen, and some shall run before his chariots;" (this description agrees with the present mode of impressing men;) "and he will appoint him captains over thousands, and captains over fifties, and will set them to ear his ground and to reap his harvest, and to make his instruments of war, and instruments of his chariots. And he will take your daughters to be confectionaries, and to be cooks, and to be bakers;" (this describes the expense and luxury as well as the oppression of Kings;) "and he will take your fields, and your vineyards, and your oliveyards, even the best of them, and give them to his servants. And he will take the tenth of your seed, and of your vineyards, and give them to his officers and to his servants." (By which we see that bribery, corruption, and favouritism, are the standing vices of Kings.) "And he will take the tenth of your men-servants, and your maid-servants, and your goodliest young men, and your asses, and put them to his work: and he will take the tenth of your sheep, and ye shall be his servants, and ye shall cry out in that day because of your King, which ye shall have chosen, and the Lord will not hear you in that day." This accounts for the continuation of Monarchy; neither do the characters of the few good Kings which have lived since, either sanctify the title, or blot out the sinfulness of the origin; the high encomium given of *David* takes no notice of him officially as a King, but only as a man after *God's* own heart. "Nevertheless the people refused to obey the voice of *Samuel*, and they said nay, but we will have a King over us, that we may be like all the nations, and that our King may judge us, and go out before us, and fight our battles." *Samuel* continued to reason with them, but to no purpose; he set before them their ingratitude, but all would not avail, and seeing them fully bent on their folly, he cried out, "I will call unto the Lord and he shall send thunder and rain, (which then was a punishment, being in the time of wheat-harvest,) that ye may perceive and see that your wickedness is great which ye have done in the sight of the Lord, in asking you a King. So *Samuel* called unto the Lord, and the Lord sent thunder and rain that day, and all the people greatly feared the Lord and *Samuel*. And all the people said unto *Samuel*, pray for thy servants unto the Lord thy *God* that we die not, for we have added unto our sins this evil, to ask a King." These portions of Scripture are direct and positive. They admit of no equivocal construction. That the Almighty hath here entered his protest against monarchical Government is true, or the Scripture is false. And a man hath good reason to believe that there is as much of kingcraft, as priestcraft, in withholding the Scripture from the publick in Popish countries. For Monarchy in every instance is the Popery of Government.

To the evil of Monarchy we have added that of hereditary succession; and as the first is a degradation and lessening of ourselves, so the second, claimed as a matter of right, is an insult and an imposition on posterity. For all men being originally equals, no one by birth could have a right to set up his own family in perpetual preference to all others for ever, and though himself might deserve some decent degree of honours of his cotemporaries, yet his descendants might be far too unworthy to inherit them. One of the strongest natural proofs of the folly of hereditary right in Kings, is, that nature disapproves it, otherwise she would not so frequently turn it into ridicule by giving mankind an ass for a lion.

Secondly, as no man at first could possess any other publick honours than were bestowed upon him, so the givers of those honours could have no power to give away the right of posterity, and though they might say "we choose you for our head," they could not, without manifest injustice to their children, say "that your children and your children's children shall reign over ours for ever." Because such an unwise, unjust, unnatural compact, might (perhaps) in the next succession put them under the government of a rogue or a fool. Most wise men, in their private sentiments, have ever treated hereditary right with contempt; yet it is one of those evils which, when once established, is not easily removed; many submit from fear, others from superstition, and the more powerful part shares with the King the plunder of the rest.

This is supposing the present race of Kings in the world to have had an honourable origin; whereas, it is more than probable, that could we take off the dark covering of antiquity, and trace them to their first rise, that we should find the first of them nothing better than the principal ruffian of some restless gang, whose savage manners, or pre-eminence in subtility, obtained him the title of chief among plunderers; and who, by increasing in power and extending his depredations, overawed the quiet and defenceless to purchase their safety by frequent contributions. Yet his electors could have no idea of giving hereditary right to his descendants, because such a perpetual exclusion of themselves was incompatible with the free and unrestrained principles they professed to live by. Wherefore, hereditary succession, in the early ages of Monarchy, could not take place as a matter of claim, but as something casual or complimental; but as few or no records were extant in

those days, and traditionary history stuffed with fables, it was very easy after the lapse of a few generations, to trump up some superstitious tale, conveniently timed, Mahometlike, to cram hereditary right down the throats of the vulgar. Perhaps the disorders which threatened, or seemed to threaten, on the decease of a leader and the choice of a new one, (for elections among ruffians could not be very orderly,) induced many at first to favour hereditary pretensions; by which means it happened, as it hath happened since, that what at first was submitted to as a convenience was afterwards claimed as a right.

England, since the Conquest, hath known some few good Monarchs, but groaned beneath a much larger number of bad ones; yet no man in his senses can say that their claim under *William* the Conqueror is a very honourable one. A *French* bastard landing with an armed banditti, and establishing himself King of *England* against the consent of the natives, is, in plain terms, a very paltry, rascally original—it certainly hath no Divinity in it. However, it is needless to spend much time in exposing the folly of hereditary right; if there are any so weak as to believe it, let them promiscuously worship the ass and lion, and welcome. I shall neither copy their humility nor disturb their devotion.

Yet I should be glad to ask how they suppose Kings came at first? The question admits but of three answers, viz: either by lot, by election, or by usurpation. If the first King was taken by lot, it establishes a precedent for the next, which excludes hereditary succession. *Saul* was by lot, yet the succession was not hereditary, neither does it appear from that transaction there was any intention it ever should. If the first King of any country was by election that likewise establishes a precedent for the next; for to say that the right of all future generations is taken away by the act of the first electors in their choice not only of a King, but of a family of Kings for ever, hath no parallel in or out of Scripture, but the doctrine of original sin, which supposes the free-will of all men lost in *Adam*; and from such comparison, and it will admit of no other, hereditary succession can derive no glory. For as in *Adam* all sinned, and as in the first Electors all men obeyed; as in the one all mankind were subjected to *Satan*, and in the other to Sovereignty; as our innocence was lost in the first, and our authority in the last; and as both disable us from reassuming some former state and privilege, it unanswerably follows that original sin and hereditary succession are parallels. Dishonourable rank! inglorious connection! yet the most subtile sophist cannot produce a juster simile.

As to usurpation, no man will be so hardy as to defend it; and that *William* the Conqueror was an usurper is a fact not to be contradicted. The plain truth is, that the antiquity of *English* monarchy will not bear looking into.

But it is not so much the absurdity as the evil of hereditary succession which concerns mankind. Did it insure a race of good and wise men, it would have the seal of Divine authority, but as it opens the door to the foolish, the wicked, and the improper, it hath in it the nature of oppression. Men who look upon themselves born to reign, and others to obey, soon grow insolent; selected from the rest of mankind, their minds are easily poisoned by importance; and the world they act in differs so materially from the world at large, that they have but little opportunity of knowing its true interests, and when they succeed to the Government are frequently the most ignorant and unfit of any throughout the dominions.

Another evil which attends hereditary succession, is, that the throne is subject to be possessed by a minor at any age; all which time the Regency, acting under the cover of a King, have every opportunity and inducement to betray their trust. The same national misfortune happens when a King, worn out with age and infirmity, enters the last stage of human weakness. In both these cases the publick becomes a prey to every miscreant who can tamper successfully with the follies either of age or infancy.

The most plausible plea which hath ever been offered in favour of hereditary succession, is, that it preserves a nation from civil wars; and were this true, it would be weighty; whereas, it is the most barefaced falsity ever imposed upon mankind. The whole history of *England* disowns the fact. Thirty Kings and two minors have reigned in that distracted kingdom since the Conquest, in which time there have been (including the Revolution) no less than eight civil wars and nineteen rebellions. Wherefore, instead of making for peace, it makes against it, and destroys the very foundation it seems to stand on.

The contest for Monarchy and succession between the houses of *York* and *Lancaster*, laid *England* in a scene of blood for many years. Twelve pitched battles, besides skirmishes and sieges, were fought between *Henry* and *Edward*. Twice was *Henry* prisoner to *Edward*, who in his turn was prisoner to *Henry*. And so uncertain is the fate of war and the temper of a nation, when nothing but personal matters are the ground of a quarrel, that *Henry* was taken in triumph from a prison to a palace, and *Edward* obliged to fly from a palace to a foreign land. Yet as sudden transitions of temper are seldom lasting, *Henry* in his turn was driven from the throne and *Edward* recalled to succeed him. The Parliament always following the strongest side.

The contest began in the reign of *Henry* the Sixth, and was not entirely extinguished till *Henry* the Seventh, in whom the families were united. Including a period of sixty-seven years, viz: from 1422 to 1489.

In short, Monarchy and succession have laid (not this or that kingdom only) but the world in blood and ashes. 'Tis a form of Government which the word of *God* bears testimony against, and blood will attend it.

If we inquire into the business of a King, we shall find that in some countries they have none; and, after sauntering away their lives without pleasure to themselves, or advantage to the nation, withdraw from the scene, and leave their successors to tread the same idle round. In absolute monarchies the whole weight of business, civil and military, lies on the King; the children of *Israel* in their request for a King urged this plea, "that he may judge us, and go out before us and fight our battles." But in countries where he is neither a Judge, nor a General, as in *England*, a man would be puzzled to know what is his business.

The nearer any Government approaches to a Republick the less business there is for a King. It is somewhat difficult to find a proper name for the Government of *England*. Sir *William Meredith* calls it a Republick; but in its present state it is unworthy of the name, because the corrupt influence of the Crown, by having all the places in its disposal, hath so effectually swallowed up the power, and eaten out the virtue of the House of Commons (the republican part in the Constitution) that the Government of *England* is nearly as monarchical as that of *France* or *Spain*. Men fall out with names without understanding them. For 'tis the republican and not the monarchical part of the Constitution of *England* which *Englishmen* glory in, viz: the liberty of choosing an House of Commons from out of their own body; and it is easy to see that when republican virtue fails, slavery ensues. Why is the Constitution of *England* sickly? but because Monarchy hath poisoned the Republick; the Crown hath engrossed the Commons.

In *England* a King hath little more to do than to make war and give away places; which, in plain terms, is to impoverish the nation, and set it together by the ears. A pretty business, indeed, for a man to be allowed eight hundred thousand sterling a year for, and worshipped into the bargain! Of more worth is one honest man to society, and in the sight of *God*, than all the crowned ruffians that ever lived.

III. *Thoughts on the present state of* American *Affairs.*

In the following pages I offer nothing more than simple facts, plain arguments, and common sense; and have no other preliminaries to settle with the reader, than that he will divest himself of prejudice and prepossession, and suffer his reason and his feelings to determine for themselves; that he will put on (or rather, that he will not put off) the true character of a man, and generously enlarge his views beyond the present day.

Volumes have been written on the subject of the struggle between *England* and *America*. Men of all ranks have embarked in the controversy, from different motives, and with various designs, but all have been ineffectual, and the period of debate is closed. Arms, as the last resource, decide the contest; the appeal was the choice of the King, and the Continent has accepted the challenge.

It hath been reported of the late Mr. *Pelham*, (who, though an able Minister, was not without his faults,) that on his being attacked in the House of Commons, on the score that his measures were only of a temporary kind, replied, "they will last my time." Should a thought so fatal and unmanly possess the Colonies in the present contest, the name of ancestors will be remembered by future generations with detestation. The sun never shined on a cause of greater worth. It is not the affair of a City, a County, a Province, or a Kingdom, but of a Continent—of at least one-eighth part of the habitable globe. It is not the concern of a day, a year, or an age; posterity are virtually involved in the contest, and will be more or less affected, even to the end of time, by the proceedings now. Now is the seed time of Continental union, faith, and honour. The least fracture now, will be like a name engraved with the weak point of a pin on the tender rind of a young oak: the wound will enlarge with the tree, and posterity read it in full-grown characters.

By referring the matter from argument to arms, a new era for politicks is struck, a new method of thinking hath arisen. All plans, proposals, &c., prior to the 19th of *April*, i. e. to the commencement of hostilities, are like the almanacks of the last year, which, though proper then, are superseded and useless now. Whatever was advanced by the advocates on either side of the question then, terminated in one and the same point, viz: an union with *Great Britain*. The only difference between the parties was the method of effecting it; the one proposing force, the other friendship. But, it hath so far happened that the first hath failed, and the second hath withdrawn her influence.

As much hath been said of the advantages of reconciliation, which, like an agreeable dream, hath passed away and left us as we were, it is but right that we should examine the contrary side of the argument, and inquire into some of the many material injuries which these Colonies sustain, and always will sustain, by being connected with, and dependant on *Great Britain*; to examine that connection and dependance on the principles of nature and common sense, to see what we have to trust to if separated, and what we are to expect if dependant.

I have heard it asserted by some, that, as *America* hath flourished under her former connection with *Great Britain*, that the same connection is necessary towards her future happiness, and will always have the same effect. Nothing can be more fallacious than this kind of argument; we may as well assert that because a child hath thrived upon milk, that it is never to have meat, or, that the first twenty years of our lives is to become a precedent for the next twenty. But even this is admitting more than is true, for I answer, roundly, that *America* would have flourished as much, and probably much more, had no *European* Power taken any notice of her. The commerce by which she hath enriched herself are the necessaries of life, and will always have a market while eating is the custom of *Europe*. But, she has protected us, says some. That she hath engrossed us is true, and defended the Continent at our expense as well as her own, is admitted; and she would have defended *Turkey* from the same motive, viz: the sake of trade and dominion.

Alas! we have been long led away by ancient prejudices, and made large sacrifices to superstition. We have boasted the protection of *Great Britain*, without considering that her motive was interest, not attachment; that she did not protect us from our enemies on our account, but from her enemies on her own account; from those who had no quarrel with us on any other account, and who will always be our enemies on the same account. Let *Britain* waive her pretensions to the Continent, or the Continent throw off the dependance, and we should be at peace with *France* and *Spain* were they at war with *Britain*. The miseries of *Hanover*, last war, ought to warn us against connections.

It hath lately been asserted in Parliament, that the Colonies have no relation to each other but through the parent country; i. e. that *Pennsylvania* and the *Jerseys*, and so on for the rest, are sister Colonies by the way of *England*. This is certainly a very roundabout way of proving relationship, but it is the nearest and only true way of proving enemyship, if I may so call it. *France* and *Spain* never were, nor, perhaps, ever will be our enemies as *Americans*, but, as our being the subjects of *Great Britain*.

But *Britain* is the parent country, says some. Then the more shame upon her conduct. Even brutes do not devour their young, nor Savages make war upon their families; wherefore, the assertion, if true, turns to her reproach; but it happens not to be true, or only partly so, and the phrase, parent or mother country, hath been jesuitically adopted by the King and his parasites, with a low, papistical design of gaining an unfair bias on the credulous weakness of our minds. *Europe*, and not *England*, is the parent country of *America*. This New World hath been the asylum for the persecuted lovers of civil and religious liberty from every part of *Europe*. Hither have they fled, not from the tender embraces of the mother, but from the cruelty of the monster; and it is so far true of *England*, that the same tyranny which drove the first emigrants from home, pursues their descendants still.

In this extensive quarter of the globe, we forget the narrow limits of three hundred and sixty miles, (the extent of *England*,) and carry our friendship on a larger scale; we claim brotherhood with every *European* Christian, and triumph in the generosity of the sentiment.

It is pleasant to observe by what regular gradations we surmount the force of local prejudice, as we enlarge our acquaintance with the world. A man born in any town in *England* divided into parishes, will naturally associate most with his fellow-parishioner, (because their interests in many cases will be common,) and distinguish him by the name of neighbour; if he meet him but a few miles from home, he drops the narrow idea of a street, and salutes him by the name of townsman; if he travel out of the County, and meet him in any other, he forgets the minor divisions of street and town, and calls him countryman, i. e. countryman; but if, in their foreign excursions, they should associate in *France*, or any other part of *Europe*, their local remembrance would be enlarged into that of *Englishmen*. And, by a just parity of reasoning, all *Europeans* meeting in *America*, or any other quarter of the globe, are countrymen; for *England*, *Holland*, *Germany*, or *Sweden*, when compared with the whole, stand in the same places, on the larger scale, which the divisions of street, town, and County do on the smaller ones; distinctions too limited for Continental minds. Not one-third of the inhabitants even, of this Province, are of *English* descent; wherefore, I reprobate the phrase of parent or mother country, applied to *England* only, as being false, selfish, narrow, and ungenerous.

But, admitting that we were all of *English* descent, what does it amount to? Nothing. *Britain* being now an open enemy, extinguishes every other name and title; and to say that reconciliation is our duty, is truly farcical. The first King of *England*, of the present line, (*William* the Conqueror,) was a *Frenchman*, and half the Peers of *England* are descendants from the same country; wherefore, by the same method of reasoning, *England* ought to be governed by *France*.

Much hath been said of the united strength of *Britain* and the Colonies; that, in conjunction, they might bid defiance to the world. But this is mere presumption; the fate of war is uncertain; neither do the expressions mean any thing, for this Continent would never suffer itself to be drained of inhabitants, to support the *British* arms in either *Asia*, *Africa*, or *Europe*.

Besides, what have we to do with setting the world at defiance. Our plan is commerce; and that, well attended to, will secure us the peace and friendship of all *Europe*, because it is the interest of all *Europe* to have *America* a free port. Her trade will always be a protection, and her barrenness of gold and silver will secure her from invaders.

I challenge the warmest advocate for reconciliation to show a single advantage that this Continent can reap, by being connected with *Great Britain*. I repeat the challenge, not a single advantage is derived. Our corn will fetch its price in any market in *Europe*, and our imported goods must be paid for, buy them where we will.

But the injuries and disadvantages we sustain by that connection are without number, and our duty to mankind at large, as well as to ourselves, instruct us to renounce the alliance; because any submission to, or dependance on *Great Britain*, tends directly to involve this Continent in

European wars and quarrels. As *Europe* is our market for trade, we ought to form no political connection with any part of it. It is the true interest of *America* to steer clear of *European* contentions, which she never can do, while, by her dependance on *Britain*, she is made the make-weight in the scale of *British* politicks.

Europe is too thickly planted with kingdoms to be long at peace; and whenever a war breaks out between *England* and any foreign power, the trade of *America* goes to ruin, because of her connection with *Britain*. The next war may not turn out like the last, and, should it not, the advocates for reconciliation now, will be wishing for separation then, because neutrality, in that case, would be a safer convoy than a man-of-war. Every thing that is right or reasonable pleads for separation. The blood of the slain, the weeping voice of nature cries, 'Tis time to part. Even the distance at which the Almighty hath placed *England* and *America*, is a strong and natural proof that the authority of the one over the other was never the design of Heaven. The time, likewise, at which the Continent was discovered, adds weight to the argument, and the manner in which it was peopled increases the force of it. The Reformation was preceded by the discovery of *America*, as if the Almighty graciously meant to open a sanctuary to the persecuted in future years, when home should afford neither friendship nor safety.

The authority of *Great Britain* over this Continent is a form of Government which, sooner or later, must have an end; and a serious mind can draw no true pleasure by looking forward, under the painful and positive conviction that what he calls "the present Constitution" is merely temporary. As parents, we can have no joy, knowing that this Government is not sufficiently lasting to insure any thing which we may bequeath to posterity; and, by a plain method of argument, as we are running the next generation into debt, we ought to do the work of it, otherwise we use them meanly and pitifully. In order to discover the line of our duty rightly, we should take our children in our hand, and fix our station a few years farther into life; that eminence will present a prospect which a few present fears and prejudices conceal from our sight.

Though I would carefully avoid giving unnecessary offence, yet I am inclined to believe that all those who espouse the doctrine of reconciliation, may be included within the following descriptions: Interested men who are not to be trusted, weak men who cannot see, prejudiced men who will not see, and a certain set of moderate men who think better of the *European* world than it deserves; and this last class, by an ill-judged deliberation, will be the cause of more calamities to this Continent than all the other three.

It is the good fortune of many to live distant from the scene of present sorrow; the evil is not sufficiently brought to their doors to make them feel the precariousness with which all *American* property is possessed. But let our imaginations transport us for a few moments to *Boston;* that seat of wretchedness will teach us wisdom, and instruct us forever to renounce a Power in whom we can have no trust. The inhabitants of that unfortunate city, who, but a few months ago, were in ease and affluence, have now no other alternative than to stay and starve, or turn out to beg. Endangered by the fire of their friends if they continue within the city, and plundered by Government if they leave it. In their present condition they are prisoners without the hope of redemption, and, in a general attack for their relief, they would be exposed to the fury of both armies.

Men of passive tempers look somewhat lightly over the offences of *Britain*, and, still hoping for the best, are apt to call out, "Come, come, we shall be friends again, for all this." But examine the passions and feelings of mankind; bring the doctrine of reconciliation to the touchstone of nature, and then tell me whether you can hereafter love, honour, and faithfully serve, the Power that hath carried fire and sword into your land? If you cannot do all these, then you are only deceiving yourselves, and, by your delay, bringing ruin upon posterity. Your future connection with *Britain*, whom you can neither love nor honour, will be forced and unnatural; and being formed only on the plan of present convenience, will, in a little time, fall into a relapse more wretched than the first. But, if you say you can still pass the violations over, then I ask, hath your house been burnt? Hath your property been destroyed before your face? Are your wife and children destitute of a bed to lie on, or bread to live on? Have you lost a parent, or a child, by their hands, and yourself the ruined and wretched survivor? If you have not, then you are not a judge of those who have. But if you have, and still can shake hands with the murderers, then are you unworthy the name of husband, father, friend, or lover; and whatever may be your rank or title in life, you have the heart of a coward, and the spirit of a sycophant.

This is not inflaming or exaggerating matters, but trying them by those feelings and affections which nature justifies, and, without which, we should be incapable of discharging the social duties of life, or enjoying the felicities of it. I mean not to exhibit horror for the purpose of provoking revenge, but to awaken us from fatal and unmanly slumbers, that we may pursue determinately some fixed object. 'Tis not in the power of *England*, or of *Europe*, to conquer *America*, if she doth not conquer herself by delay and timidity. The present winter is worth an age, if rightly employed; but, if lost or neglected, the whole Continent will partake of the misfortune; and there is no punishment which that man doth not deserve, be he who, or what, or where he will, that may be the means of sacrificing a season so precious and useful.

'Tis repugnant to reason, to the universal order of things, to all examples from former ages, to suppose that this Continent can long remain subject to any external Power. The most sanguine in *Britain* doth not think so. The utmost stretch of human wisdom cannot, at this time, compass a plan, short of separation, which can promise the Continent even a year's security. Reconciliation is now a fallacious dream. Nature hath deserted the connection, and Art cannot supply her place; for, as *Milton* wisely expresses, "never can true reconcilement grow where wounds of deadly hate have pierced so deep."

Every quiet method for peace hath been ineffectual. Our prayers have been rejected with disdain, and hath tended to convince us that nothing flatters vanity, or confirms obstinacy in Kings, more than repeated petitioning; and nothing hath contributed more than that very measure to make the Kings of *Europe* absolute. Witness *Denmark* and *Sweden*. Wherefore, since nothing but blows will do, for *God's* sake let us come to a final separation, and not leave the next generation to be cutting throats under the violated unmeaning names of parent and child.

To say they will never attempt it again, is idle and visionary. We thought so at the repeal of the Stamp Act; yet a year or two undeceived us. As well may we suppose that nations, which have been once defeated, will never renew the quarrel.

As to Government matters, 'tis not in the power of *Britain* to do this Continent justice. The business of it will soon be too weighty and intricate to be managed, with any tolerable degree of convenience, by a Power so distant from us, and so very ignorant of us; for, if they cannot conquer us, they cannot govern us. To be always running three or four thousand miles with a tale, or a petition, waiting four or five months for an answer, which, when obtained, requires five or six more to explain it in, will, in a few years, be looked upon as folly and childishness. There was a time when it was proper, and there is a proper time for it to cease.

Small islands, not capable of protecting themselves, are the proper objects for Government to take under their care; but there is something very absurd in supposing a continent to be perpetually governed by an island. In no instance hath nature made the satellite larger than its primary planet; and as *England* and *America*, with respect to each other, reverses the common order of nature, it is evident they belong to different systems: *England* to *Europe; America* to itself.

I am not induced by motives of pride, party, or resentment, to espouse the doctrine of separation and independence. I am clearly, positively, and conscientiously persuaded, that 'tis the true interest of this Continent to be so; that every thing short of that is mere patchwork; that it can afford no lasting felicity; that it is leaving the sword to our children, and shrinking back at a time when a little more—a little further—would have rendered this Continent the glory of the earth.

As *Britain* hath not manifested the least inclination towards a compromise, we may be assured that no terms can be obtained worthy the acceptance of the Continent, or any ways equal to the expense of blood and treasure we have been already put to.

The object contended for ought always to bear some just proportion to the expense. The removal of *North*, or the whole detestable junto, is a matter unworthy the millions we have expended. A temporary stoppage of trade was an inconvenience which would have sufficiently balanced the repeal of all the acts complained of, had such repeals been obtained; but if the whole Continent must take up arms, if every man must be a soldier, it is scarcely worth our while to fight against a contemptible Ministry only. Dearly, dearly, do we pay for the repeal of the acts, if that is all we fight for; for, in a just estimation, it is as great a folly to pay a *Bunker-Hill* price for law as for land. As I have always considered the independency of this Continent as an event which, sooner or later, must arrive, so, from the late rapid progress of the Continent to maturity, the event could not be far off; wherefore, on the breaking out of hostilities, it was not worth the while to have disputed a matter which time would have finally redressed, unless we meant to be in earnest; otherwise, it is like wasting an estate on a suit at law to regulate the trespasses of a tenant whose lease is just expiring. No man was a warmer wisher for reconciliation than myself, before the fatal 19th of *April*, 1775; but the moment the event of that day was made known, I rejected the hardened, sullen-tempered *Pharaoh* of *England* forever, and disdained the wretch that, with the pretended title of Father of his People, can unfeelingly hear of their slaughter, and composedly sleep with their blood upon his soul.

But admitting that matters were now made up, what would be the event? I answer, the ruin of the Continent; and that for several reasons:

First. The powers of governing still remaining in the hands of the King, he will have a negative over the whole legislation of this Continent; and as he hath shown himself such an inveterate enemy to liberty, and discovered such a thirst for arbitrary power, is he, or is he not, a proper man to say to these Colonies, "You shall make no laws but what I please?" And is there any inhabitant in *America* so ignorant as not to know that, according to what is called the present Constitution, that this Continent can make no laws but what the King gives leave to? And is there any man so unwise as not to see that (considering what has happened) he will suffer no laws to be made here, but such as suit his purpose. We may be as effectually enslaved by the want of laws in *America*, as by submitting to laws made for us in *England*. After matters are made up, (as it is called,) can there be any doubt but the whole power of the Crown will be exerted to keep this Continent as low and humble as possible? Instead of going forward, we shall go backward, or be perpetually quarrelling, or ridiculously petitioning. We are already greater than the King wishes us to be; and will he not, hereafter, endeavour to make us less? To bring the matter to one point: Is the Power who is jealous of our prosperity, a proper Power to govern us? Whoever says *No* to this question is an Independent; for independency means no more than whether we shall make our own laws, or whether the King, the greatest enemy this Continent hath, or can have, shall tell us, "There shall be no laws but such as I like."

But the King, you will say, hath a negative in *England;* the people there can make no laws without his consent. In point of right and good order, there is something very ridiculous that a youth of twenty-one (which hath often happened) shall say to six millions of people, older and wiser than himself, "I forbid this, or that act of yours, to be law." But, in this place, I decline this sort of reply, though I will never cease to expose the absurdity of it, and only answer, that *England* being the King's residence, and *America* not so, makes quite another case. The King's negative here is ten times more dangerous and fatal than it can be in *England;* for there he will scarcely refuse his consent to a bill for putting *England* into as strong a state of defence as possible; and here he would never suffer such a bill to be passed.

America is only a secondary object in the system of *British* politicks. *England* consults the good of this country no further than it answers her own purpose; wherefore, her own interest leads her to suppress the growth of ours, in every case which doth not promote her advantage, or in the least interferes with it. A pretty state we should be in, under such a second-hand Government, considering what has happened! Men do not change from enemies to friends by the alteration of a name; and in order to show that reconciliation now is a dangerous doctrine, I affirm that it would be policy in the King, at this time, to repeal the acts, for the sake of reinstating himself in the government of the Provinces, in order that he may accomplish by craft and subtilty, in the long run, what he cannot do by force and violence, in the short one. Reconciliation and ruin are nearly related.

Secondly. That as even the best terms which we can expect to obtain can amount to no more than a temporary expedient, or a kind of Government by guardianship, which can last no longer than till the Colonies come of age, so the general face and state of things, in the interim, will be unsettled and unpromising. Emigrants of property will not choose to come to a country whose form of Government hangs but by a thread, and who is every day tottering on the brink of commotion and disturbance; and numbers of the present inhabitants would lay hold of the interval to dispose of their effects, and quit the Continent.

But the most powerful of all arguments is, that nothing but independence, i. e. a Continental form of Government, can keep the peace of the Continent, and preserve it inviolate from civil wars. I dread the event of a reconciliation with *Britain* now, as it is more than probable that it will be followed by a revolt, somewhere or other, the consequences of which may be far more fatal than all the malice of *Britain*.

Thousands are already ruined by *British* barbarity; (thousands more will probably suffer the same fate.) Those men have other feelings than us, who have nothing suffered. All they now possess is liberty. What they before enjoyed is sacrificed to its service, and having nothing more to lose, they disdain submission. Besides, the general temper of the Colonies towards a *British* Government will be like that of a youth who is nearly out of his time: they will care very little about her; and a Government which cannot preserve the peace is no Government at all; and, in that case, we pay our money for nothing. And pray what is it that *Britain* can do, whose power will be wholly on paper, should a civil tumult break out the very day after reconciliation? I have heard some men say, many of whom I believe spoke without thinking, that they dreaded an independence, fearing that it would produce civil wars. It is but seldom that our first thoughts are truly correct, and that is the case here; for there are ten times more to dread from a patched-up connection than from independence. I make the sufferer's case my own, and I protest, that were I driven from house and home, my property destroyed, and my circumstances ruined, that, as a man sensible of injuries, I could never relish the doctrine of reconciliation, or consider myself bound thereby.

The Colonies hath manifested such a spirit of good order, and obedience to Continental Government, as is sufficient to make every reasonable person easy and happy on that head. No man can assign the least pretence for his fears, on any other grounds than such as are truly childish and ridiculous, viz: that one Colony will be striving for superiority over another.

Where there are no distinctions, there can be no superiority; perfect equality affords no temptation. The Republicks of *Europe* are all (and we may say always) in peace. *Holland* and *Switzerland* are without wars, foreign or domestick. Monarchical Governments, it is true, are never long at rest. The Crown itself is a temptation to enterprising ruffians at home; and that degree of pride and insolence, ever attendant on regal authority, swells into a rupture with foreign Powers in instances where a Republican Government, by being formed on more natural principles, would negotiate the mistake.

If there is any true cause for fear respecting independence, it is because no plan is yet laid down. Men do not see their way out—wherefore, as an opening into that business I offer the following hints; at the same time modestly affirming, that I have no other opinion of them

myself, than that they may be the means of giving rise to something better. Could the straggling thoughts of individuals be collected, they would frequently form materials for wise and able men to improve into useful matter.

Let the Assemblies be annual, with a President only. The representation more equal. Their business wholly domestick, and subject to the authority of a Continental Congress.

Let each Colony be divided into six, eight, or ten convenient districts, each district to send a proper number of Delegates to Congress, so that each Colony send at least thirty. The whole number in Congress will be at least three hundred and ninety. Each Congress to sit . . . . . and to choose a President by the following method: When the Delegates are met, let a Colony be taken from the whole thirteen Colonies by lot, after which let the whole Congress choose (by ballot) a President from out of the Delegates of that Province. In the next Congress let a Colony be taken by lot from twelve only, omitting that Colony from which the President was taken in the former Congress, and so proceeding on till the whole thirteen shall have had their proper rotation. And in order that nothing may pass into a law but what is satisfactorily just, not less than three-fifths of the Congress to be called a majority. He that will promote discord under a Government so equally formed as this, would have joined *Lucifer* in his revolt.

But as there is a peculiar delicacy from whom, or in what manner, this business must first arise, and as it seems most agreeable and consistent, that it should come from some intermediate body between the governed and the governours, that is, between the Congress and the People, let a Continental Conference be held in the following manner, and for the following purpose:

A Committee of twenty-six members of Congress, viz: two for each Colony. Two members from each House of Assembly, or Provincial Convention, and five Representatives of the people at large, to be chosen in the capital city or town of each Province, for, and in behalf of the whole Province, by as many qualified voters as shall think proper to attend from all parts of the Province for that purpose; or if more convenient, the Representatives may be chosen in two or three of the most populous parts thereof. In this Conference, thus assembled, will be united the two grand principles of business—knowledge and power. The members of Congress, Assemblies, or Conventions, by having had experience in national concerns, will be able and useful counsellors, and the whole, by being empowered by the people, will have a truly legal authority.

The conferring members being met, let their business be to frame a Continental Charter, or Charter of the *United Colonies*, (answering to what is called the Magna Charta of *England*,) fixing the number and manner of choosing Members of Congress, Members of Assembly, with their date of sitting, and drawing the line of business and jurisdiction between them: (always remembering, that our strength and happiness is Continental, not Provincial.) Securing freedom and property to all men, and above all things, the free exercise of religion, according to the dictates of conscience; with such other matters as is necessary for a Charter to contain. Immediately after which, the said Conference to dissolve, and the bodies which shall be chosen conformable to the said Charter, to be the legislators and governours of this Continent, for the time being: whose peace and happiness may *God* preserve. Amen.

Should any body of men be hereafter delegated for this or some similar purpose, I offer them the following extract from that wise observer on Governments, *Dragonetti*. "The science," says he, "of the politician consists in fixing the true point of happiness and freedom. Those men would deserve the gratitude of ages, who should discover a mode of government that contained the greatest sum of individual happiness, with the least national expense."—*Dragonetti on Virtue and Rewards.*

But where, says some, is the King of *America*? I'll tell you friend, he reigns above; and doth not make havock of mankind like the Royal Brute of *Great Britain*. Yet that we may not appear to be defective even in earthly honours, let a day be solemnly set apart for proclaiming the Charter; let it be brought forth placed on the Divine law, the Word of *God;* let a crown be placed thereon, by which the world may know, that so far as we approve of monarchy, that in *America* the Law is King. For as in absolute Governments the King is Law, so in free countries the Law ought to be King; and there ought to be no other. But lest any ill use should afterwards arise, let the crown, at the conclusion of the ceremony, be demolished and scattered among the people, whose right it is.

A Government of our own is our natural right: and when a man seriously reflects on the precariousness of human affairs, he will become convinced, that it is infinitely wiser and safer, to form a Constitution of our own, in a cool deliberate manner, while we have it in our power, than to trust such an interesting event to time and chance. If we omit it now, some *Massanello** may hereafter arise, who, laying hold of popular disquietudes, may collect together the desperate and the discontented, and, by assuming to themselves the powers of Government, may sweep away the liberties of the Continent like a deluge. Should the Government of *America* return again into the hands of *Britain*, the tottering situation of things will be a temptation for some desperate adventurer to try his fortune; and in such a case, what relief can *Britain* give? Ere she could hear the news, the fatal business might be done; and ourselves suffering, like the wretched *Britons*, under the oppression of the Conqueror. Ye that oppose independence now, ye know not what ye do: ye are opening a door to eternal tyranny, by keeping vacant the seat of Government. There are thousands, and tens of thousands, who would think it glorious to expel from the Continent that barbarous and hellish power, which have stirred up the *Indians* and the *Negroes* to destroy us; the cruelty hath a double guilt, it is dealing brutally by us, and treacherously by them.

To talk of friendship with those in whom our reason forbids us to have faith, and our affections wounded through a thousand pores, instruct us to detest, is madness and folly. Every day wears out the little remains of kindred between us and them, and can there be any reason to hope, that as the relationship expires, the affection will increase, or that we shall agree better, when we have ten times more and greater concerns to quarrel over than ever?

Ye that tell us of harmony and reconciliation, can ye restore to us the time that is past? Can ye give to prostitution its former innocence? Neither can ye reconcile *Britain* and *America*. The last cord now is broken, the people of *England* are presenting addresses against us. There are injuries which nature cannot forgive; she would cease to be nature if she did. As well can the lover forgive the ravisher of his mistress, as the Continent forgive the murders of *Britain*. The Almighty hath implanted in us these unextinguishable feelings for good and wise purposes. They are the guardians of His image in our hearts. They distinguish us from the herd of common animals. The social compact would dissolve, and justice be extirpated the earth, or have only a casual existence, were we callous to the touches of affection. The robber and the murderer would often escape unpunished, did not the injuries which our tempers sustain, provoke us into justice.

O ye that love mankind! Ye that dare oppose not only the tyranny, but the tyrant, stand forth! Every spot of the old world is overrun with oppression. Freedom hath been hunted round the globe. *Asia* and *Africa* have long expelled her. *Europe* regards her like a stranger, and *England* hath given her warning to depart. O! receive the fugitive, and prepare in time an asylum for mankind.

IV. *Of the present ability of* America, *with some miscellaneous reflections.*

I have never met with a man, in *England* or *America*, who hath not confessed his opinion, that a separation between the countries would take place one time or other: and there is no instance, in which we have shown less judgment than in endeavouring to describe what we call the ripeness or fitness of the Continent for independence.

As all men allow the measure, and vary only in opinion of the time, let us, in order to remove mistakes, take a general survey of things, and endeavour, if possible, to find

* *Thomas Anello*, otherwise *Massanello*, a fisherman of *Naples*, who, after spiriting up his countrymen in the publick market place, against the oppression of the *Spaniards*, to whom the place was then subject, prompted them to revolt, and in the space of a day became King.

out the very time. But I need not go far; the inquiry ceases at once, for the time hath found us. The general concurrence, the glorious union of all things, prove the fact.

'Tis not in numbers, but in unity, that our great strength lies; yet our present numbers are sufficient to repel the force of all the world. The Continent hath, at this time, the largest disciplined army of any Power under Heaven; and is just arrived at that pitch of strength in which no single Colony is able to support itself; and the whole, when united, is able to do any thing. Our land force is more than sufficient; and as to navy affairs, we cannot be insensible that *Britain* would never suffer an *American* man-of-war to be built, while the Continent remained in her hands. Wherefore, we should be no forwarder an hundred years hence in that branch than we are now; but the truth is, we should be less so, because the timber of the country is every day diminishing.

Were the Continent crowded with inhabitants, her sufferings under the present circumstances would be intolerable. The more sea-port towns we had, the more should we have both to defend and to lose. Our present numbers are so happily proportioned to our wants, that no man need be idle. The diminution of trade affords an army, and the necessities of an army creates a new trade.

Debts, we have none; and whatever we may contract on this account, will serve as a glorious memento of our virtue. Can we but leave posterity with a settled form of Government, an independent Constitution of its own, the purchase, at any price, will be cheap. But to expend millions for the sake of getting a few vile acts repealed, and routing the present Ministry only, is unworthy the charge, and is using posterity with the utmost cruelty; because it is leaving them the great work to do, and a debt upon their backs from which they derive no advantage. Such a thought is unworthy a man of honour, and is the true characteristick of a narrow heart and a peddling politician.

The debt we may contract doth not deserve our regard if the work be but accomplished. No nation ought to be without a debt. A national debt is a national bond; and when it bears no interest, is in no case a grievance. *Britain* is oppressed with a debt of upwards of one hundred and forty millions sterling, for which she pays upwards of four millions interest; and as a compensation for her debt, she has a large navy; *America* is without a debt, and without a navy; but for the twentieth part of the *English* national debt, could have a navy as large again. The navy of *England* is not worth at this time more than three millions and an half sterling.

No country on the globe is so happily situated, or so internally capable of raising a fleet as *America*. Tar, timber, iron, and cordage, are her natural produce. We need go abroad for nothing. Whereas the *Dutch*, who make large profits by hiring out their ships of war to the *Spaniards* and *Portuguese*, are obliged to import most of the materials they use. We ought to view the building a fleet as an article of commerce, it being the natural manufactory of this country; 'tis the best money we can lay out. A Navy when finished is worth more than it cost; and is that nice point in national policy, in which commerce and protection are united. Let us build; if we want them not, we can sell; and by that means replace our paper currency with ready gold and silver.

In point of manning a fleet, people in general run into great errors: it is not necessary that one-fourth part should be sailors. The *Terrible*, privateer, Captain *Death*, stood the hottest engagement of any ship last war, yet had not twenty sailors on board, though her complement of men was upwards of two hundred. A few able and social sailors will soon instruct a sufficient number of active landsmen in the common work of a ship. Wherefore, we never can be more capable to begin on maritime matters than now, while our timber is standing, our fisheries blocked up, and our sailors and shipwrights out of employ. Men-of-war, of seventy and eighty guns, were built forty years ago in *New-England*, and why not the same now? Ship-building is *America's* greatest pride, and in which she will, in time, excel the whole world. The great empires of the East are mostly inland, and, consequently, excluded from the possibility of rivalling her. *Africa* is in a state of barbarism; and no Power in *Europe* hath either such an extent of coast, or such an internal supply of materials. Where nature hath given the one, she has withheld the other; to *America* only hath she been liberal of both. The vast empire of *Russia* is almost shut out from the sea; wherefore, her boundless forests, her tar, iron, and cordage, are only articles of commerce.

In point of safety ought we to be without a fleet? We are not the little people now which we were sixty years ago. At that time we might have trusted our property in the streets, or fields rather, and slept securely without locks or bolts to our doors and windows. The case now is altered, and our methods of defence ought to improve with our increase of property. A common pirate, twelve months ago, might have come up the *Delaware*, and laid the city of *Philadelphia* under instant contribution for what sum he pleased; and the same might have happened to other places. Nay, any daring fellow, in a brig of fourteen or sixteen guns, might have robbed the whole Continent, and carried off half a million of money. These are circumstances which demand our attention, and point out the necessity of naval protection.

Some, perhaps, will say, that after we have made it up with *Britain*, that she will protect us. Can we be so unwise as to mean that she shall keep a navy in our harbours for that purpose? Common sense will tell us, that the Power which hath endeavoured to subdue us, is, of all others, the most improper to defend us. Conquest may be effected under the pretence of friendship, and ourselves, after a long and brave resistance, be at last cheated into slavery. And if her ships are not to be admitted into our harbours, I would ask, how is she to protect us? A navy, three or four thousand miles off, can be of little use, and on sudden emergencies, none at all. Wherefore, if we must hereafter protect ourselves, why not do it for ourselves? Why do it for another?

The *English* list of ships-of-war is long and formidable, but not a tenth part of them are, at any one time, fit for service; numbers of them not in being; yet their names are pompously continued in the list, if only a plank is left of the ship; and not a fifth part of such as are fit for service, can be spared on any one station at one time. The *East* and *West-Indies*, *Mediterranean*, *Africa*, and other parts over which *Britain* extends her claim, make large demands upon her navy. From a mixture of prejudice and inattention, we have contracted a false notion respecting the navy of *England*, and have talked as if we should have the whole of it to encounter at once, and for that reason, supposed, that we must have one as large; which not being instantly practicable, have been made use of by a set of disguised Tories to discourage our beginning thereon. Nothing can be further from truth than this, for if *America* had only a twentieth part of the naval force of *Britain*, she would be by far an overmatch for her; because, as we neither have, nor claim any foreign dominion, our whole force would be employed on our own coast, where we should, in the long run, have two to one the advantage of those who had three or four thousand miles to sail over, before they could attack us, and the same distance to return in order to refit and recruit. And, although *Britain* by her fleet hath a check over our trade to *Europe*, we have as large a one over her trade to the *West-Indies*, which, by laying in the neighbourhood of the Continent lies entirely at its mercy.

Some method might be fallen on to keep up a naval force in time of peace, if we should not judge it necessary to support a constant navy. If premiums were to be given to merchants to build and employ in their service ships mounted with twenty, thirty, forty, or fifty guns, (the premiums to be in proportion to the loss of bulk to the merchant,) fifty or sixty of those ships, with a few guard-ships on constant duty, would keep up a sufficient navy, and that without burdening ourselves with the evil so loudly complained of in *England*, of suffering their fleets in time of peace to lie rotting in the docks. To unite the sinews of commerce and defence is sound policy; for when our strength and our riches play into each other's hand, we need fear no external enemy. In almost every article of defence we abound. Hemp flourishes even to rankness, so that we need not want cordage. Our iron is superior to that of other countries. Our small-arms equal to any in the world. Cannon we can cast at pleasure; saltpetre and gunpowder we are every day producing. Our knowledge is hourly improving. Re-

*

solution is our inherent character, and courage hath never yet forsaken us. Wherefore, what is it that we want? why is it that we hesitate? From *Britain* we can expect nothing but ruin. If she is once admitted to the government of *America* again, this Continent will not be worth living in. Jealousies will be always arising; insurrections will be constantly happening; and who will go forth to quell them? Who will venture his life to reduce his own countrymen to a foreign obedience? The difference between *Pennsylvania* and *Connecticut*, respecting some unlocated lands, shows the insignificance of a *British* Government, and fully proves that nothing but Continental authority can regulate Continental matters.

Another reason why the present time is preferable to all others, is, that the fewer our numbers are, the more land there is yet unoccupied, which, instead of being lavished by the King on his worthless dependants, may be hereafter applied, not only to the discharge of the present debt, but to the constant support of Government. No nation under Heaven hath such an advantage as this.

The infant state of the Colonies, as it is called, so far from being against, is an argument in favour of independence. We are sufficiently numerous, and were we more so, might be less united. 'Tis a matter worthy of observation, that the more a country is peopled, the smaller their armies are. In military numbers, the ancients far exceeded the moderns; and the reason is evident, for trade being the consequence of population, men become too much absorbed thereby to attend to any thing else. Commerce diminishes the spirit both of patriotism and military defence. And history sufficiently informs us, that the bravest achievements were always accomplished in the non-age of a nation. With the increase of commerce *England* hath lost its spirit. The city of *London*, notwithstanding its numbers, submits to continued insults with the patience of a coward. The more men have to lose, the less willing are they to venture. The rich are in general slaves to fear, and submit to courtly power with the trembling duplicity of a spaniel.

Youth is the seed time of good habits, as well in nations as in individuals. It might be difficult, if not impossible to form the Continent into one Government half a century hence. The vast variety of interests occasioned by an increase of trade and population would create confusion. Colony would be against Colony. Each being able, would scorn each other's assistance: and while the proud and foolish gloried in their little distinctions, the wise would lament that the Union had not been formed before. Wherefore, the present time is the true time for establishing it. The intimacy which is contracted in infancy, and the friendship which is formed in misfortune, are, of all others, the most lasting and unalterable. Our present union is marked with both these characters: we are young, and we have been distressed; but our concord hath withstood our troubles, and fixes a memorable era for posterity to glory in.

The present time likewise, is that peculiar time which never happens to a nation but once, viz: the time of forming itself into a Government. Most nations have let slip the opportunity, and by that means have been compelled to receive laws from their conquerors, instead of making laws for themselves. First they had a King, and then a form of Government; whereas, the Articles or Charter of Government should be formed first, and men delegated to execute them afterward: but from the errors of other nations let us learn wisdom, and lay hold of the present opportunity ——— to begin Government at the right end.

When *William* the Conqueror subdued *England*, he gave them law at the point of the sword; and until we consent that the seat of Government in *America* be legally and authoritatively occupied, we shall be in danger of having it filled by some fortunate ruffian, who may treat us in the same manner, and then where will be our freedom? where our property?

As to religion, I hold it to be the indispensable duty of Government to protect all conscientious professors thereof, and I know of no other business which Government hath to do therewith: let a man throw aside that narrowness of soul, that selfishness of principle, which the niggards of all professions are so unwilling to part with, and he will be delivered of his fears on that head. Suspicion is the companion of mean souls, and the bane of all good society. For myself, I fully and conscientiously believe, that it is the will of the Almighty that there should be diversity of religious opinions among us. It affords a larger field for our Christian kindness; were we all of one way of thinking, our religious dispositions would want matter for probation; and on this liberal principle, I look on the various denominations among us to be like children of the same family, differing only in what is called their Christian names.

In page 1555, I threw out a few thoughts on the propriety of a Continental Charter, (for I only presume to offer hints, not plans,) and in this place I take the liberty of re-mentioning the subject, by observing, that a Charter is to be understood as a bond of solemn obligation, which the whole enters into, to support the right of every separate part, whether of religion, personal freedom, or property. A right reckoning makes long friends.

In a former page I likewise mentioned the necessity of a large and equal representation; and there is no political matter which more deserves our attention. A small number of Electors, or a small number of Representatives, are equally dangerous. But if the number of the Representatives be not only small, but unequal, the danger is increased. As an instance of this, I mention the following: When the Associators' petition was before the House of Assembly of *Pennsylvania*, twenty-eight members only were present; all the *Bucks* County members, being eight, voted against it, and had seven of the *Chester* members done the same, this whole Province had been governed by two Counties only; and this danger it is always exposed to. The unwarrantable stretch likewise, which that House made in their last sitting, to gain an undue authority over the Delegates of that Province, ought to warn the people at large how they trust power out of their own hands. A set of instructions for the Delegates were put together, which, in point of sense and business, would have dishonoured a school-boy, and after being approved by a few, (a very few without doors,) were carried into the House, and there passed in behalf of the whole Colony: whereas, did the whole Colony know with what ill-will that House hath entered on some necessary publick measures, they would not hesitate a moment to think them unworthy of such a trust.

Immediate necessity makes many things convenient, which if continued would grow into oppression. Expedience and right, are different things. When the calamities of *America* required a consultation, there was no method so ready, or at that time so proper, as to appoint persons from the several Houses of Assembly for that purpose; and the wisdom with which they have proceeded hath preserved this Continent from ruin. But as it is more than probable that we shall never be without a Congress, every well-wisher to good order must own that the mode for choosing members of that body deserves consideration. And I put it as a question to those who make a study of mankind, whether representation and election is not too great a power for one and the same body of men to possess? When we are planning for posterity, we ought to remember that virtue is not hereditary.

It is from our enemies that we often gain excellent maxims, and are frequently surprised into reason by their mistakes. Mr. *Cornwall* (one of the Lords of the Treasury) treated the petition of the *New-York* Assembly with contempt, because that House, he said, consisted but of twenty-six members, which trifling number, he argued, could not with decency be put for the whole. We thank him for his involuntary honesty.*

To conclude, however strange it may appear to some, or however unwilling they may be to think so, matters not, but many strong and striking reasons may be given, to shew, that nothing can settle our affairs so expeditiously as an open and determined Declaration for Independence. Some of which are:

First. It is the custom of nations, when any two are at war, for some other Powers, not engaged in the quarrel, to step in as mediators, and bring about the preliminaries of a peace; but while *America* calls herself the subject of *Great Britain*, no Power, however well disposed she may be, can offer her mediation. Wherefore, in our present state, we may quarrel on for ever.

* Those who would fully understand of what great consequence a large and equal representation is to a State, should read *Burgh's* Political Disquisitions.

Secondly. It is unreasonable to suppose that *France* or *Spain* will give us any kind of assistance, if we mean only to make use of that assistance for the purpose of repairing the breach, and strengthening the connection between *Britain* and *America;* because those Powers would be sufferers by the consequences.

Thirdly. While we profess ourselves the subjects of *Britain,* we must in the eye of foreign nations be considered as Rebels. The precedent is somewhat dangerous to their peace, for men to be in arms under the name of subjects: we on the spot can solve the paradox; but to unite resistance and subjection, requires an idea much too refined for common understanding.

Fourthly. Were a manifesto to be published, and despatched to foreign Courts, setting forth the miseries we have endured, and the peaceable methods we have ineffectually used for redress, declaring, at the same time, that not being able any longer to live happily or safely, under the cruel disposition of the *British* Court, we had been driven to the necessity of breaking off all connections with her; at the same time assuring all such Courts of our peaceable disposition towards them, and of our desire of entering into trade with them, such a memorial would produce more good effects to this Continent than if a ship were freighted with petitions to *Britain.*

Under our present denomination of *British* subjects, we can neither be received nor heard abroad; the custom of all Courts is against us, and will be so, until, by an Independence, we take rank with other nations.

These proceedings may at first appear strange and difficult, but, like all other steps which we have already passed over, will, in a little time, become familiar and agreeable; and until an Independence is declared, the Continent will feel itself like a man who continues putting off some unpleasant business from day to day, yet knows it must be done, hates to set about it, wishes it over, and is continually haunted with the thoughts of its necessity.*

* Philadelphia, *April* 28, 1776.—The writer of "*Common Sense,*" and the "*Forester,*" is the same person; his name is *Paine,* a gentleman, about two years ago from *England,* a man who, General *Lee* says, has genius in his eyes. The writer of "*Cassandra*" is said to be Mr. *James Cannon,* a tutor in the *Philadelphia* College. "*Cato,*" is reported here to be Doctor *Smith,* a match for *Brattle.* The Oration [in memory of General *Montgomery,*] was an insolent performance. A motion was made [in Congress] to thank the orator, and ask a copy, but opposed with great spirit and vivacity, from every part of the room, and at last withdrawn, lest it should be rejected, as it certainly would have been, with great indignation. The orator then printed it himself, after leaving out or altering some offensive passages. This is one of the many irregular and extravagant characters of the age. I never heard one single person speak well of any thing about him but his abilities, which are generally allowed to be good. The appointment of him to make the oration was a great oversight and mistake. John Adams.

PENNSYLVANIA COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Monday, January 29, 1776.

In Committee of Safety: Present—

John Nixon, Chairman, *Daniel Roberdeau, James Mease, George Clymer, Thomas Wharton,* Jun., *Samuel Miles, Owen Biddle, George Gray, James Biddle.*

Upon application of Major *Bayard* for permission to employ a Pilot and Pilot-boat to cruise off the Capes of *Delaware,* for a Ship, with Arms and Ammunition, bound to this port:

By order of the Board, the Chairman wrote to Mr. *Henry Fisher,* directing him to furnish Mr. *Nathaniel Ramsey* with a Pilot and Boat, for the above-mentioned purpose.

Lieutenant *Cameron,* taken with Mr. *Connolly,* and confined, by order of Congress, as a person inimical to the liberties of *America,* was this day brought before this Board, and, being examined, and found to have acted an inimical part in the present dispute between *Great Britain* and these Colonies, was remanded to jail, and there to remain till the further order of Congress and this Board.

John Fox, of this city, blacksmith, having informed this Committee that *Peter Cribs,* his apprentice lad, is inlisted on the Continental service, by Lieutenant *Collier,* of Colonel *Magaw's* Battalion, and it appearing that the said *John Fox* has paid a consideration for the time of the said apprentice, the Commanding Officer of said Battalion is hereby desired to discharge him from his inlistment, on being repaid all the charges attending it.

Resolved, That no business be gone into before the Minutes of the preceding day's being read.

That the Minutes of this Board for the day be constantly read before the Members separate.

That no Member leave this Board without the permission of the Board.

Resolved, That this Board will, on *Monday,* the 5th day of *February* next, appoint Officers for a Company of Matrosses, to be immediately raised in this Province, for the service of *Canada.* And this Resolve to be published in the Newspapers, to the end applications may be made by such as choose to enter into the said service.

Mr. *Apty* finding it inconvenient to victual the people confined by order of Congress in jail, *Sachervil Wood* was directed to provide them with the usual allowance, for seven Shillings and six Pence per week, each man, to commence to-morrow.

—

Tuesday, January 30, 1776.

In Committee of Safety: Present—

John Nixon, Chairman, *John Cadwallader, George Clymer, Robert White, Samuel Morris, Thomas Wharton,* Jr., *James Mease, George Gray, Daniel Roberdeau, Samuel Howell, Alexander Wilcocks, Joseph Reed, James Biddle, Owen Biddle.*

Robert Towers reports his having received from Major *Cox,* 4,465 eight-ounce balls, for swivels; 4 thirty-two-pound double-headed shot; 16 twenty-four pound double-headed shot; 36 eighteen-pound double-headed shot.

Upon application of *John Handlyn,* for the payment of his Account for repairing a number of Fire-locks for Captain *Dorsey's* Company, in the Battalion late Colonel *Bull's,* an Order was drawn on Messrs. *Mease* and *Caldwell,* for twenty-two Pounds sixteen Shillings, in his favour.

Resolved, That Captain *White* procure the Timber for making fifty large Cannon-carriages.

Upon application of Captain *William Williams,* for the payment of four Fire-locks purchased by him for the use of his Company, in the Battalion late Colonel *Bull's,* an Order was drawn in his favour for sixteen Pounds ten Shillings, on Messrs. *Mease* and *Caldwell,* Paymasters.

By Order of the Board, the following Advertisements were sent to Messrs. *Hall & Sellers,* and Messrs. *Bradfords,* and the other Printers of this city, requesting them to publish them in their next Papers:

As Rags and Lint are essentially necessary for the publick service, this Committee most earnestly request the inhabitants of this City to collect what old Linen they have, and can spare; and, in the course of next week, persons, properly authorized under the hand of the Secretary of the Committee, will call at their houses to receive.

Such persons, also, as have Saltpetre to dispose of, are hereby notified that *Robert Towers,* Commissary, next door but one to the *Presbyterian* Meeting-House, in *Market* street, will receive the same, and pay them therefor.

The Board adjourned to half-after four o'clock, this day.

Agreeable to adjournment, the following Members attended:

John Nixon, Daniel Roberdeau, George Gray, Joseph Reed, Thomas Wharton, Jun., *Samuel Morris,* Jun., *Samuel Howell, Owen Biddle, John Cadwallader, George Clymer, James Mease, Alexander Wilcocks, James Biddle, Robert White.*

By Letter from Mr. *Henry Wynkoop* to this Committee, dated *Bucks* County, the 24th instant, it appears that *James Wallace, Andrew Kechlin,* and *Joseph Fenton,* Jun., were appointed by the Committee of Inspection and Observation of said County, to attend the Saltpetre Works in this City, to be instructed in the manufacture of that commodity; and to set up Works at their respective houses in *Bucks* County, for the instruction of the inhabitants. *James Wallace* being, also, by said Committee recommended as the Officer for receiving and paying for the Saltpetre made in *Bucks* County:

Resolved, That on application of said *John Wallace,* he shall receive a sufficient sum of Money and Gunpowder for

the purposes aforesaid, agreeable to the advertisement from this Board.

Agreeable to direction of Congress, this Board went into the examination of Doctor *Connolly*, and find him to be a person inimical to the liberties and dangerous to the safety of these Colonies; therefore, was remanded to Jail till the further orders of Congress, or this Committee.

Upon application of Mr. *King*, for the payment of his Bill, for a quantity of Grape Shot made for, and delivered to this Board, this Committee came to the following Resolve: That he be paid four Pence per pound for said Shot; and that he be allowed fifty-five Pounds as a recompense for his having undertaken this business, and the unexpected disappointments he met with on carrying it into execution.

—

Wednesday, January 31, 1776.

In Committee of Safety: Present—

John Nixon, Chairman, *John Cadwallader*, *James Mease*, *James Biddle*, *Samuel Howell*, *Samuel Morris*, Jun., *Owen Biddle*, *Daniel Roberdeau*, *George Gray*.

Upon application of Captain *Proctor*, for a sum of Money for the Recruiting Service, by order of the Board an Order was drawn on Mr. *John Maxwell Nesbitt*, for fifty Pounds for said purpose.

Upon application of Captain *Josiah Harmar*, for the payment of ten Fire-locks, purchased by him for the use of his Company, in the Battalion late Colonel *Bull's*, by order of the Board an Order was drawn in his favour on Messrs. *Mease* and *Caldwell*, for thirty-six Pounds nine Shillings.

The Memorial of the Captains and Lieutenants of the Armed Boats, was this day read, and referred to *Friday* next.

Whereas, it is represented to this Board, by the Committee of the County of *Philadelphia*, that *Thomas Austin* is charged, by several witnesses, with having uttered many declarations inimical to the cause of *American* liberty, and tending to excite groundless fears and apprehensions in the minds of the good people of this Province:

It is *Resolved*, That the said *Thomas Austin* be required to attend this Committee, on *Tuesday*, the 6th day of *February* next, at eleven o'clock, in the morning, to answer the said charges; and that for that purpose he be served with a copy of this Resolve.

The following Notice was sent to *Josiah Hart*, *Marshall Edwards*, *Jacob Laughlin*, and *Caspar Fetters*, Witnesses in the complaint against *Thomas Austin*, viz:

You are hereby required to attend the Committee of Safety, on *Tuesday*, the 6th day of *February* next, at eleven o'clock, in the morning, to declare such matters as you know touching a certain charge exhibited to the said Board against *Thomas Austin*.

—

Thursday, February 1, 1776.

In Committee of Safety: Present—

John Nixon, Chairman, *Thomas Wharton*, Jun., *Owen Biddle*, *Samuel Howell*, *Daniel Roberdeau*, *Samuel Morris*, Jun., *James Mease*, *James Biddle*, *Samuel Miles*, *Joseph Reed*, *Robert White*, *John Cadwallader*, *Anthony Wayne*, *Alexander Wilcocks*, *George Clymer*.

Upon application of the Committee of Accounts, by order of the Board an Order was drawn on *Michael Hillegas*, Esq., in favour of *John Nixon*, *Thomas Wharton*, Jun., and *James Mease*, or either of their Orders, for the sum of ten thousand Pounds.

Lieutenant-Colonel *Penrose* having informed this Board, that a First Lieutenant is wanting in the Fifth Battalion of Troops to be raised in this Province, in the Continental service, this Committee, therefore, do appoint *Richard Seward* to be a First Lieutenant in said Battalion.

Upon application of *John Tyler*, for the payment of his Account for repairing a number of Fire-locks belonging to Captain *Willet's* Company, in the Battalion late Colonel *Bull's*, an Order was drawn on Messrs. *Mease* and *Caldwell*, in his favour, for eleven Pounds five Shillings and nine Pence.

Resolved, That *Samuel Howell* be joined to *Robert Morris*, *Thomas Wharton*, Jun., and *Robert White*, the Committee for importing Fire-arms, Gunpowder, Saltpetre, &c., from foreign parts for the use of this Province, to aid and assist them in that service.

Mr. *Gratz* having a quantity of Blankets and other Woollen Goods, said to be proper for covering and clothing the Troops now raising for the Continental service, this Board gave him directions to order the said Goods immediately to this City, and if they are found suitable for the above purposes, this Board will allow him a generous price for them.

Messrs. *David Rittenhouse*, *Daniel Joy*, *John McNeal*, and *Samuel Morris*, were by a Resolve of the 22d ultimo, appointed and required to make a survey of the *Jersey-Shore*, from *Billingsport* to *Newton-Creek*, and to determine what parts it may be necessary to fortify, to make an estimate of the expense thereof, and report the same to this Board, agreeable thereto, they make the following Report:

To the Honourable the Committee of Safety for the Province of Pennsylvania.

Gentlemen: According to your request, we proceeded from hence into the Province of *New-Jersey*, to the lower part of *Billingsport*, on the river *Delaware*, and surveyed the shore from thence to the lowland near *Mantua-Creek*. We determined the bearing and distance of the pier at the fort, from thence, and likewise the breadth of the channel opposite *Billingsport*, which was readily done by means of the grounded ice on each side of it. From *Billingsport* we went to *Red-Bank*, and there, by measuring two stations, and taking several bearings, we ascertained its distance from the upper pier aforesaid. From *Red-Bank* we returned to *Gloucester*, where we took several bearings, which served to complete the draft which accompanies this, in which you will see the particular bearings and distances laid down with as much accuracy as the time would admit. If we may presume to give our judgment with regard to fortifying any part of the *Jersey-Shore*, we are unanimous in our opinion, that it is not advisable, because any part of *Billingsport*, or *Red-Bank*, is at too great a distance from the chevaux-de-frise, for either friends, or enemies, to annoy, with certainty, any boats, &c., that may be stationed at them; and if a fort were built at either of these places, the enemy would land above or below it without any difficulty, (unless a superior army could be collected before, on the spot to oppose them,) and oblige our people to spike their cannon, and quit the fort, or submit to be made prisoners, and the very means of our defence be made to operate against us, or at least be dismantled. To obviate which, we humbly offer a different manner of defence and annoyance to your consideration, which is to have a number of guns, twelve or eighteen pounders, mounted on strong travelling carriages, and previous to the enemy's approach to raise breast-works at the most convenient places at *Billingsport*, *Marcus Hellim's*, and other places, from whence these guns, thus mounted, and well plied with star and cross-barred shot, will annoy the enemy much, and, if they should land and press hard, our people can retreat and make a fresh stand at suitable places. If the enemy should land their whole force in the *Jerseys*, with an intent (as we may suppose) to bombard this city, in such case the bridges, after our cannon are retreated over them, should be destroyed, with houses, barns, fences, &c., which would assist them in crossing; and thus, if our cannon are well supported with musketry, every inch of ground may be disputed with great inconveniency and loss to the enemy.

Daniel Joy,
David Rittenhouse,
John McNeal.

—

Friday, February 2, 1776.

In Committee of Safety: Present—

Alexander Wilcocks, Chairman, *James Biddle*, *George Clymer*, *Samuel Miles*, *Owen Biddle*, *Samuel Howell*, *Daniel Roberdeau*, *John Cadwallader*, *George Gray*.

Upon application of Mr. *James Chapman*, one of the Commissaries of *Buck's* County, for a sum of Money to purchase a quantity of Osnaburghs for Knapsacks, for the use of that County, by order of the Board an Order was drawn in his favour, on *Michael Hillegas*, Esq., for fifty Pounds for that purpose.

Saturday, February 3, 1776.

In Committee of Safety: Present—

John Nixon, Chairman, *James Biddle*, *George Clymer*, *Samuel Miles*, *Joseph Reed*, *Samuel Howell*, *Owen Biddle*, *Daniel Roberdeau*, *James Mease*, *John Cadwallader*, *Robert White*.

Upon application of Mr. *James Wallace*, a gentleman, appointed by the Committee of *Bucks* County, to receive and pay for the Saltpetre that may be made and delivered him in that County, by order of the Board an Order was drawn on Mr. *John Nixon*, and others, the Committee of Accounts, for fifteen Pounds, and an Order on Mr. *Towers*, Commissary, for one-quarter cask of Powder, for the above said purpose.

Upon application of Mr. *Antis*, an Order was directed to Mr. *Towers*, to deliver him six pounds of Powder, to repay that quantity borrowed by him to prove a cannon made by himself and Mr. *Potts*, at *Warwick-Furnace*.

Robert Colebrook and *James O'Neil*, two persons taken with Captain *Campbell*, and confined in Jail by order of the Congress, were this day discharged from their confinement.

John Brown, the servant of Doctor *Connolly*, was ordered from the Jail to the Work-House, there to be kept in safe custody till the further orders of this Board.

In consequence of a Petition from *John Hackett*, late Stewart on board the *Dickinson*, the Commodore was this day directed to discharge him from the Fleet.

Resolved, That the pay of the Captains of the Armed Boats be increased to ten Pounds per month, or twenty-six and two-thirds Dollars; the pay of the First Lieutenants be seventeen Dollars per month; that the pay of the Second Lieutenants be fourteen Dollars per month, to commence the first instant.

Resolved, That all Ships or Vessels-of-War, with their boats, guns, tackle, furniture, and goods on board, that shall be taken and made prize of in the river *Delaware* by any of the Vessels, or Armed Boats, fitted or fitting out for this Province, and be condemned as lawful prize, shall be two-third parts thereof for the use of the Captors, and the remaining one-third part thereof to be applied, by the Assembly or Committee of Safety of this Province, for the maintenance and support of such Officers, Soldiers, and Seamen as shall be maimed or disabled in the said service, and of the Widows and Children of such as may be killed in the same, in such manner as the said Assembly or Committee shall think proper.

Resolved, That all other Ships or Vessels, Goods, Wares, and Merchandise, that shall be taken by any of the Vessels, or Armed Boats, fitted or fitting out by this Province, and condemned as lawful prize, shall be distributed according to the Resolve of the Congress.

—

Monday, February 5, 1776.

In Committee of Safety: Present—

James Mease, Chairman, *Owen Biddle*, *George Clymer*, *Daniel Roberdeau*, *John Cadwallader*, *Alexander Wilcocks*, *Samuel Howell*, *James Biddle*, *Samuel Morris*, *Thomas Wharton*, Jun., *George Gray*.

Resolved, That the Officers and Soldiers of the Batteries belonging to this Province, shall be entitled to a proportionable share of all Prizes that shall be taken within sight of the same, or after having been engaged with such Battery.

Barnet Eichelberger, appointed by this Board as a Lieutenant in the Sixth Battalion of Continental Troops, to be raised in this Province, having resigned his commission, and the Committee of *York* County having recommended Mr. *John Eddy* as a proper person to be appointed in his stead:

Resolved, That the said Mr. *John Eddy* be appointed First Lieutenant in said Battalion, in the place of Mr. *Barnet Eichelberger*.

By order of the Board an Order was drawn on *John Nixon*, and others, the Committee of Accounts, for twenty-two Shillings and six Pence, in favour of *William Chew*, being for horse-hire, and his trouble in delivering a Letter from this Board to Mr. *Thomas Austin*, and others.

The Petition from the Committee of Privates being read, this Board

Resolved, That the matters therein prayed for are reasonable and proper, and this Committee will pay a due regard to the same.

Resolved, That the appointment of the Officers of the Company of Matrosses, to be raised for the service of the *United Colonies*, be adjourned to the 7th instant.

—

Tuesday, February 6, 1776.

In Committee of Safety: Present—

John Nixon, Chairman, *Samuel Howell*, *James Biddle*, *George Clymer*, *Joseph Reed*, *Owen Biddle*, *Alexander Wilcocks*, *John Cadwallader*, *George Gray*, *Daniel Roberdeau*, *James Mease*.

Resolved, That Mr. *Mease*, Mr. *Clymer*, and Mr. *Howell* be a Committee to treat with Messrs. *Bayard* and *Hodge* concerning the importation of a number of Fire-locks from foreign parts.

Upon application of Mr. *John Wilcocks*, an Order was drawn on *Michael Hillegas*, Esq., in favour of himself, *Samuel Meredith*, and *Richard Peters*, Jun., for one hundred and fifty Pounds, being towards the payment of Gun-Locks and Files engaged for this Province.

Mr. *Thomas Austin*, agreeable to a Resolve of the 31st ultimo, appeared before this Board and examined, in answer to the Depositions of *Josiah Hart*, *Marshall Edwards*, *Jacob Laughlin*, and *Casper Fetters*, against him, as a person inimical to the liberties of *America*, and, agreeable to his desire, the Board did not determine as to the matters alleged against him, he having promised to attend on *Wednesday* next, which time was given him in order to his bringing evidence, should he find any to appear in his favour; and Mr. *Austin* promises to give notice to the gentlemen who have already given evidence against him, should he bring any to confront them.

—

Wednesday, February 7, 1776.

In Committee of Safety: Present—

Owen Biddle, Chairman, *Daniel Roberdeau*, *George Clymer*, *Samuel Howell*, *George Gray*, *Thomas Wharton*, Jun., *Samuel Morris*, Jun., *James Biddle*, *Anthony Wayne*.

By order of the Board, an Order was drawn on Messrs. *Mease* and *Caldwell*, in favour of *William Rush*, for thirty-two Pounds five Shillings and nine Pence, being the amount of eleven Fire-locks, purchased by him for the use of Captain *Jones's* Company, in the Battalion late Colonel *Bull's*.

Doctor *Hugh Hodge* having been examined by the Surgeons and Physicians appointed for that purpose, was recommended by them as a proper person to be appointed Surgeon to a Battalion.

Therefore, *Resolved*, That the said *Hugh Hodge* be appointed Surgeon to the Third Battalion of Troops to be raised in this Province for the service of the *United Colonies*.

Resolved, That Mr. *Towers* examine into the prices of the different articles (except the repairing of arms) charged in Captain *Moulder's* Account, and if they are found reasonable, this Board will pay for them.

A Letter was wrote to the Committee of Safety of the Province of *Maryland*, offering to instruct such persons as are recommended by them, or any of their Committees, in the method of making Saltpetre, and ordered to be signed by the Chairman.

—

Thursday, February 8, 1776.

In Committee of Safety: Present—

John Nixon, Chairman, *Samuel Howell*, *Henry Wynkoop*, *James Biddle*, *Daniel Roberdeau*, *Joseph Reed*, *George Gray*, *Owen Biddle*, *Alexander Wilcocks*.

Upon application of Colonel *Joseph Penrose*, an Order was drawn on Messrs. *Mease* and *Caldwell*, for one thousand Pounds, in his favour, being for the use of Colonel *Magau's* Battalion, now raising for the service of the *United Colonies*.

Upon application of Mr. *Henry Wynkoop*, an order was drawn on *Robert Towers*, Commissary, for six pounds of Powder, for proving Musket-Barrels made in *Bucks* County.

Agreeable to a Resolve of Congress, this Board went into the choice of a proper person to be appointed Captain of the Company of Matrosses, to be raised in this Province for the service of the *United Colonies;* when they made choice of Mr. *Bernard Romans.*

Therefore, *Resolved*, That the said *Bernard Romans* be appointed Captain of the said Company of Matrosses.

Resolved, That *Thomas Hanson* be appointed Quartermaster of the Second Battalion of Troops to be raised in this Province, for the service of the *United Colonies.*

By order of the Board an Order was drawn on Messrs. *Mease* and *Caldwell*, in favour of Colonel *Anthony Wayne*, for one thousand Pounds, being for the use of his Battalion in the service of the *United Colonies.*

Resolved, That the Brigantine *Hetty*, Captain *Lott*, or any other vessel employed by Captain *Vanhorn*, for the Committee for importing Powder, Arms, &c., from foreign parts, be insured by this Committee against all seizures on account of her having such articles on board for this Committee; and in case she may be so lost, this Board will pay for her, agreeable to her valuation, by three indifferent persons, to be agreed on by the owners of said vessel and this Committee.

Agreeable to a Resolve of the 25th ultimo, the gentlemen therein mentioned, and appointed to consider of proper places to erect suitable Works, for the purpose of working up into Gunpowder the different materials that may be imported or be procured at home for that use, report that they have received several Proposals from different persons who are willing to erect Powder-Mills, and which Proposals they now leave with the Board.

Resolved, That Mr. *Reed* and Mr. *Wilcocks* be a Committee to wait on Congress, with the above-mentioned Proposals, with a Memorial from this Board, setting forth the necessity and importance of such Mills being erected, and that as all the Saltpetre now ready for use is the property of the Congress, that this Board tender Congress their assistance in promoting this business.

That Mr. *Reed* and Mr. *Wilcocks* apply to Congress, and require they would repay this Board the Fire-arms and Powder supplied them at different times.

Mr. *Reed* and Mr. *Wilcocks* report that they delivered the above-mentioned Memorial to Congress, which would be immediately taken into consideration.

—

Friday, February 9, 1776.

In Committee of Safety: Present—

Samuel Howell, Chairman, *George Gray*, *Anthony Wayne*, *Robert White*, *Owen Biddle*, *Daniel Roberdeau*, *Thomas Wharton*, Jun., *Samuel Morris*, Jun., *Joseph Reed*, *George Clymer*, *James Biddle.*

Resolved, That *John Harper* be appointed Quartermaster to the Fourth Battalion of Troops to be raised in this Province for the service of the *United Colonies.*

Resolved, That *Richard Collier* be appointed Quartermaster to the Fifth Battalion of Troops to be raised in this Province for the service of the *United Colonies.*

Resolved, That *Garait Stedafort* be appointed Quartermaster to the Third Battalion of Troops to be raised in this Province for the service of the *United Colonies.*

Mr. *Blith*, a gentleman recommended by the Committee of *Cumberland* County to be instructed in the manufacture of Saltpetre, having produced the account of his expenses, amounting to three Pounds twelve Shillings and six Pence, by order of the Board the Committee of Accounts was desired to pay the same.

Upon application of *Joseph Collier* for the payment of fifty Cartridge-Boxes, Bayonet-Belts, and Scabbards, delivered to the Commissioners and Assessors of *Berks* County, agreeable to their Certificate by order of the Board an Order was drawn on *Michael Hillegas*, Esquire, for thirty Pounds, being the amount of said Bill.

Upon application of *Jacob Baldwin* for the payment of his Account, for repairing Fire-locks belonging to Captain *Le Marr's* and Captain *Willet's* Companies, in the Battalion late Colonel *Bull's*, by order of the Board an Order was drawn on Messrs. *Mease* and *Caldwell*, for eight Pounds nine Shillings, being the amount of his Account.

Resolved, That Mr. *Nixon*, Mr. *Wharton*, and Mr. *White*, be a Committee to superintend the Armed Boats, and to furnish them with what necessaries they want, and to give orders for any necessary repairs.

Agreeable to a Resolve of Congress, this Board went into the choice of a proper person to be appointed as Captain-Lieutenant of the Company of Matrosses, to be raised for the service of the *United Colonies*, when *Gibbs Jones* was made choice of.

Therefore, *Resolved*, That the said *Gibbs Jones* be appointed Captain-Lieutenant of the said Company, for the service of *Canada.*

Upon application of *Andrew Caldwell*, Esquire, Commodore to the Fleet, for a sum of money for the recruiting service, by order of the Board an Order was drawn on Mr. *John M. Nesbitt*, Paymaster to the Fleet, for one hundred and twenty Pounds, for that purpose.

Resolved, That the Officers that shall be employed to recruit in the country, for the service of the Fleet, shall be allowed twenty Shillings per week, each, for their travelling charges, and ten Shillings per man, for each man they shall inlist, in lieu of all recruiting expenses; and also, ten Shillings per week for the subsistence of each of their recruits, while they continue in the country recruiting, and until they join the corps at the Barracks.

Resolved, That Captain *Campbell* shall have access to Sergeant *Morrison*, now confined in the Jail of this City, at reasonable hours, to settle his private affairs, but that no other of the prisoners, confined for inimical practices, shall be present.

Upon application of Captain *Richard Willing*, for the payment of seventeen Fire-locks, purchased by him for the use of Captain *Jones's* Company, in the Battalion late Colonel *Bull's*, by order of the Board an Order was drawn on Messrs. *Mease* and *Caldwell*, for seventy-one Pounds fifteen Shillings, being the amount of said Account.

Resolved, That Mr. *James Biddle* furnish *John Miers*, of *Berks* County, on account of this Committee, with one hundred Pounds, taking good security for the same, which sum is lent him for the purpose of carrying on the manufacture of Saltpetre, and to be paid in that commodity in twelve months.

A Letter was wrote, and signed by the Chairman, to *Benjamin Rittenhouse*, of *Nottingham*, requesting his attendance at this Board, in order to confer with him respecting the mode and terms on which he would undertake to carry on a manufactory of Gun-Lock making in an extensive manner.

—

Saturday, February 10, 1776.

In Committee of Safety: Present—

George Clymer, Chairman, *John Cadwallader*, *Daniel Roberdeau*, *Thomas Wharton*, Jun., *Joseph Reed*, *Samuel Howell*, *Owen Biddle*, *Samuel Morris*, Jun.

Upon application of Mr. *Adam Zantzinger*, for the payment of fifteen Fire-locks, purchased for the use of Captain *Jones's* Company, in the Battalion late Colonel *Bull's*, an Order was drawn on Messrs. *Mease* and *Caldwell*, in favour of Mr. *Zantzinger*, for fifty-two Pounds ten Shillings, being the amount of said Account.

Upon application of Mr. *John Maxwell Nesbitt*, Paymaster to the Fleet, &c., for a sum of money, by order of the Board an Order was drawn in his favour on *Michael Hillegas*, Esquire, for fifteen hundred Pounds.

Upon application of Mr. *Patrick Price*, permission was granted him to have access to Doctor *Connolly*, now confined in Jail, in order to his settling an account with him, in the presence of Mr. *Charles Ludwig.*

By order of the Board an Order was drawn on *John Nixon*, and others, the Committee of Accounts, in favour of *Owen Biddle*, for one hundred Pounds, being towards the payment of Pikes, &c., ordered to be made by this Board.

The following Proposals were this day delivered to the Committee appointed to inquire for proper places to erect suitable Works for manufacturing of Gunpowder, viz:

That this Committee will encourage six Powder-Mills, on the following terms:

1. To lend to each person any sum not exceeding one hundred and fifty Pounds, on giving good security to employ it in erecting a Powder-Mill, and either repay it in money or work.

2. That this Committee will supply said Mills, immediately, with fifty tons of Saltpetre, in proportion to the quantities of Powder they deliver per week.

3. That they will pay eight Dollars per hundred for Powder manufactured and delivered in this city, this Committee only finding Saltpetre, and half the expense of tight casks, the Powder-makers all the other materials, and to be at all expense of carriage.

4. When unrefined Saltpetre is delivered, ten Shillings per hundred weight be allowed for refining, and the return of Powder be proportioned thereto, Saltpetre to be manufactured to the best advantage, and not less than one hundred and forty six pounds of good Powder being to be delivered for one hundred pounds Saltpetre.

5. That one hundred Dollars be allowed as a premium for the first, fifty for the second, and thirty for the third Powder-Mills, which shall deliver one ton, each, of Powder.

6. That the above Mills have the preference by this Committee, of all Powder-Mills hereafter erected, in the supply of Saltpetre, and the materials for twelve months, they making the same into Powder on equal terms with other persons.

7. No Powder-maker engaging in this contract, to sell any Powder, directly or indirectly, and to be under oath if required to this purpose.

—

Monday, February 12, 1776.

In Committee of Safety: Present—

James Mease, Chairman, *Owen Biddle*, *Daniel Roberdeau*, *Robert White*, *Robert Morris*, *Joseph Reed*, *George Clymer*, *Alexander Wilcocks*, *Samuel Howell*, *Samuel Morris*, Jun., *John Cadwallader*, *John Dickinson*, and *John Nixon*.

Resolved, That *Matthew Whitlow*, be appointed First Lieutenant to the Company of Matrosses directed by the Congress to be raised in this Province for the service of *Canada*.

A Letter from the President of the Congress, requesting that the Battalions in this city, would furnish a number of men equal to one Battalion, in order to be detached to *New-York*, was read, and taken into consideration.

Therefore, *Resolved*, That this Committee request the Field-Officers of the several Battalions in this city to meet as soon as they conveniently can, to fix on Officers to go on that service, and to take the proper steps to carry the above request into execution.

That the Rifle Battalion be requested to furnish one company, to be added to the Battalion to be detached.

Resolved, That Mr. *Dickinson* be directed to apply to the honourable Congress, to replace the whole number of Arms that this Board has supplied them with.

—

Tuesday, February 13, 1776.

In Committee of Safety: Present—

John Nixon, Chairman, *Daniel Roberdeau*, *George Clymer*, *Samuel Miles*, *Alexander Wilcocks*, *Samuel Morris*, Jun., *Samuel Howell*, *Thomas Wharton*, Jun., *George Gray*, *John Montgomery*.

Upon application of *John Willis*, for the payment of his Account for repairing Fire-locks for Capt. *Harmar's* Company, of the Battalion late Colonel *Bull's*, an Order was drawn on Messrs. *Mease* and *Caldwell*, for twenty-one Pounds seventeen Shillings and nine Pence, being the amount of his Account.

Upon application of *Lewis Grant*, for a quantity of Brass, for making furniture for Fire-locks engaged by Captain *Wilcocks*, and others, by order of the Board an Order was drawn on *Robert Towers*, Commissary, for two hundred pounds of Brass.

Resolved, That *Joseph Fox*, Esquire, advance to Messrs. *Gauger*, *Dumwick*, and *Kinder*, three men employed by him in making Fire-Arms for the use of this Province, fifty Pounds each, for which they are to deliver thirty-five stand of Arms without receiving any payment; and Mr. *Fox* is desired to take their separate Obligations.

Colonel *Dickinson* delivered at this Board the following Resolve of Congress:

"In Congress, February 12, 1776.

"*Resolved*, That fifty tons of Saltpetre be delivered by the Secret Committee to the Committee of Safety of *Pennsylvania*, who are requested to have the same manufactured into Gunpowder, in the cheapest and most expeditious manner; and that this Congress will confirm any Contracts made for the above purpose.

"Extract from the Minutes:

"CHARLES THOMSON, *Secretary*."

—

Wednesday, February 14, 1776.

In Committee of Safety: Present—

George Clymer, Chairman, *Robert White*, *Samuel Howell*, *Daniel Roberdeau*, *John Montgomery*, *George Taylor*, *Owen Biddle*, *Anthony Wayne*, *Samuel Miles*, *George Gray*.

Upon application of Captain *Cowperthwait*, for this Board to supply his Company with a sufficient number of Cartridges and Canteens, by order of the Board Mr. *Towers* was directed to supply the above articles, taking a receipt for the same on the Continental service, he to go to *New-York* with the Battalion under the command of Colonel *Dickinson*, agreeable to a requisition of Congress.

That Doctor *Samuel Kennedy* be appointed Surgeon to the Fourth Battalion of *Pennsylvania* Troops, in the service of the *United Colonies*.

Resolved, That *William Moulder* be appointed Second Lieutenant in the Fourth Battalion of *Pennsylvania* Troops, in the service of the *United Colonies*, in the room of *Thomas Holland*, who has resigned, having been appointed in another County.

Upon application of *Joseph Fox*, Esq., one of the Commissioners of this City, for a sum of Money for the payment of Fire-locks, &c., by order of the Board an Order was drawn on *Michael Hillegas*, Treasurer, for five hundred Pounds, in his favour, for the above purpose.

Upon application of *Francis Wade*, for a sum of Money, an Order was drawn in his favour, on *John Nixon*, and others, the Committee of Accounts, for three hundred Pounds, being towards the payment of Provisions supplied the Boats and Artillery Company.

Thomas Austin having appeared before this Board, agreeable to promise, and having nothing further to offer in defence of the charges alleged against him, as a person inimical to the liberties of *America*, he signed the following Declaration, which is ordered by this Board to be published in the publick Papers of this City, viz:

"In Committee of Safety, Philadelphia, February 14, 1776.

"As the Committee of Safety for this Province have adjudged my late conduct to be inimical to the cause of *American* freedom, I am sincerely sorry that I have given any displeasure to my countrymen, and do solemnly declare, that I never intended by any thing that I have said or done to obstruct the measures carried on for the maintaining the liberties of these Colonies. I do, further, in the like solemn manner declare, and promise, that I will not, for the future, throw any reflection on the publick measures aforesaid, or the advisers or promoters of them, nor in any manner, whatever, endeavour to obstruct or discredit such measures. I do, also, resign my seat as a member of the Committee of Inspection and Observation of this County.

"THOMAS AUSTIN."

The following Resolve of Congress was this day delivered to this Committee:

"In Congress, February 13, 1776.

"*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the Committee of Safety for *Pennsylvania*, in case the Barracks near *Philadelphia* cannot contain the Troops raised in *Pennsylvania*, that may want Quarters, to have the remainder placed in the Pest-House and old Jail of this city.

"Extract from the Minutes:

"CHARLES THOMSON, *Secretary*."

Thursday, February 15, 1776.

In Committee of Safety: Present—

Thomas Wharton, Jun., Chairman, *Daniel Roberdeau, George Taylor, John Nixon, Robert White, Samuel Miles, Samuel Howell.*

Resolved, That *Robert Towers*, Commissary, deliver to Colonel *Dickinson*, or his order, for the use of the Battalion of Associators going for *New-York*, what Provincial Arms and Accoutrements he may have, and that the Colonel may want; and, also, such Ammunition as he may want belonging to the Continent, taking a receipt for the same.

Resolved, That Captain *Robert White* and *John Nixon*, be directed to apply to *Simon Shintock*, and in their name, to request him to finish the Ship, now building for this Province, with the greatest expedition, and to employ an additional number of men for that purpose.

Adjourned to two o'clock, when the following Members were present:

Thomas Wharton, Jun., *George Gray, Robert White, Alexander Wilcocks, Daniel Roberdeau, Owen Biddle, George Clymer, Benjamin Bartholomew, Samuel Hunter, Samuel Howell, Samuel Miles.*

This Board taking into their consideration the Report from the Committee of Observation and Inspection for the City and Liberties of *Philadelphia*, respecting the conviction of *John Drinker, Thomas Fisher*, and *Samuel Fisher*, of the house of *Joshua Fisher & Sons*, for refusing the Continental Bills of Credit, being fully convinced of the fatal consequences which must ensue on a check given to the circulation of our Paper Currency; the refusal of which, is an offence which strikes against the existence of our present struggle for life and liberty, and, considering that the latter part of the Resolution of Congress which directs, that such persons who are convicted as above mentioned, shall be "treated as enemies of their country, and precluded from all trade or intercourse with the inhabitants of these Colonies," remains yet unexecuted upon these persons.

And as the powers and authorities of the Committee of Observation and Inspection to execute the Resolves of Congress have expired with the time for which they were elected to serve as a Committee; after due consideration, the following Resolution was unanimously agreed to:

That this Committee go to the houses and stores of *John Drinker*, Hatter, and *Joshua Fisher & Sons*; that they shall, respectively, cause all the Books and Papers of the said *John Drinker*, and such as belong to the said *Thomas Fisher* and *Samuel Fisher*, separately and jointly with *Joshua Fisher*, to be deposited in trunks, chests, or desks; that the same shall then be locked and sealed, and suffered to remain in some of their Stores; and then they shall cause all the doors and windows of their Stores and Warehouses, containing their Goods, Wares, and Merchandise, to be locked and keyed, and the same to be fastened upon the outside by a wooden bar being nailed across them.

—

Friday, February 16, 1776.

In Committee of Safety: Present—

John Nixon, Chairman, *Robert White, Owen Biddle, George Clymer, Thomas Wharton*, Jun., *Samuel Howell, Daniel Roberdeau, John Montgomery, Alexander Wilcocks.*

Upon application of Mr. *Owen Biddle*, one of the managers of the Provincial Saltpetre Works, for the payment of four hundred and six and three-quarter pounds Saltpetre, manufactured there, and received by *Robert Towers*, Commissary, an Order was drawn on *John Nixon*, and others, the Committee of Accounts, in favour of Mr. *Biddle* for one hundred and one Pounds thirteen Shillings and nine Pence, being the amount of the Saltpetre, at the rate of five Shillings per pound.

Upon application of the Commissioners and Assessors of *York* County, for a sum of Money, towards the payment of Fire-locks making in that County, for the use of this Province, by order of the Board an Order was drawn on *Michael Hillegas*, Esq., Treasurer, in favour of Colonel *Thomas Hartley*, for three hundred Pounds, for the use aforesaid.

Resolved, That the Rev. *William Linn* be appointed Chaplain to the Fifth and Sixth Battalions of *Pennsylvania* Troops, in the service of the *United Colonies*.

Upon application of *Samuel Horne*, for the payment of his Account, for Bayonets, Scabbards, &c., for the use of the Captains *Jones, Le Marr*, and *Harmar's* Companies, in the First *Pennsylvania* Battalion in the service of the *United Colonies*, an Order was drawn on Messrs. *Mease* and *Caldwell*, for twenty-eight Pounds ten Shillings and six Pence, in his favour, being the amount of said Account.

Upon application of Colonel *William Irwine*, of the Sixth Battalion of *Pennsylvania* Troops in the service of the *United Colonies*, for a sum of Money for the use of said Battalion, by order of the Board an Order was drawn in his favour, on Messrs. *Mease* and *Caldwell*, for three thousand Pounds, for the use aforesaid.

Adjourned to five o'clock.

Members present: *John Nixon*, Chairman, *Samuel Howell, Daniel Roberdeau, Thomas Wharton*, Jun., *Samuel Miles, Alexander Wilcocks, George Clymer, Owen Biddle.*

In consequence of the Resolution of yesterday, Colonel *Roberdeau*, Mr. *Wilcocks*, and Mr. *Clymer*, went to the house of *Thomas* and *Samuel Fisher*, and demanded their Books of Accounts, in order to be locked up in one of their Stores, which they refused to deliver up, or declare where they were deposited, construing either to be an active part in them, which they could not in conscience take, but would peaceably submit to the execution of any Resolutions that should be taken respecting them.

Resolved, That *Hugh Montgomery*, at present First Lieutenant to the Armed Boat *Congress*, be appointed Captain to the Armed Boat *Effingham*.

That *Thomas Houston*, at present First Lieutenant to the Armed Boat *Franklin*, be appointed Captain to the Armed Boat *Experience*.

That *Isaac Rotche*, at present Second Lieutenant to the Armed Boat *Hancock*, be appointed First Lieutenant to the Armed Boat *Franklin*.

That *John Christie*, at present Second Lieutenant to the Armed Boat *Dickinson*, be appointed First Lieutenant to the Armed Boat *Chatham*.

That . . . . . *Mitchell*, at present Second Lieutenant to the Armed Boat *Chatham*, be appointed First Lieutenant to the Armed Boat *Ranger*.

That *Francis Gilbert*, at present Second Lieutenant to the Armed Boat *Washington*, be appointed First Lieutenant to the said Armed Boat.

That *Robert Hume*, at present Second Lieutenant to the Armed Boat *Ranger*, be appointed First Lieutenant to the said Armed Boat.

That *William Brown* be appointed Captain of Marines on board the Provincial Ship now building.

Resolved, That under the authority given by Congress, this Board immediately proceed to erect, on account of the Congress, a Powder-Mill on a large stream, capable of manufacturing, as nearly as possible, four tons of Gunpowder per week.

That the Committee will contract with a number of persons, not exceeding four, to erect Powder-Mills, engaging to supply them with eight tons of Saltpetre each, the profits of manufacturing which to be considered as a full compensation for the expense and risk of such undertaking; but if the Committee should be able to comply with their part of the engagement, then that they will immediately indemnify, by money, the said persons, in like manner, as shall be adjudged by three indifferent persons, to be chosen by the parties to the contract, they having particular regard to the expense of undertaking.

Resolved, That Mr. *Clement Biddle* be appointed to look out for, and without loss of time fix on a suitable situation for the said Mill, to contract with the owners for the privilege of erecting it, and to superintend the building; and also to contract with persons for erecting Mills on their accounts, on the terms before-mentioned.

Resolved, That the Captains of the Provincial Armed Boats be desired to meet together and inquire into the merits of such persons who have applied to be appointed Second Lieutenants in the said Boats, and such others as may be properly qualified for that station, that would be willing to engage in that service, and to report to this Board

the names of thirteen of them who may be the most deserving in the opinion of a majority of the said Captains.

—

Tuesday, February 20, 1776.

In Committee of Safety: Present—

John Nixon, George Clymer, James Biddle, Samuel Howell, Thomas Wharton, Jun., *Samuel Morris*, Jun., *Daniel Roberdeau, Owen Biddle, Alexander Wilcocks.*

By order of the Board an Order was directed to Doctor *Boss* to deliver to Doctor *Rush* what Medicines he may want, out of the quantity purchased of him by this Board.

Upon application of *Joseph Moulder*, for the payment of his Bill for Cartridge-Boxes, Gunnery, Cartouches, &c., for the use of his Artillery Company, by order of the Board an Order was drawn on *Michael Hillegas*, Esq., Treasurer, for fifty Pounds five Shillings and nine Pence, being the amount of said Bill.

Resolved, That Mr. *Samuel Morris*, Jun., wait on Mr. *William Richards*, Captain *Falconer*, and Captain *Reed*, and inform them they are (with any other person they may fix on) appointed a Committee to fix proper Signals in the River and Bay of *Delaware*, to give the most speedy intelligence of any enemy's Ships that may arrive at or within the Capes of *Delaware*. That the said Committee appoint *James Maul*, with his boat, to such station as they may think will best answer the purpose of intelligence.

Resolved, That Commodore *Caldwell* immediately call together all the Officers of the Provincial Armed Boats, fully consult them, and make such arrangement of Officers to the different Boats most agreeable to each other and to the service in general, and make a report to this Board of said arrangement, as also of what Repairs, &c., are wanting to the respective Boats.

Resolved, That Mr. *Nixon*, Mr. *Owen Biddle*, and Mr. *Roberdeau*, employ *William Robinson* and *Benjamin Worrel*, as Master-Workmen, to erect Barracks on *Liberty-Island*, for five hundred men, agreeable to a plot to be delivered them, who are to employ a sufficient number of Carpenters under them, to effect the said work in as short a time as possible.

Mr. *James Biddle* reports, that agreeable to the Resolve of the 9th instant, he has paid to Mr. *John Mears*, of *Berks* County, one hundred Pounds, to enable him to carry on the manufacture of Saltpetre, and now requests the payment of said sum. Agreeable to which request, by order of the Board an Order was drawn on Mr. *John Nixon* and others, the Committee of Accounts, in favour of Mr. *Biddle*, for the said sum of one hundred Pounds.

Resolved, That *John Myers* be appointed Armourer to the Armed Boats and Vessels, and to be employed at *Fort-Island*.

Adjourned to six o'clock.

Agreeable to adjournment, the following members were present—

John Nixon, Thomas Wharton, Jun., *Samuel Miles, Owen Biddle, Daniel Roberdeau, Samuel Hunter, George Gray, George Taylor, Benjamin Bartholomew, John Montgomery, Samuel Morris*, Jun., *Alexander Wilcocks, Samuel Howell, James Biddle, George Clymer.*

A Letter was this day wrote to the President of the honourable Continental Congress respecting the removal of the Prisoners from *Lancaster*, into different parts of the country, which was read, approved of, and signed by the President.

In consequence of an application from Colonel *Morgan* for the use of the Pest-House, on *Province-Island*, for the quartering a part of his Battalion:

Resolved, That Colonel *Morgan* have liberty to make use of the Pest-House, agreeable to his application.

The Committee, taking into consideration what further measures are necessary for the defence of this Province, came to the following Resolution:

That application be made to the honourable the House of Representatives, praying that they will take order for the raising two thousand men to act in the defence of this Province; and this Board will represent it as their opinion that it will be most for the publick service that one Battalion of Regular troops be formed out of that number, and the remainder be a body of Riflemen.

—

Wednesday, February 21, 1776.

In Committee of Safety: Present—

George Clymer, Daniel Roberdeau, Samuel Howell, James Biddle.

—

Thursday, February 22, 1776.

In Committee of Safety: Present—

Alexander Wilcocks, Chairman, *James Biddle, Owen Biddle, George Clymer, Thomas Wharton*, Jun., *Samuel Howell, Samuel Morris*, Jun., *Daniel Roberdeau, John Nixon.*

Upon application of *John Reithmeyer*, for the payment of one hundred and fifty Cartridge-Boxes, &c., made by him, *John Diesler*, and *Peter Brecht*, as per their account, certified by *Samuel High* and *Michael Bright*, Commissioners of *Berks* County, by order of the Board an Order was drawn on *Michael Hillegas*, Esq., Treasurer, in favour of said *Reithmeyer*, for ninety Pounds, being the amount of said Account.

Resolved, That the Members of this Board meet every day, precisely at ten o'clock in the morning, and five o'clock in the afternoon, *Saturday* afternoons and *Sundays* excepted.

Upon application of *John Tyler*, for the payment of his Account, for repairing Fire-locks belonging to Capt. *Jones's* and Capt. *Harmar's* Companies of the *Pennsylvania* Battalion, an Order was drawn on Messrs. *Mease* and *Caldwell*, for seven Pounds fifteen Shillings and three Pence, being the amount of said Account.

Resolved, That *Lewis Nichola* apply to the Commissioners of this County for the Key of the old Jail.

Resolved, That Captain *Joseph Cowperthwait* be joined with *Clement Biddle*, to carry the building of Powder-Mills into execution, and they to purchase or rent suitable seats for that purpose, and do every other thing necessary for effecting it expeditiously.

The following Memorial was drawn up, approved of, and Colonel *Roberdeau* desired to deliver it to one of the Members of the House of Assembly:

To the Honourable the Representatives of the Freemen of the Province of Pennsylvania, *in General Assembly met. The Memorial of the Committee of Safety.*

The Committee have, ever since their appointment, applied themselves with the greatest zeal and fidelity to the important part confided in them, in providing means for the defence of this Province; they were, however, such means only as were thought more immediately requisite for our security against the attempts made by a Naval Armament, and were, besides, necessarily confined within the limits of the funds allotted to them by your honourable House; but they beg leave to represent, that as every day brings with it full proofs of the violence of the *British* Ministry, and of their fixed purpose to subdue the free spirit of *America*, that has yet given such obstruction to all their schemes of tyranny and despotism—a purpose assisted, too, by an obsequious Parliament, which may not speak the genuine sense of the Nation, that it has unhappily the direction of its force—it truly becomes us to prepare seriously for the storm gathering over the Colonies, and which, in the uncertainty of its course, may in a few weeks fall upon this Province. This being the idea of the Committee, they have come to the following Resolution, claiming the most earnest attention of your honourable House thereto:

"*Resolved*, That application be made to the honourable the House of Representatives, praying that they will take order for raising two thousand men, to act in the defence of this Province; and this Board will represent it as their opinion that it will be most for the publick service that one battalion of Regular troops be formed out of that number, and the remainder be a body of Riflemen."

The Committee beg leave to solicit your attention to another object, also of extensive importance, the Military Association, the general sentiments concerning which they have, in the recess of the Assembly, had an opportunity of collecting; and though such numbers have already, and we hope will still engage in it, under its present form, as may,

prove a considerable addition to our strength, yet as there are material objections made to it, and as they understand, are to be laid before your honourable House, by divers bodies of respectable men, they submit to you whether it will not be highly expedient and consistent with good policy immediately to remove every cause of discontent on this head from the minds of the Associators, who, under an apprehension of partial and unequal burdens imposed on them, have, nevertheless, had the virtue not to refuse their services to their country, in confidence that your honourable House will reconsider the several provisions and regulations complained of, and give them satisfaction therein. ALEXANDER WILCOCKS, *Chairman.*

Resolved, That this Committee lend Doctor *Robert Harris* the sum of one hundred and ten Pounds, which he is to give bond for to *John Nixon, James Mease*, and *Thomas Wharton*, Jun., payable in twelve months, which sum is to assist him in forwarding the building of a Powder-Mill, and the manufacturing of Gunpowder.

In consequence of the above Resolve, by order of the Board an order was drawn on *Michael Hillegas*, Esquire, in favour of said *Harris*, for one hundred and ten Pounds.

—

Friday, February 23, 1776.

In Committee of Safety: Present—

John Nixon, Chairman, *Robert White, Samuel Howell, Daniel Roberdeau, Owen Biddle, George Clymer, James Biddle.*

Upon application of Captain *White*, for forty-five pieces of Sailcloth to make Sails for the Ship now building, by order of the Board *Robert Towers* was directed to deliver the following numbers, or as many of them as he has in his possession, viz: 5 pieces No. 1, 5 pieces No. 2, 4 pieces No. 3, 11 pieces No. 4 or 5, 6 pieces No. 6, 14 pieces No. 7.

Resolved, That the sum of fifty Pounds be lent to *Henry Huber*, and one hundred and fifty Pounds be lent to *Thomas Heinburgher*, to enable them to erect Powder-Mills, they having given bonds, with security, for the same, to the Committee of Accounts; and that Orders be drawn for the said several sums, in favour of the said *Huber* and *Heinburgher*, respectively.

Agreeable to the above Resolve, the Orders therein mentioned were drawn, and delivered to Mr. *Christopher Ludwick.*

Resolved, That Mr. *Owen Biddle* and Captain *Robert White* be a Committee to go to the Barracks, and muster the Men belonging to the Armed Boats in the service of this Province, and make return of the same to this Board.

Upon application of *Peter De Haven*, for one hundred pounds of Brass, for the use of Mr. *Parker*, for mounting Fire-locks made by *Lewis Prahl*, by order of the Board *Robert Towers*, Commissary, was directed to deliver the said one hundred pounds of Brass.

Resolved, That the following Notice be published in the different Papers of this city, viz:

A Mustermaster is wanted to the Naval Armament belonging to this Province. Any Associator disposed to serve the publick in this office is desired to make proposals to this Board, on or before the 5th of *March* next.

—

Saturday, February 24, 1776.

In Committee of Safety: Present—

Robert Morris, John Nixon, Daniel Roberdeau, Joseph Reed, George Clymer, Samuel Howell, Owen Biddle, Alexander Wilcocks.

Resolved, That Captain *Proctor* make use of seven rooms in the Pest-House, on *Province-Island*, for quartering part of the Artillery Company.

That there be six eighteen-pound Gun-carriages made for the use of the Battery at *Fort-Island*, and that Mr. *Neil* be employed in making one of the said Carriages, and furnish this Board with an account of the same.

That Captain *Proctor* have the use of as many Fire-locks as he may have occasion for, and a six-pound Cannon, to exercise the men under his command, and that *Robert Towers* be directed to deliver the same.

That Commodore *Caldwell* and Captain *Proctor* fix upon proper Signals for the Fleet, Merchantmen, and Battery, and that the same be communicated to the Pilots employed in navigating Vessels through the chevaux-de-frise.

That Captain *Proctor* procure a Flag-staff for the Fort, with a Flag of the *United Colonies.*

That *Robert Towers* put up fifty rounds of Cartridge, with different kinds of Shot, for each of the six eighteen-pound Cannon on the Battery at *Fort-Island.*

That Mr. *Owen Biddle* and Captain *White* order a Smith's Shop and Forge to be erected on *Fort-Island*, and to furnish the same with proper Smiths' Tools.

That the said Committee see that the necessaries wanting at *Fort-Island*, for the use of the Battery, and for Captain *Proctor's* Company, not mentioned in the above Resolves, be supplied.

Resolved, That *Jeremiah Simmons*, now a Lieutenant on board one of the Armed Boats, be appointed First Lieutenant in Captain *Proctor's* Company of Artillery.

—

Monday, February 26, 1776.

In Committee of Safety: Present—

John Nixon, Chairman, *Samuel Howell, Barnard Dougherty, Thomas Wharton*, Jun., *George Clymer, Samuel Morris*, Jun., *Daniel Roberdeau, Owen Biddle.*

Resolved, That Mr. *Nixon* and Mr. *White* employ as many Ship-Carpenters as they may think proper, to work on board the Provincial Ship now building by *Simon Sherlock*, in order that the building of her may be forwarded in the most expeditious manner.

Resolved, That Mr. *Owen Biddle* write to Mr. *Benjamin Rittenhouse*, and desire that he will remove to this city, as soon as possible, and that he send a man, express, with said Letter, informing him this Board accept his proposals, and that they allow him two hundred and fifty Pounds per annum for carrying on the Gun-Lock Manufactory on account of this Board.

—

Tuesday, February 27, 1776.

In Committee of Safety: Present—

George Clymer, Chairman, *James Biddle, Owen Biddle, Thomas Wharton*, Jun., *Samuel Howell, Daniel Roberdeau, Samuel Morris*, Jun.

The following Resolve of Assembly was sent to this Committee the 17th instant, ordered this day to be inserted in the Minutes of this Board:

"Upon motion respecting the utility and expediency of immediately erecting a Powder-Mill for the use and on account of this Province, and requesting the sentiments of the House on this measure, the said motion was taken into consideration, and, after some debate thereon,

"*Resolved*, That it is the opinion of this House that the erecting such Powder-Mill is a necessary and proper measure, and that the same ought to be immediately carried into execution under the direction of the Committee of Safety, upon the best terms that can be had, as to the place, materials, and persons to be employed in such undertaking.

"Extract from the Minutes:

"CHARLES MOORE, *Clerk of Assembly.*"

Resolved, That this Board will carry the above Resolve of Assembly into execution.

Robert Towers, Commissary, reports that he received, as per certificate of *February* 13, from *Guager, Kinder* and *Dumwick*, 35 Fire-locks, complete, which were made by them; that he received 20 Wheelbarrows from Mr. *Owen Biddle;* 11 Cutlasses, received from *Samuel Morris*, and delivered to the *Chatham* and *Ranger* armed boats; 15 ounces Saltpetre, received from *Thomas Brooks*, which cost four shillings and ten pence; 28 pounds Lead, received from *James Chapman*, cost ten shillings; 4½ pounds Saltpetre, for which he delivered 17 ounces Powder, and sixteen shillings and ten and-a-half pence, cash; 1 Cutlass, received from *Hugh Hodeman*, cost five shillings; 50 tons Saltpetre, received from Congress.

That he delivered to Captain *White*, agreeable to orders, 45 pieces of Sail-Cloth; that he delivered, to prove five swivels, 2½ pounds Powder, and 5 Shot.

That he made up for Congress 7,308 Cartridges, the expense of which is to be charged them by this Board, at the rate of five shillings one and-a-half penny per hundred, which amounts to eighteen pounds fourteen shillings and six pence.

That he has received, from *Andrew Caldwell*, 20 half-barrels, and 40 quarter-barrels Gunpowder—weight, 2,000 pounds *Dutch*, at nine per cent. 2,180 pounds *English*.

One pound Saltpetre received from *William Oliver*, cost five shillings.

That he delivered, by order of Captain *White*, to prove sixteen swivels of *Bustead's*, eight pounds Powder, sixteen swivel Balls.

That he has received 4,465 eight-ounce swivel Balls, 4 thirty-two-pound cross-bar Balls, 16 twenty-four-pound cross-bar Balls, 36 eighteen-pound cross-bar Balls, from Doctor *Cox;* 26 pounds Saltpetre, from City Manufactory; 40½ pounds Saltpetre, from City Manufactory; 1 pair Pistols, from Mr. *Maclanagan*, cost thirty-five shillings; 2¼ pounds Saltpetre, from *Nathan Gibson;* 50 Handbarrows, from *Owen Biddle;* 25 Handbarrows, from *Benjamin Williamson;* 24 Cutlasses, from *Andrew Hodge;* 61¼ pounds Saltpetre, from City Manufactory; 25 Grubbing-hoes, 52 Axes, 150 Pickaxes, 175 Shovels, from *Benjamin Poultney;* 2 quarters 19 pounds Lead, from *Joseph Simpson*, cost twenty-six shillings; 3 Fire-locks, from Captain *Clymer*.

That he has delivered 6 pounds Powder to *Henry Wynkoop;* 7 ounces Powder, in lieu of Saltpetre, to *Nathan Gibson;* 2 ounces Saltpetre to Captain *Alexander;* 200 pounds Brass to *Lewis Grant;* 2 pounds Powder, to prove 2 four-pound guns.

The following Letter was this day sent to the Committee of Inspection and Observation of this City, and signed by the Chairman:

In Committee of Safety, February 27, 1776.

This Board have taken into consideration the publication of your Committee, handed to us, respecting *Thomas Sergeant* and *Joseph Sermon*, who are convicted of refusing to receive the Continental Bills of Credit, and are of opinion, that whatever is further necessary for the carrying into full execution the Resolve of Congress against such offenders, should proceed from the Committee of Inspection and Observation. The reason of the interposition of this Board in the case of *John Drinker*, and *Thomas* and *Samuel Fisher*, is set forth in the Resolution accompanying this, and would have been unnecessary but in the particular circumstances of a dissolution of your Board.

GEORGE CLYMER, *Chairman.*

Resolved, That the Commissary be directed to prove the Fire-locks of all such Associators as shall bring an order from their respective Captains to him, for that purpose.

It appearing to this Board, that the business of Commissary of Stores has been attended with more labour and fatigue than was at first expected,

Therefore, *Resolved*, That *Robert Towers*, Commissary, be allowed at the rate of one hundred and eighty-two Pounds ten Shillings per annum, for his services, from the time he undertook the office of Commissary of Military Stores until the further Resolution of this Board.

Upon application of *Benjamin Town*, for some Brass for making the mountings to Fire-locks, now making for the use of this Province by *Nicholson* and *Dumwick*, by order of the Board, *Robert Towers*, Commissary, was directed to deliver said *Town* two hundred pounds Brass, taking his receipt, to be accountable for the same.

Upon application of Messrs. *Clement Biddle* and *Joseph Cowperthwait*, for a sum of money for the payment of a tract of land, and a mill seat purchased by them for account of Congress, and for erecting a Powder Mill, &c., on the same for account of Congress, by order of the Board an Order was drawn on *John Nixon*, and others, the Committee of Accounts of this Board, for fifteen hundred Pounds, which is to be charged to account of Congress.

Captain *Henry Allis*, of Colonel *Shea's* Battalion, having by Letter to this Board resigned his commission:

Resolved, That Mr. *Isaac Melchior* be appointed Captain to said Company, in the room of Captain *Allis*.

Wednesday, February 28, 1776.

In Committee of Safety: Present—

John Nixon, Chairman, *Daniel Roberdeau, James Mease, Samuel Howell, Owen Biddle, George Clymer, Samuel Morris*, Jun., *James Biddle*.

Resolved, That *David Rittenhouse* and Mr. *Owen Biddle* be requested to go with Captain *Cowperthwait* and Mr. *Clement Biddle*, to the place purchased by the latter gentleman, on which it is intended to erect a Powder-Mill on account of Congress, and that they survey and view the seat on which said Mill is to be erected.

Stephen Horn and *Adam Mewdy*, having come from *Northampton* County, in order to be instructed in the manufactory of Saltpetre, and having produced an Account of their expenses, by order of the Board the Committee of Accounts was directed to pay the same, amounting to eight Pounds one Shilling and five Pence.

Whereas, many persons have been employed in purchasing Fire-arms, in order to carry them into other Provinces, and as a practice of this kind may be of pernicious consequence, unless they are intended to be employed in such places, as, from their situation, are most exposed to the danger of an attack, of which this Committee in this case reserve to themselves a right of judging:

Therefore, *Resolved*, That no person, or persons, whatever, do presume to purchase, or carry out of this Province, any Fire-arms without application to, and license from this Committee being first obtained.

Upon application of *John Lewis*, for the payment of his account for Bayonets and repairs to Fire-locks, belonging to Captain *Le Marr's* Company, of First *Pennsylvania* Battalion, an Order was drawn on Messrs. *Mease* and *Caldwell*, for the same, amounting to five Pounds seventeen Shillings.

Upon application of Mr. *Afflick*, for some Brass for making of mountings to Fire-locks, agreed for by Captain *Wilcocks*, and others, *Robert Towers* was directed to deliver him one hundred pounds of Brass, taking his receipt, to be accountable for the same.

Upon application of Colonel *John Shea*, for a sum of Money for the use of his Battalion in the service of the *United Colonies*, by order of the Board an Order was drawn on Messrs. *Mease* and *Caldwell* for five hundred Pounds, in favour of Colonel *Shea*, for the use aforesaid.

Resolved, That the Captains of the Armed Boats be directed to see that their respective crews are properly clothed, and apply to Mr. *J. M. Nesbitt*, Paymaster, for such necessary apparel as may be wanted for that purpose, and that the amount of what shall be furnished to each person shall be stopped out of his pay, in such manner that not more than half the pay be stopped at a time.

—

Thursday, February 29, 1776.

In Committee of Safety: Present—

John Nixon, Chairman, *Robert White, Thomas Wharton*, Jun., *Samuel Howell, Owen Biddle, Daniel Roberdeau, Samuel Morris*, Jun., *George Clymer, James Biddle*.

Upon application of *Plunket Fluson*, for the payment of Drums, &c., for the use of Captain *Dorsey's* Company, of the First *Pennsylvania* Battalion, and for Drums, &c., for Colonel *William Irwing's* Battalion, by order of the Board an Order was drawn on Messrs. *Mease* and *Caldwell* for twenty-four Pounds, in favour of said *Fluson*, being the amount of said Accounts.

Resolved, That Mr. *James Biddle*, Mr. *Clymer*, and Mr. *Owen Biddle*, be a Committee to carry into execution every thing necessary towards completing the Fortifications on *Fort-Island*, (Barracks excepted,) and to employ suitable persons to accomplish the same.

Resolved, That Mr. *William Dement* be appointed Adjutant to the Fifth Battalion of *Pennsylvania* Troops, in the service of the *United Colonies*.

Resolved, That *James Armstrong* be appointed Quartermaster to the Second Battalion of *Pennsylvania* Troops in the service of the *United Colonies*, in the room of *Thomas Hanson*, who is found incapable of acting in that station.

PROVINCIAL CONGRESS OF NEW-JERSEY.

A List of the Deputies returned to serve in Congress.

BERGEN: *John Demarest, Jacobus Post, Abraham Van Boskirk.*

ESSEX: *Abraham Clark, Lewis Ogden, Samuel Potter, Caleb Camp, Robert Drummond.*

MIDDLESEX: *John Wetherill, John Dennis, Azariah Dunham.*

MORRIS: **William Winds, *William De Hart, Jacob Drake, Silas Condict, Ellis Cook.*

SOMERSET: *Hendrick Fisher, *Cornelius Van Muliner, Rulaffe Van Dyke.*

SUSSEX: **William Maxwell, Ephraim Martin, * Thomas Potts, Abijah Brown, Mark Thompson.*

HUNTERDON: *Samuel Tucker, John Mehelm, John Hart, Charles Stewart, *Augustine Stevenson.*

MONMOUTH: *Edward Taylor, John Covenhoven, Joseph Holmes.*

BURLINGTON: *Isaac Pierson, John Pope, Samuel Howe, *John Wood, Joseph Newbold.*

GLOUCESTER: **John Cooper; Joseph Ellis, * Thomas Clark, *Elijah Clark, *Richard Somers.*

SALEM: **Grant Gibbon, Benjamin Holme, John Holme, Edward Keasby, John Carey.*

CUMBERLAND: *Theophilus Elmer, Jonathan Eyers.*

CAPE-MAY: **Jesse Hand, Elijah Hughes.*

Note.—Those marked with a * did not attend the sitting of Congress, at *Brunswick.*

Wednesday, January 31, 1776.

The Congress of *New-Jersey* being summoned to meet this day, at *New-Brunswick*, a number of the Members met accordingly; but not being a sufficient number to proceed upon business, they adjourned till to-morrow morning, nine o'clock.

—

Thursday, February 1, 1776.

The Congress met; and the Members of several Counties being absent, adjourned till two o'clock, P. M.

Met according to adjournment.

The Minutes of the last sitting of Congress, and a number of the printed Military Ordinances, being come to hand,

Ordered, That the said Minutes and Military Ordinances be distributed in the several Counties, as follows:

	Minutes.	Military Ordinances.
To *Bergen* County,	66	33
To *Essex* County,	74	37
To *Middlesex* County,	87	43
To *Somerset* County,	90	45
To *Monmouth* County,	106	53
To *Morris* County,	72	36
To *Sussex* County,	59	30
To *Hunterdon* County,	136	68
To *Burlington* County,	107	53
To *Gloucester* County,	76	38
To *Salem* County,	67	33
To *Cumberland* County,	38	19
To *Cape-May* County,	16	8

An Address and Petition, from the Committee of the County of *Somerset*, were presented to this Congress, desiring that householders, and others, not freeholders, who pay part of the taxes in this Colony, may be admitted to vote for Delegates in the Provincial Congress at future elections, and that said elections may be proceeded in by ballot; which were read, and ordered a second reading.

Several Petitions from the freeholders and inhabitants of the County of *Essex* were presented to the Congress, desiring that all persons subject to taxation in this Colony may be admitted to vote, at future elections, for Delegates in the Provincial Congress; and, also, praying that money at interest, and other effects, may bear an equal proportion of the taxes; which were read, and ordered second readings.

Two Petitions were presented to the House from a number of the inhabitants of the County of *Morris*, praying that in the appointment of officers to fill up the Battalion now to be raised, due attention be had to the abilities and qualifications of the officers, and that none be commissioned under the age of twenty-one years; which were read, and ordered second readings.

Mr. President laid before the Congress a Letter he had received from *Jacob Ford*, Esquire, a Collector of the County of *Morris*, setting forth, that a complaint had been made to the Committee of that County against the subscriber, that he had written a letter to one of the Precinct Collectors, requesting him not to receive any Continental or *Connecticut* money, as the Treasurer had refused taking the same; certifying, in said letter, that the reason of his making such a request to the Precinct Collector was occasioned by *John Smith*, Esquire, the Eastern Treasurer, refusing such money from the subscriber in payment of the taxes; which letter was read, and ordered a second reading.

Lieutenant-Colonel *Winds* informed this Congress that he was stationed at *Perth-Amboy*, with a part of the Eastern Battalion of the Continental Forces raised in this Colony, and that he was destitute of ammunition, and thought it not improbable he might soon have occasion for a supply. And this Congress being informed that the County of *Somerset* had a quantity of powder in store, and the County of *Middlesex* a quantity of lead, in consideration whereof,

Ordered, That Mr. President request the Chairman of the Committee of *Somerset* to furnish Colonel *Winds* with four quarter-casks of Powder; and that he also request the Chairman of the Committee of the County of *Middlesex* to furnish Colonel *Winds* with one hundred and fifty pounds of Lead; and that the said Powder and Lead shall be replaced in some convenient time.

Adjourned till to-morrow morning, nine o'clock.

—

Friday, February 2, 1776.

Congress met according to adjournment.

John Cary, Esquire, Secretary to this Congress, not having attended this sitting, and it being uncertain when he will attend, and, also, whether he will incline to continue his service, if present, as he accepted his appointment, last sitting, with great reluctance; and as Messrs. *Clark* and *Stewart* declined officiating in Mr. *Cary's* room, as they found such service interfered with the duty of their stations as Delegates of the Congress, and as these reasons equally operated against Mr. *Cary's* being taken from the more immediate service of the Congress, while his time and attention were taken up in the execution of his office:

Therefore, *Resolved, unanimously*, That *William Patterson*, Esq., be appointed Secretary to this Congress.

William Maxfield, Esquire, Colonel of the Western Battalion of this Colony, laid before this Congress certain Resolutions of the Continental Congress, recommending the immediate arming Colonel *Maxwell's* Battalion, under orders to march to *Canada;* which were read, and filed.

Whereas, the Continental Congress have ordered Colonel *Maxwell's* Battalion to march to *Canada*, as soon as the men can be furnished with Arms, and other articles absolutely essential: And whereas, Arms are extremely scarce, and, indeed, impossible to be procured in time for the equipment of said Battalion, without making application to the several Counties in this Province:

Resolved, That the Committees, or other publick bodies, in whose hands any of the *New-Jersey* Provincial Arms and Accoutrements are deposited, do deliver the same to the Commanding Officer of said Battalion, or his order, of whom they are required to take vouchers, with the valuation of said Arms, &c., there underwritten; and that this Congress will either immediately pay for said Arms, agreeable to appointment, or replace them as soon as possible, which ever the said Committees, or publick bodies, shall think most proper.

This Congress do, in the most strong and explicit manner, recommend to every private person, who has Arms fit for immediate use, to dispose of the same for the purpose above-mentioned.

Ordered, That copies of the above Resolve be immediately made, and certified by the Secretary.

Ordered, That copies of the following Letter, signed by the President, be sent to the Commanding Officers, and Chairmen of the several County Committees in the Province:

GENTLEMEN: The late repulse at *Quebeck* requires every exertion of the friends of *American* freedom; in

consequence whereof, Colonel *Maxwell's* Battalion is ordered to march forthwith, and the Continental Congress have applied to our body, urging the greatest despatch in procuring arms and necessaries for this expedition. Therefore, in pursuance of the aforesaid application, we request you, gentlemen, to use the utmost diligence and activity in collecting all the publick arms belonging to your County, being your proportion of the Provincial arms unsold. Despatch, in this case, is quite necessary. As, no doubt, the arms are distributed in the hands of the Associators, it will be necessary that every officer do his part. The value of the arms will be paid in money, or the number be replaced; and the expenses of collecting and forwarding them punctually discharged. We put you to this trouble with regret; but the necessity of the measure must apologize. You will have the arms collected in your County, valued by good men, and sent to *Burlington* or *Trenton*, under the care of such officer of Colonel *Maxwell's* Battalion as may be the bearer hereof.

Adjourned till this afternoon, three o'clock.

The question being put, whether any Officer in the Battalions already raised in this Province shall be advanced, or appointed to any command in the Battalion now to be raised? It was carried in the negative.

Resolved, That this Congress shall on *Monday* next, go into the appointment of Officers for the Third Battalion of this Province.

The Proceedings of the Committee of *Hillsborough*, in the County of *Somerset*, against *Peter Vroom*, of *Piscataway*, in the County of *Middlesex*, being transmitted to this Congress, and read, *Ordered*, That the charge against said *Vroom* be now considered.

Peter Vroom being ordered to be brought before this Congress, attended accordingly, and the proceedings of the Committee of *Hillsborough* were read in the presence of said *Vroom*, who confessed the charge therein exhibited, and having offered matter in mitigation, was ordered to withdraw.

Resolved, That the determination of the charge exhibited against *Peter Vroom* be deferred to some future day in the present Session, and that in the mean time he be committed to the common Jail of the County of *Somerset*, the keeper of which is hereby required to receive and keep him in close confinement, until this Congress take further order therein.

The Memorial of the Commissioned Officers in the Western Battalion of this Province, stationed at *Burlington*, respecting the equipment of the men under their command, was read, and ordered a second reading.

Ordered, That Mr. *Fisher*, Mr. *Dennis*, Mr. *Clark*, and Mr. *Pope*, be a Committee to prepare a draft of an Ordinance for appointing Barrackmasters in this Colony, and making provision for defraying the expense of repairing said Barracks.

Ordered, That Mr. *Hart*, Mr. *Mehelm*, Mr. *Ogden*, and Mr. *Brown*, be a Committee to prepare a draft of an Ordinance for erecting a Court of Admiralty in this Province.

Ordered, That the Blankets belonging to the Barracks in *New-Brunswick*, be appropriated to the use of the Continental Forces; and that Mr. *John Schuurman* and Mr. *William Applegate*, of the Town aforesaid, be requested to ascertain the value of the said Blankets, and to transmit an account thereof to *John Dennis*, Esquire, the Eastern Treasurer.

Ordered, That the Blankets belonging to the Barracks in *Elizabethtown*, be appropriated to the use of the Continental Forces; and that Mr. *Edward Thomas* and Mr. *Isaac Woodruff*, of the place aforesaid, be requested to ascertain the value of the said Blankets, and to transmit an account thereof unto *John Dennis*, Esq., the Eastern Treasurer.

Ordered, That the Blankets belonging to the Barracks in *Trenton*, be appropriated to the use of the Continental Forces; and that Mr. *Abraham Hunt* and Mr. *Alexander Chambers*, of the Town aforesaid, be requested to ascertain the value of said Blankets, and to transmit an account thereof to *John Dennis*, Esq., the Eastern Treasurer.

Ordered, That *John Dennis*, Esq., do receive of the Commissary the Money arising from the sale of the Blankets belonging to the Barracks in this Province, and do account with the Congress for the same.

On application of Captain *Peter Ten Eick*, in favour of *Peter Vroom*, and from the family circumstances of said *Vroom*, it is

Resolved, That the former Order of Commitment be remanded; and that the aforesaid *Peter Vroom* be committed to the custody of Captain *Peter Ten Eick*, who has pledged his parole of honour to bring said *Vroom* before this Congress whenever required.

Adjourned to nine o'clock, to-morrow morning.

—

Saturday, February 3, 1776.

Congress met according to adjournment.

Ordered, That the Blankets belonging to the Barracks in *Perth-Amboy* be appropriated to the use of the Continental Forces, and that Mr. *Samuel Sergeant* and Mr. *Jonathan Deare*, of the City aforesaid, be requested to ascertain the value of said Blankets, and to transmit an account thereof to *John Dennis*, Esq., the Eastern Treasurer.

Samuel Tuthill, Esq., holding the Commission of Lieutenant-Colonel of a Regiment of Light-Horse in this Province, resigned the same.

Ordered, That the said resignation be accepted.

Jacobus Post, Esq., holding the Commission of a Major of a Regiment of Light-Horse in this Province, resigned the same.

Ordered, That the said resignation be accepted.

Ordered, That *Abraham Ogden*, Esq., be Lieutenant-Colonel, and *William Bornet*, Esq., be Major of the Regiment of Light-Horse in the Eastern Division of this Province; and that Commissions be made out accordingly.

The Petition and Remonstrance of the Committee of the County of *Bergen*, respecting the seizure of Arms belonging to said County, by a detachment of Continental troops in the First Regiment raised in this Province, was read, and ordered a second reading.

A Petition of sundry Inhabitants of *Somerset*, praying that Freeholders only may elect Delegates in this Province, was read and ordered a second reading.

Lord *Stirling*, the Colonel of the First Regiment of Militia in the County of *Somerset*, being appointed to a command in the Continental Army; therefore,

Ordered, That *Stephen Hunt*, Esq., be Colonel; *Abraham Ten Eick*, Esq., Lieutenant-Colonel; *James Linn*, Esq., First Major; and *Derrick Meddagh*, Esq., Second Major of the said Regiment, and that Commissions be made out accordingly.

Adjourned till two o'clock.

Met according to adjournment.

The *Monmouth* County Committee having nominated Mr. *Thomas Barber*, a Surgeon of the First Regiment of Foot-Militia, in the County of *Monmouth*, *Ordered*, That a Commission be made out accordingly.

Resolved, unanimously, That it is the opinion of this Congress, that the money in the Eastern Treasury of this Province, and the Bonds, Securities, and other Writings, belonging to said Treasury are, at present, from their local situation, very insecure, and exposed to danger; and that, therefore, the same be immediately removed to *New-Brunswick* until this Congress take further order therein; and that Mr. *Hart*, Mr. *Martin*, Mr. *Drummond*, Mr. *Potter*, and Mr. *Pope*, be a Committee to wait on the Treasurer with a copy of the above Resolve, and to carry the same into effect.

Resolved, unanimously, That the Records in the Secretary's Office, at *Perth-Amboy*, be immediately removed to *New-Brunswick*, until this Congress take further order therein, and that Mr. *Hart*, Mr. *Martin*, Mr. *Drummond*, Mr. *Potter*, and Mr. *Pope* be a Committee to wait upon Mr. *Pettit* with a copy of this Resolve, and to carry the same into effect.

Resolved, unanimously, That the Committees, if they should find it necessary, take to their assistance Colonel *Winds*, or other Officers at *Amboy*, with the Troops under

their command, for the purpose of removing the said Records and Treasury, to the place appointed.

Adjourned till ten o'clock, *Monday* morning.

—

Monday, February 5, 1776.

Congress met according to adjournment.

A Letter from Lord *Stirling*, enclosing several Letters respecting the loading of Vessels in several parts of this Province with Lumber for the *West-India* Islands, was read; and, on motion made,

Resolved, unanimously, That all County and Town Committees within this Province, exert themselves to prevent any Vessel within their several Districts, taking in any lading, or departing therewith, from any Port in this Province, contrary to the General Association of the Continental Congress, unless the master of such Vessel produce a special License therefor, duly authenticated from said Congress, agreeable to a subsequent Resolve thereof, or from the Congress or Committee of Safety of this Province, signed by the President or Vice-President; and, also, that they particularly attend to all imports into this Colony, that the Resolutions of the Continental Congress be duly observed; and that the Militia of this Province do give all necessary assistance to said Committees in their exertions above-mentioned, when called upon for that purpose. And it is hereby recommended to the Officers of the Continental Troops which are or may be in this Province, also to assist in the above measures, when thereunto particularly requested by the Committees aforesaid.

And it is further *Resolved*, That no County or Town Committee within this Province, presume to grant any License or Permit for the exportation of any Produce, Lumber, or Merchandise whatsoever, contrary to the said General Association; and that a copy of the foregoing Resolves be immediately transmitted to the Printers at *New-York* and *Philadelphia*, to be inserted in the publick Papers.

Ordered, That a copy of the above Resolves be sent to the Right Honourable *William*, Earl of *Stirling*.

The Petition of *William Steele*, praying that he may be discharged, &c., was read the first time.

The Committee appointed to wait on Mr. *Pettit*, and to remove the Records in the Secretary's Office at *Perth-Amboy*, made report that they had waited on Mr. *Pettit*, and, as ordered, had removed the Books and Records mentioned in a schedule produced.

The Committee appointed to remove the Money in the Treasury, &c., made report, that they waited on Mr. *Smith*, with a copy of the Resolve, who, in the presence of *Jonathan Deare*, Esq., (said to be a Notary Publick) forbid, and protested against the removal of the said Money, but that they had, notwithstanding, removed the same as ordered.

A Letter from Lord *Stirling*, enclosing an attested copy of a Letter written by *Cortlandt Skinner*, Esq., and directed to Colonel *William Skinner*, in *England*, was read, and said *Skinner's* Letter referred for further consideration.

The Proceedings of the Committee of *Bethlehem*, in the County of *Hunterdon*, against *Christopher Harrison*, being transmitted to this Congress and read,

Ordered, That the charge against said *Harrison* be postponed.

Adjourned to two o'clock, P. M.

Met according to adjournment.

A Member of this House informing that Mr. *Pettit* and Mr. *Smith* were desirous of being heard, respecting the removal of the Treasury and Records from *Amboy:*

Ordered, That they be now heard.

Whereupon they were heard accordingly.

Resolved, unanimously, That the Eastern Treasury, with the Bonds, Securities, and other Writings thereunto belonging, be removed to the house of *Peter Schenck*, Esq., in the County of *Somerset*.

Resolved, unanimously, That the Eastern Records and Books, removed by a late Resolve of this Congress from the Secretary's Office, at *Perth-Amboy*, to *New-Brunswick*, be further removed to *Burlington*, and lodged in the Secretary's Office at that place.

Ordered, That a copy of the following Letter be signed by the President, and sent to Mr. *Pettit:*

In Congress, New-Jersey, New-Brunswick, February 5, 1776.

Sir: The papers, books, and records, mentioned and contained in the schedule annexed, have been ordered by this Congress to be removed from the Secretary's Office at *Perth-Amboy*, and deposited in the Secretary's Office at *Burlington*, there to remain under your care. You are hereby required to attend there on *Thursday* next, and receive the same, and when received to give your acknowledgment thereof accordingly.

Resolved, unanimously, That the Papers, Books, and Records, in the Surveyor-General's Office at *Perth-Amboy*, be immediately removed to the house of *Peter Schenck*, Esq., in the County of *Somerset;* and that Mr. *Van Boskirk* and Mr. *Cook* be a Committee to wait upon Mr. *Smith* with a copy of this Resolve, and carry the same into effect.

Resolved, unanimously, That the Committee, if they should find it necessary, do take to their assistance Major *Deare*, or other Officers, and the Militia under his command, for the purpose of removing the Papers, Books and Records in the Surveyor-General's Office at *Perth-Amboy*, to the place appointed.

Agreeable to the Order of the Day, for the appointment of Officers of the Third Battalion of this Province, the same was taken into consideration.

Ordered, That the said appointment be deferred till to-morrow.

The Congress resumed the consideration of the *Bethlehem* Committee against *Christopher Harrison*, who, being ordered to attend, was brought in accordingly, and the charges exhibited against said *Harrison* were read; in support of which, Captain *Kehart* was called upon as a witness, and being duly sworn, did establish the same.

The said *Harrison* being heard, and having offered matter in mitigation of his offence, was ordered to withdraw.

The Congress took the above charge against *Christopher Harrison* into consideration, and after some debates thereon, referred the determination thereof until to-morrow morning.

Adjourned till to-morrow morning, nine o'clock.

—

Tuesday, February 6, 1776.

Met according to adjournment.

The Congress resumed the consideration of the charge against *Christopher Harrison*, and,

Resolved, That said *Christopher Harrison* pay the expenses accruing on apprehending him and bringing him before this Congress, as the same shall be taxed by the Committee of the Township of *Bethlehem*, in the County of *Hunterdon;* that he give sufficient security to the said Committee in the sum of fifty Pounds for his future peaceable and good behaviour, and that he be disarmed, and remain a prisoner in the common Jail of the County of *Somerset*, until he comply with the above determinations; to which place the guard which brought him before this Congress, are required to convey him, and the keeper of the Jail in said County of *Somerset* is requested to receive said prisoner, and keep him in safe custody, as above said.

The Petition of *William Steele* had a second reading, and after some debate thereon, was referred for further consideration.

The Committee appointed to draft a Letter to the honourable Continental Congress, respecting the sale and consumption of Tea, made report, which was read, approved, and ordered to be entered, and a copy to be engrossed and signed by the President. The Letter is in the following words:

In Provincial Congress, New-Jersey, New-Brunswick, February 6, 1776.

Gentlemen: Induced by a report current in this Province, that the honourable Continental Congress had agreed to allow the use of *East-India* Teas, many persons have publickly sold that article, and the use of it is, therefore, in danger of becoming more general.

We did not hesitate to determine that common report, often deceitful, and always uncertain, ought not to be sufficient to contravene a known and established regulation;

but on a Resolve being proposed for the purpose of putting a stop to this growing evil, one of the members informed us that he heard several of the Continental Delegates publickly declare, it was agreed in Congress, that no notice should be taken of the sale or use of *East-India* Teas in the Eastern Colonies. Here, indeed, we hesitated; and it being of great moment that every regulation of the honourable representative body of the Continent should be preserved inviolate, we must request, that you will speedily inform us, whether any, or what agreement has been made by you respecting the sale and use of *East-India* Teas.

Ordered, That Mr. *Fisher*, Mr. *Stewart*, and Mr. *Clark*, be a Committee to draw up a draft of a publication relative to raising the Battalion in this Colony, recommended by the Continental Congress.

Adjourned to three o'clock, afternoon.

Met according to adjournment.

Mr. *Fisher*, from the Committee appointed to draw up a draft of a publication, respecting raising a Battalion in this Colony, reported the same, which was read, and after several amendments were made, was agreed to, and ordered to be engrossed, and is in the words following:

Province of New-Jersey, in Congress, February 5, 1776.

Whereas, by a Resolution of the honourable Continental Congress, a third Battalion is recommended immediately to be raised in this Colony, for the service, and at the expense of the *United Colonies*, consisting of eight Companies, and each Company of seventy-eight Privates, and officered with one Captain, two Lieutenants, one Ensign, four Sergeants, and four Corporals; which recommendation, this Congress, being desirous fully to comply with, do, therefore, *Resolve*, That Officers of the said Battalion be immediately recommended for commissions, and that the Captains and Subalterns be appointed, and warrants issued for the inlisting the aforesaid complement of men.

Resolved, That agreeable to the recommendation of the said honourable Continenal Congress, the Recruiting Officer inlist none but healthy, sound, and able-bodied freemen, not under sixteen years of age. The Form of the Inlistment to be in the following words:

"I, ... have this day inlisted myself as a Soldier in the *American* Continental Army for one year, unless sooner discharged, and do bind myself to conform in all instances to such rules and regulations as are or shall be established for the government of the said Army."

Resolved, That no apprentice whatsoever be inlisted within this Colony, without the consent of his master or mistress first obtained in writing: And that every person under the age of twenty-one years, inlisting himself as aforesaid, may within twenty-four hours after their parents or guardians shall have notice of such inlistment, obtain his discharge, by refunding the money received from the Recruiting Officer, and returning such necessaries as may have been supplied him by the officer, or the value thereof in money.

That as to the pay and subsistence of said Officers and Soldiers, the same is fixed and ascertained by the said Continental Congress.

That it be recommended to the Officers of said Battalion, to pay the strictest attention to the behaviour of the troops, in Quarters, or on their march, that they give no reasonable cause of complaint.

And it is further Directed, That where any Company shall be inlisted, the Captains having warrants for raising the same, shall cause a Muster to be had thereof in the presence of *Azariah Dunham*, *John Mehelm*, *Joseph Ellis*, or *Edmond Thomas*, Esqs., who are hereby appointed Mustermasters to review the said Companies, and administer an oath to such Captains, in the words following, which the said Captains, respectively, are required to take, viz:

"I, A. B., do solemnly swear, that all the men whose names are entered in the Muster-Roll by me produced, are truly and *bona fide* inlisted, and so far as I know or believe, intend going in the service of the *United Colonies* in the Third Battalion raised, or raising in this Colony. So help me *God*."

And if upon such Review, the Mustermaster, who shall attend for that purpose, shall obtain the above said oath, or (if of the people called *Quakers*,) an affirmation to the same effect; and, also, find the said complete, agreeable to the above directions, shall, thereupon, certify the same on the back of the Muster-Roll of such Company to this Congress, or in their recess to the Committee of Safety, in order that commissions may be made out to the Officers of such Company; which commissions the Committee of Safety of this Colony, during the recess of this Congress, upon receiving certificates as above, are required to make out and deliver. And it is hereby recommended to the inhabitants of this Colony to be aiding and assisting, as far as their influence extends, in raising the aforesaid levies.

By order of the Congress:

SAMUEL TUCKER, *President.*

Attested: WILLIAM PATTERSON, *Secretary.*

On motion made, *Resolved unanimously*, That the following gentlemen be recommended by this Congress to the honourable the Continental Congress as proper persons for Field-Officers of the Third Battalion to be raised in this Colony, to wit: *Elias Dayton*, Colonel; *Anthony Walton White*, Lieutenant-Colonel; and *Francis Barber*, Major.

Ordered, That the President do sign an attested copy of this Resolution, and transmit the same to the Continental Congress.

A Petition from sundry Inhabitants of the County of *Middlesex*, praying that Money at interest may be taxed, was read, and ordered a second reading.

Ordered, That *William Steele*, confined in the Jail of *New-Brunswick*, be brought before this Congress, and now heard.

Whereupon he was brought in accordingly.

The offence of which he was accused being read to said *Steele*, he acknowledged the same; which being duly considered,

Resolved, *unanimously*, That said *Steele* be discharged from his present confinement, upon his paying the cost of the present prosecution, as the same shall be taxed by the Committee of the South Ward of *New-Brunswick*, and give his obligation to the said Committee, in the sum of fifty Pounds, for his future peaceable and good behaviour, and yield up to the Chairman of said Committee all his arms of defence, to remain in custody of said Committee until they shall judge it proper to redeliver them.

Ordered, That Mr. *Demarest* do attend the Papers, Books, and Records, removed from the Secretary's Office, at *Perth-Amboy*, and deliver the same to *Charles Pettit*, Esquire, on *Thursday* next, at *Burlington*; on delivery whereof, he is hereby required to take Mr. *Pettit's* receipt, agreeable to an order of this Congress.

John Dennis, Esquire, laid before this Congress, an appraisement of the Blankets in the Barracks in *New-Brunswick*, by *John Schuurman* and *William Applegate*, which is in the words following:

New-Brunswick, February 6, 1776.

In pursuance to order of the Provincial Congress, directed to us, the subscribers, for appraising all the Blankets in the Barracks at *New-Brunswick*, we find as follows:

62	Blankets, which we value at 15*s.*	£46	10 0
23	do. - - - - - at 12*s.*	13	16 0
5	do. - - - - at 7*s.* 6*d.*	1	17 6
	Proclamation, - - - -	£62	3 6

JOHN SCHUURMAN,
WILLIAM APPLEGATE.

To *John Dennis*, Esq.

Congress adjourned till to-morrow morning, nine o'clock.

—

Wednesday, February 7, 1776.

Congress met.

A Petition from sundry Inhabitants of *Morris* County, praying that Money at interest may be taxed, and that all persons taxed may have voices in elections, was read, and ordered a second reading.

A Letter from the Committee of Safety of *Pennsylvania* to this Congress, was read, and ordered a second reading to-morrow morning.

Nathaniel Scudder and *David Furman's* Report of the Cargo, &c., of the Sloop *Polly-and-Ann*, was laid before the Congress, and read, and ordered to be filed.

Adjourned till three o'clock, in the afternoon.

Met according to adjournment.

The Congress proceeded to the election of Officers in the Third Battalion, when the following persons were chosen by ballot:

Samuel Potter, Captain; *Rinear Blanchard*, Lieutenant; *Josiah Quimby*, Second Lieutenant; *Cornelius Hennion*, Ensign.

Thomas Patterson, Captain; *John Mott*, First Lieutenant; *William McDaniel*, Jun., Second Lieutenant; *Edward Patterson*, Ensign.

John Ross, Captain; *Edward McMichael*, First Lieutenant; *Richard Cox*, Jun., Second Lieutenant; *Thomas Coachey*, Ensign.

William Eugene Imlay, Captain; *Richard Lloyd*, First Lieutenant; *Daniel Pierson*, Second Licutenant; *Edgar Gaulidet*, Ensign.

Peter Dickinson, Captain; *Stephen Dunham*, First Lieutenant; *David Tuttle*, Second Lieutenant; *William Tenbrook*, Ensign.

Thomas Reading, Captain; *John Anderson*, First Lieutenant; *Ralph Guild*, Second Lieutenant; *John Hagan*, Ensign.

Joseph Bloomfield, Captain; *Josiah Seely*, First Lieutenant; *William Gifford*, Second Lieutenant; *Ebenezer Elmer*, Ensign.

Anthony Sharp, Captain; *Samuel Flanagan*, First Lieutenant; *Samuel Hazlett*, Second Lieutenant; *Nathaniel Leonard*, Jun., Ensign.

Ordered, That Warrants be signed by the President, and attested by the Secretary, do issue to the above named persons, to inlist men for the Third Battalion.

Samuel Shepherd was unanimously appointed Adjutant for said Battalion.

Adjourned till nine o'clock, to-morrow morning.

—

Thursday, February 8, 1776.

Congress met.

The Representation of the County Committee of *Salem*, touching the origin, progress, and present state of the disturbances in said County, was laid before the Congress, and read: Whereupon, Doctor *Samuel Dick* was notified, in pursuance of an order of the Committee of Safety of the 11th day of *January* last, attending, came before Congress, and after some time spent in hearing his defence against said representation, the Congress postponed the further hearing thereof till to-morrow.

The Resolution of the Justices and Freeholders, County Committee, and Field-Officers, of *Middlesex*, purporting, that they would furnish Colonel *Maxwell's* Battalion with fifty stand of Arms, &c., was read; whereupon, it is

Ordered, That Mr. *Martin*, Mr. *Camp*, and Mr. *Pope*, be a Committee to inspect said Arms, and to report thereon.

Adjourned to three o'clock, afternoon.

The Congress met, and adjourned to nine o'clock, tomorrow morning.

—

Friday, February 9, 1776.

Congress met.

Ordered, That Commissions do issue to *Mathias Ward*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *David Conduit*, Major; and *Samuel Hays*, Adjutant, in the First Battalion of the Second Regiment of Militia in the County of *Essex*, whereof *Philip Cortland*, Esq., is Colonel.

A Return of the Captains and Subalterns in said Battalion was read and filed, and Commissions ordered to be made out according to said Return.

Ordered, That a Commission do issue to *Richard Stites*, Esq., Captain of a Company in the First Regiment of Foot Militia in the County of *Somerset*.

The same was made out accordingly.

A Petition from sundry Inhabitants of *Middlesex* County, praying that Money at interest may be taxed, was read, and ordered a second reading.

A Letter from Mr. *Smyth*, respecting his officiating as Treasurer, was received and read, and ordered a second reading.

The Congress proceeded to the further hearing of the defence against the representation of the County Committee of *Salem*, and, also, what might be offered in support thereof; but, not having time fully to hear both parties, the said hearing was further postponed to the afternoon.

Adjourned to three o'clock, in the afternoon.

Met according to adjournment.

The Congress again proceeded to hear the proofs and arguments for and against the allegation contained in the representation of the County Committee of *Salem*, and referred the consideration thereof till to-morrow morning.

A Petition and Remonstrance of the Inhabitants of *Salem*, respecting Representation in Congress, were presented and read, and ordered second readings.

Adjourned till nine o'clock, to-morrow morning.

—

Saturday, February 10, 1776.

Met according to adjournment.

Whereas, by an Ordinance of this Congress, passed at *Trenton*, the 28th day of *October* last, the Commissioners therein named and appointed to purchase Fire-Arms and Military Stores, were particularly restricted in the price to be paid for said Fire-Arms, whereby the manufactory thereof hath been greatly impeded; for remedy whereof,

It is *Resolved*, *unanimously*, That the said Commissioners have full power immediately to proceed in contracting for Fire-Arms, upon the best terms in their power, without any limitation or restriction, and that this Congress will, in convenient time, pass an Ordinance for that purpose.

The Memorial of *William Patterson* and *Frederick Frelinghuysen*, Officers in the *Somerset* Battalion of Minute-Men, praying that some further regulation be made for the equipment and government of said men, was read, and ordered a second reading.

The Memorial of *Thomas Reading*, nominated Captain in the Third Battalion, ordered to be raised in this Province for the service of the *United Colonies*, praying that he may be Senior Captain in said Battalion, was read, and ordered a second reading.

Adjourned to three o'clock, in the afternoon.

Met according to adjournment.

The Memorial of *Thomas Reading*, praying that he may be Senior Captain in the Third Battalion, was read a second time, and, after some debate thereon, the previous question was demanded and put, Whether this Congress will now go into the appointment or not? It was carried in the negative.

The Congress proceeded to the election of a Quartermaster for the Third Battalion, when *William Norcross* was chosen to that office.

Cyrus De Hart having resigned his office of Ensign in Captain *Howell's* Company, in the First Battalion, *Jacob Kemper* was appointed Ensign in said Company in his stead.

As *William Tenbrook*, appointed an Ensign in Captain *Dickinson's* Company, refused to accept said appointment, *Francis Du Clos* was elected Ensign in said Company.

The Congress resumed the consideration of the Representation from the County Committee of *Salem*, and it appearing that there is a sufficient number of Associators in the County of *Salem* to form two Battalions:

Therefore, *Resolved*, *unanimously*, That it be recommended to the Committee of said County to divide the said County into two Districts, and that in each District a Battalion be formed, and a list of the Officers, nominated to command each Battalion, be presented by the said County Committee to this Congress, or Committee of Safety, in order that Commissions may be granted.

On motion, *Ordered*, That the following Letter be sent to the Continental Congress.

In Provincial Congress, New-Jersey, New-Brunswick, February 10, 1776.

Gentlemen: Sensible of the importance that the battalions raised in this Province should be as speedily as possible furnished with arms, we collected, for the supply of the First and Second Battalions, all the arms fit for service that could be obtained in this Province; we have, therefore, no resource of providing arms for the Third Battalion, but

from our own manufactories or importation. How soon they can be manufactured is uncertain, and we have no present prospect of receiving them from abroad. But, being informed that two thousand stand have been lately imported, and that they are within your disposal, we should be glad that part of them may be ordered for the use of the Third Battalion, unless some more immediate publick service calls for them.

We beg leave to propose, whether it would not be advisable to clothe the battalions, now raising, in uniform, deducting the expense attending it out of the men's wages.

We are informed that considerable quantities of powder are lately arrived; and it being probable that the assistance of the Militia of this Province may be speedily wanted for the defence of this or a neighbouring Colony, we request the favour of your assistance in supplying us with ten tons of gunpowder, and twenty tons of lead, or as much as may be spared.

On a requisition from Lord *Stirling*, the Committee of *Elizabethtown* have furnished him with six thousand cartridges, *Somerset* County four quarter-casks of powder, *Woodbridge* a considerable quantity, and *Brunswick* one hundred and fifty weight of lead.

Our Militia are very illy supplied with ammunition. Those who have granted the above supplies are, therefore, very desirous that they may be immediately replaced.

Adjourned till nine o'clock, *Monday* morning.

Monday, February 12, 1776.

Met according to adjournment.

The Memorial from *John Neilson*, Colonel of the *Middlesex* Battalion of Minute-Men, praying that they may be placed on some more respectable footing, &c., was read, and ordered a second reading.

The Letter from the Committee of Safety of *Pennsylvania*, setting forth the expediency of raising Artillery Companies, was read the second time, and after some debates thereon, was referred for further consideration.

A Letter from the Committee of Safety of *New-York*, requesting that this Congress would order a detachment of Militia immediately, to guard the Live Stock on *Staten-Island*, and otherwise secure that place from depredations, was read and considered; and, on motion,

Resolved, unanimously, That upon the requisition of the Committee of Safety of *New-York*, now made to this Congress, a Detachment of Volunteers, consisting of three hundred of the Militia of the County of *Middlesex*, three hundred of the Militia of the County of *Essex*, and one hundred of the Militia of the County of *Somerset*, be ordered immediately to march to *Staten-Island*, under the command of Colonel *Nathaniel Heard*, Lieutenant-Colonel *Edward Thomas*, and Major *John Dunn*, to prevent the enemy from landing on said Island, and carrying off Live Stock and Provisions; and that each man furnish himself with at least four days' provision; which said Detachment is to remain on said Island until further orders from this Congress, not exceeding one month; and that the said Forces shall be provided for with provisions during their stay, and be paid the same wages while on duty as are paid to the Continental Forces.

Resolved, unanimously, That *Azariah Dunham* be Commissary to supply the above Detachment with Provisions and other necessaries.

Ordered, That Mr. *Wetherill*, Mr. *Stewart*, Mr. *Ogden*, Mr. *Carey*, and Mr. *Ellis*, be a Committee to draft the Instructions for Colonel *Heard*, and a Letter to the Committee of Safety of *New-York*.

Adjourned to three o'clock in the afternoon.

Met according to adjournment.

A Petition of Captain *Joseph Badcock*, in the County of *Somerset*, enclosing a list of the names of certain persons in his Company who refused to sign a Muster-Roll, praying the advice of this Congress therein, was read, and ordered a second reading.

A Representation from the Committee of *Elizabethtown*, setting forth, that many persons are continually removing in this Province, who may, perhaps, be unfriendly to the cause of *American* freedom; and praying that some regulation be made therein, was read; and after some debates, was referred to Mr. *Dennis*, Mr. *Clark*, and Mr. *Martin*, to bring in an Ordinance for the purposes prayed for.

The Committee appointed to draw the draft of a Letter to the Committee of Safety of *New-York*, and also Instructions to Colonel *Heard*, brought in said Letter and Instructions; which being read and amended, were both agreed to, engrossed, and signed by the President.

The Committee appointed to inspect the Arms furnished Colonel *Maxwell's* Battalion, by the Justices and Freeholders, County Committee, and Field-Officers of *Middlesex*, made report, which was read, and ordered to be filed.

A Memorial of Doctor *Treat*, praying that his Bill for attending the sick Soldiers in Colonel *Maxwell's* Battalion, may be paid, was read, and ordered a second reading.

Richard Bowlsby, Esq., against whom a complaint was exhibited before the Committee of the Township of *Mansfield* Wood-House, in the County of *Sussex*, for opposing the present measures, being referred by said Committee to this Congress and brought under a guard, was ordered to attend. The charge was read, and witnesses called in support of it. After which witnesses were also called and interrogated on the part of the said *Bowlsby*, who made his defence, and being fully heard, was ordered to withdraw.

The said Committee of the Township of *Mansfield* Wood-House, before whom a complaint was also exhibited against Dr. *Andrew McCleney*, referred said complaint to this Congress; the delinquent being brought under a guard, was ordered to attend; the complaint against him was read, his defence heard, and then by order he withdrew.

The above charges were referred for further consideration.

Adjourned till nine o'clock, to-morrow morning.

Tuesday, February 13, 1776.

Met according to adjournment.

The Committee of *Cape-May* made return of Militia Officers, which was read, and ordered to be filed.

The Congress resumed the consideration of the charge against *Richard Bowlsby*, Esq.; and after some time spent therein,

Resolved, That said *Bowlsby* pay the costs of the present prosecution, to be taxed by the County Committee of *Sussex*, and give obligation to the Chairman of said Committee, in the sum of five hundred Pounds, for his good behaviour in future; and that he yield up to said Chairman all his arms, and weapons of defence, to remain in custody of said Chairman until said Committee shall judge it proper to redeliver them; and, on non-compliance herewith, the said *Bowlsby* be committed to the keeper of the common Jail of said County, who is hereby ordered to keep him in close confinement. This Congress do deem it advisable, that the said *Richard Bowlsby* forthwith desist from the execution of his office as Magistrate, until by his future good behaviour, to be judged of by said Committee, he denotes his penitence, and renders himself worthy of the confidence of the publick.

Ordered, That the said *Richard Bowlsby* be reconducted to the Chairman of the County Committee of *Sussex*, by Captain *Abraham McKinney*, to be dealt with as is above directed.

The Congress resumed the consideration of the charges exhibited against Doctor *Andrew McCleney*, and after some time spent therein,

Resolved, That said *McCleney* pay the costs of the present prosecution, to be taxed by the County Committee of *Sussex*, and give obligation to the Chairman of said Committee, in the sum of fifty Pounds, for his good behaviour in future, and that he yield up to said Chairman all his arms, and weapons of defence, to remain in custody of said Chairman until said Committee shall judge it proper to redeliver them; and, on non-compliance herewith, that said *McCleney* be committed to the keeper of the common Jail of said County, who is hereby ordered to keep him in close confinement.

Ordered, That the said *Andrew McCleney* be reconducted to the Chairman of the County Committee of *Sussex*, by Captain *Abraham McKinney*, to be dealt with as is above directed.

Ordered, That the County Committee of *Sussex* do report their proceedings on the Resolutions of this Congress against *Richard Bowlsby*, Esq., and *Andrew McCleney*, to the present, or some future Congress, or, during their recess, to the Committee of Safety of this Colony.

Petitions of sundry Inhabitants of *Essex*, praying that Money at interest may be taxed, and that all persons taxed may have voices in future elections, were read, and ordered second readings.

This Congress being of opinion, that if two Commissaries be appointed for supplying the *New-Jersey* Forces in the Continental service, it would be of considerable advantage to that service, do

Resolve, That Colonel *Dunham*, who lives in the Eastern division of *New-Jersey*, be recommended to the honourable Continental Congress, as a person well qualified to be appointed joint Commissary with Colonel *Lowrey*, who lives in *West-Jersey*, for the Third Battalion now raising, and such as shall be raised in this Colony in future.

Adjourned to three o'clock, in the afternoon.

Met according to adjournment.

A Remonstrance of the County Committee of *Monmouth*, praying that the qualification of Electors may not be concluded upon during the present Session; was read, and ordered a second reading.

Resolved, That on *Friday* next this Congress will go into the consideration of the qualification of Electors.

The Congress resumed the consideration of the Letter from the Committee of Safety of *Pennsylvania*, recommending the forming one or more Artillery Companies in this Colony; and after some deliberation thereon, the same, and all other means of defence necessary for this Colony, with the ways and means for defraying the expense thereof, was referred to a Committee of the whole Congress.

The Congress accordingly resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole, on the necessary means of defence for this Colony. After some time spent therein, Mr. President resumed the chair, and Mr. *Fisher*, Chairman of the Committee, reported that said Committee had come to the several Resolutions following:

Resolved, That a train of Artillery, consisting of twelve Field-Pieces, be immediately purchased for the use of this Colony.

Resolved, That two complete Artillery Companies be raised in this Colony.

And whereas, by a former Ordinance of this Congress, the sum of thirty thousand Pounds was directed to be emitted in paper Bills of Credit, which bills are not yet printed; and whereas, from the present alarming state of publick affairs, it is probable that a larger sum may be wanted:

Therefore, *Resolved*, That in lieu of the said thirty thousand Pounds, there be now struck in paper Bills of Credit the sum of fifty thousand Pounds.

Resolved, That for the above purpose, a new Ordinance be immediately prepared for striking the said fifty thousand Pounds, and directing the manner of sinking the same; as also to provide the several articles of defence mentioned in the former Ordinance, and such other articles as may be deemed proper and necessary.

To which several Resolves the Congress agreed.

Resolved, That this Congress will, to-morrow morning, go into the election of Deputies, to represent this Province in Continental Congress.

Ordered, That Mr. *Clark*, Mr. *Dennis*, Mr. *Stewart*, Mr. *Carey*, and Mr. *Ogden*, be a Committee to prepare an Ordinance for striking fifty thousand Pounds, and, also, draft a Letter in answer to the Committee of Safety of *Pennsylvania*.

Adjourned till to-morrow morning, nine o'clock.

—

Wednesday, February 14, 1776.

Congress met according to adjournment.

A Letter from the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esquire, requesting that Detachments of Minute-Men, equal to a Battalion, be immediately armed and accoutred, and sent to *New-York*, to act under Major-General *Lee*, was read, and ordered a second reading.

Mr. *Demarest* appointed to deliver the Papers, Books, and Records, removed from the Secretary's Office at *Perth-Amboy*, to Mr. *Pettitat* the Secretary's Office, at *Burlington*, and to take receipt thereof, made report of such delivery, which was read, and ordered to be filed.

Agreeable to the Order of the Day, the Congress proceeded to elect Delegates to represent this Province in Continental Congress; which election being made, it is thereupon,

Resolved, unanimously, That *William Livingston*, *John De Hart*, *Richard Smith*, *John Cooper*, and *Jonathan Dickinson Sergeant*, Esqs., be Delegates to represent this Province in the Continental Congress, for the space of one year, or until others shall be legally appointed in their stead; and that they, or any three or more of them, have full and ample power to consent and agree to all measures which such Congress shall deem necessary. And this Province bind themselves to execute, to the utmost of their power, all Resolutions which the said Congress may adopt. And further, if the said Congress shall think necessary to adjourn, we do authorize our said Delegates to represent and act for this Province in any one Congress to be held by virtue of such adjournment, during their Delegation.

On motion, *Resolved, unanimously*, That the thanks of this Congress be returned to the several gentlemen who have represented this Colony in the honourable Continental Congress, for their faithful discharge of the important trust reposed in them; and that the President do transmit the same accordingly.

On motion, *Resolved, unanimously*, That Mr. *Lewis Dunham* be recommended by this Congress to the honourable Continental Congress, as Surgeon, and Mr. *Thomas Read*, as Surgeon's Mate, for the Third Battalion now raising in this Colony.

Resolved, unanimously, That this Congress will make provisions for defraying the expenses of the gentlemen appointed to represent this Colony in Continental Congress.

Adjourned till three o'clock in the afternoon.

Met according to adjournment.

Ordered, That Mr. *Fisher*, Mr. *Mehelm*, Mr. *Drake*, and Mr. *Brown*, be a Committee to prepare an Ordinance for exempting persons who inlist in the service of the *United Colonies* from being arrested.

Ordered, That Mr. *Covenhoven*, Mr. *Ellis*, Mr. *Hughes*, and Mr. *Elmer*, be a Committee to prepare an Ordinance for numbering the Inhabitants of this Colony, pursuant to the direction of the Continental Congress.

The Committee appointed to prepare a draft of an Ordinance for appointing Barrackmasters in this Province, and making provisions for defraying the expense of repairing said Barracks, brought in the same; which was read, and ordered a second reading,

On motion, *Ordered*, That *Moses Scott* be Surgeon to the Second Regiment of Foot Militia, in the County of *Middlesex*, under the command of Colonel *Wetherill*.

On motion, *Ordered*, That *Oliver Barnet*, Esquire, be Surgeon to the Fourth Regiment of Foot Militia in the County of *Hunterdon*, under the command of Colonel *Mehelm*.

Adjourned till nine o'clock to-morrow morning.

—

Thursday, February 15, 1776.

Met according to adjournment.

The Letter from the honourable Continental Congress, of the 12th instant, was read the second time, and is in the words following:

"GENTLEMEN: The arrival of troops at *New-York*, the importance of that place to the welfare of *America*, and the necessity of throwing up a number of works to prevent our enemies from landing and taking post there, render it necessary that a number of troops should immediately join Major-General *Lee*; I am, therefore, desired to apply to you, and request you would, with all possible expedition, send detachments of your Minute-Men, equal to a Battalion, under proper officers, and well armed and accoutred, to *New-York*, there to be under the command of General *Lee*.

"Your approved zeal in the cause of your country gives me the strongest assurance that you will, with alacrity, embrace this opportunity of giving aid to your neighbours, and that your people will cheerfully engage in a service by which they will not only render a very essential service to their country, but also have an opportunity of acquiring military skill and knowledge in the ionstruction of field works, and the method of fortifying and intrenching camps, by which they will be the better able, when occasion calls, to defend their rights and liberties.

"I am, gentlemen, your obedient humble servant,

"JOHN HANCOCK, *President.*

"To the Honourable Convention of *New-Jersey.*"

The Congress taking the above Letter into consideration, and desirous of doing every thing in their power to promote the common cause, do

Resolve, unanimously, That the above Requisition be complied with, and that Detachments of Minute-Men, properly accoutred, equal to a Battalion in the Continental service, be immediately made, and marched to *New-York*, under the command of *Charles Stewart*, Esq., Colonel; *Mark Thompson*, Esq., Lieutenant-Colonel; *Frederick Frelinghuysen* and *Thomas Henderson*, Esquires, Majors; and that said Battalion, when joined with the Continental Forces, be under the command of Major-General *Lee;* which Battalion, by a Resolution of the Continental Congress, of the 25th of *October* last, shall be entitled to the same pay while on service as allowed to the Continental Troops, and furnished with provisions in the same manner.

And this Congress do recommend to the Committees in particular, and to the inhabitants in general of this Colony, to afford all the assistance in their power in raising and equipping said Battalion.

The Committee of the Township of *Maidenhead*, in the County of *Hunterdon*, made return of persons who signed the Association, as well as those who refused, which was read, and ordered to be filed.

The Committee appointed to draft an Ordinance for erecting a Court of Admiralty in this Province, reported, that they had consulted *William Livingston*, Esq., one of our Delegates in Continental Congress on the subject, and proposed to him, whether it would not be of manifest advantage to the Colonies, if that Congress should, by one General Ordinance, institute the powers and mode of erecting a Court of Admiralty to be adopted by all the Colonies: That Mr. *Livingston* agreed thereto, and said, he would take the first opportunity of proposing this matter in Congress; and added, that as they had already given directions for the disposition of the transport lately carried into *Elizabethtown*, no injury could ensue to the publick from the *New-Jersey* Congress deferring the erecting a Court of Admiralty in this Province, until they are informed whether the Continental Congress will direct a General Ordinance for the purpose: And the Committee submit it to the consideration of the Congress, whether it will not, for the above reasons, be expedient that the said Committee should for the present defer further proceedings in the business to which they were appointed.

The Congress taking the said Report into consideration,

Ordered, That further proceedings of the said Committee be deferred accordingly.

Charles Roberts, by an order of the County Committee of *Somerset*, directed to Major *Frederick Frelinghuysen*, was brought before this Congress. The charge exhibited against said *Roberts*, was read, who having made his defence, and being fully heard, was ordered to withdraw. The Congress having duly considered said charge, do

Resolve, That said *Charles Roberts* pay the costs of the present prosecution, to be taxed by the County Committee of *Somerset*, and give obligation, with surety, to the Chairman of said Committee, in the sum of one hundred and fifty Pounds, for his good behaviour in future; that he yield up to said Chairman all his arms, and weapons of defence, to remain in custody of said Chairman until the said Committee shall deem it proper to redeliver them; and, on non-compliance herewith, that the said *Roberts* be committed to the keeper of the common Jail of said County, who is hereby ordered to keep him in close confinement during such non-compliance.

Ordered, That the said *Charles Roberts* be reconducted to the Chairman of the County Committee of *Somerset*, by Major *Frederick Frelinghuysen*, to be dealt with as is above directed.

A Letter from the County Committee of *Somerset*, setting forth, that they think it expedient some measure should be taken to fortify *Perth-Amboy*, was read, and ordered a second reading.

Adjourned to three o'clock, in the afternoon.

Met according to adjournment.

A Petition from sundry Inhabitants of *Somerset*, praying that none but Freeholders may be qualified to elect Deputies to represent them in Congress, was read, and ordered a second reading.

A Memorial from the County Committee of *Monmouth*, praying that some mode may be prescribed for keeping Minute Companies on Foot was read, and ordered a second reading.

Adjourned till nine o'clock, to-morrow morning.

Friday, February 16, 1776.

Met according to adjournment.

A Petition from the Inhabitants of the City of *New-Brunswick*, praying that they may be admitted as well as Freeholders, to vote for Deputies in Congress, was read, and ordered a second reading.

A Petition of the Committee for the Town of *Newark*, in the County of *Essex*, setting forth, that a dispute had arisen between said Committee and the County Committee of *Essex*, respecting the appropriation of said Township's part of the ten thousand Pound tax; praying that this Congress would take some order therein, was read, and ordered a second reading.

Ordered, That Mr. *Carey*, Mr. *Mehelm*, and Mr. *Martin*, be a Committee to prepare the draft of an Ordinance directing the manner of signing the General Association by persons of tender consciences; and for further regulating the Militia of this Colony.

Adjourned to two o'clock, in the afternoon.

Met according to adjournment.

The several Petitions from the different Counties in this Province, praying that Householders, &c., may be qualified to vote for Representatives in Congress; the Petition of the County Committee of *Monmouth*, praying that the Congress would not at present decide upon the qualifications of Electors; and, also, the two Petitions from several of the Inhabitants of the County of *Somerset*, praying that Freeholders only may elect Deputies for Congress, were all read the second time.

And the Congress, agreeable to the Order of the Day, taking into consideration the subject-matter of the said several Petitions, and after duly deliberating thereon, the question was put, Whether every person of full age, who hath, immediately preceding the election, resided one whole year in any County of this Colony, and is worth at least fifty Pounds in real or personal estate, shall be admitted to vote in the County wherein he resides, for Representatives in Provincial Congress, or not? It passed in the affirmative, as follows:

YEAS.	NAYS.
Essex County,	*Bergen* County,
Middlesex "	*Somerset* "
Morris "	*Monmouth* "
Hunterdon "	*Cape-May* "
Burlington "	
Gloucester "	
Salem "	
Cumberland "	
Sussex "	

Ordered, That Mr. *Clark*, Mr. *Ogden*, Mr. *Elmer*, Mr. *Stewart*, and Mr. *Carey*, be a Committee to prepare an Ordinance for the above purpose; and, also, to ascertain the qualifications of Representatives to serve in Congress.

The Petition of the Committee for the Township of *Newark*, in the County of *Essex*, was read the second time; and the gentlemen attending in behalf of the Committee of the County of *Essex*, requesting that the hearing

the matter alleged in said Petition may be deferred till *Thursday* next.

The said hearing was deferred accordingly.

Ordered, That both parties do attend this Congress on *Thursday* next, at two o'clock in the afternoon, to be heard for and against said Petition.

Adjourned till nine o'clock, to-morrow morning.

—

Saturday, February 17, 1776.

Met according to adjournment.

The Committee appointed to prepare an Ordinance for striking fifty thousand Pounds, &c., brought in the same, which was read, and ordered a second reading.

Ralph Guild having returned his Warrant for inlisting men, as Second Lieutenant in Captain *Reading's* Company, *Jeremiah Ballard* was nominated as Second Lieutenant in that Company.

A Petition of Officers and Privates of the Company whereof *George Taylor*, Esq., was Captain at the time of being elected Colonel, praying that he may occupy both offices, was read, and ordered a second reading.

Joshua Corshon, Esq., having, on account of his infirmity, resigned his commission of Captain in the Third Regiment of Foot Militia in the County of *Huntcrdon*, whereof *Nathaniel Hunt*, Esq., is Colonel:

Ordered, That said Resignation be accepted, and that the Company immediately proceed to the election of a Captain.

The Committee appointed to prepare an Ordinance to fix the qualification of Electors of Deputies, &c., brought in the same, which was read, and ordered a second reading.

The Committee appointed to prepare an Ordinance for exempting persons who inlist in the service of the *United Colonies* from being arrested, brought in the same, which was read, and ordered a second reading.

The Committee appointed to prepare a draft of an Ordinance directing the manner of signing the General Association, &c., and for further regulating the Militia of this Colony, brought in the same, which was read, and ordered a second reading.

Ordered, That Doctor *William Burnet* be Surgeon for the Second Regiment of Foot Militia in the County of *Essex*, and that Doctor *Uzal Johnston* be Surgeon for the First Battalion, and Doctor *Nicholas Roach* be Surgeon for the Second Battalion of said Regiment, and that Commissions be issued accordingly.

Ordered, That Dr. *Abraham Van Boskirk* be Surgeon for the Regiment of Foot Militia in the County of *Bergen*, and that a Commission be made out accordingly.

Adjourned till nine o'clock, *Monday* morning.

—

Monday, February 19, 1776.

Met according to adjournment.

Ordered, That Doctor *Timothy Jones* be Surgeon for the Eastern Regiment of Foot Militia in the County of *Morris*, and that a Commission be made out accordingly.

The Committee to whom the Representation from the Committee of *Elizabethtown* was referred, brought in an Ordinance for preventing persons deserting places in danger of being attacked, and for restraining such as are dangerous to the common cause from taking refuge in this Colony, which was read, and ordered a second reading.

The draft of an Ordinance for appointing Barrackmasters in this Province, and making provision for defraying the expense of repairing said Barracks, was read the second time, agreed to, and ordered to be engrossed.

The draft of an Ordinance directing the manner of signing the General Association by persons of tender consciences, and enforcing the same, and, also, for amending the Militia Ordinance passed at the last session of this Congress, was read the second time, agreed to, and ordered to be engrossed.

Several Resolutions of the Continental Congress, recommending certain matters to this Congress, were read and filed.

The draft of an Ordinance for exempting persons who inlist in the service of the *United Colonies* from arrests, was read the second time, agreed to, and ordered to be engrossed.

Adjourned to three o'clock, afternoon.

Met according to adjournment.

The draft of an Ordinance for preventing persons deserting places in danger of being attacked, &c., was read the second time, and committed to Mr. *Hart*, Mr. *Dennis*, and Mr. *Ogden*.

A Petition of the Committee for the Township of *Piscataway*, praying that this Congress would take some measures for fortifying *Amboy*, was read, and ordered a second reading.

The Committee appointed to prepare an Ordinance for numbering the Inhabitants of this Colony, pursuant to the directions of the Continental Congress, brought in the same, which was read, and ordered a second reading.

The draft of an Ordinance for striking fifty thousand Pounds, and providing for sinking the same, was read the second time, and referred to a Committee of the whole House, to-morrow morning.

Adjourned till to-morrow morning, nine o'clock.

—

Tuesday, February 20, 1776.

Congress met according to adjournment.

The Letter from *Jacob Ford*, Esq., respecting the Eastern Treasurer's refusing the Continental Bills in payment of Taxes, was read the second time.

Resolved, unanimously, That it is the duty of the Treasurers of this Colony to receive the Bills of Credit issued by the Continental Congress, in payment of all taxes and other debts payable to the Treasury.

Mr. *Smyth's* Letter respecting his officiating as Treasurer, was read the second time.

Ordered, That Mr. President do send the following Letter to Mr. *Smyth:*

Sir: I am to inform you that the Congress have been long waiting for your answer, whether you would consider yourself as Treasurer under your former obligation. This would be very agreeable to Congress; and, though your indisposition may for some time prevent your going to the Treasury Chest at Mr. *Schenck's*, yet you can, as occasion may require, have recourse thereto by such persons as you can confide in.

A resolve of the Congress, respecting Continental currency, you have enclosed.

The Congress resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole, on the Ordinance for striking fifty thousand Pounds, and providing for sinking the same. After some time spent therein, Mr. President resumed the chair, and Mr. *Fisher*, Chairman of the Committee, reported, that they had made some progress in the matters to them referred, and desired leave to sit again, to which the Congress agreed.

Adjourned to three o'clock, in the afternoon.

Met according to adjournment.

The Congress again resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole, on the Ordinance for striking fifty thousand Pounds, and providing for sinking the same. After some time spent therein, Mr. President resumed the chair, and Mr. *Fisher*, Chairman of the Committee, reported, that they had made some further progress in the matters to them referred, and desired leave to sit again, to which the Congress agreed.

A Letter from Colonel *Maxwell*, praying that a Company of Riflemen may be raised and joined to his Battalion, was read and filed.

A Petition of sundry Militia Officers in the County of *Burlington*, setting forth, that they had been at considerable expense in providing Fugle-Men, Fifers, Drummers, &c., praying that this Congress would reimburse them therefor, was read, and ordered a second reading.

Adjourned till nine o'clock, to-morrow morning.

—

Wednesday, February 21, 1776.

Met according to adjournment.

The Petition of the Committee for the Township of

Piscataway, praying that some more equal mode of taxation may be prescribed, and, in particular, that money at interest may be taxed, was read, and referred to the Committee on the Ordinance for striking fifty thousand Pounds, and providing for sinking the same.

The Petition of Captain *Joseph Badcock*, in the County of *Somerset*, enclosing a list of the names of certain persons in his Company who refused to sign a Muster-Roll, praying the advice of this Congress therein, was read the second time, and referred for further consideration.

This Congress having received of the Continental Congress half a ton of Gunpowder, in order to replace the Gunpowder formerly lent said Continental Congress by *Somerset*, *Brunswick*, *Woodbridge*, and *Elizabeth*, and there being a surplus after replacing what had been so borrowed, of which the Township of *Shrewsbury* hath made application for part:

Whereupon, it is *Ordered*, That said Township be furnished with a cask of the Powder aforesaid, containing one hundred and eight pounds six ounces, for which said Township is to account with this Congress.

A Motion being made and debated, the question was put, Whether this Congress shall be dissolved, and the electors have an opportunity of making a new choice of Deputies before the time appointed by an Ordinance of the last Congress? It was carried in the affirmative, as follows:

Yeas.		Nays.	
Bergen	County,	*Middlesex*	County,
Essex	"	*Morris*	"
Burlington	"	*Hunterdon*	"
Salem	"	*Somerset*	"
Cumberland	"	*Sussex*	"
Cape-May	"		
Gloucester	"		

On motion, *Resolved*, That there be a new election of Deputies to represent this Colony in Provincial Congress, on the fourth *Monday* in *May* next.

Ordered, That Commissions be made out for the following persons, Officers of a Company in the Regiment whereof *William Maxwell*, Esq., was late Colonel, agreeable to a Certificate of their appointment, viz: *George Rible*, Captain; *Henry Shute*, First Lieutenant; *Richard Auter*, Second Lieutenant; *Philip Wintersteen*, Ensign.

Adjourned to three o'clock, in the afternoon.

Met according to adjournment.

A Letter from Mr. *Smyth*, respecting his officiating as Treasurer, was read. To which the following Answer was returned:

Sir: We are sorry to observe, that the conditions you mention in your letter of this day, on which you are willing to execute the office of Treasurer, are not satisfactory. We must, therefore, desire your answer explicitly, whether you are willing to take charge of the Treasury Chest, when delivered safely at Mr. *Schenck's*, continue to act as Treasurer, and acknowledge yourself accountable to the Province as fully, to all intents and purposes, as you was by your obligation before the removal of the Chest.

If you agree thereto, as the execution of the office under those circumstances will necessarily be attended with extraordinary expenses, this Congress are willing to make you a reasonable compensation therefor.

A Letter from the Right Honourable *William* Earl of *Stirling*, was received and read, and is in the words following:

" New-York, February 20, 1776.

"Sir: As the *Asia* man-of-war, with her attendants, have now taken their station in the Bay below this city, and the *Phenix* between the *Narrows* and *Sandy-Hook*, and do take every provision vessel coming from *New-Jersey*, it is become highly proper to prevent any provisions or produce of any kind being shipped from *New-Jersey* to this or any other place whatsoever, while those ships continue in a situation which will enable them to make seizures of them. I have, therefore, General *Lee's* directions to request, that the Congress of *New-Jersey* will give immediate directions to prevent any provisions or other produce being shipped or sent off from any part of East *New-Jersey*, that can possibly fall into the hands of the enemy. I am, sir, your most humble servant,

" Stirling.

"To the President of the Congress of the Province of *New-Jersey*, at *New-Brunswick*."

The Congress, sensible of the expediency of the above request, do *Resolve*, That Provisions, and all other kinds of Produce of this Colony, be immediately prevented from being sent to *New-York*, or other parts, whereby they must pass *New York* Bay, or the Bay between *Sandy-Hook* and *Perth-Amboy*, or *Staten-Island*: And all owners and masters of vessels, of every kind, are prohibited from sending any Provisions or Produce from any part of this Province as aforesaid, until permitted by this Congress.

All County and Township Committees in the Eastern division of this Province, are hereby directed to be vigilant and active in carrying this Resolve into effect.

Ordered, That the following persons be Officers of a Company of Minute-Men in the Township of *Newark*, agreeable to a certificate of their election, viz: *Joseph Alling*, Captain; *Joseph Wheeler*, First Lieutenant; *Caleb Bruen*, Second Lieutenant; *Isaac Plume*, Ensign.

The draft of an Ordinance to fix the qualifications of Electors, and of Deputies, &c., was read the second time, and committed to Mr. *Fisher*, Mr. *Martin*, Mr. *Hughes*, Mr. *Covenhoven*, and Mr. *John Holmes*.

Adjourned till to-morrow morning, nine o'clock.

—

Thursday, February 22, 1776.

Met according to adjournment.

A Letter from *James Hughes*, a prisoner at *Elizabethtown*, informing, that he is much indisposed in body, praying leave of this Congress that he may go to *New-York*, and put himself under the care of Doctor *Jones*, was read, and referred to the Committee of *Elizabethtown*.

The Congress again resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole House, on the Ordinance for striking fifty thousand Pounds, and provided for sinking the same. After some time spent therein, Mr. President resumed the chair, and Mr. *Fisher*, Chairman of the Committee, reported, that they had gone through the said Ordinance, and were ready to report the same.

Ordered, That the Report be made in the afternoon.

Adjourned to three o'clock, in the afternoon.

Met according to adjournment.

Mr. *Fisher*, from the Committee of the Whole House, to whom the Ordinance for emitting fifty thousand Pounds, in Bills of Credit, for the purposes therein mentioned, &c., reported the same, agreeable to the Order of this morning, which was read; and several amendments being thereunto made, was agreed to, and ordered to be engrossed.

The parties for and against the Petition from the Committee of the Township of *Newark*, against the Committee of the County of *Essex*, attending, and the Petitioners requiring a longer day, in order to procure proper witnesses; it is, therefore,

Ordered, That the further hearing of said controversy be deferred till *Tuesday* next, at two o'clock in the afternoon, at which time, both parties are required to attend, properly prepared, as this Congress are resolved at that time to hear and determine said dispute.

Adjourned till nine o'clock, to-morrow morning.

—

Friday, February 23, 1776.

Met according to adjournment.

The Committee appointed to wait upon Mr. *Smyth*, and remove the Papers, Books, and Records, in the Surveyor-General's Office at *Perth-Amboy*, made report, that they had waited on Mr. *Smyth*, and had, as ordered, removed the Papers, Books, and Records, mentioned in a certain schedule, produced and filed.

Elias Dayton, Colonel of the First Regiment of Foot Militia in the County of *Essex*, being promoted to the command of a Battalion in the Continental service; it is, therefore, *Ordered*, That *Edward Thomas* be Colonel, *Jeremiah Smith* Lieut. Colonel, and *Oliver Spencer* First Major, of said First Regiment of Militia in the County of *Essex*.

The Petition and Remonstrance of the County Committee of *Bergen*, respecting the seizure of Arms belonging to said County, by a detachment of Continental troops, under the command of Captain *Joseph Meeker*, in the Right Honourable *William* Earl of *Stirling's* Regiment, was read the second time, and

Resolved, unanimously, That this Congress will either pay for, or replace the Arms taken by Captain *Meeker*, whichever the County Committee of *Bergen* shall choose; and will, as soon as possible, inquire fully into and decide upon the cause of complaint exhibited in said Petition and Remonstrance.

Resolved, That a Letter be immediately written, and signed by the President, to the Right Honourable *William* Earl of *Stirling*, respecting the seizure of the Arms aforesaid, and desiring that his Lordship would transmit to this Congress a copy of the orders given Captain *Meeker*, as also of those which his Lordship received of the honourable Continental Congress, respecting said Arms.

This Congress resumed the consideration of a Court of Admiralty, and *Resolved*, That said Court be instituted in this Province as soon as possible; and that Mr. *Carey* and Mr. *Clark* be added to the Committee appointed to draft an Ordinance for that purpose.

Adjourned to three o'clock, in the afternoon.

Met according to adjournment.

The Committee to whom the draft of an Ordinance for fixing the qualifications of Electors, and Deputies, &c., was committed, reported the same with amendments; which being read, was committed to a Committee of the whole House.

The Congress resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole House, on the Ordinance for fixing the qualifications of Electors, and Deputies, &c. After some time spent therein, Mr. President resumed the chair, and Mr. *Fisher*, Chairman of the Committee, reported that they had made some progress in the matters to them referred, and desired leave to sit again. To which the Congress agreed.

The engrossed Ordinance directing the manner of signing the General Association, &c., was read and compared.

Resolved, That the same do pass.

Ordered, That Mr. *Wetherill*, Mr. *Hart*, Mr. *Elmer*, Mr. *Mehelm*, and Mr. *Dunham*, be a Committee to prepare an Ordinance for defraying incidental charges.

Adjourned till nine o'clock, to-morrow morning.

—

Saturday, February 24, 1776.

Met according to adjournment.

The engrossed Ordinance for appointing Barrackmasters in this Province, &c., was read and compared.

Resolved, That the same do pass.

The engrossed Ordinance for exempting persons who inlist in the service of the *United Colonies* from arrests, was read and compared.

Resolved, That the same do pass.

The several Petitions and Memorials respecting the Minute-Men in this Province, &c., were read the second time, and after some deliberation thereon,

Ordered, That Mr. *Clark*, Mr. *Hart*, Mr. *Elmer*, and Mr. *Martin*, be a Committee to prepare an Ordinance for regulating the former Minute Department of Militia, and incorporating the same with the Standing Militia.

Mr. *Josiah Seely*, appointed First Lieutenant in Captain *Bloomfield's* Company, informed this Congress, that since his nomination, some particular circumstances happened, which laid him under the necessity of declining said appointment; whereupon the Congress proceeded to the choice of a First Lieutenant in said Company, when *Constant Peck* was elected.

Adjourned to three o'clock, in the afternoon.

Met according to adjournment.

The Petition of Officers and the Privates, in the Company whereof *George Taylor*, Esq., was Captain, at the time of being elected Colonel, was read the second time, and ordered to lie on the table.

The Petition of sundry Militia-Officers in the County of *Burlington*, praying that this Congress would reimburse them their expense in providing Fugle-Men, &c., was read the second time, and ordered to lie on the table.

The Letter from the County Committee of *Somerset*, and the Petition from the Township Committee of *Piscataway*, setting forth, that *Perth-Amboy* is much exposed to hostile invasions, and praying that some measures might be taken to fortify said place, and guard it against invasions, were read the second time.

As the matter contained in said Letter and Petition is of great importance to this Colony in particular, and to the *United Colonies* in general, and as the carrying the same into effect will be attended with considerable expense, it was moved and agreed that the following Letter be sent to the Continental Congress:

Gentlemen: This Congress having taken into their serious consideration the necessity of defending such parts of this Colony as are more immediately exposed to an invasion of the enemy, are of opinion, that the city of *Perth-Amboy*, in *East-Jersey*, from its open channel, and safe harbour, and from its local situation, is a place deserving the utmost attention at this time. As the city of *New-York* has at present a large body of troops, and fortifications are now erecting for its defence, it is more than probable that the enemy, sensible of these preparations, will attempt a lodgment at *Perth-Amboy*, from whence incursions might easily be made into the heart of the country, before a sufficient force can be collected to oppose them.

That part of *West-Jersey*, which is situate on the River *Delaware*, below *Philadelphia*, appears also to merit great attention at this time. Opposite to *Reedy-Island*, at a place called *Elsenborough*, in the County of *Salem*, a landing might easily be effected. This is within forty miles of *Philadelphia*, in a County abounding with provisions; and from whence an army might easily make its way to *Cooper's* Ferry in a very short time.

This Congress would be happy if they had it in their power to take into immediate pay a sufficient body of troops for the defence of both these important posts: but as this will be an expense too great for this Colony to support upon its own bottom, and as the being guarded at all points is a matter of the utmost importance to the common cause, more especially to the cities of *Philadelphia* and *New-York*; this Congress beg leave to submit to the consideration of your honourable House, the urgent necessity of making some immediate preparations to prevent any attempt of the enemy to land an army in those parts of this Province which appear to be so situated as greatly to facilitate the success of such an attempt. One or two battalions, with two artillery companies, may be sufficient for this important service. And we humbly submit to your consideration the necessity and propriety of such a step being immediately adopted. We wish not to put the Continent to this expense for the sole defence of the inhabitants of this Colony, but the interest of this Colony in particular being so connected with that of the *United Colonies* in general, as to render an invasion in *New-Jersey* a matter of the utmost importance to all; we humbly conceive that the necessity of the occasion will induce the wisdom of your honourable House to take into Continental pay two battalions, and two companies of artillery; or such a body of forces as may be thought sufficient to answer this desirable purpose.

The express, by which this is forwarded, will wait your commands; and I am to request the favour of an answer as soon as possible. I am likewise to request, that commissions may be sent for Officers of the Third Battalion, as some of the Companies are already full, and others in a fair way.

I am, gentlemen, your most obedient humble servant,
By order of Congress:
Samuel Tucker, *President*.

To the Honourable Continental Congress.

Adjourned till *Monday* morning, nine o'clock.

—

Monday, February 26, 1776.

Met according to adjournment.

A Resolution of the Continental Congress was received and read, and is in the words following:

"In Congress, February 22, 1776.

"A Delegate from *New-Jersey*, having informed Congress that the Regiment of Militia ordered by the Convention of that Colony, to march to the defence of *New-York*, in consequence of the resolve of Congress of the 12th of this month, were not sufficiently armed, and that they could not be furnished with arms, unless the Congress supplied them; and as this Congress have not arms to spare, those they have being necessary for arming the Battalions in the Continental service:

"Therefore, *Resolved*, That the march of said Battalion of Militia be countermanded.

"Extract from the Minutes:

"CHARLES THOMSON, *Secretary*."

Ordered, That the Officers be immediately notified of the above countermand.

Adjourned till three o'clock, in the afternoon.

Met according to adjournment.

Petitions of the Committee of Correspondence and Observation for the Precinct of *New-Barbadoes* and *Hackensack*, of the Township Committee of *Franklin*, and of the Precinct Committee of *Saddle-River*, in the County of *Bergen*, setting forth, that the Deputies who represent the said County in Provincial Congress, and the persons who compose the County Committee of *Bergen*, were not duly elected, &c., praying that the said Deputies may be dismissed from their seats in Congress; that the said Committee may be dissolved, and that a new election may be directed, were read, and ordered a second reading.

The Township Committee of *Trenton*, made return of the persons who, in their bounds, signed the General Association of this Colony, and of those who refused so to do; which was ordered to be filed.

The Committee to whom the draft of an Ordinance respecting persons who remove from the adjacent Colonies, &c., was committed, reported the same with amendments, which being read, was agreed to, and ordered to be engrossed.

The Congress again resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole House, on the Ordinance for fixing the qualifications of Electors and Deputies, &c. After some time spent therein, the President resumed the chair, and Mr. *Fisher*, Chairman of the Committee, reported, that they had gone through the said Ordinance; which being read, was agreed to, and ordered to be engrossed.

Adjourned till nine o'clock, to-morrow morning.

—

Tuesday, February 27, 1776.

Met according to adjournment.

A Letter from *John Smyth*, Esquire, Treasurer of the Eastern Division of this Colony, was read, and is in the following words:

"Perth-Amboy, February, 26, 1776.

"SIR: Mr. *Stevens*, according to my request, has been so good as to come down to this place, to whom I communicated the letter sent to me by the Congress, relative to the removal of the Treasury, as I did to my other securities some time before.

"I find that they are willing to continue security for me, considering the difficulty of the times, provided the Chest is removed to a place where the Office may be executed in the usual manner. I would, therefore, propose, that, as I am not now able, and little prospect of being so, in less than six weeks, to attend the Chest, it be removed to Mr. *Stevens's*, who will receive the taxes that are still to be paid in, and the County Collectors may be desired to attend at his house for that purpose. In which case no one will or can have recourse to the Chest, but those who have already entered into engagements, and are by law accountable to the publick, for the due performance of my office, which cannot in justice or reason be expected of me or them, without the Chest is suffered to remain in my or their possession.

"As this proposal fully comprehends the declared intention of the Congress in removing the Chest, I cannot doubt its proving fully agreeable and satisfactory to them.

"Whenever I am able to attend the duty of the office abroad, the Chest may then be removed to any other place, that shall be agreed on by all concerned, there to remain until we see happier times.

"Mr. *Stevens* goes home by way of *Brunswick*, to whom I beg you will please to give your answer, who will forward it to me.

"I am your most humble servant, "JOHN SMYTH.

"To *Samuel Tucker*, Esquire."

On the question being put, whether the Treasury Chest of the Eastern Division of this Colony, lately removed by a Resolve of this Congress, from *Perth-Amboy*, in order to be lodged in the hands of *Peter Schenck*, Esquire, at *Millstone*, for the sake of greater safety, be, agreeable to the request of Mr. *Smyth*, the Eastern Treasurer, carried to the dwelling-house of the Honourable *John Stevens*, one of Mr. *Smyth's* securities, there to remain during Mr. *Smyth's* indisposition, or until this Congress shall take further order therein, on the terms expressed in the above Letter, to wit: that Mr. *Smyth* and his securities continue bound by their former obligations; and provided they be at the charge of such removal? It was carried in the affirmative, as follows:

YEAS.	NAYS.
Bergen County,	*Middlesex* County,
Essex "	*Somerset* "
Monmouth "	*Morris* "
Burlington "	*Sussex* "
Salem "	*Cumberland* "
Cape-May "	
Hunterdon "	

The Petitions of the Committee of Correspondence and Observation for the Precinct of *New-Barbadoes* and *Hackensack*, of the Township Committee of *Franklin*, and of the Precinct Committee of *Saddle-River*, in the County of *Bergen*, setting forth, that the Deputies who represent the said County in Provincial Congress, and the persons who compose the County Committee of *Bergen*, were not duly elected, &c., and praying that the said Deputies may be dismissed from their seats in Congress, that the said County Committee may be dissolved, and that a new election may be directed, were read the second time.

Whereas, this Congress expect soon to rise, and having already resolved upon a dissolution, have directed that, on the fourth *Monday* in *May* next, the several Counties in this Province proceed to the election of Deputies for Provincial Congress, and of County Committees, think it unnecessary, at this time, to enter into the merits of, and decide upon, the complaint exhibited in the above Petitions. This Congress, however, direct, that all the money raised in the County of *Bergen*, by a former Resolve of Congress, be immediately collected and paid into the hands of the County Collector; to be drawn out and appropriated, as the County Committee of *Bergen* shall direct, agreeable to former Resolutions of Congress; and that said Committee do keep proper accounts of all such appropriations and expenditures, to be laid before Congress when required.

Adjourned to three o'clock, in the afternoon.

Met according to adjournment.

The Memorial of *James Richmond*, setting forth, that the ships-of-war in *New-York* Bay do not make captures of vessels freighted with wheat, and praying permission of this Congress to carry produce from this Colony to *New-York*, was read, and ordered a second reading.

Pursuant to the Order of the Day, the Congress went into the consideration of the Petition from the Committee for the Township of *Newark*, against the County Committee of *Essex*. The Deputies from said Committees attending, were heard for and against the said Petition. After which they withdrew.

The above Petition was referred for further consideration.

Adjourned till nine o'clock, to-morrow morning.

—

Wednesday, February 28, 1776.

Met according to adjournment.

Whereas, the late Resolution of this Congress prohibiting the export of Provisions and Produce from this Colony to *New-York*, was founded on information that the ships-of-war, in *New-York* Bay, made captures of vessels so laden; and whereas, this Congress are fully satisfied that

the reason of making said prohibition no longer subsists: It is therefore,

Resolved, unanimously, That the Resolution of this Congress, made the 21st day of this instant, *February*, prohibiting the export of Provisions and Produce from this Colony to the City of *New-York*, be, and is hereby repealed.

This Congress having resumed the consideration of the Petition of the Township of *Newark*, lament, that any disputes should arise among persons distinguished for their zeal and activity in promoting the common cause of *America*; and regret the necessity of their interference to compose the dissensions that have for some time subsisted between the County Committee of *Essex* and the Township Committee of *Newark*. In order, however, to decide upon said dispute, and in hopes of reconciling the parties at variance, it is

Resolved, That, as by the late Ordinances of Congress, the County Committee have undoubted right to appoint a County Collector, and dispose of the money raised by an Ordinance of the late Congress, the Committee of the Township of *Newark* be, and they are hereby enjoined to cease claiming the disposition of such money; but whereas, there was no County Committee in the County of *Essex* before the 21st day of *September* last, until which time the Township Committees had the disposal of the money raised as aforesaid in their respective Townships:

It is, therefore, further *Resolved*, That all moneys actually expended by said Township Committees, before that time, be allowed by said County Committees to be a legal expenditure; and the Arms or Ammunition purchased by each Township Committee, as well as such as shall be purchased by the County Committee, be considered as a County Stock, and divided to each Township according to its quota of such tax: And if any Township Committee in *Essex* have made contracts for Ammunition, not already fulfilled, it is recommended to the County Committee to fulfil such contracts, and distribute the Ammunition procured thereby in the Townships as aforesaid.

The engrossed Ordinance for striking the sum of fifty thousand Pounds five Shillings, in Bills of Credit, for the purposes therein mentioned, and directing the manner of sinking the same, was read and compared.

Resolved, That the same do pass.

The engrossed Ordinance, to prevent Persons deserting places in danger of being attacked, and for restraining such as are dangerous to the common cause, from taking refuge in this Colony, was read and compared; and on the question, Whether the same do pass, or not? it was carried in the affirmative, as follows:

Yeas.	Nays.
Bergen County,	*Monmouth* County,
Essex "	*Salem* "
Middlesex "	*Burlington* "
Morris "	*Cape-May* "
Somerset "	
Sussex "	
Hunterdon "	
Cumberland "	

Resolved, That the same do pass.

On motion, *Ordered*, That Doctor *Baldwin* be Surgeon for the Second Regiment of Foot Militia in the County of *Sussex*, whereof *Ephraim Martin*, Esq., is Colonel.

On motion, *Ordered*, That Doctor *Jonathan Horton*, be Surgeon for the Western Regiment of Foot Militia, in the County of *Morris*, whereof *Jacob Drake*, Esquire, is Colonel.

Agreeable to Certificate,

Ordered, That the following persons be Officers of three of the Militia Companies, in the Precinct of *New-Barbadoes*, and County of *Bergen*, and in the Regiment whereof *Teunis Dey*, Esq., is Colonel, viz: *Jacob Terhune*, Captain; *George Brinckerhoff*, First Lieutenant; *Hendrick Budon*, Second Lieutenant; and *Jacobus Poulesse*, Ensign of the *New-Barbadoes* Company. *Nicausa Terhune*, Captain; *Jacob Van Winkle*, First Lieutenant; *John Uriancy*, Second Lieutenant; and *Walling Van Winkle*, Ensign of the *Pollifly* Company. *Jacobus Jaralman*, Captain; *Peter Sandford*, First Lieutenant; *Elijah Sanford*, Second Lieutenant; and *John Jaralman*, Ensign of the *New-Barbadoes-Neck* Company.

Adjourned to three o'clock in the afternoon.

Met according to adjournment.

A Representation from the Township Committee of *Woodbridge*, praying, that Money at interest may be taxed; that the people called *Quakers* may, for non-attendance on military duty, pay an equivalent to the expense and services of Associators; and that *Perth-Amboy*, which is much exposed to an attack from the enemy, may be fortified and guarded; was read, and ordered a second reading.

A Petition of the Township Committee of *Piscataway*, and of the Military Officers in said Township, setting forth, that the Ordinance of last Congress for the further regulation of the Militia, was defective in several particulars, &c., praying that this Congress would devise some remedy therefor, was read, and ordered a second reading.

The Committee appointed to prepare an Ordinance for regulating the former Minute Department of Militia, and incorporating the same with the Standing Militia, reported the same, which was read, and ordered a second reading.

The engrossed Ordinance for directing the mode and fixing the time for the election of Deputies to serve in Provincial Congress for this Colony; and also to ascertain the qualification of Electors, &c., was read and compared.

Resolved, That the same do pass.

Agreeable to Certificate,

Ordered, That the following persons be Officers of a Company in the Second Regiment of Foot Militia, in the County of *Somerset*, under the command of *Abraham Quick*, Esq., Colonel, viz: *William Churchill Houston*, Captain; *Aaron Longstreet*, First Lieutenant; *Zebulon Barton*, Second Lieutenant; and *James Stockton*, Ensign.

The Township Committee of *Amwell*, in the County of *Hunterdon*, having made return of the persons who signed, and of those who refused to sign the General Association of this Colony,

Ordered, That the same be filed.

The draft of an Ordinance for numbering the Inhabitants of this Colony, pursuant to the direction of the Continental Congress, was read the second time, and after certain amendments, was agreed to, and ordered to be engrossed.

Resolved, That *Samuel Tucker* and *John Dennis*, Esquires, Treasurers of this Colony, shall each of them give bond, with security, for the faithful performance of their office, in the sum of ten thousand Pounds, to *John Wetherill*, *Hendrick Fisher*, *Abraham Clark*, *John Hart*, *Isaac Pearson*, and *Augustine Stevenson*, Esquires, and the survivors of them, in trust for the said Colony.

Adjourned till to-morrow morning, nine o'clock.

Thursday, February 29, 1776.

Met according to adjournment.

The Continental Congress having desired this Congress to give directions for conveying the Baggage belonging to the prisoners taken at *St. John's*, from *Wallpack*, in this Colony, to *Lancaster*, in the Province of *Pennsylvania*,

Ordered, That Colonel *Martin* and Major *Brown*, be, and they hereby are directed to carry the above requisition into effect.

The Congress having resumed the consideration of the necessity of instituting a Court of Admiralty in this Colony,

Resolved, That the erection of such Court be deferred until some future day; but as it is highly expedient immediately to determine upon the seizure of the Ship *Blue-Mountain-Valley*, that this Congress will proceed to the decision thereof to-morrow, at two o'clock in the afternoon.

On motion, *Agreed*, That the President write to the Chairman of the Committee of *Elizabethtown*, desiring that he would cause such witnesses as may be necessary, respecting the above capture, to appear before Congress at the time aforementioned.

The Committee appointed to prepare an Ordinance for defraying incidental charges, reported the same; which was read, and ordered a second reading.

Adjourned to three o'clock, in the afternoon.

Met according to adjournment.

Mr. *Coachey*, appointed an Ensign in Captain *Ross's* Company, having declined accepting said appointment, the Congress proceeded to the election of an Ensign, when *George Cottnam* was elected.

The draft of an Ordinance for regulating the former Minute Department of Militia, and incorporating the same with the standing Militia, was read the second time, and, after sundry amendments, was agreed to, and ordered to be engrosssd.

Adjourned till nine o'clock, to-morrow morning.

—

Friday, March 1, 1776.

Met according to adjournment.

The Congress having resumed the consideration of the charge exhibited against *Peter Vroom*,

Resolved, That said *Peter Vroom* pay the costs of the present prosecution, to be taxed by the Township Committee of *Piscataway*, and give obligation, with surety, to the Chairman of said Committee, in the sum of one hundred and fifty Pounds, for his good behaviour in future; that he yield up to said Chairman all his arms, and weapons of defence, to remain in custody of said Chairman, until the said Committee shall deem it proper to redeliver them; and on non-compliance herewith, that said *Vroom* be committed to the keeper of the common Jail of the County of *Middlesex*, who is hereby ordered to keep him in close confinement, during such non-compliance.

The Congress proceeded to the election of Officers for the two Companies of Artillery, when the following persons were chosen:

Frederick Frelinghuysen, Captain; *Daniel Neil*, Captain-Lieutenant; *Thomas Clark*, First Lieutenant; and *John Heard*, Second Lieutenant, of the Eastern Company. *Samuel Hugg*, Captain; *Thomas Newark*, Captain-Lieutenant; *John Westcott*, First Lieutenant; and *Joseph Dayton*, Second Lieutenant, of the Western Company.

Ordered, That Mr. *Carey* and Mr. *Clark* be a Committee to prepare an Ordinance for raising two Companies of Artillery in this Colony, and providing for their pay and subsistence.

Ordered, That Mr. *Carey* and Mr. *Clark* be a Committee to draw the form of a Bond to be executed by the Treasurers.

Mr. *Dennis* presented to this Congress the Honourable *John Stevens's* receipt for the Treasury Chest; which was read, and ordered to be filed, and is in the words following:

"Received of *John Dennis*, Esq., the Treasury Chest of the Eastern Division of *New-Jersey*, lately removed from *Perth-Amboy*, and deposited with Mr. *Dennis*, by order of Congress; which Chest is now locked, and the key remaining in the hands of the Treasurer, *John Smyth*, Esq. The Treasury Chest aforesaid, with its contents, I received into my charge for the purposes mentioned in Mr. *Smyth's* letter of the 26th of *February*, directed to, and in the possession of the Congress of *New-Jersey*. Dated the twenty-eighth day of *February*, Anno Domini 1776.

"John Stevens."

On motion, an Ordinance for paying a bounty on Saltpetre, and common Salt, manufactured in *New-Jersey*, and for purchasing Saltpetre, was brought in and read, and ordered a second reading.

Adjourned to three o'clock, in the afternoon.

Met according to adjournment.

The Ordinance for paying a bounty on Saltpetre, and common Salt, manufactured in *New-Jersey*, &c., was read the second time, and several amendments being thereunto made, the same was agreed to, and ordered to be engrossed.

The Committee appointed to draw the draft of an Ordinance for raising two Artillery Companies in *New-Jersey*, and providing for their pay and subsistence, brought in the same, which was read, and ordered a second reading.

Agreed, That *John Dennis*, Esq., send the Records of the Surveyor-General's Office, to the house of *Peter Schenck*, Esq.

Ordered, That *John Dennis* and Mr. *Dunham* be a Committee to adjust and settle the Accounts of Powder furnished the Earl of *Stirling*, by *Somerset*, *Brunswick*, *Woodbridge*, and *Elizabethtown*, and to repay the same out of the half ton sent this Congress by the honourable Continental Congress. That said Committee are to keep the surplus in their hands on account; and to report to the next Congress or Committee of Safety.

Agreeable to Order, the Congress took under consideration the capture of the Ship *Blue-Mountain-Valley*, and having heard and examined the proofs respecting the same, postponed the decision until to-morrow morning.

Adjourned till nine o'clock, to-morrow morning.

—

Saturday, March 2, 1776.

Met according to adjournment.

The draft of an Ordinance for raising two Companies of Artillery, and providing for their pay and subsistence, was read the second time; and being amended, was agreed to, and ordered to be engrossed.

The Congress proceeded to the determination of the prize ship, *Blue-Mountain-Valley*, now lying at *Elizabethtown-Point*, lately seized by Lord *Stirling*, with detachments of the Continental Forces and Militia: And, it appearing by the testimony of credible witnesses, upon their oaths, that the said ship, *John H. Dempster*, master, sailed from *London* some time last fall, laden with stores, shipped by order of the Right Honourable the Lords Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury, bound to the port of *Boston*, or any other port in *America:* The said cargo, by the bill of loading, dated the 30th day of *September*, 1775, to be delivered unto the Commander-in-chief of His Majesty's Forces in *America*, or to his order. And the honourable Continental Congress, having previous to the taking the aforesaid ship,

"*Resolved*, That all transport Vessels in the same service, having on board any Troops, Arms, Ammunition, Clothing, Provisions, or Military or Naval Stores, of what kind soever, and all Vessels to whomsoever belonging, that shall be employed in carrying Provisions or other necessaries, to the *British* Army or Armies, or Navy, that now are, or hereafter shall be within any of the *United Colonies*, or any Goods, Wares, or Merchandise, for the use of such Fleet or Army, shall be liable to seizure, and, with their cargoes, shall be confiscated."

It is, therefore, *Resolved*, That the said Ship *Blue-Mountain-Valley*, with such of her Cargo, as was shipped by order of the said Lords Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury, directed, as by said bills of loading, to be delivered at the port of *Boston*, or elsewhere, unto the Commander-in-chief of His Majesty's Forces in *America*, or to his order, shall be and is hereby confiscated to the use of the captors, pursuant to the general directions for distribution, resolved on by the said honourable Continental Congress.

Resolved, That the said Ship and Cargo be disposed of by any two agents, or persons, to be chosen, the one by Lord *Stirling*, and the other by the Committee of *Elizabethtown*.

Resolved, That all the necessary charge and expense, which have arisen, by guarding and securing said prize, and supporting the Seamen, be first deducted out of the nett proceeds of such sales.

Resolved, That the amount of the sales of the Ship and Cargo (the expense and charge of guarding and securing the same, and supporting the Seamen being first deducted and paid thereout) be divided among all the captors, as well those of the Militia sent out by the Committee of *Elizabethtown*, as such of the Continental Forces as were employed in that service under Lord *Stirling;* that the said distribution be made among the Officers, Privates, and to the Vessels employed in said capture, in such manner as is usually distributed in the neighbouring Colonies, agreeable to the Resolutions of the Continental Congress.

Resolved, That all such Goods, Wares, and Merchandise on board said Ship, belonging to the Captain, Mates, and Seamen, as their, or either of their own private properties, be reserved for the proprietors thereof, and delivered to them free of all costs and deductions.

Resolved, That the Captain and Seamen belonging to said Ship when seized, be suffered to go to any place they

may think proper (His Majesty's fleet or army only excepted.)

And this Congress recommend to the captors of said Ship, to make some gratuity to each of the Seamen on board, to enable them to travel to some other parts in pursuit of business.

The draft of a Letter to the Committee of Safety of *Pennsylvania*, in answer to their Letter respecting raising Artillery Companies in this Province, was read, and agreed to, and ordered to be engrossed; which was done accordingly, and is in the words following:

Gentlemen: The Congress have taken into their serious consideration the important matters recommended to them by your letter of 5th ultimo.

It is with pleasure that this Congress find that you have taken so very necessary a step, as to cause a survey to be made of the *Jersey-Shore* upon the River *Delaware;* and this Congress concur with you in opinion, that the necessity of making an early provision to guard both shores against common danger, is a measure of the highest importance, and requires immediate consideration.

This Congress very gratefully acknowledges the patriotick tender you have been pleased to make of your service, in giving or receiving mutual assistance, as the circumstances and situation of things may require; and this Congress will most cheerfully co-operate with you, in promoting all such measures as may be best calculated to advance the common cause.

In pursuit of this plan, this Congress have agreed to raise forthwith two companies of Artillery, and to purchase twelve field-pieces, for the defence of this Colony, to be stationed one half in *East-Jersey*, and the other half in *West-Jersey*. But as it is probable, that the officers appointed to the command of these companies may have occasion for some instruction, to improve them in the art of gunnery, this Congress, in such case, will rely upon your friendly declarations of affording such assistance as may be required.

With regard to the purchase of cannon, the Committee appointed by this Congress have orders to procure them on the best terms; and this Committee we recommend to your attention, if it should be found necessary to give you any further trouble in the management of this affair.

This Congress have made provision for paying a bounty of one shilling per pound for such merchantable saltpetre as shall be made in this Colony before the first day of *January* next. But should it be found necessary for any persons to acquire more practical knowledge of the art of making this necessary article, this Congress will in such case most gladly accept your obliging offer, and give a recommendation to such persons accordingly.

By order, &c.

The engrossed Ordinance for numbering the Inhabitants of this Colony, was read and compared.

Resolved, That the same do pass.

The engrossed Ordinance for disbanding Minute-Men, &c., was read and compared.

Resolved, That the same do pass.

This Congress have before them a certified copy of a Letter lately wrote by *Cortlandt Skinner*, Esq., Attorney-General of this Colony, to his brother, Colonel *Skinner*, in *Great Britain*, containing many sentiments and expressions prejudicial to the peace and welfare of the *United Colonies*.

And whereas, by a law of this Colony, passed the last session of General Assembly, a salary was provided for, and granted to the said Attorney-General, under confidence of his friendly disposition towards the interests of this Province; which confidence, from the tenour of said Letter, no longer subsists; and Mr. *Skinner* having left the Colony, ceases to perform the duty of his office. This Congress, therefore, as a duty they owe their constituents, request the Treasurers of this Colony, and each of them, to stop all payments of salary to the said *Cortlandt Skinner*, until this Congress shall give further order thereon.

Adjourned to three o'clock, in the afternoon.

Met according to adjournment.

The engrossed Ordinance for raising two Companies of Artillery, and providing for their pay and subsistence, was read and compared.

Resolved, That the same do pass.

The honourable Continental Congress having recommended to this Congress to provide Carriages for transporting Baggage and Military Stores through this Colony: In compliance wherewith, it is

Resolved, That the Treasurers of this Colony, appointed by Congress, or either of them, do deposite the sum of twenty-five Pounds, Proclamation money, in the hands of each of the Chairmen of the Committees of the Counties of *Bergen*, *Essex*, *Middlesex*, *Hunterdon*, and *Sussex*, taking proper receipts for the same, to be at the disposal of the respective Committees of the Counties aforesaid, to be by them laid out and applied in paying the expense of Baggage-Wagons employed in this Colony; for which money the Chairman of said respective Committees shall be accountable to the Congress of this Colony, or Committee of Safety, and shall render true accounts of their disbursements, when and as often as thereunto required.

The engrossed Ordinance for paying a bounty on Saltpetre and common Salt, manufactured in *New-Jersey*, and for purchasing Saltpetre, was read and compared.

Resolved, That the same do pass.

The Ordinance to provide for the payment of Incidental Charges, was read the second time, agreed to, and ordered to be engrossed. The aforesaid Ordinance being engrossed, was read and compared.

Resolved, That the same do pass.

Azariah Dunham brought from the Continental Congress their determination upon the application of this Congress for Forces to be stationed in this Colony; which, being read, is in the words following:

"Application being made to Congress, by the Convention of *New-Jersey*, for two more Battalions, and two Companies of Artillery, to be raised in that Colony, and the same being referred to a Committee, on the Report of the said Committee, the Congress did not agree to the raising any more Battalions or Companies in that Colony.

"March 1, 1776." "Charles Thomson."

On motion, *Resolved*, That a Letter of Instruction to the Delegates of this Province in Continental Congress, be immediately prepared and sent to them. A draft of which being produced, was read and agreed to, and is as follows:

Gentlemen: You must be sensible that this Congress are extremely destitute of the means of information, compared with your body, and, of course, unable to point out any certain line of conduct for you to pursue. Your deliberations must no doubt be formed upon the measures of the *British* Ministry, which are uncertain, extraordinary, and new almost every week. We, therefore, only request that you would join in the general voice of the *United Colonies*, and pursue such measures as you may judge most beneficial for the publick good of all the Colonies.

By order, &c.

This Congress, sensible of the extreme scarcity of Blankets now wanted for the Continental Forces, do recommend it to all the inhabitants of this Colony, who may have any good Blankets that they can possibly spare, to dispose of the same to the Commissary on reasonable terms, for the use of said Forces.

Resolved, That *John Anderson*, of *New-York*, be employed to print the Minutes and Ordinances of this sitting, and that the President sign an Order for the same; and that the Treasurers of this Colony, or either of them, pay to the said *John Anderson*, so much as *Abraham Clark* and *Lewis Ogden*, Esquires, shall certify that they have agreed shall be paid for printing the same.

The Congress adjourned to the fourth *Monday* in *May* next, then to meet at *Burlington*, unless sooner called by the President or Vice-President.

—

An Ordinance directing the manner of signing the General Association, by persons of tender consciences, and enforcing the same; and, also, for amending the Militia Ordinance, passed at the last session of this Congress.

Although it is not the design of this Congress to offer violence to conscience, yet it is highly necessary that all the inhabitants of this Colony should associate, as far as

their religious principles will permit. It is, therefore, resolved and directed, that all persons, whose religious principles would not suffer them to bear arms, and to sign the General Association of this Colony, recommended by Congress in its original form, may be allowed to sign the same, with the following proviso: "I agree to the above Association, as far as the same is consistent with my religious principles."

And it is further Resolved and Directed, That all persons who, when requested to sign the Association, with the proviso aforesaid, shall refuse to do so, shall be disarmed, and give sufficient security for their peaceable and good behaviour, paying the expense attending the same; and the Committees of the several Counties and Townships are hereby required forthwith to tender the said Association to all who have hitherto refused or neglected to sign it, and to carry the above Resolution into effect: *Provided, always*, That if any person shall think himself aggrieved by any sentence of a Township Committee, he may, on giving security to prosecute the same to effect, and paying such costs and charges as the said Committee shall adjudge thereon, appeal to the Committee of the County wherein such Township is situated, which County Committee is hereby required and fully empowered to hear the complaint of the appellant, and decide upon the same; and if any person shall think himself aggrieved by any sentence of a County Committee, he may, on giving security, and paying costs as aforesaid, appeal therefrom to this Congress: *Provided, always*, That the said Committees may confine any person, notwithstanding his offer of security, who, in their opinion, may, when permitted to go at large, prove dangerous to the common cause.

And whereas, the late Militia Ordinance of this Congress hath not made any provision for subjecting such of the inhabitants of this Colony, between the ages of sixteen and fifty years, whose religious principles will not suffer them to bear arms, to any penalty for not attending, and obeying orders, on the days to be appointed for General Musters, or Reviews, and it being highly equitable and just that, at this time of publick danger, all such inhabitants of this Colony should bear an equal proportion of the publick expenses, as an equivalent for an exemption from bearing arms:

It is, therefore, further Resolved and Directed, That there shall be inflicted on all such of the inhabitants of this Colony, between the ages of sixteen and fifty years, whose religious principles will not suffer them to bear arms, and who shall not hereafter attend, properly accoutred, and obey orders, on the terms to be appointed for the General Muster, or Review, of the Regiments of Militia in this Colony, the sum of ten Shillings, Proclamation money, for each and every default, any thing in the before-recited Ordinance contained to the contrary notwithstanding; to be recovered, and applied, by warrant of distress, in manner and form as directed by the said recited Ordinance: *Provided, always*, That the times so, as aforesaid, to be appointed for days of General Muster, or Review, do not exceed three days in a year; and that reasonable excuses shall be admitted for such delinquents' non-attendance, by such persons who shall be appointed to issue warrants of distress for the recovery of such penalties.

And whereas, vacancies have, and may happen, in companies of Militia in this Colony, by the promotion, resignation, death, removal, or other disability, of the Captain, or other Officers, of such Companies: For supplying which vacancies,

It is further Resolved and Directed, That each and every Company where such vacancies have, or may happen, shall, within ten days after such vacancy happens, or such Company shall have notice of this Resolve, assemble, and elect proper persons for supplying such vacancy, and make return thereof to the Committee of the Township to which they belong, who are to report the same to this Congress, or Committee of Safety, in order that commissions may issue; and in case such Company shall neglect to elect Officers within the time above limited, or in case any person, or persons, so elected, shall neglect to make the aforesaid return at the next meeting of the Committee thereafter, that then, and in such case, the said Committee shall name and appoint proper persons to be commissioned as aforesaid; or, otherwise, such Committee, upon the neglect of the said Company, or Companies, to elect persons to be commissioned as aforesaid, may, if they think it advisable to, dissolve such Company, and incorporating the persons composing the same into other Companies contiguous thereto, in which Companies they shall be enrolled, and bear arms, under the fines and penalties in the Ordinance directed for non-attendance.

And whereas, by the said former Ordinance, no distinction is made between those who sign the Muster-Rolls, and those who do not sign the same, it is hereby declared, that no distinction is intended; but that all those who refuse to sign such Muster-Roll, within the ages mentioned, (except such persons whose religious principles will not suffer them to bear arms,) shall be enrolled, and be subject to the same command, and liable to the same fines and forfeitures for neglect of duty, as those are who sign such Muster-Roll.

—

An Ordinance for appointing Barrackmasters in this Province, and making provision for defraying the expense of repairing said Barracks.

Whereas, the Barracks heretofore erected in this Colony have, for some time past, been neglected, and by that means much out of repair, which the circumstances of the present times require to be immediately put in order, for the reception of such of the Continental Forces as have been, or may be raised in this Colony, or quartered in the same: For which purpose, and that said Barracks may, in future, be taken proper care of, and suitably provided with necessary furniture,

It is Resolved, That the following persons be, and are hereby appointed Barrackmasters, viz: *Isaac Woodruff* and *Edward Thomas*, Esquires, for the Barracks in *Elizabethtown; Samuel Sergeant* and *Jonathan Deare*, Esquires, for the Barracks in *Perth-Amboy; Hendrick Fisher* and *John Schuurman*, Esquires, for the Barracks in *New-Brunswick; Alexander Chambers* and *William Tucker*, Esquires, for the Barracks in *Trenton;* and *Thomas Rodman* and *Samuel Howe*, Esquires, for the Barracks in *Burlington;* which said Barrackmasters, in each respective towns before-named, are hereby authorized and empowered to take the care and charge of the Barracks over which they are above particularly appointed, and cause the same to be put in proper repair, and provided with suitable furniture for the reception of such Continental or Provincial troops as may occasionally be quartered therein, provided such Barrack furniture can be procured on reasonable terms; and, also, that they, respectively, settle and discharge the expense of all such repairs as have been lately made, or are now making on the Barracks, to the care of which they are particularly appointed; and the Treasurers of this Colony appointed by Congress, or either of them, are required to pay to the said respective Barrackmasters, or either of them, out of the money to be made current by an Ordinance of this Congress, all such sum and sums of money as they, or either of them, may find necessary for the purposes aforesaid, not exceeding the sum of two hundred Pounds, Proclamation money, for each of said Barracks, in one year; and the said Treasurers shall take proper receipts for the money so by them, or either of them, paid out as aforesaid, which receipts, when laid before a Congress of this Province, or persons properly authorized thereto, shall discharge the said Treasurers, their heirs, executors, and administrators, for all such sums by them, or either of them, paid out as aforesaid; and the said Barrackmasters, and each of them, are hereby required to render a true account, to this or a future Congress, of all moneys by them received and expended, pursuant to the direction of this Ordinance, who shall be allowed a reasonable compensation for their time and trouble in executing the aforesaid trust.

—

An Ordinance for exempting persons who inlist in the service of the United Colonies from arrest.

Whereas, the speedy and effectual recruiting of the Forces for the defence of the *United Colonies*, is, in the present situation of affairs, of great importance to the security and defence of the said Colonies: And whereas, the subjecting soldiers to arrests for small debts tends greatly to retard and obstruct the service:

It is, therefore, Ordered and Directed by this Congress, That any person who shall inlist himself, and enter as a soldier in any of the Companies of the Continental Forces, and doth not owe more than thirty-five dollars to any one creditor, or upwards of one hundred and fifty dollars, in the whole, to all his creditors, then the person of the inlisted shall be free from all arrests in civil actions, during the time of his service as aforesaid; and those who are in custody, either on mesne process or execution, and do not owe as aforesaid, shall be discharged, under the hands and seals of any of the Judges of the County where any such person, or persons, shall be so imprisoned; and the goods and effects of all such debtors shall be free from attachments, executions, and other legal process, during the aforesaid service: *Provided, always,* That such goods and effects shall not be removed out of the city, town, or precinct, where the persons inlisted resided when they did inlist, during the time limited as aforesaid; and upon full proof of any attempt to remove the said goods and effects out of the city, town, or precinct, as aforesaid, then the said goods and effects shall be liable to the same process as the laws have already provided for; and in case the said person, or persons, so inlisted, shall or do, after the publication of this Ordinance, or after the time of such inlisting, by any deed or deeds, power or powers of attorney, make sale of, or empower others, in his or their absence, or during the time so limited as aforesaid, make sale of his or their goods and chattels, lands and tenements, to any person, or persons, whatsoever, whereby the creditor, or creditors, of such person, or persons, so inlisting as aforesaid, shall or may be defrauded or deprived of their just debts, all and every such deed, or deeds, and sales, made by any such person, or persons, or by virtue of his, or their, power or powers of attorney, as aforesaid, shall be void and of none effect; and such goods and chattels, lands and tenements, shall, nevertheless, be liable to be proceeded against by attachment, or any other legal process, at the suit of any creditor, or creditors, of such person, or persons; any thing in this Ordinance to the contrary thereof, in any wise, notwithstanding.

—

An Ordinance for striking the sum of Fifty Thousand Pounds five Shillings, in Bills of Credit, for the purposes therein mentioned, and directing the manner of sinking the same.

Whereas, it is prudent, not only to make provision for putting the Province into such state of defence as the present situation thereof seems to require, but, also, to have such sum of money in the Treasury as may probably be sufficient to answer future exigencies and contingent charges: And whereas, the sum of thirty thousand Pounds, directed to be issued by an Ordinance passed at the last sitting of this Congress, hath not, as yet, been printed; and as the same may not be sufficient to answer the purposes aforesaid,

It is, therefore, Resolved, That the said Ordinance be null, void, and vacated, to all intents and purposes whatsoever; and, in lieu thereof,

It is Resolved, Ordained, and Directed, That the sum of fifty thousand Pounds five Shillings, in Bills of Credit of this Province, be, as soon as possible, prepared, printed, and made as follows, viz: nine thousand five hundred Bills, each of the value of three Pounds; ten thousand Bills, each of the value of one Pound ten Shillings; six thousand six hundred and sixty-seven Bills, each of the value of fifteen Shillings; and five thousand Bills, each of the value of six Shillings; which Bills shall be in the form following, to wit:

"This Bill, by an Ordinance of the Provincial Congress, shall pass current in all payments within the Colony of *New-Jersey*, for . . . . . Proclamation money,

"Dated the 20th day of *February*, 1776."

And shall be impressed with such devices as the inspectors of the press, hereinafter appointed, shall direct; and, when printed, shall be delivered to *Hendrick Fisher* and *Azariah Dunham*, Esquires, of the Eastern Division, and to *John Hart* and *Samuel Howe*, Esquires, of the Western Division, four of the signers thereof, in equal moieties; one moiety to be signed by the Treasurer, and signers of the Eastern Division; and the other moiety, by the Treasurer and signers of the Western Division. And the said signers are hereby authorized and required, upon delivery of the said Bills by the Printer thereof, to administer to him, and he is hereby directed and required to take an oath or affirmation, in the following words:

"I, A. B., do declare, that from the time the letters were set, and fit to be put into the press, for the printing the Bills of Credit now by me delivered, until the same Bills were printed, and the letters unset and put into the boxes again, I went at no time out of the room in which the said letters were, without locking them up, so that they could not be come at without violence, a false key, or other art then unknown to me; and therefore, to the best of my knowledge, no copies were printed off but in my presence; and that all the blotters and other papers whatsoever, printed by the said letter, while set for printing the said Bills, to the best of my knowledge, are here delivered, together with the stamps for the indents and devices; and that I have not at any time been privy, or consenting to any other or more Bills being struck than I now deliver; and that, in all things relating to this affair, I have demeaned myself according to the true intent and meaning of the Ordinance, by virtue whereof this money is printed, to the best of my knowledge and understanding."

Which Printer, at the time he is ordered to print the said Bills, shall have a copy of this oath or affirmation, that he may govern himself accordingly; *Provided, always,* that if any accident has happened, he may have the liberty of making an exception thereof in his oath or affirmation, he declaring fully how it was.

And it is further Resolved and Directed, That the Bills made current by this Ordinance, shall be nearly the size and likeness of the Bills now current in this Colony, and shall be signed and numbered by the respective persons herein before appointed signers thereof; and in case of their, or either of their deaths, or other disability, then *Joseph Hugg*, of the Western Division, and *John Covenhoven*, of the Eastern Division, are hereby appointed signers of said Bills.

And in order that the said Bills may be numbered and signed with the less charge and risk, and with the most ease and expedition, the said signers are to observe the directions following, to wit:

First: Before the said signers do receive any of the said Bills, they shall each of them take an oath, (or affirmation, if *Quakers*,) before a Justice of the Peace, for the true signing of the said Bills of Credit; and that they will sign no more, or no other Bills, than by this Ordinance is directed; and that, to the best of their skill, they will perform what, by this Ordinance, they are enjoined as their duty. A certificate of which oath, or affirmation, is to be signed by the Justice, and by the deponents and affirmants, to be delivered to the Treasurers with the Bills, when signed by them.

Secondly: On receiving the Bills from the Printer, the said signers shall burn and destroy the blotters, and they shall divide the fair Bills so received into two equal parts; and to avoid confusion, shall agree betwixt themselves how the parts of each shall be numbered; and the signers for the Eastern Division shall take the stamps for the escutcheons, and the signers for the Western Division shall take the stamps for the ornaments.

Thirdly: Each of the signers may then carry his part to his own house, there to be numbered and signed by him with all possible expedition; which, or such part as is then necessary, being done, they shall meet at a day and place by them to be appointed, and agreed on, and each deliver the part numbered and signed by him to the other, in order for him to sign the same; and they shall then together burn and destroy the Bills, if any be over and above the number hereby appointed to be issued, and, in like manner, shall do from time to time, until all are signed and exchanged.

Fourthly: Each of the said signers may then carry the part of the Bills aforesaid, so delivered to them by the other to their respective houses, to be signed with all possible expedition; and when signed, in any sums, from time to time to be delivered to the Treasurer of the division where the signers live, and the stamps for the escutcheons, and ornaments, taking receipts of the respective Treasurers, for the sums so delivered; which, when produced, shall be sufficient to discharge the said signers, respectively, their heirs,

executors, and administrators, from such parts of the said Bills as the receipts do express.

And it is further Resolved and Directed, That the said Treasurers shall, respectively, sign the said Bills to them delivered; and, under the obligation of their oaths, or affirmations, for the due execution of their offices, pay them out accordingly, as they shall be directed, by this or any future order of the Provincial Congress, or Committee of Safety of this Colony, and no otherwise.

And it is further Resolved and Directed, That the Bills of Credit to be made and issued by virtue of this Ordinance, shall pass current, until the 21st day of *December*, which will be in the year of our Lord, one thousand seven hundred and ninety-one, and shall be received in the said Treasuries, until the expiration of six months after the time last mentioned.

And it is further Resolved and Directed, That *Samuel Tucker*, *Hendrick Fisher*, *Richard Smith*, *John Pope*, and *James Starling*, Esquires, or any two of them, are hereby authorized and directed to agree with the Printer for the price to be paid him for printing the Bills according to the directions of this Ordinance, and shall be, and are hereby appointed Inspectors of the Press, to take care that the Printer of the Bills of Credit doth duly perform the duty hereby enjoined him.

And it is further Resolved and Directed, That there shall be paid to the Printer of the said Bills of Credit, such sum or sums of money for printing them, as the said Inspectors, or any two of them, shall certify under their hands, they had agreed to pay him for that service; and there shall be paid to the Treasurers, Inspectors, and Signers, such reward for their trouble, as the Congress or Committee of Safety for this Colony, shall deem reasonable. All which sums of money shall be paid by the Treasurers, or either of them, out of the money made current by virtue of this Ordinance, and shall take proper receipts for the same; which receipts, when laid before, and approved by the Provincial Congress, or Committee of Safety, shall discharge the said Treasurers, their heirs, executors, and administrators, for all sums by them paid pursuant to this Ordinance.

And it is further Resolved and Directed, That the said sum of fifty thousand Pounds five Shillings, when printed and signed as aforesaid, shall be delivered, one-half thereof to the Treasurer appointed by the Congress of *New-Jersey*, for the Eastern Division, and the other half to the Treasurer appointed as aforesaid, for the Western Division of this Colony; and each of the said Treasurers is hereby directed immediately after receiving said Bills, to sign as many of them as shall amount unto the sum of one thousand Pounds; and the said Treasurers, shall, respectively, from time to time, proceed to sign such further part of the said sum of fifty thousand Pounds five Shillings, as shall be sufficient to answer the publick uses of this Colony, ready to be issued as aforesaid; *Provided*, that not more than one thousand Pounds shall, after the issuing the above sums, be, at any one time, remaining in the hands of either of said Treasurers, signed by them as aforesaid.

And it is further Resolved and Directed, That Messrs. *William Tucker*, *Abraham Hunt*, *Joseph Ellis*, and *Alexander Chambers* be, and they are hereby appointed Commissioners for the Western Division; and that *Hendrick Fisher*, *Azariah Dunham*, *Abraham Clark*, and *Caleb Camp* be, and they are hereby appointed Commissioners for the Eastern Division of this Colony; which said Commissioners, or the major part of them, are hereby authorized and directed to receive of the Treasurers of this Colony for the time being, appointed by this Congress, or either of them, all such sum or sums of money as they shall, from time to time, find necessary to expend for the use of this Colony, pursuant to the Resolutions hereinafter mentioned.

And it is further Resolved and Directed, That the said Commissioners be, and they are hereby authorized and directed, to contract with Artificers for, or otherwise purchase, three thousand stand of Arms, on the most reasonable terms they possibly can; and, also, to purchase ten tons of Gunpowder, twenty tons of Lead, one thousand Cartouch-Boxes, at any price, not exceeding nine Shillings each; a quantity of Flints, Brushes, Priming-Wire, and Cartridge Paper, not exceeding one hundred Pounds in value; two Chests of Medicine, with Chirurgical Instruments, not exceeding three hundred Pounds in value; four hundred Tents, with Camp Equipage, not exceeding one thousand eight hundred and seventy Pounds in value; two thousand Blankets, not exceeding one thousand five hundred Pounds in value; a number of Axes, Spades, and other intrenching tools, not exceeding three hundred Pounds in value; and a train of Artillery, consisting of twelve field-pieces, of such sizes as the said Commissioners shall judge most advantageous for the defence of the Province, together with the necessary Carriages, Ball, Shot, and Equipments.

And it is further Resolved and Directed, That the said Commissioners do supply the Troops of this Colony, when called to action in this or any of the neighbouring Colonies, with one month's subsistence, at one Shilling per day per man, or Provisions to that amount, if necessary: *Provided*, That the expense of such subsistence doth not exceed the sum of one thousand four hundred Pounds in value, and one month's pay for the Troops of this Colony, when called into actual service: *Provided*, that the Continental Congress do not make provision for the same; *And provided also*, that the pay of such Troops doth not exceed the sum of four thousand Pounds in value.

And it is further Resolved and Directed, That the Treasurers of this Colony be, and they are hereby enjoined to pay to the said Commissioners, or to any three of them, of the Eastern, or any three of the Western Division, or their orders, respectively, all such sum or sums of money as they may find necessary to expend for the purposes aforesaid: *Provided always*, that no three Commissioners of either Division, shall draw out of the Treasury, any greater sum than shall be sufficient for the purchasing and providing one-half of the articles, the said Commissioners are above authorized to purchase and provide, unless a major part of the said Commissioners give them joint orders therefor: And the receipt or receipts from the said Commissioners, respectively, for moneys received by them in manner above directed, shall be sufficient vouchers and discharges to the said Treasurers, or either of them, their executors and administrators, for all moneys by them paid pursuant to this Ordinance.

And in order that the said sum of fifty thousand Pounds five Shillings, may be duly sunk, and the credit of the same thereby effectually secured,

It is Resolved, That the sum of ten thousand Pounds one Shilling, be levied and paid into the Treasury of this Colony, on the 21st day of *December*, in each and every of the years one thousand seven hundred and eighty-seven; one thousand seven hundred and eighty-eight; one thousand seven hundred and eighty-nine; one thousand seven hundred and ninety; and one thousand seven hundred and ninety-one: in order that the same may be inspected, cancelled, burnt, and destroyed by the Congress of this Colony, or, in their recess, the Committee of Safety.

And that the said sum of ten thousand Pounds one Shilling may be raised on the several inhabitants of this Colony in the most equitable manner, in each of the aforesaid years,

It is Resolved, That the same be raised in manner following:

All Householders, the tax of whose rateable estate, exclusive of certainties, does not amount to six Shillings, shall be rated at the discretion of the Assessors, not under two Shillings, nor above thirty Shillings.

All Merchants and Shopkeepers shall be rated at the discretion of the Assessors, not under five Shillings, nor above twenty Shillings for the same.

Every Ferry shall be rated at the discretion of the Assessors, not under five Shillings, nor above five Pounds.

Every Coasting Sloop, Schooner, Shallop, Flat, Passage-Boat, Pilot-Boat, Wood-Boat, and Periaugur, shall be rated at the discretion of the Assessors, in proportion to their burden and business, not under three Shillings, nor above thirty Shillings.

Every Single Man, who works for hire, and keeps a Horse, Mare, or Gelding, shall be rated, not under four Shillings, nor above ten Shillings.

Every Single Man who works for hire, and does not keep a Horse, Mare, or Gelding, shall be rated, not under two Shillings, nor above six Shillings; *Provided always*, That if any Single Man, who works for hire, shall have any

estate hereinafter made rateable, the tax of which would amount to more than he is above directed to be rated at, he shall be rated for such estate only.

Every bought Servant and Slave, being male, of sixteen years old and upwards (except such slaves as are not able to work) shall be rated the sum of two Shillings.

Every Riding-Chair, or Kittereen, shall be rated the sum of one Shilling.

Every two-horse Chaise, or Curricle, shall be rated the sum of two Shillings.

Every four-wheel Chaise, or Phæton, shall be rated at the sum of five Shillings.

Every Coach, or Chariot, shall be rated the sum of nine Shillings.

Every Wagon, the body of which hangeth on springs, shall be rated the sum of two Shillings.

All Cattle, Horses, Mares, and Geldings, of two years old and upwards, shall be estimated at eight Shillings each head.

And the Assessors in each respective Township or District, shall, as nearly as may be, ascertain the real value of all profitable tracts of Land, held by deed, patent, or survey, including all the tenements, buildings, and other improvements thereon; and, in making the assessments thereof, the same shall be estimated at one-twentieth part of the value ascertained as aforesaid.

All unimproved tracts of Land, held by deed, patent, or survey, shall be valued and estimated as aforesaid, at the one-fortieth part of the real value thereof.

All Mortgages, Bonds, Bills, and Notes at interest, which shall be deemed recoverable and of value, and due to the inhabitants of this Colony, shall be valued at one-twentieth part of the principal thereof. *Provided always*, that if any inhabitant of this Colony shall pay interest for a part, or the whole of the sum he receives interest for, then, and in such case, he shall not be rated or assessed for any larger sum than the sum he receives interest for, exceeds the sum he pays interest for.

Every Hawker or Pedlar, travelling on foot, and exposing goods to sale (except such goods as are manufactured in the *United Colonies*) before he or she exposes any such goods to sale, shall, over and above all other taxes, pay to the County Collector, who shall give a certificate therefor, the sum of six Shillings in each County, wherein the same are exposed to sale.

Every Hawker or Pedlar, travelling with a Horse or Carriage, and exposing goods to sale as aforesaid, shall in like manner, pay the sum of twelve Shillings.

And it is further Resolved, That the said ten thousand Pounds one Shilling, directed to be assessed in each and every of the five years before mentioned, shall be collected and paid into the Treasury on or before the said 21st day of *December*, in each of the said years, in the proportions following, viz:

By the County of *Bergen*, the sum of six hundred and sixty-four Pounds eight Shillings and two Pence.

By the County of *Essex*, the sum of seven hundred and forty-two Pounds eighteen Shillings and two Pence.

By the County of *Middlesex*, the sum of eight hundred and seventy-two Pounds six Shillings and eight Pence.

By the County of *Somerset*, the sum of nine hundred and four Pounds two Shillings and two Pence.

By the County of *Monmouth*, the sum of one thousand and sixty nine Pounds two Shillings and eight Pence.

By the County of *Morris*, the sum of seven hundred and twenty-three Pounds eight Shillings and two Pence.

By the County of *Sussex*, the sum of five hundred and ninety-three Pounds five Shillings and four Pence.

By the County of *Hunterdon*, the sum of one thousand three hundred and sixty-three Pounds sixteen Shillings and eight Pence.

By the County of *Burlington*, the sum of one thousand and seventy-one Pounds thirteen Shillings and four Pence.

By the County of *Gloucester*, the sum of seven hundred and sixty-three Pounds two Shillings and eight Pence.

By the County of *Salem*, the sum of six hundred and seventy-nine Pounds twelve Shillings and two Pence.

By the County of *Cumberland*, the sum of three hundred and eighty-five Pounds six Shillings and eight Pence.

By the County of *Cape-May*, the sum of one hundred and sixty-six Pounds eighteen Shillings and two Pence.

And it is further Resolved, That the inhabitants of this Colony, at their Town-Meetings, to be held in each Township in this Colony, on the second *Tuesday* in *March*, annually, in each of the years the said moneys are directed to be levied, shall elect proper persons to assess and collect the aforesaid taxes; and in case the said inhabitants shall neglect to choose Assessors and Collectors as aforesaid, or, in case any such so chosen, shall decease or remove out of the Township in which he or they were chosen, or be otherwise disabled from performing the duties enjoined by this Ordinance, that then the Committee of the Township where such neglect, removal or disability may happen, shall elect others to supply such vacancy; and if any person chosen Assessor or Collector as aforesaid, shall neglect or refuse to execute the same, agreeable to the directions of this Ordinance, every person so neglecting, or refusing, shall forfeit and pay to the Committee of the Township where he resides, for the use of such Township, the sum of five Pounds for every such neglect or refusal.

And it is further Resolved, That the Committee of each respective County in this Colony, shall annually choose a County Collector, for receiving the aforesaid quotas, and paying the same into the Treasury. And upon such County Collectors refusing or neglecting so to do, shall forfeit and pay to such County Committee for every such neglect or refusal, the sum of ten Pounds, for the use of such County.

And it is further Resolved, That each of the Assessors chosen as aforesaid, shall, before they do any thing in pursuance of this Ordinance, take the following oath or affirmation:

"That you will truly value and assess the rateable Estates of the inhabitants of the Township or Precinct of . . . . . pursuant to the directions of this Ordinance; and, also, assist the other Assessors in settling the quotas, according to the best of your skill and understanding."

And in order that the several and respective sums aforesaid, may be equitably assessed and levied:

It is further Resolved, That all and every of the inhabitants or householders of each County in this Colony, on application to them made by the Assessors of the respective Towns or Districts, chosen as aforesaid, shall forthwith give a true account of their names, and estates, real and personal, made rateable by this Ordinance, and where the same doth lie, which the Assessors shall take down in writing, with the value thereof, in order to be enabled thereby to make just and true assessments, and to render duplicates thereof to the Town or District Collectors chosen as aforesaid, by the times herein after prescribed for that purpose. And in case any of the inhabitants or householders shall at any time refuse to render a true account of their rateable estate, as aforesaid, every such person so refusing shall forfeit the sum of three Pounds, and be rated double the sum the said Assessors, in their discretion, may suppose such person, so refusing, might otherwise, in proportion to his estate, have been rated at.

And it is further Resolved, That in each of the years the said ten thousand Pounds one Shilling, is before directed to be assessed, levied and collected, the Assessors of each Town, or District, shall, on or before the 10th day of *August*, take an exact account of each person's rateable estates, made rateable aforesaid, within their respective Districts; and on the 1st *Monday* in *September*, in each of the said years, the said Assessors of every Town and District in each County in this Colony, shall meet together at such places in each County as are appointed by the laws of this Colony for the like purposes, and there settle and adjust the quota each of the Townships or Districts in such County, are to pay that year, to make up the quota hereinbefore ascertained for such County; which quota of each Township being so fixed and ascertained, the said Assessors of each Township or District, shall then proceed to make said assessment: They shall first compute the amount of the certainties in such Township or District, and deduct the same from the quota of such Township or District, together with all such forfeitures as may be received by virtue of this Ordinance; and, after such deduction, the said Assessors shall add their own, and the Township and County Collector's Fees to the remainder; and assess such remainder and addition of fees equally on the pound value

of all the Estates in their respective Townships or Districts, of which they may have taken the value as herein before directed, so as to make up and pay the respective quotas as aforesaid, with the additional charges of assessing, collecting and paying the same into the Treasury as aforesaid; of which assessments the said respective Assessors shall deliver exact duplicates to the Collectors of such Districts within ten days after settling the quotas as aforesaid. For assessing and collecting which said assessments, the Assessors shall have six Pence, the Town Collector four Pence, and the County Collector two Pence on the pound for all Moneys assessed and collected by virtue of this Ordinance.

And whereas, some owners of improved Lands and Tenements may not reside in the said County or Township where the same shall be situated:

It is, therefore, Resolved, That the tenant, or person occupying such Land and Tenement, or either of them, shall be assessed for the same, and may deduct such assessment out of the rent with which he is chargeable for such Land or Tenement; and where no Tenant, or person, in the County occupies such Land, the tax for the same shall be recovered of the owner thereof in like manner as herein after is directed. And every person seated on and holding Land, not having the property thereof, or paying rent for the same, shall, notwithstanding, be assessed for so much Lands and Tenements as he or they shall actually occupy.

And it is further Resolved, That the Collectors of each Township or District, shall, in some convenient time after receiving the aforesaid assessments from the Assessors, notify each particular person assessed thereof, informing him of the time the same must be paid. And in case any such assessments shall remain unpaid the 1st day of *November*, after such assessment, the said Collector shall make out a list of all such delinquents, with the sums in which they are severally assessed, and lay the same before the Committee of the County to which they belong; which Committee are hereby directed and required to make out a warrant of distress, directed to such person, or persons, as they shall appoint for that purpose, requiring distress to be made on all such delinquents' goods and chattles, to at least the amount of their respective assessments, with the addition of eighteen Pence for each distress; directing, that such goods and chattles be sold in five days after such distress, for paying their said assessments, and costs of distraint. And in case any person, or persons, shall think him, or themselves, aggrieved by such assessment, every such person may appeal to the Committee of the County in which he or they reside, within one month after notice of such assessment; which Committee shall proceed to hear such appeal, and give suitable redress.

And in order to prevent dissensions in the several Townships in this Colony, respecting settling their quotas, from a suspicion that the Assessors of some one Town have valued the Estates therein less than the Assessors of another Town in the same County:

It is, therefore, Resolved, That in settling the quotas of each Township, the Assessors shall produce an exact account of the quantity of Land in that Township, with the number of Cattle and Horses of two years old and upwards, Money at interest, and the beforementioned certainties; which certainties shall be first deducted from the quota of the County, as heretofore hath been practised in like cases, and then divide the remainder to each Township upon the Land, and Money at interest; in which division the Land shall be valued between the sums limited for each County, by the last act of Assembly of this Colony, for settling the quotas in the several Counties: And the Cattle and Horses shall be valued at eight Shillings each head, and the Money at interest at the one-twentieth part of the real amount thereof, and divide the same upon the pound value of such Estates; which said valuation, is only to regulate the division of the quotas of each Township. But, in making the assessments, the said Land, Tenements, and real Estate of each individual is to be valued at the one-twentieth part of the real intrinsick value thereof, except tracts of land whereon no improvement is made, which is to be valued at the one-fortieth part of the value thereof, as is before directed.

And it is further Resolved and Directed, That if any person, or persons, shall, in this Colony, refuse to accept in payment any of the Bills of Credit emitted in virtue of this Ordinance, not exceeding ten Pounds, he or they so refusing, shall forfeit the sum of ten Pounds, and if the sum tendered and refused as aforesaid, exceed the sum of ten Pounds, then the person so refusing shall forfeit a sum equal in value to the sum so refused.

And in order that the mode of recovery of the said sums so forfeited as aforesaid, may be ascertained and established:

It is further Directed, That on complaint against any person refusing said Bills as aforesaid, being made to the Committee of the Township where the same shall happen, the said Committee shall give notice to said delinquent, that he be and appear before them at a day and place to be ascertained in such notice, to answer to the charge also to be specified therein; and if it shall appear to the said Committees, by the oath or affirmation of two good and lawful witnesses, that the said delinquent hath made such refusal, and that he had, previous thereto, been informed of the penalty to be incurred thereby, in virtue of this Ordinance, then, and in such case, the Chairman or Deputy Chairman of said Committee shall, by an order in writing, under his hand, directed to some proper person to be appointed by said Committee, authorize said persons to make distress and sale of the goods, chattels and effects of the delinquent, to the amount of the forfeitures incurred as aforesaid, together with costs and expenses, that shall accrue by reason of said refusal, to be taxed by said Committee; and the said person appointed to distrain as aforesaid, shall proceed thereon in like manner and form, as the distrainer is herein before directed for collecting the assessments made in virtue of this Ordinance; and shall and may retain in his hands, one Shilling and six Pence, if the sum levied as aforesaid be under ten Pounds; and if the same exceed ten Pounds, then the addition of three Pence the Pound for each distress and sale; and the residue of the moneys that shall arise from said sale, he shall deliver to the owner of the goods and chattels distrained as aforesaid. And in case any such delinquent shall think himself aggrieved by the determination of the said Committee, he shall and may, within five days after such determination, appeal to the Committee of the County; he previously giving sufficient security to the Chairman of said Township Committee, to prosecute said appeal the next meeting of said County Committee; and also for payment of all such sums, costs, and charges as shall be adjudged against him by the said County Committee; and in case he shall think himself aggrieved by the determination of the said County Committee, he may, within five days thereafter, appeal therefrom to the Congress or Committee of Safety of this Province, giving security to the Chairman or Deputy Chairman of the said County Committee, to prosecute said appeal at their next meeting, and also for payment of all such sums, costs and charges, as shall be adjudged against him by the Congress or Committee of Safety as aforesaid; which appeals, the several Chairmen or Deputy Chairmen of the several Committees aforesaid, are hereby required to grant on the above conditions.

And it is further Resolved and Directed, That all the forfeitures adjudged, recovered, and collected as aforesaid, shall be paid by the person collecting the same, to the Collector of the County where the delinquency happens, to be by him, as soon as may be thereafter, paid into the hands of the Treasurers aforesaid, to be appropriated and applied for the publick uses of this Colony, as the Provincial Congress shall order and direct.

—

An Ordinance to prevent persons deserting places in danger of being attacked, and for restraining such as are dangerous to the common cause from taking refuge in this Colony.

Whereas, large numbers of people are daily removing from the neighbouring Colonies into *New-Jersey*, and it being unknown upon what principles such removals are occasioned; whether it is to seek an asylum from Ministerial oppression, or the resentment of their injured country, to whom they may have become obnoxious, by adhering to the present system of tyranny now endeavouring to be executed in *America*; and it being inconsistent with the principles of persons properly attached to the cause of liberty to desert their town or country, at a time their assistance may be absolutely necessary for its defence, unless

the support and maintenance of their families may make such removal necessary: This Congress do, therefore, think it advisable, that, although the inhabitants of this Colony ought most cheerfully to receive into their protection, and afford all the relief in their power to all such as are helpless, and unable to defend themselves, yet they ought to prevent the desertion of places in immediate danger of an attack from the enemy, by all who are proper to remain for the defence thereof; and also to prevent persons inimical to the liberties for which the *United Colonies* are contending, from taking refuge in this Province: For remedy whereof,

It is hereby Resolved, That all persons proper to bear arms, who have removed or may remove into this Colony from any City or County of another Province in danger of being suddenly attacked, do immediately return to such City or Province, to make that defence becoming every good citizen, who entertains a proper sense of the worth of liberty, and who has a due regard to his country's welfare; unless such person, or persons, shall produce licenses or permits from the Committee of such City or County from whence he or they remove, to reside in this Colony; or unless the residence of such person in this Colony may appear necessary for the support of his family, which may be removed here for safety; or unless such person, or persons, from the present stagnation of business, may have no visible means of support in the Colony from whence he came, and can procure such support by his industry in this Colony. And the Committee of each and every County and Township in this Colony are directed to carry the above Resolve into effect, and to cause all such persons, except as above said, to return to the City or Province from whence they came, after giving them a reasonable time to settle their families, and transact any business that may appear necessary for the publick good or their families' support.

And it is further Resolved, That all suspected persons removing into this Colony, shall immediately return to the place they came from; unless their behaviour in this Colony shall render their detention as delinquents proper; or unless such persons produce certificates from the Committee of the City, Township or County from whence they came, that they have signed the General Association recommended by the Continental or their Provincial Congress, and have not, by any subsequent act, contravened the same; or that they are deemed to be well affected to the cause of *American* freedom. Which last Resolve the respective Committees above said are also requested to carry into effect.

—

An Ordinance for directing the mode and fixing the time for the Election of Deputies, to serve in Provincial Congress, for this Colony; and also to ascertain the qualification of Electors.

Whereas, the Ordinance for regulating the election of Deputies, to serve in the Provincial Congress of this Colony, doth not sufficiently answer the good purposes intended; and whereas, at this particular period, it appears to be reasonable and expedient to extend the qualification of Electors to persons possessing certain degrees of property, as well personal as real: And to the end that Elections, upon which the safety of the people so much depends, may not be corruptly managed or obtained:

It is, therefore, Resolved and Directed, That all Freeholders qualified to vote for Representatives in General Assembly in this Colony, who have signed the General Association recommended by this Congress; and all other persons of full age, who, immediately preceding the Election, shall have resided for the space of one year in any County of this Colony, and who are worth at least fifty Pounds, Proclamation money, in personal estate, and have signed the General Association as aforesaid, shall be admitted to vote in the County wherein he resides, for Deputies to serve in Provincial Congress.

And in order that the good people of this Colony, so qualified as aforesaid, may have an opportunity of a new choice of Deputies, and of renewing such choice annually, during the continuance of the present troubles:

It is, therefore, further Resolved and Directed, That there be a new choice of Deputies to serve in Provincial Congress, for every County of this Colony, on the fourth *Monday* in *May*, yearly, and every year.

And it is further Resolved and Directed, That the inhabitants of each County in this Colony, so qualified as aforesaid, do meet together at the places herein after mentioned, on the fourth *Monday* in *May* next, and on the fourth *Monday* in *May*, annually, and then and there, by plurality of voices, between the hours of ten in the morning and three in the afternoon, proceed to elect any number, not more than five, nor less than three substantial Freeholders, each of whom shall be, bona fide, worth five hundred Pounds, Proclamation money, at the least, in real and personal estate, to serve as Deputies, with full power to represent such County in Provincial Congress, to be held at the City of *Burlington*, on the second *Monday* in *June* next. And that the places of meeting for the election in each County, shall be, for the County of *Bergen*, at the Court-House in *New-Barbadoes*; County of *Essex*, at the Court-House in *Newark*; County of *Middlesex*, at the Court-House in *New-Brunswick*; County of *Somerset*, at the Court-House at *Hillsborough*; County of *Morris*, at the Court-House in *Morristown*; County of *Monmouth*, at the Court-House in *Freehold*; County of *Hunterdon*, at the Court-House in *Trenton*; County of *Sussex*, at the Court-House in *Newton*; County of *Burlington*, at the Court-House in the City of *Burlington*; County of *Gloucester*, at the Court-House in the Town of *Gloucester*; County of *Salem*, at the Court-House in the Town of *Salem*; County of *Cumberland*, at the Court-House in *Bridgetown*; and County of *Cape-May*, at the Court-House in Middle Precinct. *Provided, always*, That this Resolution shall not be construed to prevent an adjournment of any Election from day to day, and from place to place, if the same shall be found necessary.

And it is further Resolved and Directed, That the Inhabitants of this Colony, so qualified as aforesaid, on the first day of each Election, between the hours of ten in the morning and one in the afternoon, do proceed to elect one substantial Freeholder in each County, to preside as Judge of such Election, who shall attend in person, and, if a poll be demanded, the Election shall be conducted as follows: Each Candidate may appoint one Inspector and one Clerk, and each of the Clerks shall set down, in writing, the names of the Electors, and their numbers, in the presence of the Judge, and shall make as many distinct columns, on fair paper, as there shall be Candidates voted for; but, previous to which, every Clerk so appointed shall, by the Judge of the Election, or by some Magistrate then present, be charged, on his solemn oath, or affirmation, "truly and impartially to take the votes and set down the name of each Elector, and the place of his residence, and to poll no Elector who is not attested, if so required, by the Judge or Inspectors of such Election."

And it is further Resolved and Directed, That the Judge of each Election shall not declare the choice upon the view, nor adjourn either to another day or place, without the consent of the majority of the Candidates, nor by any unnecessary adjournment delay the Election, and shall give a copy of the poll to every person that shall desire the same, upon the payment of reasonable fees for writing thereof. And if any Freeholder shall be questioned as to his qualification, by either of the Candidates or Inspectors, such Freeholder shall be charged by the Judge of such Election, or by some Magistrate then present, on his solemn oath or affirmation, "to declare, or swear, in the presence of *God*, that he is, and hath been a Freeholder and resident in the County for one whole year immediately preceding; that the estate for which he claims to give his vote, in such Election, is his own proper estate, and that it is not conveyed to him in trust, or on condition that he should give his vote in such Election for any particular person whatsoever."

And if any Elector, not being a Freeholder so qualified as aforesaid, shall be questioned as to his qualification, by either of the Candidates or Inspectors, such Elector shall be charged in manner and form aforesaid, on his solemn oath or affirmation, "to declare, or swear, that he is twenty-one years of age; that he hath, immediately preceding the Election, resided for one whole year in the County; that he is worth a clear estate, of the value of at least fifty Pounds, Proclamation money, and that he hath not before voted at such Election."

And it is further Resolved and Directed, That the

Chairman of the several County Committees in this Colony do give publick notice of the time and place of such Elections, by putting up advertisements, in writing, at least twenty days before the time of each Election, at one or more of the most publick places in each Township, or Precinct, in the several Counties in this Colony.

And it is further Resolved and Directed, That the Deputies so elected as aforesaid, shall receive a Certificate of their election in the words following, to wit: "We do hereby certify, that on the day of the date hereof, ... were declared duly elected Deputies for the County of . . . . . in the Colony of *New-Jersey*, with full power to represent the said County in Provincial Congress, to be held at . . . . . in the County of . . . . . on the . . . . . day of . . . . . next. As witness our hands and seals, this . . . . . day of . . . . . Anno Domini 177 ." Which Certificate, under the hands and seals of the Judge chosen to preside at such Election, together with five or more Freeholders of the said County, shall be sufficient evidence of such Election; and the Deputies so chosen as aforesaid, shall give their attendance in Provincial Congress accordingly.

And it is further Resolved and Directed, That, in case of the death, or removal out of the Colony of any of the Deputies so chosen as aforesaid, before the next annual Election, or, in case the seat of any Deputy so chosen as aforesaid being declared vacant, the Freeholders and Electors so qualified as aforesaid, of the County for which such person was a Deputy, shall, upon the receipt of a warrant, under the hand and seal of the President, or Vice-President, for the time being, directed to the Chairman of such County Committee for that purpose, have leave to proceed to a new Election to supply his place: *Provided, always*, That such Election be carried on and regulated in such manner and form as herein is before more particularly mentioned and expressed.

And it is further Resolved and Directed, That when, and as often as any new Election of Deputies for the Colony in general, to serve in any future Congress, shall be directed to be held, the Freeholders and Electors so qualified as aforesaid, of each County, do proceed to elect a sufficient number of Freeholders for each Township, to constitute a County Committee of Observation and Correspondence, with full power as well to superintend and direct the necessary business of the County, as to carry into execution the Resolution and Orders of the Continental Congress, the Provincial Congress, or Committee of Safety of this Colony; subject, nevertheless, to the same rules and regulations as are herein before resolved and directed for regulating of Elections of Deputies to serve in Provincial Congress.

And it is further Resolved and Directed, That the Freeholders and Inhabitants of each Township in this Colony do, on the second *Tuesday* in *March*, yearly, and every year, proceed anew, in like manner, to elect such a number of proper persons as shall be thought necessary, to constitute Committees to act as Committees of Observation and Correspondence in each Township, with power to transact the business referred to them by the Continental Congress, the Provincial Congress, or Committee of Safety of this Colony, or by the respective County Committees.

And it is further Resolved and Directed, That, on the fourth *Monday* in *May* next, this Congress shall be, and the same is hereby directed to be dissolved, any thing in the Ordinance of the late Provincial Congress of this Colony of the 12th of *August* last contained, to the contrary notwithstanding.

And it is further Resolved and Directed, That at all future meetings of the Deputies chosen to represent this Colony in Provincial Congress, the votes be taken from the Members individually, and not from the Counties collectively.

And it appearing to this Congress to be essential to the welfare of this Colony that all persons chosen to serve as Deputies in Provincial Congress, should, as far as their particular circumstances admit, be perfectly free from other publick engagements:

It is therefore, Resolved and Directed, That whenever it shall appear that any Deputy, or Deputies, in Provincial Congress, have accepted any Military Office of profit under the Continental or Provincial Congress, which Office may require the personal service of such Deputy, or Deputies, the seat of such Deputy, or Deputies, in Provincial Congress, shall be declared vacant, and a new Election be ordered to fill up such vacancy; and such Deputy, or Deputies, during his or their continuance in such Office of profit, shall not be entitled to a seat in this or any future Congress.

And it is further Resolved and Directed, That the Deputies so chosen as aforesaid, when met in Provincial Congress, are, and shall be Judges of the qualification of their own Members, and shall have power to reject such persons as are, or shall be unduly elected Deputies to serve in Congress; and, also, to expel or disable all such Deputies to sit or serve, who, either by ill-practice in Elections, or by misbehaviour in Congress, shall, by this, or by any future Congress, or the major part of them, be declared unfit for a seat therein.

—

An Ordinance for numbering the Inhabitants of this Colony.

Whereas, it is recommended by the honourable Continental Congress that the number of Inhabitants of all ages, including Negroes and Mulattoes, in each Colony, be taken, in order to settle an equitable quota of the taxes which may hereafter be levied on the *United Colonies*, for sinking the Bills of Credit which have been, or may be emitted, for the support and defence of the said *United Colonies*:

Therefore, be it Resolved, That the Committee of each Precinct or Township in this Colony do, as soon as may be, after the publication hereof, appoint one or more person, or persons, as they shall think proper, to take an account of the number of Inhabitants of all ages, including Negroes and Mulattoes, within their respective bounds; which said person, or persons, so appointed, shall, within six days after being notified thereof, in writing, by the Chairman of said Committee, repair to some Justice of the Peace in the County where he or they reside, who is hereby directed to administer to him, or them, the following oath, or affirmation if a *Quaker*, to wit:

"You shall well and truly take a List of the number of all the Inhabitants of the Township of . . . . . in the County of . . . . . according to the directions of the Provincial Congress of *New-Jersey*, and make a fair and impartial return thereof to the Chairman of the Committee of the County of . . . . . So help you *God*."

And the said person, or persons, so qualified, shall, on or before the twentieth day of *August* next, make return of his, or their List, containing the number of Inhabitants so taken, to the Chairman of the Committee of the County to which they belong, which County Committee are hereby authorized to allow such reward for the said service as they shall think reasonable, by an order, in writing, signed by the Chairman of said Committee, and directed to the County Collector, to be paid by him out of the publick money in his hands. And the said County Committee, within one month after receiving said Lists, shall return the same, together with one general List, comprehending the whole of the said Inhabitants within their respective jurisdictions, unto the Congress, or, during its recess, to the Committee of Safety of this Colony.

—

An Ordinance for incorporating the Minute-Men lately raised in this Colony into the body of Militia, and for further regulating said Militia.

Whereas, by a Resolution of this Congress, of the 12th of *August* last, a number of Minute-Men were directed to be raised, inlisted, and enrolled in the several Counties of this Colony, under officers to be appointed and commissioned by this Congress, to hold themselves in constant readiness to march to any place where their assistance might be required, for the defence of this or any neighbouring Colony: And whereas, in obedience to said Resolve, several Companies were inlisted and formed into Battalions, since which large numbers of said Minute-Men having entered into the Continental service, the said Companies and Battalions are greatly reduced, and in no condition to answer the design of their institution: And whereas, our defence, under *God*, chiefly depends upon a well regulated Militia:

*

It is, therefore, Resolved, That all the Minute-Men heretofore embodied in the several parts of this Colony, be immediately dissolved, and incorporated with the Militia in the several Companies in the District in which they respectively reside, as though such Minute-Men had never been raised, any thing in the above-mentioned Resolve to the contrary notwithstanding.

And whereas, by an Ordinance of Congress, passed this present sitting, all persons refusing to sign the General Association, with the proviso therein mentioned, are directed to be disarmed, and give security for their future good behaviour, and some doubts arising whether such non-Associators, so disarmed, shall be subject to the fines and forfeitures for non-attendance in the Militia, as directed by the late Military Ordinance, for the removing which doubts,

It is further Resolved, That each and every person in this Colony, disarmed for refusing to sign the said Association, shall be subject to the same Fines and Forfeitures for not attending and doing duty in the Militia, or paying an equivalent therefor, as directed by said Ordinance, in the same manner as though he had not been disarmed.

And it is further Resolved, That all and every person, or persons, capable of bearing arms, who shall attend at General Musters, or at times appointed for learning military discipline, and, at such time, or times, shall behave himself, or themselves, rudely and disorderly, and disobey the order of his or their Captain, or other commanding officer, shall forfeit and pay, for every such unruly and disorderly behaviour, the sum of six Shillings, to be recovered and applied as directed for non-attendance.

—

An Ordinance for raising two Artillery Companies in NEW-JERSEY, *and providing for their pay and subsistence.*

Whereas, the present exigencies of the times render it necessary to raise at least two Artillery Companies for the defence of this Colony, one to be stationed in the Eastern, and the other in the Western Division thereof,

It is, therefore, Resolved, That two Artillery Companies, consisting of sixty-four men, officers included, be immediately raised, to be disposed of in this Colony, as the Congress, Committee of Safety, Brigadier-General of the Division to which they respectively belong, shall direct; each Company to be commanded by a Captain, Captain-Lieutenant, First and Second Lieutenants; and to consist of a Fire-Worker, four Sergeants, four Corporals, one Bombardier, and fifty Matrosses, all of whom are to be able-bodied freemen, and to be inlisted for one year, unless sooner discharged; and, when inlisted, shall sign the following Inlistment Roll:

"I, ... , have this day voluntarily inlisted myself in one of the Artillery Companies to be raised for the defence of *New-Jersey*, under the command of Captain . . . . . , to continue in such Company one year, unless sooner discharged; and do bind myself to conform, in all instances, to such rules and regulations as are, or shall be established, for the government of the Continental Forces, or for the said Artillery Companies, by the Congress or Committee of Safety of *New-Jersey*."

And it is further Resolved, That there shall be paid to the Officers and Privates of said Companies, from the time they respectively enter into the service, the same pay as is allowed the Artillery in the Continental service; which shall be punctually paid by the Paymasters hereinafter named and appointed, or one of them, who shall pay each officer ten Shillings for every man he shall inlist in said Companies, passing muster; and also pay unto each person so inlisted, one Dollar a week for his subsistence, from the time he inlists in such Company, until he shall be properly stationed, and otherwise provided for.

And it is further Resolved, That said Companies shall, at their own expense, put themselves in proper uniform, and furnish themselves with good Muskets, or Fusils with Bayonets.

And it is further Resolved, That when any Company shall be raised, the Captain shall cause the said Company to be mustered in the presence of the Mustermasters, or either of them, appointed to muster the Third Battalion now raising, who are hereby appointed Mustermasters for that purpose; and upon such review, may reject such persons as they, or either of them, may think unfit or improper for such service. And if upon such review, such Mustermaster, who shall attend for that purpose, shall find the said Company complete, agreeable to the above directions, shall, thereupon, certify the same on the back of the Muster-Roll of such Company, to this Congress, or, in their recess, to the Committee of Safety, in order that Commissions may be made out to the Officers of such Company; which Commissions, the Committee of Safety of this Colony, during the recess of this Congress, upon receiving certificates as above, are required to make out and issue.

And it is further Resolved, That *Azariah Dunham*, Esq. be, and is hereby appointed Commissary and Paymaster to the Company of Artillery in the Eastern Division of this Province; and that *Joseph Ellis*, Esq., be, and is hereby appointed Commissary and Paymaster to the said Company, directed to be raised in the Western Division; which said Commissaries shall pay off the said Companies monthly; and when assembled, and attending the duty to which they are appointed, the said Commissaries shall provide for such Companies the same rations of provision and drink, as are allowed to the Continental Forces. The said Paymasters and Commissaries, before they enter upon the execution of the trust hereby reposed in them, shall severally take an oath, "That they will, well and truly, do and perform the duties hereby enjoined them, and render true accounts of their receipts and disbursements when required by a Congress of this Province, or any other Representative body of this Colony, who may call for the same;" and deposite such deposition with the Treasurer of the Division to which they belong. And said Paymasters and Commissaries, shall have and receive from the Treasurers of this Colony, appointed by Congress, or either of them, all such sum, or sums of money, from time to time, as they, or either of them, shall find necessary for the purposes aforesaid; and shall be allowed a reasonable compensation for their time and trouble, in receiving and paying the moneys herein made payable; and for procuring and supplying provisions for said Companies as aforesaid. And the receipts of the said Paymasters and Commissaries, for all moneys by them, or either of them, received of the said Treasurers, or either of them, as aforesaid, shall be sufficient vouchers to indemnify the said Treasurers, their Executors and Administrators, for all moneys by them, or either of them, paid out pursuant to the directions of this Ordinance.

And it is further Resolved, That the Mustermasters shall be allowed a reasonable compensation for reviewing and mustering such Companies.

—

An Ordinance for paying a bounty on Saltpetre and common Salt, manufactured in NEW-JERSEY, *and for purchasing Saltpetre.*

Whereas, by a Resolution of this Congress, of the 24th of *October* last, the sum of one thousand Pounds was voted to be appropriated for the payment of the bounty of one Shilling per pound, over and above the market price, for any quantity, not exceeding twenty thousand weight, of good merchantable Saltpetre, made and manufactured in this Colony, on or before the 1st day of *January*, 1777:

And whereas, it is necessary that some mode should be adopted, in order that the appropriation of the above bounty may be attended with the beneficial effects designed:

It is, therefore, Resolved and Directed, That every person in this Colony, who shall become a candidate for the aforesaid bounty, or any part thereof, in order to be entitled to the same, shall produce to the Treasurers of this Colony, appointed by this Congress, or either of them, a certificate under the hands and seals of the Chairman of the Committee of the County where such person resides, "That the quantity of Saltpetre, for which such person shall claim the bounty, was manufactured in such County, at some time before the 1st day of *January*, 1777; that the same is good merchantable; and that the claimant hath not before received any bounty for the same."

And the several County Committees of this Colony are hereby authorized and directed, when any claimant for the said bounty shall apply to them, to examine such claimant upon oath, or affirmation, as to the purport of the above certificate; and in order that the quality of the Saltpetre

may be sufficiently ascertained, the County Committees are directed to call in the aid of persons well skilled in that commodity. And as this Congress are desirous to give every possible encouragement to this most necessary manufacture; it is, therefore,

Resolved, unanimously, That the Committees of each respective County in this Colony, do contract for all such good merchantable Saltpetre that shall be made in this Colony, at any time before the 1st day of *September* next, and for which the aforesaid bounty shall be claimed, at any price, not exceeding three Shillings per pound for the same, over and above the said bounty; and the said Committees are hereby directed to purchase the same for the use of this Colony, to be disposed of as the Congress of this Province shall direct.

And it is further Resolved and Directed, That the said Treasurers of this Colony, or either of them, out of the fifty thousand Pounds made current in Bills of Credit, do pay to the several persons, who, upon producing such certificates, as aforesaid, shall, or may claim the payment of the above bounty, or any part thereof, such sum, or sums of money, as they shall, respectively, be entitled to as aforesaid. And, also, to the Chairman of the several County Committees of this Colony, or to their order given in Committee, such sum, or sums of money as the respective County Committees shall have engaged to pay for the purchase of such Saltpetre as aforesaid: *Provided*, That the amount of the sums claimed to be paid as a bounty, do not exceed the sum of one thousand Pounds, and that not more than the sum of three thousand Pounds be advanced for the purchase of Saltpetre; and the receipt of such claimants, or the receipt of the Chairman of such respective County Committee, or person in whose favour an order may be given as aforesaid, endorsed on such certificates, shall be sufficient vouchers to the said Treasurers, or either of them, for the payment of such bounties, or for the purchase of Saltpetre as aforesaid.

And whereas, the making of common Salt in this Colony is a matter of the highest importance at this time; it is, therefore,

Resolved, unanimously, That a bounty of six Pence per bushel, for every bushel of good merchantable Salt, that shall be made in this Colony, at any time before the 1st day of *November*, 1776, which bounty, the said Treasurers of this Colony, or either of them, are hereby required to pay, upon certificates duly attested, and agreed to as aforesaid, under the hand and seal of the Chairman of the Committee of the County where such Salt shall be made, certifying, that it hath been proved by the oaths of credible witnesses, that such Salt hath actually been made in some County of this Colony, at some time before the said 1st day of *November*, 1776; and that the claimant hath not before received any bounty for the same, and the receipt of the Chairman endorsed thereon, shall be sufficient vouchers to the said Treasurers, or either of them, for the payment of the said bounty.

—

An Ordinance to provide for the payment of Incidental Charges.

Whereas, it is necessary to provide for the payment of such Incidental Charges as have accrued during the sittings of this Congress:

It is, therefore, Resolved and Directed, That there be paid to *Samuel Tucker* and *John Dennis*, Esquires, the Treasurers appointed by this Congress, over and above the money allowed by this Ordinance for signing the Bills of Credit, the sum of thirty Pounds, Proclamation money, each, for their services one year, to commence the first day of *March* instant.

To each of the Signers of said Bills of Credit, the sum of ten Shillings per thousand, for so many thousand Pounds, as they shall, respectively, sign.

To the President and each of the Members of this Congress, and Committee of Safety, the sum of six Shillings per diem, for every day they have, or shall attend, during the continuance of this Congress, to be certified by Mr. *Fisher*, Mr. *Hart*, Mr. *Wetherill*, Mr. *Clark*, and Mr. *Elmer*, or any two of them.

To the Secretary of this Congress, fourteen Shillings per diem, for each day that he hath or shall attend this Congress, to be certified as aforesaid.

To each of the Mustermasters of this Colony, the sum of twenty-five Shillings for every Company he has reviewed, or shall review by order of this Congress.

To the Doorkeeper, the sum of five Shillings per diem, for each day that he hath or shall attend this Congress.

To *Myndert Voorhees*, the sum of fifteen Pounds for Fire-Wood and Candles, and for the use of his large Room, during the present sitting of this Congress.

And it is further Resolved and Directed, That there be paid to the Commissioners appointed to purchase Arms and Ammunition, Tents and other Military Stores, such sum, or sums of money, as the said Commissioners, or any three of them shall agree upon, as necessary to be expended; whose receipts shall be sufficient vouchers for the payment of the same.

To *John Carey*, Esq., as a recompense for his services as Secretary, during the last sitting of this Congress, at *Trenton*, and for revising and copying the Minutes for the Press, the sum of eleven Pounds four Shillings, Proclamation money.

To Doctor *Moses Scott*, the sum of one Pound sixteen Shillings and three Pence, in full of his account for attending certain sick Soldiers in *New-Brunswick*.

To *Robert Drummond*, Esquire, the sum of nine Pounds three Shillings and four Pence, in full of his account for removing the Treasury and Records in the Secretary's Office at *Perth-Amboy*, to *New-Brunswick*.

To *John Dennis*, Esq., the sum of seven Pounds eight Shillings and three Pence, for sundry expenditures, as per account.

To *John Pope*, Esq., the sum of three Pounds three Shillings, for sundry expenditures, as per account.

To *Ellis Cook*, Esq., the sum of one Pound six Shillings and eight Pence, in full of his account for removing the Records in the Surveyor-General's Office, at *Perth-Amboy*, to *New-Brunswick*.

To *Azariah Dunham*, Esq., the sum of two Pounds, for his expenses in going to and returning from *Philadelphia*, on a message to the honourable Continental Congress.

To *Abraham Clark*, Esquire, for copying and correcting the Minutes and Ordinances of this Session for the Press, such sum as *Azariah Dunham* and *John Dennis*, Esquires, shall agree to be paid for that service.

Which certificates, with receipts endorsed thereon, shall be sufficient vouchers to the said Treasurers, or either of them; and shall discharge them, their heirs, executors, and administrators, from the several payments so made and paid out of the Treasury by virtue of this Ordinance.

CONTINENTAL CONGRESS.

Philadelphia, Monday, January 1, 1776.

A Letter from Governour *Trumbull*, dated the 23d of *December*, being received, was read.

The Congress took into consideration the Report of the Committee on Captain *Sellick's* Petition, which was agreed to, as follows:

That they have maturely considered the Petition, and have examined Captain *Sellick* particularly thereon, and are of opinion, that the Petitioner be allowed, as a compensation for his expenses, trouble, and risk in taking the goods at *Turtle-Bay*, for the use of the *United Colonies*, the sum of three hundred and thirty-three Dollars and one-third, and that the Committee of *Fairfield* be directed to take into their possession, for the use of the said Colonies, all the goods taken by Captain *Sellick*, which are not already delivered by him, and to forward the two boxes of Saltpetre now in Captain *Sellick's* custody, to the Powder-Mill in *Ulster* County, to be manufactured into Gunpowder for the Continental service.

The Congress took into consideration the Report of the Committee on Lord *Stirling's* Letters; after debate thereon,

Resolved, That the same be recommitted.

The Congress proceeded to the election of an Adjutant for the Battalion raised in *Pennsylvania*, and the ballots being taken,

John Patterson was elected.

Resolved, That the President sign Commissions to the

Field-Officers, appointed by the Provincial Congress of *North-Carolina*, to command the two Battalions directed to be raised in that Colony by the Continental Congress, and that such Commissions bear like date with those issued to the said Officers by the said Provincial Congress of *North-Carolina*.

Resolved, That, in case of vacancy occasioned by the death or removal of a Colonel or inferior officer, the Provincial Convention of *North-Carolina*, or, in their recess, the Provincial Council, appoint another person to fill up such vacancy, until a Commission shall issue from this Congress; and that they return to this Congress a list of the names of the person, or persons, so appointed.

The Delegates of *New-York* having received new powers from their Convention, laid the same before Congress, as follows:

"In Provincial Congress, New-York, December 21, 1775.

"*Resolved*, That the present Delegates of this Colony, in Continental Congress, be requested to make such an arrangement among themselves, as that five of them only continue at Congress, and represent this Colony at any one time; and that, in case of the necessary absence of any one or two of the Delegates so attending, according to such arrangement, that three or four of them be a quorum, and enabled to represent the Colony during such absence.

"A true copy from the Minutes:

"JOHN MCKESSON, *Secretary*."

The Committee to whom the Letters from General *Washinton*, and the intercepted Letters, were referred, brought in their Report, which being taken into consideration, the Congress came to the following Resolutions:

Resolved, That the seizing and securing the Barracks and Castle of *St. Augustine* will greatly contribute to the safety of these Colonies; therefore, it is earnestly recommended to the Colonies of *South-Carolina*, *North-Carolina*, and *Georgia*, to undertake the reduction of *St. Augustine*, if it be thought practicable.

Resolved, That the President of the Provincial Council of *North-Carolina*, and of *Georgia*, be requested to procure Committees of their several bodies to repair immediately to *Charlestown*, and there to confer with a Committee of the Council of Safety of *South-Carolina*, upon weighty and important matters relative to the defence and security of those Colonies.

Resolved, That the first Resolution, together with copies or extracts of such of the intercepted Letters as tend to show the state of the Forts and Garrison at *St. Augustine*, be transmitted by express to *Henry Middleton* and *John Rutledge*, Esquires, members of Congress, to be by them laid before the Committee directed to meet in consequence of the above Resolution; and in case the enterprise be judged practicable, that immediate preparations be made by the joint force of the said Colonies, and the expedition be undertaken without delay, at the expense of the *United Colonies*.

Resolved, That it appears the *British* Ministry and their Agents have meditated, and are preparing to make attacks upon *Charlestown*, in *South-Carolina*, and several places in *Virginia*, and probably in *North-Carolina*; and that it be recommended to the Conventions or Committees of Safety of the two former Colonies, and to the Provincial Council of the other, by all possible means, to make a vigorous defence and opposition; and that it be further recommended to the Committee of Safety of *Virginia*, and the Provincial Council of *North-Carolina*, to meet together and confer and conclude upon such operations as they may think most for their mutual interest.

Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow.

—

Tuesday, January 2, 1776.

The Committee of Claims reported, that there is due:

To *James Chambers* the sum of 25.8 Dollars, for his expenses from *Cambridge*.

To *Judah Alden* fifty Dollars, advanced on account of expenses in attending the *French* gentlemen.

Ordered, That the above be paid.

Resolved, That General *Schuyler* be directed to have Brigadier-General *Prescott*, lately made prisoner by the Continental Forces in *Canada*, taken into custody, and safely and securely kept until the further orders of this Congress.

Resolved, That a copy of the above be sent immediately to General *Schuyler*, and that the General be informed by letter of the reasons which induced the Congress to give such orders.

The Committee of Claims reported that they have had under consideration Mr. *Egbert Dumond's* account of expenses in bringing the Prisoners, taken at *St. John's*, from *Kingston*, in *New-York* Government, to *Lancaster*, in *Pennsylvania*, and are of opinion that there is due to *Egbert Dumond* the sum of 2,326.2 Dollars.

Ordered, That the same be paid.

The Congress took into consideration the Report of the Committee on the Petition of Captains *Paddock* and *Coffin*, and after debate,

Resolved, That the prayer of said Petition be not granted.

The Committee on the state of *New-York* brought in their Report, which was read.

The Report of Captain *Motte*, with regard to the disposition of the Officers taken prisoners at *St. John's*, was laid before Congress, and read.

The Committee to whom the Report on Lord *Stirling's* Letters were recommitted brought in their Report, which, being taken into consideration, was agreed to, as follows:

That the President acquaint his Lordship, that the Congress has provided against the inconvenience of vexatious arrests of the men inlisting in the Continental service.

That the Barracks in the Colony of *New-Jersey* be prepared for the reception of such of the Battalions as may not be in readiness to proceed to *New-York*, and that the Ministerial troops, or prisoners, at present occupying them, be accommodated in the said Colony, in such manner as the Committee of Safety for said Colony shall think most prudent and convenient.

That Mr. *Lowrey*, the Commissary, be directed to supply the said Battalions with Stockings, and that the Delegates for the Colony of *New-Jersey* transmit to Lord *Stirling* six dozen printed copies of the Articles of War.

That considering not only the defenceless condition of the Colony of *New-Jersey*, for want of Ammunition in case of a hostile invasion of that Colony, but the evident want of the assistance of those Battalions for the defence of *New-York*, where an attack of the enemy is most probably to be apprehended, a requisition be made by the Congress to the Committee of Safety of *Pennsylvania*, of four hundred weight of Powder for the said Battalion.

That the same Fire-Wood, Camp-Equipage, and Barrack-Utensils be allowed to each of the *New-Jersey* Battalions as are allowed to the Battalion raised in *Pennsylvania*.

That the hundred stand of Arms supplied by the Colony of *New-York* for the *New-Jersey* Battalions, be paid for by the Convention of *New-Jersey*; and that in order to enable the said Convention to make such payment, as well as to furnish such of the men belonging to the said Battalions, as are yet unprovided with Arms, the further sum of 1000 Dollars be advanced to the said Convention; and that the price of the Arms be deducted out of the wages of the Privates belonging to the said Battalions.

That Lord *Stirling* be directed to seize and secure all the Ammunition and Warlike Stores belonging to the enemy, which now are, or hereafter may be, imported into the Colony of *New-Jersey*, and keep them till he shall receive the orders of Congress respecting them; and further, that he do, from time to time, give aid and protection to all the friends of *America*, who may be employed in importing into the said Colony, Ammunition, or other commodities not prohibited by the Association and Resolves of this Congress.

Whereas, it has been represented to this Congress, that divers honest and well-meaning, but uninformed people in these Colonies, have, by the art and address of Ministerial Agents, been deceived and drawn into erroneous opinions respecting the *American* cause, and the probable issue of the present contest:

Resolved, That it be recommended to the different Committees, and other friends to *American* liberty, in the said Colonies, to treat all such persons with kindness and attention; to consider them as the inhabitants of a country determined to be free, and to view their errors as proceeding

rather from want of information than want of virtue or publick spirit; to explain to them the origin, nature, and extent of the present controversy; to acquaint them with the fate of the numerous Petitions presented to His Majesty, as well by Assemblies as by Congresses, for reconciliation and redress of grievances: and that the last from this Congress, humbly requesting the single favour of being heard, like all the others, has proved unsuccessful; to unfold to them the various arts of Administration to ensnare and enslave us, and the manner in which we have been cruelly driven to defend, by arms, those very rights, liberties and estates, which we and our forefathers had so long enjoyed unmolested in the reigns of His present Majesty's predecessors. And it is hereby recommended to all Conventions and Assemblies in these Colonies, liberally to distribute among the people, the proceedings of this and the former Congress, the late speeches of the great patriots in both Houses of Parliament relative to *American* grievances, and such other pamphlets and papers as tend to elucidate the merits of the *American* cause, the Congress being fully persuaded, that the more our right to the enjoyment of our ancient liberties and privileges is examined, the more just and necessary our present opposition to Ministerial tyranny will appear.

And, with respect to all such unworthy *Americans*, as, regardless of their duty to their Creator, their country and their posterity, have taken part with our oppressors, and, influenced by the hope or possession of ignominious rewards, strive to recommend themselves to the bounty of Administration, by misrepresenting and traducing the conduct and principles of the friends of *American* liberty, and opposing every measure formed for its preservation and security:

Resolved, That it be recommended to the different Assemblies, Conventions, and Committees or Councils of Safety in the *United Colonies*, by the most speedy and effectual measures, to frustrate the mischievous machinations, and restrain the wicked practices of these men: And it is the opinion of this Congress, that they ought to be disarmed, and the more dangerous among them, either kept in safe custody, or bound with sufficient sureties to their good behaviour.

And in order that the said Assemblies, Conventions, Committees, or Councils of Safety, may be enabled with greater ease and facility to carry this Resolution into execution,

Resolved, That they be authorized to call to their aid whatever Continental Troops, stationed in or near their respective Colonies, may be conveniently spared from their more immediate duty; and the Commanding Officers of such Troops are hereby directed to afford the said Assemblies, Conventions, Committees, or Councils of Safety, all such assistance in executing this Resolution as they may require, and which, consistent with the good of the service, may be supplied.

Resolved, That all detachments of Continental Troops, which may be ordered on the business in the foregoing Resolution mentioned, be, while so employed, under the direction and control of the Assemblies, Conventions, Committees, or Councils of Safety, aforesaid.

Resolved, That it be recommended to all the *United Colonies* to aid each other, on request from their respective Assemblies, Conventions, Committees, or Councils of Safety, and County Committees, on every emergency, and to cultivate, cherish, and increase the present happy and necessary union, by a continual interchange of mutual good offices.

And whereas, the execrable barbarity with which this unhappy war has been conducted on the part of our enemies, (such as burning our defenceless towns and villages, exposing their inhabitants, without regard to sex or age, to all the miseries which loss of property, the rigour of the season, and inhuman devastation, can inflict, exciting domestick insurrections and murders, bribing the Savages to desolate our frontiers, and casting such of us as the fortune of war has put in their power, into jails, there to languish in irons and in want; compelling the inhabitants of *Boston*, in violation of the treaty, to remain confined within the town, exposed to the insolence of the soldiery, and other enormities, at the mention of which decency and humanity will ever blush) may justly provoke the inhabitants of these Colonies to retaliate:

Resolved, That it be recommended to them to continue mindful that humanity ought to distinguish the brave; that cruelty should find no admission among a free people; and to take care that no page in the annals of *America* be stained by a recital of any action which justice or Christianity may condemn; and to rest assured, that whenever retaliation may be necessary, or tend to their security, this Congress will undertake the disagreeable task.

Resolved, That the Assemblies, Conventions, or Committees, or Councils of Safety, be requested forthwith to transmit to this Congress copies of all the Petitions, Memorials, and Remonstrances, which have been, by the respective Colonies, presented to the Throne, or either House of Parliament, since the year 1762; and that they, also, inform the Congress whether any, and what, answers were given to them.

Resolved, That Mr. *Bartlett* be appointed one of the Committee of Claims, in the room of Mr. *Langdon*, and Mr. *Samuel Adams*, in the room of Mr. *Cushing*, who have leave of absence.

Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow.

Wednesday, January 3, 1776.

A Letter from General *Washington*, dated the 25th of *December*, enclosing a Letter from General *Howe*, and accompanied with sundry papers, was laid before Congress, and read.

The Committee of Safety having recommended sundry gentlemen for Field-Officers of the four Battalions ordered to be raised in *Pennsylvania*, the Congress proceeded to the election; and *Arthur St. Clair*, Esquire, was elected Colonel of the Second Battalion; *John Shea*, Esquire, Colonel of the Third Battalion; *Anthony Wayne*, Esquire, Colonel of the Fourth Battalion; *Robert Magau*, Esquire, Colonel of the Fifth Battalion.

The Congress, taking into consideration the Report of the Secret Committee, thereupon came to the following Resolutions:

Resolved, That the following Goods and Stores ought to be imported, as soon as possible, for the use of the *United Colonies*, viz: 60,000 striped Blankets; 120,000 yards of 6-4 Broadcloths, the colours to be brown and blue, from 3*s.* to 6*s.* sterling, per yard; 10,000 yards of ditto, different colours, for facings, at 4*s.*; 3,000 pieces of Duffils, or some such Cloth; 100 M. sorted Needles; 50 M. ditto, none very fine; 10 M. ditto, for Sailcloth; 3,000 pieces of Raven's Duck; 3,000 pieces of Ticklenburghs; 1,500 pieces of Osnaburghs; 1,000 pieces of Vittrey; 4,000 pieces of *Hamburgh* Dowlas; 20,000 stand of Arms; 300 tons of Lead; 1,000,000 Flints; 1,500 boxes of Tin, and Iron Wire, properly sorted for it; Medicines, Surgeons' Instruments, Lint, and Bandages, in the whole, to the amount of 2,000 Pounds, sterling; 500 sheets of Copper, of different sorts.

Resolved, That the Secret Committee be empowered and directed to pursue the most effectual measures for importing the above articles.

Resolved, That the further consideration of this Report be postponed.

The Committee of Claims reported, that there is due to Captain *Edward Motte*, for expenses, &c., in conducting the Prisoners taken at *St. John's*, from *Kingston*, in the Province of *New-York*, to *Lancaster*, in the Province of *Pennsylvania*, a balance of 367.7 Dollars.

That there is due to *Robert Erwin*, Wagonmaster, for carriage of Clothing and Medicine to *Dobb's Ferry* and to *Cambridge* 222.6 Dollars.

Ordered, That the above be paid.

The Committee on the state of *New-York* brought in a further Report, which, being taken into consideration, was agreed to, as follows:

Whereas, a majority of the inhabitants of *Queen's* County, in the Colony of *New-York*, being incapable of resolving to live and die freemen, and being more disposed to quit their liberties than part with the little proportion of their property necessary to defend them, have deserted the *American* cause, by refusing to send Deputies, as usual, to the Convention of that Colony; and avowing, by a publick Declaration, an unmanly design of remaining inactive spectators of the present contest, vainly flattering them-

selves, perhaps, that should Providence declare for our enemies, they may purchase their mercy and favour at an easy rate; and, on the other hand, if the war should terminate to the advantage of *America*, that then they may enjoy, without expense of blood or treasure, all the blessings resulting from that liberty which they, in the day of trial, had abandoned, and in defence of which many of their more virtuous neighbours and countrymen had nobly died; and although the want of publick spirit, observable in these men, rather excites pity than alarm, there being little danger to apprehend either from their prowess or example, yet it being reasonable that those who refuse to defend their country should be excluded from its protection, and be prevented from doing it injury:

Resolved, That all such persons in *Queen's* County, aforesaid, as voted against sending Deputies to the present Convention of *New-York*, and named in a list of delinquents in *Queen's* County, published by the Convention of *New-York*, be put out of the protection of the *United Colonies*, and that all trade and intercourse with them cease; that none of the inhabitants of that County be permitted to travel or abide in any part of these *United Colonies*, out of their said County, without a certificate from the Convention, or Committee of Safety of the Colony of *New-York*, setting forth that such inhabitant is a friend to the *American* cause, and not of the number of those who voted against sending Deputies to the said Convention; and that such of the said inhabitants as shall be found out of the said County, without such certificate, be apprehended, and imprisoned three months.

Resolved, That no Attorney, or Lawyer, ought to commence, prosecute, or defend any action at law, of any kind, for any of the said inhabitants of *Queen's* County, who voted against sending Deputies to the Convention, as aforesaid; and such Attorney, or Lawyer, as shall contravene this Resolution, are enemies to the *American* cause, and ought to be treated accordingly.

Resolved, That the Convention, or Committee of Safety of the Colony of *New-York*, be requested to continue publishing, for a month, in all their Gazettes, or Newspapers, the names of all such of the inhabitants of *Queen's* County as voted against sending Deputies; and to give certificates, in the manner before recommended, to such others of the said inhabitants as are friends to *American* liberty.

And it is recommended to all Conventions, Committees of Safety, and others, to be diligent in executing the above Resolutions.

Resolved, That Colonel *Nathaniel Heard*, of *Woodbridge*, in the Colony of *New-Jersey*, taking with him five or six hundred Minute-Men, under discreet officers, do march to the western part of *Queen's* County, and that Colonel *Waterbury*, of *Stamford*, in the Colony of *Connecticut*, with the like number of Minute-Men, march to the eastern part of the said County; that they confer together, and endeavour to enter the said County on the same day; that they proceed to disarm every person in the said County, who voted against sending Deputies to the said Convention, and cause them to deliver up their arms and ammunition on oath, and that they take and confine in safe custody, till further orders, all such as refuse compliance.

That they apprehend and secure, till further orders, the persons named as principal men among the disaffected in the said County, in a summons for their appearance before the Convention of *New-York*, issued the 12th of *December* last, viz:

Of *Jamaica* Township, Captain *Benjamin Whitehead*, *Charles Arden*, *Joseph French*, Esquire, *Johannes Polhemus*.

Of *Newtown*, *Nathaniel Moore*, *John Moore*, Senior, *Samuel Hallet*, *John Moore*, Jun., *William Weyman*, *John Shoals*, *Jeromus Rapalje*.

Of *Flushing*, *John Willet*.

Of *Hempstead*, Justice *Gilbert Van Wyck*, *Daniel Kissam*, Esquire; of *Cow-Neck*, Captain *Jacob Mott*, *Thomas Cornhill*; of *Rockaway*, *Gabriel G. Ludlow*, *Richard Hewlett*, Captain *Charles Hicks*, Doctor *Martin*, Justice *Samuel Clowes*.

Of *Oyster-Bay*, Justice *Thomas Smith*, of *Hog-Island*, Justice *John Hewlett*, Captain *George Weeks*, Doctor *David Brooks*, Justice *John Townsend*.

And all such other persons who shall be found in arms, or who shall oppose the carrying the above Resolutions into effect, as the said Colonel *Heard* or Colonel *Waterbury* may think prudent to detain.

Resolved, That it be recommended to the said Colonel *Heard* and Colonel *Waterbury*, to execute the business intrusted to them by the foregoing Resolutions, with all possible despatch, secrecy, order, and humanity.

Resolved, That the Committee of Safety of the Colony of *Pennsylvania* be requested to furnish Colonel *Heard* with two hundred pounds of Gunpowder.

Resolved, That the sum of five hundred Dollars be forthwith transmitted, with certified copies of these Resolutions, to each of them, the said Colonel *Heard* and Colonel *Waterbury*, and that they, on their return, report to this Congress, a true state of their expenditure and proceedings.

The Committee of Safety of *Pennsylvania*, having recommended sundry gentlemen for Lieutenant-Colonels of the four Battalions ordered to be raised in said Colony,

Resolved, That the same be taken into consideration to-morrow.

A Letter from the Committee of *Frederick*, in *Maryland*, brought by the officer who had the charge of bringing down *John Connolly*, and his Associates, was laid before Congress and read.

Resolved, That it be recommended to the Committee of Safety of *Pennsylvania*, to carry into execution the Resolution of Congress for confining said *Connolly*, and his Associates, in the Jail of *Philadelphia*, and that they take their examination.

Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow.

—

Thursday, January 4, 1776.

Resolved, That an additional Battalion be raised in the County of *Cumberland*, in the Colony of *Pennsylvania*, to consist of the same number of men and officers, and to have the same pay and allowance, as the others raised in said Colony.

Resolved, That one Company of each of the five Battalions last ordered to be raised in *Pennsylvania*, consist of expert Riflemen.

Resolved, That it be recommended to the Committee of Safety for *Pennsylvania* to have the foregoing Resolutions carried into execution.

Resolved, That in all elections of Officers by Congress, where more than one are elected, on the same day, to commands of the same rank, they shall take rank of each other according to their election, and the entry of their names in the Minutes, and their Commissions shall be numbered to show their priority.

The Congress then proceeded to the election of Lieutenant-Colonels for the Battalions ordered to be raised in *Pennsylvania;* and the ballots being taken and examined, the following gentlemen were chosen, viz: *Lambert Cadwalloder*, *William Allen*, Jun., *Francis Johnson*, *Joseph Penrose*.

The Committee of Claims report, that there is due:

To *James Whitehead*, for Provisions for the prisoners taken on board the *Rebecca-and-Mary*, the sum of sixty-four Dollars.

To the Committee of *New-Brunswick*, per Account rendered, the sum of 214.9 Dollars, to be paid to *William Livingston*, Esquire, and by him forwarded to the said Committee.

To *Furman & Hunt*, of *Trenton*, for Provisions, Horse-hire, &c., the sum of 68.2 Dollars.

To the Committee of Inspection and Observation of the City and Liberties of *Philadelphia*, for 187,046 Flints, by them purchased, agreeable to the Order of Congress, the sum of 737 Dollars.

To sundry persons, per list, for signing the Continental Bills of Credit, the sum of 1165.7 Dollars; and that an Order be given to the Treasurers for the payment of the same, agreeable to the said list.

To the Committee of *Fredericktown*, *Maryland*, for the expenses incurred by *Connolly*, *Cameron*, and *Smith*, during their confinement, the sum of 74 Dollars; and that the same be paid to the Delegates of *Maryland*.

Ordered, That the said Accounts be paid accordingly.

Resolved, That a Commissary be appointed to provide the three Companies ordered to *Northampton*, in *Virginia*, with rations while on their march, and during their stay in that country.

Resolved, That the appointment of a Commissary be deferred till to-morrow.

The Congress resumed the consideration of the Report of the Committee on the state of *New-York*. After debate,

Resolved, That the same be postponed till to-morrow, and that the Delegates of *New-York* be desired to request the attendance of the gentlemen sent to Congress by the Convention of their Colony.

Resolved, That Major *Preston* have liberty to choose the place of his residence, consistent with former Resolutions of Congress; and that the President take his parole.

The Congress proceeded to the election of Majors, when the following persons were chosen: *Joseph Wood*, *George Nagle*, *Henry Bicker*, *Nicholas Hausicker*.

The Committee appointed to consider what allowance ought to be made to Officers, who are prisoners, brought in their Report.

Ordered, That the same be taken into consideration on *Saturday* next.

Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow.

—

Friday, January 5, 1776.

A vacancy happening in the First of the *Pennsylvania* Battalions, by the promotion of Captain *Allen*, the Congress proceeded to the election of a Captain to supply the vacancy; when *Benjamin Davis*, oldest Lieutenant in said Battalion, was elected.

Resolved, That the sum of 10,000 Dollars be struck, for the purpose of exchanging ragged and torn bills of the Continental currency; that the bills making this sum, be of the same denominations, printed under the inspection of the same persons, and signed and numbered by the same signers as the last emission, and that they be lodged in the Treasury, to be applied to the sole purpose aforesaid.

Resolved, That all Committees, and others, who have had Publick Money put into their hands, lay upon the table an Account of the expenditure of the same.

The Committee appointed to consider the Letter of General *Washington*, dated the 18th of *December*, and the enclosures, brought in a Report upon that part which relates to *Mr. James Lovell*, who has long been, and still is, detained a close prisoner in *Boston*, by order of General *Howe*, which being taking into consideration, was agreed to, and is as follows:

That it appears to your Committee, that the said Mr. *Lovell* hath, for years past, been an able advocate for the liberties of *America*, and mankind; that by his letter to General *Washington*, which is a part of the said enclosures, he exhibits so striking an instance of disinterested patriotism as strongly recommends him to the particular notice of this Continent.

Your Committee, therefore, submit the following Resolutions to the consideration of the Congress:

Resolved, That Mr. *James Lovell*, an inhabitant of *Boston*, now held a close prisoner there, by order of General *Howe*, has discovered, under the severest trials, the warmest attachment to publick liberty, an inflexible fidelity to his country; that by his late letter to General *Washington*, he has given the strongest evidence of disinterested publick affection, in refusing to listen to terms offered for his relief, till he could be informed by his countrymen that they were compatible with their safety and honour.

Resolved, That it is deeply to be regretted, that a *British* General can be found degenerate enough so ignominiously and cruelly to treat a citizen who is so eminently virtuous.

Resolved, That it be an instruction to General *Washington* to make an offer of Governour *Skene* in exchange for the said Mr. *Lovell* and his family.

Resolved, That General *Washington* be desired to embrace the first opportunity which may offer, of giving some office to Mr. *Lovell* equal to his abilities, and which the publick service may require.

That a copy of the foregoing Resolves be transmitted to the General as speedily as possible.

Resolved, That the President write to General *Washington*, and desire him to inform Congress what rank the Aids-de-camp of the General Officer should have in the Army of the *United Colonies*.

The Committee of Claims reported, that there is due to *Adam Fisher*, for expenses attending his conducting *Connolly* and *Cameron* from *Frederick*, in *Maryland*, to *Philadelphia*, and his charges back again for himself and men, the sum of one hundred and fifty-six Dollars.

Ordered, That the same be paid.

The Congress having conferred with the gentlemen sent to Congress by the Convention of *New-York*, resumed the consideration of the Report of the Committee on the state of that Colony, and the same was agreed to, and is as follows:

Resolved, That for the reasons contained in the papers hereunto annexed, this Committee are of opinion, that no further Fortifications ought to be erected at *Martelaer's Rock*, on *Hudson's River*, and that a point of land at *Pooplopen's Kill*, on the said River, ought, without delay, to be effectually fortified.

Resolved, That it be recommended to the Convention, or in their recess, to the Committee of Safety of *New-York*, to carry into execution the above Resolution.

Resolved, That the Delegates of *New-Jersey* and *Connecticut* be directed to take the necessary steps for carrying into execution the Resolutions of Congress passed on *Wednesday* last, respecting the Inhabitants of *Queen's* County.

A Memorial from the Inhabitants of the Town of *Newport* was presented to Congress, and read.

Ordered, That the same be referred for consideration till to-morrow.

Resolved, That Mr. *Paine* be added to the Committee on General *Schuyler's* Letters.

Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow.

—

Saturday, January 6, 1776.

Information being given to Congress that a quantity of Powder was arrived at *Egg-Harbour*, on board the Sloop *Sally*, of which a part was addressed to Congress by Mr. *Parsons*, and a part consigned to Mr. *Webster*, and others, in *Philadelphia*,

Resolved, That the Secret Committee be directed to have the Powder addressed to Congress brought to *Philadelphia*, and to purchase, for the use of the *United Colonies*, the other quantities of Powder.

Resolved, That one ton of the Powder arrived be delivered to the Committee for fitting out Armed Vessels, for the use of said Vessels.

A Letter from the Committee of *Lancaster*, dated the 3d of *January*, was read;

Also, a Letter from an Officer in *Lisbon*, dated *October* 23, 1775;

Resolved, That these Letters, as well as the last received from *Lancaster*, and those formerly received from *Lisbon*, be referred to the Committee of Correspondence.

The Congress resumed the consideration of the Memorial from the Inhabitants of *Newport*, and the papers accompanying it; and thereupon,

Resolved, That the said Memorial be referred to the consideration of the General Assembly of the Colony of *Rhode-Island*.

The Committee to whom it was referred to consider how the shares of Prizes, allotted to the captors, ought to be divided between the Officers and Men, brought in their Report, which, being taken into consideration, was agreed to, as follows:

Resolved, That the Commander-in-chief have one-twentieth part of the said allotted Prize-Money, taken by any Ship or Ships, Armed Vessel or Vessels, under his orders and command.

That the Captain of any single Ship, or Armed Vessel, have two-twentieth parts for his share; but if more Ships, or Armed Vessels, be in company when a Prize is taken,

then the said two-twentieth parts to be divided amongst all said Captains.

That the Captains of Marines, Lieutenants of the Ships, or Armed Vessels, and Masters thereof, share together, and have three-twentieth parts divided amongst them, equally, of all Prizes taken when they are in company.

That the Lieutenants of Marines, Surgeons, Chaplains, Pursers, Boatswains, Gunners, Carpenters, the Masters' Mates, and the Secretary of the Fleet, share together, and have two-twentieth parts and one-half of a twentieth part divided among them, equally, of all Prizes taken when they are in company.

That the following Warrant and Petty Officers, viz: (allowing for each Ship, 6 Midshipmen; for each Brigantine, 4 Midshipmen; and each Sloop, 2 Midshipmen; 1 Captain's Clerk, 1 Surgeon's Mate, 1 Steward, 1 Sailmaker, 1 Cooper, 1 Armourer, 2 Boatswain's Mates, 2 Gunner's Mates, 2 Carpenter's Mates, 1 Cook, 1 Cockswain, 2 Sergeants of Marines for each Ship, and 1 Sergeant for each Brig and Sloop,) have three-twentieth parts divided among them, equally; and when a Prize is taken by any Ship, or Vessel, on board of which the Commander-in-chief is, or in company, then the Commander-in-chief's Cook, or Cockswain, to be added to this allotment, and have their equal shares with these last-mentioned.

That the remaining eight-twentieths and one-half of a twentieth be divided among the rest of the Ship or Ships' companies, as it may happen, share and share alike.

That no Officer or Man have any share but such as are actually on board their several Vessels at the time any Prize, or Prizes, are taken, excepting only such as may have been ordered on board any other Prizes before taken, or sent away by his, or their, Commanding Officer.

The Committee on General *Schuyler's* Letters brought in their Report.

Ordered, That the consideration thereof be referred to *Monday* next.

A Letter from General *Schuyler*, dated the 30th of *December*, enclosing copies of Letters from General *Montgomery* and General *Wooster*, being received, was read.

Adjourned to *Monday*, at ten o'clock.

—

Monday, January 8, 1776.

A Letter from General *Schuyler*, dated the 26th of *December*, enclosing a copy of a Letter from General *Montgomery*, dated *December* 5th, and a list of the Ordnance sent to *Cambridge*; also, a Letter from the Committee of *Baltimore*, enclosing an Affidavit of Captain *Horn*, being received, were read.

The Congress, taking into consideration the Report of the Committee on General *Schuyler's* Letters, thereupon came to the following Resolutions:

Resolved, That Shipwrights be immediately sent from *New-York* and *Philadelphia* to General *Schuyler*, or the Commander-in-chief of the Forces at *Ticonderoga*, to be employed by him in constructing a number of Batteaus, not exceeding one hundred, for transporting Troops, with their baggage, from that place into *Canada*, whenever it may be found necessary.

That a sufficient number of suitable men be engaged for rowing said Batteaus; and that a large quantity of Provisions and Stores be sent this winter to *Fort-George*.

That General *Schuyler* be desired to have the River *St. Lawrence*, above and below *Quebeck*, well explored, and to determine upon proper places for opposing, by Armed Boats, or otherwise, any attempts of the enemy to penetrate that country by the River; and that he give orders for constructing, speedily, as many such Boats as he shall judge necessary.

That two Shipwrights be immediately sent from *Philadelphia*, to be employed, under the direction of the Committee of Inspection at *Albany*, in constructing Scows for facilitating the passage over *Hudson's River*.

Resolved, That the provision heretofore made for a Hospital in the Northern Army, when it was more numerous than it is now, is sufficient.

Resolved, That the Convention of *New-York* be desired to send three thousand bushels of Salt, besides what General *Schuyler* hath already ordered to be brought, to *Ticonderoga*.

Resolved, That the Governour of *Connecticut*, the General Assemblies of *Massachusetts-Bay* and *New-Hampshire*, and the Convention of *New-York*, be written to, forthwith, by the Delegates of the said Colonies, respectively, to furnish General *Schuyler* with the account of Money paid to any persons in the Army under his command, specifying the names of those to whom the Money was paid by their order.

Resolved, That the Contract made by General *Schuyler*, to allow one-twelfth part of a Dollar, per day, for Billeting-Money, to every one of the men who reinlist in the Northern Army, until they can march to the place where Provisions may be delivered to them, be made good.

Resolved, That the Officers of the Northern Army be accountable for such Publick Stores, issued to them, as may be lost, through carelessness, by their respective Corps; and that the value thereof be deducted out of the pay of those who have embezzled or wasted the same.

Resolved, That this Congress does approve of the raising a Battalion of *Canadians*, and of the appointment of *James Livingston*, Esquire, Colonel thereof.

Resolved, That nine Battalions, including that of *Canadians* under Colonel *Livingston*, be kept up and maintained the present year for the defence of *Canada*.

Resolved, That the First *Pennsylvania* Battalion, under Colonel *Bull*, and the Second *New-Jersey* Battalion, under Colonel *Maxwell*, be ordered immediately to march to *Albany*, and there put themselves under the command of General *Schuyler*, and that the orders given for the march of three Companies of Colonel *Bull's* Battalion to *Accomack* and *Northampton* be countermanded.

Resolved, That to make up the Battalions voted for the defence of *Canada*, that one Battalion be raised in *New-Hampshire*, one in *Connecticut*, and one in *New-York*; that two Battalions be formed out of the Troops now in *Canada*, and that General *Montgomery* be desired to recommend proper persons for Officers in said Battalions; and that one of the five Battalions, lately ordered to be raised in *Pennsylvania*, be destined for *Canada*.

Resolved, That a Committee of Three be appointed to devise ways and means for furnishing the Battalions destined for *Canada* with necessaries for expediting their march thither.

The Members chosen, Mr. *Floyd*, Mr. *Deane*, and Mr. *McKean*.

Resolved, That the further consideration of the Report of the Committee be deferred till to-morrow.

Information being given to Congress, that about fifty-seven tons of Saltpetre were arrived in *Philadelphia*, and about fifteen tons of Powder in *New-York*, for sale:

Resolved, That the Secret Committee be directed to treat for the purchase of the Saltpetre, and inquire how it may be most speedily manufactured into Powder, and report to Congress.

Resolved, That Mr. *P. Livingston*, Mr. *Alsop*, Mr. *Jay*, and Mr. *Lewis*, be directed to purchase, on the best terms they can, for the use of the *United Colonies*, the Powder arrived at *New-York*, and forward the same with all possible expedition, under a guard, to the Camp at *Cambridge*.

Resolved, That the Convention or Committee of Safety of *Maryland*, be desired to order three Companies of the Minute-Men in the service of that Colony, to march immediately from thence to the Counties of *Accomack* and *Northampton*, in *Virginia*, instead of the Forces directed to go thither from *Pennsylvania*, and to lay before Congress the Accounts of their subsistence and pay, which shall be paid out of the Continental Treasury.

Resolved, That the Committee of Safety of *Pennsylvania* be desired to send five hundred pounds weight of Powder to the Colony of *Virginia*, for the use of the Forces to be employed in the Counties of *Accomack* and *Northampton*.

Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow.

—

Tuesday, January 9, 1776.

A Letter from Mr. *M. Tilghman*, dated *Annapolis*, 5th day of *January*, with sundry Papers enclosed, also some Despatches from Governour *Franklin*, and a Letter from

Cortlandt Skinner, which were intercepted, were laid before Congress, and read.

Resolved, That a Letter be written to Mr. *Tilghman*, informing him, that the *Hornet* and *Wasp* are under orders to sail to the Capes of *Delaware*, and that such Vessels, as are ready to sail, may take the benefit of that convoy.

That the Committee for fitting out Armed Vessels, be directed to give orders to the Captains of the *Hornet* and *Wasp*, to take under their convoy such Vessels as are ready to sail.

The Committee of Claims reported, that there is due:

To *Michael Connolly*, for expenses in conducting Captain *John Livingston* and Lieutenant *Anstruther*, from *Kingston* to *Lancaster*, the sum of 250 Dollars.

To *Richard Butler*, for necessaries furnished to five *Indians*, the sum of 49.3 Dollars.

To *Joseph Cowperthwait*, the sum of 419.6 Dollars, for expenses in conducting Cash to *Cambridge*.

Resolved, That a Committee of Three be appointed to inquire into the conduct of the Officers who are Prisoners, and the manner in which they are subsisted at present, and report thereon.

The Members chosen, Mr. *W. Livingston*, Mr. *Dyer*, and Mr. *Floyd*.

Ordered, That a certified copy of the intercepted Letter of Mr. *Cortlandt Skinner*, be sent to the Committee of Safety of the Colony of *New-Jersey*.

That an Order issue to Lord *Stirling*, to take with him a sufficient force, and immediately apprehend and keep in safe custody *Cortlandt Skinner*, of *Amboy*, till further orders from this Congress.

That he carry said *Cortlandt Skinner* before the Committee of Safety of the Colony of *New-Jersey*, for examination.

That the Committee of Safety be desired to transmit his examination to Congress.

Resolved, That the Militia raised in the Counties of *Orange* and *Ulster*, in the Colony of *New-York*, by order of this Congress, for the support of the Fort lately erected on *Hudson's River*, be discharged, except those stationed in the Fort, who shall also be discharged whenever other Troops arrive there to supply their places; and that it be recommended to the Committee of Safety of the Colony of *New-York*, to see that this Resolve be carried into execution.

Resolved, That five hundred thousand Dollars be sent to the Paymaster-General, for the use of the Army in *Massachusetts-Bay*.

Resolved, That the Delegates for *Pennsylvania* be directed to count and forward the same, with all convenient speed, under a guard of an Officer and two Men.

The Congress resuming the consideration of the Report of the Committee on General *Schuyler's* Letters, thereupon came to the following Resolutions:

Resolved, That Colonel *Van Shaack*, Lieutenant-Colonel *Yates*, and Major *Gansevoort*, be continued in the service of the *United Colonies*, and that they take the command of the Battalion to be levied in the Colony of *New-York* for the service in *Canada*.

Resolved, That Captain *Lamb* be appointed commander of the Artillery in the Northern Department, with the rank of Major, and that he be allowed fifty Dollars per month, from the 1st day of the present month, as a reward for his activity and spirited conduct in the last campaign.

Resolved, That no Postage be paid for any Letters to or from private Soldiers, while engaged in actual service in the defence of the *United Colonies;* and that such Letters be franked by some person authorized for that purpose, by the Commanding Officer of the Department.

Resolved, That a Letter be written to General *Schuyler* by the President, informing him, that it is the opinion of Congress, he should proceed to have the conduct of Lieutenant *Halsey* inquired into by a Court-Martial, giving him previous notice to appear in his own defence, and that such sentence should be passed on him, as such Court-Martial shall think just; and if the said Lieutenant *Halsey* shall decline to submit his conduct to such examination and sentence, that then all arrears of pay due to him be stopped; to enable him to give discharges to such officers as have quitted the service; to assure him, that we have great confidence in his attention to the publick interest, and rely that he will give to the proper officers in his department such orders as will procure indemnification to the publick, for any embezzlement or waste of its Stores, or Moneys; to empower him to remit to such of the Troops, raised in the Province of *New-York*, as may reinlist, any right we may have to stop wages for underclothes delivered to them; to desire he will communicate to Mr. *Price* the sense this Congress have of his friendly offices to General *Montgomery*, in favour of the *American* cause; to return him our thanks for the same, and assure him, immediate measures shall be taken for replacing the Moneys he has advanced; to notify to Colonel *Easton* our approbation of his late services, and that we shall retain in our minds a just sense of them.

Resolved, That General *Schuyler* be directed to appoint Mr. *John Macpherson* a Major in one of the Battalions ordered to be raised out of the Troops in *Canada*.

Resolved, That a Conductor of Artillery, a Superintendent of the Arms, a Barrackmaster, and a Storekeeper, be appointed to the Northern Army, and that General *Schuyler* be desired to recommend proper persons to Congress for those offices.

Resolved, That the Deputy Paymaster-General have liberty to appoint under him, two assistant Paymasters, who shall each receive twenty-six and two-thirds Dollars per month, for their trouble and services.

Resolved, That all the Officers and Soldiers in the Northern Department be paid in person by the Deputy Paymaster-General, or the Assistants to be appointed by him in consequence of the foregoing Resolve.

Resolved, That a Communication be forthwith opened between *Skenesborough* and *Fort-Ann*, and that *Wood-Creek* be cleared for that purpose.

Resolved, That it be recommended to the Committee of Safety of the Province of *New-York*, to appoint proper persons to inquire into the propriety and practicability of obstructing or lessening the depth of water in the Narrows, or in any other place at the entrance of *New-York*, or of any way of fortifying that pass, so as to prevent the entrance of the enemy; and also to inquire whether the depth of water in *Hudson's River*, below the Battery, may not easily be lessened, so as to prevent large ships passing up, and to make an estimate of the expense, and report their proceedings in the premises immediately to Congress.

Resolved, That to-morrow be assigned for the choice of two Brigadier-Generals, viz: one for the Army in *Massachusetts-Bay*, and the other for the Army in the Northern Department.

Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow.

—

Wednesday, January 10, 1776.

A Letter from *Rachel Stelle*, with an account of expenses for the Subsistence of Officers, was laid before Congress, and read.

Ordered, That the same be referred to the Committee appointed on the Subsistence of Officers, &c.

Resolved, That the Commissioners for *Indian* Affairs, in the Northern Department, be directed to pay to the Rev. Mr. *Wheelock* 500 Dollars, agreeable to a Resolution of Congress, passed the 12th day of *July* last.

The Committee appointed to devise ways and means for furnishing the Battalions destined for *Canada*, brought in their Report, which was agreed to, and is as follows:

That before the Battalion commanded by Colonel *Bull* can march for *Canada*, the following Officers ought to be appointed, to wit: Three First Lieutenants, eight Second Lieutenants, one Ensign; and one Quartermaster.

And the following articles provided, to wit: 688 Caps, 688 pair of Mittens, 688 pair of Stockings, 688 pair of Leggins, 688 pair of Shoes, 688 Haversacks, 688 Slings for Firelocks, 1200 Shirts, 688 Waistcoats, 500 pair of Breeches, 300 Blankets, 64 Pitching-Axes, and 9 Baggage Wagons.

That before Colonel *Maxwell's* Battalion will be fit to march to said Province, the following articles ought to be provided, to wit: 688 Haversacks, 688 Cartouch-Boxes

*

and Cross-Belts, 688 Tomahawks, 64 Pitching-Axes, and 9 Baggage-Wagons.

That both Battalions should be paid up to the first day of *February* next.

That the Battalions should march by companies, and that they should follow each other at the distance of one day's march; that the Quartermasters and Commissaries should precede their respective Battalions a few days, in order to provide lodgings and provisions on the road.

And that the Colonels should be allowed six rations.

The Lieutenant-Colonels, five;

The Majors, four;

The Captains, three;

And the Subaltern and Staff-Officers, two each, or money in lieu thereof.

Resolved, That it be recommended to the Committee of Safety of *Pennsylvania*, to supply the *Pennsylvania* Battalion with such of the above articles as they have not already furnished, agreeable to former Resolutions of Congress; and that all the articles furnished the men, more than those allowed in lieu of bounty, be deducted out of their pay.

That *Thomas Lowrey* be directed to provide the articles for the Second *New-Jersey* Battalion, and that all the articles furnished the men, more than those allowed in lieu of bounty, be deducted out of their pay.

Resolved, That an Order be drawn on the Treasurers in favour of *Thomas Lowrey*, for the sum of 35,000 Dollars, for the use of the Battalions raised in *New-Jersey*, he to be accountable for the same.

Agreeable to the Order of the Day, the Congress proceeded to the election of two Brigadier-Generals, and the ballots being taken and examined, *Joseph Frye*, Esq., was elected Brigadier-General for the Army in the *Massachusetts-Bay*, *Benedict Arnold*, Esq., Brigadier-General for the Army in the Northern Department.

The Committee of Safety having recommended a number of persons for Field-Officers for the *Pennsylvania* Battalion, the Congress proceeded to the election, and the ballots being taken, *William Irvine* was elected Colonel; *Thomas Hartley*, Lieutenant-Colonel; and *James Dunlap*, Major.

Resolved, That another Battalion be raised in the Colony of *New-Jersey*, on the same terms as the other two raised in said Colony.

Resolved, That the pay of the troops serving in, and destined for *Canada*, be the same as that of the Army at *Cambridge*; and that this pay commence to the *Pennsylvania* and *New-Jersey* Battalions from the time they set out on their march for *Canada*.

The Congress considering the great distance from Colonel *Heard* to Colonel *Waterbury*, the difficulty of cooperating with each other in their expedition into *Queen's* County, on *Long-Island*, thereupon,

Resolved, That Lord *Stirling* be desired to furnish Colonel *Heard* with three Companies under his command, who are to join Colonel *Heard*, with the Minute-Men by him raised, and proceed, as soon as may be, on the expedition into *Queen's* County, for which Colonel *Heard* and Colonel *Waterbury* were appointed, and that Colonel *Heard* be desired immediately to send an Express to Colonel *Waterbury*, with a copy of this Resolution, and inform him that his service will not be required on this occasion.

Resolved, That a Committee of five be appointed to take into consideration the state of these Colonies, and report as soon as possible what number of Forces will be necessary for the defence of the same.

The Members chosen, Mr. *Duane*, Mr. *Lynch*, Mr. *Hooper*, Mr. *E. Rutledge*, and Mr. *Wilson*.

Resolved, That the Colony of *North-Carolina* be supplied with one ton of Powder by the Secret Committee.

The Committee of Claims reported, that there is due, on Account rendered by the Committee of the Upper District of *Frederick* County, *Maryland*, the sum of 800.1 Dollars, of which a Captain *Cresap's* Company ought to be charged £214 2*s.* 8*d.*, [571 Dollars,] and Captain *Price's* Company £29, [77¼ Dollars,] the remainder to be charged to the Continent, the money to be paid to *Daniel Hester*.

That there is due to *Furman & Hunt*, for Provisions, &c., furnished to Prisoners, the sum of 178.2 Dollars.

To *William Shad*, for his attendance as Doorkeeper, to the 4th of *December*, 1775, the sum of 52 Dollars.

Ordered, That the said Accounts be paid.

Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow.

—

Thursday, January 11, 1776.

Resolved, That it be recommended to the Convention or Committee of Safety of *New-York*, to endeavour to obtain a release of Lieutenant ——— *Tylee*, of Brigadier *Wooster's* Regiment, now confined on board the *Asia*, man-of-war, by exchanging for him an officer of the same rank of the *British* troops in our custody.

Resolved, That a Committee of Three be appointed to prepare Instructions to the Officers in the Recruiting Service.

The Members chosen, Mr. *Wilson*, Mr. *Dyer*, and Mr. *Harrison*.

The Congress taking into consideration the Report of the Committee on the Bills of Credit, emitted by this Congress, thereupon came to the following Resolution:

Whereas, it appears to this Congress, that several evil-disposed persons, in order to obstruct and defeat the efforts of the *United Colonies*, in the defence of their just rights, have attempted to depreciate the Bills of Credit emitted by the authority of this Congress:

Resolved, therefore, That if any person shall hereafter be so lost to all virtue and regard for his country, as to refuse to receive the said Bills in payment, or obstruct or discourage the currency or circulation thereof, and shall be duly convicted by the Committee of the City, County, or District, or in case of appeal from their decision, by the Assembly, Convention, Council or Committee of Safety of the Colony where he shall reside, such person shall be deemed, published, and treated as an enemy of his country, and precluded from all trade or intercourse with the inhabitants of these Colonies.

Ordered, That the foregoing Resolve be immediately published.

Resolved, That an Order be drawn on the Treasurers, in favour of the Committee of Safety of *Pennsylvania*, for the sum of 6000 Dollars, for the use of the First *Pennsylvania* Battalion, the said Committee to be accountable for the same.

A Representation of the Field-Officers of the *Pennsylvania* Battalions, setting forth the inconveniences that will arise from the Battalions consisting of seven Battalion Companies, was presented to Congress and read.

Resolved, That the same be taken into consideration to-morrow.

Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow.

—

Friday, January 12, 1776.

The Committee of Claims reported, that there is due to *Henry Dewson*, for Provisions to Captain *Ross's* Company, the sum of 27.5 Dollars.

The said Committee report, that they have had under their consideration an Account exhibited by Colonel *Turbot Francis*, one of the Commissioners for *Indian* Affairs for the Northern Department, of goods purchased for the Treaty held with the *Indians*, at *Albany*, of his expenses in attending the Treaty, &c., amounting to the sum of £2470, *Pennsylvania* currency, including the sum of £242 13*s.* 4*d.*, *New-York* currency, paid to *Volkert P. Douw*, Esq.; in which Account he credits cash received of the Continental Treasurers, the sum of 6666⅔ Dollars, equal to £2500, and two horses taken to himself at cost, £42 15*s.*; that there is, therefore, a balance in his hands, amounting to £72 15*s.*; and by the same Account, it appears that Colonel *Francis* had left in the hands of Mr. *Douw*, two Mattresses, &c., about fifteen gallons of Wine, and some Spirits, to be accounted for by him when sold; it also further appears that there remains on hand, part of the gonds purchased for the said Treaty: 9½ pieces Strouds, 1½ pieces *French* Blankets, 3½ pieces Striped ditto, 46 Rose ditto, 2 pieces of White Nap.

That there is due to *Volkert P. Douw*, Esq., for expenses attending the aforesaid Treaty, according to an Account rendered by him and examined by this Committee, (in which he credits the above-mentioned sum of £242

13*s.* 4*d.*, and also credits cash received for Boards, which he had purchased for the *Indian* houses, the sum of £15 6*s.* 2*d.*,) the sum of £868 15*s.* 4½*d.*, *New-York* currency; there will then remain in his hands the Mattresses, Wine, &c., and Spirits, before mentioned, and some Boards, which are not yet sold.

Ordered, That the above sums be paid *Henry Dewson* and *Volkert P. Douw*, Esqs., the debts to them due; the latter through the hands of *James Duane*, Esq.

The Committee appointed to inquire into the conduct of the Officers, who are prisoners, and the manner in which they are subsisted at present, brought in their Report, which, being taken into consideration, was agreed to, as follows:

Resolved, That the conduct of the Officers at *Trenton*, though in other respects unexceptionable, is, as to their manner of living, exceedingly extravagant, they being boarded at Taverns, and the Innkeepers supplying them in a luxurious manner, on the credit of the Continent.

That the Congress will, for the future, allow two Dollars per week for the Board and Lodgings of Officers, who are prisoners, (for which sum they may have decent lodgings,) to be repaid by the Officers before they are released from their captivity.

That the Accounts of the several Innkeepers, against the Officers, be paid by the Continent, which are, also, to be repaid by the said Officers before their discharge.

That no Tavernkeeper supply the said Officers, for the future, on the credit of the Continent.

That the Officers now at *Trenton* be directed to remove to some other place, at a proper distance from the publick post-road.

That the Officers at *Trenton* have liberty, consistent with former Resolutions of Congress, to choose the places of their residence.

That a copy of the above Resolutions, together with a copy of the Resolution granting Officers liberty to sell Bills for their subsistence, be transmitted to the several Committees where Officers, who are prisoners, reside, and that the said Committees be directed to apply to the said Officers for their bills, to discharge the debts already incurred, and, also, to inform them it is expected they will, from time to time, draw for their future subsistence.

Ordered, That *Rachel Stelle's* Account, amounting to 423.6 Dollars, for Subsistence of Officers to the 4th of *January*, 1776, be paid.

The Congress resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into consideration the Trade of the *United Colonies*, and, after some time, the President resumed the chair, and Mr. *Ward* reported, that the Committee had taken into consideration the matter to them referred, but, not having come to a conclusion, desired leave to sit again.

Resolved, That this Congress will, to-morrow, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into further consideration the Trade of the *United Colonies*.

A Memorial from the Field-Officers of the First *Pennsylvania* Battalion was presented to Congress:

Ordered, That the same be referred for consideration till to-morrow.

The several matters to this day referred being postponed,

Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow.

—

Saturday January 13, 1776.

A Letter from General *Washington*, dated the 4th *January*, 1776; also, a Letter from the Committee of Safety of *New-York*, dated *January* 3d, 1776, being received, were read:

Resolved, That a Committee of Five be appointed to take into consideration a Letter from the Committee of Safety of *New-York*, and to confer with Mr. *Romans*, and report to Congress.

The Members chosen, Mr. *Paine*, Mr. *Dyer*, Mr. *Lynch*, Mr. *Wythe*, and Mr. *Livingston*.

The Secret Committee having made report respecting the purchase of Saltpetre:

Resolved, That the said Committee be directed to purchase the Saltpetre on the best terms they can, and have it manufactured into Gunpowder as soon as possible.

Resolved, That the Secret Committee be directed to supply Colonel *Heard* with two hundred pounds of Gunpowder, to enable him to carry into execution the orders of Congress.

Resolved, That *John Morgan* be promoted to the rank of First Lieutenant in the First *Pennsylvania* Battalion.

Adjourned to ten o'clock, on *Monday*.

—

Monday, January 15, 1776.

A paragraph of a Letter from *Peter Timothy*, Secretary to the Provincial Convention and Committee of Safety of *South-Carolina*, dated *January* 5th, to *C. Gadsden*, Esq., was read, informing that the said Convention have resolved to continue the Delegates, and have constituted any two of them to be a quorum to represent said Colony.

A Letter from General *Washington*, dated the 31st of *December*, 1775, enclosing a Draft of Captain *Matthews*, on the Treasury of *Virginia*, for one hundred Pounds, lawful money, for so much advanced to him by the General; also, sundry other papers: Two Letters from Lord *Stirling*, dated *January* 8th and 11th, 1776, and a Letter from Governour *Trumbull*, dated 6th *January*, 1776, with three enclosures:

Resolved, That the Letter from General *Washington* be referred to a Committee of Three.

The Members chosen, Mr. *Wythe*, Mr. *Adams*, and Mr. *Wilson*.

Resolved, That the Letters of Lord *Stirling* be referred to a Committee of Five.

The Members chosen, Mr. *Livingston*, Mr. *McKean*, Mr. *Floyd*, Mr. *Ward*, and Mr. *Alexander*.

Resolved, That the Letter from Governour *Trumbull*, with the enclosed papers, be referred to the Committee appointed to confer with Mr. *Romans*.

A Letter from the Committee of Safety of *New-York*, dated *January* 11th, 1776, was read, and referred to the Committee on the state of the Colonies.

Resolved, That a Committee of Five be appointed to make an estimate of the number of Cannon that may be wanted for the defence of the *United Colonies*, and to devise ways and means for procuring them, and that it be an instruction to the said Committee to inquire what size Cannon can be cast in these Colonies.

The Members chosen, Mr. *Wisner*, Mr. *Hopkins*, Mr. *Rogers*, Mr. *Allen*, and Mr. *Paine*.

Resolved, That Captain *Matthews's* Draft on the Treasury of *Virginia* be delivered to the Delegates of that Colony, and that they be desired to receive the Money, and pay the same to the Continental Treasurers.

Resolved, That no bought or indented Servants be employed on board the Fleet, or in the Army of the *United Colonies*, without the consent of their Masters.

The Committee of Claims reported that there is due:

To *Jacob Hiltzheimer*, for Expresses, the sum of 356.1 Dollars.

To *Jonathan Trumbull*, Jun., for his expenses to *Philadelphia*, and returning to *New-York* with money, the sum of 99.7 Dollars.

To *Thomas Apty*, for boarding several Prisoners, the sum of 109.6 Dollars.

Ordered, That the above Accounts be paid.

Resolved, That it be recommended to the Committee of Safety of *Pennsylvania* to inquire into the characters of the Recruits, or Privates, taken on board the *Rebecca-and-Frances*, transport, and to dismiss such as may with safety to the *United Colonies* be discharged.

The Congress resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into consideration the state of the Trade of the *United Colonies*; and, after some time, the President resumed the chair, and Mr. *Ward* reported, that the Committee had taken into their further consideration the matter to them referred, but, that not having yet come to a conclusion, they desired him to move for leave to sit again.

Resolved, That this Congress will, on *Friday* next, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into consideration the Trade of the *United Colonies*.

Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow.

Tuesday, January 16, 1776.

The Colony of *Connecticut* having appointed new Delegates, the same attending, produced the Credentials of their appointment, which were read, as follows:

"At a General Assembly of the Governour and Company of the *English* Colony of *Connecticut*, in *New-England*, in *America*, holden at *New-Haven*, in said Colony, on the second *Thursday* of *October*, Anno Domini 1775:

"*Resolved*, By this Assembly, that *Roger Sherman, Oliver Wolcott, Samuel Huntington, Titus Hosmer*, and *William Williams*, Esquires, be, and they are hereby appointed Delegates to represent this Colony at the General Congress of the *United Colonies* in *America*, for the year ensuing, and until new be chosen; that is to say, the said *Roger Sherman, Oliver Wolcott*, and *Samuel Huntington*, Esqs., do attend said Congress, and on the failure of either of the said gentlemen, by sickness, or otherwise, then the said *Titus Hosmer*, or *William Williams*, Esquires, are to supply the place, or places, of any or either of the said three gentlemen first named, in such manner that three of said Delegates, and three only, do attend said Congress at any one time; and the said three Delegates, or any or either of them, who shall be present in said Congress, are hereby fully authorized and empowered to represent this Colony in said Congress, to consult, advise, and resolve upon measures necessary to be taken and pursued for the defence, security and preservation of the rights and liberties of the said *United Colonies*, and for their common safety; and of such their proceedings and resolves they do transmit authentick copies, from time to time, to the General Assembly of this Colony. That the said Delegates now appointed do repair to, and take their seats in said Congress, by the first day of *January* next, in case said Congress shall be then sitting, or as soon after as said Congress shall be convened; and that the said gentlemen, who are now attending said Congress in behalf of this Colony, do continue in their said office until the gentlemen now chosen, and directed to attend in manner aforesaid, shall arrive at said Congress.

"A true copy of Record, examined by

"GEORGE WYLLYS, *Secretary*."

A Letter from Mr. *Lewis*, dated *January* 8th, 1776, was read, recommending a stranger to the notice of Congress,

Ordered, That the same be referred to the Committee on the qualifications of persons applying for Offices.

Resolved, That a Member be appointed on the Committee to draw up Instructions to the Officers in the Recruiting Service, in the room of Mr. *Dyer*.

The ballots taken, Mr. *McKean* chosen.

Resolved, That the several Petitions of gentlemen praying to be appointed Officers in the *Pennsylvania* Battalions, be referred to the Committee on the qualifications of Officers.

An application being made in behalf of Mr. *Jugé*, and the owner of a vessel lately arrived in *Delaware*, for leave to export Provisions to the amount of cargoes by them imported:

Resolved, That this be referred to the Secret Committee.

Some Members of the Secret Committee being absent,

Resolved, That two Members be added to that Committee.

The Members chosen, Mr. *Hewes* and Mr. *Alexander*.

The Committee on the state of these Colonies brought in a partial Report, which was read,

Whereupon, *Resolved*, That another Battalion be raised in the Colony of *North-Carolina*, in order to defeat any attempt which may be made in opposition to the measures recommended by the Continental Congress for the preservation of *American* liberty.

Resolved, That the further consideration of the Report be referred till to-morrow.

Resolved, That to-morrow be assigned for taking into consideration, in a Committee of the Whole, the propriety of opening the Ports after the 1st of *March* next.

Information being given to Congress by the Delegates of *South-Carolina*, that their Colony, being in want of Seamen, had given orders to offer high wages to such as would engage in their service; but lest this should cause uneasiness among the Seamen employed in the service of the Colonies, they thought it proper to inform the Congress thereof, and take their opinion and direction thereon.

Resolved, That it be referred to a Committee of Five.

The Members chosen, Mr. *Hopkins*, Mr. *Huntington*, Mr. *Paine*, Mr. *Morris*, and Mr. *Floyd*.

Resolved, That the Committee appointed to fit out Armed Vessels be empowered to purchase and fit out a small Vessel, as a Tender for the Fleet fitted out.

The Committee appointed to devise ways and means for procuring Powder from *Providence*, brought in a Report, with an account of a Cargo provided for that purpose by Messrs. *Willing & Morris*, amounting to 3,233.2 Dollars; whereupon,

Resolved, That the said Committee be authorized to give such Orders to the Captain of the Vessel fitted out for the service, as they may think proper.

That an Order be drawn on the Treasurers, in favour of Messrs. *Willing & Morris*, for the sum of 3,233.2 Dollars, in full for the Cargo shipped on board the Sloop *Lady-Catharine*, for the use of the Continent.

The Committee on General *Washington's* Letters brought in their Report, which being taken into consideration, the Congress thereupon came to the following Resolutions:

Resolved, That the Paymaster General of the Army, at *Cambridge*, be empowered to draw his Bills upon the President of the Congress, or, in their recess, upon the Committee of Congress for that purpose appointed, for any sums of Money which may be deposited in his hands, not exceeding, in any one month, the monthly expense of the Army; and that such Bills, countersigned by the General, or Commander-in-chief of the said Army, be accepted and paid.

That the free Negroes who have served faithfully in the Army at *Cambridge*, may be reinlisted therein, but no others.

That, if General *Washington* think proper, Colonel *R. Gridley* be continued Chief Engineer in the Army at *Cambridge*.

That the pay of the Assistant Engineers in the Army at *Cambridge* be twenty-six Dollars and two-thirds per month.

That there be but one Chaplain to every two Regiments of the Army at *Cambridge*, and that the pay of each Chaplain be thirty-three and one-third Dollars per month.

The Committee having desired leave to sit again, the same was granted.

Sundry Members of the Committee on the qualifications of persons applying for Offices, being absent,

Resolved, That four new Members be now chosen in the place of those who are absent.

The Members chosen, Mr. *Wolcott*, for *Connecticut*, in the room of Mr. *Dyer*; Mr. *Duane*, for *New-York*, in the room of Mr. *Jay*; Mr. *McKean*, for the three lower Counties on *Delaware*, in the room of Mr. *Rodney*; and Mr. *Rogers*, for *Maryland*.

Resolved, That *Thursday* next be assigned for taking into consideration the Report of the Committee on *Indian* Affairs.

Resolved, That a list of the Committees to whom matters are referred, and who have not reported, be made out, and laid upon the table.

Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow.

—

Wednesday, January 17, 1776.

A Petition from *Benjamin Church* was presented to Congress, and read.

Ordered, That the same be referred to a Committee of Three.

The Members chosen, Mr. *Harrison*, Mr. *Paca*, and Mr. *Hooper*.

A Petition from *Ibbetson Hamar*, an Officer, prisoner at *Trenton*, praying for leave to reside with Mrs. *Hamar*, at Mr. *Stainforth's*, near *Strawberry-Hill*, near *Princeton*, was read.

Resolved, That the same be agreed to.

A Memorial from the Captains and Subalterns of the First *Pennsylvania* Battalion, complaining of the conduct of Colonel *Bull*, was presented to Congress, and read.

Resolved, That the same be referred to the Committee on the qualifications of Officers, and that they be directed to hear the parties, and report to Congress.

A Letter from Messrs. *P. Livingston*, *Alsop*, and *Lewis*, dated 15th of *January*, informing that only four hundred and sixty-two quarter-casks of Powder were imported, being laid before Congress, was read.

Agreeable to the Order of the Day, the Congress resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into consideration the propriety of opening the Ports after the 1st of *March* next; and, after some time, the President resumed the chair, and Mr. *Ward* reported, that the Committee had taken into consideration the matter to them referred, and had come to a Resolution, which he read in his place, and delivered in.

The Report of the Committee being read,

Ordered, That the same lie on the table.

Resolved, That a Committee of Five be appointed to consider under what regulations and restrictions the Trade of these Colonies ought to be carried on, after the 1st of *March* next.

The Members chosen, Mr. *Harrison*, Mr. *Morris*, Mr. *Lynch*, Mr. *Adams*, and Mr. *Sherman*.

Resolved, That a Member be added to the Committee appointed to confer with Mr. *Romans*.

The Member chosen, Mr. *Wolcott*.

The Committee appointed to prepare instructions for the Officers in the Recruiting Service, brought in their Report, which was read, and the same being taken into consideration, the Congress thereupon came to the following Resolutions:

Resolved, That the Colonels of the several Battalions ordered to be raised, do immediately order their Officers on Recruiting Service to such parts where they are best known, and have the greatest probability of success.

That the Recruiting Officers ought to be careful to inlist none but healthy, sound, and able-bodied men, and not under sixteen years of age.

That the Colonels of the several Battalions aforesaid, appoint some place, or places, of rendezvous, to which the Recruits may be sent, and where the Battalions may be quartered.

That the greatest attention ought to be paid to the behaviour of the Troops in Quarters, that they may give no reasonable cause of complaint.

That the Quarters of the Troops be duly discharged once every week.

That an allowance of one Dollar and-a-third of a Dollar, per man, be made to the Recruiting Officers, in lieu of their expenses in recruiting, exclusive of the Subsistence-Money allowed them; and that, in case any men be inlisted contrary to the foregoing regulations, the pay they may have received, and the Subsistence-Money that may be paid for them, shall be stopped from the pay of such Recruiting Officers.

That the Colonels of the several Battalions to be raised in *Pennsylvania* be supplied with Money for the Recruiting Service by the Committee of Safety of said Colony, and disburse the same to the several Recruiting Officers; the Colonels and other Officers to be accountable for what they shall receive, and all arrears they may fall into to be stopped from their pay.

Resolved, That the sum of one Dollar and one-third of a Dollar, per man, be allowed to the Officers of the First *Pennsylvania* Battalion for each man by them inlisted, who shall have passed muster.

Resolved, That the Treasurers be empowered to advance to Mr. *Regonville* a sum not exceeding four hundred Dollars, taking his draft or bill on his agent for the same.

A Letter from General *Schuyler*, dated *January* 13th, enclosing copies of Letters from General *Wooster*, Colonel *Arnold*, and others, was laid before Congress, and read, containing an account of an unsuccessful attempt made to gain possession of *Quebeck*, by storm, on the 31st of *December*, and of the death of General *Montgomery*.

The Committee to whom the matter of *South-Carolina*, respecting the engaging of Seamen, was referred, brought in their Report, which was read.

Adjourned till ten o'clock, to-morrow.

—

Thursday, January 18, 1776.

The Committee on the Petition of Doctor *Church*, brought in their Report, which being taken into consideration,

Resolved, That Governour *Trumbull* be desired to give order for the removal of Doctor *Church* to some more comfortable place of confinement than that where he now is, if such can be found in that Colony; and that, for the advancement of his health, the said Doctor *Church* be permitted to ride out, at proper seasons, under a trusty guard, who will be careful to prevent his carrying on any correspondence, or doing any act prejudicial to the safety and welfare of the *United Colonies*.

A Letter from the Committee of *Frederick*, enclosing sundry intercepted Letters of *Connolly*, taken on Doctor *John Smith*, one of *Connolly's* associates, and brought by the guard who had the charge of bringing down said *Smith*, was laid before Congress and read.

Resolved, That it be recommended to the Committee of Safety of *Pennsylvania*, to take the examination of Doctor *Smith*, and then commit him to safe and close confinement.

Resolved, That a Committee of Five be appointed to take into consideration the Letter from General *Schuyler*, of the 13th of *January*, with the enclosures, and report thereon to Congress.

The Members chosen, Mr. *Lynch*, Mr. *Wythe*, Mr. *Sherman*, Mr. *Ward*, and Mr. *Samuel Adams*.

Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow.

—

Friday, January 19, 1776.

Resolved, That five new Members be added to the Committee of Claims, in the room of so many absent.

The Members chosen, Mr. *Wolcott*, for *Connecticut*, in the room of Mr. *Dean*; Mr. *Floyd*, for *New-York*, in the room of Mr. *Lewis*; Mr. *McKean*, for the three lower Counties on the *Delaware*, in the room of Mr. *Rodney*; Mr. *Rogers*, for *Maryland*, in the room of Mr. *Johnson*; Mr. *E. Rutledge*, for *South-Carolina*, in the room of Mr. *Gadsden*.

The Committee to whom the Letters from *Lancaster* were referred, brought in an answer, which being read, was approved.

Ordered, That the same be transcribed and forwarded.

The Congress took into consideration the Report of the Committee on the matter of *South-Carolina*, respecting Seamen; whereupon,

Resolved, That it be recommended to Captain *Cochran*, who is arrived here for the purpose of recruiting Seamen, to pursue the following plan in the Inlisting Service in which he is employed by the Province of *South-Carolina*:

That he offer to each able-bodied Seamen the wages of eight Dollars per month, and that he pay to them, upon inlisting, nine Dollars bounty, and, upon their arrival in *South-Carolina*, the further bounty of five Dollars.

That Captain *Cochran* repair immediately to the camp at *Cambridge*, and take the advice and direction of General *Washington* on this affair, and proceed to inlist his Seamen in such parts of the country as will be the least prejudicial to the Continental service.

That the President write to General *Washington*, acquainting him with the situation of *South-Carolina*, the necessity that Colony is in for Seamen, and desiring that he will please to forward this service.

The Committee of Claims reported, that there is due,

To the Committee of *Berks* County, for Provisions, Ammunition, &c., furnished to Rifle Companies, £11 14*s.* 10*d.*, and for necessaries furnished the Prisoners from *St. John's*, the sum of £8 13*s.* 11*d.*, amounting, in the whole, to £20 8*s.* 9*d.*, (equal to 54.5 Dollars,) which ought to be paid to Doctor *Jonathan Potts*.

Ordered, That the same be paid.

Resolved, That an Order be drawn on the Treasurer in favour of the Delegates of *South-Carolina*, for the sum

of ten thousand Dollars, which was ordered to be advanced to the Commissioners for *Indian* Affairs in the Southern Department, the said Delegates to be accountable.

The Council of Safety for the three lower Counties on *Delaware*, having recommended sundry gentlemen for Field-Officers of the Battalion ordered to be raised in that Colony, the Congress proceeded to the choice, when the following gentlemen were chosen:

John Haslet, Esq., Colonel; *Gunning Bedford*, Esq., Lieutenant-Colonel.

The Congress resumed the consideration of the Report of the Committee on the state of the Colonies; and, whereupon,

Resolved, That four Battalions be raised in the Colony of *New-York*, for the defence of that Colony, upon the same pay with those directed to be raised in the Province of *Pennsylvania*; and that they be stationed as the Commanding Officer of the *New-York* Department shall think best, to garrison the several Forts in that Province, from *Crown-Point* to the Southward, and to prevent depredations upon *Long-Island*, and to promote the safety of the whole.

Ordered, That a copy of the foregoing Resolution be transmitted to the Council of Safety of *New-York*; and that they be requested, with all possible expedition, to transmit to Congress the names of a number of gentlemen, at least two for each command, out of whom the Congress may elect Field-Officers for said Battalions.

The Committee on Qualifications brought in a Report, which was agreed to as follows:

That *Roger Stayner* and *George Jenkins* be appointed First Lieutenants in Colonel *Bull's* Battalion.

That the two eldest Ensigns, in the said Battalion, be Second Lieutenants, in the room of the above.

That *Robert Allison*, of *Chester* County, be appointed an Ensign in said Battalion.

That *Jacob Shallus* be appointed Quartermaster of said Battalion.

The Committee appointed to hear the complaints of the Officers of the First *Pennsylvania* Battalion against Colonel *Bull*, and Colonel *Bull's* defence, brought in their Report, which, after debate, was referred till to-morrow.

The Committee to whom General *Schuyler's* Letter, of the 13th of *January*, with the enclosures, was referred, brought in their Report, which was taken into consideration: Whereupon,

Resolved, That the *American* Army in *Canada* be reinforced with all possible despatch, as well for the security and relief of our friends there, as for better securing the rights and liberties not only of that Colony, but the other *United Colonies*.

That an Express be sent to the Committee of Safety of *New-Jersey*, and an application made to that of *Pennsylvania*, immediately to quicken the Officers employed in levying the Forces directed to be raised in those Colonies, and marched to *Canada*, and do all in their power to forward the service. And that the Committee of Inspection of the City and Liberties of *Philadelphia*, be requested forthwith to use their utmost endeavours to aid Mr. *J. Mease* in procuring of the householders therein, such Blankets as may be spared from their respective families, for the use of the Battalion destined for this important expedition, at so severe a season; for which the owners shall be allowed the value of such Blankets, according to the estimation of the said Committee of Inspection. And that Colonel *Bull* and Colonel *Maxwell*, do, without delay, march such of the Companies of their Battalions as are now ready, to General *Schuyler*.

That General *Washington* be requested to detach from the camp at *Cambridge*, one Battalion, if the service there will permit him to spare one, with orders to march with the greatest expedition possible to *Canada*.

That for the more speedy raising the Battalions ordered on the 8th of *January*, to be raised in the Colonies of *New-Hampshire*, *Connecticut*, *New-York*, and *Pennsylvania*, for the defence of *Canada*, it be recommended to the General Assemblies, Conventions, or Councils, or Committees of Safety of those Colonies, respectively, to exert their utmost endeavours in raising the said Battalions, upon the same pay and subsistence as the Army at *Cambridge*, and to furnish them with provisions, ammunition, and other necessaries, for expediting their march to *Canada*, and, for further encouraging the men more cheerfully to enter into the service of their country, to give a bounty of six Dollars and two-thirds to every able-bodied effective man, properly clothed for the service, and having a good Firelock, with a bayonet and other accoutrements, and four Dollars to every soldier not having the like arms and accoutrements; the arms to be supplied by the Colony, and the cost to be deducted out of the soldiers' pay. And, also, to provide a blanket and haversack for every inlisted soldier, and, moreover, to advance one month's pay to every officer and soldier before their march, that they may be able to purchase necessary clothing.

That the first two Companies which shall be complete, of every Battalion directed to be raised for the service in *Canada*, do march to that country so soon as they shall be ready, and be followed in the same numbers, with like expedition, by the rest of the corps. And, that it be recommended to the General Assemblies, Conventions, and Councils, or Committees of Safety of the Colonies in which Battalions are directed to be raised, that they, respectively, attend to this business.

The Committee desired leave to sit again, which was granted.

Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow.

—

Saturday, January 20, 1776.

Resolved, That an Order be drawn on the Treasurers, in favour of the Committee of Safety for *Pennsylvania*, for the sum of 15,000 Dollars, for the use of the Five Battalions to be raised in said Colony, the said Committee to be accountable.

The Committee of Claims reported that there is due:

To Captain *Henry Shylock*, for his expenses in bringing Doctor *John Smith* from *Hagerstown*, and for his expenses in returning home, the sum of 89.3 Dollars.

To *John Nelson*, for his expenses in bringing the said Dr. *Smith* from the *Little-Meadows* to *Hagerstown*, and for his trouble in attending him to this city, with allowance of expenses in returning home, the sum of 75 Dollars.

To *Francis Johnson*, Esq., for sundry expenses incurred by guards for Powder, Wagons, &c., the sum of 38 Dollars.

To *Thomas Dewees*, for supporting several Prisoners, the sum of 43.2 Dollars.

Ordered, That the above Accounts be paid.

A Memorial from Colonel *Bull* was read, setting forth, that "an attachment to liberty, and a regard for the rights of mankind, had induced him to take an active part in the present struggles for the defence of the same, and to offer his services as Colonel of the First *Pennsylvania* Battalion, which were accepted," but, that finding himself ill-treated by many of the officers in his corps, and that continuing in the command might prejudice the service, he was obliged, by a regard to the publick interest, to beg leave to resign his commission, humbly requesting that the Congress would proceed to a determination on the Memorial exhibited against him, and declaring that "the present untoward circumstances shall not alter his conduct, nor abate his zeal, and that whenever he shall be called upon again to serve his country, he shall with the greatest pleasure obey the summons."

The Committee on General *Schuyler's* Letter brought in a further Report, which being taken into consideration, the Congress came to the following Resolutions:

Resolved, That General *Washington* be desired to despatch a General Officer, if he can be spared from the service at *Cambridge*, to command the Army in *Canada*.

That, it being necessary to procure a large quantity of specie for the operations in *Canada*, which cannot be successfully carried on without that article, it be recommended to the General Assemblies, Conventions, and Councils, or Committees of Safety upon the Continent, to employ proper persons, within their respective Colonies, to collect all the gold and silver coin they can, and inform Congress of the sum collected.

That it will not be expedient, at present, to send a Committee of Congress to *Canada*.

That the Committee of Secrecy be desired to despatch

one ton of gunpowder with the first Companies that shall march from *Pennsylvania* to *Canada*, and that Governour *Trumbull* be desired to send the like quantity of gunpowder with the first Detachment of Forces directed to march thither from *Connecticut*.

That the losses sustained by Captain *Hazen* be ascertained by Commissioners to be appointed by the commanding officer in *Canada*, and that the Commissioners report their proceedings, with the examination of the witnesses, and their own opinion thereon, to Congress.

That the General Assemblies, Conventions, or Councils, or Committees of Safety of the Colonies in which Forces are directed to be raised for the service of *Canada*, be desired to raise, for the same service, one company of Mattrosses, consisting of forty privates, in each Colony, under proper officers; and, where a company cannot be completed, to raise as many as they can, under subaltern Officers, in proportion to their numbers.

That General *Wooster* be desired to take possession of the Medicine Chest mentioned by Colonel *Campbell*, to be claimed by Doctor *Beaumont*, and, if it appear to him to be private property, to pay the value thereof to the owner.

That the General Assemblies, Conventions, or Councils, or Committees of Safety, be desired to take the most effectual measures for recovering the Arms, Accoutrements, Batteaus, Tools, and other Stores of the Continent, said to have been carried off by some of the soldiers who have returned from *Canada*.

That 12,500 Dollars be advanced to each of the General Assemblies, or Councils, or Committees of Safety of the Colonies in which Forces are directed to be raised for the service of *Canada*, for the purpose of recruiting their respective Regiments.

That from the necessity of the case, and to prevent delays, blank commissions be issued by the President, for the Field-Officers, Captains, and Subalterns, who are to command the Battalions ordered to be raised for *Canada*, in *New-Hampshire* and *Connecticut*, to be filled up with the names of such gentlemen as shall be judged most proper by the Convention, or Committee of Safety of *New-Hampshire*, and by the Governour and Council of *Connecticut*.

That the foregoing Resolution be not drawn into a precedent.

That exclusive of Colonel *Livingston* and his Regiment, already determined upon, there be one thousand *Canadians* more raised, for one year, or during the present disputes, at six Dollars and two-thirds bounty, and the usual pay, which number shall compose four Battalions, and form one Regiment; five Companies of fifty men to each Battalion; one Captain, one Lieutenant, and one Ensign to each Company; and four Majors, one Lieutenant-Colonel, and one Colonel-commandant to the whole Regiment.

That the Committee of Safety of *Pennsylvania* be desired to provide and despatch fifes and drums to *Canada*, for the two Regiments directed to be raised in that Colony.

Resolved, That Orders be drawn on the Treasurers, in favour of the Delegates of *New-Hampshire*, for the above sum of 12,500 Dollars; and in favour of the Delegates of *Connecticut* for the like sum of 12,500 Dollars; and in favour of the Delegates of *New-York* for the like sum of 12,500 Dollars, for the use of the Battalions to be raised for *Canada;* and that the said Delegates be desired to forward the said sums to their respective Colonies with all expedition; the several Colonies to be accountable for the same.

Resolved, That the President be directed to send an Express to General *Schuyler*, with a Letter, informing him of the measures the Congress have taken for the defence of *Canada*, and desiring him to forward the same to General *Wooster*.

That he likewise despatch an Express, with the like information, to General *Washington*, to the Governour of *Connecticut*, and the Convention or Council of Safety of *New-Jersey*, *New-York*, and *New-Hampshire*.

The Committee on Qualifications having recommended the following gentlemen for Ensigns in the First *Pennsylvania* Battalion, viz: *Nicholas Scull*, *Joseph Greenway*, *John Irvine*, *John Brice*, *Benjamin Rice*, and *Major Walbroom;* the same were agreed to, and Commissions ordered to be given them accordingly.

Resolved, That the Secret Committee be directed to supply the Delegates of *New-Jersey* with three hundred pounds of Powder, for the use of Colonel *Maxwell's* Battalion.

Ordered, That the Delegates of *New-Jersey* be empowered to call on Mr. *T. Matlack*, and receive from him a quantity of Flints, for said Battalion, and a quantity of Ball or Lead, proportioned to three hundred pounds of Powder.

That the Treasurers be directed, with all expedition, to send a trusty person with £1000, in Continental money, to *Samuel Patterson*, Esq., near *Christiana-Bridge*, and receive in exchange for the same so much in Silver and Gold.

Adjourned to ten o'clock, on *Monday* next.

—

Monday, January 22, 1776.

A Letter from General *Washington*, of the 11th of *January*, 1776; two Letters from Lord *Stirling*, of the 18th and 19th of *January;* one Letter from General *Schuyler*, dated 10th *January*, enclosing a Letter from General *Montgomery*, of the 18th *December*, 1775, and eleven enclosures; also, a Petition from *John Sparling*, being received, were read.

Resolved, That the above be referred to a Committee of Three.

The Members chosen, Mr. *W. Livingston*, Mr. *Hooper*, and Mr. *Adams*.

Ordered, That as the Commissary of the First *Pennsylvania* Battalion is out of Town, the Quartermaster of said Battalion be directed to furnish the Companies of said Battalion, on their march to *Albany*, with Provisions as well as Lodgings.

Resolved, That the President be empowered to employ a Secretary, to be paid by the *United Colonies*.

The Committee of Claims reported, that there is due,

To Colonel *Benedict Arnold*, on account of his expenses in his expedition against *Ticonderoga* and *Crown-Point*, a balance amounting to 819 Dollars.

Ordered, That the same be paid to *Silas Deane*, Esq.

Resolved, That orders be sent to the Committee of *Trenton* to send General *Prescott* and Captain *Chace*, under a Guard, to *Philadelphia*.

Resolved, That a Committee of Three be appointed to consider a proper method of paying a just tribute of gratitude to the memory of General *Montgomery*.

The Members chosen, Mr. *Livingston*, Doctor *Franklin*, and Mr. *Hooper*.

The Congress proceeded to the election of Field-Officers for the Second *Canadian* Regiment, and *Moses Hazen*, Esq., was unanimously elected Colonel-commandant; *Edward Antill*, Esq., Lieutenant-Colonel.

Resolved, That the *United Colonies* will indemnify Colonel *Hazen* for any loss of half-pay he may sustain in consequence of his entering into their service.

Resolved, That the appointment of Majors, Captains, and Subaltern and Staff-Officers in the said Regiment, be left to the Commander-in-chief in *Canada*, with the advice of the General Officers in that country, and of Colonel *Hazen*, Lieutenant-Colonel *Antill*, and Mr. *Price*.

The Congress resumed the consideration of Colonel *Bull's* application for leave to resign his commission, which, being read, was accepted.

The Congress then proceeded to the election of a Colonel for the said First *Pennsylvania* Battalion, in the room of Colonel *Bull*, when *John Philip De Haas* was elected.

The Congress took into consideration the Report of the Committee on *Indian* Affairs, and the same being read, was referred till to-morrow.

A Memorial from Captain *Duncan Campbell*, a prisoner in the Jail of *Philadelphia*, being read,

Resolved, That the Committee of Safety of *Pennsylvania* be directed to release Captain *Campbell* on his parole, similar with that of the other Officers.

That Captain *Campbell* have leave to reside at *Lancaster*.

Application being made in behalf of Lieutenant *McDonald*, for leave to come to *Philadelphia*, and remain there five days, in order to transact some necessary business,

Resolved, That the same be granted.

Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow.

—

Tuesday, January 23, 1776.

A Letter from General *Schuyler*, of the 14th of *January*, enclosing a Letter from General *Arnold*, was read:

Resolved, That an account of the late repulse our Troops met with, and the loss sustained in the unsuccessful attempt on *Quebeck*, be drawn up by the Secretary and laid before Congress.

Resolved, That a Committee of Three be appointed to prepare a Letter to the *Canadians*.

The Members chosen, Mr. *Livingston*, Mr. *Lynch*, and Mr. *Wilson*.

Resolved, That the Articles of War be translated into *French*, and 500 copies sent to *Canada*.

It being represented to Congress that Mr. *Hazen* was under parole to General *Carleton*, the Congress proceeded to the choice of a Colonel for the Second *Canadian* Regiment, when the ballots being taken, *Edward Antill*, Esq., was elected Colonel-commandant.

Resolved, That the appointment of Lieutenant-Colonel for said Regiment be left to the Commander-in-chief in *Canada*, with the advice of the General Officers in that country, and Colonel *Antill* and Mr. *Price*.

The Committee of Claims reported, that there is due:

To *Adam Ekel*, for Wagonage from *Lancaster* to *Cambridge*, with Captain *Smith's* Company of Riflemen, a balance of 43.3 Dollars.

To *Deborah Siddens*, for Provisions, &c., for Captain *Ross's* Company, the sum of 15.5 Dollars.

To *John Jervis*, for Ferriage, Horse-hire, &c., the sum of 12 Dollars.

To the Committee of *Rombouts* Precinct, in *Dutchess* County, in the Colony of *New-York*, the sum of 129.4 Dollars.

To *Robert Erwin*, for Wagonage, 67 Dollars.

To *Timothy Matlack*, for cash paid by him to *Archibald Dick*, the expenses of a guard over a Powder-Wagon, 16.4 Dollars.

The Congress took into consideration the Report of the Committee on *Indian* Affairs, which was recommitted.

Resolved, That an Order be drawn on the Treasurers, in favour of the Committee of Safety of the three lower Counties on *Delaware*, for the sum of 3000 Dollars, for the use of the Battalion ordered to be raised there, the said Committee to be accountable for the expenditure.

The Committee to whom sundry Letters were yesterday referred, brought in their Report, which was read.

Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow.

—

Wednesday, January 24, 1776.

A Letter from the Committee of *Trenton*, of *January* 23d was read.

The Secretary laid before Congress an account of the repulse our Troops met with in their attempt on *Quebeck*, was read:

Ordered, That the same be published.

An Account of the Repulse our Troops met with in their attempt on *Quebeck*, the 31st *December*, 1775, published by Congress.

The letters from *Canada* bring an account of an unsuccessful attempt made to gain possession of *Quebeck* by storm, on the 31st *December* last, between the hours of two and seven in the morning.

The General, finding his cannon too light to effect a breach, and that the enemy would not hearken to terms of capitulation, formed a design for carrying the town by escalade. In this he was encouraged by the extensiveness of the works and the weakness of the garrison. When every thing was prepared, while he was waiting the opportunity of a snow-storm to carry the design into execution, several men deserted to the enemy. His plan at first was to have attacked the upper and lower town at the same time, depending principally for success against the upper town. But discovering from the motions of the enemy, that they were apprized of his design, he altered his plan; and having divided his little army into four detachments, ordered two feints to be made against the upper town, one by Colonel *Livingston*, at the head of the *Canadians*, against *St. John's Gate*; the other by Captain *Brown*, at the head of a small detachment, against *Cape-Diamond*; reserving to himself and Colonel *Arnold* the two principal attacks against the lower town.

At five o'clock, the hour appointed for the attack, the General, at the head of the *New-York* Troops, advanced against the lower town at *Aunce de Mere*. Being obliged to take a circuit, the signal for the attack was given, and the garrison alarmed, before he reached the place. However, pressing on, he passed the first barrier, and was just opening to attempt the second, when, by the first fire from the enemy, he was unfortunately killed, together with his Aid-de-camp, Captain *John Macpherson*, Capt. *Cheeseman*, and two or three more. This so dispirited the men, that Colonel *Campbell*, on whom the command devolved, found himself under the disagreeable necessity of drawing them off.

In the mean while, Colonel *Arnold*, at the head of about three hundred and fifty of those brave troops who with unparalleled fatigue had penetrated *Canada* under his command, and Captain *Lamb's* Company of Artillery, had passed through *St. Roques*, and approached near a two-gun battery, without being discovered. This he attacked; and though it was well defended for about an hour, carried it with a loss of a number of men. In this attack Colonel *Arnold* had the misfortune to have his leg splintered by a shot, and was obliged to be carried to the Hospital. After gaining the battery, his detachment passed on to a second barrier, which they took possession of. By this time the enemy, relieved from the other attacks, by our troops being drawn off, directed their whole force against this detachment; and a party sallying out from *Palace-Gate*, attacked them in the rear.

These brave men sustained the force of the whole garrison for three hours; but finding themselves hemmed in, and no hopes of relief, they were obliged to yield to numbers, and the advantageous situation the garrison had over them.

No regular return is yet come to hand; but by the advices received, we learn, that our loss, in killed and wounded, amounts to about sixty, and three hundred taken prisoners, who are treated very humanely. Among the slain are Captain *Hendricks* and Lieutenant *Humphreys*, of the Riflemen, and Lieutenant *Cooper*.

After this unfortunate repulse, the remainder of the Army retired about three miles from the city, where they have posted themselves advantageously, and are continuing the blockade, waiting for reinforcements, which are now on their march to join them.

Every possible mark of distinction was shown to the corpse of General *Montgomery*, who was interred in *Quebeck*, on the 2d *January*.

Resolved, That such of the Soldiers, ordered to *Canada*, as are married, and are desirous of having part of their pay given to their Wives, be indulged; and that the Captains be directed, in future payments of such Soldiers to deduct such part out of their Monthly Pay.

Resolved, That the President be desired to inform General *Schuyler*, that the return of Cannon, mentioned in his letter of *December* 21st, is mislaid, and that, therefore, he be desired to make a return to Congress as soon as may be, of all the Cannon and Artillery at *Crown-Point* and *Ticonderoga*, exclusive of those taken by Colonel *Knox*, for General *Washington*.

Resolved, That Mr. *Bankson* be appointed a First Lieutenant in the room of Mr. *Morgan*, who is in the country.

Information being given to Congress, that some Soldiers in the First *Pennsylvania* Battalion, now ordered to march immediately to *Canada*, are not supplied with Arms:

Resolved, That the Commanding Officer of said Battalion be directed to make a Return of the Arms of said Battalion, and how many are wanting, to the President of the Committee of Inspection and Observation for the City and Liberties of *Philadelphia*.

That the said Committee be desired to use their utmost

influence to provide good Arms for such of said Battalion as may want them.

Resolved, That a Committee of Seven be appointed to consider the propriety of establishing a War-Office, and the powers with which the said Office should be vested.

The Members, Mr. *Lynch*, Mr. *Franklin*, Mr. *E. Rutledge*, Mr. *Harrison*, Mr. *Ward*, Mr. *S. Adams*, and Mr. *Morris*.

The Committee appointed to prepare a Letter to the Inhabitants of *Canada*, reported a draft, which being read and considered, was approved, as follows:

Friends and Countrymen: Our former address to you pointed out our rights and grievances, and the means we have in our power, and which we are authorized by the *British* Constitution to use, in the maintenance of the former, and to obtain a redress of the latter.

We have, also, shown you, that your liberty, your honour, and your happiness, are essentially and necessarily connected with the unhappy contest which we have been forced into for the defence of our dearest privileges.

We see with inexpressible joy the favourable manner in which you have received the just and equitable remonstrances of your friends and countrymen, who have no other views than those of strengthening and establishing the cause of liberty. The services you have already rendered the common cause deserve our acknowledgments, and we feel the just obligation your conduct has imposed on us to make our services reciprocal.

The best of causes are subject to vicissitudes; and disappointments have ever been inevitable. Such is the lot of human nature. But generous souls, enlightened and warmed with the sacred fire of liberty, become more resolute as difficulties increase; and surmount, with irresistible ardour, every obstacle that stands between them and the favourite object of their wishes.

We will never abandon you to the unrelenting fury of your and our enemies. Two battalions have already received orders to march to *Canada*, a part of which are now on their route. Six additional battalions are raising in the *United Colonies*, for the same service, and will receive orders to proceed to your Province as soon as possible. The whole of these troops will probably arrive in *Canada* before the Ministerial army under General *Carleton* can receive any succours. Exclusive of the forces beforementioned, we have directed that measures be immediately taken to embody two regiments in your country. Your assistance in the support and preservation of *American* liberty affords us the most sensible satisfaction; and we flatter ourselves that you will seize with zeal and eagerness the favourable moment to co-operate in the success of so glorious an enterprise. And if more considerable forces should become requisite, they shall not fail being sent.

At this period you must be convinced that nothing is so essential to guard our interests and liberty as efficacious measures to combine our mutual forces, in order that, by such a union of succour and counsels, we may be able to baffle the endeavours of an enemy who, to weaken, may attempt to divide us. To this effect we advise and exhort you to establish Associations, in your different Parishes, of the same nature with those which have proved so salutary to the *United Colonies;* to elect Deputies to form a Provincial Assembly; and that said Assembly be instructed to appoint Delegates to represent them in this Congress. We flatter ourselves with the prospect of the happy moment when the standard of tyranny shall no longer appear in this land; and we live in full hopes that it will never hereafter find shelter in *North-America*.

Signed in the name and by order of Congress:

John Hancock, *President*.

Philadelphia, January 24, 1776.

Ordered, That it be immediately translated and printed.

Resolved, That an Order be drawn on the Treasurers, in favour of Mr. *Carpenter Wharton*, for the sum of one thousand Dollars, to enable him to supply the First *Pennsylvania* Battalion with Provisions on their march to *Albany;* he to be accountable.

Resolved, That a Committee of Five be appointed to prepare an Address to the Inhabitants of the *United Colonies*.

The Members chosen, Mr. *Dickinson*, Mr. *Wilson*, Mr. *Hooper*, Mr. *Duane*, and Mr. *Alexander*.

Resolved, That an Order be drawn on the Treasurers, in favour of Colonel *Hazen*, for sum of 533⅓ Dollars, he to be accountable.

That a like Order be drawn in favour of Colonel *Antill*, for the sum of 200 Dollars.

That the sum of 2666⅔ Dollars, in specie, be advanced to Colonel *Hazen*, for the use of the Battalion to be by him raised in *Canada*.

Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow.

—

Thursday, January 25, 1776.

A Letter from the Committee of *Trenton*, dated the 23d of *January;* a Letter from *Ibbetson Hamar*, dated *January* 23; a Letter from Dr. *Richard Huddleston*, of the same date; and a Letter from the Committee of *Lancaster*, of the 22d of *January*, enclosing an answer from the Officers to the Resolutions of Congress, were read.

Resolved, That the foregoing be referred to the Committee of Correspondence.

A Letter from Colonel *Maxwell*, respecting the unprepared state of his Battalion, being read:

Resolved, That an Order be drawn on the Treasurers, in favour of the Committee of *Trenton*, for the sum of 4000 Dollars, for the purchase of Arms for Colonel *Maxwell's* Battalion, the said Committee to be accountable.

Resolved, That the President write to the said Committee, and to Mr. *Lowrey*, stimulating them to furnish Colonel *Maxwell* with the articles necessary for their march; and that the President write to Colonel *Maxwell*, and direct him to send forward to *Albany* the first Company that can be got ready, and that he cause the other Companies to march with like expedition, as fast as they can be got ready.

Resolved, That a Committee of Three be appointed to take the examination of General *Prescott* and Captain *Chace*, who are now arrived at *Philadelphia*, and report to Congress.

The Members chosen, Mr. *Adams*, Mr. *Ward*, and Mr. *Sherman*.

The Committee appointed to consider of a proper method of paying a just tribute of gratitude to the memory of General *Montgomery*, brought in their Report, which, being taken into consideration, was agreed to, as follows:

It being not only a tribute of gratitude justly due to the memory of those who have peculiarly distinguished themselves in the glorious cause of liberty, to perpetuate their names by the most durable Monuments erected to their honour, but, also, greatly conducive to inspire posterity with an emulation of their illustrious actions:

Resolved, That, to express the veneration of the *United Colonies* for their late General, *Richard Montgomery*, and the deep sense they entertain of the many signal and important services of that gallant officer, who, after a series of successes, amidst the most discouraging difficulties, fell, at length, in a gallant attack upon *Quebeck*, the Capital of *Canada*, and for transmitting to future ages, as examples truly worthy of imitation, his patriotism, conduct, boldness of enterprise, insuperable perseverance, and contempt of danger and death, a Monument be procured, from *Paris*, or any other part of *France*, with an inscription, sacred to his memory, and expressive of his amiable character and heroick achievements; and that the Continental Treasurers be directed to advance a sum, not exceeding three hundred Pounds sterling, to Dr. *Benjamin Franklin*, (who is desired to see this Resolution properly executed,) for defraying the expenses thereof.

That Dr. *Smith* be desired to prepare and deliver a Funeral Oration in honour of General *Montgomery*, and of those Officers and Soldiers who so magnanimously fought and fell with him in maintaining the principles of *American* liberty.

Resolved, That the direction of the Fleet fitted out by the order of Congress be left to the Marine Committee.

A Letter from General *Washington*, dated the 14th of *January*, was laid before Congress, and read.

Resolved, That it be referred for consideration to the Committee of Correspondence.

Resolved, That Mr. *James Mease* be appointed Commissary to supply the Battalions ordered to be raised in *Pennsylvania* with the articles allowed by Congress; he

to be allowed one and one-fourth per centum, in full of all charges for the money passing through his hands, and to give security for the just and faithful expenditure of the same.

That Mr. *Lynch* and Mr. *Allen* be appointed to take the security.

Resolved, That an Order be drawn on the Treasurers, in favour of the Delegates of *North-Carolina*, for the sum of ten thousand Dollars, for the use of the Battalions ordered to be raised in that Colony.

The Committee appointed to take the examination of General *Prescott* and Captain *Chace*, made report of their proceedings.

Resolved, That Colonel *Roberdeau* be requested to relieve the guard from *Trenton*, who have charge of General *Prescott* and Captain *Chace*, with a trusty guard from his Battalion.

Resolved, That the Committee appointed to take the examination of General *Prescott* and Captain *Chace*, be directed to inquire particularly into the conduct and character of General *Prescott*; to consult the Letters of General *Washington*, General *Schuyler*, and General *Montgomery*, respecting him; and report to Congress.

Resolved, That the Fortification at *Crown-Point* be not repaired; and that the Fortress at *Ticonderoga* be repaired and made defensible; and that General *Schuyler* be desired to make return to Congress, as soon as may be, of the size and number of Cannon that will be necessary to fortify that place.

The Congress being informed that there are some circumstances attending the parole given by Mr. *Hazen*,

Resolved, That a Committee be appointed to inquire into the particulars.

The Committee returned, and reported, that, upon inquiry, they find the parole was given while he was in close custody; that, notwithstanding the parole, he was still continued in the same confinement, and kept confined till released by General *Montgomery*, after gaining possession of *Montreal*. Whereupon,

Resolved, That the Resolutions passed on *Monday* stand; and that those passed on *Tuesday*, respecting the appointment of Colonel and Lieutenant-Colonel of *Canadian* Regiments, be expunged.

Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow.

—

Friday, January 26, 1776.

A Letter from General *Lee*, dated 22d *January*, enclosing a Letter from the Committee of Safety of *New-York*, being received, was read.

Resolved, That a Committee of Three be appointed to consider what allowance ought to be made for paying the Troops in *New-Jersey* and *Pennsylvania*, and report to Congress.

The Members chosen, Mr. *Ward*, Mr. *Harrison*, and Mr. *Allen*.

Resolved, That an Order be drawn on the Treasurers, in favour of the Commissioners for *Indian* Affairs in the Middle Department, for the sum of one thousand Dollars; they to be accountable.

A Petition from sundry persons, respecting the Inlisting Apprentices, was presented and read.

The Congress taking into consideration the Letter from General *Lee*, with the enclosure:

Resolved, That a Committee of Three be appointed to repair to *New-York*, to consult and advise with the Council of Safety of *New-York* and General *Lee*, respecting the immediate defence of the said City; and that General *Lee* be directed to follow the determination of the said Committee thereupon.

That it be an instruction to the said Committee, in case the City cannot be defended, that they earnestly recommend it to the inhabitants immediately to remove their most valuable effects to a place of safety.

That the said Committee be further instructed to consult with General *Lee* and the Committee of Safety of *New-York*, about the Fortifications on *Hudson's River*, and about fortifying the pass at *Hell-gate*.

The Committee appointed Mr. *Harrison*, Mr. *Lynch*, and Mr. *Allen*.

A Letter from *Fort-Pitt*, dated the 15th of *January*, with enclosures, were read.

Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow.

—

Saturday, January 27, 1776.

A Letter from General *Washington*, 19th *January*, with four enclosures.

Resolved, That the same be referred to Mr. *Wythe*, Mr. *Sherman*, Mr. *Ward*, and Mr. *S. Adams*.

A Letter from the Committee of *Trenton*, dated 24th *January*, with an enclosure; a Letter from Lord *Stirling*, dated 25th *January*; and a Letter from Mr. *Lowrey*, dated 24th *January*, were read, and referred to the same Committee.

Resolved, That a Committee of two be appointed to confer with Colonel *Hazen*.

The Members chosen, Mr. *Adams* and Mr. *Duane*.

The Committee of Claims reported, that there is due to Colonel *C. Wynkoop*, for expenses in bringing a party of Prisoners from *St. John's*, the sum of 765.7 Dollars, of which 86.2 Dollars ought to be charged to the Officers of the said party of Prisoners.

Resolved, That the Committee of Inspection of *Esopus*, or *Kingston*, be directed to supply the Prisoners there with necessary Clothing, and also to provide them with Lodging and Provisions, not exceeding the rations allowed to Privates in the Continental Army, on the most reasonable terms they can.

Resolved, That a Committee of Five be appointed to take into consideration the Report of the Commissioners for *Indian* Affairs in the Middle Department, and the state of the *Indians* in the said Department, and report.

The Members chosen, Mr. *Wythe*, Mr. *Paine*, Mr. *Wilson*, Mr. *Duane*, and Mr. *Rogers*.

Resolved, That a Commission issue to *Cayashota*, giving him the rank of a Colonel, and that a silver Gorget be presented to him.

The Congress taking into consideration the Report of the Committee on the case of Mr. *Jugé*,

Resolved, That Mr. *Jugé* be permitted to export the produce or manufactures of the Province of *Maryland*, (Horned Cattle, Hogs, Sheep, and Poultry excepted) to any port or place whatsoever, (except to *Great Britain*, *Ireland*, *British* Isles, the *British West-Indies*, and for the supply of the *British* Army or Navy in *America*,) to the amount of the Canvass imported by him into the said Province; the said value to be ascertained by the Committee of Inspection and Observation for the County of *Baltimore*.

Resolved, nevertheless, That the indulgence, in this instance, ought not to be drawn into example, the same being granted to Mr. *Jugé* on account of the peculiar circumstances of his case; and that the said Mr. *Jugé* be enjoined, by the aforesaid Committee of *Baltimore*, to avoid, if possible, all *British* Ships-of-War and Armed Cutters on his voyage.

A Memorial from *H. Keppele* and *John Steinmetz*, being laid before Congress, and read,

Resolved, That the same be referred to a Committee of Three.

The Members chosen, Mr. *Ward*, Mr. *Alexander*, and Mr. *Wythe*.

Resolved, That a Committee of Three be appointed to take into consideration the matter of inlisting Apprentices, and persons in debt, and report thereon to Congress.

The Members chosen, Mr. *McKean*, Mr. *Paine*, and Mr. *Wythe*.

The Committee to whom part of the Report on the Treaty held with the *Indians* at *Albany*, and the Letter from *V. P. Douw*, Esq., was recommitted, brought in their Report, which being taken into consideration, the Congress, thereupon, came to the following Resolutions:

Resolved, That in order to preserve the friendship and confidence of the *Indians*, and to prevent their suffering for want of the necessaries of life, a suitable assortment of *Indian* Goods, to the amount of £40,000 sterling, be imported on account and risk of the *United Colonies*.

That the said Goods, when imported, be divided among the different Departments, in the following proportions, viz:

For the Northern Department, comprehending *Canada*, the value of £13,333 6*s*. 8*d*. sterling; for the Middle Department, the like value, and the residue for the Southern Department.

That in order to pay for the said Goods, a quantity of produce of these Colonies be exported to some foreign *European* market, where it will sell to the best advantage.

That the Secret Committee be empowered to contract with proper persons for importing said Goods, and for exporting produce to pay the same.

That the said Goods, when imported, be delivered to the Commissioners of *Indian* Affairs for the respective Departments, or their order, in the proportions before mentioned.

That the respective Commissioners, or such of them as can conveniently assemble for that purpose, shall, as the Goods arrive, fix a price, adding to the first cost, interest, the charge of insurance, and all other charges; and, also, a commission, not exceeding two and-a-half per cent. on the first cost, for their own care and trouble in receiving, storing and selling them among the *Indian* traders; but such Commissioners as are at the same time members of Congress, shall not be burdened with this part of the business, nor receive any part of the aforesaid commission.

That no person shall be permitted to trade with the *Indians* without license from one or more of the Commissioners of each respective Department.

That all traders shall dispose of their Goods at such stated reasonable prices, as shall be fixed and ascertained by the Commissioners, or a majority of such as can conveniently assemble for that purpose, in each respective Department, and shall allow the *Indians* a reasonable price for their skins and furs, and take no unjust advantage of their distress or intemperance; and, for this purpose they shall, respectively, upon receiving their licenses, enter into bond to the Commissioners, for the use of the *United Colonies*, in such penalty, as the acting Commissioners, or Commissioner, shall think proper, conditioned for the performance of the terms and regulations above prescribed.

That to such licensed traders only, the respective Commissioners shall deliver the Goods, so to be imported, in such proportions as they shall judge will best promote a fair trade, and relieve the necessities of the *Indians*.

That every trader, on receiving the Goods, shall pay to the Commissioners in hand, the price at which they shall be estimated; and the Commissioners shall, from time to time, as the money shall come to their hands, transmit the same to the Continental Treasurers, deducting only the allowance for their trouble as aforesaid.

That the trade with the *Indian* nations shall be carried on at such posts, or places only, as the Commissioners for each Department shall, respectively, appoint.

That these Resolutions shall not be construed to prevent or debar any private person from importing goods for the *Indian* trade, under the restrictions expressed in the Association.

Adjourned to ten o'clock, on *Monday*.

—

Monday, January 29, 1776.

A Letter from Governour *Trumbull*, dated *January* the 20th, being received, was read.

Resolved, That an Order be drawn on the Treasurers, in favour of *James Mease*, Commissary, for the sum of five thousand Dollars, for the use of the Battalions ordered to be raised in *Pennsylvania*.

The Committee to whom were referred the Letter from General *Washington*, dated the 19th instant, with the Papers therein mentioned, and the Letter from Lord *Stirling*, dated the 24th of the same month, and the Letter from Mr. *Tucker*, Chairman of the Committee of Safety of *New-Jersey*, dated the day last mentioned, brought in their Report: Whereupon,

Resolved, That the applications made by General *Washington* to the Governments of *New-Hampshire*, *Massachusetts-Bay*, and *Connecticut*, in such an exigency, to raise a Regiment in each of those Colonies for the service of *Canada*, were prudent, consistent with his duty, and a further manifestation of his commendable zeal for the good of his country; that the ready attention of the said Governments to those applications, and the alacrity with which they undertook, and the expedition with which they proceed in the business, are additional proofs of their meritorious attachment to the common cause, and may produce signal publick advantages; and that it be recommended to the General Assembly of *Massachusetts-Bay*, to raise the like number of Matrosses, and in the like manner, and that both these and the additional Regiment there, be inlisted on the same terms as those directed to be raised for this service in *New-Hampshire*, *Connecticut*, *New-York*, and *Pennsylvania*; and for this purpose, that twelve thousand five hundred Dollars be advanced to the Delegates of *Massachusetts-Bay*, and forwarded by them, with blank Military Commissions for the Field-Officers, Captains, and Subalterns, signed by the President, to the said General Assembly.

That the three Regiments to be raised in *New-Hampshire*, *Massachusetts-Bay*, and *Connecticut*, for the service in *Canada*, be exclusive of the thirteen intended to reinforce the Army at *Cambridge*.

That the loss of and damage to such Fire-Arms, belonging to the Soldiers in the service of the Continent, as shall happen not through carelessness or other misbehaviour, the value being ascertained in a proper manner, to be provided by the General Assemblies, Conventions, or Councils, or Committees of Safety of the *United Colonies*, respectively, be made good to the owners; and that their Arms, after their time of service is expired, be not detained from them.

That the alertness, activity and good conduct of Lord *Stirling*, and the forwardness and spirit of the gentlemen, and others, from *Elizabethtown*, who voluntarily assisted him in taking the Ship *Blue-Mountain-Valley*, were laudable and examplary; and that his Lordship be directed to secure the capture until the further order of the Congress; and that, in the mean time, he cause such part of the loading as would otherwise perish, to be disposed of by sale.

The Committee desired leave to sit again, which was granted.

A Petition from Doctor *Wheelock*, being laid before Congress, was read, and referred to the Committee on *Indian* Affairs in the Middle Department.

The Committee on the Inlistment of Apprentices, &c., brought in their Report, which, after debate, was recommitted.

The Committee of Claims reported, that there is due to *Hugh McCleneghan*, an Express from *Pittsburgh*, for expenses, &c., the sum of 46.2 Dollars.

Ordered, That the same be paid.

Resolved, That General *Prescott* be committed to, and kept in close confinement in the Jail of *Philadelphia*, till further orders of Congress.

That Captain *Chace* be remanded to *Trenton*, and permitted to reside with the other Officers on his parole.

A Memorial and Proposal of Captain *John Nelson*, respecting a Company of Riflemen, was presented to Congress, and read.

Resolved, That a Committee be appointed to confer with Captain *Nelson*.

The Members, Mr. *Morton*, Mr. *Wisner*, and Mr. *Sherman*.

Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow.

—

Tuesday, January 30, 1776.

Resolved, That Doctor *Cadwallader* and Dr. *W. Shippen*, Jun., be desired to inspect the room of the Jail where General *Prescott* is confined, and inquire into the state of his health, and report to Congress.

The Committee appointed to confer with Captain *Nelson* brought in their Report, which was taken into consideration, and thereupon,

Resolved, That Captain *Nelson's* Company of Riflemen, now raised, consisting of one Captain, three Lieutenants, four Sergeants, four Corporals, and seventy Privates, be inlisted for the service of *Canada*, on the same terms as the other Troops ordered for that service, and that they march to *Canada*, and join a Regiment there as soon as possible: that they be allowed one-quarter of a Dollar per day, for their subsistence on their march to *Albany*.

That six Dollars and two-thirds of a Dollar bounty, be paid to each non-Commissioned Officer and Soldier, who

is furnished with sufficient Arms, Accoutrements, and Clothing for the service, upon their entering into the service of the Colonies, and one month's pay to the Commissioned Officers.

That nine hundred Dollars be advanced to said Captain *Nelson* for that purpose, and for the subsistence of said Company on their march to *Reading*.

That the sum of seven hundred Dollars be sent to the Committee of Inspection at *Reading:* that said Committee pay one month's wages to the non-Commissioned Officers and Soldiers upon their arrival there, and deliver the residue of said sum to Captain *Nelson*, for the subsistence of said Company in their march from thence to *Albany;* he to account for what money he receives with General *Schuyler*, at *Albany*.

The Officers of said Company are, *John Nelson*, Captain; *Moses Decker*, First Lieutenant; *Adam Ott*, Second Lieutenant; *Isaac Newkirk*, Third Lieutenant.

The Committee, to whom General *Washington's* Letter, of the 14th of *January*, was referred, brought in their Report, which was read, and thereupon,

Resolved, That all the Tent-Cloth which can be procured in *Philadelphia* and *New-York*, be purchased for the Congress, and that the quantity necessary for the ensuing campaign in the Army before *Boston*, be forwarded thither, if so much is to be had.

That it be recommended to the several Assemblies in *New-England*, to assist the General in procuring Arms; and that the thanks of the Congress be given to such of them as have already done so.

Resolved, That Mr. *James Mease*, in *Philadelphia*, and Mr. *Lewis*, Mr. *Alsop*, and Mr. *S. Morris*, the Committee appointed to purchase Clothing in *New-York*, be directed to carry the former Resolution into execution.

The Committee on the Inlistment of Apprentices, &c., brought in their Report, which was taken into consideration, and, thereupon,

Resolved, That no Apprentice whatsoever be inlisted within the Colonies of *New-Jersey*, *Pennsylvania*, the Counties on *Delaware*, or *Maryland*, as a Soldier in the Army or Navy of the *United Colonies*, without the consent of his master or mistress first obtained in writing; and that all Apprentices now inlisted as Soldiers in the said Army or Navy, without such consent, be immediately discharged from the service, on the application of their masters or mistresses, upon payment of all just and reasonable charges of their inlistment.

That it be recommended to all creditors, whose demands against any person who is inlisted, or shall inlist, in the Continental service, shall not amount to the value of 35 Dollars, not to arrest any such debtor till the expiration of the time for which he is inlisted.

That every person under the age of twenty-one years, inlisting himself in the Army or Navy aforesaid, may, within twenty-four hours after such inlistment, obtain his discharge, by refunding the money received from the Recruiting Officer, and returning such necessaries as may have been supplied him by the Officer, or the value thereof in money.

Ordered, That these Resolutions be published.

Resolved, That an Order be drawn on the Treasurers for the sum of 1000 Dollars, to discharge a draft of the Paymaster-General, for so much deposited with him, for the use of the *United Colonies*.

Resolved, That a Committee of Five be appointed to take into consideration an application from the Committee of Safety of *New-York*.

The Members chosen, Mr. *Ward*, Mr. *Paine*, Mr. *Paca*, Mr. *Lee*, and Mr. *Rodney*.

Resolved, That a Member be added to the Committee of Correspondence. Mr. *R. Morris* was chosen.

Resolved, That the Committee for fitting out Armed Vessels be empowered to draw on the Treasurers for a sum not exceeding 30,000 Dollars, in order to discharge sundry debts by them contracted.

Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow.

—

Wednesday, January 31, 1776.

Sundry Letters, viz: one from Lord *Stirling*, dated the 27th of *January;* one from the Committee of *Trenton*, of the 30th; one from Colonel *A. St. Clair*, of the 27th; and one from Colonel *Maxwell*, of the 31st of the same month, were laid before Congress, and read.

Resolved, That a Committee of Two be appointed to confer with Colonel *Maxwell*, respecting the state of his Regiment, and report the means of facilitating and hastening his march.

The Members chosen, Mr. *Livingston* and Mr. *Wilson*.

Dr. *Cadwallader* and Dr. *Shippen* returned their Report, respecting the room where General *Prescott* is confined, and the state of the General's health, which was read.

The Congress taking into consideration the Letter from Colonel *St. Clair*, respecting the inlistment of some of the Prisoners at *Lancaster*,

Resolved, That the Prisoners who have been inlisted into the Continental Army be discharged, and that no more be inlisted.

Ordered, That a copy of the above be sent to the Committee of *Lancaster*.

The Committee to whom sundry Letters were referred, on the 27th instant, from General *Washington* and others, brought in their Report; whereupon,

Resolved, That Mr. *Barbarie*, owner of the Sloop and Cargo said to have been taken by the enemy, and retaken by one of the Continental vessels-of-war, ought to make and prosecute his claim to the same, before the Court appointed, or to be appointed by the Government of the Colony to which the said Sloop and Cargo were carried, to hear and determine causes civil and maritime, where a process ought to be instituted to confirm the re-capture and adjust the salvage.

The Committee appointed to confer with Colonel *Maxwell*, brought in their Report: whereupon,

Resolved, That Mr. *Thomas Lowrey*, Commissary for the Battalions in *New-Jersey*, be directed to procure all necessaries, except arms, for Colonel *Maxwell's* Regiment, immediately; and that the cost of the clothing, and other articles absolutely essential, which the non-Commissioned Officers and Privates are to pay for, be by the said Commissary procured forthwith, the cost thereof to be deducted out of the pay of the said non-Commissioned Officers and Soldiers; and that the Convention, or Committee of Safety of *New-Jersey*, do get the Arms, already ordered, with all possible expedition, and afford Mr. *Lowrey* all assistance in the execution of the above.

That the Company in the said Regiment which is nearest being furnished, be supplied by any Arms and necessaries in the said Battalion, and marched off for *Canada*, and that the other Companies be furnished and marched as soon as possible.

The Congress, taking into consideration the Letter from Lord *Stirling*,

Resolved, That the private adventures of the Captain and Mates of the Transport, *Blue-Mountain-Valley*, be delivered up to them.

The Delegates for *Massachusetts-Bay* laid before Congress an account of their appointment, by which it appears that the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esquire, Mr. *Samuel Adams*, *John Adams*, Esq., *Robert Treat Paine*, Esq., *Elbridge Gerry*, Esq., are elected to represent the said Colony in Congress for the year 1776.

Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow.

—

Thursday, February 1, 1776.

Resolved, That an Order be drawn on the Treasurers in favour of the Delegates of *Virginia*, for the sum of 333⅓ Dollars, for the use of Mr. *J. Walker*, one of the Commissioners for *Indian* Affairs in the Southern Department, the said Delegates to be accountable.

Resolved, That a Member be added to the Committee on the state of the Treasury, in the room of Mr. *Cushing*.

The Member chosen, Mr. *Samuel Adams*.

Resolved, That General *Prescott*, who is confined a close prisoner in the Jail of *Philadelphia*, be allowed the attendance of his servant, and, in case his health require it, that he be allowed the attendance of a Physician.

Resolved, That the Committee of Safety for *Pennsylvania* be desired to take the parole of such Officers, who are

prisoners, now in *Philadelphia*, and order them to their respective places of residence.

The Congress took into consideration the Report of the Committee on establishing Posts and Expresses, and, after debate,

Resolved, That the same be referred for further consideration, and that, in the mean while, Doctor *Franklin* be directed to write to the Postmasters, and inquire on what terms Expresses can be procured.

Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow.

—

Friday, February 2, 1776.

Two Letters from General *Schuyler*, dated 22d and 25th *January*, with an account of his expedition to *Tryon* County, with nine enclosures, being received, were read, and referred to a Committee of Three.

Members chosen, Mr. *Wythe*, Mr. *E. Rutledge*, and Mr. *McKean*.

General *Schuyler's* Receipt for £7,829 9*s*., *Pennsylvania* currency, delivered him by the hands of Mr. *Tench Tilghman*, was laid before Congress.

A Letter from Colonel *Wayne* being read,

Resolved, That Colonel *Wayne* be directed to quarter his Battalion in and near *Chester*, until the further orders of Congress, or of a Committee of Congress, for that purpose appointed.

Ordered, That the Secretary deliver to Mr. *J. Mease* a copy of Colonel *Wayne's* Letter, so far as respects the supplying his Battalion with necessaries.

The Committee to whom the Memorial of *Matthias Aspden* was referred brought in their Report; which being taken into consideration,

Resolved, That Mr. *Aspden* be permitted to export, in the Sloop *Tryal*, consigned to him from *Port-au-Prince*, the Produce or Manufactures of these Colonies (Horned Cattle, Sheep, Hogs, Poultry, and Lumber for making Casks excepted,) to *Port-au-Prince*, to the amount of £1,800, *Pennsylvania* currency.

That the above permission be not drawn into precedent, and that Mr. *Aspden* take every possible precaution to avoid all *British* men-of-war and cutters on the voyage.

The Committee to whom the Memorial of *H. Keppele* and *John Steinmetz* was referred, brought in their Report; whereupon,

Resolved, That the Memorialists have no just claim to satisfaction or reparation for the loss of their ship and cargo, seized by one of the King's ships-of-war, and detained by Admiral *Graves* and General *Howe*, either out of the Continental Treasury, or out of the value of the clothing sent hither to supply the *British* troops at *Boston*, and intercepted and disposed of to the use of the *American* Army.

Resolved, That a Committee of Three be appointed to take an account of Prisoners, the names of the Officers, and their places of residence, and report the same to Congress.

The Members chosen, Mr. *McKean*, Mr. *Smith*, and Mr. *Wisner*.

A Memorial from the Rev. Mr. *Samson Occum* was read, and referred to the Committee on *Indian* Affairs.

Adjourned to ten o'clock, on *Monday* next.

—

Monday, February 5, 1776.

Resolved, That General *Schuyler* be directed to have the Arms of such of the Troops marching to *Canada*, as pass through *Albany*, carefully examined there; and such of them as are deficient and want repair exchanged for the good effective Arms taken from the Tories, and to order those exchanged and left, to be repaired.

The Committee to whom General *Schuyler's* Letters were referred, brought in their Report; which were taken into consideration, and thereupon,

Resolved, That General *Schuyler* has proceeded, in disarming such of the inhabitants of the County of *Tryon* in the Colony of *New-York* as were disaffected and providing for the future tranquillity of those parts, with fidelity, prudence, and despatch, and at the same time with a proper temper towards that deluded people, and thereby performed a meritorious service.

That the cheerfulness and ready assistance of those who accompanied General *Schuyler* in his march to the County of *Tryon*, and their useful services in that expedition, discovered such a patriotick spirit, that it is hoped none of them will allow their countrymen to entertain a suspicion that any ignoble motive actuated them, by requiring a pecuniary reward, especially, when they were employed in suppressing a mischief arising in their own neighbourhood.

That the Resolution of Congress of the 8th day of last month, for sending Shipwrights from the Cities of *New-York* and *Philadelphia* to build Batteaus at *Ticonderoga*, be superseded; and that General *Schuyler* be desired to employ any such Artificers as he shall think proper in that business.

That General *Schuyler* be desired to issue Warrants for completing the Regiment directed to be raised in *New-York* for the service of *Canada;* and that it be recommended to the Convention of that Colony to appoint such Officers thereof as General *Schuyler* hath nominated.

That the appointments of Mr. *Hubbard Brown* to be Conductor of Artillery, *Gysbert Marselis*, Esquire, to be Barrackmaster, Mr. *Peter Schuyler* to take charge of the Arms, and Mr. *Philip Van Rensselaer* to be Storekeeper at *Albany*, by General *Schuyler*, be confirmed; and that he be desired to inform Congress of the proper Salaries to be annexed to those Offices.

That General *Schuyler* be desired to procure skilful persons to assist General *Wooster* in exploring the River *St. Lawrence*, and to construct the Armed Boats to be kept there, according to a former Resolution of Congress.

That the bounty given by General *Schuyler* for encouraging men to enter into the *Canadian* service, be approved, in consideration of the severe climate and inclement season.

That, by the Resolution of Congress of the 8th day of last month, respecting the Provisions and Stores to be sent to *Fort-George*, it was intended, as General *Schuyler* understood it, that he should be supplied with such of those articles as he should require.

That General *Schuyler* be desired to employ such Batteaumen as are in or near *Albany*, instead of those it was recommended to the Convention of *New-York* to procure, upon the best terms he can, and to acquaint Congress for what wages they will serve.

That Captain —— *Wynkoop* be employed under Commodore *Douglass*, in the Naval Department.

Ordered, That General *Schuyler's* Narrative of his march into *Tryon* County be published in the Newspapers.

The Committee to whom the Memorial of *Samson Occum*, one of the *Mohegan Indians*, in *Connecticut*, was referred, brought in their Report, which being considered,

Resolved, That a friendly commerce between the people of the *United Colonies* and the *Indians*, and the propagation of the Gospel, and the cultivation of the civil arts among the latter, may produce many and inestimable advantages to both; and that the Commissioners for *Indian* Affairs be desired to consider of proper places, in their respective Departments, for the residence of Ministers and Schoolmasters, and report the same to Congress.

That the Commissioners for *Indian* Affairs in the Northern Department be desired to inquire of Mr. *Jacob Fowler*, of the *Montauk* Tribe of *Indians*, on *Long-Island*, and Mr. *Joseph Johnson*, of the *Mohegan*, upon what terms they will reside among the *Six-Nations* of *Indians*, and instruct them in the Christian religion.

Resolved, That Mr. *Dohickey Arundel*, who was recommended to the notice of Congress by Mr. *Lewis*, be desired to repair to General *Schuyler*, and that General *Schuyler* be directed to examine him; and, if he finds him capable, and suitably qualified, to employ him in the Artillery service in *Canada*.

Doctor *T. Cadwallader* having, in a letter to the President, represented that he was sent for by General *Prescott*, last *Saturday* night, and found him very ill: his old wound broke out again; he complains of great pain; the orifice was swelled and hard; he had a fever and hoarseness; the wound discharged a large quantity of thin matter: and further representing, that, from the dampness of the room, he is apprehensive it will endanger the General's life, if he remains there long: Whereupon,

Resolved, That Doctor *Cadwallader* be desired to pro-

vide a proper lodging for General *Prescott*, and that General *Prescott* be removed from the Jail to that lodging, and there kept under a guard.

That the Commanding Officer of the Troops in the Barracks of *Philadelphia* be directed to keep a proper guard over General *Prescott*.

Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow.

—

Tuesday, February 6, 1776.

A Letter from the Committee of Safety for *New-York* was read, informing that General *Clinton* arrived there on the 4th instant, but that it was apprehended his destination was to the Southward.

Ordered, That a copy of the said Letter be sent to the Southern Colonies.

The Congress, being informed that Colonel *Heard*, having performed the service enjoined him, was ready to make report of his proceedings,

Resolved, That a Committee of Three be appointed to confer with Colonel *Heard*, and receive his Report.

The Members chosen, Mr. *Crane*, Mr. *E. Rutledge*, and Mr. *McKean*.

A Petition from sundry Captains of the *New-Jersey* Battalions was laid before Congress and read; which being taken into consideration,

Resolved, That the Officers of the two first *New-Jersey* Battalions be allowed the sum of ten Shillings for every Recruit by them raised, and that has passed muster.

A Letter from the Committee of *Reading*, in *Berks* County, was laid before Congress, informing that a number of Prisoners were arrived there, and desiring to know how they are to be supported.

Resolved, That the same be referred to the Committee appointed to contract for supplying the Prisoners.

As two of the Members of said Committee are absent,

Resolved, That two new Members be added to said Committee.

The Members chosen, Mr. *Wilson* and Mr. *Wolcott*.

The Committee on the Regulations of Trade brought in their Report, which was read and referred to *Thursday* next, then to be considered in a Committee of the Whole.

Resolved, That General *Schuyler* be desired to encourage Sutlers to attend the Army in *Canada;* and that they return such specie as they shall receive for the articles they supply it with to the Commissary, who shall draw orders, to be countersigned by the General, for the amount thereof, upon the President; by which means a sufficient stock may be in hand to pay off the Soldiers, and the risk and expense of sending money for that purpose may be avoided.

The Committee appointed to confer with Colonel *Heard* returned, and laid before Congress a list of the names of nineteen persons taken into custody by Colonel *Heard*, by order of Congress, and brought to *Philadelphia;* also, two oaths, taken by a number of the inhabitants of *Long-Island*, one upon delivering up their arms, and the other respecting their future conduct.

The names of the prisoners are, *Benjamin Whitehead, Joseph French, John Polhemus, Nathaniel Moor, Samuel Hallet, William Weyman, John Shoals, John Willet, Gilbert Van Wyck, Daniel Kissam, Jacob Mott, Gabriel G. Ludlow, Charles Hicks, Samuel Martin, Samuel Clowes, Thomas Smith, George Weeks, David Brooks, John Townsend.*

Ordered, That the said nineteen Prisoners be sent to *New-York*, and delivered to the Order of the Convention of that Colony, who are requested to confine or secure the said persons, until an inquiry be had by the Convention into their conduct, and report thereof made to this Congress.

Ordered, That the Committee confer with Col. *Heard* about the mode of sending them.

The Committee of Claims reported, that there is due, on several Certificates produced by *George Kennedy*, the sum of 427.1 Dollars; that £127 1*s.* 8*d.* (338.9 Dollars,) of said sum being for Rifles furnished to Captain *Morgan's* Company of Riflemen, from *Virginia*, ought to be charged to said Company, and the remainder to the ontinent.

Resolved, That a Committee of Five be appointed to bring in a Resolution respecting the exportation of Naval Stores for the publick service.

The Members chosen, Mr. *Hewes*, Mr. *Lewis*, Mr. *Ward*, Mr. *Paine*, and Mr. *Adams*.

Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow.

—

Wednesday, February 7, 1776.

Resolved, That the sum of eight dollars be paid to *Peter Webbers*, an Express, for the time he has been detained in Town.

Two Letters from Lord *Stirling*, dated 2d and 5th of *February*, with sundry enclosures, were read and referred to Mr. *Chase*, Mr. *Rutledge*, and Mr. *Wythe*.

The Congress took into consideration the Report of the Committee on the Letter from the Committee of Safety of *New-Jersey*, respecting the Prisoners; and, after debate,

Resolved, That the same be recommitted, and that the Committee appointed to take an account of the Prisoners be added to the Committee who brought in this Report.

That it be an instruction to the Committee to examine the capitulations entered into with the Prisoners at the time of their surrender, to have the paroles of the Officers taken, to order them to their respective places of residence, and to see that the capitulations be duly observed, and the orders of Congress, respecting the Prisoners, punctually carried into execution, and, finally, to make a return to Congress of the paroles of the Officers, their names, and places of residence, and also the number of the Privates, and where placed.

As several of the two former Committees are absent,

Resolved, That two more Members be added:

The Members chosen, Mr. *Wilson* and Mr. *Wolcott*.

The Committee now is, Mr. *Adams*, Mr. *McKean*, Mr. *Smith*, Mr. *Wilson*, and Mr. *Wolcott*.

Resolved, That an Order be drawn on the Treasurers, in favour of Mr. *James Mease*, for the sum of 10,000 Dollars, for the use of the Battalions ordered to be raised in *Pennsylvania*, he to be accountable.

That a like Order be drawn in favour of the Naval Committee, for the sum of 20,000 Dollars, to enable them to discharge the debts by them contracted, the said Committee to be accountable.

That the sum of 250,000 Dollars be sent to the Paymaster-General, for the use of the Army at *Cambridge*.

The Committee on the Letter from *Reading*, reported, that they have had a conference with *David Franks*, Esq., Agent to the Contractors for victualling the King's Troops, who says he will order rations to be issued to the Prisoners lately brought to *Reading:* Whereupon,

Resolved, That *D. Franks*, Esq., be allowed to victual the Prisoners at *Reading*, and to sell his Bills to defray the expense thereof.

Resolved, That directions be given to *Henry Holler* to furnish said Prisoners with Fuel and other necessaries.

A Memorial from *Murray, Sansom & Co., Jacob Watson*, and *Frederick Rhinelander*, of the City of *New-York*, was read:

Resolved, That the same be referred to a Committee of Three.

The Members chosen, Mr. *Lee*, Mr. *Nelson*, and Mr. *Read*.

A Petition of *Pierre Le Fargue* was laid before Congress and read.

Resolved, That the same be referred to the Secret Committee.

Resolved, That a Committee of Three be appointed to examine the Journals, and report a list of the matters yet unfinished.

The Members chosen, Mr. *E. Rutledge*, Mr. *Duane*, and Mr. *Smith*.

Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow.

—

Thursday, February 8, 1776.

Resolved, That the 250,000 Dollars voted yesterday, be sent to the Paymaster-General, under the care of Mr. *Bull*, and two other trusty persons.

The following sums to be charged to the Paymaster-General, being paid by the Treasurer:

1775, *August* 23.—On a draft of General *Washington* to *John Mease*, £100, *Pennsylvania* currency, 266⅔ Dollars.

November 27.—On a Draft of *James Warren*, Paymaster-General, to Dr. *Franklin*, for the sum of 7111 Dollars.

1776, *February* 2.—On ditto, to *Cox & Furman*, the sum of 1000 Dollars.

February 6.—On ditto, to *John Beane*, 750 Dollars.

Resolved, That a Committee of Three be appointed to contract with a proper person for supplying Colonel *Wayne's* Battalion with the Rations allowed them; that it be instruction to said Committee to contract with some proper person for supplying the *Pennsylvania* Troops on the West side of the *Susquehannah*; and, also, to contract with a proper person to supply the Battalion ordered to be raised in the Counties on *Delaware*, while in that Government.

The Members chosen, Mr. *Morton*, Mr. *Lewis*, and Mr. *Wilson*.

The Committee of Claims reported, that there is due:

To Mr. *Tench Tilghman*, for charges, &c., in escorting a sum of Money from *Philadelphia* to General *Schuyler*, the sum of 286.9 Dollars.

To *Azariah Dunham* on several Certificates for Provisions to several Rifle Companies, the sum of 25.8 Dollars.

To *Melchior Meng*, for Wagon-hire, in carrying Money to *Cambridge*, the sum of 76 Dollars.

To *Moses Gale*, for the entertainment of Captain *Cluggage's* Company of Riflemen, the sum of 9.7 Dollars, and that the same ought to be paid to *Henry Wisner*, Esq.

To *John B. Scott*, for expenses in conducting General *Prescott* from *Trenton* to *Philadelphia*, the sum of 14.3 Dollars.

To *George Bunner*, for Wagon-hire, in carrying Money from *Philadelphia* to General *Schuyler*, last *November*, the sum of 39 Dollars.

To *Dennis Sneeden*, for Ferriage, Provisions, &c., the sum of 50.6 Dollars, to be paid to *John Alsop*, Esq.

To *Jesse Jones*, for Horse-hire, the sum of 8.7 Dollars, to be paid to *Dealing*.

To *Mark Bird*, for necessaries to several Prisoners, 5.8 Dollars.

To *George Meade & Co.*, on several Certificates, the sum of 104.4 Dollars, of which 99.2 being for Rifles furnished to Captain *H. Stevenson's* Company, ought to be charged to said Company, and the remaining sum of £1 19*s.* 3¾*d.*, being for Provisions, is a Continental expense.

Ordered, That the above Accounts be paid.

The Committee further reported, that Mr. *McKean* had laid before them, an account of the application of 40 Dollars, put into his hands by Congress, by which it appears that there remains in his hands, the sum of 15.4 Dollars.

Ordered, That the same be paid into the hands of *Timothy Matlack*, he to be accountable.

The Committee on the disposition of the Prisoners, reported the Form of a Parole to be signed by the Officers, which being read, was agreed to, as follows:

"I . . . . . , being made a prisoner of war, by the Army of the Thirteen *United Colonies* in *North-America*, do promise and engage, on my word and honour, and on the faith of a gentleman, to depart from hence immediately to . . . . . in the Province of . . . . . being the place of my election; and there, or within six miles thereof, to remain during the present war between *Great Britain* and the said *United Colonies*, or until the Congress of the said *United Colonies* shall order otherwise; and that I will not directly or indirectly, give any intelligence whatsoever to the enemies of the *United Colonies*, or do, or say any thing in opposition to, or in prejudice of, the measures and proceedings of any Congress for the said Colonies, during the present troubles, or until I am duly exchanged or discharged.

"Given under my hand, this . . . . . day of . . . . . A. D. . . . . ."

The Secret Committee, to whom the Petition of Mr. *Pierre Le Fargue* was referred, brought in their Report.

Whereupon, *Resolved*, That Mr. *Pierre Le Fargue* be permitted to load the Sloop, in which he imported a small quantity of Powder and Arms, with the produce of these Colonies, (Horned Cattle, Sheep, Hogs, Poultry, and Lumber for making Casks excepted,) and export the same to *Martinique*. And that the said Mr. *Pierre Le Fargue* do take every possible precaution to avoid all *British* men-of-war and cutters on the voyage, and use his utmost endeavours to import into these Colonies the Powder and Arms mentioned in his Memorial, and proposed to be imported by him.

The Committee on the Memorial of *Murray, Sansom & Co.*, &c., brought in their Report, which was read, and ordered to lie on the table.

A Memorial from the Committee of Safety of *Pennsylvania*, was laid before Congress, respecting the erecting of Powder-Mills.

Ordered, To lie on the table.

Resolved, That the sum of 100 Dollars be paid to Mr. *Dohickey Arundel*, and that he be directed immediately to repair to General *Schuyler*.

That a quarter-cask of Powder be delivered to Captain *Craig*, of Colonel *St. Clair's* Battalion, for the use of his Company.

That the sum of 12,000 Dollars be advanced to the Convention or Committee of Safety of *New-York*, for the use of the Battalions to be raised there; that the same be transmitted by the Delegates of that Colony, the said Convention, or Committee of Safety, to be accountable.

A Letter from Doctor *Rush*, and a Memorial from Doctor *Connolly*, respecting the state of said *Connolly's* health, was presented to Congress and read: whereupon,

Resolved, That the said *J. Connolly* be allowed, at suitable times, to walk in the Prison-yard, or Hall, the Jail-keeper taking especial care to prevent his escape.

The Inhabitants of *Richmond* County, in the Colony of *New-York*, having refused to send Deputies to represent them in Provincial Convention, and otherwise manifested their enmity and opposition to the system and measures adopted for preserving the liberties of *America*; and, as a just punishment for their inimical conduct, the Inhabitants of that Colony having been prohibited by the Convention from all intercourse and dealings with the Inhabitants of the said County, and this Congress being informed by the Committee of Safety of that Colony, that the Freeholders of the said County, did afterwards, without any opposition, elect Deputies to represent them in Provincial Convention; but, as the proceedings against them had been submitted to the consideration of Congress, it was apprehended the Deputies could not be received, until the sense of Congress thereupon should be communicated:

Resolved, therefore, That it be referred to the said Provincial Convention, to take such measures respecting the admission of the Deputies, and revoking the interdict upon the Inhabitants of said County, as they shall judge most expedient: *Provided*, That the said Deputies, and major part of the Inhabitants of said County, shall subscribe the Association entered into in that Colony.

Resolved, That *Monday*, the 19th day of this month, be appointed for Doctor *Smith* to deliver a Funeral Oration in honour of General *Montgomery*, and of those Officers and Soldiers who so magnanimously fought and fell with him in maintaining the principles of *American* liberty.

Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow.

—

Friday, February 9, 1776.

Mr. *Elbridge Gerry*, from the *Massachusetts-Bay*, attended, and produced a Certificate of the appointment of Delegates from that Colony; which being read, and is as follows:

"In Council, January 18, 1776.

"Whereas, *John Hancock, Samuel Adams, John Adams Robert Treat Paine*, and *Elbridge Gerry*, Esquires, have been chosen, by joint ballot of the two Houses of Assembly, to represent the Colony of *Massachusetts-Bay*, in *New-England*, in the *American* Congress, until the 1st day of *January*, A. D. 1777:

"*Resolved*, That they, or any one or more of them, are hereby fully empowered with the Delegates from the other *American* Colonies, to concert, direct, and order such further measures, as shall to them appear best calculated for the establishment of right and liberty to the *American* Colonies, upon a basis permanent and secure, against the power and art of the *British* Administration, and guarded against any future encroachments of their enemies, with

power to adjourn to such times and places as shall appear most conducive to the publick safety and advantage.

"Read and accepted. Sent down for concurrence.

"JOHN LOWELL, *Dep'y Sec'y, pro tem.*

"In the House of Representatives, January 18, 1776.

"Read, and concurred. And the Secretary is hereby directed, as soon as may be, to signify to each of those gentlemen their appointment, with an attested copy of this Order. Sent up for concurrence.

"JAMES WARREN, *Speaker.*

"*In Council, January* 18, 1776: Read, and concurred.

"JOHN LOWELL, *Dep'y Sec'y, pro tem.*

"A true Copy. Attest:

"PEREZ MORTON, *Deputy Secretary.*"

A number of Letters being received, were laid before Congress, and read:

From General *Washington*, 24th and 30th *January*, with a copy of one to General *Schuyler*, 27th *January*, and a number of intercepted Letters.

From General *Schuyler*, 29th and 31st *January*, and 1st of *February*, 1776, enclosing two Letters from Colonel *Arnold*, 11th and 12th *January*, and sundry other Papers.

From Governour *Trumbull*, 3d *February*, with sundry enclosed Papers.

Resolved, That the above Letters be referred to a Committee of Five.

The Members chosen, Mr. *Chase*, Mr. *J. Adams*, Mr. *Penn*, Mr. *Wythe*, and Mr. *Rutledge*.

Two Letters from the Convention of *New-Jersey*, dated 6th *February*, 1776, were read; the one, respecting Tea, was referred for consideration to *Monday* next; the other, recommending proper persons for Field-Officers of the Third Battalion, ordered to be raised in that Colony: Whereupon the Congress proceeded to an election, and

Elias Dayton was elected Colonel; *Anthony Walter White*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Francis Barber*, Major.

A Memorial from Mr. *Kirkland* was presented to Congress, and read.

Ordered, To lie on the table.

The Congress took into consideration the Report of the Committee on the second Memorial of *Samsom, Murray & Co.*, &c.; whereupon,

Resolved, That the Memorialists be permitted to make sale of their cargo of Wheat in *Connecticut*, or else to proceed on their original voyage to *Falmouth*, in *England*, and a market, under the office, papers, and clearances, which the said vessel sailed with from *New-York* in *September* last; and, also, subject to the former restrictions of Congress, respecting the appointment of a commander.

Information being given to Congress, that a quantity of Powder, Arms, and Saltpetre, was arrived:

Resolved, That the Committee appointed on the 13th of last month, to purchase the Saltpetre then arrived, and have it manufactured, be further directed and empowered to take every necessary measure to have the Saltpetre, now arrived, manufactured into Gunpowder with all possible expedition.

Resolved, That a copy of the Paper relating to Signals, found among the intercepted Letters, be sent to the Commander of the Fleet, and that the Delegates of the several Colonies be permitted to send to their respective Conventions, or Committee of Safety, a copy of the said Paper, under a strong injunction to keep it secret.

Resolved, That two tons of the Powder now arrived, be returned to the Committee of Safety for *Pennsylvania*, in part of that borrowed of them.

That the former Order of Congress, to grant one ton of Gunpowder to the Colony of *North-Carolina*, be answered out of the Powder belonging to the Continent, now arrived.

Ordered, That the Committee appointed to manufacture the Saltpetre into Gunpowder, be directed to inquire and report to Congress, a state of the Powder, Arms, and Saltpetre now arrived.

A Memorial from *Stacey Hepburn* was presented to Congress and read.

Referred to a Committee of Three: Mr. *McKean*, Mr. *Nelson*, and Mr. *Penn*.

Adjourned to ten o'clock, on *Monday* next.

Monday, February 12, 1776.

A Letter from Major-General *Lee*, dated the 9th of *February*, was presented to Congress and read, wherein he informs that a Transport with Troops was arrived at *New-York*, that more might be expected, and, therefore, that a further reinforcement was necessary to secure and defend that place: Whereupon,

Resolved, That it be recommended to the Convention or Committee of Safety of *New-Jersey*, immediately to send Detachments of their Minute-Men, equal to a Battalion, under proper Officers, to *New-York*, there to put themselves under the command of Major-General *Lee*.

That it be also recommended to the Committee of Safety for *Pennsylvania*, immediately to send Detachments of the four Battalions of Associators in this City, equal to a Battalion, to *New-York*, there to put themselves under the command of Major-General *Lee*.

Resolved, That the Colonels of the *Pennsylvania* Battalions be ordered to make an immediate return to Congress of the number and condition of the men inlisted, the places where they now are, and the manner in which they are appointed.

That a copy of the above be forwarded to the Commanding Officers of each of the Battalions.

Resolved, That the Secret Committee be directed to send to *New-York*, one ton of the Powder belonging to the *United Colonies*, and that the same be delivered to the order of General *Lee*.

Resolved, That said Committee be empowered to purchase what Powder and Arms arrive belonging to private persons, on the best terms they can, for the use of the *United Colonies*, and that they furnish with the Fire-Arms they purchase, such of three remaining Companies of the First *Pennsylvania* Battalion, ordered to *Canada*, as may want them, in order that they may immediately proceed on their march.

Resolved, That fifty tons of Saltpetre be delivered by the Secret Committee to the Committee of Safety for the Province of *Pennsylvania*, who are requested to have the same manufactured into Gunpowder, in the cheapest and most expeditious manner; and that this Congress will confirm any contracts made for the above purpose.

That ten tons of Saltpetre be by them sent to the late Judge *Livingston's* Powder-Mill, in the Colony of *New-York*, and that the owner of said Mill be desired to manufacture it into Gunpowder, as soon as possible, and to enlarge his Works, if it can conveniently be done.

That ten tons be sent to the Council of *Massachusetts-Bay*, and that they be desired to have it manufactured into Gunpowder, with all possible expedition, and sent to General *Washington*, for the use of the Army under his command.

Resolved, That it be recommended to the Committee of Inspection for the County of *Chester*, to aid Colonel *Wayne* in procuring Blankets for his Battalion.

The Congress being informed that a gentleman was arrived from *Canada*, who had matters of consequence to communicate,

Ordered, That the Committee of Correspondence do confer with him, and report to Congress.

Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow morning.

—

Tuesday, February 13, 1776.

Resolved, That an Order be drawn on the Treasurers, for the sum of eight hundred Dollars, in favour of *John Chapman*, to discharge a Draft of the Paymaster-General, dated the 28th of *December*, in favour of *William Thomson*, Esq., the said sum to be charged to the account of the Paymaster-General.

Sundry Letters were presented and read, viz:

From the Convention of *New-Jersey*, 10th *February*; from Messrs. *Dayton & Barber*, 12th *February*; from *John Nevil*, dated *Pittsburgh*, 1st *February*, enclosing a Letter from *John Gibson*, of *January* 20th.

Resolved, That the two last be referred to the Committee appointed to take into consideration the *Indian* affairs in the Middle Department.

That the two former be committed to a Committee of Three.

The Members chosen, Mr. *Smith*, Mr. *Bartlett*, and Mr. *Adams*.

Resolved, That an Order be drawn on the Treasurers, in favour of the Committee of Safety for the *Delaware* Government, for the sum of eight thousand Dollars, for the use of the Battalion raising there, the said Committee to be accountable.

That an Order be drawn on the Treasurers, in favour of *James Mease*, for the sum of 10,000 Dollars, for the use of the *Pennsylvania* Battalions, he to be accountable.

Resolved, That Mr. *Mease* be directed to supply the Troops in the Barracks near *Philadelphia*, with wooden Bowls, Buckets, and other necessaries.

That it be recommended to the Committee of Safety for *Pennsylvania*, in case the Barracks near *Philadelphia* cannot contain all the Troops raised in said Colony, that they cause part of them to be quartered in the Pest-House and the old Jail of this City.

Resolved, That an Order be drawn on the Treasurers, in favour of Colonel *Bull*, for the sum of one hundred and fifty Dollars, to defray his expenses in carrying Money to *Cambridge*.

The Committee on the Petition of *Stacey Hepburn*, brought in their Report, which was agreed to as follows:

That the said Petitioner be permitted to load the Sloop *Dolphin*, with the Produce of these Colonies, (Live Stock, and Lumber for making Casks, excepted,) and to transport the same to *Hispaniola*, he promising to use his utmost endeavours to remit the amount of such cargo in Military Stores, into some Port of this Continent, as soon as possible.

The Committee appointed to prepare a Resolution for the exportation of Naval Stores, brought in the same, which was agreed to, as follows:

Resolved, That when Naval Stores shall be wanted in any of the *United Colonies*, the Assembly, Convention, or Committee of Safety, of such Colony, may intrust a proper person, or persons, to import the same, taking sufficient security of him or them, that they will faithfully use their best endeavours to import the same into such port, or ports, as the said Assembly, Convention, or Committee of Safety, shall direct, and, as much as possible, to avoid all *British* men-of-war and cutters; giving him or them a certificate or certificates of the Naval Stores wanted, and also of his having given the said security: And that it be recommended to the Convention, Council of Safety, and Committees of Observation and Inspection, of *North-Carolina*, upon receiving such certificates, to permit the person, or persons, producing the same, to export the Naval Stores wanted by the Colony applying for the same to such Colony.

That it be further recommended to the said Convention, Council of Safety, and Committees of Inspection and Observation, of *North-Carolina*, to give permission to such Vessels as may have arrived in that Colony, for those articles, or such of the Vessels belonging to that Colony, as they may think proper, to export Naval Stores to any of the *United Colonies*, they taking security as in the other cases above-mentioned.

Resolved, That the Pay and Subsistence of two of the Battalions directed to be raised in the Colony of *Virginia* commence from the 1st day of *November* last, from which time they have been in service.

The Convention of *Virginia* having recommended persons for Field-Officers of the six Battalions ordered to be raised in that Colony, the Congress proceeded to an election; when,

Patrick Henry, Esquire, was elected Colonel of the First Battalion; *William Christian*, Esquire, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Frank Eppes*, Esquire, Major.

William Woodford, Esquire, Colonel of the Second Battalion; *Charles Scott*, Esquire, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Alexander Spotswood*, Esquire, Major.

Hugh Mercer, Esquire, Colonel of the Third Battalion; *George Weedon*, Esquire, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Thomas Marshall*, Esquire, Major.

Adam Stephen, Esquire, Colonel of the Fourth Battalion; *Isaac Read*, Esquire, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Robert Lawson*, Esquire, Major.

William Peachy, Esquire, Colonel of the Fifth Battalion; *William Crawford*, Esquire, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Josiah Parker*, Esquire, Major.

Mordecai Buckner, Esquire, Colonel of the Sixth Battalion; *Thomas Elliot*, Esquire, Lieutenant-Colonel; *James Hendricks*, Esquire, Major.

Ordered, That the President fill up Commissions to the above Officers; and that he send blank Commissions to the Convention of *Virginia*, to be by them filled up for the Officers in the said Battalions, under the rank of Major.

Resolved, That the Deputy Mustermaster-General be directed to muster the Battalion raised in *Delaware* Government, and those raised in *Pennsylvania*, and make return to Congress.

Resolved, That a Committee of Five be appointed to consider into what Departments the Middle and Southern Colonies ought to be formed, in order that the Military operations of the Colonies may be carried on in a regular and systematick manner.

The Members chosen, Mr. *Lynch*, Mr. *Wilson*, Mr. *Penn*, Mr. *Harrison*, and Mr. *Alexander*.

Resolved, That an Order be drawn on the Treasurers, in favour of the Delegates of *Virginia*, for the sum of twenty thousand Dollars, for the use of the Battalions ordered to be raised there; the Convention of that Colony to be accountable.

Resolved, That Mr. *McKean* be desired to request the Committee of Inspection for the City and Liberties of *Philadelphia*, not to proceed in passing any censures on the venders and users of Tea, till further orders from Congress.

Resolved, That the Detachments marching from *Philadelphia* to *New-York*, under the command of Colonel *Dickinson*, be allowed for Subsistence, while on their march, one Dollar and one-third of a Dollar, per week, for the Privates and non-Commissioned Officers; and that the Commissioned Officers be allowed in proportion, according to the rations allotted them; and that they receive the same Pay as the four *Pennsylvania* Battalions, from the time they begin their march.

That a Committee of Three be appointed to consider the best method of subsisting the Troops in *New-York*, and what sum of Money it will be necessary to send thither, and what sum ought to be advanced to Colonel *Dickinson*.

The Members chosen, Mr. *Sherman*, Mr. *Duane*, and Mr. *Wilson*.

A Petition from Mr. *Bernard Romans* was read.

Resolved, That it be recommended to the Convention of *New-York* to pay Mr. *Bernard Romans* up to the 9th day of this month.

That an Order be drawn on the Treasurers, in favour of *Samuel Fairlamb*, (who has engaged to supply Colonel *Wayne's* Battalion, quartered in and near *Chester*, with rations, at the rate of seven Pence, *Pennsylvania* currency, per ration,) for the sum of six hundred Dollars, to enable him to execute his contract; he to be accountable.

The Committee appointed to prepare an Address to the Inhabitants of the *United Colonies*, brought in a draft, which was read.

Ordered, To lie on the table.

Resolved, That Captain *Gordon*, upon giving his parole, be permitted, while he remains in town, to visit General *Prescott*, at proper seasons.

Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow.

—

Wednesday, February 14, 1776.

Resolved, That two of the brass Six-Pounders, now at *New-York*, belonging to the *United Colonies*, be sent to *Virginia*, for the use of the Forces there.

Sundry Letters were received, and read: One from General *Schuyler*, of the 7th of *February*, 1776; one from General *Wooster*, of the 29th of *January*, 1776; and one from General *Arnold*, of the 24th of *January*, with sundry enclosed papers.

Referred to Mr. *Wythe*, Mr. *J. Adams*, and Mr. *Chase*.

A Letter from the Committee of *Elizabethtown*, dated *February* 10, 1776, with sundry papers enclosed. Referred for consideration till to-morrow.

The Committee of Claims report, that there is due to

*

John Ware the sum of 13.2 Dollars, for conducting a *French* gentleman from *Harwick* Township, in *Sussex* County, to *Philadelphia*.

Ordered, That the same be paid.

Application being made by some of the Master-Carpenters employed in building the Continental Frigates, to some Members of this House, informing that about fifty of their Journeymen and Apprentices had engaged as Volunteers to march with the Battalion of Associators for *New-York*, and that their zeal for the publick service was such that they cannot be persuaded to desist by any arguments or influence of said Builders:

Resolved, That the spirit and zeal of the said Journeymen and Apprentices is highly approved of by Congress; but, nevertheless, it is the opinion of this Congress that the publick will be more essentially served by the said Associators continuing at work on the said Continental Frigates; and that, therefore, all the Carpenters, Journeymen and Apprentices, employed as aforesaid, be requested to remain in that service, as there is no doubt but other Associators will complete the number wanted.

The Congress resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into consideration the Report of the Committee on the Regulations and Restrictions under which the Ports should be opened after the 1st of *March* next; and, after some time spent thereon, the President resumed the chair, and Mr. *Ward* reported, that the Committee had taken into consideration the matter referred to them, but, not having come to a conclusion, desired leave to sit again.

Resolved, That this Congress will, to-morrow, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into further consideration the Report of the Committee on the Regulations and Restrictions of Trade, after the 1st of *March* next.

The Committee of Correspondence, who were ordered to confer with the gentlemen from *Canada*, brought in their Report, which was read.

Resolved, That the consideration of it be referred till to-morrow.

The Committee appointed to consider the best method of subsisting the Troops in *New-York*, laid their Report on the table.

Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow.

—

Thursday, February 15, 1776.

Resolved, That one hundred and fifty stand of the Arms, lately imported into this Province, be delivered to Colonel *Maxwell*, for the use of such of the Companies of his Battalion as want them, in order that they may immediately proceed to *Canada*.

The Committee to whom the Letters from the Convention of *New-Jersey*, and from the Field-Officers of the Third Battalion, ordered to be raised in that Colony, were referred, brought in their Report, which was taken into consideration; whereupon,

Resolved, That Colonel *Heard* be directed to furnish Colonel *Dayton* with such of the Arms lately brought from *Long-Island*, as are or may be made fit for service, or so many of them as Colonel *Dayton* may desire.

That 30,000 Dollars be advanced to Mr. *Lowrey*, Commissary for *New-Jersey*, on account; and that he be fully authorized to procure all necessaries (except Arms) ordered by Congress, for the three Battalions raised, or to be raised, in the Colony of *New-Jersey*.

That the Convention, or Committee of Safety, of *New-Jersey*, be allowed from the Continental Stock, half a ton of Powder, out of which they are to pay what has been borrowed from *Elizabethtown*, *Somerset*, *Woodbridge*, and *Brunswick*.

That to the same Convention, or Committee of Safety, be advanced the further sum of 5,000 Dollars, for the purpose of completing the three Battalions there with Arms, which they are desired to accomplish with all possible expedition.

Resolved, That two tons of the Powder, belonging to the Continent, be delivered to the Delegates of *Virginia*, for the use of the Forces in that Colony.

A Letter from General *Lee*, dated the 11th of *February*; a Letter from General *Schuyler*, *February* 4th, with a Letter from General *Wooster*, dated *Montreal*, *January* 27, being received by Colonel *Ritzema*, were read.

Resolved, That the said Letters be referred to the Committee to whom the Letters received yesterday were referred, and that the said Committee be directed to confer with Colonel *Ritzema*, and report to Congress.

Information being received, that General *Clinton* was gone from *New-York*, the Congress came to the following Resolution:

The Congress have a proper sense of the spirit and patriotism of the Associators of the City and Liberties of *Philadelphia*, in cheerfully offering and preparing to march, in order to assist in the defence of *New-York*; but, as the danger, which occasioned an application for their service, is at present over,

Resolved, That their march to *New-York* be suspended.

Resolved, That a Paymaster be appointed for the Troops in *Virginia*, and that his pay be fifty Dollars per month.

The Congress then proceeded to the election, when *Benjamin Harrison*, Jun., of *Berkeley*, was elected.

On the Report of the Committee of Correspondence,

Resolved, That a Committee of Three (two of whom to be Members of Congress) be appointed to proceed to *Canada*, there to pursue such instructions as shall be given them by Congress.

The Members chosen, Doctor *Benjamin Franklin*, Mr. *S. Chase*, and Mr. *Charles Carroll*, of *Carrolton*.

Resolved, That Mr. *Carroll* be requested to prevail on Mr. *John Carroll* to accompany the Committee to *Canada*, to assist them in such matters as they shall think useful.

Resolved, That this Congress will make provision to defray any expense which may attend this measure.

Resolved, That eight tons of Powder be immediately sent to *Canada*, for the use of the Forces there.

The Committee of Claims reported, that there is due:

To *Richard Smith*, the sum of 28.8 Dollars, for Provisions furnished by sundry persons in *New-York* Government to Captain *Ross's* Company of Riflemen.

To *Michael Connolly*, the sum of 1082.8 Dollars, on account of expenses in bringing the women and children, belonging to the Twenty-Sixth and Seventh Regiments, from *Esopus* to *Reading*.

To Colonel *Simmes*, the sum of 569 Dollars, on account of expenses in bringing the baggage of the Twenty-Sixth and Seventh Regiments from *Walpack* to *Lancaster*, and several other small expenses.

To *Thomas McEnry*, the sum of 133⅓ Dollars, for eight hundred Canteen-straps.

Ordered, That the above be paid.

The Committee to whom the Letter from the Committee of Safety of *New-York*, of the 3d of *January*, and the Letter from Governour *Trumbull*, of *January* 6, were referred, brought in their Report, which being taken into consideration,

Resolved, That no further Works be erected on *Martelaer's Rock*, but, that those already erected there be supported and garrisoned.

That a Fascine-Battery, to mount not exceeding eighteen heavy Cannon in number, be thrown up on the *Gravel-Hill*, eastward of *Martelaer's Rock*, marked in the draft LL, so as to command the *West-Point*, the reach down the River from the *West-Point*, and part of the reach up the River; and that a convenient road be opened from this Battery to the Barracks on *Martelaer's Rock*.

That a Redoubt of earth and fascines be built on the eminence on the east side of the River, opposite to the *West-Point*, marked in the draft A, to mount thirty guns.

That it be recommended to the Convention, or Committee of Safety of *New-York*, to forward the Battery at *Pooplopen's Kill*, and that the said Battery be made of earth and fascines, and to mount a number of guns, not exceeding forty.

That such of the Continental Troops as are or may be stationed at the aforesaid places, be employed in erecting these Works and Batteries, under the direction of the Engineer.

That it be recommended to the Convention, or Committee of Safety, of *New-York*, to prosecute the discovery of the Lead-Mine at *New-Canaan*, and that a copy of the Report of *Joseph Hopkins* to the General Assembly of *Connecticut*, respecting this Mine, be sent to them.

The Congress took into consideration the Report from the Committee of the Whole House, and, after debate,

Resolved, That the same be recommitted.

Resolved, That this Congress will, to-morrow morning, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into consideration the propriety of opening the Ports, and the Restrictions and Regulations of the Trade of these Colonies after the 1st of *March* next.

Resolved, That the Committee of Ways and Means to procure Cannon, be directed to inquire what quantity of Brass can be procured, and contract for the same.

Adjourned to nine o'clock, to-morrow.

—

Friday, February 16, 1776.

Resolved, That the Secret Committee be directed to furnish Colonel *St. Clair's* Battalion with Arms, and that the President write to Colonel *St. Clair*, and desire him to use the utmost diligence in getting his Battalion ready, and to march the Companies, one at a time, as fast as they can be got ready, to *Canada*, with all possible expedition.

The Committee appointed to make an estimate of the Cannon wanted for the defence of the Colonies, and to devise ways and means for procuring them, &c., brought in their Report, which was read, and ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeable to the Order of the Day, the Congress resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into consideration the propriety of opening the Ports, and the Restrictions and Regulations of the Trade of the Colonies after the first of *March* next; and after some time spent thereon, the President resumed the chair, and Mr. *Ward* reported, that the Committee had taken into consideration the matter to them referred, but not having come to any resolution, desired him to move for leave to sit again.

Resolved, That this Congress will, to-morrow morning, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into their further consideration the propriety of opening the Ports, and the Restrictions and Regulations of Trade after the first of *March* next.

The Committee on General *Washington's* and General *Schuyler's* Letters, laid their Report on the table.

Adjourned to nine o'clock, to-morrow.

—

Saturday, February 17, 1776.

Resolved, That an Order be drawn on the Treasurers, in favour of *James Mease*, the Commissary, for the sum of 10,000 Dollars, for the use of the *Pennsylvania* Battalions, he to account.

That Colonel *James Irvine*, of the Sixth *Pennsylvania* Battalion, be authorized and empowered to purchase good Arms for the use of his Battalion, the price of the same to be deducted out of the pay of the men.

The Committee on the state of the Treasury brought in a Report, which was read:

Resolved, That a Standing Committee of Five be appointed for superintending the Treasury.

That it shall be the business of this Committee:

To examine the Accounts of the Treasurers, and, from time to time, report to Congress the state of the Treasury.

To consider of ways and means for supplying Gold and Silver for the support of the Army in *Canada*.

To employ and instruct proper persons for liquidating the publick Accounts, with the different Paymasters and Commissaries in the Continental service, and the Conventions, Committees of Safety, and others, who have been or shall be intrusted with the publick money; and, from time to time, to report the state of such Accounts to Congress.

To superintend the emission of Bills of Credit.

To obtain from the different Assemblies and Conventions of the *United Colonies*, accounts of the number of Inhabitants in each Colony, according to the Resolution of Congress on that subject.

The Members chosen, Mr. *Duane*, Mr. *Nelson*, Mr. *Gerry*, Mr. *Smith*, and Mr. *Willing*.

The Congress, taking into consideration the Report of the Committee on the Treasury,

Resolved, That a further sum of four millions of Dollars be emitted, on the same security as sums of money heretofore emitted by Congress have been.

That the Committee for superintending the Treasury be directed to consider the numbers and denominations of the Bills in which it will be proper to emit the above four millions, and report to Congress.

The Committee appointed to consider into what departments the Middle and Southern Colonies ought to be divided, brought in their Report, which was read.

The Committee to whom sundry Letters from Brigadier-General *Arnold*, Brigadier-General *Wooster*, Major-General *Schuyler*, and Major-General *Lee*, were referred, brought in their Report, which being taken into consideration, on motion made,

Resolved, That Major-General *Lee* be directed immediately to repair to *Canada*, and take command of the Army of the *United Colonies* in that Province.

That Major-General *Schuyler* be directed to repair, as soon as his health will permit, to *New-York*, and take the command of the Forces, and conduct the military operations there; and that the President inform him by express of this arrangement, and the reasons that led to it.

That it be recommended to the Convention or Committee of Safety of *New-York*, to supply General *Lee* with a quantity of suitable Cannon, not exceeding twelve, and one or more Mortars, if to be had, with Balls, Shells, and other necessaries for the siege or assault of *Quebeck*, and that they assist him in forwarding the same with all possible expedition.

That the Regiment of *Canadians*, the raising of which is mentioned in Brigadier-General *Arnold's* Letter, of the 12th of *January* last, to have been put on foot by him, receive the same pay, and be subject to the same regulations as the other Forces employed in *Canada*, and be accounted part of the number designed to be raised for that service.

That the appointment of Captain —— *Rensselaer* to be Deputy Mustermaster-General of the Forces in *Canada*, be confirmed.

That the appointment of *John Halsted*, Esquire, to be Commissary for the Army before *Quebeck*, be confirmed.

That Major-General *Schuyler* be directed to have Provisions stored in proper places near *Hudson's River*, between *Albany* and the *Highlands*, to supply such Troops as it may be necessary to call out of the country.

That the offer made by Major-General *Schuyler*, to pay at the rate of four Shillings per day for each of the Sleds hired to forward the *Pennsylvania* and *New-Jersey* Forces in their march to *Canada*, be complied with.

That the Officers in the Continental Armies be enjoined to use their utmost diligence in preventing every kind of plunder; and that all who shall offend herein, be punished according to the strictest discipline.

That the Resolves of Congress for encouraging Suttlers to attend the Army in *Canada* be published, with the information that Hosiery, Shoes, Coarse Linens, Soap, Rum, Sugar, and Wine, are much wanted there.

That a few Artificers, such as Armourers, Smiths, Carpenters, Harness-Makers, and Wheelwrights, with proper persons to superintend them, be forthwith sent to *Canada*.

That it be recommended to the Convention of *New-York*, that such of the Officers who served faithfully in *Canada* the last campaign, as are willing to continue there, be preferred, in the new levies of the Colony of *New-York*, to others.

Resolved, That a Committee of Three be chosen to prepare Instructions for the Committee appointed to go to *Canada*.

The Members elected, Mr. *J. Adams*, Mr. *Wythe*, and Mr. *Sherman*.

Resolved, That this Congress will, on *Tuesday* next, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into consideration the propriety of opening the Ports, and the Restrictions and Regulations of Trade, after the first of *March* next.

Resolved, That the Committee appointed to purchase sundry articles of Clothing for the Northern Army, be directed to contract for good strong Shoes, for the Army in *Canada*.

The Congress, taking into consideration the Report of

the Committee on the method of subsisting the Troops in *New-York*, &c.,

Resolved, That the sum of thirty-five thousand Dollars be advanced to the Convention or Committee of Safety of *New-York*, for the support of the Troops employed in the defence of that Colony; the said Convention or Committee of Safety to be accountable for the expenditure thereof; and that an Order be drawn on the Treasurers for the above sum, in favour of the Delegates of that Colony, who are directed to forward the same.

That it be recommended to the Convention or Committee of Safety of *New-York*, to contract with proper persons for supplying the said Troops with the Rations allowed by Congress, and with Fuel, and other necessaries, on the most reasonable terms in their power.

The Committee of Claims reported, that there is due:

On an Account exhibited by the Committee of *Frederick* County, *Maryland*, to be paid to *S. Chase* and *W. Poca*, Esquires, the sum of 860.9 Dollars, of which 268.4 Dollars, being for Rifles, &c., furnished Captain *Cresap's* Company of Riflemen, ought to be charged to the said Company, and the remainder to the Continent.

To *Nicholas Hower*, for Wagonage, the sum of 74.4 Dollars, and that the same ought to be paid to *Daniel Hower*.

Ordered, That the above Accounts be paid.

Adjourned to ten o'clock, on *Monday*.

—

Monday, February 19, 1776.

Met according to adjournment, and having attended the Oration delivered in honour of General *Montgomery*, and of those Officers and Soldiers who magnanimously fought and fell with him in maintaining the principles of liberty:*

Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow.

* *An Oration in Memory of General* MONTGOMERY, *and of the Officers and Soldiers who fell with him,* DECEMBER 31, 1775, *before* QUEBECK; *drawn up (and delivered* FEBRUARY 19, 1776,) *at the desire of the Honourable Continental Congress, by* WILLIAM SMITH, *D. D., Provost of the College and Academy of* PHILADELPHIA.

FATHERS, BRETHREN AND COUNTRYMEN! An occasion truly solemn has assembled us this day; and, that your attention may be alike solemn and serious, hear, in the first place, the voice of Eternal Truth: "It is better to go to the house of mourning, than to the house of feasting;" for, "None of us liveth to himself, and no man dieth to himself."

But there are some men, illuminated with a purer ray of divinity, patriots of the first magnitude, who, in a peculiar sense, may be said to live and die, not to themselves, but to others; and consequently to Him who is the author of all goodness. Endowed with that superior excellence which does honour to our whole species, the virtuous of every nation claim kindred with them; and the general interests of humanity are concerned in their character.

In veneration of such men, to exchange the accustomed walks of pleasure for the house of mourning; to bedew its sacred recesses with tears of gratitude to their memory; to strive, if possible, to catch some portion of their ethereal spirit, as it mounts from this earthly sphere, into perfect union with congenial spirits above—is a laudable custom, coeval with society, and sanctified to us by the example of the wisest nations.

It was the manner of the *Egyptians*, the fathers of arts and science, not only to celebrate the names, but to embalm the bodies of their deceased heroes, that they might be long preserved in publick view, as examples of virtue; and, although "dead, yet speaking."

But this honour was not easily to be obtained; nor was it bestowed indiscriminately upon the vulgar great. It was decreed only by the publick voice—a venerable assembly of judges, before whom the body of the deceased was brought for trial, and solemnly acquitted or condemned upon the evidence of the people.

Even Kings themselves, however much spared when alive, for the sake of publick tranquillity, had still this more than fiery ordeal before their eyes; and, by the example of some of their number, who had been refused sepulture in those very tombs which their pride had prepared to their own memory, were taught both to venerate and to dread a law, which extended its punishments beyond the usual times of oblivion.

The moral of this institution was truly sublime—constantly inculcating a most important lesson, "That whatever distinctions our wants and vices may render necessary, in this short and imperfect period of our being, they are all cancelled by the hand of death; and, through the endless untried periods which succeed, virtue and beneficence will make the true distinctions, and be the only foundations of happiness and renown!

If from the *Egyptians*, we pass to the *Greeks*, particularly the enlightened *Athenians*, we shall find that they had an express law, appointing orations and publick funerals, in honour of those who gloriously sacrificed their lives to their country. And this solemn office was performed before the great assemblies of the people; sometimes for one, and sometimes for bands of heroes together.

Thucydides has recorded a celebrated Oration of this last kind, delivered by *Pericles*. The illustrious speaker, after a most animating description of the *Amor Patriæ*—the love of our country—which he exalts above all human virtues, turns to the deceased:

"Having bestowed their lives to the publick, every one of them, (says he) hath received a praise that will never decay; a sepulchre that will always be most illustrious; not that in which their bones lie mouldering, but that in which their fame is preserved. This whole earth is the sepulchre of illustrious citizens;" and their inscription is written upon the hearts of all good men.

"As for you, the survivors, from this very moment, emulating their virtues, place your sole happiness in liberty; and be prepared to follow its call through every danger." Then, addressing himself, with exquisite tenderness, to the relicts and children of the deceased, he suggests to them that the Commonwealth was their husband, their father and brother.

"From this day forward to the age of maturity, shall the orphans be educated at the publick expense of the state. For this benevolent meed have the laws appointed to all future relicts of those who may fall in the publick contests."

Nor were the *Romans* less careful in this matter. Considering men in general as brave, more by art than nature; and that honour is a more powerful incentive than fear; they made frugality, temperance, patience of labour, manly exercise, and love of their country, the main principles of education. Cowardice and neglect of duty in the field, were seldom punished with death or corporal inflictions; but, by what was accounted worse, a life decreed to ignominous expulsion and degradation from *Roman* privileges. On the contrary, deeds of publick virtue were rewarded, according to their magnitude, with statues, triumphs of various kinds, peculiar badges of dress at publick solemnities, and songs of praise* to the living as well as the dead.

Next to the hymns composed in honour of the gods, poetry derived its origin from the songs of triumph to heroes,† who tamed the rude manners of mankind,‡ founded cities, repelled the incursions of enemies, and gave peace to their country. And this custom began when *Rome* contained only a few shepherds, gathering strength by an alluvies of the outcasts of neighbouring nations.

Those first efforts of poetick eulogy, whether in prose or verse (like those of a similar origin, which nature, always the same, teaches our Savage neighbours,) although often sublime in substance, were yet so rude in structure, that *Livy*‖ forbears quoting them, as having become intolerable to the more refined taste of his age, however suitable they might have been to the era of their production.

What a multitude of compositions of this kind must have existed between the barbarous songs of the military upon the triumph of *Cossius*,§ and the celebrated panegyrick of *Pliny* upon *Trajan!* They are said to have been swelled into two thousand volumes, even in the time of *Augustus*. In short, the praise of publick virtue was wrought into the whole texture of *Roman* polity; and *Virgil*, calling religion to his aid, gave it the highest finish.

He divides his hades, or place of ghosts, into different regions; and to the gulph of deepest perdition,¶ consigns those monsters of iniquity who delighted in the destruction of mankind,** betrayed their country,

* They are called "*Carmina*," as wrought up in the high poetick style; but were not, therefore, always in verse or measure.

† Soliti sunt, in epulis, canere convivas ad tibicinem, de clarorum hominum virtute.—*Cicero.*

‡ Qui terras hominumque colunt genus, aspera bella
Componunt, agros assignant, oppida condunt.—*Horace.*

‖ Carmen canentes ibant, illa tempestate forsitan laudabile rudibus ingeniis, nunc abhorrens and inconditum si referatur.

§ Longe maximum triumphi spectaculum fuit Cossius—in eum milites carmina incondito, æquantes eum Romulo, canere.—*Livy.*

¶ "Full twice as deep the dungeon of the Fiends,
The huge *Tartarean* gloomy gulph descends
Below these regions, as these regions lie
From the bright realms of yon ethereal sky."

** "This wretch his country to a tyrant sold,
And barter'd glorious liberty for gold:
Laws for a bribe he pass'd—but passed in vain
For these same laws a bribe repeal'd again."

Tuesday, February 20, 1776.

The Convention of *New-Jersey*, having made a new choice of Delegates to represent that Colony in Congress, three of said Delegates attending, produced their Credentials, which were read as follows:

"In Provincial Convention, New-Jersey, Brunswick, February 14, 1776.

"On motion, *Resolved, unanimously*, That *William Livingston, John De Hart, Richard Smith, John Cooper*, and *Jonathan Dickinson Sergeant*, Esqs., be Delegates to represent this Province in the Continental Congress, for the space of one year, or until others shall be legally appointed in their stead; and that they, or any three or more of them, have full and ample power to consent and agree to all measures which such Congress shall deem necessary; and this Province bind themselves to execute, to the utmost of their power, all resolutions which the said Congress may adopt. And further, if the said Congress shall think necessary to adjourn, we do authorize our said Delegates to represent and act for this Province, in any one Congress to be held by virtue of such adjournments, during their delegation.

"A true copy from the Minutes:

"WILLIAM PATTERSON, *Secretary.*"

A Letter from General *Lee*, dated 17th *February*, 1776, was read.

A Memorial from a number of the Inhabitants of *Northumberland*, in the Colony of *Pennsylvania*, dated 17th *January*, 1776, with six enclosures, was presented to Congress, and read: also,

A Petition from sundry Inhabitants near *Pittsburgh*, was presented and read.

Resolved, That the above Memorial and Petition be referred to a Committee of Five.

The Members chosen, Mr. *Hewes*, Mr. *W. Livingston*, Mr. *Paca*, Mr. *E. Rutledge*, and Mr. *Chase*.

Lieutenant *Brasher*, who had the orders of General *Schuyler* to conduct a number of *Canadian* Prisoners to *New-Jersey* or *Pennsylvania*, having executed his orders, laid his Instructions before Congress, which were read.

Also, Quartermaster *Shallus*, of the First *Pennsylvania* Battalion, having had orders to conduct certain Prisoners

---

or violated its religion and laws. There he excruciates them, in company with

> "Gorgons and Hydras and Chimeras dire."*

Vultures prey upon their vitals, or they are whirled eternally round with *Ixion* upon his wheel, or bound down with *Tantalus*,† whose burning lip hangs quivering over the elusive waters it cannot touch; or the fury *Tysiphone*, her hair entwined with serpents, her garments red with human gore, urges on their tortures with unrelenting hand!

The poet having thus exhausted imagination, as well as mythology, in the description of punishments for the disturbers of mankind and foes to their country, raises his conclusion to a height of horror beyond the reach of expression:

> "Had I a hundred mouths, a hundred tongues,
> A voice of brass, and adamantine lungs;
> Not half the mighty scene could I disclose;
> Repeat their crimes, or count their dreadful woes."‡

Nor has *Virgil* strayed any further through the fields of fancy or fable in this place, than to borrow strength of colouring for the garb of truth; and, I suspect, that he drank from a purer fountain than that of *Helicon*, when he peopled his *Tartarus* with the ancient scourges of the human race. An authority sacred among Christians has, indeed, given us a most awful confirmation of his doctrine.

A prophet and poet indeed, whose inspiration was truly from Heaven, the incomparably sublime *Isaiah*, foretelling the fall of *Babylon*, has an ode of triumph, wherein he exults over its haughty monarch in strains of wonderful irony and reproach. He reprobates him as a destroyer of mankind, who had "made the world a wilderness." He represents the whole earth as delivered from a curse by his fall! The trees of the forest rejoice, because he is laid low! The very grave refuses a covering to his execrable corse! He is consigned to the depths of misery; while the infernal mansions themselves are moved at his approach, and the ghosts of departed tyrants rise up, in horrid array and mockery of triumph, to bid him welcome to his final abode!

The astonishing grandeur and spirit of this passage, and indeed of the whole ode, are unrivalled by any poet‖ of *Greek* or *Roman* name.

"How hath the oppressor ceased! The Lord hath broken the staff of the wicked! He that smote the people in wrath—that ruled the nations in anger—is persecuted, and none hindereth! The whole earth is at rest; they break forth into singing; yea, the fir-trees rejoice at thee, and the cedars of *Lebanon*, saying, Since thou art laid down, no feller is come up against us.

"Hell from beneath is moved for thee, to meet thee at thy coming. It stirreth up the dead for thee; even the chiefs of the nations! They say unto thee, Art thou also become weak as we? Thy pomp is brought down to the grave—How art thou fallen, O *Lucifer*, that didst weaken the nations? All Kings, (meaning just and merciful Kings,) even all of them lie in glory, every one in his own house, (or sepulchre;) but thou art cast out of thy grave like an abominable branch," &c.—*Isaiah* xiv.

But although the reward of heroes, in the Christian's heaven, be our proper theme on this solemn day; yet the passing view which we have taken of the perdition decreed to the traitors of their country, in the poet's hell, confirmed, also, by the voice of Scripture, is not foreign to our main purpose.

I know your bosoms glow with so strong an aversion to all the foes of liberty in this life, that you will surely avoid every thought and action, which might doom you to their company in the life to come; and, therefore, bidding adieu—and may it be an eternal adieu—to those dreary regions and their miserable inhabitants, let us now exalt our joyous view to those celestial mansions, where the benefactors of mankind reap immortal triumphs!

> "Lo! the blest train advance along the meads,
> And snowy wreaths adorn their glorious heads—
> Patriots who perish'd for their country's right,
> Or nobly triumph'd in the field of fight,
> Worthies, who life by useful arts refin'd,
> With those who leave a deathless name behind,
> Friends of the world, and patrons of mankind.
> Some on the verdant plains are stretch'd along,
> Sweet to the ear, their tuneful Pæans rung."

But here, ye Pagan poets, and thou Prince of their choir, we leave you far behind;§ for your sublimest flights are now infinitely short of the theme! Your gloomy theology gave you tolerable aid in forming a hell, but the utmost efforts of natural genius could not make a heaven worthy of a rational and immortal soul! The glory of giving some animating description of that bliss "which eye hath not seen, nor ear before heard, nor could the unenlightened heart of man otherwise conceive," was left for a more Divine teacher. From him we learn, that a heart pure and detached from sordid pleasures, a soul panting after perfection, striving to imitate the goodness of heaven, anticipating its approving sentence, and devoted to the service of mankind, shall at last rise and mix in eternal fellowship with the beatified family of *God!*

Having now, my respected countrymen, and I hope I do not weary you, laid a wide foundation upon the practice of the wisest nations—in support of the present solemnity—I shall add but little more concerning the publick utility of the thing itself.

Circumstanced as we now are, and perhaps shall long be, in building up a fabrick for future ages, it would be a wise institution, if in imitation of the *Genoese* Feast of Union, we should make at least an annual pause, for a review of past incidents, and of the characters of those who have borne an illustrious share in them; thereby animating our virtue, and uniting ourselves more closely in the bonds of mutual friendship.

The world, in general, is more willing to imitate, than to be taught; and examples of eminent characters have a stronger influence than written precepts. Men's actions are a more faithful mirror of their lives than their words. The former seldom deceive; but the latter often. The deeds of old contract a venerable authority over us, when sanctified by the voice of applauding ages; and, even in our own day, our hearts take an immediate part with those who have nobly triumphed, or greatly suffered in our behalf.

But the more useful the display of such characters may be to the world, the more difficult is the work. And I am not to learn, that of all kinds of writing, panegyrick requires the most delicate hand. Men seldom endure the praise of any actions, but those which their self-love represents as possible to themselves. Whatever is held up as an example, if placed beyond the reach of humanity, duly exalted by publick spirit, will excite no emulation; and whatever is placed within the vulgar walks of life, will attract no attention.

There is a further difficulty, peculiar to certain times; particularly those of civil dissension, when the tempers of men are worked into ferment. Whence it happens, that they who have been the subjects of obloquy in one age, have become the theme of praise in another. Such was *Hampden*, in the days of passive obedience, branded as a seditious disturber of his country's peace; and, at the blessed era of the Revolution, exalted into the first rank of patriots. Such was *Sidney*, condemned to a scaffold in the former period; and, in the latter, immortalized by the delegated voice of the nation!

What judgment posterity will form of the present mighty contest, in which these *United Colonies* are engaged, I am at no loss to determine in my own heart. But, while the same actions are, by one part of a great empire, pronounced the most criminal resistance, and by another, the most laudable efforts of self-preservation; no publick character can be drawn alike acceptable to all. Nevertheless, as the faithful historian is the best panegyrist of true merit, he will not fashion himself to times and seasons, but exalt himself above them; and, conscious of his dignity, as responsible to succeeding ages, will take eternal truth as his support, which can alone bear the impartial test of future examination. He knows that the divine colours of virtue, although they may give a temporary glare, will not blend or mellow into a ground-work of vice.

Whatever events, disastrous or happy, may lie before us; yet some degree of applause, even from an enemy, is certainly due to those illustrious men, who, led by conscience, and a clear persuasion of duty, sacrifice their ease, their lives, and fortunes, to the publick; and from their friends and country they are entitled to a deathless renown.

Perish that narrow pride, which will suffer men to acknowledge no virtue, but among their own party. In this direful contest, the chief concern of a liberal mind will be, that so much personal virtue as may be found on both sides, instead of being united in some great national point for the common good, should be dreadfully employed to the purpose of mutual destruction. And a man can as soon divest himself of his humanity, as refuse the tribute of veneration due to actions truly magnanimous.

When once it becomes criminal to plead the cause of a suffering people; when their virtues can no longer be safely recorded; then tyranny has put the last hand to her barbarous work. All the valuable purposes of society are frustrated; and whatever other human fate remains, will be wholly indifferent to the wise and good.

There are, also, many whose minds are so little, that they can conceive nothing great, which does not court the eye in all the trappings of dress, titles, and external splendour. An *American* patriot! a blanket hero! a General from the plough! all these are terms of ridicule and reproach among many. Yet such was *Cincinnatus*, in the best days of *Roman* virtue; and a *British* poet, already quoted, hath boldly taught his countrymen this noble lesson:

> "Some, with whom compar'd, your insect-tribes
> Are but the beings of a summer's day,
> Have held the scale of empire, rul'd the storm
> Of mighty war; then, with unwearied hand,
> Disdaining little delicacies, seiz'd
> The plough, and greatly independent liv'd."—*Thomson.*

The same noble lesson is also taught, by the well known story of the two *Spanish* grandees, who were sent Ambassadors to the *Hague*. Notwithstanding all the pride of their nation, they did not despise the *Dutch* Deputies when they met them in a plain habit, and saw them on a journey sit down upon the grass, to a frugal repast of bread and cheese, out of their knapsacks. On the contrary, they cried out, "We shall never be able to conquer these people; we must even make peace with them."

Should ambassadors honour us with a visit, upon a like occasion; let us be prepared to meet them in the same majestick simplicity of dress and manners. Let us convince them that publick virtue is confined to no class of men; and that, although it sometimes basks in the sunshine of Courts, it frequently lies hid in the shades of obscurity, like the latent fire in flint, till called forth by the collisive hand of oppression.

---

* *Milton* here borrows his monsters from *Virgil*:

> ——— "*flammisque armata Chimæra;*
> *Gorgones, Harpiæque.*"—*&c.*

See *Virgil*, B. VI, from line 288 to line 627; or *Pitt's* excellent translation.

† Tantalus a labris, sitiens, fugientia captat
Flumina ———. *Horace.*

‡ *Milton* has taken the same method of raising his description, by leaving something to be conceived beyond the power of words to express:

> "Abominable, unutterable, and worse
> Than fables yet have feign'd, or fear conceiv'd."

‖ Alcæus himself (saith Bishop *Newton*) so highly renowned for his hatred of tyranny, and whose odes are alike animated by the spirit of liberty and poetry, has nothing that can be compared with the Prophet in this place.

The excellent prelate above quoted, hath a further remark on this passage, which it would be unpardonable to omit.

"What a pleasure must it afford all readers of an exalted taste and generous sentiments, all true lovers of liberty, to hear the prophets thus exulting over tyrants and oppressors? The Scriptures, although often perverted to the purposes of tyranny, are yet in their own nature, calculated to promote the civil and religious liberties of mankind. True religion, virtue, and liberty, are more intimately connected than men commonly consider."

§ A poet now, as may appear from the following lines of *Thomson*, can give us descriptions of Elysian bliss, far superior to those of *Virgil*; "whose ideas on this subject (as Mr. *Spence* observes,) although preferable to those of *Homer*, and all the other ancient poets, are still so very low that they seem little more than borrowed from holyday sports on the banks of *Tiber*:"

> "In those bright regions of celestial day,
> Far other scenes, far other pleasures reign—
> All beauty here below, to them compar'd,
> Would like a rose before the mid-day sun,
> Shrink up its blossom—like a bubble, break
> The passing poor magnificence of Kings—
> For there the King of Nature, in full blaze
> Calls every splendour forth; and there His court,
> Amid ethereal powers and virtues, holds—
> Angels, archangels, tutelary gods,
> Of cities, nations, empires, and of worlds—
> But sacred be the veil that kindly clouds
> A light too keen for mortals ———."

down from *Kingston*, and having executed his orders, laid his Instructions before Congress, which were read.

Resolved, That the above be referred to the Committee on the Prisoners.

Adversity is the season which shows the spirit of a man in its full vigour; and times of civil calamity never fail to strike forth lights, sometimes single, and sometimes whole constellations, mingling their kindred rays to warm and to illuminate the genius of their country.

The sacred flame thus enkindled, is not fed by the fuel of faction or party; but by pure benevolence and love of the publick. It, therefore, soon rises above the selfish principles, refines and brightens as it rises, and expands itself into heavenly dimensions. Being inextinguishable in its own nature, the blood of thousands on the scaffold, or in the field, is but as oil poured into a conflagration, increasing its vehemence, till it consumes all before it; burning still clearer and stronger, unto the full day of peace and civil happiness.

Those who enjoy a true portion of this divine flame, duly called forth into exercise, stand in no need of further titles or distinctions, either by birth or grant. For what can the world present greater to the sight of mortals, or even immortals, than a man who knows and courts the blessings of peace, who wishes to breathe out his last in its arms; and, keeping it still as his object, is nevertheless roused by the first pang of his suffering country; gives his whole illustrious spirit to her relief; rises above all human allurements; never remits his zeal; fears nothing;* regards nothing—but the sentiments which virtue and magnanimity inspire? What higher qualities can be required to entitle a man to the veneration and eulogies of his country? And these too will be his most durable monument.

The magnificent structures raised, by the gratitude of mankind, to their benefactors of old, had but a local and temporary use. They were beheld only by one people, and for a few ages—

> "The Heav'n aspiring pyramid, the proud
> Triumphal arch, and all that e'er upheld
> The worshipp'd name of hoar antiquity
> Are mouldering into dust."

In vain does the wayfaring man investigate the tottering ruins for the divinity once enshrined there! A scanty receptacle, about six feet in length and half the breadth, informs him that it once contained some human dust, long since mingled with the common mass. In vain does the prying antiquary dwell upon the sculpture, or strive to collect and spell the scattered fragments of letters. The inscription is gone—long since gone, effaced, obliterated! And fruitless were the search, through the whole world, for the Hero's name, if it were not recorded in the Orator's page, and proclaimed by the faithful voice of History.

There it shall live, while the smallest vestiges of literature remain upon earth—yea, till the final dissolution of things human; nor shall it perish then; but, being the immediate care of Heaven, the great Archangel, when he sweeps suns and systems from their place, and kindles up their last fires, stretching forth his mighty arm, shall pluck the deathless scroll from the devouring conflagration, and give it a place among the archives of eternity!

But whither am I borne? to what heights have I ascended? I look down with astonishment and tremble at my situation! Oh! let your friendly arms be extended to save me as I fall. For in the idea I have of my subject, I have undertaken to guide the chariot of the sun; and how shall I steer through the exalted track that lies before me? Considering myself as honoured with this day's office by the delegated voice of some millions of People through a vast continent, upon an occasion, wherein their gratitude, their dignity, their love of liberty, nay, even their reputation in literature, are all, in some degree, concerned; what language shall I use, or how shall I accommodate myself to every circumstance in the arduous work?

Truth alone must guide the hand that delineates a character. Should I affect to soar aloft and dip my pencil in the colours of the sky, I should but endanger my own wings, melt their wax, and be precipitated headlong. Nor is the danger less in the other extreme.

O! then, for some better *Phœbus*, some presiding Genius, to guide me through my remaining way; to point out the middle path, and teach me to unite dignity with ease, strength with perspicuity; and truth with the unaffected graces of elocution. Or rather, you shall be my *Phœbus*, my inspiring as well as presiding Genius, ye delegated fathers of your country! So far will I strive to imitate him,† who always animated himself with his subject, by thus accosting himself before he went forth to speak—

"Remember thou art this day going to address men born in the arms of Liberty, *Grecians, Athenians!*" Let no thought enter thy heart—let no word fall from thy tongue unworthy of such an audience!

As to that hero, whose memory you celebrate as a Proto-Martyr‡ to your rights—for through whatever fields I have strayed, he has never escaped my view—as to him I say, if any thing human could now reach his ear, nothing but the great concerns of virtue, liberty, truth, and justice would be tolerable to him; for to these was his life devoted from his early years.

He had received a liberal education in *Ireland*, his native country, before he went into the Army; and was, indeed, endued with talents which would have led him to eminence in any profession. His own he studied with a felicity which soon distinguished his military abilities; but war and conquest having no other charms to him than as the necessary means of peace and happiness to mankind, he still found leisure, in the midst of camps, to cultivate an excellent taste for philosophy and polite literature. To these he added a careful study of the arts of Government, and the rights of mankind; looking forward to that time, when he might descend into the still scenes of private life, and give a full flow to the native and acquired virtues of a heart rich in moral excellence.

Above eighteen years ago he had attained the rank of Captain in the Seventeenth Regiment, under General *Monckton*, and stood full in the way of high preferment; having borne a share in all the labours of our *American* wars, and the reduction of *Canada*. Ill-fated region! short-sighted mortals! Little did he foresee the scenes which that land had still in reserve for him! Little did those generous *Americans*, who then stood by his side, think that they were assisting to subdue a country, which would one day be held up over us, as a greater scourge in the hands of friends, than ever it was in the hands of enemies!

Had such a thought then entered our hearts, we should have started with indignation from the deed of horror. Our heroism would have appeared madness and parricide! The lifted steel would have dropped from the warrior's arm! The axe and the hoe from the labourer's grasp! *America* would have weeped through all her forests; and her well cultivated fields refused to yield further sustenance to her infatuated sons!

But far different were our thoughts at that time. We considered ourselves as co-operating with our brethren for the glory of the empire; to enable them to secure our common peace and liberty; to humanize, adorn, and dignify, with *British* privileges, a vast Continent; to become strong in our strength, happy in our happiness; and to derive that from our affection, which no force can extort from a free people; and which the miserable and oppressed cannot give!

And these, too, were the sentiments of our lamented hero; for he had formed an early attachment, amounting even to an enthusiastick love, for this country! The woodland and the plain; the face of nature, grand, venerable, and yet rejoicing in her prime; our mighty rivers, descending in vast cataracts through wild and shaggy mountains, or gliding in silent majesty through fertile vales; their numerous branches and tributary springs; our romantick scenes of rural quiet; our simplicity of manners, yet unscorrupted by luxury or flagrant vice; our love of knowledge and ardour for liberty—all these served to convey the idea of primeval felicity to a heart which he had taught to beat in unison with the harmony of Heaven!

He, therefore, chose *America*, as the field of his future usefulness; and as soon as the blessings of peace were restored to his country, and duty to his Sovereign would permit, he took his leave of the army, and having soon connected himself, by marriage, with an ancient and honourable family, in the Province of *New-York*, he chose a delightful retirement upon the banks of *Hudson's River*, at a distance from the noise of a busy world! Having a heart distended with benevolence, and panting to do good, he soon acquired, without courting it from his neighbours, that authority, which an opinion of superior talents and inflexible integrity never fail to create.

In this most eligible of all situations, the life of a country gentleman, deriving its most exquisite relish from reflection upon past dangers and past services, he gave full scope to his philosophick spirit, and taste for rural elegance. Self-satisfied and raised above vulgar ambition, he devoted his time to sweet domestick intercourse with the amiable partner of his heart, friendly converse with men of worth, the study of useful books, and the improvement of his favoured villa. Nor from that happy spot did he wish to stray, until he should receive his last summons to happiness more than terrestrial.

But when the hand of power was stretched forth against the land of his residence, he had a heart too noble not to sympathize in its distress. From that fatal day—and oh! that it had never found a place in the volumes of Time—from that fatal day, in which the first *American* blood was spilt by the hostile hands of *British* brethren, and the better genius of the empire, veiling her face in anguish, turned abhorrent from the strife of Death among her children—I say, from that fatal day, he chose his part.

Although his liberal spirit placed him above local prejudices, and he considered himself as a member of the empire at large; yet *America*, struggling in the cause of liberty, henceforth became his peculiar country; and that country took full possession of his soul; lifting him above this earthly dross, and every private affection! Worth like his could be no longer hid in the shades of obscurity; nor permit him to be placed in that inferior station with which a mind, great in humility and self-denial, would have been contented. It was wisely considered that he who had so well learned to obey, was fittest to command; and, therefore, being well assured of his own heart, he resigned himself to the publick voice, nor hesitated a moment longer to accept the important commission freely offered to him, and, with the firmness of another *Regulus*, to bid farewell to his peaceful retirement and domestick endearments.

Here followed a scene of undissembled tenderness and distress, which all who hear me may, in some degree, conceive, but all cannot truly feel. You only who are husbands—whose hearts have been intimately blended with the partners of your bliss, and have known the pangs of separation, when launching into dangers, uncertain of your fate; you only would I now more directly address. Give a moment's pause for reflection! Recall your own former feelings, your inward struggles, your virtuous tears! Here bid them again freely flow, while you listen to our hero's parting words—

> Ye scenes where home-felt pleasures dwell,
> And thou, my dearer self farewell!
> "Perhaps the Cypres, only tree
> Of all these groves, shall follow me"—*
> But still, to Triumph or a Tomb,
> Where Virtue calls, I come, I come!

[The foregoing lines were set and performed to musick, which gave an opportunity of a pause, in delivering the Oration.]

"I come, I come!" Nor were these the words of disappointed ambition; nor dictated by any sudden start of party zeal. He had weighed the contest well, was intimately acquainted with the inalienable rights of freemen, and ready to support them at every peril! He had long foreseen and lamented the fatal issue to which things were hastening. He knew that the sword of civil destruction, once drawn, is not easily sheathed; that men having their minds inflamed and the weapons of defence in their hands, seldom know the just point where to stop, even when they have it in their power; and often proceed to actions, the bare contemplation of which would at first have astonished them.

It was, therefore, his desire rather to soften than inflame violent humours, wishing that *America*, in all her actions, might stand justified in the sight of *God* and the world. He foresaw the horrid train of evils which would be let loose by the stroke which should sever the

---

* Nihil extimescere; omnia humana despicere; nihil quod homini accidere possit intolerandum putare.—*Cicero.*

† *Pericles.*

‡ The author did not intend to appropriate this term so as to detract from the merit of Doctor *Warren*, and other brave men who fell before, in the same cause.

* Hor. B. II. Ode 14. l. 22—24.

The Congress took into consideration the Report of the Committee on the ways and means of procuring Cannon:

Resolved, That two hundred and fifty Twelve-Pounders, sixty Nine-Pounders, and sixty-two Four-Pounders, be purchased for the use of the Colonies.

That the Committee appointed on the ways and means of procuring Cannon, be empowered to purchase or contract for making the same.

That a new Member be chosen and added to that Committee.

ancient bond of union between *Great Britain* and us. It was, therefore, his wish that such a stroke should never proceed first from the hand of *America*. Nor did it so proceed.

The resistance made at *Lexington* was not the traitorous act of men conspiring against the supreme powers; nor directed by the councils of any publick body in *America;* but rose immediately out of the case, and was dictated by self-preservation, the first great law of nature as well as society. If there was any premeditated scheme here, it was premeditated by those who created the dreadful necessity, either of resistance or ruin. For, could it be expected that any people, possessing the least remains of virtue and liberty, would tamely submit to destruction and ravage—to be disarmed as slaves; stripped of their property and left a naked prey even to the insults of surrounding Savages?

Was this an experiment worthy of *Great Britain?* Where was the wisdom of her counsellors? Had their justice, their moderation, quite forsaken them? Could they possibly expect obedience in such a case as this? Would they themselves, in a similar case, even under a competent legislative authority, submit to laws which would destroy the great end of all laws, self-preservation? Human nature says, No. The genius of the *English* Constitution says, No. The nation itself hath heretofore said, No; and a great oracle* of its laws has given his sanction to the verdict—"In cases of national oppression, (says he,) the nation hath very justifiably risen as one man, to vindicate the original contract subsisting between the King and People." And—"If the sovereign power threaten desolation to a state, mankind will not be reasoned out of the feelings of humanity, nor sacrifice liberty to a scrupulous adherence to political maxims."

If the case of *America* does not come within the above description, there seems to be no equity left upon earth; and whatever is exacted by force must be yielded through fear. But if justice be any thing more than a name, it is surely a solecism in politicks to say, that one part of a free country has a right to command that which the other "cannot obey without being slaves, nor resist without being rebels." Yet to such a sad dilemma does the Parliamentary claim of a "right to bind us in all cases whatsoever," reduce *America;* involving in it a total surrender of our liberties; superseding the use of our own legislatures; marking us with such a badge of servitude as no freeman can consent to wear; and subjecting us to burdens laid by those who are not only unacquainted with our circumstances, and bear no part of the weight, but ease themselves in proportion as they load us. If this be law, if it be equity, it has no example among any other people, possessing the least glimmerings of virtue or native freedom.

But although this claim be so repugnant to every idea of natural as well as legal justice, that the guilt of blood which it may occasion can be chargeable only on those who attempt to enforce it; yet I am well assured that when compelled at last by hard necessity, either to avert the dagger pointed at our breast, or crouch to unconditional servitude, our hero's heart bled for the dreadful alternative.

His principles of loyalty to his Sovereign (whom he had long served, and whose true glory consists in healing those streaming wounds) remained firm and unshaken. Love to our brethren, whom we must oppose; the interchange of good offices, which had so intimately knit the bonds of friendship between them and us; the memory of those better days in which we fought and triumphed together; the vast fabrick of mutual happiness raised by our union, and ready to be dissolved by our dissensions; the annihilation of those numerous plans of improvement in which we are engaged for the glory of the empire—all these considerations conspired to render this contest peculiarly abhorrent to him and every virtuous *American*, and could have been outweighed by nothing earthly, but the unquenchable love of liberty, and that sacred duty which we owe to ourselves and our posterity.

Hence, as appears from his papers, even in the full triumph of success, he most ardently joined his worthy friend, General *Schuyler*,† in praying that "Heaven may speedily re-unite us in every bond of affection and interest; and that the *British* empire may again become the envy and admiration of the universe, and flourish" till the consummation of earthly things.

This part of his character I dwell upon with particular satisfaction; and, indeed, had he evidenced a contrary sentiment, or gone forth in the rage of conquest instead of the spirit of reconciliation; not all his other virtues, nor yet the respect which I owe to the appointment wherewith I am now honoured, could have induced me to appear in this place, on this occasion.

God forbid that any of the profession to which I belong, should ever forget their peculiar character, exercise a turbulent spirit, or prostitute their voice to inflame men's minds to the purposes of wild ambition, or mutual destruction. I am happy in knowing that nothing of this kind is wished from me; nay, that the delegated voice of the Continent, as well as of this particular Province, supports me in praying for a restoration "of the former harmony between *Great Britain* and these Colonies upon so firm a basis as to perpetuate its blessings, uninterrupted by any future dissensions, to succeeding generations in both countries."‡

Indeed this matter rests in safe hands, and is clear in itself. If redress of grievances, essential liberty, and security against future oppression can be obtained agreeable to our own desires; then, neither consistency, dignity, nor a regard to our illustrious *British* friends, who have defended our cause, pledged themselves for our sincerity, and hope by our aid to restore and perpetuate the glory of the whole empire, can suffer us to hesitate. To say, let them look to their own safety, and we will look to ours, would be unworthy of the liberal soul of any *American*, truly animated in our present cause, and with the love of universal liberty.

But suppose these terms cannot be obtained? Why, then, there will be no need of further arguments, much less of aggravations. Timid as my heart, perhaps, is, and ill-tuned as my ear may be to the din of arms and the clangour of the trumpet; yet, in that case, sounds which are a thousand times more harsh—"even the croaking of frogs in the uncultivated fen," or the howling of wild beasts on the mountain top, where liberty dwells, would be "preferable to the nightingale's song" in vales of slavery, or the melting notes of *Corelli* in cities clanking their chains!

If this be a digression, pardon it as the last, and due to my own principles and consistency. I now hasten to attend to our hero through the remainder of his career—short, indeed! but crowded with scenes of virtuous activity, which would have dignified the longest life.

The *Canada* expedition is one of those measures which the enemies of *American* peace, having first rendered necessary, will now strive to misconstrue into hostility and offence. But when authentick proofs were obtained that a people professing a religion, and subjected to laws, different from ours, together with numerous Tribes of Savages, were instigated and preparing to deluge our frontiers in blood, let *God* and the world judge whether it was an act of offence; or rather, whether it was not mercy to them, to ourselves, to the whole *British* empire, to use the means in our power for frustrating the barbarous attempt.

Indeed, there was benevolence in the whole plan of his expedition. It was to be executed not so much by force as by persuasion; and appearing in the country with such a respectable strength, as might protect the inhabitants from the insults and vengeance of those who were striving to make them lift up their reluctant arm to the shedding fraternal blood. It was further wished to kindle up the expiring lamp of liberty among them; to open their eyes to its divine effulgence; and enable them to raise their drooping head, and claim its blessings as their own.

This was a work, in all its parts, suited to the genius of a *Montgomery*. He had a head and heart which equally pointed him out as a fit guide in such an undertaking. He understood and could well explain the blessings of a free Government. Persuasion dwelt upon his tongue. He had a soul, great, disinterested, affectionate, delighting to alleviate distress, and to diffuse happiness. He had an industry not to be wearied out; a vigilance not to be imposed upon; and a courage, when necessary, equal to his other abilities.

But still, with a few new-raised men, of different Colonies, and, perhaps, different tempers; ill-supplied with arms and ammunition; worse disciplined; unaccustomed to look cannon in the face; to make or to mount a breach—in such circumstances, I say, and in the short space of an autumnal and winter campaign, in rigorous northern climes, to achieve a work which cost *Great Britain* and the Colonies the labour of several campaigns, and what was a sacrifice of infinitely more value—the life of the immortal *Wolfe*—this certainly required a degree of magnanimity beyond the ordinary reach, and the exertion of the highest abilities of every kind.

The command and conduct of an army, were but small parts of this undertaking. The *Indians* were to be treated with, restrained, and kept in temper. The *Canadians* were likewise to be managed, protected and supported; and even his own army, in some degree, to be formed, disciplined, animated, accustomed to marches, encampments, dangers, fatigues, and the frequent want of necessaries.

Camps, of all worldly scenes, often exhibit the greatest pictures of distress. The sick and the wounded—the dying and the dead—as well as the wants and sufferings of the living—all these call forth the most tender feelings, and require of a General that, to the courage of a soldier, he should unite the utmost benevolence of a man!

Our General possessed these united qualities in their highest lustre; of which there are numerous testimonies, not only from his own army, but from the prisoners, *English* as well as *Canadians*, now amongst us.

When his men laboured under fatigue, wanted bread and other necessaries, had their beds to make in snow or deep morasses, they were ashamed to complain, finding that he was willing to share in the execution of whatever he commanded. And the example which he thus set to others, did more to inspire patience, obedience, love of order and discipline, than the most rigid exercise of power could have done. The influence of this example was still stronger, as it did not appear to be the effect of constraint or political necessity, but the amiable expression of a sympathizing soul; leading him to condescend to all capacities; exact in his own duties, and great even in common things. His letters, confidential as well as official, are a full proof of this.

"Our encampment is so swampy, I feel, (says he,) exceedingly for the troops; and provisions so scarce, it will require not only despatch, but good fortune, to keep us from distress. Should things not go well, I tremble for the fate of the poor *Canadians*, who have ventured so much. What shall I do with them, should I be obliged to evacuate this country? I have assured them that the *United Colonies* will as soon give up *Massachusetts* to resentment as them."

These sentiments were worthy of a heroick soul, and of the faith he had pledged to those people. Nor is he less to be venerated for his tender regard towards his own army. Instead of making a merit of his difficulties, (which were, indeed, more than ought to be mentioned in this place) he often seeks to conceal them; ascribing any little faults or tardiness, in his young troops, to their want of experience in forming; to their hard duty, the constant succession of bad weather, and the like, still encouraging them to nobler efforts in future. And if any impatience of discipline appeared, he nobly attributes it to "that spirit of freedom, which men accustomed to think for themselves, will even bring into camps with them."

His own superior military knowledge he has been known to sacrifice

* *Blackstone.* † In his letter of *November* 8th.

‡ The above paragraph having been either misrepresented or misunderstood by some, the author does not think himself at liberty to make the least alteration in it, even if he judged any to be necessary. The quotation from the last petition of Congress, as well as the reference made to the instructions of our Assembly, both point to a past period; and the author cannot be considered, from thence, as taking upon him to make the least declaration concerning the present sentiments of either of these bodies; nor is there a word which can preclude the taking into the terms of accommodation, so far as may be thought reasonable, the redress of whatever grievances or losses we may have sustained, since that period. Upon the whole, it is presumed, that a single sentiment is not to be found in the Oration, which is not fully consonant to every declaration of Congress which has yet appeared; and to impute to them, or even suspect, the least change of sentiment, before they themselves have declared it, would not only be indecent, but very injurious to our cause. The author is also consistent with himself, and if the same doctrines which, he has been told, were well received in his late publication, should now be disagreeable to any, the fault is not his. But he will give the reader no further trouble on this topick, unless his own defence should in future render it necessary.

The Member chosen, Mr. *W. Livingston.*

The Committee of Claims reported, that there is due:

To *Michael Connolly,* expenses for Wagon-hire, carrying the Prisoners' Baggage from *Bethlehem* to *Reading,* and his own expenses four days, the sum of 160 Dollars.

To *Richard Howell,* the sum of 34½ Dollars, for transportation of Powder to *Burlington.*

to the general voice, rather than interrupt that union on which success depended; and when a measure was once resolved upon by the majority, however much contrary to his own advice and judgment, he magnanimously supported it with his utmost vigour; disdaining that work of low ambition, which will strive to defeat in execution what it could not direct in planning.

His perseverance and conduct in gaining possession of *St. John's* and *Montreal,* have already been the theme of every tongue, and need not be mentioned in this place. His abilities in negotiation; the precision with which the various articles of treaties and capitulations are expressed; the generous applause he gives, not only to every worthy effort of his own officers, but to the commanding officer and garrison of *St. John's;* his noble declaration to the inhabitants of *Montreal,* "that the Continental armies despise every act of oppression and violence, being come for the express purpose of giving liberty and security;" all these, I say, did honour to himself, and to that delegated body under whose authority he acted.

Leaving him, therefore, for a while, alas, too short a while—to enjoy the noblest of all triumphs, the applause of his country, and the conscious testimony of his own heart—let us inquire after another band of brave and hardy men, who are stemming rapid rivers, ascending pathless mountains, traversing unpeopled deserts, and hastening through deep morasses and gloomy woods to meet him in scenes of another issue.

——— Deserts in vain
Oppos'd their course, and deep rapacious floods,
And mountains in whose jaws destruction grinn'd,
Hunger and toil—*Armenion* snows and storms!
Greece in their view and glory yet untouch'd,
They held their fearless way—Oh! strength of mind
Almost almighty in severe extremes!—*Thomson.*

This praise was paid to ten thousand heroes, sustaining every danger, in a retreat to their own country, and is certainly due, so far as heroism is concerned, to less than a tenth part of the number, marching through equal difficultics against the capital of a hostile country.

Even the march of *Hannibal* over the *Alps,* so much celebrated in history, (allowing for the disparity of numbers,) has nothing in it of superior merit, to the march of *Arnold;* and in many circumstances there is a most striking similitude.

The former had to encounter the rapid *Rhone;* the latter, the more rapid *Kennebeck,* through an immense length of country. The former, when he came to quit the river, found his further passage barred by mountains, rearing their snowy crests to the sky, rugged, wild, uncultivated. This was, also, the case with the latter, whose troops, carrying their boats and baggage, were obliged to cross and recross the same mountains sundry times. At the foot of the mountains, the former was deserted by three thousand of his army, desponding at the length of the way, and terrified at the hideous view of those stupendous heights, which they considered as impassable. In like circumstances, about a third part of the army of the latter, deserted shall I say, or use the more courteous language, "returned home.*" The march of the former was about twelve hundred miles in five months. The *Virginia* and *Pennsylvania* rifle companies, belonging to the latter, including their first march from their own habitations to *Cambridge,* and thence to *Quebeck,* marched near the same distance in about three months.

Besides these rifle companies, *Arnold's* corps consisted of about five hundred *New-England* troops, who sustained all the fatigues of the worst part of the march by land and water, with the utmost fortitude. And General *Montgomery,* ever ready to do justice to merit, having joined them before *Quebeck,* gives their commander and them this character:

"They are an exceeding fine body of men, inured to fatigue, with a style of discipline among them much superior to what I have been used to see this campaign. He, himself, is active, intelligent, and enterprising."

Having approached those plains which the blood of *Wolfe* hath consecrated to deathless fame, our hero seemed emulous of his glory, and animated with a kindred spirit. The situation of his army pressed despatch! snows and frosts only quickened his motions. He hoped by one successful stroke, before the arrival of succours to the garrison, to complete his plan, and save the future effusion of much blood. He further flattered himself, that his success, if speedy, might have some influence upon Parliament, in hastening a reconciliation. He understood that maxim of *Folard,* "No obstacle should break our resolution, when there is but a moment between a bad situation and a worse." This sentiment he expresses in his last letter with a spirit of modesty, and a sense of duty, as well as the danger attending it, which ought to be forever recorded to his glory. "I shall be sorry to be reduced to this mode of attack; because I know the melancholy consequences. But the approaching severity of the season, the weakness of the garrison, together with the nature of the works, point it out too strong to be passed by. Fortune often baffles the most sanguine expectations of poor mortals. I am not intoxicated with the favours I have received at her hands; but I think there is a fair prospect of success."

Poor mortals indeed, if nothing was to remain of them after death; for while he was courting this success, and gloriously leading on his troops in the front of danger, he received the fatal stroke, which in an instant released his great spirit, to follow and join the immortal spirit of *Wolfe!*

* When the Oration was delivered, the author did not know that an inquiry had been made into the reasons of the return of this party, and that the commanding officer has been acquitted. But as a very general censure had been passed upon him through the Colonies, it was judged much more honourable for him to insert an account of his acquitment, than to suppress the paragraph—for all these transactions will be fully scrutinized by future historians.

It was at the foot of the *Pyrenees* that the three thousand deserted from *Hannibal,* and he freely dismissed seven thousand more, whose courage he perceived was not equal to the undertaking. Indeed, *Livy* tells us that the sight of the *Alps,* "their snow-clad tops almost penetrating Heaven, the rude cottages built on rocks, sheep and oxen pinched with cold, the men savage and wearing long beards, every thing, both animate and inanimate, stiff with frost;" struck even the remainder of his army with a temporary panick. It is not clear what use *Hannibal* made of his boats after crossing the *Rhone,* whether to carry his baggage, as he ascended along its banks, or not.

Ordered, That the above Accounts be paid.

Resolved, That Colonel *Wayne* be directed to march with his Battalion to *New-York,* and put himself under the command of General *Lee,* or the commanding officer there.

The Congress being informed that two Prisoners taken at *Chambly* and who had leave to stay at *Newark,* in the Province of *New-Jersey,* on condition of their making Gun-

O! thou swift winged messenger of destruction, how didst thou triumph in that moment! the stroke that severed *Montgomery* from his army, deprived them of more than a member. It reached the vitals, and struck the whole body with a temporary death. As when the forked lightning, darting through the forest, amid the black tempests of night, rends some towering oak, and lays its honours in the dust, the inferior trees which it had long sheltered from the storm, stand mournful around, so stood the astonished bands over their fallen chieftain! nor over him alone; but over others, in their prime of glory, prostrate by his side!

Here, ye *Pennsylvanian* youths, second to none in virtue, let a portion of your tears be sacred to the manes of *Macpherson!* You remember his generous spirit in his early years, for he drank of the same springs of science with many of you now before me; and we who reached the cup to your lip, rejoice that it contributed to invigorate both him and you into wisdom and publick spirit. Having finished his scholastick* education, he studied the laws of his country, under a lawyer and patriot† of distinguished name; and animated by his example, as well as precepts, had become eminent in his profession, at an age when some have scarce begun to think of business. The love of liberty being his ruling passion, he thought it his duty, in the present struggle, to offer himself to the service of his country, and he had soon an opportunity of attaining that military pre-eminence, of which he was laudably ambitious.

Enjoying an hereditary bravery, joined to a well cultivated understanding, and an active spirit, he soon became the bosom friend of General *Montgomery,* was his Aid-de-camp, was intrusted with a share in the management of his most important negotiations, stood by his side in the attack upon *Quebeck,* and being, as it were, animated by one common soul, and dear to each other in life—in death, they were not a moment divided!

Here, likewise, fell Captain *Cheeseman,* of the *New-York* forces, covered with honour, and lamented, by all who knew him, as an active and gallant officer. His particular merits, as well as the merits of some others, who shared his fate, ought to be more fully commemorated on this occasion, if proper accounts of them could be collected.

I must not, however, omit the name of the brave Captain *Hendricks,* who commanded one of the *Pennsylvania* rifle companies, and was known to me from his infancy. He was, indeed, prodigal of his life, and courted danger out of his tour of duty. The command of the guard belonged to him, on the morning of the attack; but he solicited and obtained leave to take a more conspicuous post; and having led his men through the barrier, where his commanding officer, General *Arnold,* was wounded, he long sustained the fire of the garrison with unshaken firmness, till, at last, receiving a shot in his breast, he immediately expired.‡

Such examples of magnanimity filled even adversaries with veneration and esteem. Forgetting the foes in the heroes, they gathered up their breathless remains, and committed them to kindred dust, with pious hands "and funeral honours meet." So may your own remains, and particularly thine, O! *Carleton,* be honoured, should it ever be your fate to fall in hostile fields! Or if, amid the various chances of war, your lot should be among the prisoners and the wounded, may you be distinguished with an ample return of that benevolence which you have shown to others. Such offices of humanity, softening the savage scenes of war, will entitle you to an honour which all the pride of conquest cannot bestow—much less a conquest over fellow-subjects, contending for the common rights of freemen.

By such offices as these, you likewise give a gleam of comfort to those mourners, who mix their tears with ours on *Schuylkill* and *Susquehannah;*‖ and to her§ especially, on *Hudson's River,* pre-eminent in woe! Angels, and ministers of grace, complete her consolations! Tell her, in gentlest accents, what wreaths of glory you have entwined, to adorn the brows of those who die for their country; and hovering for a while, on the wing of pity, listen to her mournful strain:

Sweet ivy, twin'd with myrtle, form a shade
Around the tomb where brave *Montgomery's* laid!
Beneath your boughs, shut from the beams of day,
My ceaseless tears shall bathe the warrior's clay;
And injur'd "Freedom shall a while repair,
To dwell, with me, a weeping hermit there."¶

Having now paid the honours due to the memories of our departed friends, what need I add more? Illustrious, although short, was their race! "But old age is not that which standeth in length of time, nor is measured by number of years—wisdom is the grey hair to man, and an unspotted life is old age."

To such men, *Rome* in all her glory would have decreed honours; and the resolve of Congress to transmit the memory of their virtues, is worthy of that magnanimity which ought to characterize publick bodies. Jealous and arbitrary rulers are sparing of honours to those who serve them, lest their own should be thus eclipsed; but your lustre, gentlemen, can suffer no diminution this way; and the glory you justly bestow upon others, will only be reflected to increase your own!

* He was educated partly at the College of *Philadelphia,* and partly at that of *New-Jersey.* A few days before his death, he visited the very spot on which General *Wolfe* expired; and the reflections in his letter on this occasion, as well as in that which he left sealed up, for his father, in case of his death in the attack upon *Quebeck,* were such as become a Christian and soldier. He bequeathed what little fortune he had accumulated, to his only brother, an officer in the regular army. As a reward for his services, he was appointed by the Congress, a Major in a battalion to be raised in the *Delaware* Counties, but had received no account of this promotion.

† *John Dickinson,* Esquire.

‡ These particulars were certified by General *Thompson* and Colonel *Magaw,* his commanders in the *Pennsylvania* Rifle regiment, and they give me this further character of him in their letter, viz: "No fatigues or duty ever discouraged him; he paid the strictest attention to his company, and was ambitious that they should excel in discipline, sobriety and order. His social and domestick virtues you were well acquainted with."

‖ The rivers on which the parents of Major *Macpherson* and Captain *Hendricks* live.

§ Mrs. *Montgomery.*

¶ The original lines, for which these were substituted and formed to musick, are well known, viz:

"Wind gentle evergreen to form a shade,
Around the tomb where *Sophocles* is laid, &c."

Part of the two last lines is from an Ode of *Collins.*

Locks, for the use of the *United Colonies*, are not employed in that work:

Resolved, That the said two Prisoners be ordered to *Philadelphia*, and put under the direction of Mr. *Rittenhouse*, to carry on the above business.

The Congress being informed that a quantity of Powder belonging to the *United Colonies*, was arrived at *New-Brunswick*, in *New-Jersey*,

Resolved, That Mr. *Lewis*, Mr. *Alsop*, and Mr. *P. Livingston*, be directed to forward the said Powder, under a guard, with all possible expedition, to General *Washington*, for the use of the Army under his command.

Resolved, That an Order be drawn on the Treasurers, in favour of M. *La Junesse*, for the sum of 250 Dollars, for his services in behalf of the *United Colonies*.

Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow.

—

Wednesday, February 21, 1776.

The Committee of Claims reported, there is due:

To —— *Shallus*, the sum of 17¾ Dollars, for his expenses in conducting Prisoners from *Albany* to *Trenton*.

To *Caspar Shaaf*, for Wagonage, the sum of 104 Dollars, and that the same ought to be paid into the hands of *S. Chase* and *W. Paca*, Esquires.

Ordered, That the same Accounts be paid.

Two Letters from General *Schuyler*, of the 10th and 13th instant, being received, were read.

Resolved, That the same be referred to a Committee of Three.

The Members chosen, Mr. *Wythe*, Mr. *Harrison*, and Mr. *S. Adams*.

A Letter from the Committee of Safety for *Pennsylvania*, dated 20th instant, respecting the Prisoners at *Lancaster*, was read:

Resolved, That the same be referred to the Committee on Prisoners.

The Committee on the Treasury, to whom it was referred to consider the numbers and denominations of the Bills, in which the four millions of Dollars directed by Congress to be issued, ought to be emitted, brought in a Report, which was considered, and agreed to, as follows:

That the four millions of Dollars now to be emitted, consist of the following denominations, viz:

600,000 of one-sixth of a Dollar,		100,000
600,000 of one-third	do.	200,000
600,000 of one-half	do.	300,000
600,000 of two-thirds	do.	400,000
130,436 of one Dollar,		130,436
130,437 of two	do.	260,874
130,436 of three	do.	391,308
130,435 of four	do.	521,740
65,217 of five	do.	326,085
65,217 of six	do.	391,302
65,217 of seven	do.	456,519
65,217 of eight	do.	521,736
3,182,612		4,000,000

That the Plates engraved for the two former emissions, be used in the new emission of the Bills from one to eight Dollars inclusive, and that those Bills be expressed in the following words:

"No. Dollars.

"This Bill entitles the bearer to receive . . . . . *Spanish* milled Dollars, or the value thereof in gold or silver, according to a Resolution of Congress, passed at *Philadelphia*, *February*, 17, 1776."

That the said Bills be signed by two signers, and each different denomination numbered from No. 1. progressively.

That one Plate, with proper devices, be engraved for the smaller Bills now to be emitted, under the value of one Dollar.

That the form of the Bills be as follows:

"One . . . . . of a Dollar, according to a Resolution of Congress, passed at *Philadelphia*, *February* 17, 1776."

That each of these Bills be signed by one signer only, and that each different denomination be numbered from No. 1. progressively, as aforesaid.

That *Michael Hillegas*, *Richard Bache*, and *Stephen Paschall*, Esquires, be appointed and authorized to inspect the Press.

That before they enter upon their office, they shall, respectively, take an oath, or affirmation, to be to them administered by any Magistrate, "well and faithfully to execute the trust reposed in them by a Resolution of Congress, as Inspectors of the Press, according to the best of their skill and judgment." A certificate of which oath, or affirmation, shall be delivered to the Committee on the Treasury.

That each of the said Inspectors, respectively, shall be allowed two Dollars a day for their services, while they shall be employed in inspecting the Press, in the execution of the said trust.

Resolved, That the Committee on the Treasury be directed to have the foregoing Resolutions carried into execution with all convenient despatch.

The Committee for receiving the applications for offices in the Continental Army, reported, that they have nominated Mr. *Lewis Dunham*, for Surgeon to the Third Battalion, now raising in the Colony of *New-Jersey*, and recommend him to the Congress for appointment to the said office.

Resolved, That the Report be agreed to, and that a Commission be granted to Mr. *Lewis Dunham* accordingly.

Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow.

—

Thursday, February 22, 1776.

Two Letters from General *Washington*, of the 9th of *February*, being received, were read:

Resolved, That the said Letters be referred to a Committee of the Whole.

Agreeable to the above Resolve, the Congress resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into consideration the Letters just received from General *Washington*, and after some time the President resumed the chair, and Mr. *Ward* reported, that the Committee had taken into consideration the matter referred to them, but not having come to a conclusion, desired him to move for leave to sit again.

Resolved, That this Congress will, to-morrow, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into consideration the Letters of General *Washington*.

A Delegate from *New-Jersey* having informed Congress that the Regiment of Militia, ordered by the Convention of that Colony to march for the defence of *New-York*, in consequence of the Resolve of Congress of the 12th of this month, were not sufficiently armed, and that they could not be furnished with Arms unless the Congress supplied them; and, as the Congress have not Arms to spare, those they have being necessary for arming the Battalions, raising in the Continental service:

Therefore, *Resolved*, That the march of the said Battalion of Militia be countermanded.

Resolved, That orders issue to quicken Colonel *Wayne* in getting his Battalion ready; and that, as fast as he can get a Company properly equipped, that he cause it immediately to march to *New-York*.

Resolved, That the President be directed to write to the Convention of *New-York*, and desire they would inform Congress what progress they have made in raising the four Battalions recommended to be raised in that Colony for the defence of the same.

Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow.

—

Friday, February 23, 1776.

Colonel *Braxton*, a Delegate from *Virginia*, attending, produced the Credentials of his appointment, which were read, as follows:

"Virginia, in Convention, December 15, 1775.

"The Convention, according to the Order of the Day, proceeded to the appointment of a Delegate to represent this Colony in the General Congress, in the room of the late Honourable *Peyton Randolph*, Esq., and the Members having prepared tickets with the name of the Delegate to be appointed, and put the same into the ballot-box, Mr. *Thomas Ludwell Lee*, Mr. *Carrington*, Mr. *Digges*, Mr. *William Cabell*, and Mr. *Carter*, of *Lancaster*, were appointed a Committee to examine the ballot-box, and report on whom the majority fell; and, it appearing, from their

*

report, that there was a majority of the whole Convention in favour of *Carter Braxton*, Esq.,

"*Resolved, therefore*, That the said *Carter Braxton*, Esq., be appointed a Delegate to represent this Colony, in the room of the late Honourable *Peyton Randolph*, Esq.

"A copy:

"JOHN TAZEWELL, *Clerk of the Convention.*"

Resolved, That the Secret Committee be directed to return to the Committee of Safety of *Pennsylvania*, the Arms borrowed of them for the use of the Continent.

The Committee of Claims reported, that there is due:

To *Francis Daymon*, for translating into *French* the Rules and Articles for the better regulating the Continental Troops, the sum of 13⅓ Dollars.

To Monsieur *Mesplet*, for printing the Military Rules, and *French* Letters to the Inhabitants of *Canada*, the sum of 44 Dollars.

To Colonel *Harrison*, for expenses of himself, Mr. *Lynch*, and Mr. *Allen*, on their journey to *New-York*, the sum of 150.9 Dollars.

To *Jeremiah Traxler*, for Provisions, &c., for *Indians* who were in *Philadelphia*, in *December* last, the sum of 40.8 Dollars, and that the same ought to be paid to Mr. *Kachlein*.

To sundry persons for Rifles furnished Captain *Morgan's* Company, the sum of 118.3 Dollars, which ought to be paid to Colonel *Nelson*, and charged to the said Company.

To *Clement Biddle*, for Shot-Pouches, Powder-Horns, and Bullet-Moulds, purchased by him for the *Canada* Regiment, the sum of 1169.3 Dollars.

To sundry persons for Blankets supplied Captain *Price's* Company, the sum of 32.9 Dollars, and that the same ought to be paid to *George Read*, Esq.

To Captain *Little*, for Provisions for guards attending Captain *Campbell*, the sum of 9.5 Dollars.

To *Christian Rhorbeck*, for necessaries furnished to several Prisoners of the Seventh and Twenty-Sixth Regiments, the sum of 9.4 Dollars, and that the same ought to be paid to *Adam Kimmel*.

To *Henry Shits*, for Rifles, &c., furnished to Captain *Stevenson's* Company, the sum of 78.6 Dollars, to be charged to the said Company.

To *Abraham Ebrasher*, for attending several *French* noblesse, from *Albany* to *Bristol*, the sum of 32 Dollars.

Ordered, That the above Accounts be paid.

Resolved, That a Committee of Five be appointed to contract for the making of Muskets and Bayonets for the use of the *United Colonies*, and to consider of further ways and means of promoting and encouraging the manufacture of Fire-Arms in all parts of the *United Colonies*.

The Members chosen, Mr. *Paine*, Mr. *Wilson*, Mr. *Huntington*, Mr. *Lee*, and Mr. *Lewis Morris*.

Resolved, That the Letter of *Christopher Leffingwell*, dated the 29th *November*, 1775, with sundry papers, relating to the cargo of the Brig *Nancy*, be referred to a Committee of Three.

The Members chosen, Mr. *Wythe*, Mr. *Huntington*, and Mr. *Gerry*.

Resolved, That the Secret Committee be empowered to export the Produce of these Colonies, for the purpose of procuring Arms and Ammunition, equal to the amount of that by them exported in two Vessels lately taken by the enemy.

Resolved, That the Committee for superintending the Treasury be authorized to employ one or more Clerks for stating, keeping, and liquidating the Publick Accounts, under their direction, and to provide Books and a suitable Office for that purpose.

That they have power to call upon the different Committees of Congress, Assemblies, Conventions, Councils, or Committees of Safety, Continental Officers, and private persons, who have been, or shall be intrusted with publick money, for their Accounts and Vouchers, and for such other materials and information as the said Committee on the Treasury shall judge to be useful in stating, checking, and auditing the Publick Accounts.

Resolved, That it be recommended to the several Assemblies, Conventions, Councils, or Committees of Safety, and Committees of Correspondence and Inspection, in the *United Colonies*, to exert themselves in devising further ways and means of promoting and encouraging the manufacture of Saltpetre, and of introducing that manufacture into private families.

That it be recommended to the several Assemblies and Conventions in the *United Colonies* that they immediately establish publick works in each and every County in their respective Colonies, at the expense of such Colonies, for the manufacture of Saltpetre; and appoint Committees of their own Members, immediately, to set up such manufactures.

That it be recommended to the Assemblies and Conventions, Councils, or Committees of Safety, of every Colony, forthwith to erect Powder-Mills in their respective Colonies, and appoint Committees to build such Mills, and procure persons well skilled in the manufacture of Powder, at the expense of such Colonies.

That a Committee of this Congress, to consist of one Member from each Colony, be appointed to consider of further ways and means of promoting and encouraging the manufactures of Saltpetre, Sulphur, and Gunpowder, in these Colonies, and to correspond with the several Assemblies and Conventions, and Councils, or Committees of Safety, in the several Colonies, that this Congress may be, from time to time, truly informed of the progress made in these manufactures in all the Colonies.

The Members chosen, Mr. *Bartlett*, Mr. *Paine*, Mr. *Hopkins*, Mr. *Huntington*, Mr. *Lewis Morris*, Mr. *Sergeant*, Mr. *Humphreys*, Mr. *Read*, Mr. *Paca*, Mr. *Braxton*, Mr. *Hughes*, Mr. *Edward Rutledge*, and Mr. *Bullock*.

Ordered, That the above Resolutions, respecting Saltpetre, &c., be published.

It being represented that Captain *Harman* has inlisted into his Company, and carried with him to *Canada*, thirteen Servants, without the consent of their Masters,

Resolved, That a Committee of Three be appointed to inquire into this matter, and report to Congress.

The Members chosen, Mr. *Wilson*, Mr. *Willing*, and Mr. *Wythe*.

Resolved, That this Congress will, on *Monday* next, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into consideration the Letters from General *Washington*, &c.

Adjourned to ten o'clock, on *Monday*.

Monday, February 26, 1776.

A Letter from General *Lee*, 22d of *February*, 1776, with two enclosures, was read.

Resolved, That the same be referred to a Committee of Three.

The Members chosen, Mr. *McKean*, Mr. *John Adams*, and Mr. *Lewis Morris*.

Resolved, That an Order be drawn on the Treasurers, in favour of *Carpenter Wharton*, for the sum of six thousand Dollars; he to be accountable.

A Petition from Lieut. *Jocelyn Feltham*, of the Twenty-Sixth Regiment, who was taken prisoner at *Ticonderoga*, was presented and read, praying for leave to go to *Europe* for the recovery of his health.

Resolved, That the prayer of his Petition be granted.

A Representation from the Committee of Inspection of the City and Liberties of *Philadelphia*, relative to Vessels loading with Produce for *Great Britain*, *Ireland*, and the *British West-Indies*, was presented to Congress, and read; whereupon,

Resolved, That no Vessel loaded for *Great Britain*, *Ireland*, or the *British West-Indies*, be permitted to sail, until the further order of this Congress; and that it be recommended to the different Committees of Inspection and Observation to see that this Resolution be carried into execution.

Ordered, That the above Resolve be published.

Resolved, That a Committee of Five be appointed to examine and report the number and circumstances of the Permits, and the destination of the Vessels to which such Permits have been granted, for exporting the Produce of the Colonies, in consequence of the importation of Ammunition and Warlike Stores; and that the representation of the Committee of Inspection and Observation for the City and Liberties of *Philadelphia*, on this subject, be referred to the said Committee.

The Members chosen, Mr. *Duane*, Mr. *Chase*, Mr. *Wilson*, Mr. *Livingston*, and Mr. *Wythe*.

Resolved, That Monsieur *Mesplet*, Printer, be engaged to go to *Canada*, and there set up his Press, and carry on the Printing business; and the Congress engage to defray the expense of transporting him and his family, and printing utensils, to *Canada*, and will, moreover, pay him the sum of two hundred Dollars.

A Letter from the Convention of *New-Jersey*, dated *February* 24, 1776, was read.

Resolved, That the same be referred to the Committee to whom the Letter from General *Lee* was committed.

Resolved, That an Order be drawn on the Treasurers, in favour of the Delegates of *Maryland*, for the sum of twenty-two thousand Dollars, to be by them exchanged for Gold and Silver, and paid back into the Treasury.

The Order of the Day being renewed,

Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow.

—

Tuesday, February 27, 1776.

Resolved, That Monsieur *Rigauville* be permitted to go to *Bristol*, and spend a week with his relations there; and that, after that, he return to this city.

Resolved, That the sum of one hundred Dollars be paid to Monsieur *Dugan*, for his services in the cause of the *United Colonies*, in *Canada*; and that it be recommended to the Commanding Officer of the Forces of the *United Colonies* in that Province to advance him to a post in the Army suitable to his merit and services.

The Committee to whom the Letters from *Christopher Leffingwell* and others, concerning the Brig *Nancy*, commanded by *Thomas Davis*, and her cargo, were referred, brought in their Report, which being taken into consideration,

Resolved, That the case of the said Brig and Cargo pertaineth to the Judicature established in the Colony of *Connecticut* for hearing and determining matters of the same kind.

The Congress took into consideration the Report of the Committee appointed to consider into what Departments the Middle and Southern Colonies ought to be formed, &c.; whereupon,

Resolved, That *New-York*, *New-Jersey*, *Pennsylvania*, the lower Counties on *Delaware*, and *Maryland*, be put into one Department, under the command of the Major-General, and two Brigadiers-General, with proper Staff.

That *Virginia*, *North* and *South-Carolina*, and *Georgia*, be put into one other Department, under the command of one Major-General and three Brigadiers-General, with proper Staff.

Resolved, That *Friday* next be assigned for the election of the Majors-General, Brigadiers-General, and Staff-Officers, in the foregoing Departments.

Resolved, That it be recommended to the Convention of *New-Jersey*, to have the cargo of the transport, *Blue-Mountain-Valley*, landed, and secured in some safe place till further orders of Congress.

The Order of the Day being renewed,

Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow.

—

Wednesday, February 28, 1776.

Resolved, That a Letter be sent to General *Lee*, desiring him not to set out for *Canada* until he received further orders from Congress.

The Committee to whom the Letters from General *Lee* and the Convention of *New-Jersey* were referred, brought in their Report, which was read.

Ordered, That the same be referred till to-morrow.

Resolved, That the Secret Committee be directed to return to the Delegates of *North-Carolina* the four hundred pounds of Powder borrowed of that Colony.

The Committee on Prisoners, to whom the Letter from the Committee of Safety of *Pennsylvania* was referred, brought in their Report, which was taken into consideration; and, thereupon,

Resolved, That the Committee of Inspection and Observation for the County of *Berks*, in *Pennsylvania*, be requested and authorized to contract, upon reasonable terms, for the subsistence of such of the Prisoners, now in *Reading*, as are not supplied by Mr. *Franks*, together with the women and children belonging to all the Prisoners there, and for supplying them with Fire-Wood, and other things absolutely necessary for their support.

That the Committees of Inspection and Observation for the Counties, Districts, or Towns, assigned for the residence of Prisoners, be empowered to superintend their conduct, and, in cases of gross misbehaviour, to confine them, and report to Congress the proceedings had on such occasions.

Ordered, That the foregoing Resolve be published.

Resolved, That the Committee of Safety of *Pennsylvania*, agreeable to the offer made by them of their service, of which Congress have a proper sense, be authorized to distribute the Officers, prisoners in *Lancaster*, in such places, within the Province of *Pennsylvania*, as to that Committee shall seem most proper, taking their parole, which, if they refuse to give, the said Committee are empowered and directed to confine them; and that, in executing this Resolve, the said Committee have regard to the Resolutions heretofore made by Congress with respect to Prisoners, and their residence.

A Petition of *Anthony Marmajou*, master and owner of the Brig *Little-Polly*, of the Island of *Martinique*, was presented to Congress and read.

Resolved, That Monsieur *Marmajou* be permitted to load the Brigantine *Little-Polly*, in which he imported a small quantity of Powder and Arms, with the Produce of these Colonies, (Horned Cattle, Sheep, Hogs, Poultry, and Lumber for making Casks excepted,) and export the same to *Martinique*; and that the said *Anthony Marmajou* do take every possible precaution to avoid all *British* men-of-war and cutters on his voyage, and that he use his utmost endeavours to import into these Colonies the Powder and Arms mentioned in his Petition.

Resolved, That an Order be drawn on the Treasurers, in favour of Mr. *J. Mease*, for the sum of twenty thousand Dollars, he to be accountable.

The Committee to whom the Letters from General *Schuyler*, dated the 10th and 13th of this instant, *February*, and the papers therein mentioned, were referred, brought in their Report, which was taken into consideration; and, thereupon,

Resolved, That a sufficient quantity of Steel be sent to Major-General *Schuyler*, or the Commanding Officer at *Albany*, for the Armourers and the Blacksmiths who are appointed to go and work for the *Indians*, and that the Delegates of *New-Jersey* be desired to provide and forward the same.

That an account of the Money paid to the *Pennsylvania* Troops, who have marched to *Canada*, be sent to General *Schuyler*.

That the Deputy Mustermaster-General, *Gunning Bedford*, Esq., be directed to repair forthwith to his post, in the Northern Army, in *Canada*, and that he muster the Troops once in every month, and make returns to Congress and the Commanding Officer.

That the Orders given by Major-General *Schuyler*, in his Letter of the 12th day of this instant, to Lieutenant-Colonel *Warner*, be approved.

Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow.

—

Thursday, February 29, 1776.

The Colony of *New-Hampshire* having appointed Delegates for the present year, *William Whipple*, Esq., one of the said Delegates, attended, and produced the Credentials of their appointment, which were read, as follows:

"Colony of New-Hampshire, in the House of Representatives, January 23, 1776.

"*Voted*, That *Josiah Bartlett*, *John Langdon*, and *William Whipple*, Esquires, be, and hereby are appointed Delegates to represent this Colony in the Continental Congress at *Philadelphia*, for the term of one year from this time, any one of them, in the absence of the others, to have full power to represent this Colony, and that not more than two of them attend at one time. Sent up for concurrence. P. White, *Speaker*."

"In Council, *eadem die*: Read, and concurred.

"E. Thompson, *Secretary*."

"A true copy from the Journal of Council:

"Attest: E. Thompson, *Secretary*."

A Letter from General *Washington*, dated 14th *February*, enclosing a Letter from Lord *Drummond* to General *Robertson*, a Return of the Army 4th of same month, &c., was read.

Agreeable to the Order of the Day, the Congress resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into consideration the Letter from General *Washington*, and the Trade of the Colonies after the 1st of *March*, and after some time spent thereon, the President resumed the chair, and Mr. *Ward* reported, that the Committee had taken into consideration the matters referred to them, but, not having come to a conclusion, desired him to move for leave to sit again.

Resolved, That this Congress will, to-morrow, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into their further consideration the Letter from General *Washington*, and the state of the Trade of the Colonies.

Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow.

Baltimore, November 30, 1774.

At a meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of *Baltimore* County and *Baltimore* Town, qualified by law to vote for Representatives, held in pursuance of notice given for that purpose, at the Court-House, on *Saturday*, the 12th *November*, 1774: *Andrew Buchanan*, Esquire, Chairman, and *Robert Alexander*, Clerk, the Inhabitants proceeded to make choice of a Committee for the purposes mentioned in the eleventh Resolve of the Continental Congress; and, thereupon, the following gentlemen were chosen:

For Baltimore Town: *Andrew Buchanan, Robert Alexander, William Lux, John Moale, John Merryman, Richard Moale, Jeremiah Townley Chase, Thomas Harrison, Archibald Buchanan, William Smith, James Calhoun, Benjamin Griffith, Gerard Hopkins, William Spear, John Smith, Barnet Eichelberger, George Woolsey, Hercules Courtenay, Isaac Grist, Mark Alexander, Samuel Purviance*, Jun., *Francis Sanderson, John Boyd, George Lindenberger, Isaac Vanbibber, Philip Rogers, David McMechen, Mordecai Grist*, and *John Deaver*.

Hundreds.

Patapsco, Lower: *Charles Ridgely* and *Thomas Sollers*.
Patapsco, Upper: *Zachariah McCubbin, Charles Ridgely*, Son of *William*, and *Thomas Lloyd*.
Back-River, Upper: *Samuel Worthington, Benjamin Nicholson, T. C. Deye, John Cradock, Darby Lux*, and *William Randall*.
Back-River, Lower: *John Mercer* and *Job Garretson*.
Middle-River, Upper: *Nicholas Merryman* and *William Worthington*.
Middle-River, Lower: *H. D. Gough* and *Walter Tolley*, Sen.
Soldiers' Delight: *George Risteau, John Howard, Thomas Gist*, Sen., *Thomas Worthington, Nathan Cromwell*, and *Nicholas Jones*.
Middlesex: *Thomas Johnson* and *Maybury Helm*.
Delaware: *John Walsh, Rezin Hammond*, and *John Elder*.
North: *Jeremiah Johnson* and *Elisha Dorsey*.
Pipe-Creek: *Richard Richards, Frederick Dicker*, and *Mordecai Hammond*.
Gunpowder, Upper: *Walter Tolley*, Jun., *James Gittings*, and *Thomas Franklin*.
Mine-Run: *Dixon Stansbury*, Jun., and *Josias Slade*.

Resolved, That the same, or any seven of them, have power to act in matters within the Town of *Baltimore*, and that any five may act in matters without the said Town, in the said County.

Resolved, That *T. C. Deye*, Captain *Charles Ridgely, Walter Tolly*, Jun., *Benjamin Nicholson, Samuel Worthington, John Moale*, Doctor *John Boyd*, and *William Buchanan*, or any three of them, be a Committee to attend the General Meeting at *Annapolis*, on *Monday*, the 24th of this month.

Resolved, That *Robert Alexander, Samuel Purviance*, Jun., *Andrew Buchanan*, Doctor *John Boyd, John Moale, Jeremiah Townley Chase, William Buchanan*, and *William Lux*, be a Committee of Correspondence for *Baltimore* County and *Baltimore* Town, and that any four of them have power to act.

—

At a meeting of the Committee of *Baltimore* Town, at *Daniel Grant's*, this 5th *December*, 1774:

Present: Samuel Purviance, William Smith, James Calhoun, William Spear, Hercules Courtenay, William Buchanan, Robert Alexander, John Smith, Major Thomas Franklin, Andrew Buchanan, Thomas Harrison, Mark Alexander, John Boyd, John Moale, Gerard Hopkins, George Lindenberger, Francis Sanderson, and David McMechen.

This Committee made choice of *Samuel Purviance*, as Chairman, and *William Smith*, as a Deputy-Chairman, to be continued as such; and they also chose Doctor *John Boyd*, as Clerk.

On motion, the following question was put: Whether a Vessel arriving within the Capes of *Chesapeake*, on or before the first of *December*, be an importation within the first Resolve of the Congress, or not?

Resolved in the affirmative, 13—3.

Captain *Charles Reiley*, of the Ship *Charles*, from *Liverpool*, appeared before the Committee, and declared, on oath, that he was, on the 30th of *November*, at half-past one o'clock, abreast of *Cape-Henry*, and that he came to an anchor the same day in *Lynhaven-Bay*. He declares that he had no goods on board but Salt, Coal, Cordage, and Linens; and that he did not lade or bring in any Tea.

The Committee are of opinion that this is an importation within the terms of their Resolve.

A Letter from the Committee of *Harford* to this Committee, desiring information concerning a Chest of Tea, sold by *Joseph Magoffin* to *Robert Trimble*, being laid before us, Mr. *Magoffin* appeared, and declared, on oath, that he received it from *Philadelphia*, and had reason to think, and verily believed, the same never paid duty in *America*; which being deemed satisfactory, it was directed to inform the Committee of *Harford* thereof.

—

At a meeting of the Committee of *Baltimore* County, held at Mr. *Grant's*, *December* 7, 1774:

Present: Samuel Purviance, Chairman, William Smith, Deputy-Chairman, Philip Rogers, J. T. Chase, John Deaver, Mark Alexander, Francis Sanderson, George Lindenberger, William Buchanan, Richard Moale, Nicholas Jones, Maybury Helme, Hercules Courtenay, Robert Alexander, Darby Lux, Benjamin Griffith, Job Garretson, George Woolsey, James Calhoun, William Lux, Isaac Grist, John Boyd, Clerk.

Captain *James Thomas*, of the Ship *William*, from *Bristol*, appeared before the Committee, and declared, on oath, that he arrived within the Capes of *Chesapeake-Bay* on the 30th day of *November* last past, and that he has not imported himself, nor is there, to the best of his knowledge, any *East-India* Tea on board his ship. The Captain at the same time produced his Log-Book, which corresponded with his declaration aforesaid, respecting the time of his arrival in the Bay.

The following gentlemen, importers of goods in said ship, appeared before the Committee, and made oath that they had not imported any *East-India* Tea in said ship: *William Smith, James Cheston, David Mitchell, William Neill, Christopher Johnston*, and *David McLure*.

Captain *Robert Johnston*, of the Ship *Elizabeth*, from *Londonderry*, having arrived in *Chesapeake-Bay* after the first day of *December*, appeared before the Committee, and declared, on oath, that there is not at present, nor has he imported in said ship, goods of any kind for sale, except seven pieces of *Irish* Bagging, being his own private adventure, which he engages to deliver into the hands of Mr. *Hercules Courtenay* and Captain *George Woolsey*, who are appointed by the Committee to receive and sell them at publick vendue, and, after paying the said Captain the first cost and charges of said goods, out of the produce of the sales, the remainder, if any, to be accounted for to the Committee by Messrs. *Courtenay* and *Woolsey*, and applied by the Committee to the purposes in that case recommended by the Continental Congress.

A complaint having been laid before the Committee by *John Cannon* and others, against *Alexander McLure*, and *Goodwin & Russell*, that they had raised the price of certain goods by them sold, contrary to the Association of

the General Congress; it was debated, whether the said complaint should be taken into consideration at a future meeting; and a vote being taken, it was resolved in the affirmative. The complaint is, therefore, to be heard at the meeting which shall happen next after the rising of the ensuing Provincial Congress.

—

At a meeting of the Committee of *Baltimore* County, held at Mr. *Grant's*, the 12th *December*, 1774:

Present: Samuel Purviance, Chairman, John Merryman, Isaac Vanbibber, Isaac Grist, William Spear, Barnet Eichelberger, David McMechen, George Lindenberger, John Deaver, Mark Alexander, Benjamin Griffith, Job Garretson, James Calhoun, Clerk in loco Dr. Boyd, who is absent.

Captain *Elisha Thatcher* and Mr. *Mark Alexander*, appeared before this Committee, and produced Bills of Lading for six pipes of Wine, imported by them in the Schooner *Polly*, from the Island of *Madeira*, which having arrived after the first of *December*, and the owners choosing to have it sold at vendue, rather than stored, this Committee desire that the above-mentioned six pipes of *Madeira* Wine be delivered into the hands of Messrs. *William Spear* and *Barnet Eichelberger*, who are to sell the same at publick vendue, and apply the amount of the sales as directed by the Continental Congress in such cases.

—

At a meeting of the *Baltimore* Committee, held at Mr. *Grant's*, *December* 19, 1774:

Present: Samuel Purviance, Chairman, Andrew Buchanan, William Buchanan, John Merryman, Benjamin Griffiths, John Deaver, George Lindenberger, Job Garretson, Thomas Harrison, Richard Moale, Isaac Grist, Isaac Vanbibber, James Calhoun, John Boyd, Clerk.

Ordered, That Messrs. *Isaac Vanbibber*, *Isaac Grist*, *Richard Moale*, and *William Spear*, do carefully observe the arrival of all Vessels into the Port of *Baltimore*, and immediately give notice of the same to the Chairman, who may call a meeting extraordinary of the Committee on the occasion, if he should think it necessary.

Ordered, That publick notice, by advertisement, be given to all Masters of Vessels arriving at the Port of *Baltimore*, that it is expected they will give information of such arrival to some one of the aforesaid gentlemen, on their first landing.

It having been reported to the Committee that two Vessels had lately arrived in this harbour, the Captains were desired to attend this meeting; but not having it in their power to do so immediately, they were directed to meet a number of the Committee at the house of Mr. *Spear*, at four o'clock, this afternoon, who are appointed to examine into the state of their several cargoes, if they have any.

It being thought necessary that a General Meeting of the Committee of *Baltimore* County, should be held at *Baltimore* Town as soon as convenient,

It is *Ordered*, That notices be immediately given to the Members in each Hundred, and, also, to the Freeholders of the County, to meet at the Court-House, in said Town, on *Thursday*, the 29th instant, at ten o'clock, to take into consideration several matters of importance to be then laid before them, and to choose Delegates to represent them at the next Provincial Convention, which is to be held at *Annapolis*, on the 24th day of *April* next.

☞ The Minute contained in the Proceedings of *December* 7, relative to the complaint against certain gentlemen for raising the price of gonds, was read, and considered,

And it was unanimously *Resolved*, That, as a line is now drawn by the late Provincial Convention, ascertaining the price of goods, no matters of this kind that may have happened since the General Congress, and before said Convention, shall be taken notice of. The complaint aforesaid is, therefore, dismissed.

—

At a meeting extraordinary of the Committee, at Mr. *Grant's*, on *Wednesday*, *December* 21, 1774:

Present: Samuel Purviance, Chairman, William Buchanan, Richard Moale, John Moale, William Lux, James Calhoun, Hercules Courtenay, Philip Rogers, Gerard Hopkins, John Deaver, John Boyd, William Spear.

Captain *William Woolsey*, of the Schooner *Industry*, from *Dublin*, appeared before the Committee, and declared, on oath, "that there are imported in his vessel fifty-five indented Servants, three boxes of *Irish* Linens, the property of Messrs. *Dominick Jordan*, *George Woolsey*, and *J. S.*, (owner unknown,) and a trunk containing wearing apparel, directed for Mr. *John Lynch*, and no other goods for sale."

Captain *Thomas Pierce*, of the Ship *Dick*, from *Liverpool*, declared, on oath, the contents of his cargo to be as follows: Five thousand Bricks, nine thousand six hundred and eighty bushels of Salt, and fourteen and seven-twelfths chaldrons of Coal, and nothing else.

Captain *Carmichael*, of the Ship *Sophia*, from *London*, declared, on oath, before the Committee, that there was nothing imported in his ship for sale, except sixty-three Servants.

Mr. *Spear* reports, that the following Masters of Vessels appeared, in consequence of a direction for that purpose at the last meeting, and made oath to their several cargoes, as follows:

Ship *Charming-Sally*, *Felix McGinnis*, master, from *Philadelphia*, his cargo four thousand one hundred and six bushels of Salt, and six barrels of Apples.

Ship *Philadelphia*, *John Winning*, master, from *Philadelphia*, in ballast.

Ship *John*, *Charles Poag*, master, from *Cork*, one small bale of Linen for Messrs. *Brown & Cornthwait*.

Ship *Sicily*, *Martin Malony*, master, from *Malaga*, in ballast.

On motion, *Resolved*, That it be recommended to the Retailers of *British* Salt, not to sell the same for more than three Shillings per bushel, cash.

On motion, *Resolved*, That where *British* Salt has, or shall be imported into *Baltimore* Port, since the first day of *December*, it shall be left in the option of the owner, or owners, of said Salt, either to allow one penny and-a-half per bushel on the quantity contained in the invoice, or two pence per bushel on what may be sold, for the relief of the suffering Poor in *Boston;* or that the Committee, in case the owners refuse both these alternatives, and do not choose to store the Salt, shall sell the same in lots of five hundred bushels; and the profits, after paying first cost and charges, to be applied as above; and, in case the Salt is sold, ten pence per bushel shall be allowed for freight.

The meeting adjourned to three o'clock, this afternoon.

—

The Committee met according to adjournment.

On motion, the question was put, Whether Coal and Brick ought to be considered as merchandise, and subject to be disposed of as directed by the tenth Article of the Continental Association, or not? Determined in the negative.

The question being put, Whether this Committee shall make an offer of such goods as may be imported after the first day of *December*, to the owners, on their paying a certain commission to the Poor of *Boston*, or adopt any measure similar thereto, without selling them at publick vendue? Carried in the negative.

The question was then put, Whether one general rule be observed in setting up all those goods directed to be sold by this Committee at vendue, or not? Determined in the negative.

Ordered, That the three packages of Linens, imported in Captain *Woolsey*, from *Dublin*, and the package of ditto, imported in Captain *Poag*, from *Cork*, be delivered into the hands of Mr. *Chase* and Mr. *Calhoun*, to be by them sold at publick auction on *Saturday* next, and the amount of the sales disposed of as directed by the tenth Article of the Continental Association.

Resolved, That the owners of all goods directed to be sold by this Committee, do produce their original Invoices, or authentick copies therefrom, to the gentlemen appointed to sell the same.

—

At a meeting of the Committee of *Baltimore* Town, held at Mr. *William Buchanan's*, the 22d *December*, 1774:

Present: Samuel Purviance, Chairman, George Woolsey, Richard Moale, John Deaver, William Spear, Jeremiah T. Chase, John Smith, John Boyd, Isaac Vanbibber, Hercules Courtenay, Isaac Grist, George Lindenberger, William Buchanan, Francis Sanderson, James Calhoun, William Lux, pro Clerk.

Captain *Archibald Graham*, of the Snow *Potomack*,

appeared before the Committee, and reported his cargo of eight boxes and four cases of *Irish* Linens, which belong to gentlemen in *Philadelphia*.

They are directed to be delivered to the care of Messrs. *Isaac Grist* and *Isaac Vanbibber*, to be stored, until orders received from *Philadelphia* respecting them. Also, one box of Linens, belonging to the Captain, which is to be delivered Mr. *Calhoun* and Mr. *Chase*, to be sold.

The Committee hereby appoint any Magistrate of the Committee, to take the deposition of any Captain of a Vessel arriving in this port in ballast. But when any Vessel may arrive that has goods in, then the Captain to apply to the Committee.

Captain *Graham* also reported to the Committee, a parcel of Teas, shipped on board his vessel at Port *L'Orient*, in *France*, being the property of Messrs. *Arthur* and *William Bryan*, of *Dublin*, Messrs. *John Pringle* and *Joseph Willson*, of *Philadelphia*, and the said *Archibald Graham*, which Teas, by permission of the Committee, are stored under the inspection of *Isaac Grist*, who is ordered to keep the key of said store. (One hundred and seventy-six cases and chests, sixteen quarter-chests.)

—

At a meeting of the Committee of *Baltimore*, at Mr. *William Buchanan's*, *December* 26, 1774:

Present: Samuel Purviance, Chairman, William Spear, George Woolsey, James Calhoun, Isaac Grist, Philip Rogers, John Merryman, John Deaver, Isaac Vanbibber, William Buchanan, Nicholas Jones, John Boyd, Clerk.

Mr. *Calhoun* was appointed Treasurer to this Committee, to receive all Moneys arising from the sales of goods disposed of by the direction of the Committee; and the Treasurer is desired to procure a book for that purpose.

Captain *Woolsey*, who, with Mr. *Courtenay*, was appointed to dispose of the *Irish* Bagging belonging to Captain *Johnston*, reports that the same is done, and the profits, for the Poor of *Boston*, amounts to twenty-six Shillings and two Pence, which is ordered to be delivered into the hands of the Treasurer.

Messrs. *Calhoun* and *Chase* report, that the packages of Linens, &c., ordered to be sold by them at publick vendue, were accordingly sold on *Saturday* last, and the profits arising to the Poor of *Boston*, from said sales, amounts to nine Pounds, currency, which is ordered to be delivered into the hands of the Treasurer.

Ordered, That an extract of the Minutes of this Committee, concerning their Resolution in the sale of Salt, be made publick; and the regulation agreed upon with regard to that article, in the case of Captain *Pierce*, be made known to that gentleman, or to his owners.

Committee adjourned to four o'clock, this afternoon.

Committee met agreeable to adjournment.

Present: Samuel Purviance, Chairman, Hercules Courtenay, James Calhoun, Isaac Grist, John Smith, William Buchanan, William Spear, John Merryman, John Deaver, John Boyd, Clerk.

Captain *Amos Grandy*, of the Schooner *Susannah*, from *Marblehead*, appeared before the Committee, and declared, on oath, that his cargo consisted of Rum, Oil, *Calais* Salt, and Mackerel, only.

A Paper was handed into the Committee from Mr. *James Christie*, containing some queries relative to goods taken into the care of the Committee.

The Chairman was desired to prepare an answer; which he accordingly did; and, it being approved of by the Committee, a copy was ordered to be taken, and the original sent to Mr. *Christie*, as an answer to his queries.

The Committee of Correspondence are desired to meet at Mr. *Buchanan's*, on *Tuesday* evening, to consider of and prepare a plan of proceedings for the General Meeting of the County Committee on *Thursday* next, which is first to be laid before the Committee of the Town for their inspection on *Wednesday* evening next, when they are to meet for that purpose.

Mr. *William Neill* appeared before the Committee, and laid before them his invoice of certain goods arrived from *Liverpool*, by way of *Philadelphia*; which having arrived since the first of *December*, are taken into the care of the Committee, and are ordered to be sold by publick vendue, by the cargo, if they will sell for two per cent. advance on the foot of the invoice; but if not, then the goods are to be opened, and sold in lots.

In the first case, Messrs. *Hercules Courtenay* and *John Merryman* are appointed to superintend the sales; in the last case, a vendue master is to be employed.

The Clerk is directed to publish, in Handbills and in the *Maryland Journal*, Extracts from the Proceedings of the Committee which relate to Salt, and Masters of Vessels arriving at the Port of *Baltimore*; and the Treasurer, upon application to him, is ordered to pay the expenses attending such publication.

Committee adjourned to *Wednesday* evening next.

—

Committee met by special appointment, *December* 27, 1774:

Present: Samuel Purviance, Chairman, Richard Moale, George Woolsey, John Moale, William Buchanan, James Calhoun, Hercules Courtenay, John Merryman, John Smith, Andrew Buchanan, William Spear, John Boyd, Clerk.

Captain *Hocker* appeared before the Committee, and produced an invoice of goods imported in the Ship *Sims*, marked and numbered as follows, which, he says, are to be landed at *Baltimore*, viz:

I. S. S., 4 packages, *John Smith & Sons.*
W. N., 4 ditto, *William Neill.*
L. B., 1 trunk, *William Lux* and *Bowley.*
B. C., 23 packages, *Clement Brook & Co.*
1 pair of bellows-pipes, 12 grindstones, ditto.
Z. M. 4 packages, ditto.
B. C., 4 ditto, *Brown & Cornthwait.*
I. H., 9 packages, *Jonathan Hudson.*
1 to 64 coils, ditto.
3 anchors, ditto.
H., 24 bars lead.
1 half-chest of oil.
10 kegs of gunpowder.
6 casks and 1 box of merchandise, per order.
S. B., 1 case, for *Jacob Manwaring.*
I. B. & O., No. 1, a bale for *John Beal Howard* and *Osborne.*
W. B., No. 1, a bale for *William Mordock Beall.*
I. C., No. 70, casks, *James Christie.*
I. C., No. 10, bales, ditto.

Captain *Hocker* declared, on oath, that the above is a true list of goods imported in the Ship *Sims*, to be landed at *Baltimore*, and that he imported no Tea for sale.

Mr. *Jonathan Hudson*, to whom some of the above goods is addressed, appeared before the Committee, and affirmed that his letters and orders for the said goods were sent off from *Baltimore* before the first of *June* last.

The said goods were ordered to be sold; which was accordingly done, and five Pounds raised upon them for the use of the Poor of *Boston*, which was ordered to be paid into the hands of the Treasurer.

Resolved, That the goods imported in the *Sims*, Captain *Hocker*, addressed to Messrs. *John Smith & Sons*, *Lux* and *Bowley*, and *William Neill*, shall be set up at publick vendue, at first cost and charges, and sold to the highest bidder.

The Committee are of opinion, that the conduct of these gentlemen, in importing these goods, is unexceptionable, as it appears to the Committee that they were reshipped by their correspondents in consequence of orders sent before the first of *June*, the first cargoes having been lost in their passage to *America*, and were not ordered to be reshipped by these gentlemen.

Messrs. *Philip Rogers* and *George Woolsey*, are appointed to sell the above goods.

The Chairman informs that a Chest of Medicines, imported in the Ship *Sophia*, Captain *Carmichael*, addressed to Doctor *James Gordon*, of *Vienna*, is now in his possession, and desires to know what must be done with it.

He is directed to send the Chest to the Committee of *Vienna*, where the Doctor lives, to be disposed of as they may think proper.

Committee adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow.

—

Committee met, as by adjournment, *December* 28, 1774:

Present: Samuel Purviance, Chairman, William Smith, Vice-President, William Buchanan, William Spear, John Smith, Andrew Buchanan,

John Merryman, Georgo Woolsey, Nicholas Jones, Mark Alexander, William Lux, John Boyd, Clerk.

The case S. B., *Jacob Manwaring*, imported in the Ship *Sims*, Captain *Hocker*, was ordered to be delivered to Mr. *Lopez Fernandez*, who engages to store and keep it safe till further orders from the Committee.

Mr. *James Christie* appeared before the Committee, and laid before them Invoices of certain Goods arrived in the *Sims*, Captain *Elias Hocker*, since the first day of *December*.

After debating the matter, it was determined, that said Goods should be sold, under the direction of the Committee, at publick vendue, by the cargo, provided they can be sold for not less than two per cent. advance on the foot of the Invoice; but if they cannot be sold for such advance, then they are to be opened, and sold in lots to the highest bidder.

In the first method of selling, Messrs. *John Merryman* and *George Woolsey* are appointed to superintend the sales; in the latter, a venduemaster is to be employed.

Mr. *Cornthwait* laid before the Committee Invoices of Goods imported in the Ship *Sims*, Captain *Hocker*, and solemnly affirmed that these Goods were ordered by him before the first day of *June* last.

The Committee ordered that these Goods should be sold at publick vendue, by the cargo, for what they will fetch above the first cost and charges.

Messrs. *Mark Alexander* and *James Calhoun* are appointed to sell the same.

Mr. *William Smith* reports, that he expects a case of Merchandise from *Liverpool*, by way of *Philadelphia*, which had been ordered before the first day of *June*.

It is *Ordered*, That it be sold by publick vendue in the same manner, and by the same persons, who are appointed to sell the Goods of Messrs. *John Smith & Sons*, *Lux* and *Bowley*, and *William Neill*.

—

In pursuance of publick notice given for that purpose, a number of Freeholders, and of the Committee of *Baltimore* County, met at the Court-House, on *Thursday*, the 29th of *December*, 1774, *Andrew Buchanan*, Esq., in the Chair, *John Boyd*, Clerk.

On motion, *Ordered*, That the Proceedings of the late Provincial Convention be read; which was done accordingly, and unanimously approved of.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the Thanks of this meeting be given to the gentlemen who represented this County at the late Provincial Convention, for the faithful discharge of their trust; which was done accordingly, from the Chair.

On motion, *Resolved*, That it be recommended to the gentlemen of the Committee of each Hundred in this County, immediately to advertise the Inhabitants to meet on a certain day, as soon as possible, in their respective Hundreds, in order that they may adopt some plan of forming themselves into Companies, and choosing their Officers, and prepare to perfect themselves in the military exercise, agreeable to the recommendation of the late Provincial Convention.

Resolved, As the opinion of this meeting, that they ought not to enter upon the business that was principally designed to have been transacted this day, inasmuch as the County does not appear to be sufficiently represented.

This meeting is, therefore, adjourned to *Monday*, the 16th of *January* next, and the Freeholders of this County, particularly the gentlemen of the Committee, are earnestly requested to be punctual in their attendance on that day, at the Court-House, in *Baltimore* Town, at eleven o'clock, forenoon.

JOHN BOYD, *Clerk of Committee.*

—

At a special meeting of the Committee, at Mr. *William Buchanan's*, *December* 30, 1774:

Present: Samuel Purviance, Chairman, William Smith, William Buchanan, William Spoar, John Merryman, Philip Rogers, John Moale, John Boyd, Clerk, John Smith.

Captain *Barlett*, of the Schooner *Adventure*, from Cape *Nicolamole*, appeared before the Committee, and declared, on oath, that his cargo consisted of Molasses, Sugars, and Coffee, not the production of the *British* Islands, and that he has not imported any goods of *British* manufacture for sale.

Mr. *James Jaffray* produced an Invoice to the Committee of the Goods imported in the *Sims*, Captain *C. Hocker*, marked J. J., which were shipped to order, and they appear to be his property. They are, therefore, ordered to be sold at publick vendue, by the cargo, his orders for said Goods appearing to have been wrote before the first day of *June* last.

Messrs. *Calhoun* and *Eichelberger* are appointed to sell these Goods.

Mr. *Mitchell*, owner of the cargo of Salt on board the *Dick*, Captain *Pierce*, appeared in Committee, and desired that said Salt might be sold at publick vendue, agreeable to a former Resolution of this Committee in such case provided.

It is, therefore, *Ordered*, That it be sold on *Saturday*, the 31st instant, at eleven o'clock, forenoon, in lots of five hundred bushels, to the highest bidder; and it is directed that the Salt be put up at two Shillings and a Penny per bushel.

Messrs. *Willium Smith* and *John Merryman* are appointed to superintend the sale of this Salt.

Captain *Thomas Hutchison*, of the Ship *Richmond*, from *Liverpool*, appeared before the Committee, and produced Invoices and Bills of Lading consisting of twelve barrels white Herring, fifteen tons of Coals, and five thousand five hundred and twenty bushels of Salt, consigned to *Ashburner & Place*, and five crates of Earthen and Glass-Ware, his own private adventure; and made oath that this was a true account of his cargo.

The consignment was sold for first cost and charges, to the Consignees, and the Captain agrees to allow two per cent. on his adventure, for the Poor of *Boston*.

—

At a meeting of the Committee, at Mr. *Buchanan's*, on *January* 2, 1775:

Present: Andrew Buchanan, Chairman *pro tempore*, William Buchanan, Robert Alexander, William Spear, John Moale, Hercules Courtenay, James Calhoun, Benjamin Griffith, George Lindenberger, John Merryman, William Lux, John Deaver, John Boyd, Clerk.

Messrs. *Merryman* and *Smith* report, that agreeable to their instructions, they had put up to publick sale the Salt on board Captain *Pierce*, in lots of five hundred bushels, at two Shillings and a Penny per bushel, and nothing more was bid; it is, therefore, given up to the owner at first cost and charges.

Mr. *Calhoun* handed in to the Committee the following Certificate, viz:

"These are to certify, that the Schooner *Ninety-Two*, of which *Lemuel Cravath* and *Cumberland Dugan* are owners, and myself master of said schooner, hath the following cargo on board, shipped in her at *Salem*, viz: Ten thousand and ninety-one gallons *New-England* Rum, in hogsheads, tierces, and barrels, five barrels of Oil, thirty dozen of Seal-skins, one Chaise, and eight dozen Pails.

"NATHANIEL COOK.

"Sworn before me: "JAMES CALHOUN.

"Baltimore, January 2, 1775."

Captain *Martin*, of the Sloop *Polly*, from *St. Kitts*, appeared before the Committee, and declared, on oath, that his cargo consisted of forty-four hogsheads of Rum only, having no *British* Goods nor *India* Tea on board for sale.

Captain *John Richards*, of the Ship *Emperor of Germany*, from *Bristol*, appeared before the Committee, and declared, on oath, the following to be a true Manifest of his cargo, viz: Four thousand eight hundred bushels of Salt, two bales of Rolls, eight casks of Nails, fifteen casks bottle Liquor, six hundred weight small Shot, one thousand weight Cheese.

The Salt was ordered to be sold for first cost and charges, which was accordingly done. The other articles were sold to Doctor *John Stevenson*, at two per cent. advance for the use of the *Boston* Poor.

—

At a special meeting of the Committee, at Mr. *Buchanan's*, on *January* 6, 1775:

Present: Samuel Purviance, Chairman, Robert Alexander, Richard Moale, John Smith, William Smith, William Buchanan, John Merryman, John Deavor, George Lindenberger, John Boyd, Clerk.

Captain *Connory*, of the Brig *Molly*, from *Hull*, appeared before the Committee, and reported his cargo, on oath, which was fifteen pipes of Port Wine, three bales of Canvass, Sails, Anchors, and Rigging of various kinds, having no other *British* Goods for sale.

These Goods, except the Wine, were put up to sale at first cost and charges, and five Pounds having been bid on the cargo by Doctor *John Stevenson*, they were sold to him for the same. The Wine was, also, sold to the Doctor, at ten Shillings advance on the whole quantity.

—

Committee met at Mr. *Buchanan's*, *Monday*, *January* 9, 1775:

Present: William Smith, Vice-Chairman, Andrew Buchanan, John Smith, William Lux, William Buchanan, Robert Alexander, Richard Moale, Benjamin Griffith, John Merryman, James Calhoun, Mark Alexander, John Deaver, John Boyd, Clerk.

Captain *James Burrow*, of the Ship *Nancy*, from *Bristol*, appeared before the Committee, and declared, on oath, the following to be a true Manifest of his cargo, viz: Seven thousand five hundred and forty-six bushels *English* white Salt, consigned to Doctor *John Stevenson*; and his own private adventure, consisting of nine hundred weight of Cheese, and twenty-one pieces of *Irish* Linens.

The Captain's Linens were sold to himself at two per cent. advance on first cost and charges, and the Cheese was delivered to him at first cost and charges, nothing more having been offered for them. The Salt was, also, sold to Doctor *John Stevenson*, for first cost and charges.

Mr. *Mark Alexander* reports, that he sold *John Cornthwait's* Goods, imported in the *Sims*, at publick vendue, for first cost and charges.

Mr. *D. Stewart* produced an Invoice of certain Goods imported in the Ship *Potomack*, now in possession of Messrs. *Isaac Vanbibber* and *Isaac Grist*, and offering one per cent. advance on the Invoice. They were sold to him for the same, and ordered to be delivered to him.

—

At a special meeting of the Committee, on *January* 12, 1775:

Present: Samuel Purviance, Chairman, John Smith, Robert Alexander, James Calhoun, William Buchanan, William Spear, John Boyd, Clerk.

Captain *Peter Faneuil Jones*, of the Schooner *Sally*, from *Marblehead*, appeared before the Committee, and declared, on oath, that his cargo consisted of three hundred and fifty hogsheads of coarse Salt, and fifty-five barrels of Mackerel, only.

Captain *James Baxter*, of the Ship *Prosper*, from *Bristol*, appeared before the Committee, and declared, on oath, that six thousand five hundred bushels of Salt were his cargo, together with ten baskets of Cheese, six casks of Beer, and two casks of Cider, being his own adventure.

The Salt was sold to Doctor *John Stevenson* at first cost and charges, and the other Goods to the Captain for ten Shillings advance on the whole.

Mr. *Calhoun* reports, that he has sold at publick vendue, agreeable to direction of Committee, the Goods of Mr. *James Jeffries*, and received five Shillings on the same, for the use of the *Boston* Poor.

Mr. *John Merryman* and Captain *George Woolsey* reported, that they had set up to sale the Goods of Mr. *William Neill*, reported the 26th *December* last, and the Goods of Mr. *James Christie*, reported the 28th *December*. That the Goods imported from *Liverpool*, by way of *Philadelphia*, were sold to Mr. *Neill* at two per cent. advance, amounting to thirty-eight Pounds two Pence, currency; and the Goods in the *Sims*, Captain *Hocker*, were sold to Mr. *James Christie* at two per cent. advance, amounting to thirty-four Pounds ten Shillings and eight Pence, currency.

—

Committee met, *Monday*, *January* 16, 1775:

Present: Samuel Purviance, John Smith, Thomas Harrison, Robert Alexander, Andrew Buchanan, William Spear, William Buchanan, Richard Moale, George Lindenberger, Mark Alexander, George Woolsey, John Boyd, Clerk.

Captain *Woolsey* laid before the Committee an Invoice of certain Goods imported in the Ship *Potomack*, Captain *Graham*, addressed to *John Pringle*, of *Philadelphia*, and now in the possession of Messrs. *Isaac Vanbibber* and *Isaac Grist*, agreeable to the direction of the Committee at a former meeting, and offering one per cent. on the Invoice of said Goods, they were sold to him for the same, amounting to six Pounds six Shillings, *Irish*, which he is desired to pay into the hands of the Treasurer.

—

At a meeting of the Inhabitants of *Baltimore* County, qualified to vote for Representatives, at the Court-House, in *Baltimore* Town, on *Monday*, the 16th day of *January*, 1775: Captain *Charles Ridgely*, Chairman; *Jeremiah Townley Chase*, Clerk.

The Proceedings of the late Provincial Convention were read, considered, and unanimously approved of.

Resolved, *unanimously*, That every Member of this meeting will, and that every person in this County ought, strictly and inviolably to observe and execute the Resolutions and recommendations of the Provincial Convention.

Unanimously Resolved, That Captain *Charles Ridgely*, *Thomas Cockey Dye*, *Walter Tolley*, Jr., *Charles Ridgely*, Son of *John*, *Robert Alexander*, *Samuel Purviance*, *Benjamin Nicholson*, *Darby Lux*, *Jeremiah Townley Chase*, *George Risteau*, *Thomas Harrison*, *John Moale*, *Andrew Buchanan*, *William Lux*, and *Samuel Worthington*, be Delegates to represent this County in the next Provincial Convention; and that they, or any of them shall attend, have full and ample power to consent and agree to all measures that the said Provincial Congress may deem necessary and expedient to obtain redress of *American* grievances.

Resolved, That the following gentlemen be added to the Committee of Observation appointed on the 12th of *November* last:

HUNDREDS.

PATAPSCO, LOWER: *Charles Rogers*, *John Gorsuch*, *William McCubbin*, *William Wilkinson*, *Thomas Todd*.

PATAPSCO, UPPER: *James Croxall*, *John Ellicot*, *Edward Norwood*.

BACK-RIVER, UPPER: *John Cockey*, *Edward Talbot*, *Joshua Stevenson*, *Edward Cockey*, *Ezekiel Towson*.

MIDDLE-RIVER, UPPER: *Benjamin Rogers*, *Robert Cummings*, *Benjamin Buck*, *Joshua Hall*, *Gist Vaughan*, *Benjamin Merryman*.

BACK-RIVER, LOWER: *George Mathews*, *John Buck*.

MIDDLE-RIVER, LOWER: *Moses Galloway*, *George Goldsmith Presbury*, *Abraham Britton*, *Nicholas Britton*.

SOLDIERS' DELIGHT: *Thomas Cradock*, *Charles Walker*, *Samuel Owings*, Jun., *Christopher Randall*, *Benjamin Wells*.

MIDDLESEX: *Jacob Myers*, *Richard Cromwell*, *Thomas Rutter*.

DELAWARE: *Christopher Owings*, *Benjamin Lawrence*, *Nicholas Dorsey*, Jun.

NORTH: *John Hall*, *Stephen Gill*, Jun.

PIPE-CREEK: *John Showers*, *George Everhart*.

GUNPOWDER, UPPER: *Samuel Young*, *Jesse Bussey*, *Thomas Gassaway Howard*, *James Bosley*, *William Cromwell*, *Zaccheus Barret Onion*.

MINE-RUN: *Edmund Stansbury*, *John Stevenson*, *Daniel Shaw*, *William Slade*, Jun., *Joseph Sutton*, *John Steward*.

BALTIMORE TOWN: *James Sterrett*, *Charles Ridgely*, Jun., *William Goodwin*, Doctor *Charles Wiesenthall*, *Thomas Ewing*.

Resolved, That Subscriptions be opened in each Hundred, under the direction of the Committee, and that the same be paid into the hands of a Treasurer, to be appointed by the Contributors in each Hundred, and to be laid out agreeable to the Resolve of the Provincial Convention.

Resolved, That the name of every person who shall, upon personal application made to him by the Committee, or any person under their appointment, refuse or decline to subscribe or contribute for the purchase of Arms and Ammunition, be taken down, and laid before the Committee at its next meeting after such refusal, together with the reasons of such refusal.

Resolved, That the forming of the Inhabitants of this County into Companies, and their using their utmost endeavours to make themselves masters of the military exercise, and their resisting with force every illegal attempt upon

their liberty and property, is not repugnant to the oaths of allegiance.

Resolved, unanimously, That Subscriptions be opened in each Hundred in this County, under the directions of the Committee of the respective Hundreds, for raising contributions to supply the necessities and alleviate the distresses of our oppressed brethren of *Boston*.

Resolved, That *William Goodwin, Richard Moale, William Buchanan,* and *William Lux,* be, and are hereby empowered to purchase three thousand pounds of Powder, and twelve thousand pounds of Lead, on the credit of the subscriptions for the use of this County.

Resolved, That the Committee meet at the Court-House, on *Wednesday,* the 8th of *February* next, to produce their several Subscriptions.

Ordered, That these Proceedings be published in the *Maryland Gazette,* the *Baltimore Journal,* and in Handbills, to be circulated through the County.

Signed per order:

JEREMIAH T. CHASE, *Clerk.*

—

At a meeting of the Committee of Observation appointed for *Baltimore* County, at the Court-House, in *Baltimore* Town, on *Tuesday,* the 17th of *January,* 1775:

Present: Captain Charles Ridgely, in the Chair, Jeremiah Townley Chase, Clerk, Samuel Purviance, John Moale, Thomas Harrison, Thomas Sollers, Andrew Buchanan, Robert Alexander, John Mercer, William Smith, Nicholas Jones, Isaac Grist, Mark Alexander, William Randall, Gerrard Hopkins, Philip Rogers, Dixon Stansbury, Jun., Thomas Johnston, Benjamin Griffith, Charles Ridgely, Son of John, John Cradock, Walter Tolley, Jun., James Calhoun, Benjamin Nicholson, John Deaver, Doctor John Boyd, George Lindenberger, Darby Lux, William Worthington, William Wilkinson, Jesse Bussey, Daniel Shaw, James Gittings, Barnet Eichelberger, Hercules Courtenay, Mordecai Gist, Job Garretson, James Croxall, John Cockey, Ezekiel Towson, George Mathews, Thomas Cradock, Richard Cromwell, Thomas Rutter, James Bosley, William Cromwell, Doctor Charles F. Wiesenthall, Thomas Ewing, William Lux, Richard Moale, Archibald Buchanan, William Spear, John Smith, George Woolsey, David McMechen, Mayberry Helms, and Nathan Cromwell.

Information being made to the Committee by Mr. *Benjamin Nicholson,* that the Reverend Mr. *William Edmiston* had publickly asserted, that all persons who mustered were guilty of treason, and that such of them as had taken the oath of allegiance, and took up arms, were guilty of perjury; and that the said *William Edmiston* had approved publickly of the *Quebeck* Bill; the Committee were of opinion that such declarations have a tendency to defeat the measures recommended for the preservation of *America* and her liberties, and that it is their duty to take notice of persons guilty of such offences.

Whereupon, *Resolved, unanimously,* That this Committee will meet at two o'clock, P. M., and that the Reverend Mr. *Edmiston* have notice to attend.

A copy of the charge was made out by the Clerk, and enclosed to Mr. *Edmiston,* with notice to attend.

—

The Committee met according to adjournment, *Tuesday,* two o'clock, P. M.

Present, the same Members as were in the forenoon.

The Reverend Mr. *Edmiston* attended, agreeable to the notice given him, and requesting an indulgence of two hours to prepare his Answer, the same was unanimously granted.

The Reverend Mr. *Edmiston* appeared, and delivered to the Chairman his Answer in writing, as follows:

"After maturely considering the charges exhibited against me before the Committee, I observe, in answer to them, that as mankind frequently differ in sentiment, and as no questions are agitated with greater warmth and intemperate zeal than those in politicks, so expressions are often used, and sometimes hastily adopted, at such times, which, in the cool moments of reflection, men would omit or disavow.

"That I spoke the words mentioned in the charge, is true; that they were spoken in warmth, is equally certain. With respect to that part of the charge containing an accusation of perjury and treason upon those who had taken the oaths to the Government, I would beg leave to explain myself. What I meant had a reference to the political opinions which prevail, and was founded conditionally; that is, they who do not apprehend a departure, on the side of Government, from fundamental express stipulations, could not, consistently with their oaths, arm or prepare for war; but I did not, and do not mean, to charge any person with perjury or treason, who really thinks that his rights are, or may be so far invaded, as to justify resistance. As my political sentiments are different from what most people think, at this time, concerning these matters, particularly as they are disagreeable to the gentlemen of the County, and may, contrary to my intention, have the unhappy tendency of spreading confusion among the inhabitants of my Parish, I solemnly promise to avoid giving any just cause of offence, by propagating, hereafter, any opinion opposite to the decisions of the Continental Congress or Provincial Convention. And, upon the most serious reflection, I disapprove of the *Quebeck* Bill, as it establishes the *Roman* Catholick religion in the Province of *Quebeck,* abolishes the equitable system of *English* laws, and erects a tyranny there, to the great danger (from so total a dissimilarity of religion, law, and Government) of the neighbouring *British* Colonies, by the assistance of whose blood and treasure the said country was conquered.

"I tenderly love my country. I wish for her prosperity, and devoutly pray that the present contest may terminate to her advantage. And I sincerely hope that brotherly love will bury in oblivion all animosity between me and my parishioners, with whom to live in harmony and peace, is my warmest wish.

"WILLIAM EDMISTON.

"January 17, 1775."

The above being read, and considered, was accepted.

Ordered, That the same be published.

On motion, *Ordered,* That *James Dalgleish* be required to attend this Committee to answer a complaint made against him for saying, that the King ought to be damned if he repealed the late oppressive Acts respecting *America,* and that the said Acts were equitable.

Ordered, That *George Lux* deliver said notice according to the above notice.

—

At a meeting of the Committee of Observation for *Baltimore* County, on *Monday,* the 23d *January,* 1775:

Present: Samuel Purviance, in the Chair, Jeremiah Townley Chase, Clerk, Andrew Buchanan, Robert Alexander, William Smith, Doctor John Boyd, James Calhoun, John Merryman, Jun., William Spear, Isaac Grist, Mark Alexander, George Lindenberger, William Buchanan, John Smith, Benjamin Griffith, John Deaver, Barnet Eichelberger.

Resolved, It is the opinion of the Committee of Observation for this County, that on the sale of any Goods imported contrary to the Association of the Continental Congress, no Receipt ought to be given for the money raised for the relief of the Poor of *Boston,* and the same ought to be paid into the hands of the Treasurer.

Ordered, That Mr. *James Christie* and Mr. *Neil* have notice of this Resolve.

Ordered, That the Committee of each Hundred hand about a Subscription Paper to raise Money for the purchase of Arms and Ammunition, collect the same, and pay it into the hands of the Treasurer.

Resolved, That the Money arising from the Subscription in the several Hundreds in *Baltimore* Town, be laid out in the purchase of Arms and Ammunition; and that the same be lodged in a Magazine or Repository, and there kept until the exigence of our affairs shall make it necessary to deliver them out for actual service.

Mr. *Andrew Buchanan* is appointed Treasurer for *Baltimore* Town, to receive the Moneys that may be raised for purchasing Arms and Ammunition.

—

At a meeting of the Committee of Observation for *Baltimore* County, on *Monday,* the 30th *January,* 1775:

Present: Samuel Purviance, in the Chair, Jeremiah Townley Chase, Clerk, William Buchanan, John Smith, William Spear, Robert Alexander, Mark Alexander, James Calhoun, Richard Moale, William Smith, Francis Sanderson.

Mr. *Merryman,* who furnished Mr. *Neill* and Mr. *Christie* with the Resolve of the Committee respecting receipts on the sale of Goods, passed at the last meeting, reports, that Mr. *Neill* will pay the money as required, but that Mr. *Christie* refuses to pay without a receipt is given, or a copy of the Proceedings relative to that matter.

Whereupon, the Chairman was desired to write and send the following Letter to Mr. *Christie:*

*

January 30, 1775.

Sir: Mr. *Merryman* having reported to the Committee, that you refuse to pay the two per cent. advance which you agreed to give on your goods, without having a copy of the minute of our proceedings on that subject certified and delivered to you, or a receipt, I am directed to inform you, that, as soon as the money is paid, you shall have a certified copy of their proceedings. I am further directed to inform you, that they are sorry to have reason of complaint that you should discover so much inclination to recede from a measure which you agreed to with so much seeming satisfaction, and that they hope you will not oblige them to take such steps in the discharge of their trust from the publick as may, in their consequence, prove injurious or disagreeable to you.

Samuel Purviance, Jun., *Chairman.*

To Mr. *James Christie.*

After which the meeting was adjourned to three o'clock, P. M.

—

Committee met at three o'clock, P. M.

Mr. *James Christie* paid into the Committee the sum of thirty-four Pounds ten Shillings and eight Pence, the two per cent. advance on the sales of the Goods in the *Sims*, Captain *Hocker*, which was, by the Treasurer, credited to the account of the Poor of *Boston*, agreeable to the Resolve of the Continental Congress.

A certified copy of the Proceedings relative to Mr. *Christie's* Goods, was made out and enclosed to him, signed by the Clerk.

Mr. *Chase* being absent, *Robert Alexander* was appointed Clerk for this meeting.

Resolved, That an Association against the killing of Mutton be drawn up, agreeable to the Resolve of the Provincial Convention, and that the same be delivered to the Clerk of the Market, that the same may be by him presented to the different Butchers to be signed.

Robert Alexander, *Clerk.*

—

At a meeting of the Committee of Observation for *Baltimore* County, on *Thursday*, the 2d *February*, 1775:

Present: Samuel Purviance, Chairman, Jeremiah Townley Chase, Clerk, John Boyd, John Smith, Robert Alexander, William Buchanan, James Calhoun, David McMechen, William Spear, Isaac Grist, John Cradock.

Captain *John Watson*, of the Ship *Britannia*, from *Glasgow*, appeared, and reported, on oath, that he hath imported in said ship the following Goods, viz: Two bales, two casks, and one package, marked J. T., Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, for Mr. *John Tennant*, of *Nanticoke*, and consigned to Capt. *McGahen*; also, two bales, two boxes, and one small bundle, marked J. J., Nos. 27, 28, 29, 30, 32, belonging to Mr. *James Jeffries*; and five puncheons of Rum, marked G. P., Nos. 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, and two casks of Fish, marked M. T., Nos. 1 and 2, addressed to Mr. *Thomas Ewing*.

Capt. *Thomas Moore*, of the Brig *Fortune*, from *Jamaica*, appeared, and reported, on oath, that he has imported in said vessel, forty hogsheads of Molasses, five barrels of Coffee, three hundred Hides, and five bags of Cotton.

—

At a meeting of the Committee of Observation, on *Friday*, the 3d of *February*, 1775:

Present: Samuel Purviance, Chairman, Andrew Buchanan, Isaac Grist, Richard Moale, Thomas Ewing, Hercules Courtenay, Archibald Buchanan, John Merryman, George Mathews, William Spear, John Smith, William Buchanan, Thomas Harrison, John Boyd, Jeremiah Townley Chase, Robert Alexander, William Smith.

Captain *Richard Jackson*, of the Brig *Sally-Van*, from *Jamaica*, appeared, and reported, on oath, that his cargo consisted of one hundred and forty-four casks of Rum, seven hogsheads of Sugar, six bags of Cotton, and three hundred and one Hides.

Captain *William Knapp*, of the Brig *Woodbridge*, from *Guadaloupe*, appeared, and reported his cargo, on oath, as follows, viz: Two hundred and seventy-nine casks of Molasses, two hogsheads and two barrels of Sugars.

The Committee being satisfied that the Molasses and Coffee imported in Captain *Moore*, from *Jamaica*, were shipped in consequence of orders given before the Resolves of the Continental Congress were known, the same were set up to sale, and struck off at three Pounds seven Shillings and six Pence more than the first cost, which was paid by Mr. *Ridley* and Mr. *Crockett*.

The Goods marked J. T., Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5, imported from *Glasgow*, in the *Britannia*, Captain *Watson*, belonging to *John Tennant*, were delivered to *Alexander Cowan*, with a Letter for the Committee of *Dorchester* County concerning the said Goods.

The Goods marked J. J., imported in the said ship, being shipped in consequence of orders sent by *James Jeffries*, before the 1st of *June* last, the same were set up at first cost and charges, and ten Shillings being bid thereon, the same was struck off to Mr. *Jeffries*, who paid the same to the Treasurer.

John Hudson, master of the Ship *Totness*, from *Liverpool*, appeared, and reported his cargo, on oath, as follows, viz: Four thousand four hundred and seventy-six bushels of Salt, and fifty crates of Earthern-Ware.

The said Goods were struck off to Mr. *Place* at first cost and charges.

The Goods marked G. P., Nos. 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6, and M. T., Nos. 1, 2, 3, and 4, imported in the Ship *Brittania*, Captain *Watson*, from *Glasgow*, were struck off to Mr. *Thomas Ewing* at first cost and charges.

William Burke, owner of the Schooner *Unity*, from *Santa Cruz*, appeared, and reported the cargo of said schooner, on oath, as follows, viz: Forty hogsheads of Sugar, a parcel of Coffee, and six cases of Gin.

—

At a meeting of the Committee of *Baltimore* County, *February* 8, 1775:

Present: Samuel Purviance, Chairman, Benjamin Griffith, John Deaver, Isaac Grist, John Merryman, William Buchanan, Mark Alexander, Job Garretsun.

Captain *John Bracket*, of the Sloop *Grampus*, from the *West-Indies*, appeared, and reported his cargo, consisting of thirty hogsheads Rum, and eight barrels of Sugar, and made oath, that he has not imported in said vessel any Dry Goods of *British* or *Irish* manufacture, nor any *India* Tea for sale.

Captain *Joseph Proctor*, of the Schooner *Dolphin*, from *Marblehead*, appeared, and reported, on oath, his cargo consisting of a parcel of coarse Salt only.

—

At a meeting of the Committee of Observation on *Monday*, *February* 13, 1775:

Present: Samuel Purviance, Chairman, William Spear, William Buchanan, James Sterrett, James Calhoun, George Lindenberger, Benjamin Griffith, John Boyd, Clerk.

The Committee having received a Letter from *Joseph Reed*, Esq., Chairman of the Committee of *Philadelphia*, informing that certain Goods imported since the 1st of *December*, by way of *New-York*, addressed to Mr. *James Jeffries*, of this Town, marked J. J., being seven casks, four bales, and one bundle, were forwarded by Mr. *Trumbull*, of *Philadelphia*, to said *James Jaffrays*, who came before this Committee, and made it appear that the Goods were ordered last spring, it was determined that they be set up to sale at first cost and charges, which being done, they were sold to Mr. *Jeffries* at ten Shillings advance on the first cost and charges, and the money paid into the hands of the Treasurer.

—

At a meeting of the Committee, on *Monday*, the 20th, adjourned till *Wednesday*, *February* 23, 1775:

Present: Samuel Purviance, Chairman, James Sterrett, William Spear, George Woolsey, John Merryman, William Smith, John Smith.

Captain *Mason*, of the Brig *Nabby*, from *Salem*, *New-England*, appeared, and reported, on oath, that he has imported in said vessel about fifty casks of Rum, twenty casks of Molasses, and two casks of women's Shoes of *American* manufacture; and further made oath that he imported no Tea for sale.

Captain *William Jones*, of the Schooner *Nancy*, from *Santa-Cruz*, reports, on oath, that he has imported in said vessel seven casks of Sugar and twenty-four casks of Coffee; and, further, that he hath not imported in said vessel any *India* Tea or any Goods of *British* manufacture, for sale.

At a meeting of the Committee of Observation, at *Baltimore*, *March* 6, ante-meridiem:

Present: William Smith, Deputy-Chairman, James Calhoun, John Smith, George Woolsey, Francis Sanderson, Mark Alexander, Mayberry Helms, Job Garretson, George Lindenberger, Jeremiah T. Chase, Andrew Buchanan, John Merryman, William Buchanan, Robert Alexander.

Captain *William Moat*, of the Brig *Sally*, from *Bristol*, appeared before the Committee, and reported his cargo, on oath, consisting of one hundred tons of *British* Salt, and twenty-four indented Servants. The Captain further reports, that he took in his Salt before the 12th day of *December*, and on or about that day he fell down the river with his vessel to a place called *Rowland-Ferry*, there to take in his Servants; that he continued there until the 23d, and sailed from *King's Road* the 24th of *December*.

Captain *George Southward*, of the Schooner *Hope*, from *Salem*, appeared, and reported, on oath, his cargo, consisting of Rum, Coffee, and Chocolate.

Captain *Thorndike Deland*, of the Schooner *Sally*, from *Salem*, appeared, and reported his cargo, on oath, consisting of *New-England* Rum.

—

Same day, post-meridiem:

Present: Andrew Buchanan, Chairman, Thomas Sollers, William McCubbin, Benjamin Nicholson, Darby Lux, Edward Talbot, Edward Towson, Job Garretson, Jehu Buck, Benjamin Buck, Thomas Grist, Sen., Mayberry Helms, Moses Gallaway, Samuel Owings, Jun., Richard Cromwell, Thomas Rutter, Jesse Bussey, Charles Ridgely, Jun., William Goodwin, Archibald Buchanan, John Merryman, Richard Moale, Jeremiah Townley Chase, William Smith, James Calhoun, Benjamin Griffith, William Spear, John Smith, John Welsh, George Woolsey, Hercules Courtenay, Isaac Grist, Thomas Harrison, Samuel Purviance, Jun., John Boyd, George Lindenberger, David McMechen, Mordecai Grist, Philip Rogers, William Buchanan, Robert Alexander, Francis Sanderson, James Giltings.

On motion made by Doctor *John Stevenson*, to whom Captain *Moat's* vessel and cargo were addressed, that he might have liberty from the Committee to land the said cargo of Salt, alleging it ought only to be considered as ballast, and was not intended to be prohibited by the Association of the Continental Congress, the Committee took into consideration the state of the said Brig *Sally*, Captain *William Moat*,

Resolved, unanimously, That the Salt imported in the said Brig be not landed.

—

At a meeting of the Committee of Inspection for *Baltimore* County, *March* 13, 1775:

Present: Captain Charles Ridgely, John Cradock, Darby Lux, John Mercer, Job Garretson, George Risteau, Mayberry Helms, James Sterrett, Charles Ridgely, Jun., William Buchanan, William Goodwin, Andrew Buchanan, William Lux, John Merryman, Samuel Purviance, John Boyd, David McMechen, Mordecai Grist, Isaac Vanbibber, John Smith, John Moale, Samuel Owings, John Deaver, John Howard, Christopher Owings, Richard Moale, Archibald Buchanan, William Smith, James Calhoun, Benjamin Griffith, Jerrard Hopkins, William Spear, George Woolsey, Hercules Courtenay, Isaac Grist, Mark Alexander, George Lindenberger, Thomas Sollers, William Wilkinson, Robert Alexander, Joshua Hall, Francis Sanderson, Charles Walker, Thomas Ewing, Nathan Cromwell, John Cockey, Doctor C. Weisenthall, Benjamin Merryman—48 Members.

Captain *Charles Ridgely*, elected Chairman, and *Robert Alexander*, Secretary *pro tempore*.

On motion, *Ordered*, That the Form of an Oath, to be taken by all Masters of Vessels, be drawn up.

And the same being drawn up and approved,

Ordered, That the same be entered in the Minutes of the Proceedings, and that every Captain take and subscribe the same.

"You, A. B., do make oath on the Holy Evangels of Almighty *God*, that you have not imported in the ship or vessel called . . . . . whereof you are master, during this present voyage, except necessary stores for the use of the said vessel, which are not for sale, any goods, wares, or merchandise, whatsoever, (if from *Great Britain* or *Ireland*, say so; if from any other place, mention the place,) of the growth or manufacture of *Great Britain* or *Ireland*, or any goods exported from *Great Britain* or *Ireland*, or any *East-India* tea, or any molasses, syrups, panelas, coffee, or pimento, of the growth of the *British West-India Islands* or *Dominica*, or any wines of *Madeira* or the *Western-Islands*, or foreign indigo, or any slave or slaves."

Captain *Joshua Payne*, of the Schooner *Welcome*, from *Madeira*; Captain *John Fulford*, of the Schooner *Friend's Adventure*, from *Barbadoes*; Captain *Isaac Snow*, of the Schooner *Betsey*, from *Santa Cruz*; Captain *John Clark*, of the Brig *Baltimore*, from *Barbadoes*; Captain *Watson Crosby*, of the Schooner *Polly*, from *St. Thomas*, severally appeared, and reported their cargoes, and took and subscribed the Oath aforesaid.

Captain *Henry Tickler*, of the Brig *Henry-and-Joseph*, from *Liverpool*, addressed to Mr. *George Woolsey*, appeared, and reported, on oath, his cargo, consisting of five thousand one hundred and thirty-three bushels of *British* Salt, six half-crates of Earthen-Ware, and one hogshead of Rum for ship's stores; and, further, made oath that he had not broken bulk, or landed any part of his cargo since his arrival in this Province.

Captain *Joseph Woolsey*, the consignee of the aforesaid vessel, made oath that he hath not, nor hath any person by his order, or with his privity or consent, unladen or taken out any part of the cargo imported in the said vessel, since her arrival.

Signed: George Woolsey.

Sworn before: Hercules Courtenay.

Messrs. *Mordecai Gist*, *Isaac Vanbibber*, *John Cradock*, *John Howard*, and *Isaac Grist*, are appointed to view the state of said Brig and Cargo, and report the same.

Ordered, That notice be given to Doctor *John Stevenson*, that the Committee requests his attendance, with Captain *William Moat*, of the Brig *Sally*, at two o'clock, P. M.

—

Post-Meridiem.—The gentlemen appointed to view the Brig *Henry-and-Joseph*, reported to the Committee that they viewed and examined the said vessel and the state of her cargo; that they found the hatches caulked down, and the Salt sunk about one foot, with the marks of the beams thereon, and that they were of opinion that the said cargo, or any part thereof, had not been broke or landed.

The Committee proceeded to consider the state of the Brig *Henry-and-Joseph*, and of the cargo imported in the same:

Resolved, unanimously, That the said cargo be not landed.

Upon application made by Captain *Woolsey*, to the Committee, for leave to reship the cargo of the Brig *Henry-and-Joseph*, and on Captain *Woolsey's* engaging, that the said cargo shall not be landed in any part of *North America* between *Nova-Scotia* and *Georgia*; and on his further engagement that the Master of the vessel in which the said cargo is to be reshipped, shall engage, on oath, that he will not, unless compelled so to do by stress of weather, land the same within the parts before limited, and that he will produce a certificate from the place where the said cargo shall be landed of the landing of the same,

Resolved, That leave be given agreeable to the above.

Doctor *John Stevenson*, with Captain *William Moat*, attending agreeable to notice, the Chairman acquainted them, that information was made to the Committee that the cargo of Salt imported in the Brig *Sally*, or part thereof, had been unladen contrary to the Resolution of the Committee, made the 6th instant.

Doctor *Stevenson* declared, that, apprehending the Resolution entered into by the Committee on the 6th instant, did not prohibit him from shipping the Salt to any other part of this Province or *Virginia*, he had, in consequence of such opinion, shipped a quantity on board four Bay craft, to be disposed of for his account; that no part of said Salt had been landed in *Baltimore* County; that he will deliver in to the Committee the names of the skippers of the several craft, and will return an account of the proceeds of the Salt, and the same will freely give for the relief of the Poor of *Boston*, and that the remainder of the Salt now on board the said brig, shall not be landed in any part of *America*, between *Nova-Scotia* and *Georgia*.

And Captain *William Moat* having declared, on oath, that the remainder of the Salt now on board the brig, shall not be landed within the limits aforesaid,

Resolved, by the Committee, That the said apology be accepted.

Information being made to the Committee that many misrepresentations of the Proceedings of the Continental

Congress had been made with a view to lessen the influence which the Association drawn, entered into, and recommended by them, justly merited and had almost universally obtained; and it appearing to the Committee that such misrepresentations are made by artful, designing, and wicked men, to divide the people, and defeat the measures now wisely pursued for the preservation of *American* liberty,

Resolved, unanimously, That it is the duty of this Committee, and of every Member thereof, and that we will, collectively and separately, persevere to carry strictly into execution the Association of the Continental Congress, and enforce an observance of the same, and that any attempt to defeat such purpose will, with its author, be exposed to the publick.

The Congress, by the Third Article of the Association, having recommended the disuse of all *East-India* Tea, the Committee request that their constituents, in their several families, will strictly adhere to this Resolution; and, however difficult the disuse of any article which custom has rendered familiar, and, to many, almost necessary, may be, yet they are induced to hope the ladies will cheerfully acquiesce in this self-denial, and thereby evince to the world a love to their friends, their posterity, and country.

A very extraordinary arrangement having been lately made in the Magistracy of this County, the Committee, reflecting on the conclusions which may probably be drawn from it in distant places, to the disadvantage of the gentlemen superseded, cheerfully embrace the opportunity afforded by the present meeting, to testify in favour of their conduct while they were in office. From personal acquaintance we know them to have been irreproachable in private, faithful and impartial in publick life, and deservedly entitled to the thanks of the whole County for the conscientious discharge of the trust reposed in them.

Resolved, therefore, unanimously, That this Committee ought, and we hereby do in our own names, and in the names of our constituents, sincerely thank those worthy gentlemen, whose abrupt dismission, with all the circumstances attending it, does them the greatest honour. They return to a private station with the general approbation of the County, and the pleasing satisfaction of having honourably acquitted themselves of their obligations during their continuance in office. Their dismission is a real loss; it is the more to be regretted, as from the manner of it, we can hardly expect that any of equal worth and character will hereafter be prevailed on to undertake the troublesome, unprofitable employment, now rendered distasteful to men of independent spirit and firmness, and evidently exposing them to unmerited insult.

—

At a meeting of the Committee, *March* 27, 1775:

Present: Samuel Purviance, William Buchanan, John Merryman, William Spear, James Calhoun, Isaac Vanbibber, William Smith, John Sterrett, George Woolsey, Archibald Buchanan, Benjamin Griffith, George Lindenberger, John Smith, Benjamin Levy, Daniel Hughes.

Captain *George Woolsey* reported, that he had shipped off the Salt imported in the Brig *Henry-and-Joseph, Henry Tickle*, master, and that the Captain of the vessel had made oath before Mr. *Courtenay*, that the said Salt shall not, (unless compelled so to do by stress of weather,) be landed in any part of *North America* between *Nova-Scotia* and *Georgia*.

Captain *Thomas Jarrold*, of the Ship *Dulany*, from *Lisbon*, appeared, and reported that he had not imported any articles contrary to the Continental Association, and took and subscribed the Oath to that purpose.

Captain *Nathaniel Gray*, of the Schooner *Sally*, from *Salem*, appeared, and reported in same manner, and took and subscribed the Oath.

Captain *Peter Simmons*, of the Brig *Mary Carroll*, from *Lisbon*, appeared before the Committee, and reported in the same manner, and took and subscribed the Oath.

—

April 5, 1775.

Captain *Thomas Rowland*, of the Brig *Betsey*, from *Guernsey*, addressed to Mr. *John Smith*, appeared, and reported, on oath, that he has not imported in said vessel any goods, wares, or merchandise, contrary to the Association of the Continental Congress, and subscribed the same.

Committee met, *April* 10, 1775:

Present: Samuel Purviance, Chairman, John Smith, William Lux, Benjamin Levy, Isaac Vanbibber, William Smith, John Merryman, William Spear, Hercules Courtenay, S. C. Davy, Captain Henderson, Thomas Elliot, Richard Lemmon, James Cox, William Buchanan, John Boyd, Clerk.

Captain *William Woud*, of the Snow *Betsey*, from *Portugal*, appeared before the Committee, and declared, on oath, that he has not imported any article contrary to the Association, and subscribed the same.

On motion, *Resolved*, That as the Fairs usually held at *Baltimore* Town are hurtful to the morals of the people, and are a species of extravagance and dissipation which are forbid by the Continental Congress, that the Committee of Correspondence be directed to give publick notice to the Inhabitants of the Town and County, that the Committee advise them not to erect any Booths, or be in any manner concerned in countenancing the holding said Fair during the continuance of our publick distractions.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the Committee be directed to prepare and settle the Account of Moneys arising from the sale of Goods for the use of the Poor of *Boston*, and lay it before the Committee at their next meeting.

—

Committee met, *Monday, April* 17, 1775:

Present: Samuel Purviance, in the Chair, Robert Alexander, Thomas Harrison, William Smith, John Merryman, Daniel Hughes, Benjamin Griffith, John Smith, John Boyd, Walter Tolley, Andrew Buchanan, James Sterrett, William Spear, George Woolsey, Benjamin Levy, Mayberry Helms, Archibald Buchanan, Thomas G. Howard, William Lux, Clerk *pro tempore*.

James Scott, master of the Brig *Dolphin*, from *Boston*, appeared, and reported his vessel, and took the Oath prescribed.

Thomas Wood, master of the Brig *Wren*, from *London*, appeared, and reported his vessel, and took the Oath prescribed.

On motion made, for appointing a Clerk to this Committee; and on deliberating on the matter, it was thought to be most advisable to nominate four gentlemen, to serve alternately, each a month. Doctor *John Boyd, Robert Alexander, William Lux*, and *Jeremiah T. Chase*, were nominated and appointed accordingly.

William Lux, *Clerk*.

—

Committee met, three o'clock, P. M., *April* 17, 1775:

Present: John Merryman, William Smith, John Boyd, William Neill, David Stewart, Benjamin Levy, Isaac Vanbibber, John Crocket, Hercules Courtenay.

Henry Woolf, master of the Sloop *Two-Brothers*, appeared, and reported his vessel, and took the Oath prescribed.

Alexander Ferguson, master of the Brig *William*, appeared, reported his cargo, and took the Oath prescribed.

—

Committee met at their Chamber, *April* 24, 1775:

Present: John Smith, Chairman, Robert Alexander, John Moale, William Buchanan, William Spear, James Sterrett, Benjamin Nicholson, Benjamin Levy, A. Vanbibber, Hercules Courtenay, Isaac Vanbibber, James Calhoun, S. C. Davy, John Boyd, Clerk, Captain Henderson, Thomas Harrison, Mark Alexander.

Captain *Woolsey*, of the Schooner *Industry*, from *Antigua*, appeared before the Committee, and having read and taken the Oath, declared that he had not imported any articles forbid by the same, and subscribed his name.

Captain *William Barron*, of the Ship *Peggy*, from *Lisbon*, appeared, and reported on oath, and subscribed the same, that he has imported nothing forbid by the Continental Congress.

Captain *T. Torbelt*, of the Schooner *Triton*, from *St. Croix*, appeared, and declared, on oath, the same, and subscribed.

Captain *John Hyde*, of Snow *Hope*, from *Poole*, appeared, took the Oath, and subscribed.

Captain *John Smith*, of the Brig *James*, from *Cork*, did the same.

Captain *Purnell Johnstone*, of the Schooner *Tommy*, from *St. Croix*, reported, swore, and subscribed the necessary Oath.

At a meeting extraordinary of the Committee, at their Chamber, *April* 26, 1775:

Present: Benjamin Levy, John Moale, Hercules Courtenay, J. Kennedy, David Stewart, James Calhoun, George Woolsey, Isaac Vanbibber, A. Vanbibber, I. McLelland, John Hudson, John Boyd, Clerk, William Smith, John Smith, Barnet Eichelberger, Mark Alexander, Robert Buchanan, Daniel Hughes, S C. Davy, Captain Henderson, William Spear, James Sterrett, John McLure, William Buchanan, Thomas Ewing, S. Ennals, John Cockey, J. Cox, John Deaver, Thomas Rutter, Thomas Elliot, Richard Lemmon, V. Cary, J. Jones, J. Sterrett, Mr. Vashorn, Captain Gist.

It being proposed to the Committee to purchase all the Powder and Lead to be disposed of in Town, that the same may be secured for the use of the County, the Committee agreed (each being asked by name) to engage themselves for the payment of it; and the following gentlemen are appointed to make the purchase: *A. Buchanan, James Calhoun, John Sterrett, William Buchanan, Benjamin Levy, John Kennedy, John McLure, David Stewart, Mark Alexander*, Captain *Gist*, and Mr. *Eichelberger*, who are instructed to agree for the same with the proprietors on the best terms they can.

—

At a meeting extraordinary of the Committee, *April* 27, 1775:

Present: Andrew Buchanan, James Calhoun, C. Clopper, David Hughes, Mordecai Gist, R. Buchanan, John Kennedy, Benjamin Levy, Barnet Eichelberger, John Boyd, Clerk, John Smith, William Smith, William Buchanan, William Spear, Hercules Courtenay, James Sterrett, John Sterrett, Thomas Ewing, John McLure, S. Ennalls, Charles Ridgely, Son of William.

Captain *Joseph Oakman*, from *Salem*, of the Sloop *Two-Sisters*, reported his cargo, and on oath, declared he had nothing on board contrary to the Association.

Representation being made to the Committee, that the Ammunition lately procured by them for the use of the country was not properly nor safely deposited, it was agreed that the following gentlemen, viz: *William Buchanan, Daniel Hughes, John Sterrett*, Captain *Gist*, and *John McLure*, be appointed to receive the same, and distribute it among such gentlemen of the Town as it may be most safely lodged with, to be by them kept securely till further orders from the Committee.

The Committee having just now received intelligence that the Magazine of Powder, at *Williamsburgh*, had been seized on *Thursday*, the 20th instant, in the night, by Captain *Collins*, commander of one of His Majesty's Sloops-of War, and, by the Governour's direction, was deposited on board his vessel, thought it advisable to forward this information to the Committee of *Philadelphia;* which was accordingly done immediately.

—

Committee met at the Court-House, *May* 1, 1775:

Present: William Smith, Vice-Chairman, William Buchanan, Benjamin Levy, Charles Ridgely, Jun., James Calhoun, Benjamin Griffith, John Deaver, Isaac Vanbibber, Captain Woolsey, John Kennedy, Hercules Courtenay, Andrew Buchanan, John Merryman, A. Vanbibber, William Goodwin, George Lindenberger, J. Hollyday Captain Richardson, S. C. Davy, William Spear, Richard Lemmon, Captain Henderson, Mark Alexander, James Sterrett, Andrew Buchanan, John McLure, Captain Gist, G. Hopkins, John Moale, Captain Charles Ridgely, James Cox, Thomas Ewing, John Boyd.

James Campbell, of the Brig *Autumn*, from *Cadiz* and *New-York*, reported his cargo, swore, and subscribed the Oath, agreeable to the Association.

Captain *John Bracket*, of the Sloop *Grampus*, from the *West-Indies*, did the same.

Captain *John Norwood*, of the Ship *Hercules*, from *Dublin*, reported, and made oath, and subscribed.

Captain *Alexander Kennedy*, of the Ship *Baltimore-Packet*, from *London*, did the same.

Information having been made to the Committee that Captain *Richard Button* had used his influence to prevent people from mustering,

It was *Resolved*, To order his attendance before the Committee to-morrow, at nine o'clock, to which time it is adjourned; and that the Clerk give notice to Captain *Button* to attend at that hour.

Application having been made to the Committee for the use of some of the Provincial Guns now in this Town, to perform Military Exercise this afternoon, it was agreed that it be permitted on condition of their being returned at eight o'clock, to-morrow; and that the Captains receiving them shall give a receipt to Messrs. *William Buchanan* and *William Spear*, who are appointed by the Committee to give them out.

—

Committee met agreeable to adjournment, *May* 2, 1775:

Present: William Smith, Vice-Chairman, Hercules Courtenay, Andrew Buchanan, William Spear, John Merryman, John Moale, James Calhoun, N. Griffith, Isaac Vanbibber, A. Vanbibber, J. McClelland, William Neill, John Mercer, David McMechen, Captain Clopper, D. McClelland, S. C. Davy, Thomas Gist, Benjamin Levy, John Sterrett, James Cox, Captain Henderson, Daniel Hughes, J. Smith, William Goodwin, John Smith, Thomas Todd, S. Ennals, Thomas Ewing, John Wells, Andrew Buchanan, Richard Cary, Mark Alexander, John McLure, George Lindenberger, G. Hopkins, G. Asthman, R. Cummin, John Boyd.

Captain *W. Jones*, of the Schooner *Nancy*, from *St. Croix*, reported his vessel, made oath, and subscribed.

Captain *Peter Templetoun*, of the Brig *Jane*, from *London*, did the same.

Captain *Button* appeared, agreeable to the order of yesterday, and the charge against him having been read; and *George Helms*, the evidence, having been examined, it appeared that said *Button*, in a conversation with said *Helmes* on the subject of mustering, had discouraged and prevented him for some time from learning the military exercise, as had been directed and recommended by the late Provincial Convention.

The Committee were, therefore, of opinion, that such conduct in Captain *Button* was a contravening the Resolutions of said Convention, had a tendency to sow discord and division among us, as far as his contracted influence could extend, and highly injurious to the common cause of *American* liberty.

The above Opinion being read to Mr. *Button*, he acquiesced in the determination of the Committee, and subscribed the following Paper, as some atonement to the publick for his misconduct:

"I acknowledge, that in conversation with *George Helms* on the subject of mustering, I asked him whether it was not an infringement of his oath (he being a Constable) to take up arms or muster, but had no design to prevent or dissuade him from learning the military exercise; nor have I used any arguments, or in any manner endeavoured to prevent or dissuade any other persons whatsoever from mustering; and I promise and solemnly engage to this Committee, that I will not, in future, make any attempts of this sort, nor will, in any wise, contravene or oppose the Resolutions of the Continental Congress or Provincial Convention. I am extremely sorry if, by my conduct, I should have appeared inimical to the cause of *American* liberty, as I am conscious to myself of having never harboured a thought injurious to the freedom of the Colonies.

"Richard Button.

"May 2, 1775."

Information being made to the Committee that *James Dalgleish*, who was formerly complained against for his imprudent and injurious behaviour towards the cause of liberty, and this Committee, has again expressed himself in very obnoxious and indecent terms of the publick measures now carrying on in the Colonies for the preservation of their freedom, having declared that "as soon as the *English* Troops shall land here he will join them against the *Americans*, it being a folly for him longer to deny his principles," and this being proved by the testimony of Mr. *Samuel Roddy*, it was the opinion of the Committee, that the said *James Dalgleish*, by his repeated offences, has discovered an incurable enmity to this country, and that it is dangerous to the cause in which we are all embarked to encourage or countenance a person of such principles among us. The Committee think it, therefore, their duty, in conformity to the directions of the Continental Congress, to publish said *Dalgleish* to the world as an enemy to the liberty of *Americans*.

—

Committee met at their Chamber agreeable to adjournment, *May* 3, 1775:

Present: William Smith, Vice-Chairman, William Buchanan, Hercules Courtenay, George Lindenberger, Captain Woolsey, Benjamin Levy, William Spear, Richard Lemmon, John Smith, James Sterrett, William Neill, Mark Alexander, James Calhoun, John Boyd.

Mr. *A. Hall*, from the Committee of *Harford* County, having made application to this Committee to furnish them

with five hundred pounds of Gunpowder, it was agreed by the Members present, (as they are not as full a Committee as usual in determining business of importance,) to recommend a compliance with Mr. *Hall's* request to the next full meeting of the Committee.

—

At a meeting extraordinary of the Committee, *May* 5, 1775:

Present: Samuel Purviance, Chairman, John Smith, William Smith, William Buchanan, Andrew Buchanan, William Spear, James Sterrett, James Calhoun, Robert Alexander, Thomas Harrison, William Neill, John Boyd, Clerk.

The Committee received a Letter from the Committee of Correspondence at *Philadelphia*, by Mr. *Thomas Henderson*, a Member of the Committee of *Monmouth*, in *New-Jersey*, requesting us to supply Mr. *Henderson* with a quantity of Gunpowder for the use of the *Monmouth* Committee.

Mr. *Henderson* represents, that they are altogether destitute of Powder, and cannot procure any from *New-York* or *Philadelphia;* that they expect to be called out to the assistance of *New-York* immediately, having been applied to for that purpose by the Committee of that city; and from some recent transactions of a Man-of-War and Tenders, who have been observed to be carefully sounding their coasts to discover, as it is believed, a proper place of landing, it is apprehended an army will be landed in their country; that, therefore, they are in a peculiar, dangerous, and critical situation, and stand in need of the speediest supply of Powder.

From this representation, the Committee were of opinion that, for the safety of the common cause, it is necessary and right to supply the Committee of *Monmouth* with five hundred weight of Gunpowder, for the present, and as they have a prospect of receiving one thousand or one thousand five hundred weight of that article from the Committee of *Georgetown*, they are encouraged to promise Mr. *Henderson* five hundred weight more, if they shall succeed in their application to *Georgetown*.

—

Committee met, *Monday*, *May* 8, 1775:

Present: Samuel Purviance, William Smith, John Smith, William Spear, Thomas Jones, John Merryman, S. Ennals, Hercules Courtenay, Daniel Hughes, William Buchanan, Jeremiah T. Chase, Andrew Buchanan, Thomas Ewing, Benjamin Griffith, James Sterrett, James Calhoun, Isaac Vanbibber, William Goodwin, Benjamin Levy, Robert Alexander, Mark Alexander, George Woolsey, John Boyd, Clerk, C. Clopper, G. Hopkins, George Lindenberger, J. Rutter, Charles Ridgely, Charles Ridgely, Son of John, J. Philpot, Mayberry Helms, J. McClennan, J. Jones, J. Sterrett, John Moale, D. McClennan, William Neill.

The Chairman informs the Committee, that he has received from Mr. *Henderson*, the Delegate from *Monmouth*, *New-Jersey*, sixty-nine Pounds fifteen Shillings, for four hundred and ninety-eight pounds of Gunpowder, sold him by the Committee, and delivered by Messrs. *John Smith* and *William Buchanan;* which sum the Chairman is desired to pay into the hands of Mr. *Andrew Buchanan*, the Treasurer.

Captain *William Sewell*, of the Ship *Calvert*, from *London*, appeared, and made oath agreeable to the rules of the Committee, of his having imported no goods or merchandise whatsoever, excepting thirty-one Servants.

The Application from *Harford* Committee, minuted in the Proceedings of *May* 3, was read to this meeting; and it is agreed that said Committee be supplied with the five hundred pounds of Powder, mentioned in the Minutes of that day; and the Chairman is desired to give directions that the Powder be delivered to the *Harford* Committee when applied for.

Captain *Richard Dickinson*, of the Snow *Fanny-and-Jenny*, from *London*, reported his cargo, took the Oath, and subscribed.

Mr. *Francis Sanderson*, once a Member of this Committee, but who, for some time past, had neglected his duty by refusing or declining giving attendance at their meetings, and other exceptionable conduct, did this day again unexpectedly appear among them, the Committee, reflecting on his late conduct, and uncertain as to the design of his coming among them at so critical a juncture, plainly informed Mr. *Sanderson*, of their sentiments: that they could not but suspect a man of so variable principles and questionable conduct; that as matters of great moment frequently were agitated among them, they did not think it prudent or safe for them to sit in council with a person in whom they could have no confidence; and that, therefore, they would wish him to withdraw himself from the Committee till the sense of the County should be known concerning him at a future election.

Mr. *Sanderson* declared, that he was sensible of the impropriety and mistakes of his late conduct, but was now heartily disposed to concur in every measure that his countrymen should adopt for the preservation of their rights; that, in the mean time, he acquiesced in the intimation of the Committee, and would, for the future, so conduct himself as, if possible, to recover the good opinion of his countrymen, and convince them of the sincerity of his present declarations.

—

A meeting extraordinary of the Committee, *May* 12, 1775:

Present: Samuel Purviance, James Calhoun, Hercules Courtenay, John Merryman, William Neill, George Woolsey, John Boyd.

James Burrow, of the Ship *Nancy*, from *Milford*, reported his cargo, took the Oath prescribed, and subscribed.

William McNeily, of the Snow *Jenny*, from *Cork*, did the same.

—

Committee met, *May* 15, 1775:

Present: Samuel Purviance, J. Garretson, G. Hopkins, S. C. Davy, J. Wells, R. Lemmon, James Cox, Mark Alexander, David Stewart, John Smith, William Buchanan, Benjamin Levy, Robert Alexander, George Lindenberger, J. McClennan, Hercules Courtenay, C. Clopper, James Sterrett, Isaac Vanbibber, William Lux, George Woolsey, John Boyd, Clerk.

The Chairman laid a Letter before the Committee from the Chairman of the Committee of *Fredericktown*, in answer to one sent to them by express from the Committee, requesting to be supplied with as much Powder and Lead as they could spare. The Committee of *Frederick* have agreed to supply this Committee with five hundred pounds of Powder and four thousand pounds of Lead.

Captain *Daniel Lawrence*, of the Ship *Jenny-and-Polly*, from *Bristol*, appeared, took the necessary Oath, and subscribed.

Captain *James Phillips*, of the Brig *Rogers*, from *Belfast*, reports his cargo, swore, and subscribed, with the exception of a small box, contents unknown, and a few barrels of Potatoes, a keg of Whiskey, and a Cheese, being presents to some gentlemen in Town.

The Box is ordered to be put into the possession of the Committee for a further examination.

Captain *Cathrew*, of the Brig *Dutchess-of-Leinster*, from *Dublin*, reported, swore, and subscribed.

Captain *Robert Stenhouse*, of the Ship *Union*, from *London*, did the same.

Cornelius Garretson lodged an information before the Committee against Messrs. *Usher & Roe*, charging them with having sold to him, the said *Garretson*, certain goods at a higher price than he had usually paid for them, and that they had sold the same kind of goods to himself and others, some time ago, at a much lower rate than he had now paid.

Mr. *Roe* appeared, to answer this charge, and said, that Mr. *Garretson* had asked him for certain Buttons, which, he confesses, he had formerly sold to Mr. *Garretson* and others at two shillings and six pence per dozen, but for which he now asked three shillings and six pence, not being willing to sell the Buttons, without, at the same time, selling some cloth to which they matched, but that he did, at length, agree to let Mr. *Garretson* have them at the price he formerly sold them. Mr. *Garretson* departed, and soon after returned and took the Buttons from a young man who attended Messrs. *Usher & Roe's* Store, who insisted on having three shillings and six pence for them per dozen, which said *Garretson* paid; but, as soon as Mr. *Roe* understood what his Clerk had done, he called after Mr. *Garretson*, with an intention to refund him his money, but Mr. *Garretson* refused to return.

Mr. *Roe* afterwards sent the money to said *Garretson*, but he declined accepting it, choosing rather to lodge a complaint to the Committee for the imposition.

From the above representation, it appeared to the Committee that the same kind of Goods had been incautiously sold at Messrs. *Usher & Roe's* Store at different prices, and, in this instance, above the limitations ascertained by the Provincial Congress; but, as it appears to have happened by mistake of their Clerk, and as Mr. *Roe* offered immediately to rectify the mistake, the Committee thought proper to dismiss the complaint with a caution to Messrs. *Usher & Roe*, that they be more careful, in future, in giving cause for the like complaints.

The Continental Congress having "*Resolved*, That a Committee be chosen in every County, by those who are qualified to vote for Representatives in the Legislature, whose business it shall be attentively to observe the conduct of all persons touching the Association;" and the Convention held at *Annapolis*, on the 8th of *December* last, having recommended "that no persons, except Members of the Committees, undertake to meddle with or determine any question respecting the construction of the Association entered into by the Continental Congress, and that peace and good order be inviolably maintained throughout this Province," the Committee, considering the confusion and disorder that may arise from individuals, or any number of the people at large, undertaking to judge and determine offences that may be committed against the Association, do earnestly enjoin the Inhabitants of this County that they forbear from any violence or personal insult to any person whatever, but that in all cases when persons are charged with committing any violation of the Continental Association, or the Resolves of the Provincial Convention, or with contravening the measures now carrying on for the preservation of *American* liberty, information thereof be made to the Committee, who may impartially hear the accusation and the person accused, and proceed therein as directed by the Continental Congress.

Captain *Robert Collings*, of the Ship *Neptune*, from *London*, reported his vessel.

Captain *David Lewis*, of the Ship *Patuxent*, from *London*, did the same.

—

Agreeable to notice for that purpose given, a respectable number of Freeholders of *Baltimore* County, met at the Court-House, *May* 18, 1775, to choose Delegates to represent them in the next Provincial Convention, Captain *Charles Ridgely*, in the Chair, Doctor *John Boyd*, Clerk.

After debating the mode of electing, it was agreed that the usual method should be observed, and the following gentlemen were then nominated and chosen, and empowered to continue and act as Representatives of this County for six months, viz: Captain *Charles Ridgely*, *Thomas Cockey Dye*, *Walter Tolley*, Jun., *Charles Ridgely*, Son of *John*, *Robert Alexander*, *John Moale*, *Darby Lux*, *Benjamin Nicholson*, *William Buchanan*, *Jeremiah T. Chase*, *Thomas Harrison*, *John Cradock*, *James Gittings*, *Charles Ridgely*, Son of *William*, *Walter Tolley*, Sen.

The following gentlemen were added to the Committee of Observation for this County:

For Middle-River, Lower: *John German*, *William Andrews*, *Edward Day*, *William Allender*.
Patapsco, Upper: *Zachariah McCubbin*.
Soldiers' Delight: Doctor *William Lyon*.
Baltimore Town: *Daniel Bowley*.

The Proceedings of the Committee on the 8th of *May*, respecting Mr. *Francis Sanderson*, were read to the freemen of the County now convened, and their sentiments taken on the propriety of the Committee's request to Mr. *Sanderson*, to decline acting as a Committee-man, till the sense of their constituents should be known on the matter.

When the freemen, having heard what Mr. *Sanderson* had to offer, unanimously approved of the Committee's prudent conduct.

And do further *Resolve*, That until Mr. *Sanderson* shall give unequivocal evidence of his sincere attachment to the cause of his injured country, by a steady and uniform acquiescence in every measure which has, or may be generally adopted for her preservation, they cannot approve of him as a man fit to act for them in Committee, leaving it to the Committee to determine how far he is otherwise entitled to publick favour.

The Committee accordingly, (the business of the County having been finished,) fifty-two Members being present, proceeded to consider and judge of Mr. *Sanderson's* case; and were of opinion, that as he had already acknowledged to the Committee his error and late misconduct, and was sincerely sorry for the same, and was now willing to satisfy his countrymen, by a publick declaration, of his present political opinion, as contained in a paper which he handed in, Mr. *Sanderson* be restored to the good opinion of his countrymen:

"I hereby declare, that I have resigned the office of a Justice of the Peace for *Baltimore* County, being now sensible that my appointment to that office, with others, in the manner, and at the time the same was done, was disagreeable to my friends, and tended to injure the cause of my distressed country. I further declare my readiness to engage heartily in the measures now carrying on for the preservation of *American* liberty, and, for that purpose, I have contributed to the purchase of arms and ammunition, as, also, to the poor of *Boston*, and enrolled myself a soldier in a company of Militia, and I trust my future conduct will evince the sincerity of my present declarations, and restore me to the favour and esteem of my countrymen, an event most ardently wished for by,

"Francis Sanderson."

On motion, *Ordered*, That the Committee-Men in the respective Hundreds of the County, be prepared to give in an Account to the General Committee at *Baltimore*, against the first *Monday* in *June*, of the state of the Militia in their different Districts, the number of Men embodied, and the number of Arms fit for service; also, the amount of the different Subscriptions raised by them for the relief of the Poor of *Boston*, and for the purchase of Arms and Ammunition.

The necessity of this measure arises from the recommendation of the late Convention, who have directed that these Accounts be prepared and laid before them at their next meeting.

The late Convention having resolved that six hundred Pounds be raised for the defraying expenses of our Delegates to the General Congress, and as the proportion of that sum for *Baltimore* County is fifty-six Pounds,

Resolved, That each Hundred in the County collect their quotas of said sum, agreeable to the proportion fixed upon for the collection of Money for Arms and Ammunition; adding thereto nineteen Pounds, of a balance advanced formerly by Mr. *William Lux* to the Delegates of the late Congress, for which he is not yet paid; and that those who have not contributed in the last Subscription for the Delegates, be first applied to now, and the Money raised to be paid into the hands of Mr. *William Lux*, who is appointed to receive it, and pay the same to the Delegates.

On motion made, that a General Treasurer should be appointed in *Baltimore* Town, to receive and forward the Donations of this County for the Poor of *Boston*,

Voted, That Mr. *Samuel Purviance* be appointed to that office.

Mr. *Benjamin Wells* lodged a complaint against Mr. *James Christie*, that he had raised the price of his Goods above the limitation of the Provincial Convention.

Mr. *Christie* was sent for to answer this charge, but being not at home, the matter was referred to another meeting of the Committee.

—

Committee met, *May* 19, 1775: Present, *William Smith*, Deputy-Chairman, and twenty-six Members of the Committee; *R. Alexander*, Secretary.

Messrs. *Lux & Bowley*, at the request of the Committee, produced a Letter of Advice and Instructions from Messrs. *Pinney & Sibley*, of *Poole*, relative to the loading of the Brig *Sukey*, Captain *Samuel Clark*.

Captain *James Lightcoum*, of the Sloop *Friendship*, from *Bermuda*, appeared, and reported his vessel, and took the Oath.

The Chairman laid before the Committee Extracts from two Letters received from *Philadelphia*, informing that sundry Vessels were loading in the Port of *Liverpool* with

Salt and Dry-Goods, some of which were destined for this Province.

Ordered, That copies of the said Extracts be printed in Handbills, and enclosed to the different Committees of this Province and *Virginia*.

The sum of one hundred and twenty-four Pounds, proposed to be raised to defray the Expenses of the Delegates, and other Expenses, was proportioned as follows:

Gunpowder, Upper, -	£10 13 0	(2 12 6, 3 5 6 paid *R. A.*)
North, - - - - - -	6 18 4	
Middlesex, - - - - -	4 9 0	(2 8 6, paid *R. A.* by *Mab'y Helms, June* 26.)
Mine-Run, - - - - - -	7 1 4	
Back-River, Upper, - -	14 18 8	(5 17 6, p'd *Aug.* 7, per *Ed. Talbot*, not paid to *R. A.*)
Back-River, Lower, - -	5 4 8	(3 5 2, pd. *R. A.* by *B. Buck*; 7 6 p'd *Job Garretson*; 12 6, per *B. Buck* to *R. A.*)
Patapsco, Upper, - - -	6 14 8	
Patapsco, Lower, - -	6 13 8	
Middle-River, Upper, -	5 16 0	
Middle-River, Lower, -	6 17 4	(2 16 3, 2 0 10, p'd *R. A.*)
Soldiers' Delight, - -	11 13 8	(7 16 6, paid *R. A.* by *G. Ashman.*)
Delaware, - - - - -	8 8 0	(Paid *R. A.*)
Pipe-Creek, - - - -	4 11 4	(Paid to *R. A.*)
Westminster, - - - -	6 16 0	(Paid in to *R. A.*)
Baltimore, West, - - -	9 13 0	(Paid in to *R. A.*)
Baltimore, East, - - -	3 11 0	(Paid in to *R. A.*)
Deptford, - - - - -	4 0 4	(4 2, paid to *R. A.*)
	£124 0 0	

Ordered, That the Secretary write the Committees of the several Hundreds, informing them of the above.

Copy of a Letter wrote to the different Hundreds:

GENTLEMEN: The Provincial Convention having recommended the raising of money for payment of the expenses of the Delegates at the Congress, the Committee resolved that one hundred and twenty-four Pounds be raised for that purpose, and for payment of Expresses, and having proportioned the same among the different Hundreds, the sum to be raised in your Hundred is . . . . . which, by order of the Committee, you are to pay in by the first day of *June*.

—

Committee met, *May* 22, 1775: Present, *Samuel Purviance*, Chairman, and fourteen other Members; *Robert Alexander*, Secretary.

Ordered, That the following Oaths be taking by the Owners, Consignees, or Supercargoes of all Vessels, and by the Masters and Officers of the same, that shall load in *Patapsco-River*:

"You A. B., owner, supercargo, or consignee of the ship or vessel called the . . . . . whereof . . . . . is master, do make oath that you will not order or direct, nor order any person for you to direct, the cargo now laden, or intended to be laden on board the said vessel, or any part thereof, to be unladed, landed, or delivered, from on board the said vessel, within the Province of *Georgia, East* or *West-Florida, Quebeck, Nova-Scotia, St. John's, Cape-Breton, Newfoundland*, or at any part of the fishing coasts, or fishing islands, or at the town, or in the harbour, of *Boston*, or to any vessel, or vessels, in either of the said islands, Provinces, coasts, or town, or harbour, of *Boston*. And further, that you do not know that the said vessel or cargo is intended or directed by any order from the owner, or owners thereof, to proceed to any or either of the said Provinces, coasts, islands, or town of *Boston;* and that if the master of such vessel should land or unlade the said cargo, or any part thereof, at any of the places before excepted, contrary to the tenour of this oath, that you will, in such case, give information thereof to this Committee.

"You . . . . . master and officers of the ship or vessel called . . . . . do make oath that you will not land, unlade, or deliver from on board the ship or vessel of which you are . . . . . any part of the cargo now laden on board the vessel, either in the Province of *Georgia, East* or *West-Florida, Quebeck, Nova-Scotia, St. John's, Cape-Breton, Newfoundland*, or at any part of the fishing coasts or fishing islands, or at the town, or in the harbour, of *Boston*, or to any vessel, or vessels, in either of the said Provinces, islands, coasts, or town, or harbour of *Boston*.

Upon Application made from the Counties of *Orange* and *Culpepper*, in *Virginia*,

Ordered, That the quantity of five hundred pounds of Powder be supplied them.

Ordered, That the quantity of four hundred pounds of Powder, furnished by *David Hoops*, be delivered Mr. *William Neill*.

Ordered, That three hundred pounds of Powder, purchased by *William Lux*, be delivered him.

Ordered, That Messrs. *Courtenay, Calhoun, Boyd, Stewart, Neill*, and *Samuel Purviance*, be a Committee to take the Depositions of all Masters of Vessels, and their Officers, and of the Owners, Consignees, or Supercargoes of Vessels, concerning the destination of all such Vessels; and that any three of said Committee be authorized to act.

—

Committee met, *Monday, May* 29, 1775: Present, *Samuel Purviance*, Chairman, and eighteen Members; *Robert Alexander*, Secretary.

John Thompson, master of the Sloop *Kitty*, from *New-Providence*, appeared, and reported his cargo, and took the Oath.

James Tibbet, master of the Brig *Rachel*, from *Jamaica; Joseph Towney*, master of the Schooner *Hannah*, from *South-Carolina; Abraham Treasethen*, master of the Schooner *Greyhound*, from *Piscataqua, N. E.;* severally appeared, reported their cargoes, and took the Oath.

Ordered, That *William Buchanan, John Boyd, Samuel Purviance*, and *James Calhoun*, be a Committee to prepare a State of all Moneys subscribed and paid in to this Committee on any account, and of the Expenditure of the same; and of all Expenses incurred by the Committee; and, also, an Account of all Moneys and Donations transmitted to this Committee for the Poor of *Boston*, and in what manner the same have been remitted; and that they lay such State, together with the Vouchers, before this Committee, that the same, when approved of and settled, may be entered in the Records of the Committee.

Ordered, That all Masters of Vessels arriving in *Patapsco-River*, do appear before the Committee at their Room, on the *Monday* next after their arrival, between the hours of ten and twelve, A. M., at which time and place the Committee will attend. It is expected that the Owners and Consignees of Vessels will, in future, be more punctual in directing the attendance of the Masters, or they, with the Masters, will be reported to the publick as delinquents.

Ordered, That the above be printed in *Dunlap's* and *Goddard's* Papers.

—

At a meeting of the Committee, on *Monday*, the 5th *June*, 1775: Present, *Samuel Purviance*, Chairman, and nineteen Members.

John Ghiselin, of *Patapsco*, Upper Hundred, made information to the Committee, that being in company with Mr. *John Welsh* and *Robert Gilchrist*, on the 21st of *April* last, and speaking of the present publick measures, the said *John Welsh* declared, "that he approved of the measures of the Congress and Committee, except mustering," which he then said was open rebellion.

John Geoghagan made information, that being in company with *John Welsh* and *Samuel Oliver*, the said *Welsh* informed *Oliver*, "that *John Geoghagan* had mustered, and that he had better take care of himself."

On application of Captain *Clopper*, leave is given for the purchase of half a barrel of Powder, which is to be made up into Cartridges, and kept for any emergency.

—

At a meeting of the Committee, on *Monday, June* 12,

1775: Present, *Samuel Purviance*, Chairman, and thirty-three Members.

Watson Crosby, of the Schooner *Polly*, from *Jamaica*, reported his cargo, and took the Oath.

Complaint by *Thomas Rutter*, against *John McKim*, of an overcharge in the price of twenty-four ells of Brown Roll.

On examination, it appeared that Mr. *McKim* had purchased said Brown Roll, with other goods, in *Philadelphia*, and paid thirteen shillings per ell, ready money, for the same.

N. B. The further proceeding in this business interrupted by the following accusation:

Captain *D. Lawrence* informed the Committee, that on or about the 5th instant, being at the house of Mr. *Brit. Dickinson*, and in conversation with Mr. *Richard Button*, who had a vessel launched that day, and talking about some of the Captains of vessels having lowered their colours on the *Saturday* before, when said vessel of Mr. *Button* was first attempted to be launched, said *Button* expressed himself with great passion about the affront given him. On which said *Lawrence* told him, the reason of their lowering their colours, was because they looked on him to be a Tory. Said *Button* replied, "They do call me a Tory, and so I am, and think the Ministry have a right to tax *America*, as we are descended from *England*."

Captain *John Bruce*, who was also present at the said conversation, confirmed the same; and further said, that he heard said *Button* say, the *Americans* were wrong in opposing the taxes; and speaking on the subject of news, he said that he believed none of the accounts published in the papers, except General *Gage's*.

In consequence of the above information, Captain *Button* was summoned to attend, which he accordingly did, and made his defence.

After debating thereon, Captain *Button* requested the decision of the Committee might be postponed until their next meeting; which was accordingly suspended.

—

At a meeting of the Committee, *June* 19, 1775: Present, *Samuel Purviance*, Chairman, and fifty Members.

Mr. *Richard Button* appeared, in consequence of the order of the last meeting, and delivered in two publications by him addressed to the publick.

And the Chairman informing the Committee that Mr. *Button* had subscribed and paid in seven Pounds ten Shillings for the Poor of *Boston*, and five Pounds for Arms and Ammunition, the Committee were unanimously of opinion that the same is satisfactory, and Mr. *Button* is, by the Committee, restored to the publick favour.

The Committee, to remove any impressions which may be taken up by the publick that would imply Mr. *Button's* resignation of the Magistracy to be in consequence of a requisition for that purpose by the Committee, do declare the said resignation was not required of him by them.

—

Post Meridiem.—Mr. *Charles Ridgely*, Son of *John*, complained that Mr. *James Christie* had asked a price for Osnaburghs above the advance limited by the Provincial Convention, and mentioned Mr. *Christopher Johnston* as a witness.

Notice of the above was made out and sent to Mr. *Christie*, who being absent,

Ordered, That the same be referred to *Monday* next, at which time the same is to be heard, together with the charge against *John Welsh*.

Mr. *Christie* attended, and requested a hearing of the charge against him, alleging that he was present in the Committee in the forenoon, and had notice of the charge been then given him, he should immediately have attended; that he came on the first notice, and that having business which would oblige him to be absent on *Monday* next, he could not possibly attend that day.

But the Committee declined a hearing at this time as many of the Members were retired.

Information being made to the Committee that Mr. *Rezin Hammond* had, at a meeting of the Inhabitants of *Delaware* Hundred, for the purpose of forming themselves into Companies and learning the Military Exercise, used his influence and dissuaded the people from the measure as a violation of their allegiance,

Ordered, That notice be given Mr. *Hammond* to attend on *Monday* next.

Copy of the notice to Mr. *Welsh* and Mr. *Hammond* was made out and delivered Mr. *John Howard*; and, also, notice to Mr. *Samuel Shipley*, requiring his attendance as an evidence.

The following are copies of Captain *Button's* Publications, and referred to in the Proceedings of this day.

To the Publick.

It is to you I now address myself, and as there is no man, but at times is liable to errors and mistakes, I humbly hope what I now offer to the publick will be accepted as a sufficient atonement for my past conduct. I am truly sorry that what I have said at different times respecting the publick measures now carrying on has given so much offence, and beg pardon for it. I own (with regret) that I did not properly consider the bad tendency it might have, and acknowledge I have been very justly censured; I now assure you that I see the Parliamentary measures in a different light from what I have formerly done, and I trust my future conduct will convince you that I shall be a steady friend to the utmost of my abilities, and will cheerfully and readily contribute and join every measure that may be adopted for the publick welfare.

I remain your most obedient, humble servant,

Richard Button.

Baltimore, June 15, 1775.

To the Publick.

Being sensible of my political errors, induced me to address my fellow-citizens a few days ago, with a declaration of my sincere sorrow, that my past conduct and unguarded expressions had given them such offence. Am very desirous to give them every reasonable assurance of my political principles, and hereby further declare, that I do most heartily and sincerely approve of the measures hitherto pursued, and now pursuing, by the publick, to oppose the claims of the *British* Parliament. I also acknowledge that I am now sincerely sorry for having lately accepted a commission to act as a Magistrate in this town; I solemnly engage that I will not act any longer in that capacity, nor in any other respect that may give offence to my countrymen. I flatter myself that this declaration, with a correspondent conduct, will entitle me to the same candour and humanity from the publick, which I have already experienced from the gentlemen of the Committee.

I remain your most obedient, humble servant,

Richard Button.

Baltimore, June 17, 1775.

True Entries of the Proceedings of the Committee, from the 19th day of *May*, to the 19th day of *June*, inclusive.

Test: Robert Alexander.

—

At a meeting of the Committee, *June* 26, 1775: Present, *Samuel Purviance*, Chairman, and forty-two Members; *William Lux*, Secretary.

The Inhabitants of *Baltimore* Town having found it absolutely necessary to establish a nightly Watch in the said Town, for the preservation of their property from robbery or fire, as well as to prevent any hostile attempts in this time of publick confusion, and having had several meetings to digest a proper plan for the purpose, they unanimously agreed to recommend the same to the Committee for their approbation and superintendence; which being done, the Committee highly approved of the measure; and a subscription being signed by every inhabitant, wherein he obliges himself to conform to the regulations adopted, and to attend personally, or provide a sufficient man in his room, which said man, so provided, to be a subscriber, or to pay seven Shillings and six Pence, the Committee received the said subscription, and divided the subscribers into six Companies for the Town, and one for the Point, and then directed a general meeting of the subscribers to elect a Captain for each Company, which being done, the following gentlemen were returned, viz:

James Calhoun, First; *George Woolsey*, Second; *Benjomin Griffith*, Third; *Barnet Eichelberger*, Fourth; *George Lindenberger*, Fifth; *William Goodwin*, Sixth, for *Baltimore* Town, and *Isaac Vanbibber*, for the Point;

but his district being thought rather too extensive, the Committee thought it necessary to appoint *Jesse Hollingsworth* and *George Patten* to assist him in the arrangement of the Watch.

The Committee then determined that the said Watch shall consist of sixteen persons, under the direction of a Captain, to be appointed for the night, and that they patrol the streets from ten o'clock at night until day-light the next morning, and that the Companies take it in rotation.

The Committee being applied to by *Melchior Keener*, with a Letter from the Committee of *Marblehead*, setting forth that they were in great want of Flour, and requesting liberty to load Captain *Nathaniel Cook*, of the Schooner *Elizabeth*, for that port, were of opinion that they ought to be relieved; and leave was accordingly given.

Messrs. *Rezin Hammond* and *John Welsh*, having been summoned to attend the Committee this day, to answer a complaint exhibited against them for dissuading the people from mustering, applied by letter, and excused themselves from personal attendance on account of the state of their health, at the same time declaring they were now ready to join their countrymen for the preservation of their liberties; and had sent eight Pounds eight Shillings, being the subscription for *Delaware* Hundred. But the said Letter not being deemed sufficient, they are directed to attend on *Monday*, the 17th *July*, and notice was accordingly sent them.

A Letter from Mr. *James Christie*, directed to the Committee, and requesting that the complaint exhibited against him might be immediately inquired into, as he was obliged to go out of Town, was laid before them and considered; but as the evidences had departed, it was deferred to *Monday*, the 17th *July*, at which time he had notice to attend; and *H. D. Gough*, Esq., was also desired to attend as an evidence against him.

Messrs. *John Howard* and *Thomas Cradock*, applied for two hundred pounds Gunpowder for *Soldiers' Delight* Hundred; and an order was given on Mr. *Andrew Buchanan* for the same, who is to receive thirty Pounds in payment therefor.

—

At a meeting of the Committee, *July* 3, 1775: Present, Mr. *Samuel Purviance*, Chairman, and thirty Members; *William Lux*, Secretary.

Captain *John Parker*, of the Ship *Aston Hall*, from *London*; Captain *Nicholas Fortune*, of the Snow *Catharine*, from *Youghall*; and Captain *Richard Curtis*, of the Brig *Curtis*, from *Waterford*, severally appeared, reported their vessels, and took the Oath.

A Letter from the Committee of Observation for *Kent* County, to the Chairman of this Committee, complaining of Mr. *James Christie* for selling Osnaburghs above the advance directed by the Provincial Convention, was laid before the Committee, but Mr. *Christie* being absent from Town, the consideration thereof was deferred to the 17th instant, when he is to attend on complaints of a similar nature.

A Letter from *Henry Lloyd*, Agent for the Contractors for supplying the Troops at *Boston*, to Doctor *John Stevenson*, being fallen into the hands of the Committee, was read, and is as follows:

"Boston, May 17, 1775.

"Sir: The stoppage of provisions from the Southern Governments for the use of His Majesty's troops, makes it necessary to endeavour to get a supply by concealing from the publick eye the destination of provisions shipped for that purpose. I shall, therefore, propose, for your consideration, the following method of doing it. Cannot a vessel be freighted with flour for the *West-Indies*, commanded by a person you can confide in, who will execute your orders to him to come into this port and deliver his cargo here, instead of going to the *West-Indies*. You may take up a vessel as large as two hundred tons, and give her a full freight. I should send you bills on the Contractors to execute this plan, or advise you to draw on them for the amount of what you may ship to me in this way, but the negotiation of such bills might discover your plan and defeat it, so that I should be glad you would advise me of some friend of yours, and when I am made acquainted with his name, and the sum you shall draw for, will send to him from hence, my bills on the Contractors for the amount you advise me of. You will please, likewise, to give the Contractors timely notice, that they may insure their interest if they think proper, and inform me of the name of the vessel and master you engage, that I may lodge a permit at the Light-house in this harbour, for admission to come up to the town and discharge her cargo here. Pray let the flour you purchase be such as will keep over the summer, and let the casks be good, well hooped, and the heads well secured with lining hoops.

"You will be careful to write me by a safe conveyance, that your letter may not fall into the hands of the Provincials.

"I am, sir, your most humble servant,

"Henry Lloyd.

"To Doctor *John Stevenson*."

The Committee sent for Doctor *Stevenson*, and having shown him the Letter, he made the following declaration:

"I believe the within Letter to be Mr. *Henry Lloyd's* writing, and I declare that I have never received any copy of it, nor any other Letter to that purport; and I further declare, that if the Letter had come to my hands, I would not have executed the order, nor will I execute any order of the kind from any person whatever, contrary to the Resolves of the Continental Congress, or Provincial Convention.

"John Stevenson."

On motion, *Resolved*, That *Henry Lloyd*, of *Boston*, has knowingly and wilfully violated the Association of the *American* Congress, by endeavouring to supply the enemies of this country with Provisions; and that, agreeable to the Resolutions of the said Congress, it is the duty of us, and all our constituents, from henceforth, not to have any commercial intercourse with him; and it is recommended that an inviolable regard be paid to this Resolution.

The Committee having received information that the Ship *Johnson*, from *Liverpool*, with a cargo of Salt and Dry-Goods, arrived a few days ago in *Wye-River*, and that several other ships, with similar cargoes, may daily be expected from *Liverpool* in this Bay,

It is, therefore, unanimously *Resolved*, That if any Pilot, Craftsman, or others, shall be found assisting in the conveyance or introduction of any goods or merchandise, contrary to the direction of the Congress, or in receiving on shore, or unloading from any vessel, any goods which may have been ordered out of the Port, such persons shall be deemed enemies to the liberties of *America*, and will be held forth to the resentment of the publick; and if any person privy to such measures will disclose them, they shall receive the thanks of the Committee as real friends to their country.

The Committee directed the aforegoing Resolution to be published in Handbills, and that one of said Handbills be delivered to the several Pilots attending this Port.

Messrs. *Isaac Vanbibber*, *Isaac Grist*, *Samuel Davy*, *Thomas Elliot*, *George Woolsey*, *Benjamin Levy*, *David Stewart*, and *William Neill*, or any two or more of them, are appointed a Committee to apply to every Vessel arriving within this Port, and to secure any Gunpowder they may have on board.

Mr. *John McLure* having applied for payment of a parcel of Gunpowder furnished the Committee, and there not being a sufficient sum yet paid in:

Ordered, That a sum sufficient to pay him be taken out of the Arms and Ammunition Fund; and that the same be replaced out of the Money raised for that purpose, when paid in by the County Committee.

—

At a meeting of the Committee, *July* 10, 1775: Present, Mr. *William Smith*, in the Chair, and nineteen Members.

The following Masters of Vessels appeared, reported, and took the Oath, viz:

James Thomas, of the Ship *Isabella*, from *Bristol*; *Robert Callow*, of the Brig *Escape*, from *Milford*; *Joseph Richardson*, of the Ship *Camden*, from *London*; *Nicholas Howard*, of the Sloop *Delight*, from *St. Croix*.

The following Masters appeared, and reported their intended voyages, took the necessary oaths, and subscribed, viz:

John Lovett, of the Schooner *Swallow*, for the *West-Indies*; *Nathaniel Cook*, of the Schooner *Elizabeth*, for *Antigua*.

On motion, *Resolved*, That, for the future, every Master of a Vessel reporting his cargo before the Committee, shall, also, at the same time declare, on oath, the quantity of Gunpowder he hath on board, or hath imported this present voyage.

Melchior Keener and *David Stewart*, shippers of merchandise on board the Schooner *Swallow*, Captain *Cook*, master, took and subscribed the necessary Oaths.

WILLIAM LUX, *Secretary*.

—

At a special meeting of the Committee, at the Court-House, *July* 11, 1775: Present, Mr. *William Smith*, President, and nineteen Members, *William Lux*, Secretary.

Information having been made to the Committee that the Ship *Totness* was arrived from *Liverpool*, below *Annapolis*, having on board Salt, Mr. *Thomas Place*, one of the consignees, attended the Committee, and declared that he and his partner, Mr. *Ashburner*, had received letters from Mr. *Gildart*, advising them that he intended despatching the *Totness* to them in twelve days from the time he wrote, ballasted with Salt, and that they daily expected her to arrive, when he intended laying her Papers before this Committee; and he further said, that he had been informed the said Ship was arrived, and aground on the *Two-Sisters*, but that he had not much confidence in the report.

Further information being made, that some of Mr. *Gildart's* friends had sent a boat down to meet the *Totness*, the Committee thought proper to send for Mr. *Johnson Gildart*, who attended, and declared that he had given a Pilot, who was going down with the *Johnson*, a letter to deliver Captain *Warring*, in case he met him, instructing him to proceed immediately to *Halifax*, and not to attempt coming up here.

Being again informed that the Boat which carried the letter was returned, the Committee sent two of their Members to inquire for the Skipper and bring him before them, which was accordingly done; and . . . . . immediately attended, and declared he had been sent down by Mr. *Johnson Gildart* with letters to the Ship *Johnson*, and that, at the same time, he had given the letter above-mentioned for Captain *Warring*, of the *Totness*, in case he should meet her; and that, on his return back from the Ship *Johnson*, he saw a ship on ground on the *Three-Sisters*, which he made for, and found her to be the *Totness*, and delivered the Captain his letters, who replied that he must come or send to *Baltimore* for further orders.

On this information, Mr. *Johnson Gildart* was sent for, who attended, and engaged that the ship should come to *Baltimore*, and wait the determination of the Committee; and accordingly gave orders in writing to the Captain for that purpose.

—

At a special meeting of the Committee, *July* 12, 1775: Present, *William Smith*, Chairman, and twenty-two Members; *William Lux*, Secretary.

Captain *Edward Weeks*, of the Snow *Potomack*, having arrived from *Dublin* and *Madeira*, reported his vessel, on oath, having on board twenty-eight pipes, five hogsheads, and seven quarter-casks Wine, shipped at *Madeira* for *Dublin*, without being intended to land them in *America*. And Mr. *David Stewart*, consignee of the vessel, entering into an engagement to the same purpose,

Resolved, That the said Vessel be permitted to load her cargo.

Captain *John Martin*, of the Brig *Friendship*, from *Bermuda*, reported his vessel in ballast.

—

At a special meeting of the Committee, at the Court-House, on *Thursday*, *July* 13, at four o'clock, P. M.:

Present: William Smith, in the Chair, William Spear, John Crockett, Thomas Elliot, David McLennan, George Woolsey, Samuel Smith, Cornelius Clopper, George Lindenberger, Mark Alexander, Samuel Davy, Abram Vanbibber, Robert Buchanan, James Sterrett, Benjamin Griffith, John Sterrett, William Goodwin, Andrew Buchanan, William Buchanan, Benjamin Levy, Isaac Vanbibber, James Calhoun, Mordecai Gist, Thomas Harrison, Thomas Jones, Barnet Eichelberger, David Stewart, John McLure, John Boyd.

A Letter from *James Christie*, Jun., Merchant, of this Town, directed to Lieutenant-Colonel *Gabriel Christie*, of His Majesty's Sixtieth Regiment, at *Antigua*, having been intercepted, was laid before the Committee, and ordered to be read, which was accordingly done, and the following paragraphs are part of its contents:

"Baltimore, February 22, 1775.

"We are in such terrible confusion here, with our politicks, there is no depending on any thing, and that, added to other things, makes me wish myself out of the Province.

"We are little behind the *New-Englanders*, mustering, purchasing arms, ammunition, &c. We have some violent, fanatical spirits among us, who do every thing in their power to run things to the utmost extremity, and they are gone so far that we moderate people are under a necessity of uniting for our own defence, after being threatened with expulsion, loss of life, &c., for not acceding to what we deem treason and rebellion.

"The Provost and family are very well. Our publick affairs vex him, and he wishes himself away, but I know not when, or if ever that will happen.

"A part of yours, or any other Regiment, I believe would keep us very quiet."

The Committee then summoned Mr. *Christie* to attend them, but being confined to his bed, he was unable to do it. They then sent Messrs. *James Calhoun*, *William Buchanan*, *Thomas Harrison*, *Thomas Jones*, *William Goodwin*, and *Isaac Vanbibber*, to wait on him at his house, and to inquire whether the said Letter was wrote by him.

The gentlemen returned, and report that Mr. *Christie* had been shown the Letter, and acknowledged that it was wrote by him, but requested that any further proceedings thereon might be postponed until his health would permit his personal attendance.

The Committee not thinking it proper to comply with his request, as Mr. *Christie* had confessed he wrote the Letter, immediately gave him notice thereof, upon which Mr. *Robert Christie* attended on his behalf, but it growing late, and many of the Members being withdrawn, the Committee directed a Guard of nine men, under the command of an Officer, to be placed round Mr. *Christie's* house.

And then adjourned till to-morrow morning, at nine o'clock.

—

The Committee met according to adjournment, *Friday*, *July* 14, 1775:

Present: William Smith, Chairman, Thomas Harrison, John Kennedy, Hercules Courtenay, William Spear, Benjamin Griffith, Benjamin Nicholson, Thomas Elliot, Barnet Eichelberger, William Goodwin, William Neill, Benjamin Levy, John McLure, John Merryman, William Buchanan, Andrew Buchanan, Samuel Davy, John Moale, David McLennan, Mark Alexander, M. Merryman James Croxall, Cornelius Clopper, John McLennan, James Cox, James Sterrett, John Sterrett, Isaac Grist, Abram Vanbibber, George Woolsey, David Stewart, John Boyd, Thomas Jones.

They resumed the business of yesterday.

Mr. *Robert Christie*, Jun., attended, and declared that Mr. *James Christie* was very sorry for the Letter he had wrote Lieutenant-Colonel *Christie*; that he did not mean any harm by it, and that he was very willing to acquiesce in the determination of the Committee.

On motion, *Resolved*, That Doctor *John Boyd* and Mr. *John McLure*, (Members of this Committee,) do wait on Mr. *Christie*, and inquire of him who those moderate people were that united for their defence, as mentioned in his Letter, and that they take his answer in writing.

The gentlemen returned, and report, that Mr. *Christie* declared, there never was any association between him and his friends for the purpose alluded to, or for any other purpose; and all that he remembers to have passed on the occasion was, that some time last winter he was informed that he, with some of his friends, were to be made a publick example of, for not uniting with the town in the present opposition, and this being spoken of accidentally among two or three of his friends, it was proposed, whether an association for mutual defence would be advisable, but no determination being then made, and they soon after being

convinced that no threats worth notice had been thrown out against them, the matter dropped, and was never afterwards thought of or attempted, and that it was at this time of doubt and apprehension that he had wrote the Letter in question, which accounts for that part of it alluded to in this inquiry.

The Committee proceeded to take Mr. *Christie's* conduct, with respect to the said Letter, into further and deliberate consideration, and were unanimously of opinion, that by representing in said Letter the people of this town to be concerned in treasonable and rebellious practices, and that a number of soldiers would keep them quiet, he has manifested a spirit and principle altogether inimical to the rights, privileges, and liberties of *America*. They do, therefore, think it their duty to advertise the said *James Christie*, Jun., as an enemy to this country, and all persons are desired to break off all connection and intercourse with him.

The Committee do further *Resolve*, That as the crime of which the said *James Christie* is guilty, is of so dangerous and atrocious a nature, they will lay the same before their Delegates at the Continental Congress for their advice; and, in the mean time,

It is *Ordered*, That, as Mr. *Christie* is confined to his bed, and cannot be removed with safety to a place of security, the same Guard be continued at his house to prevent any escape, attempted either by himself or the assistance of his friends; and that Mr. *Christie* pay each man five Shillings for each twenty-four hours, and the Officer seven Shillings and six Pence.

A report having been circulated that a number of Arms and a quantity of Ammunition were secretly lodged in the house of Mr. *James Christie*, and the same being mentioned to the Committee, they directed two of their Members, Captain *Clopper* and Mr. *James Cox*, to go immediately and search Mr. *Christie's* house; which they accordingly did, and reported that they had examined the house attentively in every part, attended by Mr. *Robert Christie*, Jun., and that they only found two Guns and a pair of Pistols, and no Ammunition, and were convinced no others were in the house.

Resolved, That these Proceedings be published in the *Maryland* Papers.

And, on motion, *Ordered*, That the Proceedings of the Committee of *Talbot* County, respecting the Ship *Johnson*, and declaring *James Gildart* an enemy to the liberties of *America*, be republished in the *Baltimore* Papers.

—

At a meeting of the Committee, *July* 17, 1775:

Present: Samuel Purviance, in the Chair, William Spear, John Merryman; Edward Talbot, William Smith, Richard Lemmon, Isaac Vanbibber, Thomas Johnston, Abram Vanbibber, William Goodwin, Edward Norwood, Job Garretson, Thomas Harrison, John McClennan, Daniel Bowley, William Buchanan, John Boyd, Moses Galloway, John Kennedy, John Moale, Thomas Elliot, Benjamin Griffith, Daniel Hughes, Mordecai Gist, Benjamin Levy, James Cox, John Mercer, William Neill, David Stewart, Captain Henderson, Charles Wiesenthall, George Woolsey, George Lindenberger, Mayberry Helms, Barnet Eicholberger, John Cockey, John Cradock, Thomas Jones, Gerrard Hopkins, William Lyon, B. Dickinson, John Smith, James Calhoun, Thomas Sellers, Jos. Hall, Thomas Rutter, Richard Cromwell, Ab. Britton, Andrew Buchanan, George Matthews, John Deaver, William Lux, Secretary.

Mr. *John Welsh* appeared before the Committee, and answered the charge exhibited against him by the following Declaration:

"Whereas, an information has been lodged against me in the Committee of *Baltimore* County, that I declared those who mustered were guilty of rebellion; in order to remove any ill impressions against me, I now declare that I approve of the measures recommended by the Continental Congress and Provincial Convention, and am willing to join my countrymen in the common cause, and to risk my life and fortune in defence of the liberties of *America;* and that I will recommend it to my neighbours to muster and learn the use of arms, as necessary to defend ourselves from all invaders of our liberties and properties.

"In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this 17th *July*, 1775.

"JOHN WELSH."

Mr. *Thomas Place* appeared before the Committee, and produced an invoice of a cargo, consisting of Salt and Earthen-Ware, shipped by *James Gildart*, on board the *Totness*, Captain *Warring*, amounting to two hundred and twenty Pounds eighteen Shillings and four and a half Pence sterling.

On motion, *Ordered*, That the Proceedings in the *Maryland Gazette* of the 13th *July*, respecting the Ship *Johnson*, and declaring *James Gildart*, of *Liverpool*, an enemy to the liberties of *America*, be republished in the two *Baltimore* Newspapers.

And a question arising how far breaking off all commercial intercourse with *James Gildart* should effect any connections with *Johnson Gildart*, or *Ashburner & Place*, or whether they ought to be included therein as partners with him, after some debates thereon, it was agreed to be referred to a future meeting.

—

At a special meeting of the Committee, on *Tuesday*, *July* 18, 1775:

Present: Samuel Purviance, Chairman, William Buchanan, Isaac Grist, Mark Alexander, Jeremiah T. Chase, Hercules Courtenay, James Calhoun, John Sterrett, John Smith, William Spear, William Lux, Secretary.

An application was made by Mr. *John Fox*, from *Virginia*, to supply a parcel of Gunpowder for the use of the Inhabitants at *York*, whom he represented to be in great distress, as expecting an attack from five Men-of-War, then drawn up in line of battle before the Town; and he produced a Letter from *Robert Carter Nicholas*, Esq., to him, desiring him to engage as far as one thousand Pounds sterling, and one thousand Pounds *Virginia* currency, for Gunpowder and Arms; but the small quantity in our Magazine being very insufficient to supply our own immediate wants, the Committee were of opinion they had it not in their power to comply.

—

At a special meeting of the Committee, *July* 21, 1775:

Present: Samuel Purviance, Chairman, John Moale, Thomas Todd, John Boyd, Daniel Hughes, William Buchanan, Thomas Jones, George Woolsey, William Goodwin, William Spear, John Smith, William Smith, David Stewart, James Cox, John McClennan, Archibald Buchanan, C. Clopper, Benjamin Griffith, James Calhoun, James Sterrett, William Lux, Secretary.

The following Letters were laid before the Committee:

"Philadelphia, July 18, 1775.

"GENTLEMEN: We this morning laid your proceedings on Mr. *Christie's* letter, before the Congress. That body has thought proper to refer it to our Provincial Convention. We are sorry that any inhabitant of our Province should have entertained sentiments so inimical to our common liberties as those contained in Mr. *Christie's* letter, and, with you, are of opinion, that for such conduct it is proper and necessary there should be an adequate punishment.

"We are, gentlemen, with respect and regard, your most obedient servants,

"THOMAS JOHNSON, JUN.,
"WILLIAM PACA,
"SAMUEL CHASE.

"To the Committee of *Baltimore* Town."

"July 21, 1775.

"SIR: I am now a little better, and the Doctor is of opinion that fresh air and moderate exercise would contribute much to restoring my health. I have to entreat of you to represent this to the Committee, and to request of them, for me, that if they think proper, I may have my liberty for the above purpose, on my giving such security as the Committee may require for my appearance before them when required. Your favour in this will oblige, sir, your most obedient servant,

"JAMES CHRISTIE, JUN.

"To Mr. *Samuel Purviance*, Chairman of the Committee for *Baltimore*."

On considering the premises, the Committee refer the determination to a fuller Committee on *Monday* next, and, in the mean time, that Mr. *Christie* may be permitted to ride out attended by his Guard.

Mr. *David Stewart*, applied for liberty to remove part of the Tea, lodged with the Committee in *December* last, from on board the Snow *Potomack*, alleging as a reason therefor, that it was not safe from cruizers; which was granted, and the two gentlemen of the Committee who have it now in possession, are directed to deliver it, taking an account of the packages, with a receipt for the same;

and Mr. *Stewart* stands accountable for delivering a certificate from the Committee of such District as it may be lodged with for security.

A Letter from Mr. *George Dent*, Chairman of the Committee at *Potomack*, relative to the due importation of some parcels of Goods sent there by Mr. *Johnson Gildart*, was directed to be answered by the Chairman.

—

At a meeting of the Committee, on *Monday*, *July* 24, 1775:

Present: William Smith, in the Chair, Archibald Buchanan, William Buchanan, Andrew Buchanan, Robert Alexander, David McClennan, George Lindenberger, Cornelius Clopper, B. Dickenson, John McClennan, Richard Lemmon, Mayberry Helms, Mark Alexander, Ab. Britton, James Calhoun, Benjamin Griffith, John Moale, John R. Holliday, Samuel Owings, John Merryman, Thomas Harrison, Benjamin Levy, William Richardson, William Lux, Secretary.

The Committee resumed the consideration of the motion relative to *Ashburner & Place* and *Johnson Gildart*, but thought it best to refer it further to *Monday*, the 31st, and then adjourned to the afternoon.

—

The Committee met according to adjournment:

Present: Samuel Purviance, in the Chair, the same Members attended, as, also, Captain Charles Ridgely, David Stewart, John Smith, John Deaver, Charles Ridgely, Jun., Joshua Hall, William Neill, Edward Norwood, Hercules Courtenay, Andrew S. Ennalls, George Woolsey, William Worthington, Nicholas Norwood, Daniel Hughes, William Goodwin, John Boyd, Jeremiah T. Chase, John Cromwell.

Captain *Warring*, of the Ship *Totness*, appeared, and desired liberty to land five Convicts, imported in the said Ship, and consigned to *Ashburner & Place;* but the Committee declined to give any opinion on the matter, as the proceedings against *James Gildart*, who is the owner, are already published.

Mr. *Robert Christie* appeared in behalf of Mr. *James Christie*, and requested that the Guard attending on Mr. *James Christie* might be dismissed on security being given, to the satisfaction of the Committee, for his appearance before the Committee or Provincial Convention, when thereunto required, and that he would not depart the Province without their permission.

Which being debated, it was resolved to accept five Securities, by a majority of twenty-one to fourteen; and, accordingly, the following Security was entered into and signed, viz:

"I do solemnly hereby engage not to depart this Province without the permission and consent of the Committee of Observation for *Baltimore* County, or the Provincial Convention, first had and obtained. As witness my hand, this 24th day of *July*, 1775. "James Christie, Jun.

"Witness: "Robert Alexander,
"Archibald Buchanan."

"We, whose names are hereunto subscribed, do hereby undertake and solemnly engage that *James Christie*, of *Baltimore* Town, shall not depart this Province without the permission and consent of the Committee of Observation for *Baltimore* County, or the Provincial Convention, first had and obtained, but shall stay and abide the determination and sentence that shall or may be pronounced against him by the next Provincial Convention, for the heinous offence committed by him against the community; and in case the said *James Christie* shall depart this Province without such leave, we, and each of us, do hereby voluntarily agree to submit to the same punishment that would have been inflicted on the said *James Christie* if he had not departed. As witness our hands, this 24th day of *July*, 1775.

"Robert Christie, Jun.,
"A. Stenhouse,
"Henry Stevenson,
"John Craig,
"James Jaffray,
"Ebenezer Mackie.

"Witness: W. Smith."

—

At a meeting of the Committee, *July* 31, 1775: Present, Mr. *Samuel Purviance*, Chairman, and fifteen Members.

The question relating to Messrs. *Ashburner & Place*, and Mr. *Johnson Gildart*, was postponed.

At a meeting of the Committee, *August* 7, 1775:

Present: Samuel Purviance, Chairman, William Lux, Secretary, James Sterrett, John Smith, James Calhoun, John Sterrett, Benjamin Levy, Cornelius Clopper, James Cox, Edward Talbot, Abram Vanbibber, David McClennan, William Spear, David Stewart, Benjamin Griffith, Isaac Grist, John McClennan, Barnet Eichelberger, Thomas Jones.

The Committee resumed the consideration of the question relating to Messrs. *Ashburner & Place*, and Mr. *Johnson Gildart*, but there being but few Members present, and the question being of very great importance, it was thought most advisable to refer it to the determination of the Provincial Convention.

—

At a meeting of the Committee, on *Monday*, *August* 14, 1775:

Present: Samuel Purviance, Chairman, George Woolsey, Daniel Hughes, W. Hallock, George Lindenberger, Benjamin Griffith, Cornelius Clopper, James Cox, David McClellan, John McClennan, Benjamin Levy, Richard Lemmon, Isaac Grist, John Boyd.

Captain *Thomas Gerrald*, of the Ship *Dulany*, from *Havre-de-Grace*, reported his cargo, swore, and subscribed.

—

At a meeting of the Committee on *Monday*, *August* 21, 1775: Present, *Samuel Purviance*, Jun., Chairman, and twenty-four Members.

Captain *James Curry*, of the Ship *Rose*, from *Londonderry*, reported his ship, signed, and swore.

The *Maryland* Association was laid before the Committee, and signed by those present according to their Hundreds, and the following persons are appointed to carry the Association to the people for signing:

For Baltimore, West: *George Lindenberger* and *James Cox*.
For Back-River, Lower: *Benjamin Buck* and *Job Garretson*.
For Baltimore Town, East: *Benjamin Griffith*.
For Deptford: *Isaac Grist*.
For Back-River, Upper: *T. C. Deye*, *D. Lux*, *James Cockey*, *Benjamin Nicholson*, and *J. Philpot*.
For Patapsco, Upper: *Zach. McCubbin*, and *Charles Ridgely*, Son of *William*.
For Patapsco, Lower: *Thomas Sollers* and *William Wilkinson*.
For Middle-River, Upper: *Gist Vaughan*, *Benjamin Rogers*, and *Nicholas Merryman*.
For Middle-River, Lower: *Walter Tolley*, Sen., *Ab. Britton*, and *Nicholas Britton*.
For Soldiers' Delight: *T. Gist*, *G. Risteau*, and *J. E. Howard*.
For Middlesex: *T. Rutter*, *M. Helm*, and *Thomas Johnson*.
For Delaware: *John Welsh* and *Rezin Hammond*.
For North: *Jeremiah Johnson*, *Stephen Gill*, Jun., *J. Hall*, and *Elisha Dorsey*.
For Gunpowder, Upper: *Walter Tolley*, Jun., *James Gittings*, and *Jesse Bussey*.
For Mine-Run: *Dixon Stansbury*, Jun., *John Stevenson*, and *Edmund Stansbury*.
For Westminster: *Andrew Buchanan*, *John Moale*, *William Goodwin*, and *J. McClellan*.

—

At a meeting of the Committee of Observation, for *Baltimore* County, on *Monday*, *August* 28, 1775:

Present: William Smith, Vice-Chairman, William Buchanan, John Smith, Robert Alexander, Dr. John Boyd, William Spear, George Woolsey, Dr. William Lyon, James Calhoun, Robert Buchanan, John Philpot, Hercules Courtenay, T. Jones, William Neill, Benjamin Levy, D. Bowley.

Resolved, That the following Notice be published in the *Baltimore* Papers.

"Notice is hereby given, that agreeable to a Resolution of the late Provincial Convention, an Election will be held at the Court-House in *Baltimore* Town, on *Tuesday*, the 12th day of *September* next, at which time the Freeholders, or other Freemen, having a visible estate of forty pounds sterling, or qualified by law to vote for Burgesses, are requested to attend, to elect a Committee of Observation, to consist of thirty-seven of the most discreet and sensible of the said Freemen. And on the said day, and the next, an election will also be held, to choose by ballot, five

of the most discreet and sensible of such Freemen, as aforesaid, to be Delegates for this County, in any Provincial Convention, to be held for this Province, within one year.

"Signed by order of the Committee:

"JEREMIAH T. CHASE, *Secretary.*

"And whereas, the late Convention have *Resolved*, That forty Companies of Minute-Men be enrolled in this Province, and have directed that the Committees of each respective County shall appoint proper persons to inlist men for that purpose, the Committee of *Baltimore* County gives notice that they will sit at the Court-House, on *Monday*, the 4th of *September* next, to empower five persons to enroll five of said Companies, being the proportion appointed to be raised in this County. Any persons who are willing to undertake this business, may apply to the Committee on said day."

At an extra meeting of the Committee on *Wednesday, August* 30, 1775:

Present: William Smith, Vice-Chairman, John Moale, John Boyd, W. Neill, Richard Buchanan, J. Philpot, David Stewart, Benjamin Levy.

The commanding officer of the Independent Company in *Baltimore* Town, gave in a list of the Company to the Committee, which was transmitted to the Council of Safety, agreeable to the direction of the late Convention in such cases.

At a meeting of the Committee, on *Monday, September* 4, 1775:

Present: Samuel Purviance, Jun., Chairman, T. C. Deye, John Moale, William Buchanan, Robert Alexander, Thomas Harrison, Charles Ridgely, D. Lux, Mark Alexander, Thomas Todd, I. Hudson, T. Elliot, James Coekey, J. R. Holliday, Clement Brooks, D. Bowley, James Cox, James Sterrett, James Calhoun, John Smith, Benjamin Levy, William Neill, Hercules Courtenay, J. McClellan, D. Hughes, John Boyd, George Lindenberger, R. Lemmon, Benjamin Griffith, William Goodwin, J. McLure, Cornelius Clopper, William Spear, T. Rutter, Mordecai Gist, John Deaver, David Stewart.

Captain *R. Wallace*, of the Brig *Mary*, from *Bristol;* Captain *George Buchanan*, of the Ship *Eleanor*, from *London;* and Captain *Rogers*, of the Ship *Lord Camden*, for *Liverpool*, severally reported, subscribed and took the Oath required.

Mr. *Frederick Deams* applied to the Committee for an order to enroll a Company of Minute-Men, agreeable to the direction of the late Convention; which was granted to him.

The Committee again met P. M., on the 4th *September*, 1775: Present, the same Members as in the morning.

A Memorial was laid before the Committee by Mr. *Jonathan Hudson*, representing that a new Ship, which he had built at *Anamassick*, on the *Eastern-Shore*, was attempted to be launched on the 20th *August*, but had miscarried therein; that the said vessel being chartered by Mr. *Kelly*, and a cargo of Wheat now purchased by him, and ready to load said vessel; he prayed for indulgence to load said cargo after the 10th of *September*, provided it could not be done sooner.

The Committee having considered the Memorial of Mr. *Hudson*, and the difficulty of his case by the above misfortune, agreed to grant the prayer of his Memorial; and that the said memorialist should be allowed ten working days to load the said ship, after she shall be ready to receive her cargo on board.

Two Memorials were then laid before the Committee by Mr. *Samuel Purviance*, Jun., and Mr. *David Stewart*, setting forth, as by said Memorials will appear, which being taken into consideration,

It was *Resolved*, That the prayers of said Memorials be complied with, under the same restrictions as were allowed to Mr. *Jonathan Hudson* under similar circumstances; and Messrs. *Isaac Grist*, *Abram Vanbibber*, *S. C. Davy*, and *Thomas Elliot*, are appointed to superintend this business in the same manner as in the case of Mr. *Hudson*, and said gentlemen are directed to lay before the Committee, which shall meet on *Monday* next, a true and full account of all such lading as shall be procured for said vessels, before the 10th day of this month.

Information having been given to the Committee by Mr. *Barnet Eichelberger*, that Mr. *Robert Long* had expressed himself very exceptionably relative to the present proceedings, and against the Committees of this County, and mentions the following persons as witnesses: Doctor *William Beard*, Mr. *Williams*, Mr. *Wickham*, and Mr. *G. Hopes.*

It was *Ordered*, That Mr. *Long* and these gentlemen be desired to attend the Committee on *Monday* next.

At a meeting of the Committee, on *Monday, September* 11, 1775: Present, Mr. *Samuel Purviance*, Chairman, and eleven Members.

Captain *Thomas Egger* reported his vessel, the Ship *Charlotte*, from *Newcastle*, upon *Delaware*, subscribed, and swore.

Application having been made to this Committee by Mr. *James Woodfield*, on behalf of the Committee of *Pittsburgh*, for four hundred pounds of Lead,

It was *Resolved*, That Mr. *John Smith* supply with Lead, out of the quantity stored with him, and if there should not be that quantity in his possession, the remainder to be delivered by Mr. *James Calhoun.*

Mr. *Samuel Purviance* reported to the Committee, that the Vessel particularized in his Memorial, was lost when coming round from *Philadelphia* to this Town.

The charge against Mr. *Robert Long* was postponed till some future meeting of this Committee.

Saturday, September 23, 1775.

The Poll for electing a Committee of Observation for this County, (Messrs. *Robert Alexander*, *Jeremiah T. Chase*, *Thomas Harrison*, *John Moale*, and *William Buchanan*, five of the Delegates for this County in the late Provincial Convention, being Judges of the Election,) was this day closed, and the following gentlemen declared duly elected, viz:

John Moale,	Walter Tolley, Jun.,	Thomas Gist, Sen.,
Jeremiah T. Chase,	Darby Lux,	Stephen Cromwell,
James Calhoun,	John Cockey,	Isaac Grist,
Benjamin Nicholson,	William Smith,	Thomas Cockey Deye,
Andrew Buchanan,	William Buchanan,	Mordecai Gist,
Thomas Sollers,	William Lux,	John Stevenson,
John Cradock,	John Boyd,	Ezekiel Towson,
James Gittings,	John Smith,	Jeremiah Johnson,
Robert Alexander,	Z. McCubbin, Jun.,	William Asquith,
Sam'l Purviance, Jr.,	Capt. Chas. Ridgely,	John Egor Howard,
William Wilkinson,	Thomas Harrison,	George Risteau,
Charles Ridgely, Son of William.	Benjamin Griffith,	Abraham Britton—37.
	William Randall,	

And the following gentlemen were chosen Provincial Delegates, to continue for one year, viz: *Robert Alexander*, *Benjamin Nicholson*, *John Moale*, *Walter Tolley*, Jun., *Jeremiah Townley Chase.*

N. B. The Poll was kept open eleven days, to give every Freeholder and Freeman full and sufficient time to vote.

The Committee met at the Court-House, *Monday, October* 9, 1775:

Present: John Moale, Samuel Purviance, James Calhoun, Benjamin Nicholson, Thomas Sollers, John Cradock, James Gittings, Robert Alexander, Walter Tolley, Jun., William Wilkinson, John Cockey, William Buchanan, William Lux, John Boyd, Z. McCubbin, Jun., Thomas Harrison, Benjamin Griffith, Thomas Gist, Sen., Isaac Grist, Mordecai Gist, Ezekiel Towson, Jeremiah Johnson, William Asquith, John E. Howard, John Smith,

Who proceeded to choose Mr. *John Moale*, Chairman, and Mr. *Robert Alexander*, Clerk, for the day.

Messrs. *Ezekiel Towson* and *Jeremiah Johnson* declined acting as Committee-Men, at the same time declaring their intention of not acting on any occasion.

Mr. *Samuel Purviance*, Jun., was elected Chairman; Mr. *William Lux*, Vice-Chairman; Mr. *George Lux*, Secretary; and Mr. *David McMechen*, as Assistant-Secretary, to this Committee during their pleasure.

Mr. *Samuel Purviance*, Jun., *William Lux*, *John Boyd*, *Jeremiah Townley Chase*, and *Robert Alexander*, were elected a Committee of Correspondence.

Messrs. *John Moale*, *Thomas Harrison*, *Thomas Sollers*, *James Calhoun*, *William Asquith*, *Charles Ridgely*, Son of *William*, and *John Egor Howard*, were elected a Committee for Licensing Suits.

Messrs. *Samuel Purviance*, Jun., *John Smith*, *William*

Buchanan, Isaac Grist, and *Benjamin Griffith*, were appointed a Committee to take the Report of all vessels and goods arriving, and to administer the Oath required of all masters of vessels outward bound.

The Enrollment of Captain *Jehu Howell's* Company was rejected, not being agreeable to the directions of the Convention.

The Enrollments of Captain *Benjamin Nicholson's*, Captain *Zachariah McCubbin's*, and Captain *William Cromwell's*, Companies, were presented, and received, as was, also, Captain *James Cox's*.

Mr. *Joseph Britton* applied for liberty to raise a Company of Minute-Men; which was granted.

The Committee then agreed to meet every *Monday* morning, at ten o'clock.

—

At a meeting of the Committee, on *Monday, October* 16, 1775:

Present: Samuel Purviance, Jun., Chairman, William Lux, T. Harrison, John Moale, James Calhoun, William Buchanan, John Smith, Andrew Buchanan, Robert Alexander, Isaac Grist, Thomas Gist, Thomas Sollers, John E. Howard, James Gittings, William Asquith, Darby Lux, Charles Ridgely, Son of William, Z. McCubbin, Jun.

Captain *Benjamin Jones*, of the Schooner *Resolution*, from *Grenada*, and Captain *Thomas Kell*, of the Schooner *Dolphin*, from the same place, reported their cargoes, subscribed, and swore.

Captain *Andrew Buchanan* delivered in to the Committee the Enrollment of a Company of Militia under his command, signed agreeable to the Order of the Convention, which was received.

Upon motion, *Ordered*, That a quantity of Powder and Lead be delivered to the Captains of the Companies that have enrolled agreeable to the Resolves of the late Convention, equal to half a pound of Powder and two pounds of Lead for each man in the Company, and that the same be made up into Cartridges, and returned to the several Captains, to be by them safely kept, and delivered out to the different men in such quantities, and on such occasions, as they, in their discretion, shall think fit.

Resolved, That the Privates of each Company produce to their several Captains on each day of mustering, the number of Cartridges and Balls delivered to them, and, on default, are to pay one Shilling for each and every Cartridge wanting of the quantity delivered out.

A true copy from the Minutes.

Attested by: GEORGE LUX, *Secretary*.

—

The Committee met at the Court-House, *Monday, October* 23, 1775:

Present: Samuel Purviance, Jun., Chairman, John Moale, John Smith, James Calhoun, William Asquith, Benjamin Griffith, John E. Howard, Isaac Grist, William Wilkinson, Thomas Harrison, Walter Tolley, Jun., T. Sollers, John Cradock.

Mr. *Mark Alexander* having applied to the Committee and informed them of his intention to send out a vessel to the *West-Indies*, for a cargo of coarse Salt, and desired to know the opinion of the Committee, whether the regulation of the price of *British* Salt, hitherto made, should be extended to coarse Salt, or whether the importers thereof should be left at liberty to dispose of it as they pleased, the Committee are unanimously of opinion that they ought not to interfere in regulating the prices of such coarse Salt as may be imported.

The Enrollment of Captain *Thomas Rutter's* Company was presented by Mr. *John E. Howard*, and accepted.

Attested: GEORGE LUX, *Secretary*.

—

The Committee met at the Court-House, *Monday, October* 30, 1775: Present, Mr. *Samuel Purviance*, Jun., Chairman, and eleven Members.

Application being made to know the opinion of this Committee, whether the regulation of the price of *British* Salt, hitherto made, should extend to coarse Salt, or whether the importers thereof should be left at liberty to dispose of it as they please, the Committee are unanimously of opinion that they ought not to interfere in regulating the price of such coarse Salt as may be imported.

The Council of Safety having directed the several Committees of Observation to return the Enrollments of the Militia in the different Counties:

Ordered, That the several Companies whose Enrollments are not returned to the Committee, be forthwith returned, with Certificates of the choice of Officers, that the same may be transmitted to the Council of Safety.

The Enrollments of Captains *Benjamin Nicholson* and *James Bosley*, Jun., Companies were delivered to the Committee, and accepted.

A copy attested by: GEORGE LUX, *Secretary*.

—

The Committee met at the Court-House, *Monday, November* 6, 1775:

Present: Samuel Purviance, Chairman, William Lux, Robert Alexander, John Moale, James Calhoun, John Smith, Thomas Sollers, Jeremiah Townley Chase, Benjamin Griffiths, John E. Howard, Isaac Grist, William Buchanan, Thomas Harrison, John Boyd, Charles Ridgely, of William, Abraham Britton, Andrew Buchanan.

The following Letter was laid before the Committee:

"Monday 23 1775.

"GENTLEMEN: This day I came down to give my Answer agreeable to Province) I dont chuse to Act as a Committee man my first Reason is That my Appointment was only by fifty or sixty secondly the Polls were not Closed agreeable to the Resolve of the Convention, Thirdly as I am well Convinced the former Committee broke the Convention Resolve in Regard to the purchase of Powder, and some of them sold their Goods for more than Resolved by the Convention, and as some of those Gentlemen are now on the Committee; and whenever I attended I always found a Majority of the Committee then attending for looking over the Advantages taken of nine Tenths of the Inhabitants of this County if ever I was to be appointed a Committee man I should chuse to act on Oath and that every one should who acted with me. N. B. I desire my Reasons may be Recorded.

"I am Gentn. yrs. &c., CHAS. RIDGELY.

"To the Gentlemen setting as Committee men for *Baltimore* County."

Upon motion, *Ordered*, That the above Letter be (agreeable to Captain *Ridgely's* request) recorded verbatim and literatim, and so published in the *Baltimore* Papers.

The Retailers of *British* Salt having advanced the price beyond the limits formerly allowed by this Committee, and it having occasioned a great murmuring among the people, the Committee, therefore, are induced to take the same into consideration, and, after allowing a storage and loss of measure equal to so bulky and wasting a commodity, do recommend it to the venders not to sell the same above the rate of four Shillings per bushel.

A copy: GEORGE LUX, *Secretary*.

—

At a meeting of the Committee, *Monday, November* 13, 1775: Were present, *Samuel Purviance*, Chairman, and fourteen Members.

The Committee, at their last meeting, having recommended it to the Retailers of *British* Salt not to sell the same for more than four Shillings per bushel, do now give notice, that if any higher price has since been given, the purchasers are desired to call on those from whom they have bought for the overplus, and if any sellers refuse to refund, then to complain to the Committee:

Who do *Resolve*, That if any sellers refuse to comply with the requisition, they shall be immediately published as enemies to their country.

The following is a List of the Candidates voted for at the Election held at *Baltimore* Town, on the 12th *September*, and continued open for twelve days, which is published by order of the Committee:

John Moale, P. C.,	124	C. Ridgely, Son of Wm.,	91
Jeremiah T. Chase, P. C.,	110	Walter Tolley, Jr., P. C.,	88
James Calhoun,	110	Darby Lux,	87
Benj. Nicholson, P. C.,	106	John Cockey,	87
Thomas Sollers,	100	William Smith,	85
Andrew Buchanan,	101	William Buchanan,	83
John Cradock,	98	William Lux,	82
James Gittings,	97	John Boyd,	82
Robert Alexander, P. C.,	93	John Smith,	81
Samuel Purviance,	92	Z. McCubbin, Jun.,	80
William Wilkinson,	92	Captain Charles Ridgely,	79

Thomas Harrison,	77	John Forster,	20
Benjamin Griffith,	77	John Howel,	20
William Randal,	72	Mark Alexander,	20
Thomas Gist, Sen.,	71	Hercules Courtenay,	19
Stephen Cromwell,	68	Absalom Price,	19
Isaac Grist,	66	Robert Moore,	19
T. C. Deye,	66	Archibald Buchanan,	18
Mordecai Gist,	66	Abraham Vanbibber,	18
J. Stevenson,	65	Thomas Johnson,	17
Ezekiel Towson,	62	Nathan Cromwell,	17
Jeremiah Johnson,	59	John Ellicott,	16
William Asquith,	56	Mayberry Helms,	16
John Eager Howard,	55	Nathan Smith,	15
George Risteau,	54	William Spear,	15
Abraham Britton,	52	Walter Toltey, Sen.,	14
		Joshua Brown,	13
Charles Ridgely, of John,	50	Daniel Hughes,	13
Richard Cromwell,	48	James Sterrett,	13
George Lindenberger,	47	Barnet Eichelberger,	11
Henry Stevenson,	46	Jesse Bussy,	11
John Merryman,	46	Philip Rogers,	9
David McLellan,	46	Sam'l Owings, of Sam'l,	9
Thomas Rutter,	46	David Shields,	9
Nicholas Britton,	45	Rezin Hammond,	8
Micajah Merryman,	43	Benjamin Levy,	7
John Robert Holliday,	39	G. Goldsmith Presbury,	6
George Woolsey,	37	J. Gorsuch, of Thomas,	5
Benjamin Buck,	37	Isaac Vanbibber,	5
James Cox,	34	Thomas Jones,	5
William Goodwin,	34	Job Garretson,	5
Richard Richards,	33	John Deaver,	4
Samuel Worthington,	33	William Cromwell,	4
Nicholas Merryman,	33	William Lynch,	4
Josias Bowen,	33	Robert Cummins,	3
Richard Johns,	31	Benjamin Laurence,	3
Richard Lemmon,	28	Joseph Cromwell,	2
John Sterrett,	27	Amon Butler,	2
Joshua Stevenson,	25	Gerrard Hopkins,	2
William Galbraith,	25	Thomas Lloyd,	2
James Edwards,	24	John Markey,	1
John McLellan,	23	Shadrach Murray,	1
Brit. Dickenson,	22	Robert Purviance,	1
James Bosley,	21	William Neill,	1
Thomas Todd,	21	Charles Gorsuch,	1
Gist Vaughan,	20		

The following are the persons voted for as Provincial Delegates:

Robert Alexander,	131	William Lux,	4
Benjamin Nicholson,	126	Samuel Worthington,	4
John Moale,	112	Thomas Gist, Sen.,	3
Walter Tolley, Jun.,	98	Samuel Owings,	3
Jeremiah Townley Chase,	87	James Gittings,	2
		George Risteau,	2
Captain Charles Ridgely,	76	John Boyd,	2
Thomas Cockey Deye,	68	Jeremiah Johnson,	1
Thomas Harrison,	64	James Calhoun,	1
William Smith,	54	John Teefer,	1
Andrew Buchanan,	23	Captain Galbraith,	1
Samuel Purviance,	21	Captain Howell,	1
William Buchanan,	15	Charles Ridgely, of John,	1
John Cradock,	8	Rezin Hammond,	1
Darby Lux,	8	Thomas Chase,	1
John Smith,	7		

The Continental Congress having recommended that adventures be made for procuring Arms and Ammunition, and it being necessary that a particular Committee be appointed to superintend the loading:

Resolved, That Messrs. *Samuel Purviance*, *John Smith*, *William Buchanan*, *Benjamin Griffith*, *Isaac Grist*, *Thomas Gist*, Sen., and *Darby Lux*, be a Committee for that purpose, and that they be on oath to keep their proceedings secret.

A copy attested by: GEORGE LUX, *Secretary*.

—

At a meeting of the Committee, on *Monday*, *November* 20, 1775:

Present: John Moale, Chairman, pro tempore, John Smith, James Calhoun, William Wilkinson, Charles Ridgely, of William, Abraham Britton, Zachariah McCubbin, Jun., William Buchanan, Robert Alexander, Isaac Grist, John E. Howard, Thomas Gist, Benjamin Griffith.

The Committee appoint *Robert Alexander*, Esq., to receive from the *Western-Shore* Branch of the Council of Safety, the sum of four hundred and twelve Pounds fifteen Shillings, being the sum subscribed for Arms, Ammunition, &c., actually laid out and expended.

Upon motion, *Resolved*, That it is the opinion of this Committee that such persons as have quantities of Salt by them, ought to retail the same immediately, notwithstanding any verbal contract or other agreement before made for it; and it is further the opinion of the Committee, that all persons holding quantities of Salt, and refusing to retail the same as aforesaid, ought to be published, and looked upon as enemies to the liberties of *America*.

Ordered, That the same be published.

Messrs. *Isaac Grist*, *Zachariah McCubbin*, *William Wilkinson*, and *Benjamin Griffith*, or any three of them, are appointed a Committee to examine the several Warehouses where they suspect *British* Salt is stored, and immediately report the quantities to the President, or Vice-President of this Committee.

A copy attested by: GEORGE LUX, *Secretary*.

—

At a meeting of the Committee, *November* 27, 1775:

Present: Samuel Purviance, Chairman, John Moale, John Boyd, John Smith, Darby Lux, Robert Alexander, W. Wilkinson, William Buchanan, Benjamin Griffith, W. Asquith, James Calhoun, Isaac Grist, Thomas Sollers.

Application being made to this Committee by Mr. *Joshua Hilton*, to load his Sloop with Flour, &c., for *New-England*, saying that they were in great want of such Provisions,

Resolved, That the Committee of Correspondence do immediately write to the *New-England* Delegates to know whether Provisions are really scarce in those Colonies.

A copy from the Minutes:

GEORGE LUX, *Secretary*.

N. B. *David McMechen* attended at the meetings of the Committee from *November* 6 to *December* 18, inclusive, *George Lux* being absent out of Town.

—

At a meeting of the Committee, *December* 4, 1775:

Present: Samuel Purviance, Jun., Chairman, John Moale, John Boyd, Mordecai Gist, T. Gist, John Smith, Isaac Grist, Darby Lux, Thomas Sollers, William Buchanan, Benjamin Griffith, William Asquith, Charles Ridgely, of William, James Calhoun, George Risteau, John Cradock, Abraham Britton.

Application having been made to the Committee by *Lawrence Callohoun* and *Robert Clark*, for liberty to transport to *Annapolis*, by water, some Beef and Sheep for the use of the inhabitants of that city during the sitting of the Convention, a certificate was granted for eight quarters of Beef and twelve Sheep to the said *Callohoun* and *Clark*, to transport the same, they, and the skipper of the boat, making oath that they will land the same at *Annapolis*, and procure a certificate of such landing from the Committee of that place, to be returned to this Committee at a future meeting.

The Committee having received from the Committee of *Philadelphia*, a Letter from *Daniel Chamier*, Esq., Commissary of Stores at *Boston*, with a Commission and other papers directed for *Robert Long*, appointing him Preventive Officer, Weigher, and Guager, for *Baltimore* Town; on consideration thereof,

It was *Resolved*, To transmit the said Commission and Papers to the Convention at *Annopolis*, to know their opinion whether the said Commission should be delivered to the said *Robert Long*.

Ordered, That the copies of the Enrollments of the Militia Companies that have been delivered in to the Committee, be transmitted to the Provincial Convention.

The Committee appointed Messrs. *Samuel Purviance*, *John Boyd*, and *Darby Lux*, to prepare, against *Monday* next, a Memorial, representing to the Convention the necessity of fortifying *Baltimore*.

GEORGE LUX, *Secretary*.

—

At a meeting of the Committee, *Monday*, *December* 11, 1775:

Present: William Lux, Chairman, John Smith, Thomas Gist, Isaac Grist, William Buchanan, William Wilkinson, Abraham Britton, John E. Howard, Benjamin Griffith, William Asquith, James Calhoun, Thomas Sollers, John Boyd.

The following is a copy of a Letter from the *Massachusetts-Bay* Delegates in Congress to this Committee, on the subject of shipping Flour to the *New-England* Governments:

"Philadelphia, December 4, 1775.

"SIR: We acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 27th *November*, wrote by order of your Committee, upon the subject of permits for shipping provisions to *New-England*. In reply to which, we observe, that the *New-England* Colonies stand constantly in need of supplies of bread, flour, and corn, from your country, more especially the Colony of the *Massachusetts-Bay*, where the Continental Army are now fixed. The exportation of the arti-

cles before-mentioned ought to be under a very strict regulation, to prevent any misapplication of what may be intended for our friends there. We submit it to your consideration, whether it would not be advisable to require either a certificate from some Committee of Inspection in those Governments, and, where such certificate cannot be conveniently obtained, and the people applying for such permits are residents of *New-England*, or of your Colony, to require the shipper, or the master of the vessel in which the provisions are to be exported, to give bond that they shall be landed or delivered to our friends in those Governments, and to oblige the master to make oath, that he will use his best endeavours, that they shall be so landed and delivered.

"We are, with great respect, your most humble servants,

"John Hancock,
"Thomas Cushing,
"Samuel Adams,
"John Adams.

"To *Samuel Purviance*, Jun."

Mr. *Mark Alexander* having applied to the Committee for liberty to load the Sloop *Grampus*, *John Brackett*, master, with Provision for the use of the Colonies, to *Massachusetts-Bay*, the same was granted, on his entering in a bond with said master in double of the value of the cargo, that he will land the same, and produce a certificate thereof from a Committee of the port where it was landed, to this Committee, and that the usual Oath be taken by them.

Mr. *Mark Alexander*, on behalf of *George Welsh* and *Elisha Thatcher*, made application for permission to load the Schooner *Peggy*, *John Lathrop*, master, for the same parts as above; which was granted on the above condition.

Messrs. *John Philpot* and *William Sterrett* were summoned to appear before this Committee, to give information against Mr. *Samuel Carson*, Sen., merchant in *Philadelphia*, for speaking disrespectfully of this Committee. They appeared accordingly, and declared that they were in company with Mr. *Carson*, in *Philadelphia*, and heard him say, "he had been informed while he was at *Baltimore*, that a quantity of Tea had been imported at *Baltimore*, and that he was informed it was not to be now produced, and that a parcel of Handkerchiefs had come to *Baltimore*, which had been directed to be destroyed, and that only about a dozen had been burnt, and the remainder secreted and sold."

The Committee, looking on it as an imputation on their character, directed the Committee of Correspondence to write to the Committee of Correspondence at *Philadelphia*, to desire Mr. *Carson* to produce his author.

The same information was given by Messrs. *Carvel Hall* and *Aquila Hall*, of *Harford* County, respecting Mr. *Carson*.

A copy from the Minutes.

Attested by: George Lux, *Secretary*.

—

The Committee met, *Monday*, *December* 18, 1775:

Present: Samuel Purviance, Chairman, Robert Alexander, William Buchanan, Thomas Harrison, Benjamin Nicholson, Darby Lux, Isaac Grist, John Smith, Thomas Gist, Benjamin Griffith, John Cradock, William Wilkinson, William Asquith, John E. Howard, Thomas Sollers.

Captain *William McNeil*, of the Sloop *Ranger*, from *Turk's Island*, and addressed to *Abraham Vanbibber*, reported his cargo, subscribed, and took the Oath in such cases required, with an exception of fifteen hogsheads Molasses, which were imported from *Grenada*, and are ordered to be stored under the inspection of Mr. *Isaac Grist*, who is to keep the key, and in case Captain *McNeil* departs the Province, he engages to export the Molasses, or in some other measure dispose of it agreeable to the Committee.

Captain *Jacob Small*, of the Sloop *Rosannah*, from *Barbadoes*, and addressed to Mr. *Thomas McCobb*, reported his cargo, subscribed, and swore; and Mr. *McCobb* is desired to attend this Committee at their first meeting after his arrival in Town.

Captains *John Rogers* and *Adam Muir*, both of *Accomack* County, in *Virginia*, having applied for permits, they were ordered not to leave this port till further orders; and Captain *Nathaniel Smith* is ordered to take away their sails, and keep them stored till further orders from the Committee.

Mr. *Richard Taylor* came, and reported his cargo, which he imported in Captain *Isaac Vanbibber*, and offered to take the Oath, which was accepted as satisfactory.

The Committee having taken into consideration the defenceless state of *Baltimore*, and the dangers to which it is, in its present state, exposed, came to a resolution, that until some other measure be taken for the defence of the Town, by the Convention or Council of Safety, the Guns which are in Town be cleaned and put in order for service, and that proper Carriages for mounting the same be immediately procured to be made.

Ordered, That Messrs. *William Buchanan*, *Jesse Hollingsworth*, *Isaac Grist*, and *Benjamin Griffith*, give directions for cleaning the said Guns, and making suitable Carriages for them.

Ordered, That a Pilot-Boat be immediately stationed at *Whetstone-Point*; that the said Boat be armed with two swivel Guns and six Muskets, and manned with six men; that the Officer commanding the Boat bring to all vessels, and that he do not permit any vessel to sail out without a permit in writing, signed by three Members of this Committee, which number will attend every morning from ten to twelve o'clock, (*Sundays* excepted,) where all masters of vessels must repair immediately after their arrival, and report their cargo, &c., and they must bring certificates from some Committee, Council of Safety, or Provincial Convention.

Ordered, That the following Resolve of the Provincial Convention be entered in the Minutes:

"In Provincial Convention, December 11, 1775.

"*Resolved*, That no Boat, or other Vessel, belonging to this Province, go out of this Province without a License in writing from this Convention, the Council of Safety hereafter to be appointed, or from some Committee of Observation, in which the particular place such Vessel or Boat shall be designed to go to, shall be expressed in all Licenses granted by the Committees of Observation. And if any such Boat or Vessel shall be navigated beyond the limits of this Province without such License, or if, after having obtained such License, the skipper thereof shall, without absolute and inevitable necessity, go to, or touch at, any place out of this Province, other than that mentioned in such Licence, or shall carry any person or Letter, of which he shall not give previous notice to such Committee, or shall bring back any person or Letter, of which he shall not give notice to some Committee of Observation, as soon as may be after his return, such skipper, and all other persons accessary to such misbehaviour, may be punished by imprisonment; but it is understood that this Resolution is not to prohibit crossing *Potomack*, although the Boats or Vessels employed or used therefor should go up the creeks or arms of *Potomack-River* making into *Virginia*, or to prohibit the passing and repassing at the Ferry on *Pocomoke-River*.

"Signed by order: "G. Duvall, *Clerk*."

Messrs. *Isaac Grist*, *Benjamin Griffith*, and *George Woolsey*, or any two of them, are appointed to hire and contract for the said Boat.

The Committee, considering the peculiar situation of the Vessels arming in this Port, and the necessity that the same should be kept as private as possible,

Ordered, That where sufficient reasons appear to the Committee, that the permission to the Vessels trading in this Bay will be productive of any ill consequence, in such case the Committee detain such Vessel, or Vessels, from sailing.

A copy: George Lux, *Secretary*.

—

At a meeting of the Committee, *Tuesday*, *December* 19, 1775:

Present: Samuel Purviance, Jun., Chairman, Thomas Harrison, William Buchanan, John Smith, Isaac Grist, Benjamin Griffith, William Asquith, James Calhoun, John Boyd.

The Committee, considering the danger that might arise by too extensive a liberty being granted to Vessels passing and repassing to and from this Port,

*

Do *Resolve*, That no Vessel whatever be permitted to proceed from this Port, except upon publick business, further than the River *Patuxent*, on the *Western-Shore*, and the River of *Great-Choptank*, on the *Eastern-Shore*, till the Vessels now arming in this Port be ready to sail.

The following Oath was appointed to be taken by all Masters of Vessels to and from this Port:

"You A. B., do solemnly make oath, upon the Holy Evangels of Almighty *God*, that the manifest now given in is a true account of the goods taken in on board your vessel; that you will not proceed with the vessel now under your command, during the present trip, any lower down the bay than *Patuxent*, on the *Western*, or *Great-Choptank*, on the *Eastern-Shore*, nor dispose or sell any of the goods now shipped on board your vessel, to any person who, you suspect, may carry the same to Lord *Dunmore*, the *British* vessels-of-war, or to any other persons whatever, with design of conveying such letters or intelligence."

A true copy from the Minutes:

GEORGE LUX, *Clerk*.

—

At a meeting of the Committee, *Baltimore*, *December* 26, 1775:

Present: Samuel Purviance, Chairman, William Lux, Isaac Grist, Thomas Gist, William Buchanan, Benjamin Griffith, James Calhoun, William Asquith, Thomas Sollers, John Smith, John Boyd.

The Committee, taking into consideration the severity of the weather, and the particular hardships arising from detaining Vessels agreeable to the Resolves of this Committee, passed the 19th instant,

Do *Resolve*, That the said Resolve be rescinded.

The Oath appointed on *Tuesday* last to be taken by all Masters of Vessels to whom Permits for leaving this Port are granted, was cancelled, and the following substituted in its stead:

Oath.—"You A. B., do make oath, that the manifest now given in is a just and true account of the goods taken in, or intended to be taken on board your vessel; that you will not dispose of or sell any of the goods now shipped on board your vessel, to any person, or persons, who, you have reason to suspect, will carry the same to Lord *Dunmore*, or any *British* vessel-of-war, nor will convey any passengers, letters, or intelligence, to Lord *Dunmore*, the *British* vessels-of-war, or to any other person whatsoever, with design of conveying such letters or intelligence."

The following is a copy of the Permission from the Continental Congress to *Jonathan Hudson:*

"In Congress, December 11, 1775.

"The Committee, to whom the Petition of *Jonathan Hudson* was referred, reported their opinion in certain Resolutions, which being read, were agreed to, as follows:

"*Resolved*, That so much of said Petition as prays for permission to export the said Cargo to any place, other than the Islands of *Great Britain*, *Ireland*, *Jersey*, *Guernsey*, *Sark*, *Alderney*, or *Man*, or the *West-India Islands*, is reasonable.

"*Resolved*, That so much of said Petition as prays for further permission, is unreasonable.

"*Resolved*, That the said Petitioner give Bond, with sufficient security, to the Chairman of the Committee of the Town of *Baltimore*, under a penalty of double the value of the said Cargo, to export the said Cargo to some place, other than the said Islands of *Great Britain*, *Ireland*, *Jersey*, *Guernsey*, *Sark*, *Alderney*, *Man*, and the Islands of the *West-Indies*, and within six months after the said exportation, to produce to the said Chairman a certificate of the Port to which the said Cargo shall have been shipped, authenticated under the hands of two merchants of known character and reputation, residing in the same Port, and that on executing such Bond, the said Chairman sign a Permit to the said Petitioner, allowing him to export the said Cargo.

"Extract from the Minutes:

"CHARLES THOMSON, *Secretary*."

Upon motion, *Ordered*, by this Committee, That Mr. *George England*, the Doorkeeper, be allowed five Pounds for his attendance since *March* till this time, and that the same be paid out of the Moneys remaining in the hands of Mr. *Calhoun*, and that the Chairman apply to Mr. *Calhoun* for said Money.

Ordered, That the Armed Boat employed by the Committee for preventing the departure of vessels from this Port without permission, be discharged from further service; and that Messrs. *William Lux* and *Samuel Purviance*, Jun., pay Captain *Hanson*, for the hire of said Boat and hands for the time they have been employed; the Committee agreeing that if the said charge is not allowed by the publick in the Accounts of the Armed Vessels now fitting out, the said Account shall be paid to them out of the Moneys in Mr. *Calhoun's* hands.

GEORGE LUX, *Secretary*.

—

At a meeting of the Committee, *January* 1, 1776:

Present: Samuel Purviance, Jun., Chairman, William Buchanan, Thomas Harrison, John E. Howard, James Calhoun, Thomas Sollers, William Asquith, John Smith, John Boyd, Isaac Grist.

Upon motion, *Resolved*, That *Adam Muir*, of *Accomack* County, be furnished with a Permit to leave this Port.

A Petition from *Willlam Jacobs*, of *Fell's Point*, Sailmaker, was then laid before the Committee, and ordered to lie on the table.

A copy from the Minutes:

GEORGE LUX, *Secretary*.

—

At a meeting of the Committee, *January* 8, 1776:

Present: John Smith, Chairman, pro tem., Thomas Harrison, William Buchanan, Charles Ridgely, of William, William Wilkinson, Thomas Sollers, William Asquith, John Cradock, James Calhoun, Benjamin Griffith, John E. Howard, Abraham Britton, John Cockey, Darby Lux, Isaac Grist, Thomas Gist, David McMechen, Secretary.

Application being made by Captain *Rutter* for the Powder and Lead, agreeable to the Resolve of the 16th *October*, to be delivered out to the Companies agreeable to the Resolves of the Provincial Convention, Captain *Buchanan* was desired to deliver it.

The Committee taking into consideration the following Resolve of the Provincial Convention, viz:

"In Provincial Convention, Annapolis, January 5, 1776.

"*Resolved*, That the several Committees of Observation purchase the whole of the quantity of Sulphur in their respective Counties, provided it can be had at six pence, per pound, and that they transmit the same, with an account thereof, as soon as may be, to Messrs. *William Lux* and *Daniel Bowly*, of *Baltimore* County, and that the Committees of Observation be empowered to draw on the Treasurer of their respective Shores for so many of the Bills of Credit of this Province as may be wanted, as well for the purposes aforesaid, as for any expense to be incurred in removing the Sulphur to *Baltimore* Town.

"Extract from the Minutes: "G. DUVALL, *Clerk*."

Baltimore, November 10, 1775.

Permission is granted to Mr. *William Neill*, Merchant, of *Baltimore*, to export to the foreign *West-Indies*, four hundred and one barrels Flour, twenty-four barrels Bread, and two thousand Staves, the said *William Neill* having agreed to lay out the produce of the same in the purchase of Arms, Ammunition, Lead, Sulphur, or Saltpetre, if to be had, which articles, (if imported,) are to be first offered to the Council of Safety of this Province; but if the said articles cannot be procured, then the said *William Neill* agrees to import *Dutch* Osnaburghs, low priced Linens, coarse Woollens, Drugs, or Salt, the same not being the manufacture or produce of *Great Britain* or *Ireland*.

Testis: ROBERT ALEXANDER.

Upon motion, *Resolved*, That no person shall, after the publication hereof, and under any pretence or direction whatever, presume to load any Vessel, or, after being loaded, shall attempt to depart this Port without proper Permits from this Committee, as they shall answer to the contrary.

Ordered, That the above be published in the Papers.

—

At a meeting of the Committee, *January* 15, 1776:

Present: William Lux, Chairman, Thomas Harrison, Benjamin Nicholson, William Buchanan, W. Wilkinson, John Smith, Isaac Grist,

John Boyd, John E. Howard, Benjamin Griffith, W. Asquith, James Calhoun, Thomas Sollers, John Cockey.

Information being laid before the Committee that Captain *Forsythe* had sailed without first obtaining a Permit from the Committee, Mr. *John Cornthwait*, the owner of the vessel, was then sent for, but, as he declared that he had always thought Captain *Forsythe* had such a Permit, the offence was overlooked.

Information being made to this Committee, that Captain *Martin*, of the Brig *Friendship*, was loading without any Permit being obtained from the Council of Safety or Provincial Convention,

It is *Resolved*, That such Vessel be stopped from further loading until such points are properly cleared, and Captain *Grist* is charged with the execution of this Resolve.

GEORGE LUX, *Secretary*.

—

The Committee met, *Monday*, *January* 22, 1776:

Present: Samuel Purviance, Jun., Chairman, William Lux, John Smith, John Moale, Darby Lux, Thomas Harrison, Andrew Buchanan, Charles Ridgely, of William, A. Britton, William Buchanan, James Calhoun, Benjamin Griffith, Thomas Sollers, W. Asquith, Isaac Grist, John Boyd.

Messrs. *R. & A. McKim* having applied to this Committee for liberty to ship a cargo of Provisions to some Port of *New-England*, in a Sloop lately arrived in this Port from *Nantucket*, commanded by Captain *Seth Paddock*, this Committee do permit the said *Robert & Alexander McKim* to load said vessel, on these express conditions: That the said Captain *Paddock* shall not proceed in said vessel, and that she shall be put under the command of a master, who shall be approved of by this Committee, the said *R. & A. McKim* also giving security that the said vessel shall not proceed to any port or place prohibited by the Resolves of the Congress.

Mr. *Thomas Ewing* made application to the Committee for permission to load the Schooner *John*, *Daniel Merchant*, master, lately arrived in this Port, for *Salem*, in *New-England*, with a cargo of Flour and Corn. At the same time, a Certificate from the Committee of *Gloucester*, in *New-England*, and a Letter from Major *Richard Carey*, were produced, which being deemed satisfactory, a permission was granted to Mr. *Ewing* to load said vessel.

Captain *William McNeil* applied to the Committee for permission to take in a cargo of Provisions for *New-England*, on condition of the shipper of said Provision giving sufficient security that said Vessel shall not proceed to any port or place prohibited by the Resolves of the Continental Congress, which application is granted.

Application being made to the Committee by Mrs. *Button* for liberty to carry her Servants, Negroes, and Household Furniture, in the Schooner *Fanny*, for *Barbadoes*, with a sufficiency of Provisions and Water for said voyage,

Resolved, That she be permitted to depart in said Vessel, and that she have liberty to take in necessaries sufficient for said voyage, an account of which shall be delivered in by her and the Master of the Vessel, upon oath, with an account of what Household Furniture she carries, and the names and number of the Servants and Negroes which she intends to take with her.

Mr. *Abraham Britton* having informed the Committee that a certain *David Thomas*, (who lives in his neighbourhood,) being several times invited by him to enroll in a Company of Militia, and sign the Association, had constantly refused so to do; that last *Saturday* he had applied to the said *David Thomas* once more to enroll in the Militia, which he refusing to do, Mr. *Britton* asked his reasons for it; to which said *Thomas* replied, he was advised by several gentlemen in *Baltimore* Town not to enroll or sign any paper; being asked for their names, he answered, by *George Priestman*.

Ordered, That the said *David Thomas* be summoned to attend the Committee at their meeting on *Monday* next.

GEORGE LUX, *Secretary*.

—

The Committee met, *Monday*, *January* 29, 1776:

Present: Samuel Purviance, Jun., Chairman, William Lux, John Moale, John Smith, John Boyd, Thomas Harrison, William Buchanan, William Wilkinson, Charles Ridgely, of William, J. T. Chase, Thomas Sollers, Isaac Grist, A. Britton, James Calhoun, Benjamin Griffith, W. Asquith, John Cockey.

A Petition from numbers of the Shoemakers of *Baltimore* Town was laid before the Committee, who consider it as not within their department; therefore, they recommend it to the subscribers to accommodate matters with their journeymen.

Upon motion, *Resolved*, *unanimously*, That Messrs. *Samuel Purviance*, *Isaac Grist*, *Benjamin Griffith*, *William Buchanan*, and *Thomas Harrison*, be a Committee to devise and point out to the Council of Safety the best modes for fortifying and defending *Baltimore* Town, and to make out an Estimate of the expenses of each.

Information being lodged against Mr. *James Moore*, of *Gunpowder*, for refusing to take Money issued by the Provincial Convention, tendered to him by Mr. *Nathaniel Britton*,

Resolved, That Messrs. *Moore* and *Britton* be summoned to attend on *Monday* next.

GEORGE LUX, *Secretary*.

—

The Committee met, *Monday*, *February* 5, 1776:

Present: Samuel Purviance, Jun., Chairman, William Lux, John Smith, John Moale, Isaac Grist, William Buchanan, Andrew Buchanan, Thomas Harrison, Charles Ridgely, of William, Jeremiah T. Chase, Thomas Gist, Thomas Sollers, Abraham Britton, John E. Howard, James Calhoun, William Asquith, Benjamin Griffith, George Lux, Secretary.

Mr. *John Moale* produced, in cash, four hundred and twelve Pounds fifteen Shillings, which sum he received from the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore*, being so much allowed this Committee by order of the Convention, to repay the Subscribers for the purchase of Arms and Ammunition, out of which the following sums were paid to the following persons, viz:

To *William Spear*, - - - -	£112	5	0
To *Thomas Harrison*, - - - -	10	0	0
To *Benjamin Griffith*, - - - -	14	6	10
To *Alexander Donaldson*, - - -	5	10	0
To *John Smith*, - - - - - -	8	0	0
To *John Egor Howard*, - - -	30	0	0
To *Andrew Buchanan*, - - - -	89	9	6
To do. for *Edward Talbot*, - -	23	9	0
To do. for *James Croxall*, - -	19	5	0
To do. for *Jesse Hollingsworth*, -	2	10	0
To *William Lux*, - - - - - -	13	3	0
To *Black & McConnell*, - - -	2	9	3
To *Thomas Usher*, - - - - -	11	9	11
To *Walter Roe*, - - - - - -	2	0	0
To *Philip Graybill*, - - - - -	3	12	4
To *Goodwin & Russell*, - - -	3	5	10

Mr. *Andrew Buchanan* produced his account of Money paid for Powder and Lead, on which a balance of ten Shillings and six Pence remained due from him, which he paid in.

Captain *William Chase*, of the Sloop *John*, applied for permission to load said Sloop for *Rhode-Island*, or *Dartmouth-Bay*; which was granted him, on *William Spear* and *Benjamin Griffith* becoming security.

Captain *William Johnson*, of the Schooner . . . . , applied for liberty to load said vessel with Flour for *Northampton* County, in *Virginia*, which was refused, as he brought no certificate from their Committee, and it does not appear that any Troops are ordered to that County, which was the reason assigned, in a Letter to *Lux & Bowly*, for sending for the Flour, but as it appears that he has bought half a ton of Iron, he is permitted to carry it down, on reporting his cargo as heretofore agreed on.

Mr. *John Moale* is unanimously elected Treasurer, and the balance of sixty-two Pounds nine Shillings and ten Pence, was paid into his hands.

Upon motion, *Resolved*, That the permission granted to Messrs. *Robert & Alexander McKim* on the 22d ultimo, be cancelled, as it appears to this Committee that they have not concluded any bargain with Captain *Paddock*.

A copy of this Resolve is ordered to be delivered to Messrs. *McKims* by the Secretary.

Messrs. *Lux & Bowly* having produced a Certificate from the Convention to export the Produce of this Province to the amount of one hundred and sixty-eight Pounds

fifteen Shillings, and requested liberty to export the same in Lumber, in the Schooner *Resolution, William Wand*, master; which was granted.

They also produced an Order from the Committee of Safety, for shipping one hundred barrels superfine Flour in the Pilot-Boat *Chatham*, on account of the Province, for which they obtained permission from the Committee.

Whereas, the Committee appointed at the last meeting to devise and point out the most eligible modes for Fortifying and defending this Town, did, on *Saturday* last, report to Messrs. *Samuel Purviance*, Jun., *William Lux, John Moale, John Smith, William Buchanan, Isaac Grist, John Boyd, Benjamin Griffith, William Asquith, Thomas Harrison*, and *James Calhoun*, (Members of this Committee, and collected together for this purpose,) that, in their opinion, the sum of seven thousand sixty-three Pounds six Shillings and eight Pence, was requisite for carrying their plan properly into execution; and the same being referred to the Council of Safety, they declared that they were only permitted to expend the sum of six thousand two hundred Pounds for placing obstructions in the channel, and putting *Baltimore* Town in a posture of defence, if such a scheme should appear to them practicable for such a sum. As it is of the utmost consequence that this Town should be fortified as soon as possible, Messrs. *Samuel Purviance, William Lux, Andrew Buchanan, John Moale, Jeremiah Townley Chase, James Calhoun, Thomas Harrison, Benjamin Griffith, Isaac Grist, John Smith, John Boyd, William Asquith*, and *William Buchanan*, acting Members of this Committee, did, at the same time, enter into bond with the Honourable *Daniel of St. Thomas Jenifer, Charles Carroll*, Barrister, *James Tilghman*, and *John Hall*, Esq., acting Members of the Council of Safety of this Province, for the purposes therein mentioned.

The Committee do, therefore, heartily approve of the conduct of the above named gentlemen, and will, if the next Convention does not allow a further sum for fortifying the Town, cheerfully assist and contribute all in their power for so laudable an end, but the gentlemen who entered into bond, are considered as solely invested with the power of directing and conducting the purposes for which said money was granted.

—

At an especial meeting of the Committee, on *Thursday, February* 8, 1776:

Present: Samuel Purviance, Chairman, William Lux, Secretary pro tem., John Smith, Thomas Harrison, William Buchanan, William Asquith, James Calhoun.

Captain *William Wall* applied to this Committee for liberty to load the Sloop . . . . . , Captain *Coffin*, with Provisions for *Rhode-Island;* but as Captain *Coffin* had been before refused by this Committee, and then applied to the Congress, who also refused him, the Committee adhere to their former resolution of refusing the said *Coffin* liberty to load in this Port.

—

The Committee met, *Monday, February* 12, 1776:

Present: Samuel Purviance, Jun., Chairman, William Lux, John Smith, John Boyd, Thomas Gist, Thomas Harrison, William Buchanan, Benjamin Nicholson, William Wilkinson, Thomas Sollers, John Cockey, Abraham Britton, James Calhoun, J. Gittings, William Asquith, George Lux, Secretary.

Application being made by Captain *Daniel Adams*, of the Schooner *Hawke*, for liberty to take in a cargo of Flour for *Beverly*, or *Newburyport*, in *New-England*, it was granted to him, on his producing a proper certificate from the Committee of *Beverly*, in *Essex* County, in the *Massachusetts-Bay*.

The following Resolve of the Continental Congress being laid before this Committee, it was ordered to be inserted in the Minutes of their Proceedings:

"In Congress, October 26, 1775.

"*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the several Provincial Assemblies, Conventions, or Councils of Safety, of the *United Colonies*, to export to the foreign *West-Indies*, on account and risk of their respective Colonies, as much Provision, or any other Produce, (except Horned Cattle, Sheep, Hogs, and Poultry,) as they may deem necessary for the importation of Arms, Ammunition, Sulphur, and Saltpetre.

"A true copy from the Minutes:

"Charles Thomson, *Secretary.*"

Mr. *James Moore* appeared, according to summons, and Messrs. *Nathaniel Britton, Tunis Titus*, and *Jesse Bussey*, appeared as evidences against, all and each of which, being sworn, deposed, that Mr. *James Moore* had refused to take Bills of Credit emitted by the Provincial Convention, when tendered to him, alleging that he was afraid they would not pass, else he should have no objection; and, that the said *James Moore* had asserted that he would not pay any tax towards the support of *American* measures, and that he thought all those who had taken the oaths of allegiance, and mustered when holding a place under Government, guilty of perjury and rebellion.

It being represented by Mr. *Gittings*, that *Jesse Williams* was a material evidence on the occasion,

It was, *Resolved*, That the further examination of this affair be postponed until *Monday* next, Mr. *William Lux* being security for Mr. *Moore's* attendance.

—

At a meeting of the Committee, *Monday, February* 19, 1776:

Present: Samuel Purviance, Jun., Chairman, John Smith, John Boyd, Thomas Gist, Charles Ridgely, of William, Thomas Harrison, Andrew Buchanan, John Cockey, Thomas Sollers, William Asquith, John Cradock, John E. Howard.

Permission is granted to Captain *Jesse Harding*, of the Schooner *Jenny*, to load with Flour for *Falmouth*, in *New-England;* also, to the Brig *Rogers*, addressed to Captain *George Woolsey*, to load with Produce on the publick account.

In consequence of a Resolve of the Council of Safety, the following Advertisement was ordered to be published:

"All persons in this County, who are possessed of any Arms belonging to the publick, are hereby directed to deliver the same to the Committee of Observation at *Baltimore*, as speedily as possible, the Council of Safety having ordered them to collect and repair the same. The necessity of an immediate compliance with this requisition, it is to be hoped, will induce every one, who has any of said Arms, to attend thereto without delay."

Mrs. *Button* having produced to the Committee an Inventory of her Household Goods, Furniture, Provisions, Servants, &c., shipped on board the Schooner *Fanny*, in order to obtain permission for her departure in said vessel to the *West-Indies;* and it appearing by said Inventory, that four hogsheads Spirits, and sixty-nine Rum Hogsheads filled with Water, have been put on board said vessel contrary to the Resolve of the Committee of the 22d *January*,

Resolved, That Mrs. *Button* be not permitted to export the said Spirit or Rum Hogsheads, and that the Schooner *Fanny* shall not be at liberty to leave this Port without further orders, and that Mr. *James Clarke*, part owner of said Schooner *Fanny*, pledge his promise to the Committee, that said vessel shall not depart this Port without their leave being first obtained.

Mr. *Clarke*, agreeable to summons, attended, and pledged himself as required.

Mr. *James Moore*, agreeable to promise, appeared before the Committee, and, (after admitting the veracity of the charges exhibited against him in the depositions of Messrs. *Nathaniel Britton, Jesse Bussey*, and *Tunis Titus*, taken before this Committee,) voluntarily signed the following Recantation:

"Whereas, I, the subscriber, have unfortunately and inadvertently been guilty of actions tending to depreciate the currency emitted by the Convention of this Province for the express purpose of defending those inestimable privileges transmitted to us by our ancestors, and expressed an aversion to pay any taxes for sinking the said currency, and otherwise discouraged people from mustering, enrolling, and associating, but am now satisfied and convinced that such conduct is highly unbecoming the duty of an *American*, and tends immediately to obstruct the measures calculated to preserve the liberties of this country from the cruel and unrelenting oppressions of the *British* Ministry, do most sincerely acknowledge the heinousness of such offence, beg pardon of my countrymen, and do hereby solemnly engage and promise not to be guilty of a like offence in future, but to conform to such measures as shall be adjudged necessary by the Continental Congress, or Conventions of this Province, for the preservation of the rights of

America. As a further atonement for my misconduct, I request this acknowledgment to be published, in hopes it may deter others from committing the like offence. Witness my hand, this 19th *February*, 1776.

"JAMES MOORE."

Resolved, That the above is satisfactory.

Application being made by Mr. *Solomon Allen* for liberty to load Flour in the Sloop *Sarah, Zephaniah Sheperdson*, master, agreeable to a Certificate from Governour *Cooke*, of *Rhode-Island*, which he produced to the Committee, the permission therein specified was granted.

Ordered, That Mr. *James Moore's* Recantation, and the Resolves of the Convention of the 4th and 16th *January*, respecting the regulations of the Militia and the filling up the vacancies that may arise from any Committee-Man's refusing to serve, be published in Handbills, and dispersed about in the different parts of this County, and that Summonses be sent to Messrs. *William Smith, Charles Ridgely, Thomas Cockey Deye, John Stevenson*, Son of *Edward, Stephen Cromwell, William Randall, Ezekiel Towson*, and *Jeremiah Johnson*, requiring an explicit answer whether they will act or not, as they have hitherto neglected to attend at the meetings of this Committee. If any of the above-named gentlemen should decline acting as Committee-Men, the vacancies occasioned thereby will be filled up on *Monday*, the 4th *March*, when each and every Member of this Committee is especially required to attend.

GEORGE LUX, *Secretary*.

—

At a meeting of the Committee, *February* 26, 1776:

Present: Samuel Purviance, Jun., Chairman, William Lux, Vice-Chairman, John Moale, John Smith, John Boyd, C. Ridgely, of William, William Wilkinson, William Buchanan, Benjamin Nicholson, G. Risteau, William Asquith, Thomas Sollers, John Cockey, Thomas Gist.

Application being made to the Committee for liberty to remove seventy-five chests of the Tea under the care of the Committee to the *Head-of-Elk*, and to remove the remaining part thereof from the place where it is now stored to some other place of security,

Resolved, That Mr. *Stewart* be permitted to send seventy-five chests of said Tea to the *Head-of-Elk*, on condition of his engaging that the same shall be stored under the care of the Committee of *Cecil* County, and that he shall produce a Receipt from said Committee for said quantity of Tea.

Also, *Resolved*, That Mr. *Stewart* be permitted to remove the remainder of said Tea to any place in this County for the better security thereof.

Captain *William McNeil*, of the Sloop *Ranger*, having applied for liberty to depart with said vessel, now loaded with Provisions for *New-England*, agreeable to a permission for that purpose lately granted; and it appearing that the said Captain *McNeil* hath violated an engagement entered into before this Committee, the 18th day of *December*, to export fifteen hogsheads Molasses imported by him in said vessel from *Turk's Island*, reported to be the growth of a *British West-India Island*,

It is, hereupon, *Resolved*, That the said Captain *McNeil* hath behaved very unworthily, and forfeited the permission granted for loading said vessel; but it appearing to the Committee that the cargo shipped in said vessel is the property of persons unconcerned in Captain *McNeil's* misconduct, It is agreed, that, in case of his engaging to give the command of said vessel to a master approved of by this Committee, the said vessel shall be permitted to depart with her cargo, on the express condition that Captain *McNeil* shall not go in her.

Attest: GEORGE LUX, *Secretary*.

—

At a meeting of the Committee, *March* 4, 1776:

Present: Samuel Purviance, Jun., Chairman, William Lux, Vice-Chairman, Darby Lux, John Smith, John Boyd, Thomas Gist, John Moale, Charles Ridgely, of William, William Buchanan, Andrew Buchanan, William Wilkinson, Thomas Harrison, J. Gittings, William Asquith, George Risteau, John E. Howard, J. Cradock, James Calhoun, Thomas Sollers, A. Britton.

The following Resolve of the Continental Congress was ordered to be inserted in the Minutes of this Committee:

"In Congress, February 26, 1776.

"*Resolved*, That no Vessel loaded for *Great Britain*, *Ireland*, or the *British West-Indies*, be permitted to sail without the further order of this Congress; and that it be recommended to the different Committees of Observation and Inspection to see this Resolve be carried into execution.

"Extract from the Minutes:

"CHARLES THOMSON, *Secretary*."

It appearing that the following gentlemen, who were chosen as Committee-Men, had declined to act, viz:

Mr. *Thomas Cockey Deye*, refused by Letter to the Chairman; Mr. *William Smith*, refused by information to the Secretary; Mr. *Ezekiel Towson*, by information to Messrs. *Risteau* and *Cradock*; Mr. *William Randoll*, refused by information to the Secretary; Mr. *Stephen Cromwell*, refused by Letter to Mr. *Cradock*; Mr. *Jeremiah Johnson*, refused by information to Mr. *David Stewart*; and Mr. *Mordecai Gist* is disqualified, he having accepted of a Majority in the Regular Forces raised by order of the Convention:

The Committee, therefore, agreeable to the direction of the Convention, filled up the said vacancies by electing, in their stead, the following gentlemen, viz:

Mr. *John Gillis*, Mr. *Frederick Decker*, Mr. *John Merryman*, Jun., Mr. *John Sterrett*, Mr. *Gist Vaughan*, Mr. *Thomas Rutter*, Mr. *Samuel Worthington*.

Upon motion, *Resolved*, That the above List be published in the *Baltimore* Papers.

The Proceedings of the Convention not having yet come to hand in time to enable the Committee to give due notice to the Inhabitants of this County to enroll themselves agreeable to their direction, the Committee maturely considered the same, and, being desirous to prevent the inconveniences arising therefrom,

Resolved, That the Enrollment and Association Papers be lodged with the following gentlemen, for the greater convenience of the Freemen in their respective Hundreds to sign, viz:

In BALTIMORE, WEST: Messrs. *John Sterrett, James Calhoun, William Buchanan*, and *John Smith*.

BALTIMORE, EAST: Messrs. *William Asquith* and *John Boyd*.

DEPTFORD: Messrs. *Thomas Elliot* and *Isaac Vanbibber*.

WESTMINSTER: Messrs. *John Moale, John Merryman*, Jun., and *David Stewart*.

BACK-RIVER, LOWER: Messrs. *Benjamin Buck* and *Job Garritson*.

BACK-RIVER, UPPER: Messrs. *Darby Lux, John Cockey, Benjamin Nicholson, John Cradock*, and *Samuel Worthington*.

DELAWARE: Messrs. *John Gillis, John Elder*, and *Thomas Philips*.

NORTH: Messrs. *Nicholas Merryman*, of *Nicholas, Elisha Dorsey*, and *Thomas Stansbury*, of *Thomas*.

MINE-RUN: Messrs. *John Stevenson*, of *Edward, Edmund Stansbury, John Standiford*, and *James Little*.

MIDDLESEX: Messrs. *Thomas Rutter* and *George Lux*.

GUNPOWDER, UPPER: Messrs. *James Gittings, Jesse Bussey, Sutton Gudgeon*, and *James Bosley*.

SOLDIER'S DELIGHT: Messrs. *John Egor Howard, William Cromwell, Charles Carman, Robert Lyon*, and *Amon Butler*.

PATAPSCO, UPPER: Mr. *Charles Ridgely*, of *William*.

PATAPSCO, LOWER: Messrs. *Thomas Sollers* and *William Wilkinson*.

MIDDLE-RIVER, UPPER: Messrs. *Gist Vaughan, Benjamin Rogers, Nicholas Merryman*, Sen., *Joshua Hall*, and *Micajah Merryman*.

MIDDLE-RIVER, LOWER: Messrs. *Abraham Britton, Walter Tolley*, Sen., *Simon Prion, Kinsey Griffith*, and *William Galloway*.

PIPE-CREEK: Messrs. *Frederick Decker, William Kelley*, Jun., *Richard Richards*, and *Jonathan Plowman*, Planter.

Attest: GEORGE LUX, *Secretary*.

—

At a special meeting of the Committee, *March* 6, 1776:

Present: Samuel Purviance, Chairman, William Lux, Vice-Chairman, Andrew Buchanan, William Buchanan, Thomas Harrison, Jeremiah T. Chase, George Risteau, James Calhoun, William Asquith, John Cockey, John Sterrett, John Moale, John Smith, Isaac Grist, John Boyd.

The Committee of Observation took into consideration the following Letter from the Council of Safety:

"Annapolis, March 5, 1776.

"Gentlemen of the Committee of Observation: We have just received intelligence that a large ship, supposed to be the forty-four gun man-of-war, and two sloops, are on their way up the Bay. Their destination is not known, but as they may intend for your Town, we send off this express, that you may be on your guard, and make all the preparations in your power for your defence.

"We are, with respect, gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servants, "Daniel of St. Thomas Jenifer.

"Charles Carroll,

"T. B. Hands,

"James Tilghman."

Upon motion, *Resolved*, That a Boat be sent down immediately to reconnoitre, and bring intelligence respecting the Man-of-War, &c., as soon as possible, and that Captain *Nicholson* be requested to order his Tender on that service. Which he complied with.

Resolved, That an Express by water, and another by land, be sent immediately to *Elk*, to hasten down the Powder and the small Arms belonging to this Province, and that it be directed to Mr. *Henry Hollingsworth*, with a request to him to forward them either by land or water, as he shall judge expedient; and *William Stenson* was accordingly despatched by land, and *Joseph White* and *Joseph Gotro*, on board Captain *Hollingsworth's*, by water.

Resolved, That General *Andrew Buchanan* be requested to provide Expresses, to be kept in readiness to be despatched upon any emergency, within the circle of his jurisdiction, and that if the Council of Safety do not pay the expense, that this Committee will do it.

Resolved, That Captain *George Woolsey* and Mr. *Hugh Young*, collect all the Gun-Flints in Town, and render an account of the same to this Committee, and that they be lodged with Captain *Woolsey*.

Resolved, That it is necessary to have the publick Records of this County immediately packed up in Chests, in order for their removal to a place of safety.

Resolved, That no Vessel depart this Port without the further orders of this Committee, and that Captain *Nicholson* be requested to see this order carried into execution.

Captain *John Sterrett* and Captain *Henry Shaaf* returned their Enrollments.

Attested: George Lux, *Secretary*.

—

At a meeting of the Committee, *Thursday*, *March* 7, 1776:

Present: Samuel Purviance, Chairman, William Lux, Vice-Chairman, Andrew Buchanan, William Buchanan, John Moale, John Smith, John Cockey, John Boyd, Jeremiah T. Chase, William Lux, Secretary, pro tempore.

Resolved, That a Breastwork be immediately thrown up at the Point, below *Jesse Hollingsworth's*, and that the Money in Mr. *Moale's* hands be appropriated to defray the expense attending it.

The Committee are unanimously of opinion, and do direct, that all the light Vessels in the Harbour be immediately carried down to *Whetstone*, in order to be sunk in the Channel to prevent the Vessels-of-War from coming up, and Messrs. *Isaac Grist*, Captain *William Chace*, Captains *Thomas Moore*, *George Woolsey*, and *David Stewart*, together with Major *Gist*, be appointed for that service.

Resolved, That an Express be instantly sent to *Philadelphia*, to the Congress, for an immediate supply of Powder and Lead.

Several Expresses arrived with information of the Man-of-War and her Tenders being past *Annapolis*, and standing up the Bay, and, also, that she is at the mouth of the River.

—

At a meeting of the Committee, *Thursday*, *March* 8, 1776:

Present: Samuel Purviance, Chairman, William Lux, Deputy-Chairman, Andrew Buchanan, William Buchanan, Thomas Harrison, John Moale, John Boyd, John Smith, Jeremiah T. Chase, A. Britton, William Asquith.

The Committee agreed with *Andrew Stigar* and *Engleheart Yeiser* to furnish Rations for the Militia, consisting of nine pounds Bread, and eight pounds Beef, or six pounds Pork per week, with Salt, and the meat to be boiled at one Shilling per Ration.

Captain *Henry Shaaf* is appointed to have the Cannon at the Hill removed to *Fell's Point* immediately.

Ordered, That Mr. *David McLure* deliver to Captain *William Galbraith* twenty pounds Gunpowder, and Mr. *H. Courtenay* forty pounds Lead.

Ordered, That Mr. *William Spear* deliver Sergeant *William Cornwall*, of Captain *Nathaniel Smith's* Company, two quarter-barrels of Gunpowder, for the use of the Troops.

Ordered, That Mr. *James Calhoun*, or Mr. *David McLure*, deliver to Mr. *J. Hall* half-pound Powder and two pounds Lead.

A Certificate was granted to *William Lawrence*, master of the Sloop *Otwell*, that he had landed three hundred and twenty bushels of Corn, and six barrels of Pork, shipped by the Honourable *Robert Carter*, in *Westmoreland* County, *Virginia*.

The Independent Company having received orders from the Committee to disarm such persons as have refused to enroll as Militia, returned the following Arms, which were valued as follows:

No. 1, a Fusee, the property of *Melchior Keener*, valued at one Pound ten Shillings, delivered to *John Hughes;* No. 2, a Fusee, the property of *Thomas Brereton*, valued at two Pounds five Shillings, delivered to *John Caldwell;* No. 3, a Fusee, the property of *William Smith*, (Ropemaker,) one Pound ten Shillings; No. 4, a Fusee, valued at one Pound; No. 5, a Fusee, valued at one Pound; No. 6, a Fusee, valued at fifteen Shillings; No. 7, a Fusee, valued at fifteen Shillings; No. 8, a Fowling-Piece, the property of *Alexander Lawson*, valued at three Pounds ten Shillings, delivered to *J. Sterrett;* No. 9, a Musket, the property of *John Clausey*, valued at one Pound ten Shillings, delivered to *G. Vaughan;* No. 3, a brass Blunderbuss, the property of Doctor *John Stevenson*, valued at three Pounds, and No. 1, a brass Blunderbuss, the property of *John Ashburner*, valued at two Pounds ten Shillings, delivered on board *Defence*.

Resolved, That the Schooner *Resolution* be fitted out as a Tender for the Ship *Defence*, on the present emergency, and that Captain *William Wand* be Captain; Captain *Thomas Moore*, First Lieutenant; and Captain *George Wise*, Second-Lieutenant; and Captain *William Paddison*, Master.

Messrs. *Robert Purviance*, *George Woolsey*, and *David Stewart*, are directed to carry this Resolve into immediate execution.

George Lux, *Secretary*.

END OF THE FOURTH VOLUME OF THE FOURTH SERIES.

Washington, *April*, 1843.

INDEX.

Abeel, Major, - - - - - - - - 187
Acrill, William, - - - - - - 75, 124
Adams, Cornelius, - - - - - - - 125
Adams, John, - - - - - - - - 215
Letter from General Washington, - - 595
Letter to General Washington, - - - 604
Thoughts on Government, - - - 1136
Letter to James Warren, - - - - 1140
Letter to a Friend, - - - - - 1183
Adams, Captain, Prize taken by, - - - 152
Sickness among Crew, - - - - 169
Adams, Richard, - - - - - - - 75
Adams, Samuel, Letter from Elbridge Gerry, - 255
Letter to Elbridge Gerry, - - - 541
Address, To the People of North-America, - - 467
To the Inhabitants of the United Colonies, - 470
To the Publick, - - - - - - 527
To the Soldiers of Massachusetts-Bay, - 647
To the Army of the United States, - - 960
Of Continental Congress to the Inhabitants of Canada, - - - - - - 1653
Of Continental Congress to the Inhabitants of the United Colonies, - - 1653, 1670
Of the Lord Mayor and Livery of London to the Electors of Great Britain, - - 609
Addresses to the King, against the Colonies—
Difficulty of procuring, - - - - 369
Aberdeen, Noblemen, &c., of County, - 613
Caithness, County, - - - - - 196
Carlisle, Gentlemen, &c., of City, - - 147
Cupar in Fife, Burgh, - - - - 197
Dublin, Gentlemen, &c., of, - - - 147
Glasgow, Deacons, &c., of City, - - 614
Jedburgh, Magistrates, &c., of Borough, - 153
Kirkwall, Magistrates and Council of, - 243
Peebles, Freeholders, &c., of County, - 257
Roxburgh, Noblemen, &c., of County, - 244
Sanquhar, Magistrates, &c., of, - - - 980
Sudbury, Gentry, &c., of Borough, - - 901
Wick, Burgh, - - - - - - 232
Wigton, Justices of Peace, &c., of County, 614
Advices, from Europe, - - - - - - 1027
Alexander, Morgan, - - - - - - - 89
Allen, Ethan, General Washington proposes an exchange of, - - - - - - - 262
General Washington threatens retaliation, on account of harsh treatment of, 310, 311, 314
Reply of General Howe to the above, - 454
Sent to England, - - - - - - 486
Treatment on his passage, and reception at Cork, - - - - - - - 836
Letter from Levi Allen to General Washington, proposing to rescue, - - - 871
Reply of General Washington, - - - 973
Alliances, Remarks of Dr. Franklin on formation of, 353
Method of paving the way to, - - - 779
Allston, Captain, - - - - - - - 70
Allyn, Captain Henry, - - - - - - 267
Ammunition, return of, in American Army, - - 1195
(See *Arms and Ammunition.*)
Anderson, Nathaniel, - - - - - - 171
Anderson, Colonel Richard, - - - - 171
Annapolis, to be fortified, if practicable, - 780, 800
Antill, Mr. - - - - - - - - 189
Despatched to Continental Congress, - 669
Apprentices, Proceedings of Continental Congress relative to inlistment of, 1656, 1658, 1659
Armed Vessels—(See *Vessels.*)
Armistead, Robert, - - - - - - - 171
Arms, Purchase of, by New-Hampshire, - - 14
Encouragement of manufacture of, in South-Carolina, - - - - - - - 72
Urgent solicitation of General Washington to procure, - - - - - - 672, 1493
Reply of New-Hampshire Convention, - 685
Great want of, in the Army, - - 775, 975
Recommendation of Massachusetts General Court to allow Recruits for use of, - 776
Certain Inhabitants of Tryon County, New-York, deprived of, - - - - 828
Answer of Governour Cooke to General Washington's solicitation for, - - - 856
Letter of General Washington to Governour Trumbull, - - - - - - - 856
Taken from Inhabitants of Queen's County, New-York, - - - - - - 860
Scarcity of, in Maryland, - 904, 911, 912
Scarcity of, in New-York, - - - 914
Scarcity of, in New-Jersey, - - 914, 1580
Proposition of H. Hollingsworth to Maryland Council of Safety, to furnish, - - 947
Arrival of, at Philadelphia, - - 947, 1667
Application of New-Jersey Congress to Continental Congress for, - - - - 986
Application of General Washington to New-York Committee of Safety for, - - 994
Application of General Washington to Massachusetts Assembly for, - - - - 995
Application of Third Jersey Battalion to Continental Congress for, - - - - 1015
Not to be obtained in France or Portugal, - 1027
New-York Committee of Safety request to be released from engagement to supply Lord Stirling with, - - - - - - 1079
Reply of Lord Stirling, - - - - 1085
Purchased by New-York, - - - 1100
Purchased by Massachusetts, - - - 1303
Proceedings of General Court of Massachusetts, relative to supplying General Washington with, - - - - - - 1307, 1394, 1436, 1445, 1448, 1451, 1453
Letter of Robert Boyd, Jun., to New-York Congress, relative to manufacture of, - 1480
Number imported by Robert Morris, - - 1507
Manufacture of, encouraged in Pennsylvania, 1576
Not to be carried out of Pennsylvania without leave, - - - - - - - 1578
Manufacture of, encouraged in New-Jersey, 1588
Resolution of New-Jersey Congress relative to seizure of, by Continental Troops, - 1599
Arms and Ammunition, Ordinance of Virginia for providing, - - - - - 84, 86, 141
Order for purchase of, by North-Carolina, 303, 307
Great want of, in the Colonies, - - - 353
Committee of New-York Congress to plan a voyage for the importation of, - - 398
Report of the above Committee, - - 400, 423, 424, 438
Instructions to the Captain of the Dickenson to procure from France, - - - - 658

Arms and Ammunition—
The Dickenson carried into England, - 659
Effort of Maryland to import from Martinico, 771
Effort of New-York to import, - - - 1042
Exportation of, will be winked at by the French Government, - - - - 1126
Proposition of P. Begozzat to New-Hampshire Committee of Safety, - - - 1134
Efforts to import into Massachusetts, - - 1276, 1277, 1309, 1340, 1343, 1416, 1428, 1441
Order in British Council respecting exportation, &c., of, - - - - - - 1467
Importation of, encouraged by Pennsylvania Assembly, - - - - - - 1567
Importation of, encouraged by Continental Congress, - - - - - 1630, 1687
Subscription for purchase of, in Maryland, - 1700, 1702
Efforts to import into Maryland, - - 1731
Army, American—Defection of Connecticut Troops, 25, 157, 159, 168, 169, 177, 180, 191, 193, 213, 231
Same feared of other Colonies, - 181, 191, 193
Mode of payment of Massachusetts Troops, 194
Plan of James Sullivan for raising, - - 206
Condition of, - - 217, 218, 238, 359
Report of Committee of Continental Congress on Arms necessary for, - - 446
Report of Committee on affairs of, - - 586
General Return of, - - 491, 631–646
Address to, by "X," - - - - - 906
Petition of Town of Harvard, for reduction of pay of Officers, - - - - 1245
Temporary reinforcement, - 1272, 1276, 1277, 1400, 1401, 1410, 1413
Exemption of Soldiers from arrest for small Debts, - - - - - 1424, 1610
Army, British, condition of, - - 159, 266, 299
Return of Provisions, Stores, &c., - - 160
Reinforcement and distribution of, - - 223
Foreign Troops in, - - - - - - 286
Efforts to prevent being supplied with Provisions, (See *Provisions*,) - - - 298
Troops of, reported to have embarked on secret expedition, - - - - - 298
Report of Captain Dodge, relative to movements of, - - - - - - - 298
Return of, in Florida, - - - 321–328
Arrival of Recruits from Europe, - - 567
Strength and composition of, - 1125, 1127
Supposed to be preparing to leave Boston, 1483
Arnold, Colonel Benedict, joined by General Montgomery, - - - - - - - - 188
Hardships endured by Troops on march, - 190
Letters to General Washington, 190, 674, 1513
Letters from General Washington, - 192, 874
General Washington's opinion of, - - 192
General Schuyler's opinion of, - - - 226
Will probably be made Brigadier-General, upon the reduction of Quebeck, - - 294
Wounded in attack upon Quebeck, - - 480
Letters to General Wooster, - 481, 670, 854
Letter from, at Quebeck, - - - 589
Letters to Continental Congress, - - 627, 629, 838, 907, 1017
Appointed Brigadier-General, - - - 1639
Proceedings of Continental Congress on Letters from, - - - - - - 1670, 1674
Artillery, Regiment of, raised in South-Carolina, - 52
Officers chosen, - - - - - - 54
Rules and Regulations, - - - - 56
Bounty for Recruits, - - - - - 58
Recruiting expedited, - - - - - 61
Stores ordered to be delivered to, - 64, 71
Proposals for Supplies, - - - - 64
Ordinance for raising Company of, in New-Jersey, - - - - - - - - 1623
Ashley, Samuel, - - - - - - - 15
Aspinwall, William, - - - - - - 262
Association, Continental, questions relative to, - 193, 215, 221, 276, 304, 412, 413, 562, 787, 811
Association, Continental—
Exception in favour of Bermuda, - - 410
Vessel sailed from Sandwich, Massachusetts, contrary to, - - - - - - 673
Violation of, by New-York Vessels, - - 691
Resolutions respecting, in Maryland Convention, - - - - - - - - 755
Petition for exception to, - - - - 938
Proceedings of New-Jersey Congress, relative to, - - - - - - - 966
Letter from New-York Committee of Safety to Continental Congress relative to, - 1061
Exceptions in favour of Vessels, 1083, 1091, 1099
Proceedings in Massachusetts Assembly on violation of, - - - 1302, 1346, 1405
Efforts to prevent violation of, in New-Jersey, - - - - - - - - - 1583
Proceedings relative to, in Baltimore Committee, - - - - 1694, 1713, 1720
Association, Pennsylvania, Address of Signers of, in Philadelphia, to Committee of Safety, - 941
Association, New-Jersey, Ordinance relative to, - 1608
Avery, Samuel, application of, to New-York Congress, for Commission, - - - - - 960
Aylett, William, - - - - - - 75, 80
Babcock, Colonel Henry, recommended for Brigadier-General, - - - - - - 181, 182
Baker, Jerman, - - - - - 79, 93, 200
Baker, Captain Moses, - - - - 7, 15, 195
Baldwin, Colonel Loammi, - - - - 255
Balch, Nathaniel, - - - - - - 12, 18
Ball, Captain, - - - - - - - - 177
Baltimore, to be fortified, if practicable, - - 780
Banister, John, - - - - - - - - 75
Barbour, Thomas, - - - - - - - 76
Barker, William, - - - - - - - 124
Barnes, George, - - - - - - - 149
Barrett, Charles, - - - - - - - 171
Barrett, William, - - - - - - - 246
Barron, James, - - - - - - - - 97
Barron, Captain Richard, - - 97, 107, 114, 117
Bartlett, Joseph, - - - - - - - 18
Bartlett, Josiah, - - - - - - 3, 6, 9
Letters to New-Hampshire Committee of Safety, - 22, 24, 172, 658, 784, 837, 1495
Expects soon to leave Philadelphia, - - 25
Bartlett, William, Letters from Stephen Moylan, - 158, 206, 230, 231, 284, 285, 458
Letters from Robert H. Harrison, - - 178, 625, 709, 1018
Letters from General Washington, - 466, 862
Letters to General Washington, - - 227, 236, 264, 367
Bassett, Burwell, - - - - - - - 76
Batchelder, Nathaniel, - - - - - - 14
Bayard, Samuel, Jun., Letter to John McKesson, 1016
Ordered in confinement, - - - 1122, 1479
Bayley, Colonel Jacob, Letter on the importance of Canada, - - - - - - - - 454
Letter to General Washington, relative to Messengers and Road to Canada, &c., - 1500
Beach, Samuel, - - - - - - - - 267
Beard, Mr. - - - - - - - - - 41
Bedel, Colonel, Letter to New-Hampshire Committee of Safety, - - - - - - - - 5
Letter from New-Hampshire Committee of Safety, - - - - - - - - 23
Letter from General Washington—Instructions, - - - - - - - - 908
Bedlow, William, Letter to New-York Committee of Safety, - - - - - 889
Letter to John Berrien, - - - - 1156
Bee, Thomas, - - - - - - 41, 44, 56, 68
Beekman, Captain Barnard, - - - - - 54
Begozzat, P., Letter to New-Hampshire Committee of Safety, on obtaining Ammunition, &c., from Martinico, - - - - - - 1134
Belden, Colonel Thomas, - - - - - 267
Bellew, Captain, Letter to and from Colonel Howe, 477
Benson, Robert, - - - - - - - - 149
Berkeley, Edmund, - - - - - - - 75

Bermuda, exportation to and from the Colonies permitted, - - - - - - - 410
Berrien, John, Letter from William Bedlow, - - 1155
Berry, Captain Thomas, - - - - - - 8
Berwick, John, - - - - - - - - 55
Bibb, William, - - - - - - - - 76
Bills of Credit, New-Hampshire, - - - - 9
South-Carolina, - - - - - - - 55
New-York, - - - - - - 419, 1025
Maryland, - - - - - - - 741
Massachusetts, - 1251, 1253, 1283, 1284, 1329, 1355, 1360, 1372, 1427
Continental, - - - 154, 172, 1633, 1685
Recantation of persons who had endeavoured to depreciate, - - - 887, 888, 896
Would be current in Canada if Quebeck were taken, - - - - - 907
Punishment of persons in Pennsylvania for endeavouring to depreciate, - - - 941, 1211, 1571, 1572, 1577
Proceedings in Massachusetts, relative to injuring credit of, - - - - 1284, 1427
Proceedings in New-Jersey Congress relative to refusal of, - - - - - 1580
New-Jersey Treasurers to receive in payment of Taxes, - - - - - - - 1596
Resolution of Continental Congress, relative to attempts to depreciate, - - - 1640
Bishop, Samuel, - - - - - - - 267
Blackburn, Thomas, - - - - - - - 76
Blagge, Mr. - - - - - - - - 187
Blake, Captain Edward, - - - - - - 27
Bland, Richard, - - - - - - - 76
Blankets, Letter of General Washington to New-England Colonies, soliciting, - - 448
Answer of New-Hampshire Convention, - 470
Collection of, in Rhode-Island, - - - 536
Purchase of, by Massachusetts, - - 1282, 1374
Effort to collect in New-Jersey, - - 1608
Boardman, Benjamin, - - - - - - 207
Blockade of Boston, a Farce, - - - 613, 884
Bonnet, Isaac, Letter from Lord Stirling, - - 172
Boote, Benjamin Booth, - - - - - 56, 65, 76
Boston, Prices Current at, - - - - 159, 299
Provisions of Ministerial Army in store at, - 160
Distress of Inhabitants in, - - - 266
Extract of a Letter from an Officer in, - 376
Resolution of Congress relative to an attack upon, - - - - - - 379, 380
Attack upon, recommended by Council of Officers, - - - - - - - 775
Anxiety of General Washington to attack, - 840, 900, 1192, 1203, 1502
Army supposed to be preparing to leave, - 899, 1483, 1501, 1503
Bombardment said to be intended, - - 1157
Opinion of Council of Officers on Bombardment, - - - - - - 1193, 1203
Bounetheau, Peter, - - - - - - 36, 44
Bounty, for Artillery Recruits in South-Carolina, 58, 69
On Manufactures, South-Carolina, - - 72
To Highland Emigrants, - - - - - 312
Not expedient to pay to Canada Regiment, - 1405
For inlistment of Seamen in Great Britain, - 1467
On Salt and Saltpetre in New-Jersey, 1608, 1627
Bouquet, Peter, - - - - - - - 55
Bowman, Joseph, - - - - - - 116, 119
Bowman, Colonel Abraham, - - - - - 120
Bowyer, John, - - - - - - - - 75
Boyd, Robert, Jr., Letter to New-York Congress, relative to manufacture of Gun-Barrels, - 1480
Brainard, Daniel, - - - - - - - 267
Braxter, Charles, - - - - - - - 75
Brett, Francis, - - - - - - - 125
Bricket, Robert, Commission to, - - - - 846
Bridges, Colonel, thanks of General Washington to, 240
Briggs, Captain, - - - - - - - 177
Bringham, Major Asa, - - - - - - 11
Briscae, John, - - - - - - - 126
"*British American*," Address of, to the Inhabitants of the United Colonies, - - - - 470
Broadcloth, Charles, - - - - - - 75
Brooke, George, - - - - - - - 75
Brooks, Captain Joseph, - - - - - 267
Brooks, Deacon, - - - - - - 1, 2, 3
Broughton, Captain, - - - - 158, 178, 214
Complaint against, - - - - - - 451
Brown, Archibald, - - - - - - 110
Brown, Benjamin, - - - - - - 12, 18
Brown, Richard, - - - - - - - 125
Brown, Samuel, - - - - - - - 267
Brown, Lieutenant William, Memorial of, - - 320
Brunson, Ezra, - - - - - - - 267
Buckner, Mordecai, - - - - - - 120
Budd, John, Surgeon, - - - - - - 54
Buell, Captain Benjamin, - - - - - 267
Bulkley, Captain Peter, - - - - - 267
Bull, John, Memorial of, to Congress, relative to Indians, - - - - - - - 202
Resignation, - - - - 785, 1648, 1650
Bull, Colonel Stephen, - - - - 48, 61, 67
Bullitt, Thomas, - - - - - - - 129
Bullock, John, - - - - - - - - 171
Bunker's Hill, Enemy becoming uneasy on, - - 201
Battle of, relief of persons for wounds and losses at, - 1225, 1239, 1280, 1300, 1329, 1345, 1346, 1367, 1408, 1419, 1435, 1437, 1438, 1439, 1440, 1441, 1446
Burgess, John, - - - - - - - 267
Burgoyne, General, Letter from General Lee, - 150
Arrival in London, - - - - - 150
Soliciting command in Canada, - - - 1125
To be second in command in Canada, - 902
Burke, William, command of Schooner Warren, - 909
Burnham, Colonel, - - - 12, 15, 21, 26, 195
Burton, Robert, - - - - - - - 75
Burwell, George, - - - - - - - 110
Butler, Captain Benjamin, - - - - - 10
Cabell, Joseph, - - - - - - - 75
Cabell, William, Jr., - - - - - - 75
Caldwell, Mr. - - - - - - - - 57
Calhoun, Captain, - - - - - - 57, 65
Callbeck, Philip, Statement of the case of, - - 451
Calvert, Cornelius, - - - - - - - 109
Calvert, John, - - - - - - - - 56
Calvert, Maximilian, - - - - - - - 95
Campbell, Dr. Archibald, - 86, 87, 93, 94, 95, 105, 110
Campbell, Arthur, - - - - - - - 106
Campbell, Duncan, Parole, - - - - - 525
Asks permission to go to New-York, - - 940
Released on Parole, - - - - - 1650
Campbell, John, - - - - - - 88, 104
Campbell, Colonel Donald, Letter to General Wooster, - - - - - - - - 480, 670
Campbell, Lord William, Governour of South-Carolina, endeavours to procure Military Forces to be sent against South-Carolina, - - 32
Letter to Governour Tonyn, - - - 35
Affidavit of Captain Wanton, relative to seizure of his Sloop by, - - - 36
On board the Tamar, - - - - - 477
Forced to leave the Harbour of South-Carolina, 781
On board the Syren, (Note,) - - - 1128
Cameron, Allan, Letter to Duncan Cameron, - 342
Letter to Daniel Chamier, - - - 342
Sent prisoner to Philadelphia, - - - 479
In prison at Philadelphia, - - - 508, 1561
Application for release on Parole, - - 959
Canada, (See Generals *Schuyler, Montgomery, Wooster, Arnold*, &c.)
Plan for destruction of American Army in, - 156
General Howe's plan for recovery of, - - 170
Necessity of increasing American Forces in, 226, 463, 479
Remarks of General Lee on Committee to, - 248
Reduction of, confidently expected, - - 353
Importance of, - - - - - - 454
Letter of Monsieur Pelissier to Continental Congress, relative to, - - - 596–603
Advance pay to Troops for, - - - - 798
Troops from Connecticut, - - - - 808, 874, 917, 924, 930, 931, 933

Canada—
Troops from New-Hampshire, - - - 784, 794, 810, 811, 901
Troops from New-Jersey, - - 850, 1580
Troops from New-York, - - - 1073, 1074
Troops from Massachusetts, - - - 1270, 1272, 1274, 1297, 1298, 1404, 1405, 1408, 1409, 1441, 1444
Letter of Continental Congress to General Washington relative to forces for, - - 878
Letter of Continental Congress to Massachusetts Assembly, on the same, - - - 879
Vigorous preparations of Ministry for operations in, - - - - - - - 902
Instructions to Colonel Bedel, - - - 908
Recommendation of General Lee to raise Troops in, - - - - - - - 1001
Embarcation of Troops at Cork for, - - 1125
Committee to go to, - - - 1184, 1672
General Lee appointed to command in, (See *General Lee,*) 1145, 1184, 1197, 1198, 1213
Arrangements for the two Regiments in, - 1216
Letter from Jacob Bayley to General Washington relative to road to, - - - 1500
Proceedings in Continental Congress relative to Troops for, 1636, 1638, 1639, 1647, 1649, 1650, 1651, 1654, 1660, 1662, 1674
Address of Continental Congress to Inhabitants of, - - - - - - 1651, 1653
Articles of War translated into French and sent to, - - - - - - - 1651
Powder sent to, by Continental Congress, - 1672
Printer sent to, - - - - - - 1689
"*Candidus,*" to the People of Pennsylvania, - - 920
Cannon, Manufacture of in New-York, - - - 1080
Proceedings of Continental Congress relative to procuring, - - - - - - 1642
Cannon, Daniel, - - - - - - - - 55
Cape-Cod, Examination of Harbour of, - 181, 182, 193
Report transmitted to Congress, - - 454
Committee of Massachusetts Court to wait on General Washington, on importance of fortifying, - - - - - - 1221, 1315
Captures—of Ship Prince George, - - - 2, 3
Rules of to be determined by Congress, - 22
Of an American vessel, - - - - 256
Of transport-ship Blue Mountain Valley, - 851, 868, 915, 987
Of Sloop Polly and Ann, - - - - 1058
(See *Prizes.*)
Carleton, Sir Guy, Emissaries of among the Indians, 110
Treatment of Americans in Quebeck - - 175
His defence of Quebeck, - - - - 188
Letter from General Montgomery, summoning to surrender Quebeck, - - - 289
Proclamation of, - - - - - - 488
Letter to General Howe, giving account of attack upon Quebeck, - - - - 656
Distribution of command in case of death of, 902
Carmichael, James, - - - - - - - 124
Carr, Robert, - - - - - - - - 115
Carrington, Paul, - - - - - - - 75
Carroll, Charles, Letter from Herbert Courtenay, 686, 1183
Letter from William Neil, - - - 1011
Letters to Maryland Council of Safety, - 1195, 1472
Carter, Charles, (of Lancaster,) - - - - 75
Carter, Charles, (of Stafford,) - - - - 76
Carter, Robert W., - - - - - - - 76
"*Cassandra,*" Author of, - - - - - - 1562
"*Cato,*" Author of, - - - - - - - 1562
Cattell, Captain William, - - - - 41, 56, 64
Cary, Archibald, - - - - - - - - 75
Census, of New-Hampshire, - - - 5, 24, 901
Of Isle of Shoals, - - - - - - 771
Proceedings relative to taking in Massachusetts, 1302, 1308, 1424, 1448, 1451, 1452, 1453, 1455
Proceedings relative to taking in New-Jersey, 1604, 1607, 1622
Chamberlin, Captain James, - - - - 267
Chamier, Daniel, Letter to Daniel Chamier, Jr., - 318
Letter from Daniel Chamier, Jr., - - 337
Letter from Allan Cameron, - - - 342
Chapin, Nathaniel, - - - - - - - 267
Chapman, Jabez, - - - - - - - 267
Chaplains, Appointment of to Connecticut Troops, - 201
Increase of in the Northern Army recommended, - - - - - - - 484
Charlestown, South-Carolina, Committee, to examine what works are necessary for Defence of, 27
Report of Committee, - - - - - 49
Vessels sunk for defence of, - - 48, 49, 50
Ship impressed for defence of, - - - 50
Regiment of Artillery ordered to be raised, - 52
Powder removed to, - - - - - 57
Hands ordered from Neck to, - - - 61
Militia ordered on duty, - - - - 61
Artillery Regiment stationed, - - - 61
Proposition to draft four hundred Militia for defence of, negatived, - - - - 62
Marks on the Bar ordered to be cut down, - 65
Additional Batteries to be erected, - - 70
Citizens requested not to leave, - - - 71
Forges for heating Balls to be erected, - 71
Ammunition delivered to the Artillery, - 71
Charlestown, Massachusetts, Houses burnt and Prisoners taken, - - - 612, 629, 884
Chase, Samuel, Letters to Daniel of St. Thomas Jenifer, - - - - - 947, 986
Charlton, Lieutenant, - - - - - 39
Chesley, Captain Alpheus, - - - - - 8
Chew, John, - - - - - - - - 87, 95
Chiffele, Philotheos, - - - - - - - 55
Christian, Michael, - - - - - - 76
Christian, Lieutenant-Colonel, - - - 91, 106
Christie, Zachariah, - - - - - - 124
Christopher, Joseph, - - - - - - 149
Church, Dr. Benjamin, Petition to Continental Congress, - - - - - - 531, 1644
Others in league with, - - - - 1127
Resolution of Continental Congress, - - 1646
Clagett, Wyseman, - - - - - 11, 15
Claims, Proceedings on, in Continental Congress, 1627, 1630, 1632, 1634, '39, '40, '42, '46, '48, '50, '51, '56, '58, '63, '70, '72, '75, '83, '85, '87
Clapham, Josiah, - - - - - - - 75
Clarke, Major Stephen, - - - - - 15
Clarke, Jonathan, - - - - - - - 75
Clarkson, Jesse, - - - - - - - 125
Clayton, Isham, - - - - - - - 73
Clifford, Captain Joseph, - - - - - 9
Clinton, General, command of expedition to Southward, - - - - - 902, 1127
Arrival at New-York, - - 942, 965, 1106
Departure from New-York, - - 1153, 1672
Departure from Norfolk for the South, - 1507
Clough, Zaccheus, - - - - - - - 18
Cobble-Hill, Possession of by Continental Troops, - 201
Cobden, Joseph, - - - - - - - 125
Cochran, Captain Robert, - - - 43, 50, 64, 69
Cocke, Allen, - - - - - - - - 76
Coffin, Major Peter, - - - - - 6, 8, 15
Coit, Captain, - - - - 152, 179, 194, 227
Colden, Governour, Letters to and from Lord Dartmouth, - - - - - 1125, 1127
Colden, Thomas, Sheriff, Declaration of, - - 156
Colonies, general account of the state of affairs in, 359–363
Plain hints on condition of, - - - 1522
Common Sense, - - - - - - - 1541
General Lee's opinion of, - - - - 839
General Washington's opinion of, - - 899
No reply to, - - - - - - - 920
Remarks of John Adams on, - - - 1183
Remarks of Major Hawley on, - - - 1191
Address to Author of, by "Essex," - - 1496
Reply of "Rationalis" to, - - - 1527
Conanicut, Barbarities of Captain Wallace on, - 262
Concord, Battle of, relief of persons wounded at, - 1225
Congress, Continental, (See *Continental Congress.*)
Connecticut, Conduct of Troops of, 25, 157, 159, 168, 169, 177, 180, 183, 191, 193, 213, 231, 484

Connecticut—
Zeal of others, - - - - - 283
Committee of Safety, 204, 382, 611, 924, 967
Newtown and Bridgefield, Tory Towns, - 261
Assembly, - - - - - - 267, 533
Westmoreland, Act relative to bounds of, - 273
Proceedings of New-York Congress relative to eruption of citizens from, into New-York, - - - 393, 400, 401, 422
Opinion of John Jay relative to same, - 409
Outlines of policy of Government of, - - 556
Stonington, Letter of Committee of, to General Washington, - - - - - 603
Fairfield County Convention, - - - 765
(See *Governour Trumbull.*)
Estimate of pay due to Troops raised in, for Northern Department, - - - - 1219
Delegates to Continental Congress, - - 1643
Connolly, Major John, - - - 88, 104, 112
Taken prisoner, - - - - - - 155
In prison in Maryland, - - - - 201
Directed by Continental Congress to be sent to Philadelphia, - - - - - 216
Sent prisoner to Philadelphia, - - - 479
Artifice to conceal papers, - - 453, 892
In prison in Philadelphia, - - 508, 1563
Letters of, - - - - - - - 617
Application to be released on parole, - - 958
Servant of, removed from the Jail to the Work-House, - - - - - - - 1565
Order of Congress for confinement and examination, - - - - - - - 1632
Associate of, - - - - - - - 1646
Allowed exercise, - - - - - - 1666
Constitution, Necessity of forming for the Colonies, 467
Continental Congress, - - - - 1625–1692
Instructions to Pennsylvania Delegates, - 471
Petitions of July 8, 1775, - - - - 607
Instructions to Maryland Delegates, - - 653
Instructions to Massachusetts Delegates, 1265, 1266, 1398, 1666
Instructions to New-Jersey Delegates, 1608, 1676
As arbitrary as the Inquisition of Spain, - 1153
Letters from—
Lord Stirling, 164, 184, 202, 294, 354, 586, 596, 621, 627, 764, 772, 837, 867, 913, 938, 1199
Walter Livingston, - - - - - - 167
General Washington, 180, 214, 237, 261, 262, 291, 314, 357, 453, 485, 567, 629, 675, 772, 840, 890, 974, 975, 1148, 1192, 1503, 1540
Colonel John Bull, - - - 202, 785
General Schuyler, 219, 260, 375, 463, 479, 622, 666, 802, 818, 852, 880, 898, 906, 938, 955, 990, 1131, 1156, 1214, 1469, 1481, 1483, 1499, 1510
Trenton, New-Jersey, Committee, - - 225
Governour Cooke, - - - - - 310
Governour Trumbull, 365, 447, 590, 789, 930
Lancaster, Pennsylvania, Committee, 371, 561, 619, 801
Captain Henry Livingston, - - - 379
New-York Provincial Congress, - 391, 1530
Frederick County, Maryland, Committee, - 479
Dr. Benjamin Church, - - - - 531
New-York Committee of Safety, - 562, 1021
Matthew Tilghman, - - - - 575
Monsieur Pelissier, - - - - - 596
General Arnold, - 627, 629, 838, 906, 1017
New-Hampshire Grants, - - - - 702
Colonel St. Clair, - - - - - 867
General Wooster, - 870, 1001, 1132, 1470
New-Jersey Committee of Safety, 772, 814, 815, 888
Captain William Williams, - - - 802
Colonel Maxwell, - - - 813, 897, 923
Lieutenant Hamer, (prisoner,) - - - 814
Richard Huddleston, (prisoner,) - - 814
Thomas Lowrey, - - - - 850, 851
William Livingston, - - - - 923
General Artemas Ward, - - - - 936
Captain D. Campbell, - - - - 940
Continental Congress—Letters from—
New-Jersey Congress, - 948, 986, 1490, 1600
Lieutenant Amos Wilkinson, - - - 951
Major Connolly, - - - - - 958
Mr. Cameron, - - - - - - 959
New-Hampshire Committee of Safety, - 964
General Lee, - 965, 1000, 1117, 1475, 1509
Elizabethtown, New-Jersey, Committee, - 987
Field-Officers of Third Jersey Battalion, - 1015
Colonel David Waterbury, - - - 1154
Colonel Anthony Wayne, - - - 1172
John Fraser, - - - - - - 1172
Moses Hazen, - - - - - - 1186
Pennsylvania Committee of Safety, - - 1213
James Mease, - - - - - 1537
Commander of Pennsylvania Battalion, - 154
General Washington, - - - - - 154, 217, 379, 585, 686, 763, 781, 878
Governour Trumbull, - - 155, 590, 782
New-Hampshire Convention, - - 155, 782
Frederick, Maryland, Committee, - - 216
New-England Colonies, - - - - 217
Lord Stirling, - - - - - - 561
General Schuyler, - - 619, 783, 947, 1213
New-York Committee of Safety, 783, 1073, 1074
New-Jersey Committee of Safety, - - 783
Trenton, New-Jersey, Committee, - - 849
General Lee, - - 857, 1013, 1197, 1522
Colonel Maxwell, - - - - - 850
Massachusetts Assembly, - - - - 879
New-Jersey Congress, - - - 1013, 1601
Conway, Captain John, - - - - 160, 172
Letters to Lord Stirling, - - - - 234
Letters from Lord Stirling, - - 259, 288
Cooke, Governour, Letters from General Washington, 193, 205, 214, 264, 298, 365, 448, 697
Letters to General Washington, - - - 177, 235, 356, 535, 591, 797, 856
Letter to Continental Congress, - - - 310
Copp, Captain David, - - - 6, 7, 8, 15, 195
Corlett, John, - - - - - - - 125
Cornwallis, Lord, Embarcation of, - 1125, 1127
Corsen, Daniel, - - - - - - - 149
"*Cosmopolitan,*" - - - - 863, 917, 1164
Costen, Isaac, - - - - - - - 125
Cotton, Encouragement of manufacture of, in South-Carolina, - - - - - - - 73
Council, British, Orders in, - - 1467, 1468
Council of War, at Head-Quarters, Proceedings of, 774, 1193, 1203
Counterfeiting, made capital offence in South-Carolina, - - - - - - - - 74
Court of Admiralty, for trial of captures, institution urged by General Washington, - - 180
Remarks of Major Hawley upon, - - 1191
Fees, Massachusetts, - - 1418, 1420
Proceedings in New-Jersey Congress relative to establishment of, - - 1593, 1599, 1604
Court of Inquiry, On Commissary-General Trumbull, 456, 489
On Major Parke, - - - - - 489
On Colonel Starke, - - - - - 841
Court Martial, for trial of Colonel Enos, 183, 192, 238
Captain Spencer, - - - - - 584
Lieutenant Dustin, - - - - - 977
Privates, - - - - - - - 177, 183, 235, 457, 489, 841, 1150, 1151, 1505, 1506
Courtenay, Herbert, Letters to Charles Carroll, 686, 1183
Covenhoven, Captain, Letter to Lord Stirling, - 279
Crafts, Thomas, appointed Major of Artillery, 154, 236
Cragin, John, - - - - - - - 12, 16, 18
Craige, Major Alexander, - - - - - 13
Cramahé, Lieutenant-Governour, fears general defection of Canadians, - - - - 170
Crammond, John, - - - - - - - 124
Crawford, Colonel William, - - - - 120
Creagh, John, - - - - - - - 131
Cruisers, sea full of all kinds of, - - - 936
(See *Prizes—Vessels.*)
Culley, Captain Cutting, - - - - - - 9
Cunningham, James, - - - - - - 124

Cunningham, John, - - - - - - 114, 118,
Cunningham, Patrick, seizure of Powder by, - 216
Proceedings of South-Carolina Congress relative to, - - - 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43
Skirmish with Militia, - - - - - - 66
Cunningham, Captain Robert, brought Prisoner to Charlestown, South-Carolina, - 28, 216
Account of his apprehension related to Provincial Congress, - - - - - 29
Committee appointed to draw up charges against, - - - - - - - 29
Defence before Congress, - - - - - 29
Committed to Jail, - - - - - - 29
Certain privileges granted to, - - 31, 42, 61
Letter ordered to be printed in handbills, - 63
Curtenius, Peter T., Letter to New-York Committee of Safety, - - - - - - - 879
Letter to New-York Congress, - - - 1154
Cushing, Colonel Thomas, - - - - - - 176
Cutts, Samuel, - - - - - - 5, 6, 18
Dabney, James, - - - - - - - 171
Dallas, Lieutenant, - - - - - - - 210
Dandridge, Bartholomew, - - - - - - 76
Dandridge, William, Jr., - - - - - - 131
Dangerfield, Colonel William, - - - - 120
Daniels, Captain Eliphalet, - - - 6, 8, 13
Dart, Benjamin, - - - - - - 55, 57
Dartmouth, Lord, Letters from General Howe, 160, 170, 256, 357, 466, 699, 812, 835
From "B. P." - - - - - - 358
From "An English American," - - 530
Davenport, Abraham, Letter to Governour Trumbull, 220
Davis, Captain Samuel, - - - - - - 267
Debt, Resolution of Continental Congress relating to arrest of Recruits for, - - - - - 1035
Deane, James, Letter to General Schuyler respecting Indian Affairs, - - - - - - 1499
Deane, Silas, Letter to James Hogg; Outline of policy of Connecticut Government, - - 556
Letter from John Broome, - - - - 1214
Delaware, Proceedings of Dover Committee on violation of Continental Association, - - 564
Choice of Officers of Battalion, - - - 1647
Delegates to Continental Congress—
Connecticut, Credentials, - - - - - 1643
Maryland, Instructions to, - - - - - 653
Letters to, from Council of Safety, - - 780, 813, 903, 956, 1009, 1488
Letters to Council of Safety, - - - 912, 1161, 1491, 1507
Massachusetts, Election of, - - - 1236, 1660
Instructions to, - 1265, 1266, 1398, 1666
Pay, - - - - - - - - 1278, 1417
New-Hampshire, Mode of choosing, - - 11
Above reconsidered, - - - - - 14
Plan proposed by Committee, - - - 16
Letters to Committee of Safety, - 22, 24, 1495
Letter from Committee of Safety, - - 996
Credentials, - - - - - - - 1690
New-Jersey, appointment of, and thanks to, - 1592
Instructions to, - - - - - 1608, 1676
New-York, Letters from Provincial Congress, 392, 397, 422, 429, 435
Number, - - - - - - 436, 1627
Letters from Committee of Safety, - - 785, 1038, 1039, 1061, 1066, 1094, 1107
Letters to Committee of Safety, - - - 1033, 1091, 1092, 1097, 1115
Pennsylvania, Remarks on Instructions to, - 471
Letter from Reading Committee, - - 937
South-Carolina, appointment of, - - 74, 1642
Virginia, appointment of, in place of Mr. Randolph, - - - - - - 85, 1686
Act regulating election of, - - 92, 142
Demerit, Major John, - - - - - - - 15
Denbo, Captain, - - - - - - - - 195
Departments, Military, Division of Southern Colonies into, - - - - - - - 1689
Derby, Richard, Jr., Letter to John Moreland, - 214
De Santerre, Captain, recommendation of, to General Washington, - - - - - - - 1202
De Saussure, Mr. - - - - - - - 50, 73
Deserters, Disposition of in New-Hampshire, - - 15
Resolve of Virginia Convention relative to persons harbouring, - - - - - 84
Punishment of, - - - - - 177, 212
Act for punishment of in Connecticut, - 272
Dew, John, - - - - - - - - - 89
Dexter, Samuel, - - - - - - - - 778
Dickenson, Dr. John, - - - - - - - 267
Dickenson, Vessel, sent to France for Arms and Ammunition, - - - - - - - 658
Carried into England, - - - - - 659
Dickinson, William, - - - - - - - 125
Digges, Dudley, - - - - - - - - 75
Disisoway, Captain Cornelius, - - - - 149
Dissensions, in Rhode-Island, - - - 232, 367
In South-Carolina, - - - 199, 215, 950
Disunion, efforts of Ministry to create in the Colonies, 287, 308, 340, 341, 439
Proceedings on in New-York Congress, - 411
Sense of New-York Committee on efforts of Ministry to create, - - - - - 1028
Proceedings in Virginia Convention on Letter of Lord Dunmore, - - - - - 1209
Dixon, Rev. John, - - - - - - - 77
Dodge, Captain Richard, reports of relative to movement of Troops, - - - - - 298
Dodge, Samuel, - - - - - - - - 188
Donavan, Major Matthew, - - - - - 121
Donkin, Major, Letter to, from Governour Tonyn, 334
Dorchester-Heights, Massachusetts, General Washington preparing to take possession of, - 1502, 1503, 1515
Dorchester, South-Carolina, works for defence of, - 64, 65, 66
Troops to rendezvous at, - - - - - 80
Douxsaint, Paul, - - - - - - - - 55
Dow, Captain Richard, - - - - - - - 9
Downing, Richard, - - - - - - 13, 15
Drake, Lieutenant-Colonel Abraham, - - - 13
Drayton, Captain Charles, - - - - - 54
Drayton, William Henry, - - 53, 56, 63, 68, 74
Drew, William, - - - - - - - - 75
Drums, explanation of emblem on, - - - 468
Drummond, Lord, Letter to General Robinson respecting reconciliation, - - - - 1149
Dudley, John, - - - - - - - - - 9
Dudley, Samuel, - - - - - - - - 12
Dumas, Monsieur C. G. F., Arthur Lee advised to correspond with, - - - - - 246
Letter from Dr. Franklin, - - - - 352
Dumond, Egbert, - - - - - - - 1131
Dunkard, William, - - - - - - - 131
Dunmore, Lord, References to, in proceedings of Virginia Convention, - - 76, 79, 81, 84, 85, 91, 103, 105, 106, 108, 110, 115, 124, 128
Cruelties of, - - - - - - - 121
Proclamation of, - - - - - - 155
Counter Proclamation of Virginia Convention, - - - - - - - 249, 258
Slaves armed by, - - - - - - 202
Remarkable instance of humanity of, (Note,) 292
Schemes of, - - - - - - - 314
Troops sent from Florida to, - - - 330
Letter to Admiral Graves, - - - 347
Letter to Captain Leslie, - - - - 349
Letter to General Howe, - - - - 357
Recommendation of General Washington that he be deprived of life or liberty, - - 465
Letter to Colonel Howe, - - - - 474
Commission to John Connolly, - - - 617
Proposition to negotiate a peace, - - 1208
Fruitless issue of the above, - - - 1506
Extract from his paper, and comments, - 1477
Dupuy, Moses, - - - - - - - - 149
Dutch, publications in, distributed by New-York Congress, - - - - - - - - 424
Dyer, Captain Charles, Instructions to, - - 791
Instructions to William Watson, relative to, - 793
Easton, Colonel James, - - - - - - 189
Letter to General Washington, and reply, - 1182

Eden, Governour, Letter from Lord George Germaine, 439
Edmondson, James, - - - - - - - - 75
Edmondson, Major Charles, - - - - 112
Elkins, Captain Henry, - - - 6, 8, 15, 195
Elligood, Colonel, - - - - - - - 125
Elliot, Major Barnard, - - - - - 54, 69
Elliot, Benjamin, - - - - - - 56, 68
Elliot, Colonel Thomas, - - - - - 97, 120
Ellsworth, O., - - - - - - - - 157
Emerson, Lieutenant-Colonel Nathaniel, - - 13
Emerson, Smith, - - - - - - - 6
Emerson, Timothy, - - - - - - - 6
Engineers, great want of, in the Colonies, - - 353
Enos, Lieutenant-Colonel, acquitted by Court-Martial, - - - - - - 183, 192, 237
Proceedings of Court-Martial, - - - 238
Letter to General Washington; resignation, 768
Eppes, Francis, - - - - - - - - 76
Eppes, Major, - - - - - - - - - 245
Erskine, Colonel Robert, Letter to Officers of First New-Jersey Battalion, - - - - 166
Essays, &c., Cosmopolitan, - - 863, 917, 1164
Candidus, to the People of Pennsylvania, - 920
To the People in general, - - - 951
An earnest Appeal to the People, - - 1013
Salus Populi, - - - - - 467, 1141
Plain Hints on the condition of the Colonies, 1522
Speech of a Farmer on engaging in the Continental service, - - - - - 1525
Reply of Rationalis to Common Sense, - 1527
Common Sense, - - - - - - 1541
Estates, of Refugees, Proceedings of Massachusetts Court relative to, - - 1232, 1344
Evans, Colonel, - - - - - 7, 18, 19, 20
Ewing, Thomas, Letter to Colonel Smallwood, - 615
Exportation, Proceedings of New-Hampshire Convention relative to, - - - 18, 811
Proceedings of South-Carolina Congress relative to, - - - - - - - 73
Proceedings in Virginia Convention relative to, - - - - - 103, 107, 115
Proceedings of New-York Committee of Safety, - - 1083, 1091, 1097, 1099
Proceedings of Continental Congress, 1656, 1661, 1665, 1669, 1687, 1688, 1690
Expresses, establishment of, in New-Jersey, - - 1661
Necessity of establishing between Head-Quarters and Congress, - - - - 975
Fairs, holding of, discouraged, - - - - 1708
Falden, Captain Henry, - - - - - 66
Falmouth, burning of, by Ministerial Troops, - - 215
Notice of in despatches of Lord George Germaine, - - - - - - - 575
Fanning, Phineas, - - - - - - - 176
Farmer, Speech of a, on engaging in the Continental service, - - - - - - 1525
Fast, to be observed in Massachusetts, - - 1312, 1461
Faulcon, Nicholas, - - - - - - - 76
Fees, Act regulating, in Massachusetts, - - 1275, 1410
Fenton, Major Elijah, - - - - - - 267
Ferguson, Thomas, - - - - - - 56, 68
Field, Henry, - - - - - - - - - 75
Finnie, William, - - - - - - 92, 129
Fire-Rafts, at Portsmouth, New-Hampshire, - 6, 21, 24
Fisher, Hendrick, Letter to Lord Stirling, - - 172
Fitch, Colonel Jonathan, - - - - - 267
Fitzhugh, William, - - - - - - - 75
Flag, Continental, hoisted on board the Black Prince, 360
Union, hoisted on occasion of the formation of New Army, - - - - - 570, 710
Union, hoisted on board the American Fleet, 964
Flaxseed, New-York Committee of Safety propose to apply to Continental Congress for permission to export, - - - 1021, 1103
Remarks of Delegates on the above, - - 1045
Decision of the Committee, - - - 1061
Vessel loading with, at New-York, - - 1123
Fleet, Continental, Admiral appointed, Court established, and Flag hoisted, - - 360, 364
Pennsylvania Committee of Safety requested to supply with Powder and Small-Arms, - 502
Fleet, Continental—
Permission to search outward-bound Vessels, 503
Orders to navigate down to Reedy-Island, - 506
General Washington fears delay in fitting out will defeat the object of, - - - 571
Orders to Commander-in-Chief, - - 578
Sailing of, - - - - - - - 964
Sailing Orders, - - - - - - 1179
Signals, - - - - - - - 1179
Supposed intention of British Vessels to attack, - - - - - - - 1180
Hornet and Wasp ready to sail, - - 1637
Servants not to be employed in, without consent of their Masters, - - - - 1642
Tender to be purchased, - - - - 1644
Direction of, to be left with the Marine Committee, - - - - - - - 1654
Orders in favour of Naval Committee, 1659, 1664
Paper relating to signals of the Enemy communicated to, - - - - - - 1667
Resolution of Continental Congress relative to Naval Stores, - - - - - 1669
Zeal of Workmen engaged in building, to inlist, - - - - - - - - 1671
Fleet, Ministerial, Lord Howe appointed to command of, - - - - - - - - 1126
Disposition of, - - - - - - 1127
(See *Vessels*.)
Flemming, Colonel Thomas, - - - - - 120
Flemming, Richard, - - - - - - - 75
Fletchall, Colonel Thomas, - - - - - 41
At the head of the King's party in South-Carolina, - - - - - - - 199
Floating Battery, plan for construction of, - - 780
Flood, Captain, - - - - - - - - 40
Florida, situation of affairs in, - - - 316–352
Return of his Majesty's Forces in, - 321–328
Fogartie, Joseph, - - - - - - - - 55
Fogg, Major Josiah, - - - - - - - 13
Folsom, Colonel Jeremiah, - - - - - 20
Folsom, General Nathaniel, Letter to New-Hampshire Committee of Safety, - - - 207
Folsom, Thomas, - - - - - - - - 6
Foot, Daniel, - - - - - - - - - 267
Ford, John, - - - - - - - - - 40
Fordice, Captain, Letter to Captain Urquhart, - 350
"*Forester*," Author of, - - - - - - 1562
Fortifications, erection of in New-Hampshire, 1, 2, 3, 12
In Connecticut, - - 926, 928, 929, 969
In Massachusetts, - - - - 1285, 1300
In Pennsylvania, - - - - 1564, 1578
In New-York, (See *Highlands*.)
In Maryland, - - - - 1739, 1743
Fowey, man-of-war, attempt on, not expedient, - 794
Fowle, Daniel, - - - - - - - - 1
France, American Ports recommended to be opened to, - - - - - - - - - 779
Will wink at exportation of Arms and Ammunition, - - - - - - - 1126
(See *Arms and Ammunition*.)
General from, willing to enter the American Army, - - - - - - - 1126
Additional Forces from, in the West-Indies, - 1159
Franking Privilege, granted to Private Soldiers, - 1637
Franklin, Dr. Benjamin, Letter to M. Dumas, - 352
Letter from Arthur Lee, - - - - 1125
Franklin, Governour William, forbidden to leave New-Jersey, - - - - - - - 596
Secured, - - - - - - - 621
On parole, - - - - - - - 627
Fraser, John, Memorial of, to Continental Congress, 1172
Frederick, Andrew, - - - - - - - 73
French, Captain Abraham, - - - - - 9
French, Major Christopher, recommended by General Lee to be put on parole, - - - - 695
Reply to application for leave to go to Europe, - - - - - - - - 996
French, Joseph, application to New-York Congress to be released from confinement, - - 1181
Frye, Joseph, - - - - - - - - 1639
Furlong, Major, Letter to General Gage, - - 319

Gadsden, Christopher, - - - - - - 74
Letter to Admiral Hopkins, - - - 620
Gage, General Thomas, - - - - 71, 112
Letters from Governour Tonyn, - 316, 320
Letters from John Stuart, - - - 316, 317
Letter from Major Furlong, - - - 319
Letter from Captain Samuel Leslie, - - 349
Gains, George, - - - - - - - 5, 7, 9, 13
Gale, Lieutenant-Colonel, - - - - 12, 18
Garland, David, - - - - - - - 75
Garrett, Joseph, - - - - - - - 124
Gates, General Horatio, Letters to General Sullivan, - - - - - - 249, 450, 478
Letter from General Sullivan, - - - 709
Letter to Captain Stanhope, - - - 847
Letter to Lieutenant Knight, - - - 847
Gay, Colonel Fisher, - - - - - 267
Gee, Henry, - - - - - - - 76, 116
Gelston, Dr. Samuel, Proceedings relative to, in Massachusetts House of Representatives, - 1397, 1414, 1429, 1430, 1431
Georgia, (See *Governour Wright.*)
State of, - - - - - - - - 1159
Officers of Continental Battalion, - - 1160
Germaine, Lord George, Letter to Governour Eden, 439
Letters to General Howe, - 573, 902, 949
German, publications in, distributed gratuitously by New-York Congress, - - - - - 424
Gerry, Elbridge, Letter to Samuel Adams, - - 255
Letter from Samuel Adams, - - - 541
Letters from Major Hawley, - 1190, 1220
Declines appointment of Maritime Judge, - 1227
Gervais, Colonel, - - - - - - 48, 53, 61
Gibbes, Mr. - - - - - - - - - 47
Gilbert, Captain, - - - - - - - 187
Gilbert, Samuel, - - - - - - - 267
Giles, Benjamin, - - - - - - - 11
Gillon, Alexander, - - - - - - 44, 55, 71
Gilman, Colonel David, - - - - 7, 16, 17, 18
Gilman, Nicholas, - - - - - - - 14
Glover, Colonel John, Letters from Colonel Stephen Moylan, - - - - - - 158, 221
Letter from R. H. Harrison, - - - 179
Letter to General Washington, - - - 563
Glover, Colonel Jonathan, Letter to General Washington, - - - - - - - - 168
Letter from Colonel Moylan, - - - 179
Letters from General Washington, - 466, 563
Goldthwait, Captain Philip, - - - - 5
Goode, Bennet, - - - - - - - 75
Goodrich, Bartlett, - - - - - - 122
Goodrich, John, - - 80, 111, 122, 125, 126, 128
Goodrich, John, Jun., - - - - 80, 117, 122
Goodrich, William, - - - - - 80, 122
Goold, Major Benjamin, - - - - - - 14
Gordon, Alexander, - - - - - - 124
Govan, Archibald, - - - - - 93, 101, 107
Government, Proceedings in New-Hampshire Congress relative to assumption of, - 11, 17, 20
Continental Congress recommend to New-Hampshire to establish, - - - - 20
General Sullivan's plan of, for New-Hampshire, - - - - - - - - 241
People of Portsmouth prefer assumption of to be postponed, - - - - - - 459
Form of, assumed by New-Hampshire, - 583
Difficulties attending the above, - 996–1000
Thoughts of John Adams on, - - - 1136
Governour—Of Connecticut, (See *Trumbull.*)
Of Florida, (See *Tonyn* and *Moultrie.*)
Of Georgia, (See *Wright.*)
Of New-Hampshire, (See *Wentworth.*)
Of New-Jersey, (See *Franklin.*)
Of New-York, (See *Tryon.*)
Of North-Carolina, (See *Martin.*)
Of Pennsylvania, (See *Penn.*)
Of Rhode-Island, (See *Cooke.*)
Of South-Carolina, (See *Campbell.*)
Of Virginia, (See *Dunmore.*)
Graham, Elisha, - - - - - - - 267
Granger, Captain Abraham, - - - - 267
Grant, Brigadier-General, Letter from Alexander Skinner, - - - - - - - 329
Letter from Frederick George Mulcaster, - 329
Letter from Spencer Man, - - - 335
Letter from John Moultrie, - - - 336
Granville, Hugh, - - - - - - - 125
Graves, Admiral, Instructions to Captain Parker, - 308
Letter from Governour Tonyn, - - - 316
Letter from Lieutenant John Graves, - - 327
Letter from Captain Montagu, - - - 343
Letter from Lord Dunmore, - - - 347
Letter from Captain Squire, - - - 351
Studies nothing but getting Money, - - 587
Graves, Lieutenant John, Letter to Admiral Graves, 327
Gray, Edwin, - - - - - - - - - 76
Gray, Lieutenant, - - - - - - - - 177
Great Bridge, Battle of, 81, 85, 110, 125, 128, 171, 183, 224, 228, 233, 349, 540
Letters from, - - - - - - 244, 245
Greely, Major Samuel, - - - - - - 11
Green, Thomas, - - - - - - - - 40
Greene, General Nathanael, Letters to Governour Ward, - - - - - - 231, 311
Letter to Jacob Greene, - - - - 367
Letters to Samuel Ward, - - - 482, 571
Letter to General Washington, - - - 1470
Gregg, Lieutenant-Colonel William, - - - 13
Greggs, Ichabod, - - - - - - - 267
Grenell, John, - - - - - - - - 185
Gridley, Colonel, - - - - - - - 485
Griffith, Rev. Mr. - - - - - 102, 104, 111
Griswold, Matthew, - - - - - - - 267
Hackett, Colonel, - - - - - - - 26
Hale, Colonel Enoch, - - - - - - 11
Hale, Lieutenant-Colonel John, - - - - 11
Hale, Lieutenant-Colonel Thomas, - - - 11
Halifax, proposition of expedition against, - 893, 894
To be Naval Depôt, - - - - 1127
Hall, Daniel, - - - - - - - - 267
Hall, George Abbot, - - - - - - 54, 55
Hall, Dr. Thomas, - - - - - - - 124
Hall, Rev. Thomas, - - - - - - - 171
Halsey, Lieutenant, turbulent and seditious, - 219, 248
To be tried by a Court-Martial, - - 1637
Halstead, Matthias, - - - - - - - 247
Hamer, Lieutenant, thanks to Continental Congress, 814
Hamilton, James, - - - - - - - 124
Hamlin, Jabez, - - - - - - - - 267
Hammond, Captain, - - - - - - 55, 61, 65
Hancock, John, (See *Continental Congress.*)
Appointed First Major-General of Massachusetts Militia, - - - - - - 1294
Hanley, Charles, - - - - - - - 125
Harleston, John, - - - - - - 42, 65
Harman, Captain John, - - - - - - 267
Harmanson, John, - - - - - - - 97
Harrington, Captain, - - - - - 56, 65
Harris, Rev. Mr. - - - - - - - 65
Harrison, Benjamin, - - - - - - - 75
Harrison, Richard, Letter from Maryland Council of Safety, - - - - - - - - 771
Harrison, Robert H., has the unbounded confidence of General Washington, - - - 832
Letter to Council of Massachusetts, - - 168
Letters to William Bartlett, 178, 625, 709, 1018
Letter to William Palfrey, - - - 178
Letters to General Ward, - - - 236, 458
Letter to Thomas Crafts, - - - - 236
Letter to Dr. Wheelock, - - - - 249
Letter to Rev. Dr. Stiles, - - - 249
Letter to Colonel Loammi Baldwin, - - 255
Letters to James Warren, - - 284, 1133
Letter to General Thomas, - - - 466
Letters to William Watson, - - - 793, 857, 878, 909, 1498
Letter to Stephen Moylan, - - - 793
Letter to General Sullivan, - - - 832
Letter to Winthrop Sargent, - - - 939
Letter to Springfield, Massachusetts, Committee, - - - - - - - 973
Letter to Levi Allen, - - - - 973

Harrison, Robert H.—
Letter to George Gregory, - - - 974
Letter to Christopher Leffingwell, - - 1148
Letter to Colonel James Easton, - - 1182
Letter to Rev. James Lyon, - - - 1182
Hart, Oliver, - - - - - - - - - 74
Hart, William De, Letter to Lord Stirling, - - 210
Hartley, David, Plan of Reconciliation proposed by, 20
Harvie, Mr. - - - - - - - - - 83
Hasbrouck, Colonel, Letter to New-Jersey Congress, 307
Hatfield, Abner, - - - - - - - - 247
Havens, James, - - - - - - - - 176
Hawley, Major Joseph, Letter to Elbridge Gerry, 1190, 1220
Haywood, William, - - - - - - - 76
Hayes, Captain Samuel, - - - - - - 9
Hazelton, Captain, - - - - - - - 221
Hazen, Moses, Memorial to Continental Congress, 1186
Commissioners to report upon losses of, - 1649
Order in favour of, - - - - - - 1654
Appointed Colonel, - - - - 1650
Appointment reversed, - - - - 1651
Reappointed, - - - - - - 1655
Committee to confer with, - - - 1656
Hazeltine, Captain, - - - - - - - 177
Head, Sir Edmund, - - - - - - - 44
Heard, Colonel Nathaniel, prudent and zealous conduct of, - - - - - 1631, 1639
Ordered to disarm Tories in Queen's County, New-York, - - - - 1631, 1639
Released from care of Prisoners, and resolution of approbation, - - - - 1119
Requested to guard Stock on Staten-Island, - 1120
Letter to New-York Congress, from Staten-Island, - - - - - - - - 1163
Supplied with Powder, - - - - 1642
Committee from Continental Congress to confer with, - - - - - - - 1663
Report of Committee, - - - - 1663
Heath, General, Letter to General Washington, - 1476
Difficulty on account of information given by, to General Washington, - - - - 191
Helphinstone, Major Peter, - - - - 120
Hendricks, Major James, - - - - - 121
Henry, Colonel Patrick, - - - - - 93, 97
Appointed Colonel of First Virginia Battalion, - - - - - - - - 1669
Resignation of, - - - 1515–1521
Henry, Captain William, Reception by Northampton, Virginia, Committee - - - 1471
Hepburn, Thomas, - - - - - - - 89
Hetfield, Moses, - - - - - - - 235
Hewes, John, - - - - - - - 87, 95
Hewes, Joseph, - - - - - - 114, 118
Heyward, Lemuel, - - - - - - - 262
Heyward, Thomas, - - - - - - - 50
Hicks, Whitehead, communications to, from Governour Tryon, - - - - - 173, 307
Hicks, William, - - - - - - - 131
Highlanders, Petition of, to Virginia Convention, - 84
Highland Emigrants, Land Bounty to, - - 312
Highlands, recommendation of best position for defensive works in, - - - - 254, 1634
Additional Fortifications to be erected at, - 387
Funds advanced to Commissioners, - - 390
Committee to examine state of affairs at, - 394
Report of Committee, - - - - 420
Further Report, - - - - - 425
Same ordered to be transmitted to Continental Congress, - - - - - - 429
Letter of New-York Congress to Delegates in Continental Congress respecting same, - 429
Pay of Commissioners, - - - - 427
Report of Committee appointed from Continental Congress to examine, - - - 442
Letters from New-York Committee of Safety to Continental Congress, - - 562, 1019
Letter from Thomas Palmer to Philip Livingston, - - - - - - - - 875
Pay advanced to Mr. Romans, - - - 1020
Resolutions of Continental Congress, - 1033, 1672
Highlands—
Officer to command at, not yet determined upon, - - - - - - - 1033
Instructions to Commissioners at, - - 1051
Letter from New-York Committee of Safety to Captain Samuel Raymond, - - 1054
Letters from Thomas Grenell to New-York Committee of Safety, - - - 1046, 1047
Letter from Committee of Safety to Mr. Grenell, - - - - - - - - 1071
Hill, Captain James, - - - - - - 7, 8
Hill, Captain John, - - - - - - - 8
Hobart, Colonel Samuel, - 10, 13, 16, 19, 20, 207
Letter to New-Hampshire Committee of Safety, - - - - - - - - 169
Letter to New-Hampshire Congress, - - 449
Hobb, Captain Nathaniel, - - - - - 8
Hodgdon, Captain Caleb, - - - - 6, 8, 15
Hodgdon, Captain Shadrach, - - - 13, 16
Hodges, Randall, - - - - - - - 125
Holcomb, Judah, - - - - - - - 267
Holister, Abijah, - - - - - - - 267
Holmes, Colonel James, Letter to Captain James Wynkoop, - - - - - - - - 212
Holt, James, - - - - - - - - 76
Hooe, R., Letter to Daniel of St. Thomas Jenifer, - 606
Hopkins, Admiral Eseck, Letter from Charles Gadsden, - - - - - - - - 620
Letter from William Wall, - - - 657
Letter from Committee of Congress, - - 763
(See *Fleet.*)
Hopper, Richard, - - - 103, 107, 115, 126
Hopkins, Joseph, Report of, on Lead Mines, - - 261
Horry, Colonel Daniel, - - - - - 74
Hosmer, Titus, - - - - - - - - 267
Hospital, established in South-Carolina, - - 80
General Lee recommends in New-York, - 965
Estimate for, furnished to New-York Committee of Safety, - - - - - - 1026
Howe, Colonel Robert, - 84, 89, 95, 99, 102, 103, 106, 113, 116, 124, 127, 245
Letters to Virginia Convention, - - - 251, 277, 452, 474, 538
Letter to Lord Dunmore, - - - - 474
Letter to and from Captain Bellew, - - 477
Letter from Member of North-Carolina Congress, - - - - - - - - 1488
Howe, General William, Letters to Earl of Dartmouth, 160, 170, 256, 357, 466, 699, 812, 835
Difference between, and Admiral Graves, - 266
Letter to General Washington, - - - 454
Letter from General Washington, - - 310
Letter from Lord Dunmore, - - - 357
Letters from Lord George Germaine, 573, 901, 949
Letter from General Carleton, - - - 656
Letter from William Smith, - - - 1000
Application of General Washington respecting Prisoners, unanswered, - - - 466
Howe, Lord, appointed to the command at Sea, - 1126
Howell, Captain, - - - - - 164, 172
Huger, Captain John, - - - - - 48, 64, 65
Hughes, Lieutenant Thomas, - - - - 63
Hughes, William, - - - - - - - 171
Huntington, Jabez, - - - - - - - 267
Huntington, Samuel, - - - - - - - 267
Hutchings, Colonel Joseph, taken prisoner by Slaves, 202
Hutchinson, Governour, character of, (See *Cosmopolitan.*)
Hutson, Richard, - - - - - - - 76
Hyer, Colonel, - - - - - - - - 187
Hyland, Robert, - - - - - - - 131
Imhoff, Captain Peyer, - - - - - 64
Importation, Proceedings in Virginia Convention relative to, - - - - - - - - 109, 114, 117, 118, 122, 123, 125, 130
Proceedings relative to, in New-York Committee of Safety, - - - - 787, 1025
Proceedings in Continental Congress, - - 1630
Proceedings in Baltimore County Committee, - - 1692, 1693, 1694, 1695, 1696
Impressment, of Ship Prosper, - - - - 50
Of Negroes, Horses, Wagons, &c., - - 66

Independence—
Must be the result of Ministerial measures, - 151
Likely to happen, - - - - - - 353
Driven to the necessity of making a Declaration of, - - - - - - 368
Inevitable result of Bill before Parliament, - 368
Beginning to be foreseen by the people of England, - - - - - - - 369
Value of fur trade, if Colonies should set up for, - - - - - - - - 455
Totally disavowed by people of Portsmouth, New-Hampshire, - - - - 459
Not impossible that the present struggle should end in, - - - - - 467
Ought to be immediately declared, - - 472
The indispensable duty of the Colonies to make an immediate Declaration of, - 529
Earnestly recommended by General Greene, 572
Resolutions of Maryland Convention on, - 653
People of Maryland entertain no idea of, - 760
General Lee convinced of the necessity of, from reading "Common Sense," - - 839
"Candidus" to the People of Pennsylvania in favour of, - - - - - 920
The proper time for, arrived, - - - 953
Opinion of General Washington, - - 993
Thoughts of John Adams, - - - 1136
Tone of the Press, - - - - - 1140
"Salus Populi" to the Freemen of Pennsylvania, - - - - - - - 1141
"Questions and Answers" relative to, - 1169
Remarks of Major Hawley upon, - - 1191
Duty of the people to maintain at every risk, 1210
Anything short of will bring infallible destruction, and that speedily, - - - - 1220
Must take place in a few months at farthest—mode of assizing Colonies in case of, - 1496
Robert Alexander (Maryland Delegate) almost convinced the measure is right, - 1508
Will greatly increase the prosperity of the Colonies, - - - - - - - 1524
The grand and final period of British administration in America at hand, - - 1525
"Common Sense," - - - - - - 1552

Indians—
Proceedings of Virginia Convention relative to claims on account of expedition against, 79, 83, 86, 91, 93, 95, 96, 103, 104, 115, 116, 119, 122, 126
Proceedings of Virginia Convention on report of Commissioners, - 106, 117, 127, 130
Account of money expended at Treaty with, 109, 115
Efforts to excite against the Colonies, - - 110
Nantikokes, desirous of removing from Maryland, - - - - - - - - 202
Letter from Commissioners to Continental Congress, - - - - - - - - 259
No longer good policy to foment difference among, - - - - - - - 317
Intention of Ministry to engage against Colonies, - - - - - - - - - 449
(See *Six Nations.*)
Talks with General Washington, - 893, 908
Miccamack Tribe to Massachusetts Court, - 946
Talk of Oneidas and Mohawks with General Schuyler, - - - - - - - 1131
Proceedings of Massachusetts Court relative to trading with St. John's and Passamaquoddy Tribes, - - 1301, 1432, 1442
At Grafton, election of Guardians of, - - 1422
Offer to take up arms in behalf of the Colonies, - - - - - - - - 1481
Invited to Philadelphia by Governour Penn, 1499
Proceedings in Continental Congress relative to, - - 1644, 1650, 1651, 1656, 1662

Indigo, culture of, in Florida, - - - - - 329
Infantry, Officers of twenty-six Regiments, of the new Army, - - - - - - - 633–646
Inlistments, difficulties attending, 155, 563, 946, 975, 976
Inoculation, prohibited in New-York, - - - 406
Instructions, to Virginia Delegates, - - - 87
To New-Hampshire Delegates, - - - 459
To Pennsylvania Delegates, reflections upon, 471
To Maryland Delegates, - - - - 738
To Massachusetts Delegates, - - - 1266
To New-Jersey Delegates, - - - 1608
Intelligence, South-Carolina Committee of, - - 53
Ireland, British Officers recruiting in, - - - 1027
Irving, Thomas, - - - - - - - 113
Iron, importation of, into Massachusetts from South-Carolina, - - - - - - - 1311
Isle of Shoals, Inhabitants of, in want of the necessaries of life, - - - - - - - - 4
Izard, Ralph, - - - - - - - 38, 53, 55
Jackson, Dr. Hall, - - - - - - 14, 21, 22
Letter to New-Hampshire Congress, - - 153
Jacobs, Lieutenant, - - - - - - - 177
Jacobson, Captain Christian, - - - - - 149
James, Captain Richard, - - - - - - 168
Jameson, William, - - - - - - - 125
Jamieson, Neil, - - - - - - - - 113
Letter to Messrs. Glassford, Gorden & Co., 343
Letter to James Anderson, - - - 347
Letter to Edward and René Payne, - - 348
Jay, John, Letter to R. R. Livingston, - - - 585
Jenifer, Daniel of St. Thomas—
Letter from R. Hooe, - - - - 606
Letter from Stephen West, - - - 885
Letter from Thomas Johnson, Jun., - - 911
Letters from Samuel Chase, - 912, 947, 986
Letter from William Spear, - - - 950
Letter from John Gunby, - - - 1534
"*Johannes in Eremo*," to the Publick, - - - 527
Johnson, Sir John, Proceedings of Tryon County Committee, relative to, - - - - 398
Letter from James Gray, - - - - 594
Submission of, to General Schuyler, - 818–829
Johnson, Fort, - - - - - 45, 46, 47, 48
Johnson, Thomas, - - - - - - - 75
Johnson, Thomas, Jun., Letter to Daniel of St. Thomas Jenifer, - - - - - - - - 119
Johnson, William, - - - - - - - 101
Johnson, William S., - - - - - - 267
Johnston, Edward, violation of Passport, - - 200
Johnston, Thomas, - - - - - - - 171
Joiner, Captain John, - - 27, 49, 50, 63, 74
Jones, Edward, - - - - - - - 253
Jones, Joseph, - - - - - - - - 75
Jones, Walter, - - - - - - - - 76
Journals, Of South-Carolina Congress ordered to be printed, - - - - - - 56, 71
To be in charge of Committee of Intelligence, 73
(See *Records.*)
Judd, James, - - - - - - - - 288
Karr, Robert, - - - - - - - - 104
Kay, John, - - - - - - - - 125
Kenner, Rodham, - - - - - - - 76
Kent, Captain James, reception of, by Northampton, Virginia, Committee, - - - - 1471
Kershaw, Joseph, - - - - - - - 74
Kettletas, Captain John, - - - - - 149
Kidder, Colonel, - - - - - - - 11
Kimball, Porter, - - - - - - - 207
King, Proclamations by the, - - - 377, 543
Speech of, remarks of General Washington upon, - - - - - - 567, 570
Speech of, remarks of General Greene upon, 572
King, George, - - - - - - - - 1
King, Henry, - - - - - - - - 75
King, Seth, - - - - - - - - 267
Kingston Packet, suspected of violating Continental Association, - - - 193, 215, 221
Kirkland, Colonel Moses, reported to be in Charlestown, - - - - - - - 53
Sent express to General Gage, - 316, 336, 347
Prisoner at Cambridge, - - - - 314
An illiterate and simple man, - - - 486
Kirkland, Colonel, at the head of the King's party in South-Carolina, - - - - - - 199
Knight, John, Petition of, to General Washington, - 626
Knowles, Deacon, - - - - - 12, 15, 16

Knowles, James, - - - - - - - 18
Knox, Colonel Henry, - - - - - 155
Letter to General Washington, - - 188, 296
Appointed Colonel of Artillery, - - 217, 263
Letter to Colonel McDougall, - - - 296
La Corne, St. Luke, - - - - - 156, 1515
Ladd, Simeon, - - - - - - - - 207
Langdon, Captain, - - - - - - - 3
Departure from Philadelphia for Canada, - 22
Langdon, John, Letter to New-Hampshire Committee of Safety, - - - - - - - 1477
Langhorne, William, - - - - - - 76
Lankford, Benjamin, - - - - - 76, 84
Lasher, Colonel, - - - - - - - 187
Latourette, David, - - - - - - - 149
Law processes, Proceedings in Massachusetts Court relative to, - - - 1311, 1460, 1461
Lawrence, David, - - - - - - 12, 18
Lawrence, Jonathan, - - - - - - 185
Laurens, Colonel Henry, - - - - - 38
Lawson, Major Robert, - - - - 76, 99, 120
Lead, purchase of, by South-Carolina, - - 51, 67
Encouragement of manufacture of, in South-Carolina, - - - - - - - 73
Purchase of, by North-Carolina, - - 301, 305
Encouragement of manufacture of, in Maryland, - - - - - - - - 730
Purchase of, by New-York, - - - 1031
Purchase of, by Maryland, - - 1701, 1709
Lead Mines, in Virginia, - - - - - - 85
Report of Joseph Hopkinson, - 261, 591, 1672
In Massachusetts, - - - 1310, 1457, 1459
Leary, William, - - - - - - - 186
Lechmere's Point, works erected on, - 313, 314, 454
Works completed, - - - 1502, 1515
Lee, Arthur, Letter from Committee of Secret Correspondence, - - - - - - 246
Letter to Benjamin Franklin, - - - 1125
Lee, General Charles—
Letter to General Burgoyne, - - - 150
Letter to R. H. Lee, - - - - - 248
Letters to General Washington, 595, 694, 695, 839, 942, 1144, 1198, 1537
Letter to New-York Committee of Safety, - 830
Letters to Governour Trumbull, - 946, 954
Letters to Continental Congress, - - 805, 965, 1000, 1179, 1475, 1509
Letters from General Washington, - - 831, 895, 1476, 1501
Letters from Continental Congress, - - 857, 1013, 1197, 1522
Ordered to take survey of Rhode-Island, 356, 454
Return from Rhode-Island, - - 484, 486
Oath administered to Tories by, - - 488
Requests to be sent to defence of New-York, 582
Ordered to New-York, - - 595, 702, 930
General Washington asks John Adams's opinion on plan of, - - - - - - 545
Reply of Mr. Adams, - - - - 604
Instructions to, - - - - - - 604
Proclamation of, for raising men, - - 931
Troops raised for, in Connecticut, 789, 790, 968
Visited with Gout or Rheumatism, - - 880
Lord Stirling sets out to join, - - - 938
Arrival at New-York, - - - 942, 1107
Authorized to call out Minute-men, - 966, 1116
Battalion requested from New-Jersey, - 1013
Action of Congress on the above, 1592, 1601, 1668
Rumour of approach of, to New-York, conveyed to Committee of Safety, - - 1060
Expostulation of Committee of Safety, - 1062
Answer to the above, - - - - 1075
Escort ordered by Committee of Safety, - 1083
Committee of Conference from Continental Congress, - - - - - - 1091, 1655
Committee request copy of Letter to Committee of Safety, - - - - - - 1092
Letter from General Washington to Committee of Safety, - - - - - - 1095
Resolution of Committee of Safety relative to admission of, into New-York, - - 1096
Lee, General Charles—
Letter from Committee of Congress to the Committee of Safety, on the above Resolution, - - - - - - - 1098
Result of conference of Committee of Congress with Committee of Safety, - - 1100
Conference, - - - - - 1108, 1109
Cash furnished to, by Committee of Safety, - 1112
Saws ordered to be purchased for, - - 1116
Intrenching Tools ordered to be procured, - 1121
House provided for additional Troops, - 1123
Powder sent to, - - - - - - 1668
Proceedings in Continental Congress on Letters from, - - - - - 1674, 1688
Appointed to command in Canada, - - 1184, 1197, 1213, 1674
To set out for Canada in a few days, - 1510, 1537
Requested not to set out till further orders, 1522, 1689
Lee, Francis Lightfoot, - - - - - 105
Lee, George, - - - - - - - - 887
Lee, Henry, - - - - - - - - 76
Lee, Colonel Isaac, - - - - - - - 267
Lee, Richard, - - - - - - - - 76
Lee, Richard Henry, Letter to General Washington, 201
Letter from Edmund Pendleton, - - 201
Letter from General Lee, - - - - 248
Letter from General Washington, - - 465
Letter from John Page, - - - - 1208
Lee, Thomas Ludwell, - - - - - - 76
Legaré, Nathan, - - - - - - - 46
Legaré, Thomas, Jr., - - - - - - 38
Leger, Captain, - - - - - - - 54
Legge, Governour Francis, Proclamation of, - 195, 222
Leitch, James, - - - - - - - - 125
Lempriere, Clement, - - - - - 54, 63
Leslie, Captain Samuel, - - - - - 105
Letter to General Gage, - - - - 149
Letter from Lord Dunmore, - - - 149
Lester, Sylvester, - - - - - - - 176
Letters, Anonymous—
From Barbadoes, - - - - - - 1158
From Boston, - - - 376, 710, 883
From Cambridge, - - - - - - 612
From Charlestown, South-Carolina, - - 949
From Cork, - - - - - - - 836
From London, - - 222, 223, 287, 368
From Montreal, - - - - - - 868
From Newbern, North-Carolina, - - 1129
From New-York, - - - - 587, 942
From Norfolk, - - - - - - 1166
From North-Carolina, - - - - 476
From Philadelphia, - - - - - 1153
From Westmoreland, - - - - - 470
From Williamsburgh, Virginia, - - - 1506
From an Officer in the expedition on Long-Island, - - - - - - - 858
To a Gentleman of publick character in Massachusetts, - - - - - - - 1144
Letters, Intercepted—
Resolutions of Virginia Convention relative to, 78
From Officers and others in Florida and Virginia, - - - - - - 316–352
To Lord Dartmouth, - - - - - 586
From John Connolly, - - - - - 615
From Lord Drummond, - - - - 1149
From Henry Lloyd, - - - - - 1719
From James Christie, - - - - 1722
Lewis, Andrew, - - - - - - - 75
Lewis, Charles, - - - - - - - 75
Lewis, Thomas, - - - - - - - 75
Lexington, Battle of, relief of wounded persons, and compensation for losses, (See *Proceedings of Massachusetts Court.*)
Linen, encouragement of manufacture of, in South-Carolina, - - - - - - - - 73
Linn, Captain William, - - - - - - 119
Lipscomb, William, - - - - - - - 171
Liquors, excise on in New-Hampshire, - - - 14
Lisle, Lieutenant John, - - - - - - 65
Livingston, Captain Henry B., Letter to Continental Congress, - - - - - - 380

Livingston, Colonel Robert, Letter from New-York Committee of Safety, - - - - 1080
Manufacture of Powder and Guns, 1110, 1115, 1117
Livingston, Robert R., Letter from John Jay, - 585
Livingston, Walter, Letter to Continental Congress, 167
Livingston, William, Letter to Lord Stirling, - - 354
Letter to Continental Congress, - - 923
Letter from Lord Stirling, - - - 1492
Loan, request of New-York for, from Continental Congress, declined, - - - - 1034
By Massachusetts, to General Washington, - 1392
By Massachusetts, for expedition to Canada, 1409
London, anonymous Letters from, 222, 223, 287, 368
Advices at, from America, - - 439, 461
Long, Colonel Pierce, - - - 5, 13, 14, 18
Letter to New-Hampshire Congress, - - 593
Long-Island, Letter from Colonel Waterbury to Continental Congress relative to payment of Troops raised for expedition against Tories in, - - - - - - - - 1154
Letter from an Officer engaged in the expedition, - - - - - - - - 858
(See *General Lee*.)
Longstreet, Captain, - - - - - 160, 288
Lott, Abraham, asks advice of New-York Committee as to supplying King's Ship with Provisions, - - - - - - - 948
Decision of the Committee, - - - 949
Lounsberry, Gideon, Recantation of, - - - 212
Lovell, James, Memorial of, to General Washington, 315
General Howe refuses to exchange, - - 975
Proceedings in Continental Congress relative to relief of, - - - - - - - 1633
Lovell, Shubael, - - - - - - - 1337
Lowndes, Rowlins, - - - - - - 56, 68
Lowrey, Thomas, Letter to Lord Stirling, - - 229
Letter from Continental Congress, - - 850
Letter to Continental Congress, - - 851
Luxury, passage of an Act in each Province for the prevention of, recommended, - - - 472
Lynch, Thomas, Letters to General Washington, - 218, 687, 943
Lyon, Rev. James, proposition of, for the reduction of Nova-Scotia, - - - - - - 460
Reply of General Washington, - - - 1182
McAllister, Hector, - - - - - - - 110
McClanahan, Captain Alexander, - - 120, 130
McClary, John, - - - - - - - - 18
McDonald, Brigadier-General, Manifesto of, - 982
McDougall, Colonel Alexander, Letters from General Washington, - - - - - 178, 671
Letter from Colonel Knox, - - - 296
Letter to General Washington, - - - 789
Petition from John Graham, - - - 818
McDowell, Samuel, - - - - - - - 75
McGregor, Jr., Major James, - - - - 13
McIntosh, Colonel Lachlan, Letter to General Washington, on the state of the Province of Georgia, - - - - - - - - 1159
McKesson, John, Letter to Lord Stirling, - - 165
Letter from Isaac Nicoll, - - - - 235
Letter from Samuel Bayard, - - - 1016
Letter from Egbert Dumond, - - - 1131
Letter from Colonel Samuel Drake, - - 1212
Letter from Samuel Gale, (prisoner,) - - 1539
McLaurin, Evan, - - - - - - - 40
McQueen, John, - - - - - - 51, 53, 55
McQuester, Major William, - - - - - 11
Macklin, Frederick, - - - - - - - 75
Man, Spencer, Letter to General Grant, - - 335
Manly, Captain John, Prizes taken by, 152, 168, 179, 180, 227, 237, 255, 313, 314, 863, 878, 883
Letter from General Washington, - - 877
Run ashore by a Brig, - - - 910, 936
Manufactures, recommended to be encouraged in the Colonies, - - - - - - - - 472
Encouragement of, in South-Carolina, 65, 71
Encouragement of, in Virginia, - 77, 78, 79, 80
Encouragement of, in Connecticut, 269, 276, 277
Encouragement of, in Maryland, - - 726, 730, 740, 759
Marks, John, proposition to New-York Congress for making Nails, - - - - - - 218
Marshall, Major Thomas, - - - - - 120
Martial Law, declaration of, in Virginia, - 79, 81
Martin, Governour Josiah, communication of, with the people of North-Carolina ordered to be cut off, - - - - - - - - - 301
Tory Pamphlets circulated by, - - - 306
Proclamation of, - - - - - - 980
Commissions granted by, - - - - 981
Martindale, Captain, General Washington laments the inactivity of, - - - - - - 153
Captured, - - - - - 255, 262, 448
Supposed to be sent to England, - - 486
Maryland—
Instructions to Delegates in Continental Congress, - - - - - - - - 653
Convention, - - - - - - - 711–762
Letter to Continental Congress, - - - 575
Council of Safety, powers and duties of, - - 760
Letters to—
Richard Harrison, - - - - 771
Captain Forsythe, - - - - 771
Delegates in Congress, - - - - 780, 813, 903, 956, 1009, 1488
James Murray, - - - - - 780
Stephen Steward, - - - - 800
Mayor of Annapolis, - - - - 800
Prince George's County Committee, - 813
Stephen West, - - - - - 920
Virginia Committee of Safety, - - 957
Captain Ramsay, - - - - 983
St. Mary's County Committee, - - 984
William Spear, - - - - - 1009
Baltimore County Committee, - - - 1152, 1472
Talbot County Committee, - - - 1135
Captains Kent and Henry, 1135, 1521, 1533
William Hindman, - - - - 1135
Captain Veazey, - - - - - 1152
Philadelphia Committee, - - - 1161
Gustavus Scott, - - - - - 1167
Colonel Sim, - - - - - 1211
Captain Fulford, - - - - - 1468
Committees of Observation, - - - 1479
Colonel Dashiell, - - - - - 1489
Queen Anne County Committee, - - 1489
Colonel Waters, - - - - - 1491
Captain Hindman, - - - - 1494
Letters from—
John Youste, - - - - - - 702
Captain Stricker, - - - 794, 1010, 1508
Thomas Johnson, Jr., - - - - 800
Addison Murdock, - - - - 812
Joseph Robson, - - - - - 857
Virginia Committee of Safety, - 866, 984
Colonel Smallwood, - - - 867, 1136
Stephen West, - - - - 885, 1009
Delegates in Congress, - - - - 887, 912, 1161, 1491, 1507
George Mason and John Galton, - - 896
Dorchester County Committee, - - 904
Field-Officers of Elkridge Battalion, - 912
Lindenberger & McClellan, - - - 912
Samuel Purviance, Jr., - - - 937, 1167
H. Hollingsworth, - - - - 947
Philadelphia Committee, - - - 951
C. F. Weisenthall, - - - - 984
G. Dashiell and W. Horsey, - - - 985
Samuel Barnet, - - - - - 985
Thomas Contee and others, - - - 1010
Colonel Hollingsworth, - - - - 1010
John Harrison, Jr., - - - - 1011
Thomas Ewing, - - - - - 1011
William Neill, - - - - - 1011
William Lux, - - - - - - 1130
Princess Anne County Committee, - - 1152
Andrew Beall, - - - - 1161, 1534
C. Beatty and B. Johnson, - - - 1161
James L. Chamberline, - - - 1168
Colonel Joseph Sim, - - - - 1183
Charles Caswell, - - - - 1195, 1472

Maryland Council of Safety—Letters from—
Queen Anne County Committee, - - 1196
Benjamin Mackall and others, - - 1211
Richard Barnes, - - - - 1211, 1479
Jacob Young, - - - - - 1468
J. A. Thomas, - - - - - 1489
Dorchester County Committee, - - 1494
John Day Scott, - - - - - 1507
David Stewart, - - - - - 1533
Baltimore Committee, Letter to Council of Safety, 937
Letters from Council of Safety, - - 1152, 1472
Proceedings, - - - - - 1691–1744
Charles County, election of Officers, - - 1494
Members of Committee required to manufacture Saltpetre, - - - - - - 1495
Dorchester County, Letter from Committee to Council of Safety, - - - 904, 1494
Frederick County, Letter from Continental Congress, - - - - - - - 216
Answer to the above, - - - - - 479
Fredericktown, Letter of Committee to Continental Congress, - - - - - 615
Queen Anne County, complimentary Letter of Militia to Colonel Robert Tyler, - - 905
Answer to the above, - - - - 905
Letter of Committee to Council of Safety, - 1196
Mason, David, - - - - - - - - 76
Massachusetts—
Assembly, Letter from Samuel Norton, - - 290
Letters from General Washington, - - 672, 698, 777, 996
General Court, Letter to Delegates in Congress, 194
Letter to General Washington, - - - 191
Letters from General Washington, - - 191, 291, 448, 861, 900
Proclamation, - - - - - - - 833
Council, Proceedings, - - - - 1219–1312
Letters from—
R. H. Harrison, - - - - - 168
Governour Trumbull, - - - - 175
Colonel Moylan, - - - 176, 227, 1158
General Washington, - 205, 478, 624, 1502
Joseph Mayhew, - - - - - 769
Newburyport Committee, - - - 792
David Green and others, - - - 862
James Otis, - - - - 910, 1158
Committee of Marblehead, - - - 946
Miccamack Tribe of Indians, - - 946
James Sullivan, - - - - - 693
Salem Committee, - - - - 1205
House of Representatives, Proceedings, 1313–1468
Letter of Yankoo laid before, - - - 258
Dartmouth, fortification of Harbour of, - - 1435
Falmouth, means for defence of, - - 1318, 1349
Gloucester, fortification of Harbour of, 1231, 1317
Lincoln County, Proceedings in House of Representatives relative to disturbances in, - 1433
Distressed condition of, - - - - 1457
Majabigwaduce, Proceedings of Council on Petition of inhabitants of, - - 1257, 1288
Marblehead, fortification of, - 1290, 1304, 1443
Martha's Vineyard, order respecting, rescinded, 1278, 1419
Nantucket, Proceedings on charge against, of supplying the enemy with Provisions, - 1227, 1237, 1256, 1279, 1287, 1331, 1342, 1344, 1423, 1431
Newton, Petition of Inhabitants of, - - - 1234
Northampton, Letter from General Washington to Committee of Safety of, - - - 846
Rehoboth, fortifications at, - - - - 1286
Salem, Letters from Colonel Moylan to Committee of Safety of, - - 193, 206, 221
Letter to Colonel Moylan, - - - 215
Letter to Council of Safety, - - - 1205
Sandwich, Proceedings of Committee of Correspondence and Inspection of, - - 673
Springfield, Letter from R. H. Harrison to Committee of, - - - - - 973
Symsbury, Letter from General Washington to Committee of, - - - - - 235
Matthews, Captain George, 94, 103, 114, 120, 130
Matthews, Sampson, - - - 94, 103, 114, 118
Maxwell, Colonel William, Letters from Lord Stirling, - - - - - - 166, 915, 916
Letters to Lord Stirling, - - 295, 296, 463
Letters to Continental Congress, 813, 897, 923
Letter from Continental Congress, - - 850
Mayo, John, - - - - - - - - 75
Meade, Andrew, - - - - - - - 75
Meade, Lieutenant Yellas, - - - - - 167
Mercer, Colonel Hugh, - - - - - 118
Mercer, James, - - - - - - - - 75
Merchants, Proceedings of meeting of, in London, - 197
Meredith, Samuel, - - - - - - - 75
Merrill, Lambert, - - - - - - - 149
Meriwether, George, - - - - - - 171
Mersereau, Peter, - - - - - - - 149
Micheau, Paul, Letter to New-York Congress, - 149
Middleton, Arthur, - - - - 39, 56, 68, 80
Middleton, Henry, - - - - - 56, 68, 74
Middleton, Thomas, - - - - - 53, 55
Miles, Isaac, - - - - - - - - 267
Militia, South-Carolina, - - - - 62, 64, 65
Virginia, - - - - - - - - 83
New-York, - - - 423, 431, 433, 436
Maryland, - - - - - 733, 754
Massachusetts, - - - - 1233, 1252
New-Jersey, - - - - 1608, 1622
Remarks of Elbridge Gerry upon, - - 255
Ministry, British, measures of, - - - - 222
Minute-men, New-Hampshire, - - - 3, 4, 10
Virginia, - - - - - - - 83
Connecticut, - - - - - - - 268
Minor, Garret, - - - - - - - 171
Mitchell, Cary, - - - - - 94, 95, 96, 105
Mitchell, Lieutenant James, - - - - 67
Mohan, John, - - - - - - - 104
Monaghan, Lieutenant David, - - - - 65
Monitor, - - - - - - - - - 564
Montagu, Captain, Letter to Admiral Graves, - 343
Montague, James, - - - - - - - 75
Montgomery, General Richard, conduct of, towards Canadians, - - - - - - - 175
Preparing to attack Quebeck, - - - 190
Letters to General Schuyler, - 188, 309, 464
Joined Colonel Arnold, - - - - 188
Letter to General Wooster, - - - 288
Letter to General Carleton, - - - 289
Promoted to Major-General, - - - 294
Letter from "The Faithful Union with Liberty," - - - - - - - 382
Letter from Committee of Continental Congress appointed to confer with, - - 445
Letter from General Washington, - - 657
Killed in the attack upon Quebeck, 480, 482, 582, 588, 589, 666, 668, 706, 766, 768
Burial of, - - - - - - - 1652
Committee appointed by Congress to consider proper method of paying just tribute of gratitude to memory of, - - - 1650
Report of Committee, - - - - 1654
Funeral Oration in honour of, 1666, 1675–1684
Remarks of Mr. Adams on the Oration and its Author, - - - - - - 1562
(See *Quebeck.*)
Montreal, surrender of, - - - - - 170
Anonymous Letters from, - - 175, 868
Return of articles in Stores at, - - - 1219
Monument, to be erected to the memory of every Commanding Officer bravely fighting and falling in his country's cause, - - - 764
Moore, John, - - - - - - - - 55
Moore, Ret. - - - - - - - - - 176
Moore, William, - - - - - - - 66
Moorer, Peter, - - - - - - - - 73
Morey, Colonel Israel, - - - 5, 13, 16, 996
Morgan, Dr. John, Letter to General Washington, 263
To the Publick, - - - - - - 536
Morris, John, - - - - - - - - 48
Morris, Jonathan Ford, - - - - - 172
Morris, Captain Joseph, - - - - 164, 172

Mosely, Edward Hack, - - - 89, 95, 108
Mott, Edward, Letters to Governour Trumbull, 876, 1133
Mott, Samuel, Report on Fortifications of Connecticut, 695
Letter to Governour Trumbull, - - - 1146
Mott, Captain, - - - - - - - 868
Motte, Colonel, - - - - - - - 47
Motte, Jacob, - - - - - - - 53, 56
Motto, of the United Colonies, - - - - 468
Moulton, Colonel, - - - - - - - 4, 13
Moultrie, John, Lieutenant-Governour of Florida,
Letter to General Grant, - - - 336
Moultrie, Colonel William, 43, 44, 45, 50, 51, 55, 69
Mowat, Captain, burning of Falmouth by, - - 1374
Moylan, Colonel Stephen, Letters to—
Colonel Wentworth, - - - 152, 264
William Watson, - - - 152, 194, 255
William Bartlett, 158, 206, 230, 231, 284, 285, 458
Massachusetts Council, - - 176, 227, 1158
Salem Committee, - - - 193, 206, 221
Peleg Wadsworth, - - - - - 193
Colonel Jonathan Glover, - - - 179
Colonel John Glover, - - - - 221
Major Hawley, - - - - - 846
General Court of Massachusetts-Bay, - - 861
Matthew Thornton, - - - - 956
General Wooster, - - - - - 1515
Letters from—
Josiah Wentworth, - - - - - 168
William Watson, - - - - - 179
John Pickering, - - - - - 215
R. H. Harrison, - - - - - 793
Muhlenberg, Peter, - - - - - - 75
Mulcaster, Frederick George, to General Grant, - 329
Murdaugh, James, - - - - - - - 75
Murdock, Addison, - - - - - - - 812
Murray, Captain, - - - - - - - 115
Mutinous spirit, in Armed Vessels, - - 152, 181
In the Army, - - - - - - 220
Myers, Captain, - - - - - - 164
Nancy, Transport, capture of, 159, 170, 180, 256, 294
Naval Stores, Resolution of the Continental Congress
respecting, - - - - - - - 1669
Navy, (See *Vessels, Armed.*)
Neaville, Joseph, - - - - - - - 75
Neel, Colonel Thomas, - - - - - 40
Negroes, Free, inlisted in the Continental Army, - 485
Nelson, Hugh, - - - - - - - - 76
Nelson, John, - - - - - - - - 171
Nelson, Thomas, - - - - - - 91, 101
Nelson, William, - - - - - - - 121
Newfoundland, to be garrisoned, - - - - 903
Neufville, Mr. - - - - - - - 49, 50
Neutrality, recommended to be held forth to all the
Powers of Europe, - - - - - 472
Newbury, Major Roger, - - - - - 267
New-Hampshire—
Provincial Congress, - - - - 9–20
Letters from General Sullivan, - - 20, 25
Colonel Wingate, - - - - - 21
Dr. Jackson, - - - - - 21, 153
Portsmouth Committee, - - - - 22
Delegates in Continental Congress, - - 24
Dutchess County Committee, - - - 187
Colonel Hobart, - - - - - - 449
Colonel Long, - - - - - - 593
Assembly, Letters from General Sullivan, 768, 794, 862
Council, Letter to General Washington, - - 809
General Court, Letter from General Sullivan, - 709
Letter to Colonel Hobart, - - - 169
Letter to General Sullivan, - - - 195
Letter to General Washington, - - - 709
Letter to Continental Congress, - - 964
Convention, Letters from the Continental Congress, - - - - - - 155, 782
Letters from General Washington, 448, 672, 699
Letters to General Washington, - 470, 685
Letter to Captain Salter, - - - - 573
Committee of Safety, - - 1–10, 1483–1488
Letters from General Sullivan, - - - 159, 168, 221, 450
Letters from Josiah Bartlett, 22, 172, 658, 784, 837
New-Hampshire Committee of Safety—
Letter from General Folsom, - - - 207
Letters from General Washington, - 214, 877
Letter from Continental Congress, - - 654
Letter from Westbrook Waldron, - - 685
Letter from P. Begozzat, - - - 1134
Letter from John Langdon, - - - 1477
Letter to General Schuyler, - - - 23
Letter to Colonel Bedel, - - - - 23
Letter to General Washington, - - - 810
Letter to Colonels Morey and Bellows, - 811
Letter to Colonel Waite, - - - - 811
Letter to Major Bellows, - - - - 901
Letter to Continental Congress, - - 964
Letter to Colonel Morey, - - - 996
Letters to Delegates in Congress, - 23, 996
Plan of Government for, suggested by General Sullivan, - - - - - - 241
Form of Government assumed by, - - 583
Difficulties relative to the same, - 996–1000
Portsmouth, Proceedings in Committee of Safety, relative to defence of, - - 1, 2, 3, 4, 12, 13, 14, 15, 18, 20, 21, 22, 24
Instructions to Delegates in Provincial Congress, - - - - - - - 459
Memorial and Remonstrance of, - - 460
Remarks on Petition and Remonstrance, - 653
New-Jersey—
Provincial Congress, - - 966, 1579–1626
Letters to Continental Congress, 948, 986, 1490
Letter to New-York Committee of Safety, - 1117
Letters from Continental Congress, 1013, 1153
Letter from New-York Committee of Safety, 1120
Proceedings of Continental Congress on Letters from Convention, - - 1671, 1689
Application of Field-Officers of Third Battalion to Continental Congress, for Arms, - 1015
Officers of Third Battalion, - - - 1469
Another Battalion to be raised in, - - 1639
Committee of Safety, - - - - 660–666
Letter from Lord Stirling, - - - 246
Letters to Continental Congress, 772, 814, 815
Letter from Continental Congress, - - 783
Somerset County, Proceedings of Township of Barnard, on suspected persons, - - 235
Sussex County, Tories in, - - - - 475
Elizabethtown, Return of Powder borrowed from, by New-York Committee, - - 579
Letter from Committee of, to Continental Congress, - - - - - - - 987
New-York—
Address to the Inhabitants of, by Governour Tryon, - - - - - - - 173
Answer to the same, - - - - 174
Number and sentiments of Inhabitants, state of Militia, &c., - - - - - 587
Ever has been and ever will be a moth to the rest of the Colonies, - - - - 675
Assembly, prorogued, - - - - 149, 447
Remonstrance of Provincial Congress against the same, - - - - - 407, 413
Dissolved, - - - - - - - 542
Nomination of Members, - - - - 702
Circular of Committee of Safety to County Committees, relative to election of Members, - - - - - - - - 1020
Design of Government in calling meeting of, 1028
Prorogued, - - - - - - - 1153
Committee of Safety, appointment of, - - 417
Powers of, - - - - - - 418, 438
Absent Members urged to attend, - - 796
Proceedings, - - 807, 949, 1017–1126
Letters to Continental Congress, - 562, 1642
Letter to Delegates in Congress, - - 787
Letter to Lord Stirling, - - - 795
Letter to the Inhabitants of the Colony, - 606
Letter to Colonel Swartwout, - - 966
Letters from General Washington, - 605, 994
Letter from Continental Congress, - - 783
Letters from Lord Stirling, - - 655, 965
Letter from Thomas Wickes, - - 655

New-York—Committee of Safety—
Letter from William Leary, - - - 693
Letter from Robert Ogden, - - - 817
Letter from John Imlay, - - - 817
Letter from John Blackler, - - - 818
Letter from General Lee, - - - 830
Letters from John Graham, - - 857, 923
Letter from John Fowler, - - - 876
Letter from Peter T. Curtenius, - - 879
Letter from Committee of Correspondence to Continental Congress, - - - 857
Letter from William Bedlow, - - 889
Letter from William Forbes, - - - 949
Provincial Congress, - - 165, 383, 440
Letter from Paul Micheau, - - - 149
Letter from Theodore Van Wyck, - - 156
Letter from Lord Stirling, - - - 173
Letter from John Marks, - - - 218
Letter from Commissioners for Fortifications, - - - - - - - 254
Letter from Edward Jones, - - - 254
Letter from Colonel Hasbrouck, - - 307
Letter from Samuel Stephens, - - 309
Letter from Mamacoting Precinct, - - 381
Letters from Tryon County Committee, - 400, 469, 1180
Letter from Richmond County Committee, 428
Letter from John Brickell, - - - 788
Letter from Officers of First Battalion of Minute-men, - - - - - - 889
Letter from Frederick Hartell, - - 898
Letter from John Wylley, - - - 898
Letter from Thomas Youngs, - - 906
Letter from Arendt Van Hook, - - 916
Letter from Guert Spt. de Wint, - - 938
Letter from S. Avery, - - - - 960
Letter from Officers in Orange County, - 967
Letter from Thomas Palmer, - - 1016
Letter from Robert R. Randall, - - 1016
Letter from applicants for Commissions, - 1125
Letter from William Dusenberry, - - 1130
Letter from Abraham Godwin, - - 1130
Letter from Peter T. Curtenius, - - 1154
Letter from Joseph Blanchard, - - 1154
Letter from R. Thurman, - - - 1154
Letter from Samuel Thompson, - - 1155
Letter from Colonel Heard, - - - 1163
Letter from Philip Brooks, - - - 1163
Letter from Joseph French, - - - 1181
Letter from Adrian de Ronde, - - 1181
Letter from Major Rogers, - - - 1201
Letter from William and Thomas Cock, - 1201
Letter from Cornelius Wynkoop and others, 1212
Letter from Azor Betts, - - - 1212
Letter from Joseph Robinson, - - 1469
Letters from General Schuyler, - 1470, 1510
Letter from Orange County Committee, - 1474
Letter from Robert Boyd, Jun., - - 1480
Letter from Joseph Crane, - - - 1491
Letter from John Hill, - - - - 1532
Letter from John Hammell, Jun., - - 1532
Letter from Patrick Sinclair, - - - 1539
Letter to Commissioners at Highlands, - 185
Letters to Continental Congress, - 391, 1530
Albany County Committee, Proceedings on Benjamin Hilton, - - - - - 1184
Letter to the Committee for the District of Kinderhook, - - - - - - 210
Answer of Kinderhook Committee, - 211
Protest of Kinderhook Committee, - - 579
Order for Election of Committee for Kinderhook, - - - - - - - 580
Cumberland County, objections to certain appointments, - - - 309, 429, 430, 1024
Association signed by all the males of Townshend, - - - - - - 430
Efforts of Committee of Safety to restore harmony, - - - - 1031, 1033
Dutchess County, Letter of Committee to Provincial Congress, - - - 187, 403
Letter to Committee of Safety, - - 1117

New-York—New-York City, Proceedings of Committee, - - 185, 280, 355, 380, 689
Circular of Committee to Inhabitants of neighbouring Colonies, - - - 958
Petition to Provincial Congress relative to citizens of Connecticut, - 393, 400, 401
Memorial of First Battalion of Minute-men to Continental Congress, - - - 889
British Troops thought to be preparing to remove to, from Boston, - - 899, 1503
Preparations for defence, &c., (See *General Lee.*)
Arrival of General Clinton at, - 942, 1106 (See *General Clinton.*)
Recommended to General Howe as proper seat of war, - - - - - - 1000
Cannon and Stores removed from the Battery, - - - 1000, 1122, 1145
Information on state of Militia, called for by Committee of Safety, - - - 1025
Inquiries relative to goods supposed to be imported from St. Eustatia, - - 1025
Commissions to Officers, - - 1031, 1032
Ministerial Fleet expected at, - - 1045
Proceedings relative to obstruction of navigation, - - - - - 1050, 1638
Application for improved Night Watch, &c., 1073
Pilot stationed at Sandy-Hook to watch for appearance of Fleet, - - - 1079
Transport reported to be off the Hook, - 1104
Examination of the Mayor relative to the above, - - - - 1105, 1106
Look-out again stationed at Sandy-Hook, 1106
Arrival of Transport-ship, - - - 1118
Measures to secure Stock on Staten-Island, 1120, 1123
Records to be conveyed to place of safety, 1122
Departure of British Ships from, 1179, 1198
Appointment of Mayor, - - - 1201
General state of affairs in, - - - 1479
Orange County, recommendation for commission, - - - - - - 967
Return of Field-Officers of Minute-men, 1023
Letter to Provincial Congress, - - 1474
Haverstraw, dissensions in, - - - 1475
Discharge of Militia, - - - - 1637
Queen's County, Declaration of Inhabitants, 203
Disaffected persons in, - - - - 372
Proceedings in Provincial Congress relative to, - - - 405, 406, 434, 435
Expedition into, - - - 764, 772, 923
Declaration signed by inhabitants, - - 858
Oath subscribed by sundry inhabitants, - 860
Disposition of arrested persons, - - 1119
Resolutions of Continental Congress relative to, - - - - - 1630, 1634
Richmond County, Committee, - - - 149
Letters to Provincial Congress, - 428, 1498
Proceedings in Provincial Congress on state of, - - - - - - 434, 435
State of, - - - - - - - 1040
Election of Members to Provincial Congress, 1069
Letter of Committee of Safety to Continental Congress relative to, - - - 1094
Proceedings in Continental Congress, - 1666
Suffolk County, supply of Powder to, from Committee of Safety, - - - 1024
Artillery Company recommended to be raised in, - - - - - - 1026
Letter to Committee of Safety, - - 1108
Tryon County, Letters from Provincial Congress, to Committee of, - 397, 400, 1180
Letter from Committee of, to Committee of Safety, - - - - - - - 1036
Letters to Provincial Congress, - 400, 469
Proceedings of Tories in, - - - 667
Proceedings of General Schuyler, - 818–829
Approbation of General Schuyler's conduct by Continental Congress, - - - 1661
Account of same to be published in the Papers, - - - - - - - 1662

New-York—Ulster County—
Mamacoting Precinct, Letter from Committee to Provincial Congress, - - 381
Petition of Militia, - - - - 889
Recommendation to Captaincy, - - 967
Inhabitants spirited for the country's cause, 1016
Place of rendezvous in case of alarm, - 1023
Prisoners sent to, - - 1070, 1071
Letters to Committee of Safety, 1091, 1098
Discharge of Militia, - - - - 1637
Westchester County, Letters of Committee, to Committee of Safety, - - 596, 1116
Cannon at King's Bridge spiked, - - 1067
Proceedings on persons suspected of spiking Cannon, - 1068, 1072, 1082, 1083, 1084, 1085, 1086, 1087, 1089, 1090, 1095, 1101
Newton, Thomas, - - - - - - - 76
Nicholas, Captain John, - - - - - 414
Nicholas, Robert C., - - - - - - 75
Letter to General Washington, - - - 920
Nicoll, Isaac, Letter to John McKesson, - - 235
Night Watch, Military, of New-York City, Regulations of, - - - - - - - - 281
Niles, Captain, - - - - - - - - 175
Non-Exportation, "Questions and Answers," relative to, - - - - - - - - - 1168
(See *Association, Continental.*)
Non-Importation, Memorial of West-India Planters and Merchants in consequence of, - - 1008
Non-Intercourse, of Great Britain with the Colonies, Petition of West-India Merchants against, 198
Norberg, Captain John, - - - - - 414
North, Lord, proposition of, - - - - - 150
Policy of, - - - - - - - - 174
North-Carolina, Troops sent from, into Virginia, - 245
Provincial Council, - - - - 299–308
Preparations for defence, - - - 303
State of affairs, - - - - - - 476
Regulators and Tories making head in the back country, - - - - - - 1129
Manifesto of Colonel Rutherford, - - 1129
Highlanders awed into submission, - - 1488
Commissions issued to Battalions raised in, - 1627
Recommended by Continental Congress to make vigorous defence, if attacked, - - 1627
Powder sent to, by Continental Congress, - 1639
Another Battalion to be raised in, - - 1643
Norton, Samuel, Letter to Massachusetts Assembly, 290
Norvell, William, - - - - - - - 75
Nova-Scotia, Proclamation of Governour Legge, 195, 222
Proceedings in Parliament relative to, - 287
Proposition of James Lyon to reduce, - - 460
Reply of General Washington to the above proposition, - - - - - - 1182
An object of attention to the British Government, - - - - - - - - 903
Report of Mess. Willard and Child respecting, 1149
Oath, Act of Connecticut empowering certain persons to administer, - - - - - 273
Odiorne, Captain, - - - - - - - 159
Odlin, Rev. Woodbridge, - - - - - 17
Oil, price of, limited by Philadelphia Committee, - 246
Olcott, Benoni, - - - - - - - - 267
Oliphant, Dr. - - - - - - - - 47
Orders, by General Washington, - 182, 240, 263, 456, 489, 568, 630, 776, 841, 894, 977, 1150, 1503
By General Schuyler, - - - - - 1511
Orillat, Mr. - - - - - - - - 917
Otis, James, Letter to the Council of Massachusetts, 910, 911, 1158
Page, Abraham, - - - - - - - 18
Page, Captain Caleb, - - - - - 12, 15, 18
Page, Daniel, - - - - - - - - 267
Page, Major Enoch, - - - - - - - 13
Page, John, - - - - - - - - 87, 142
Letter to R. H. Lee, - - - - - 1208
Page, Mann, Jr., - - - - - - - - 76
Paine, Mr. - - - - - - - - - 1562
Palfrey, William, Letter from Robert H. Harrison, - 178
Letter to General Washington, - - - 880
Palmer, Thomas, Letter to New-York Congress, - 1016
Paper, encouragement of manufacture of, in South-Carolina, - - - - - - - - 72
Proceedings in Massachusetts on account of scarcity of, - - 1308, 1455, 1456
Collection of Rags for manufacture of, in Philadelphia, - - - - - - 1562
Paper Currency, (See *Bills of Credit.*)
Parker, John, - - - - - - - - 27
Parker, Captain H., Instructions of Admiral Graves to, 308
Parker, Captain Robert, - - - - - 21
Parker, Josiah, - - - - - - - 75
Parker, William, (New-Hampshire,) - - - 6
Parker, William, (South-Carolina,) - - - 61
Parliament, Notice of Proceedings in, - - 287, 440
Parole, of Colonel Hazen, not thought binding, - 1655
Parsons, Colonel James, - - - - - 56
Parsons, Captain Joseph, - - - - - 6, 8, 15
Partridge, Richard, - - - - - - - 89
Patterson, Samuel, Letter to Continental Congress, - 200
Patterson, Thomas, - - - - - - - 75
Pay, of Officers in Massachusetts, thought too high, - 1399
Of Massachusetts Troops, difficulty in settling mode of, - - - - 194, 205, 206
Proceedings in Council relative to, 1220, 1222
Payne, Benjamin, - - - - - - - 267
Peachy, Colonel William, - - - - - 119
Pearis, Captain, - - - - - - - 39
Pelissier, Monsieur, Letter to Continental Congress, 596
Assurance of casting Shells, - - - 671
Delay for want of Coal, - - - - 838
Pendleton, Edmund, - - - - - - 75
Letter to R. H. Lee, - - - - - 201
Pendleton, Henry, - - - - - - - 75
Pendleton, John, - - - - - - - 131
Penet and De Pliarne, recommended by Governour Cooke to General Washington, - -. 235
Recommended by General Washington to the Continental Congress, - - - 261, 264
Recommended by Governour Cooke to Continental Congress, - - - - - 310
Recommended by Governour Trumbull to Continental Congress, - - - - 447
Return to France, - - - - - - 660
Penn, Governour John, Letter from Charles Stewart, 251
Letter to Pennsylvania Assembly, - - 1273
Indians invited to Philadelphia by, - - 1499
Pennsylvania—
Memorial of Field-Officers to Continental Congress, - - - - - - 655, 1640
Recommendation to sign Articles of Association, - - - - - - - 795, 922
Address to Inhabitants of, in reply to "Common Sense," - - - - - - 1527
Officers of Continental Battalions, 1626, 1630, 1632, 1633, 1639, 1642, 1649, 1650
Additional Battalion to be raised in, - - 1632
Memorial of Officers of First Battalion, - 1645
Proceedings on the above, - - - 1647
Assembly, Reflections upon Instructions of, to Delegates in Congress, - - - - 471
Letter from Governour Penn, - - - 1473
Memorial from Committee of Safety, 1474, 1574
An Apology for, - - - - - - 1535
Committee of Safety, - 493–526, 561, 1561–1578
Letter from Richard Swoope, - - - 837
Letter from Committee of Privates of Philadelphia Association, - - - - 941
Memorial to the Assembly, - - - 1474
Letter from New-Jersey Provincial Congress, 1607
Desired by Continental Congress to send Powder to Virginia, - - - - - - 1636
Berks County, recommendation of Committee to sign Association, - - - - - 795
Recantations, - - - - - - 887
Bucks County, Proceedings of Committee relative to violation of Association, - - 462
Proceedings relative to manufacture of Saltpetre, - - - - - - - 795
Petition to Assembly, - - - - 1509
Chester County, Proceedings of Committee, - 462
Manufacture of Saltpetre in, - - - 1012

Pennsylvania—
Lancaster, Letters from Committee of, to Continental Congress, - 371, 561, 619, 801
Letter from Continental Congress, - - 761
Northumberland County, Memorial of inhabitants of, to Continental Congress, - - 1676
Philadelphia, limit to price of Oil, - - 246
New Committee to be chosen, - - - 848
Letter to Maryland Committee of Safety, - 951
Proceedings relative to refusal of Continental Currency, - - - - - 941, 1211
List of Members of Committee, - - 1162
Speech of a Farmer on his engaging in the Continental service, - - - - 1525
Reading, Letter of Committee to Delegates in Congress, - - - - - - - 937
Perkins, Captain Lemuel, Papers, &c., relative to detention of Sloop of, - - - - 1205
Perkins, Peter, - - - - - - - 76
Peronneau, Henry, - - - - - - 55, 57
Peyton, Francis, - - - - - - - 75
Petitions, of Pennsylvania, - - - - - - 518
Of Continental Congress, - - - - - 607
Of Continental Congress, reprinted in New-York, - - - - - - - 1030
Colonies requested to transmit copies of, to Continental Congress, - - - - 1630
Phripp, Matthew, - - - - - - 89, 95, 108
Pickering, John, - - - - - - - 215
Pierce, Stephen, - - - - - 96, 107
Pincheon, Lieutenant, - - - - - - 177
Pinckney, Colonel Charles, - - - - - 27
Pinckney, Captain Charles Cotesworth, - - 39
Pinckney, Major, - - - - - - - 56
Pinkerton, Major John, - - - - - - 13
Pinney, Captain Isaac, - - - - - - 267
Pitt, Fort, sale of, - - - - - - - 112
Pitkin, Colonel John, - - - - - - 267
Pitkin, William, - - - - - 157, 267
Place, Captain David, - - - - - - 8
Poillon, John, - - - - - - - - 149
Polhemus, Captain John - - - - - - 160
Letter from Lord Stirling, - - - 259
Reply, - - - - - - - - - 279
Polk, Captain Ezekiel, - - - - 40, 46, 48
Polk, Colonel Thomas, - - - - - - 60
Polk, Lieutenant William, - - - - - - 46
Poor, Colonel, - - - - - - - - 1
Poor, Loan from South-Carolina, for support of, - 57
Of Norfolk, relief of, - - - - - 114
Contributions in Virginia for relief of, in Boston, - - - - - - - - - 284
Publick provision for, by New-York, - - 437, 1072, 1104, 1105, 1122
Measures of Baltimore Committee for relief of, in Boston, 1694, 1695, 1698, 1701, 1703, 1714
Porter, Colonel Elisha, Instructions to, - - 995
Ports, American, recommended to be opened to every European Power except Great Britain, 472, 779
Proceedings in Continental Congress relative to opening, - - 1641, 1642, 1643, 1645, 1663, 1671, 1673, 1674, 1692
Post Office, Constitutional, at Annapolis, - - 184
Parliamentary, in Maryland, prohibited, 234, 713
Under the Crown, discontinued, - - 453
Powder—
Proposition of Messrs. Penet and De Pliarne to import, (See *Penet and De Pliarne.*)
Seizure of, by P. Cunningham, - - 39
Supply of, to traders in Georgia, - - 44
For defence of interior of South-Carolina, 50, 71
Purchase of, in Virginia, - - - - 79
Importation of, in Virginia, - - - 122
Encouragement of manufacture of, in Connecticut, - - - - 269, 276, 277
Purchase of, by North-Carolina, 301, 304, 305, 306
Requested by North-Carolina from South-Carolina, - - - - - - - 301
Mode of making - - - - - 370
Want of, in the Continental Army, 458, 1192, 1203
Obtained from Hispaniola, - - 466, 1019
Powder—
Manufacture of, encouraged in Pennsylvania, 517
Manufacture of, encouraged in Maryland, - 726
Efforts of Maryland to import, - - - 771
Importation of, at New-York, - - 789, 1029
Scarcity of, in Maryland, - - - - 904
Proposition for manufacture of, in Maryland, 912
Scarcity of, in Connecticut, - - - 927
Scarcity of, in New-Jersey, - - - 938
Scarcity of, with Army in Canada, - 927, 939
Arrival of, at Philadelphia, - - - 947, 1152, 1634, 1645, 1667
Arrival of, in Connecticut, - - - 962
Portion sent to General Washington, - - 968, 970, 1018, 1477
Encouragement of importation in Connecticut, - - - - - - 972, 973
Purchase by New-York Committee of Safety, 1017
Distribution of, by New-York Committee of Safety, - 1018, 1024, 1027, 1035, 1057
New-York Committee of Safety desire to export Flaxseed for, - - - - 1021
Remarks of Delegates to Congress on the above, - - - - - - - 1045
Not to be obtained in France or Portugal, - 1027
Manufacture of, encouraged in New-York, 1037, 1052
Efforts of New-York to import, - - 1042, 1057
Livingston's Mill re-erected, - 1110, 1115, 1117
Manufacture of, urged by J. Adams, - - 1140
Purchase of, by Maryland, - 1152, 1701, 1709
Manufacture and importation of, encouraged in Massachusetts, (See *Proceedings of Assembly and House of Representatives.*)
Supply to General Washington by Massachusetts, - - - - - - - 1307
Importation of, by Robert Morris, - - 1507
Arrival of, at New-York, - - 1539, 1636
Importation of, encouraged by Pennsylvania Committee of Safety, - - - - 1567
Manufacture of, encouraged by Pennsylvania Committee of Safety, - - - - 1567, 1569, 1570, 1572, 1574, 1575, 1576
Importation encouraged by Continental Congress, - - - - - - - 1630
Pennsylvania Committee of Safety desired by Continental Congress to send to Virginia, - 1636
Sent by Continental Congress to North-Carolina, - - - - - 1639, 1667
Procured by Continental Congress from Providence, - - - - - - - 1644
Directions of Continental Congress to supply to Troops marching to Canada, - - 1649
Supplied by Continental Congress to New-Jersey, - - - - - - - 1650
Supplied by Continental Congress to New-York, - - - - - - - 1666
Amount borrowed from Pennsylvania Committee of Safety by Continental Congress returned, - - - - - - - 1667
Sent to General Lee by Continental Congress, - - - - - - - 1668
Arrival of, at New-Brunswick, New-Jersey, 1685
Supplied by Maryland to New-Jersey, - 1711
Powell, Francis, - - - - - - - 124
Poythress, Peter, - - - - - - - 76
Powell, Gabriel, - - - - - - - 44
Powell, Robert William, - - - - - - 44
Prentis, Joseph, - - - - - - - - 76
Prescott, Brigadier General, inquiry into the treatment of Colonel Allen by, - 311, 581, 696
Ordered to be kept in close custody, - 585, 1627
Prisoner at Trenton, - - - - - 814
Refuses to give parole, - - - - - 815
Guard placed over, - - - - - - 850
Ordered to be sent to Philadelphia, - - 1650
In confinement in Philadelphia, - - 279
Character of, - - - - - - - 1178
Committee of Continental Congress to examine, - - - - - - 1654, 1655
Ordered to Jail in Philadelphia, - - 1658

Prescott, Brigadier-General—
Room to be inspected, and state of health to be inquired into, - - - - - 1658
Report of Committee, - - - - 1660
Allowed servant, and Physician if necessary, 1660
Removed to more comfortable lodgings, - 1662
Prescott, Major William, - - - - - - 13
Preston, Major, on parole, - - - - - 1633
Preston, William, - - - - - - - 106
Price, James, Letter to General Schuyler, - - 668
Funds advanced by, to Army in Canada, - 669, 674, 838
Price, Rev. Thomas, - - - - - 77, 131
Price Current, at Boston, December 1, 1775, - 159
Prisoners, taken by Lord Dunmore, - - - 82
Taken in Prizes, disposition of, 152, 158, 176, 227
Captain and Midshipmen taken on shore, 177, 214
Taken at St. John's, disposition of, 155, 190, 205, 225, 248, 371, 542, 561, 619, 772, 801, 937
Permit to go to the West-Indies, - - 214
Application to New-York Congress to extend parole, - - - - - - - - 389
Exchange of, not yet agreed upon, - - 291
Application of General Washington to General Howe for exchange of, unanswered, 466, 486
Exchange of correspondence upon, between Colonel Howe and Lord Dunmore, - 474
Petition of Lieutenant Hamer granted, 814, 1644
Application of Richard Huddleston, Surgeon, for release, - - - - - - - 814
Letter from New-Jersey Committee of Safety to Continental Congress, relative to, 814, 815
Orders of General Schuyler, relative to, - 816
Not to be inlisted in Continental Army, 867, 1660
His Majesty's name not to be used in any negotiation for exchange of, - - - 903
Recommendation of General Washington to treat kindly, - - - - - - 973
Not permitted to remove from place of parole, 974
Application of General Washington for exchange of Mr. Lovell, - - - - 975
Necessity of the appointment of a Commissary to provide for, - - - - 974
Application of Captain Wood for extension of parole, - - - - - - - 1133
Letter from Pennsylvania Committee of Safety to Continental Congress respecting, at Lancaster, - - - - - - - 1213
Proceedings of Massachusetts Court relative to, - - - 1223, 1224, 1253, 1322
Letter of Edward Williams to Governour Trumbull, - - - - - - - 1514
Letter of Samuel Gale to John McKesson, - 1539
Proceedings in Continental Congress relative to, - - - - - 1633, 1637, 1640, 1641, 1644, 1660, 1661, 1664, 1665, 1689
Privateers, Petition to Massachusetts Court for leave to fit out, - - - - - - - 1297
Petition of Salem Committee praying to be instructed what is their duty respecting captures made by, - - - - - - 1319
Resolution of Massachusetts House of Representatives respecting, - - - 1332
Prizes, taken by Continental Armed Vessels, - 154, 158, 168, 169, 179, 192, 227, 230, 237, 266, 294, 448, 486, 792, 863, 939, 974
Court for trial of, proposed by General Washington, - - - - - - - - 180
Petition of Town of Beverley for protection of, 236
Proclamation by the King, appointing distribution of, - - - - - - - 377
Off Sandy-Hook, opportunity for taking, - 795
Distribution of, - - - - - 563, 1634
Resolutions of Continental Congress relative to, 1046
Proclamation, by Lord Dunmore, - 79, 201, 202
By Governour Tryon, - - 149, 447, 542
By Governour Legge, - - - 195, 222
By Virginia Convention, - - 81, 249, 258
By Governour Chester, - - - - 341
By the King, - - - - 377, 543
By Governour Carleton, - - - - 488
Proclamation—
By Massachusetts Court, - - - - 833, 1237, 1246, 1268, 1410
By Governour Trumbull, - - 931, 932, 933
By Governour Martin, - - - - - 980
By General McDonald, - - - - 982
Prosper, Ship, impressed and fitted for service, - 50, 54, 57, 63, 64, 66, 69, 71
Providence, wonderful interposition of, in affairs of America, - - - - - - - 256
Provisions, refused by Virginia Committee to his Majesty's Ships, - - - - - - 99
Supply of, to enemy by inhabitants of Long-Island, - - - - - - - - 175
Supply of, to inhabitants of Nantucket, - 176
Supplying, to Ministerial Vessels earnestly reproved, - - - - - - - 592
Supplied by Newport to Captain Wallace, - 798
Requested for Men-of-War at Savannah, 799, 1128
New-York Committee of Safety recommend not to furnish, to King's Ship, - - 948
Efforts to procure, from St. Eustatia and Georgia, - - - - - - - 949
Refused to King's Ships at Charlestown, - 950
Resolution of New-York Committee of Safety relative to sale of barrelled Pork, - - 1121
Measures to secure Stock on Staten-Island from Ministerial Troops, - 1120, 1123
Efforts of General Howe to procure, from Barbadoes, - - - - - - - - 1158
Proceedings in Massachusetts Council relative to inhabitants of Nantucket supplying enemy with, - 1227, 1237, 1256, 1279, 1287
Importation of, into Massachusetts from Southern Colonies, - - 1310, 1312, 1458
To be purchased for Massachusetts in western part of the Colony, - - - - 1461
Orders in British Council respecting exportation, &c., of, - - - - - - 1467
Great want of, in Army in Canada, - - 1470
New-Jersey Congress request not to suffer to be shipped to New-York, - - - 1597
Letter relative to, intercepted by Baltimore Committee, - - - - - 1719
Shipped from Baltimore to New-England, - 1732, 1737, 1741
Provost-Marshal, Commission and instructions to, - 593
Punishment of enemies to America, Ordinance establishing mode of, in Virginia, - - 145
Purves, Captain John, - - - - - 48
Putnam, General Israel, - - - - 157, 159
Letter to General Washington, - - - 182
Putnam, Rufus, Letter to General Washington, - 1008
Quakers, Testimony and principles of, touching the commotions in America, - - - - 785
Quebeck, reduction of, expected, - - - - 170, 175, 181, 192, 201, 368
Plan of attack, - - - - - - 158
Preparations for attack, - - - 190, 289
Reported to be taken, - - - - 202
Anonymous Letters from, - - 204, 290, 296
Necessity of changing plan of attack, - - 464
Unsuccessful attack upon, - 480, 481, 582, 588, 589, 666, 705, 706–709, 766, 768, 781, 782
Inhabitants who refuse to take up arms ordered to leave, - - - - - - - - 488
General Carleton's account of attack, - - 656
List of Americans killed and wounded at, - 675
Necessity of recruits being sent to, - 766, 767
Troops sent to, - - 768, 773, 781, 782, 783
Blockade of, continued, - - - - 1148
Account of attack published by Continental Congress, - - - - - - - 1651
(See *Montgomery, Arnold, &c.*)
Quincy, Josiah, Letter to General Washington, - 1204
Quit Rents, an Act for the application of, to erecting fortifications recommended, - - - 472
Rainbow, Sloop, papers, &c., relative to, - - 1205
Rains, Ambrose, - - - - - - 87, 95
Randolph, Edmund, - - - - - - - 146
Randolph, Peyton, - - - - - 76, 127

Randolph, Richard, - - - - - - - 75
Randolph, Thomas, - - - - - - 203
Randolph, Thomas Mann, - - - - - 75
Rations, of Continental Troops, - - 307, 457, 1513
Rattlesnake, emblem of United Colonies, - - 468
Ravenell, James, - - - - - - - 65
Rawlins, Ichabod, - - - - - - - 16
Reade, Isaac, - - - - - - - - 75
Recantation, of Gideon Lounsbury, Connecticut, - 212
Of James Judd, Connecticut, - - - 288
Of Francis Baker, Maryland, - - - 713
Of Isaac Atkinson, Maryland, - - - 719
Of Richard Button, Maryland, - - - 1718
Of John Welsh, Maryland, - - - 1723
Of James Moore, Maryland, - - - 1740
Of David Taylor, Jun., Massachusetts, - 150
Of Ezekiel Beech, New-Jersey, - - 441
Of Thomas Colden, New-York, - - 156
Of James Miller, New-York, - - - 247
Of Lewis McDonald, Jun., New-York, - 247
Of Stephen Baxter, New-York, - - 248
Of George Coffin, New-York, - - 562, 1020
Of Sundry inhabitants of Queen's County, New-York, - - - - - 858, 1050
Of Thomas Place, New-York, - - - 1021
Of Gabriel Vancott, New-York, - - 1022
Of Azor Betts, New-York, - - - 1212
Of John Austin, Pennsylvania, - - - 1141
Of Gaius Dickinson, Pennsylvania, - - 887
Of William Gilliland, Pennsylvania, - - 888
Of John Hamblin, Virginia, - - - 848
Of Walter Hatton, Virginia, - - - 1470
Reconciliation, Mr. Hartley's plan of, - - - 287
All hope of, shut out by the King's speech, - 367
Ministry afraid to propose, without saving the honour of the nation, - - - - 688
Lord Drummond to General Robertson relative to, - - - - - - 943, 1149
Sense of New-York Committee of Safety upon, 1028
No possibility of, - - - - - - 1183
Precluded by Ministerial measures, - - 1478
Fruitless issue of Colonel Corbin's mission to Lord Dunmore, - - - - - - 1506
Lord North's plan of, - - - - - 1508
"Common Sense," - - - - - - 1549
Records, of Maryland, removed to place of safety, - 813
Of New-York, removed, - - - 1016, 1110, 1111, 1112, 1122
Of New-Jersey, removed, - 1583, 1584, 1598
Of Baltimore County, removed, - - 1473
Recruits, American, come in slowly, - - - 975
Regulations of Continental Congress relative to, - - - - - - - 1645, 1663
Recruits, British, from Ireland, - - - - 1027
Difficulty of procuring, - - - - 1126
Redding, Captain, - - - - - - 177
Reed, Joseph, Letters from General Washington, - 282, 458, 570, 676, 831, 899, 993, 1502
Reid, Lieutenant-Colonel Robert, - - - - 11
Refugees, Proceedings in Massachusetts Court relative to Estates of, 1232, 1344, 1377, 1381, 1451
Return, of Provisions, Stores, &c., at Boston, belonging to Ministerial Army, - - - - 160
Of First Regiment of New-Jersey Foot, 166, 765
Of his Majesty's Forces in Florida, - - 321
Of a detachment of his Majesty's Fourteenth Regiment of Infantry, at Norfolk, - 349, 350
Of the Army of the United Colonies commanded by General Washington, - - 491, 631–646, 978
Of Winter Hill Brigade, - - - - - 935
Retaliation, threatened by General Washington, - 311
Reply of General Howe, - - - - - 454
Colonies recommended to leave to Continental Congress, - - - - - - 1629
Rhode-Island, (See *Governour Cooke.*)
Conanicut plundered, - - - - - 230
Dissensions in, - - - - - 232, 367
Memorial of Newport to Continental Congress, - - - - - - - - 1634
Richardson, Colonel Richard, 40, 43, 60, 61, 67, 216
Ritzema, Colonel, Letters of, from Montreal, 1113, 1115
Arrival at New-York, - - - - 1123
Rivers, Isaac, - - - - - - - - 70
Rivington, James, Proceedings in New-York Congress relative to seizure of press of, 393, 400, 401
Roberts, Lieutenant-Colonel Owen, - - - - 54
Robertson, General, Letter from C. Shirreff, - - 334
Robinson, Mordecai, - - - - - - 124
Rootes, George, - - - - - - - 79
Rogers, Captain Nathaniel, - - - 11, 14
Rogers, Major Robert, Letter of Dr. Wheelock respecting, - - - - - - - 158
Letter to General Washington, - - - 264
Examination of, by General Sullivan, - - 300
Reported to have been at St. John's in disguise, - - - - - - - 311
Above report believed to be untrue, - 581, 696
His fidelity to the King, - - - - 575
Asks for permit to go on board Governour's ship, - - - - - - - 1201
Rogers, Captain William, - - - - - 913
Rollins, Captain Nicholas, - - - - - 8
Romans, Bernard, Report of Committee on charges against, - - - - - - - 420
Pay advanced to, - - - - - 1020
(See *Highlands.*)
Rose, Thomas, - - - - - - - - 70
Ross, Alexander, Letter to Captain Stanton, - - 335
Rowley, Captain, - - - - - - - 177
Ruffin, John, - - - - - - - - 75
Russell, Captain, - - - - - - - 267
Rutherford, Robert, - - - - - - 75
Rutledge, Edward, - - - - - - 74
Rutledge, John, - - - - - - 70, 74
Sackville, Lord George, character of, - - - 1127
St. Augustine, reduction of, recommended by Continental Congress, - - - - - - 1627
St. Eustatia, Letter from, to any Provincial Committee or Congress in America, - - - 258
St. John's, surrender of, - - - - - - 5, 23
Salt, encouragement of manufacture of, in South-Carolina, - - - - - - - - 72
Proceedings in Virginia Convention relative to, - - - 92, 95, 97, 99, 100, 109
Sufferings in Virginia for want of, - - 200
Proceedings of Hanover, Virginia, Committee, relative to, - - - - - - - 245
Manufacture of, encouraged in Massachusetts, 1424
Manufacture of, encouraged in New-Jersey, 1608, 1624
Proceedings relative to, in Baltimore Committee, - - 1698, 1729, 1730, 1731
Salter, Captain Titus, - - - - - 1, 6, 13
Saltpetre, mode of making recommended by Continental Congress, - - - - - 22
Purchase of, in South-Carolina, - - 51
Encouragement of manufacture of, in South-Carolina, - - - - - - - - 72
Encouragement of manufacture of, in Virginia, 80
Manufacture of, increasing, - - - 256
Act for encouraging manufacture of, in Connecticut, - - - - - - 269, 274
Purchase of, by North-Carolina, - 305, 306
Success in manufacture of, in the Colonies increasing, - - - - - - - 353
Mode of making, - - - - - - 370
Successful manufacture of, in Virginia, - 911
Encouraged in Pennsylvania, 501, 795, 1012, 1562
Committee appointed by Pennsylvania Committee of Safety to instruct the people in the manufacture of, - - - - - 507
Manufacture of, in Maryland, - - - 723
Arrival of, at Philadelphia, - 1037, 1152
"Salus Populi," to the People of North America, - 467
To the Freemen of Pennsylvania, - - 1141
Sampson, James, - - - - - - - 114
Santerre, D., Letter to General Washington, - - 866
Sargent, Winthrop, Instructions to, - - - 537
Savage, Colonel John, - - - - - - 40
Savage, Thomas, - - - - - - - 27
Savannah, arrival of British Men-of-War at, - - 799

*

Schuyler, General Philip—
Letters to—
Continental Congress, - - - - 219, 260, 375, 463, 479, 622, 666, 802, 818, 851, 880, 898, 906, 938, 955, 990, 1131, 1156, 1214, 1469, 1481, 1483, 1499, 1510
General Washington, - - - - 225, 226, 282, 311, 580, 666, 773, 805
Governour Trumbull, 248, 588, 829, 944, 1201
Colonel Wynkoop, - - - 542, 594
Captain Hulbert, - - - - 816
Colonel Warner, - - - 852, 1132
General Wooster, - - 880, 1003, 1008
John McKesson, - - - - 906
New-York Committee of Safety, - - 1113
New-York Congress, - - 1470, 1510
Letters from—
New-Hampshire Committee of Safety, - 5, 23
General Montgomery, - - 188, 309, 464
Governour Trumbull, - - - - 190, 532, 790, 898, 917, 1147
General Washington, - - - - 192, 449, 696, 766, 872, 908, 1493, 1514
General Wooster, - 310, 668, 852, 869, 906, 1002, 1004, 1005, 1006, 1007, 1217, 1218, 1483, 1499
New-York Congress, - 619, 783, 947, 1213
James Price, - - - - - - 668
New-York Committee of Safety, - - 1036, 1053, 1094
Edward Antill, - - - - - - 1132
James Deane, - - - - - - 1499
Committee from Continental Congress to confer with, - - - - - - - 155
Report, - - - - - - - 442
Proceedings in Continental Congress on letters of, - 1635, 1637, 1645, 1646, 1647, 1648, 1651, 1661, 1667, 1670, 1671, 1673, 1674, 1685, 1690
Scotch Brigade, opinion given by Johan Derk van der Capellan upon the request of the King of Great Britain for the loan of, - - - 285
Scott, Lieutenant-Colonel C., Letters relative to battle of Great-Bridge, - - - 171, 183
Letter to Captain Southgate, - - 245, 292
Scott, James, - - - - - - - - 75
Scott, Christopher, & Co., - - - - 103, 115
Scott, Captain David, - - - - - 91
Scott, Jonathan, - - - - - - 39
Scott, Captain William, - - - - - 49
Seamen, permission to South-Carolina to inlist, in Massachusetts, - - - 1307, 1457
Order in British Council encouraging inlistment of, - - - - - - - 1468
Difficulty of procuring, in South-Carolina, - 1643, 1645, 1646
Search, of outward-bound Vessels, - - - 503
Sears, Captain Isaac, General Lee's opinion of, - 1145
Sears, John, - - - - - - - 129, 131
Secrecy, enjoined by Maryland Convention, - - 713
Secret Committee, of Continental Congress, Letter to Arthur Lee, - - - - - - 246
Remarks upon, - - - 1125, 1127
Proceedings of, 1630, 1634, 1636, 1639, 1641, 1643, 1650, 1668, 1680, 1687
Selby, Benjamin, - - - - - - - 125
Selden, James, - - - - - - - 75
Selman, Captain, - - - - - 214, 451
Servant, Samuel, - - - - - - - 110
Seymour, T., - - - - - - - 157
Shedden, John, - - - - - - 109
Shedden, Robert, - - - - 109, 126, 128
Sheldon, Elisha, - - - - - - - 267
Shepperd, Major Samuel, - - - - - 13
Sheppard, Lieutenant, - - - - - 177
Sherburne, Samuel, - - - - - 13, 18
Sheriffs, Ordinance of Virginia Convention for appointing, - - - - - - - 141
Sherman, Roger, - - - - - - 267
Sherman, Captain Thomas, - - - - 54
Shirreff, C., Letter to General Robertson, - - 334
Shools, Isle of, inhabitants directed to move from, - 770
Shiverick, Nathaniel, - - - - - - 176
Shubrick, Captain, - - - - - 49, 50, 64
Signals, of American Fleet, - - - - 1179
Of Enemy, paper relating to, intercepted, - 1667
Simons, Maurice, - - - - - - - - 55
"*Sincerus*," an earnest appeal of, to the People, - 1013
Six Nations, Conference with, - - 226, 260, 282
Charge against, denied, - - - - 259
Speech to, - - - - - - - 855
Grand meeting of, to be held, - - - 898
Skene, Major Andrew, - - - - - - 187
Skene, Governour, - - - - - - - 975
Skinner, Alexander, Letter to General Grant, - 329
Skinner, Cortlandt, Letter to Colonel Skinner, - 363
Ordered to be apprehended, - - - 1637
Skinner, Colonel William, Letter from Cortlandt Skinner, - - - - - - - - 363
Slater, Robert, - - - - - - - - 125
Slaves, enrolled in South-Carolina, - - - 61
Proceedings relative to, in Virginia Convention, - - - - - - 82, 84, 85, 128
Armed by Lord Dunmore, - - - 202
Small, Major, Letter from John Stuart, - - 317
Small-Pox, efforts to spread in American Army, - 168, 181, 1321
Means to prevent spreading in American Army, - - - - - - 255, 299
Raging in Boston, - - - - - - 262
Hospital for persons affected with, desirable, 263
Proceedings in Massachusetts Court relative to, - - - - - - 1222, 1229, 1230, 1322, 1325, 1332, 1333, 1334, 1449
In the Army in Canada, - - - 1513
Smallwood, Col. William, Letter from Thomas Ewing, 615
Letters to Maryland Council of Safety, 867, 1136
Smith, Charles, - - - - - - - - 171
Smith, Ebenezer, - - - - - - 15, 16
Smith, Dr. John, - - - 479, 518, 526, 1646
Smith, Joseph, - - - - - - - - 267
Smith, Meriwether, - - - - - - - 75
Smith, Captain Roger, - - - - 27, 53, 55
Smith, Captain Thomas, - - - - - - 36
Smith, William, - - - - - - - 176
Sons of Liberty, doings of, in Georgia, - - - 950
Southall, Captain, Letters from Colonel Scott, 245, 292
South-Carolina—
Provincial Congress, - - - 27–76
Declared to be in a state of actual alarm, - 66
Dissensions in, - - - 199, 215, 950
Plan of attacking, - - - 317, 332, 333
Letter from Council of Safety to the Continental Treasurers, - - - - - 479
Recommended by Continental Congress to make vigorous defence, if attacked, - 1627
Efforts to procure Seamen, - - - 1307, 1457, 1643, 1645, 1646
Charlestown fortified, - - - - - 950
Arms and Ammunition allowed for defence of Georgetown, - - - - - - 61
Southern Colonies, measures by Congress for defence of, - - - - - - - - 781
Spain, American Ports recommended to be opened to, - - - - - - - - - 779
Specie, efforts to procure in Maryland, 1211, 1488, 1689
Efforts to procure in Massachusetts, 1306, 1450
Want of, in the Army in Canada, 1470, 1499
Recommended by Continental Congress to be collected, - - - - - - - 1648
Spencer, Hezekiah, - - - - - - - 267
Spencer, Major Joseph, - - - - - - 14
Spooner, Walter, - - - - - - - 195
Spotswood, Major, - - - - - - - 122
Letter to a friend in Williamsburgh, - - 224
Sprowle, Andrew, - - - - - - - 110
Squire, Captain W. C., Letter to Admiral Graves, - 351
Stanly, Oliver, - - - - - - - - 267
Stanton, Captain, Letter from Alexander Ross, - 335
Stark, Colonel John, - - - - 956, 979
Steel, encouragement of manufacture of, in South-Carolina, - - - - - - - - 72

Stephen, Colonel Adam, - - - - - 119
Stephen, Robert, - - - - - - 86
Stephen, William, - - - - - - 86
Stephenson, Andrew, - - - - - - 124
Stevens, Colonel, - - - - - - 183
Stevens, Samuel, Letter to New-York Congress, - 309
Steward, Stephen, proposition of, for constructing Floating Battery, - - - - 780
Stewart, Charles, Letter to Governour Penn, - - 251
Stiles, Rev. Dr., thanks of General Washington to, - 249
Stirling, Lord—
Letters to—Continental Congress, - - 160, 184, 202, 294, 354, 586, 596, 621, 627, 764, 772, 837, 867, 913, 938, 1199
Colonel Maxwell, - - 166, 915, 916
Isaac Bonnel, - - - - - 166
New-York Congress, - - - - 172
New-York Committee of Safety, - 246, 655, 914, 965, 1065, 1085, 1109, 1117
Captain John Polhemus, - - - 259
Captain John Conway, - - 259, 288
Captain Longstreet, - - - - 288
John Van Emberg, - - - - 288
Samuel Tucker, - - - - - 914
Robert Ogden, - - - - - 1199
General Livingston, - - - - 1200
John Blanchard, - - - - 1200
Colonel Lowrey, - - - - 1200
New-Jersey Congress, - - - 1597
Letters from—John McKesson, - - 165
Samuel Tucker and Hendrick Fisher, - 172
Colonel Woodhull, - - - - 184
William De Hart, - - - - 210
Samuel Tucker, - - - - 228, 287
Thomas Lowrey, - - - - 229
Captain Conway, - - - - 234
Captain Morris, - - - - - 235
Captain Covenhoven, - - - - 279
Captain Polhemus, - - - - 279
Colonel Maxwell, - 295, 296, 463, 916
William Livingston, - - - - 354
Continental Congress, - - - - 561
General Washington, - - - - 623
New-York Committee of Safety, - - 795, 1053, 1065, 1079, 1109
John Blanchard, - - - - - 1200
Capture of Vessel, - 817, 837, 851, 987
A zealous, active, and accurate officer, - 1198
Proceedings in Continental Congress on Letters of, 1628, 1642, 1650, 1656, 1659, 1664
Stoutenberg, Major, - - - - - - - 187
Strong, Ephraim, - - - - - - - 267
Stuart, John, Letters to General Gage, - 316, 317
Letter to Major Small, - - - - 317
Taken sanctuary in St. Augustine, - - 329
Letter to Samuel Kemble, - - - 340
Stubblefield, George, - - - - - - 76
Sugar Planters, meeting of, in London, - - 197
Sullivan, James, Letter to General Sullivan, - - 206
Letter to Massachusetts Council, - - 963
Sullivan, General John—
Letters to—New-Hampshire Committee of Safety, - - 2, 3, 4, 7, 159, 168, 221, 450
New-Hampshire Congress, - - - 20
Meshech Weare, - - - - 241
General Washington, - - - - 300
General Gates, - - - - - 709
General Court of New-Hampshire, - 709
Colonels Waldron and Chesley, - - 778
Letters from—New-Hampshire Committee of Safety, - - - - - 4, 25, 195
James Sullivan, - - - - - 206
General Washington, - - 220, 625, 1202
General Gates, - - - 249, 450, 478
James Wilkinson, - - - - - 809
Colonel Harrison, - - - - 832
Thanks of New-Hampshire Congress to, - 18
Conference with New-Hampshire Congress, - 19
Recalled from Portsmouth to Head-Quarters, - - - - - - - 20
Complaint against, - - - - - 811
Sulphur, purchase of, in South-Carolina, - - 51
Encouragement of manufacture of, in South-Carolina, - - - - - - - 72
Purchase of, by Maryland, - - - 1152
Purchase of, by Massachusetts, - - 1309, 1349
Sumpter, Captain, - - - - - - 41, 56
Surgical Instruments, want of, in Continental Army, 153
Ordered to be imported by New-York Committee of Safety, - - - - - - 1026
Suspected persons, in Massachusetts, - 366, 1226, 1231, 1235, 1238, 1252, 1329, 1400
New-Hampshire, - - - - - 18, 19
New-Jersey, - - 225, 235, 364, 663, 664, 1581, 1584, 1586, 1590, 1593, 1605, 1607
New-York, - 175, 356, 381, 393, 413, 428
North-Carolina, - - - - - - 299
Pennsylvania, - - - - 1563, 1570
South-Carolina, - - 37, 38, 42, 46, 47, 54
Virginia, - 77, 80, 83, 86, 87, 89, 93, 94, 95, 96, 105, 108, 109, 113, 124, 224, 627
Susquehannah, disputed Lands on, report of Charles Stewart to Governour Penn, - - - 251
Exculpation of the Six Nations from charge of interfering in, - - - - - - 259
Fight, - - - - - - - - 470
Sutlers, encouraged to attend Army in Canada, 1663, 1674
Syme, John, - - - - - - - - - 75
Tabb, John, - - - - - - - - - 75
Tabb, Thomas, - - - - - - - - 75
Talbot, John, - - - - - - - - - 75
Tar and Feathers, - - - - - - 199, 203
Tax, levied in Massachusetts, - - - - 1312
Petition to levy on money at interest, - 1586, 1587
Levied in New-Jersey, - - - - 1614
Taylor, Henry, - - - - - - - - 76
Taylor, James, Caroline County, Virginia, - - 75
Taylor, James, Orange County, Virginia, - - 76
Tazewell, Henry, - - - - - - - 75
Tazewell, John, - - - - - - - - 76
Tea, sold and used, - - - - - - - 948
Letter of New-Jersey Congress to Continental Congress respecting sale and use of, 1584, 1667
Continental Congress request censure not to be passed for using, till further orders, - 1670
Proceedings in Baltimore County Committee relative to, - - 1692, 1695, 1724, 1741
Tebout, Lieutenant Tunis, - - - - 63
Tennent, Rev. Mr., - - - - - - - 37
Terry, Nathaniel, - - - - - - - 75
Test, in Virginia, - - - - 85, 86, 91, 96
In North-Carolina, - - 299, 304, 308, 476
In Massachusetts, - - - - 1285, 1428
Thornton, Peter T., - - - - - - 76
Thruston, Rev. Charles M., - - - - - 75
Thomas, Israel, - - - - - - - 190
Thomas, Colonel John, - - - - - - 39
Thompson, Ebenezer, - - - 11, 13, 15, 16
Thomson, Waddy, - - - - - - 171
Thornborough, Captain Edward, Correspondence with South-Carolina Congress, - - 30, 32, 33, 35, 37, 45, 48
Thornton, Matthew, - - - - 11, 13, 16, 17
Thornton, Peter T. - - - - - - - 76
Tibbs, Lieutenant, - - - - - - - 171
Tibbets, Ebenezer, - - - - - - - 19
Ticonderoga, Stores conveyed from, to Cambridge, - 188, 296, 297
List of Stores at, - - - - - 226
Timothy, Peter, - - - - - - - 74
Tobacco, payments in, in Virginia, - - 85, 88
Ordinance for establishing payments in, in Virginia, - - - - - - - 142
Recommendation to reduce the amount raised in the Colonies, - - - - - - 473
Todd, Rev. John, - - - - - - - 171
Tonyn, Governour Patrick, Letter from Lord William Campbell, - - - - - - 35
Letters to General Gage, - - 316, 320
Letter to Admiral Graves, - - - 316
Letter to Major Donkin, - - - - 334
Toomer, Anthony, - - - - - - - 55

Tories, in New-Hampshire, - - - - - 19
In Virginia, - - - - 84, 89, 103
Ordinance establishing mode of punishing in Virginia, - - - - - 115, 145
In Virginia, handcuffed with Negroes, - - 245
In Connecticut, - - - - - 276
Act for punishment of, in Connecticut, - 270
In North-Carolina, - - - - 305, 1129
In New-York, - 187, 203, 390, 405, 434, 1029, 1041, 1043, 1070, 1103
More in New-York than in all the other Colonies together, - - - - - 359
Means to prevent removal of, into New-York, 438
On Long-Island, - 605, 851, 1469, 1631, 1655
In Tryon County, disarmed, - 828, 830, 1661
Proceedings of, in Tryon County, - - 667
Forty sled loads on their way to Canada, - 898
In New-Jersey, - - - - - - 475
Ordinance to prevent emigration of, into New-Jersey, - - - - - - 1618
In Pennsylvania, - - - - - 942
In Massachusetts, - - 1287, 1337, 1397
Committee in Massachusetts Court to consider the Tory Act, - - - - - 1268
In Maryland, - - - 1710, 1717, 1722
Townsend, Paul, - - - - - - 54, 55
Trade, Proceedings in Continental Congress relative to, - - - 1641, 1642, 1643, 1645, 1663, 1671, 1673, 1674, 1692
Transylvania, - - - - - - - 543–561
Travis, Champion, - - - - - - - 76
Trumbull, Benjamin, - - - - - - 267
Trumbull, Governour Jonathan—
Letters from Continental Congress, - 155, 782
Letter from Committee of Connecticut Assembly, - - - - - - - 157
Letters from General Washington, - - 157, 238, 283, 298, 448, 595, 697, 790, 798, 856, 962, 1157, 1203, 1476
Letters from General Schuyler, - - - 248, 588, 829, 944, 1201
Letter from Colonel Joseph Trumbull, - 563
Letters from Colonel Huntington, - - 675, 809, 1157, 1205
Letters from Edward Mott, - - 876, 1133
Letters from General Lee, - - 946, 954
Letter from Samuel Mott, - - - 1146
Letter from John Bigelow, - - - 1220
Letter from Edward Williams, - - - 1514
Letters to—Council of Massachusetts, - - 175
General Schuyler, 190, 532, 790, 898, 917, 1147
General Washington, - - - - - 212, 227, 532, 765, 808, 839, 917, 945, 1017, 1163
Continental Congress, 365, 447, 590, 789, 930
Proceedings in Continental Congress on Letters of, - - 1642, 1657, 1667, 1672
Trumbull, Joseph, Commissary-General, Letter to Governour Trumbull, - - - - 563
Court of Inquiry on, - - - - 456
Tryon, Governour William—
Proclamations of, - - - 149, 447, 542
Address to Inhabitants of New-York, - - 173
Answer to the above, - - - - 174
Proceedings of Provincial Congress on the same, - - 394, 407, 408, 411, 412, 413
Communication to Mayor of New-York, - 307
Letter from Governour Chester, - - 340
General Washington anxious that he should be taken prisoner, - - - - 896
Pamphlets circulated by, - - - - 1089
Tucker, Samuel, Letters to Lord Stirling, 172, 228, 287
Letter from William De Hart, - - - 851
Letter to Continental Congress, - - - 888
Tufts, Captain Simon, - - - - 45, 48, 51, 64
Turk's Island, Petition of inhabitants of, - - 1166
Turner, Captain George, - - - - - 16
Turquand, Rev. Paul, - - - - - 48, 58
Tutt, Captain, - - - - - - 28, 29, 31
Tyler, Colonel Robert, - - - - - - 905
Tyren, John, - - - - - - - - 149
Union, of all the Colonies, necessity of, - - 467
Urquhart, Captain, Letter from Captain Fordice, - 350
Van Schaack, Peter, Letter from Frederick Rhinelander, - - - - - - - 1479
Van Wyck, Theodore, - - - - - - 156
Van Zandt, Peter P. - - - - - - 187
Vattel, M. Dumas's edition of, - - - - 352
Verree, Joseph, - - - - - - - 66
Vesey, Captain Joseph, - - - - - - 36
Vessels, Captain Thornborough threatens to detain, 30
Permitted to pass Fort Johnston, - - 34
Advised not to enter the Harbour of Charlestown, South-Carolina, - - - - 34
Sunk for defence of Charlestown, South-Carolina, - - - - - - - 48, 49, 51
Impressed for defence of Charlestown, - 50
Taken in Virginia, - - - - 107, 114
Regulations of Maryland respecting, - - 715
Vessels, Armed, American—
Fitted out by Connecticut, - - - - 274, 275, 590, 611, 790, 925, 926, 967, 973
Fitted out by North-Carolina, - - - 302
Fitted out by South-Carolina, 47, 48, 52, 54, 69
Fitted out by New-York, - - - 431, 1066
Fitted out by Massachusetts, - - - 1259, 1291, 1293, 1294, 1305, 1309, 1311, 1411, 1423, 1435, 1436, 1438, 1440, 1449, 1454, 1456
Fitted out by Pennsylvania—
Victualler appointed, - - - - 496
Captain of the Franklin, - - - - 498
Powder to be examined, - - - - 498
Three to be constantly at Liberty-Island, - 498
Return of number of men to be made, 498, 1575
Rules for government of officers and men while in Barracks ordered to be drawn up, 499
Men to be inlisted from, for Continental Fleet, 500
Powder to be put in store, - - - 503
Captain of the Effingham resigned, - - 506
Guard from crews to be placed over Military Stores, - - - - - - - 509
Order on the Treasurer, - - - - 513
Commander-in-Chief appointed, - - 515
Inlistments to be immediately made, - - 521
Difficulty of procuring Recruits, - - 563
Pay of Officers increased, - - - - 1565
Distribution of Prize-money, - - - 1565
Officers of Batteries entitled to share in prizes, 1565
Committee of superintendence, - - - 1568
Recruiting Money, - - - - - 1568
Expedition in building urged, - - 1571, 1576
Officers, - - - - - - - 1573
Consultation of Officers to be held, - - 1573
Sailcloth for, - - - - - - 1575
Mustermaster advertised for, - - - 1575
Officer appointed from, to Company of Artillery, - - - - - - - - 1576
Crews to be properly clothed, - - - 1578
Fitted out by General Washington—
Captures by, - - - - - - - 256
(See *Captures, Prizes.*)
Cost of fitting out the Washington and Harrison, - - - - - - - 255
Capture of one of, - - - - - 257
Mutinous conduct of crews, - - 152, 181
Stratagem of enemy to decoy, - - 181, 194
Instructions to Agent, - - - - - 537
Instructions to Captain of the Harrison, - 791
Fitted out by Continental Congress, (See *Fleet, Continental.*)
Vessels, Armed, British—
Fitting out in Boston in disguise, - 181, 194
Reported to be coming into Norfolk, - 245, 251
Sailing from Boston, destination unknown, - 291, 356, 437
Destination believed to be Virginia, - - 366
Destination thought to be Long-Island, - 567, 571, 593
Efforts to prevent being supplied with Provisions, (See *Provisions.*)
Inhabitants of New-York recommended not to go on board of, 438

Vessels, Armed, British—
In the Chesapeake-Bay, convoy requested to protect merchant vessels against, - 575, 1743
List of, in the Harbour of Norfolk, - - 577
In the James River, - - - - - 940
Arrival of man-of-war at Old-Point Comfort, 984
At Savannah, - - - - - - 1743
Machine for blowing up, - - - 928, 930
Virginia—
Recommended by Continental Congress to make vigorous defence, - - - 1627
Officers of Continental Battalions, - - 1669
Convention, - - - - - - 75–148
Letters from Colonel Woodford, - - 224, 228, 233, 244, 278, 292, 452, 538, 794
Proclamation, - - - - - 249, 258
Credit of money issued by, - - - 936
Letter to Maryland Convention, - - 576
Committee of Safety, - - - - - - 87
Notice to attend election of Artillery Officers, 771
Letter to Maryland Council of Safety, - 957
Letter from Maryland Council of Safety, - 957
Proceedings on Lord Dunmore's Letter, - 1209
Recantation of Walter Hatton, - - - 1470
Accomack County, Maryland desired to order Troops to, - - - - - - - 1636
Pennsylvania Committee of Safety desired to send Powder to, - - - - - - 1636
Caroline County, Proceedings against an enemy to America, - - - - - - 884
Minute Officers chosen, - - - - - 1130
Charlotte County, concessions of Rev. Thomas Johnston, - - - - - - - 884
Chesterfield County, Proceedings of Committee in the case of Edward Johnston, - - 200
Hanover County, Proceedings of Committee relative to Salt, - - - - - - 245
On violator of Association, - - - 847
Company Officers chosen, - - - - 878
King and Queen County, Proceedings of Committee on suspected persons, - - - 224
King George County, Minute Officers chosen, - 1130
King William, acquittal of Benjamin Temple, 1494
Louisa County, Committee vote of thanks, and provision for inhabitants of lower Counties, 171
Norfolk, a most horrid place, - - - 292
Letters from, - - - 343, 346, 350, 351
Destruction of, - 538, 541, 577, 578, 946
Northampton County, Maryland desired to order Troops to - - - - - - - 1636
Reception of Maryland Troops in, - - 1471
Pennsylvania Committee of Safety desired to send Powder to, - - - - - - 1636
Prince Edward County, Recantation of John Hamblin, - - - - - - - 848
Southampton Committee, inquiry into the conduct of William Urquhart, - - - 627
Spottsylvania County, Company Officers, - 836
Field Officers, - - - - - - 1130
Stafford County, Field Officers, - - - 1130
Surry County, Committee chosen, - - 940
Removal of commodities without permit prohibited, - - - - - - - 1195
Wardsworth, Colonel James, - - - - - 267
Wardsworth, Peleg, ordered to examine Harbour of Cape-Cod, - - - - - - - 193
Report, - - - - - - - - 454
Waite, John, - - - - - - - - - 215
Waldron, Captain John, - - - - - - - 8
Waldron, Thomas Westbrook, Letter to New-Hampshire Committee of Safety, - - - - 685
Walker, John, - - - - - - - - - 75
Walker, Colonel Timothy, Letter from New-Hampshire Committee of Safety, - - - - 169
Walker, Thomas, - - - - - - - - 75
Walker, Thomas, of Montreal, statement of arrest and treatment of, - - - - - 1176
Wall, William, Letter to Admiral Hopkins, - - 657
Wallace, Captain, destroying Sea-Coast Towns, - 367
Newport permitted to supply, with Provisions, 798
Wanton, Captain John, - - - - - 30, 36
Ward, General Artemas, Letters from R. H. Harrison, - - - - - - - - 236, 458
Letters from General Washington, 298, 376, 542
Ward, Governour, Letters from General Greene, 231, 311
Ward, Jonathan, - - - - - - - - 177
Ward, Samuel, Letters from General Greene, 482, 571
Warner, Colonel Seth, Corps of, refuse to march, - 189
Letter from General Wooster, - - - 588
Letters from General Schuyler, - - 852, 1132
Letter to General Schuyler, - - - 852
War Office, Proceedings in Continental Congress relative to establishment of, - - - 1653
Warren, James, Letters from R. H. Harrison, 284, 1133
Letter from John Adams, - - - - 1140
Washington, General George—
Letters to—
Portsmouth Committee, - - 2, 214, 877
New-Hampshire Committee of Safety, - 3, 9
Governour Trumbull, 157, 238, 283, 298, 448, 595, 697, 790, 798, 856, 962, 1157, 1203, 1476
Governour Cooke, - - - - - - 193, 205, 214, 264, 298, 366, 448, 697
Colonel McDougall, - - - 178, 671
Continental Congress, 180, 214, 237, 261, 262, 291, 314, 357, 453, 485, 567, 629, 675, 772, 840, 890, 974, 975, 1148, 1192, 1503, 1540
General Court of Massachusetts-Bay, - 191, 448, 478, 900
Massachusetts Assembly, 291, 672, 698, 777, 995
General Schuyler, - - - - - 192, 311, 449, 696, 766, 872, 908, 1493, 1514
Colonel Arnold, - - - - 192, 874
Council of Massachusetts, - 205, 624, 1502
General Sullivan, - - - 220, 625, 1202
Symsbury Committee of Safety, - - 235
Joseph Reed, - - - - 282, 458, 570, 676, 831, 899, 993, 1502
General Ward, - - - 298, 376, 542
General Howe, - - - - - - 310
New-York Provincial Congress, - - 437
New-York Committee of Safety, 605, 994, 1095
New-Hampshire Convention, - 448, 672, 699
R. H. Lee, - - - - - - - 465
Colonel Glover, - - - - 466, 563
William Watson, - - - - 466, 596
William Bartlett, - - - 466, 606, 862
John Adams, - - - - - - 595
Lord Stirling, - - - - - - 623
Colonel Wentworth, - - - - 625
General Montgomery, - - - - 657
General Lee, - - 831, 895, 1476, 1501
Northampton Committee of Safety, - - 846
General Wooster, - - - - - 873
William Whipple, - - - - - 875
Committee of Safety at Newburyport, 875, 877
Captain Manly, - - - - - 877
Colonel Bedel, - - - - - 908
Timothy Pickering, Jun., - - - 909
Colonel Elisha Porter, - - - - 995
Major French, - - - - - 996
(See *Harrison* and *Moylan*.)
Letters from—
New-Hampshire Committee of Safety, - 3, 4
Continental Congress, - - - - 154, 217, 379, 585, 686, 763, 781, 878
Dr. Wheelock, - - - - - - 158
Colonel Glover, - - - - - - 168
Governour Cooke, - - - - - 177, 235, 356, 535, 591, 797, 856
General Putnam, - - - - - - 182
Colonel Henry Knox, - - - 188, 296
Colonel Arnold, - - - 190, 674, 1513
General Court of Massachusetts, - - 191
R. H. Lee, - - - - - - - 201
Governour Trumbull, - - - 212, 227, 532, 765, 808, 839, 917, 945, 1017, 1163
Thomas Lynch, - - - 218, 687, 943
General Schuyler, - - - - 225, 226, 282, 311, 580, 666, 773, 805, 1146
William Bartlett, - - 227, 236, 264, 367
Dr. Morgan, - - - - - - 263

Washington, General George—Letters from—
Major Rogers, - - - - - 265
General Sullivan, - - - - - 300
William Watson, - - - 448, 863, 883
Philip Callbeck, - - - - - 450
General Howe, - - - - - 454
James Lyon, - - - - - 460
New-Hampshire Convention, - - 470, 685
New-Hampshire Council, - - - 809
Winthrop Sargent, - - - - - 478
John Smith, - - - - - - 536
John Glover, - - - - - - 563
General Lee, - - - - 582, 694, 695, 839, 942, 1144, 1197, 1537
Committee of Stonington, - - - 603
John Adams, - - - - - 604
John Knight, - - - - - 626
Joshua Wentworth, - - - - 626
General Court of New-Hampshire, - - 609
New-Hampshire Committee of Safety, - 810
Colonel Enos, - - - - - 768
Colonel McDougall, - - - - 789
General Wooster, - - - - 796, 1493
D. Santerré, - - - - - 866
Levi Allen, - - - - - 871
William Palfrey, - - - - - 880
Robert C. Nicholas, - - - - 920
Rufus Putnam, - - - - - 1008
General Lachlan McIntosh, - - - 1159
Colonel James Easton, - - - 1182
P. Moreau, - - - - - 1202
Josiah Quincy, - - - - - 1204
General Greene, - - - - - 1470
General Heath, - - - - - 1476
Jacob Bayley, - - - - - 1500
Thanks of New-Hampshire Congress to, - 18
Instructions to Committee appointed by New-Hampshire to wait on, - - - - 810
Prudence and firmness of, - - - - 1144
Committees from Massachusetts Court to wait on, - - 1221, 1222, 1223, 1224, 1240, 1243, 1251, 1258, 1260, 1263, 1282, 1298, 1313, 1315, 1328, 1357, 1370, 1395, 1404
Proceedings in Continental Congress on Letters of, - 1633, 1642, 1644, 1650, 1654, 1656, 1657, 1659, 1660, 1667, 1673, 1686, 1691
General Orders, (See *Orders.*)
Washington, Mrs., arrival of, at Cambridge, - - 283
Washington, John Augustine, - - - - 76
Waterbury, Colonel David, - 1154, 1631, 1639
Watkins, Benjamin, - - - - - - 75
Watkins, Micajah, - - - - - - 75
Watson, Brook, - - - - - - 439
Watson, Lieutenant Samuel, - - - - 46
Watson, William, Letters from Colonel Moylan, - 152, 194, 255
Letters from General Washington, - 466, 596
Letters from R. H. Harrison, - - - 793, 857, 878, 909, 1491
Letter to Colonel Moylan, - - - 179
Letters to General Washington, 448, 863, 883
Wayne, Colonel Anthony, - - - - 958, 1172
Weare, Colonel Meshech, - 4, 9, 10, 11, 13, 15, 17
Webster, Abel, - - - - - - 12, 15, 18
Webster, Captain Jacob, - - - - 6, 15, 195
Webster, Colonel John, - - - - - 13
Weedon, Colonel George, - - - - - 120
Weeks, Major, - - - - - - - 13
Welch, Colonel Joseph, - - - - - 9
Wells, Captain Ichabod, - - - - - 267
Wells, Captain Jonathan, - - - - - 205
Wentworth, Colonel Joshua, Letters from Colonel Moylan, - - - - - 152, 264
Letter to Colonel Moylan, - - - 168
Letter from General Washington, - - 625
Letter to General Washington, - - - 626
West, Stephen, - - - - - - 885, 920
West-Indies, Committee to attend to interests of Planters and Merchants of, - - - - 197
Resolution of Merchants of, respecting non-intercourse of Great Britain with the Colonies, 198
Memorial of Planters and Merchants of, - 1008
West-Point, Fortifications at, (See *Highlands.*)
Weston, Captain Ephraim, - - - - - 16
Westwood, Worlich, - - - - - - 75
Weyman, Edward, - - - - - 55, 66
Wheeler, Dr. Charles, - - - - - 119
Wheelock, Eleazer, Letter to General Washington, - 158
Reply, - - - - - - - - 249
Whetcroft, William, - - - - - - 184
Whipple, William, Letter to General Sullivan, - 195
Letter from General Washington, - - 875
White, Colonel William, - - - - - 171
Whitehurst, Caleb, - - - - - - 125
Whitehurst, Joshua, - - - - - - 124
Whiting, Thomas, - - - - - - 75
Wiggins, Captain Mark, - - - - 8, 195
Wigglesworth, Dr. Samuel, - - - - 21
Wilkinson, James, - - - - - - 809
Williamson, Major Andrew, - - - 41, 43, 66
Wills, John S. - - - - - - - 75
Wilson, Major Robert, - - - - - 11
Wingate, Colonel Joshua, - - - - - 21
Winn, John, - - - - - - - 75
Winn, Captain, - - - - - - - 57
Wisner, Henry, plan of manufacturing Saltpetre and Powder, - - - - - - - 370
Wolcott, Colonel Erastus, - - - - - 267
Wolcott, Oliver, - - - - - - 267
Wolford, Captain Benjamin, - - - 41, 63
Wood, Proceedings in Massachusetts Court relative to procuring for the Army, - 1240, 1242, 1316, 1318, 1322, 1335, 1339, 1342, 1350, 1352, 1353, 1354, 1356, 1449
Great want of, by Army in Canada, - - 1470
Wood, Abiel, Proceedings relative to, in Massachusetts General Court, - 1228, 1238, 1241, 1323, 1335, 1339, 1340, 1349, 1352, 1354
Wood, James, - - 96, 99, 104, 105, 110, 115, 127
Woodford, Colonel, Letters to Virginia Convention, 224, 228, 233, 244, 278, 292, 538, 794
Woodhull, Colonel Nathaniel, - - 165, 184, 1539
Woodson, John, - - - - - - - 75
Wooster, General David—
Letters from—General Montgomery, - - 288
Colonel Campbell, - - - - 480, 670
Colonel Arnold, - - - 481, 670, 854
General Washington, - - - - 873
General Schuyler, - - - 880, 1003, 1008
Colonel Bayley, - - - - - 1500
Stephen Moylan, - - - - - 1515
Letters to—General Schuyler, - - - 310, 668, 852, 869, 906, 1002, 1004, 1005, 1006, 1007, 1217, 1218, 1483, 1499
Colonel Warner, - - - - - 588
General Washington, - - - 796, 1493
Continental Congress, - 870, 1001, 1132, 1470
Colonel Bayley, - - - - - 1501
Proceedings in Continental Congress on Letters of, - - - - - 1670, 1674
Worthen, Captain Ezekiel, - - - - - 13
Wren, Joseph, - - - - - - - 105
Wright, Christopher, - - - - - - 76
Wright, Governour, information to Savannah from, - 799
To his Majesty's Council at Savannah, - 1128
Wynkoop, Captain, Letter from Colonel Holmes, - 212
Letter from General Schuyler, - - - 594
Wyoming, disturbances among settlers at, - - 1473
Wythe, George, - - - - - - - 77
Yancey, Charles, - - - - - - - 171
"*Yankoo*," Address of, to any Provincial Committee or Congress in America, - - - 258
Yateman, Samuel, - - - - - - 125
Yeaton, Captain Moses, - - - - - 8, 15